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Welcome New Business: M Magnit



At [M Magnit](#), Natalia Nat makes everything from scratch. Stop in and take home healthy, delicious, authentic Russian and European-inspired dishes and baked goods.

Business of the Week: Central for Men



As part of the [Central on the Block](#) shops, [Central for Men](#) consistently receives new arrivals for any occasion. From hoodies and long sleeves to henleys and button downs, shop brand names like Alternative Apparel, Chaser, Hanes, Happy Socks and more. Don't forget to check out accessories for the golf, gym, and music enthusiasts.

662 Central Ave. / 847.275.1911 / [Central for Men](#)

HP Businesses Give Back: BellaRu Catering



[Bellaru Catering](#) has been part of the Highland Park food scene as a caterer for more than five years. In early 2020, as the pandemic unfolded, BellaRu used its pace and resources to serve the North Suburban communities in Chicagoland. They secured food and monetary donations from a number of sources and distributed grocery bags and held free food distribution events at their Highland Park commercial space. BellaRu continues to help rescue anywhere from 2,000-50,000 pounds of food each week to help feed those in need. BellaRu received the Highland Park Hero Award in 2022 for feeding 250-500 families each week. For more information or to make a donation to the program, contact 847.461.3995 or visit their website: bellarucatering.com.

Many of our Highland Park businesses make an extra effort to give back to the community. If your business is doing something philanthropic, we'd like to support and honor your kindness and generosity in our newsletter. Please reach out to ashaffer@cityhpil.com with any special projects you'd like to share. We will also be reaching out to businesses directly.

Sally's Nuts is Moving Up!

We have some fabulous news about Sally's Nuts!! They are growing again and moving out of their Ravinia District space to the Briergate Business District of Highland Park, where they will manufacture their nuts for wholesale only. Owner Sally Schoch and her daughter Kari Guhl are beyond thrilled to move to the next level and stay in Highland Park! This move will create an opening at

one of the most unique retail/restaurant locations in all of HP...the old Shelton's location. The City is working with Sally's and property owner James Martin to fill the space for the summer season.

The Lot: 2023 Season Lineup



An exciting second season of special events and festivals is coming to [The Lot](#) in Downtown Highland Park! From specialty markets to unique dining, family-friendly entertainment, weekend concerts and food fests, there's something for everyone this season at The Lot. Be sure to follow [Enjoy Highland Park](#) on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) for the latest information.

2023 Season Lineup

Vintage Market: June 11 (11 AM - 4 PM)
Taste of Highland Park: June 23 (5 -10 PM); June 24 (12 -10 PM)
Bitter Jester Music Festival Grand Finale: June 25 (12 - 8 PM)
Sunday Artisan Market: July 2 - September 24 (10 AM - 3 PM)
World Music and Food Fest July 15 (12 - 10 PM)
Vintage Auto Show: September 9 (12 - 4 PM)
Oktoberfest: September 30 (12 - 10 PM)
Vintage Market: October 8 (11 AM - 4 PM)
Stews & Brews (and Blues!): October 13 & 14 (5-9 PM)

New Sunday Artisan Market Business Opportunities

The City of Highland Park is pleased to announce its partnership with Bensidoun USA to present a new weekly Artisan Market featuring crafts, flowers, fresh food, live music, and more at The Lot on Sundays from July 2 to September 24, 2023, 10 AM – 3 PM. Highland Park businesses and not-for-profits are invited to participate.

The Artisan Market celebrates the ingenuity of artisans who channel their passions into creating unique products and services. The market offers affordable pop-up selling & promotional opportunities for small businesses.

Bensidoun's Artisan Market information for local businesses and non-profits is available [here](#). The printable Artisan Market application is available [here](#).

Facade Grants Available to Eligible Small Businesses

The City of Highland Park's Small Business Facade Improvement Program (SBFIP) provides assistance and incentive to property owners and local businesses to improve the appearance and functionality of their property and place of business. The SBFIP is available for small business operators and commercial property owners citywide. Eligible



owners of commercial/retail buildings and small business owners operating within a commercial/retail building may apply for a City grant that may reimburse up to 50% of the approved improvement(s) to a maximum of \$5,000 per project. A small business is defined as having a net worth of less than two million dollars, and as showing less than an average of two hundred thousand dollars in profit per year for two years after taxes. The following are a few examples of eligible expenses:

- Installing new awnings/signage
- Replacing, repainting, or restoring exterior doors
- Repairing or upgrading exterior lighting
- Painting building exterior

**Small Business Facade Improvement Grant
Program**

Adopt-A-Planter Program



The City of Highland Park has developed an [Adopt-A-Planter Program](#) for business and property owners in the Central Business District to beautify the City's planters in a continuing effort to enhance the downtown. The City is seeking business and property owners to "adopt" a municipal planter as part of this program during the summer and fall seasons each year.

Adopters are encouraged to display a small placard with their business name and landscaper. If you would like to become an Adopter, please contact the Public Works Department Forestry Section at 847.432.0807 to discuss the program.

[View the Adopt-A-Planter Program Brochure.](#)

The [Sponsor-A-Planter Program](#) offers residents and businesses the opportunity to sponsor an available municipal planter during the summer and fall seasons. An annual fee covers planting, maintenance, and a 5" x 7" commemorative placard in the planter. The placard may recognize the sponsor or commemorate an individual or family. Planters are located in the Central Business District and the Ravinia District and are maintained from May to November.

More information is available at cityhpil.com. Please contact the Office of Business Development at 847.926.1046 with questions.

SCORE Mentoring at the Highland Park Public Library & Free Webinars

SCORE offers in-person or virtual sessions using phone, email, or video

All sessions are free and confidential. SCORE mentors are successful business professionals, some retired, some working, from all industries and experiences.



Visit northchicago.score.org and register to “Find a Mentor”. You will be asked to provide the nature of your business interest. Please include whether you prefer in-person or virtual mentoring (phone, email, video) and note the **Highland Park Public Library** even if you prefer a virtual session.

Upcoming SCORE Webinars

Contacting the Office of Business Development

The City encourages business owners and managers to share information regarding upcoming events, promotions or news for possible inclusion in the City's marketing modalities, including [The Weekender](#), [Enjoy Highland Park](#), and [social media](#). Please send these items to the City via email to: businessdevelopment@cityhpil.com.

For general business inquiries and assistance, contact Business Development Manager Carolyn Hersch at chersch@cityhpil.com.

Questions regarding enjoyhighlandpark.com should be addressed to Amanda Bennett, Communications Manager, at abennett@cityhpil.com.

Additional Resources

[Available Commercial Space](#)

[Business Directory](#)

[Chamber Of Commerce](#)

[College of Lake County Small Business Development Center](#)

[SCORE](#)

[U.S. Small Business Administration](#)

[Job Center of Lake County - Business Services](#)

[Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity](#)

[Lake County Health Department](#)

[Illinois Department of Public Health](#)

[Women-in-Business Resources](#)

For general business inquiries and assistance, contact the City's Business Development Manager Carolyn Hersch at chersch@cityhpil.com or 847.926.1027.

This newsletter is produced by the City of Highland Park's Office of Business Development. If you have information you would like to include in this weekly mailing, please submit information, photos, and news to businessdevelopment@cityhpil.com. The City reserves the right to edit and/or filter submissions.

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