

Teri Jover

Maintaining a sustainable community requires cooperation between government laws and plans, individual lifestyles, and business participation. It is a challenging undertaking, and one which Sustainable Highland Park Chairperson Teri Jover tackles with pride and skill.

In Jover's more than three years of leadership of this Borough Committee, she has made great strides in promoting and advancing sustainability in Highland Park. She is continuously seeking opportunities to implement Green strategies and aims to increase awareness of the importance of a Green community.

Jover has been involved with sustainable efforts for many years. She is the Managing Director at New Jersey Future, a nonprofit advocate for smart growth and sustainable development at the state and local levels. In this capacity, she focuses on organizational matters and land-use issues that affect local government. With the encouragement of active Highland Park resident Randy Solomon, Jover became an active member,

and eventually Chairperson, of Sustainable Highland Park.

During her tenure, she has helped to implement the Borough's USEPA Climate Showcase Communities Grant, which resulted in the creation of the Borough's Climate Action Plan and Home Energy Assessment Program. This past year she also led Highland Park to receive the Sustainable New Jersey Silver Certification. And for the past two years, her committee has held an annual Earth Day Celebration at the Environmental Center, which attracts more than 200 residents and visitors, and brings many dedicated volunteers to the center. Because of the success of this program, Jover hopes to hold additional programming at the Environmental Center in the future.

"Working with the community in this capacity is a wonderful experience," Jover said. "I have the opportunity to meet many people who care about the future of our community and the world. The Council and Borough staff is also so dedicated and supportive of our efforts, which is unusual for many towns and refreshing."

In fact, Jover finds her biggest obstacle is simply having the time to organize all the great projects and events Sustainable Highland Park plans, and resident volunteers are vital to the success of these pro-



grams.

In her limited free time, Jover enjoys spending time with her husband, Gary Kaplan, a local musician, and 2 ½ year old son Gregory. She also likes to spend time wrestling the groundhogs and weeds in her yard, improving her crafting skills, and sipping her husband's homebrew on the weekends. She has lived in Highland Park for 13 years, moving here after attending college and graduate school at Rutgers University, and is proud to call this town home.

If you are interested in volunteering for Sustainable Highland Park visit the Borough's website at www.hpboro.com, or call the Commission at 732-572-3400.