

New Jersey Highlands Coalition receives grant

November 18, 2015 Last updated: Wednesday, November 18, 2015, 12:31 AM
NEIGHBOR NEWS (BOONTON EDITION)

The New Jersey Highlands Coalition was awarded a \$1,000 grant on Oct. 29 by Wells Fargo to support the organization's mission to protect, restore, and enhance the water and other natural and cultural resources of the N.J. Highlands for the benefit of all citizens and businesses in the state of New Jersey.

The programs of the coalition advocate for the important natural and cultural resources within New Jersey's Highlands region, and showcase that our precious water sources here in the Highlands benefit much of the State.

"We are truly grateful for Wells Fargo's support. With this Community Connections grant award, we will continue our commitment of providing for our Small Grants Programs and other work that help protect the pristine aquifers, lakes and rivers, rugged forested ridges, rolling farmlands, abundant wildlife, historic treasures and diverse recreational opportunities found in the New Jersey Highlands," said Julia Somers, executive director New Jersey Highlands Coalition.

The grant was awarded as part of Wells Fargo's Community Connections program, which provides local branch managers the opportunity to make a \$1,000 charitable contribution on behalf of Wells Fargo to a nonprofit of their choice.

Wells Fargo's Northern New Jersey region branches distributed a total of \$139,000 in grants to support nonprofit groups - \$1,000 for a nonprofit identified by each store manager.

"This breakfast offers us the unique opportunity to show our sincere appreciation and celebrate the heroes in our communities," said Fred Bertoldo, Wells Fargo's Northern New Jersey region president. "The New Jersey Highlands Coalition was entirely chosen by our local branch team

members, who witness and experience first-hand the positive and lasting impact the organization has made in their neighborhood where many of them and our customers live and work."

The Community Connections program offers Wells Fargo store managers the opportunity to provide additional grants to local nonprofits of their choice in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.

A total of \$139,000 in Community Connections grants were awarded to non-profit groups at the Oct. 29 breakfast event in Northern New Jersey.

The New Jersey Highlands Coalition (njhighlandscoalition.org) is the only non-profit organization whose entire focus is on protecting the pristine aquifers, lakes and rivers, rugged forested ridges, rolling farmlands, abundant wildlife, historic treasures and diverse recreational opportunities found in the New Jersey Highlands, the State's prized piece of the Appalachian Mountain chain.

The coalition is made up of more than 80 member organizations, small and large, local, regional, statewide and national as well as over 700 individual members who have joined together to safeguard and defend this critical area. It is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.