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Statewide Mask Mandate Rescinded

The State of Illinois's mask mandate for indoor public settings is no longer in effect. IDPH strongly encourages wearing masks in indoor public settings as masking and other community mitigations, such as vaccination, testing, and improved ventilation can have a large impact in continuing to manage the community's risk of COVID-19.

Note that the State still [requires](#) masks in high-risk facilities such as hospitals, health care facilities, long-term care facilities, and other congregate settings. Additionally, federal mask requirements continue to apply.

As a reminder, private businesses may choose to require stricter measures they determine to be in the best interest of their staff or customers, including masking. Please be respectful and understanding of businesses that choose to require masking in their stores.

Adopt-A-Planter & Sponsor-A-Planter Programs

The City of Highland Park offers two opportunities for businesses to take part in the beautification of our business districts.

The Adopt-A-Planter Program is only open to Highland Park Business and Property Owners in the Central Business District. As an Adopter, you must commit to the summer and fall seasons each year and you are responsible for the provision of plants as well as care and maintenance of the planters. This includes but is not limited to planting, watering, and weeding.



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

The Sponsor-A-Planter Program offers community members 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 will recognize the sponsor or an individual or family chosen by the sponsor. Planters are located in the Central Business District and the Ravinia District and are maintained from May to November.

[View The Sponsor-A-Planter Program Brochure](#)

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

2022 Food & Beverage Holidays



Are you participating in any 2022 Food & Beverage Holidays? Take a look at this [Calendar](#) and email [Melissa Rosen](#) if you are running any specials or promotions!

Send Us Your Specials & Promotions for *The Weekender!*

Sent out every Friday,
The Weekender is all
about things to do, places
to shop, restaurants to
visit, and more in
Highland Park! Email
[Amanda Civitello](mailto:Amanda.Civitello@highlandpark.com) with
events and promotions so
that we can help get the word out!

WEEKENDER

explore. experience. enjoy.

ENJOY

highland park

Sign Up For Business of the Week

Each week a new business is chosen and promoted on [Enjoy Highland Park](#) and on the Enjoy Highland Park [Facebook Page](#), as well as in the *Weekender* eNews, and on the Central Avenue Digital Kiosks, regardless of the business location.

Providing this information is easy! Click [HERE](#) to fill out a brief questionnaire to have your business featured as Business of the Week.

***Don't forget to upload 1-3 high-resolution photos!**

SBDC Illinois

Update Your Business Plan to Grow Your Business!
Meet With A Small Business Advisor Through SBDC Illinois

[Illinois Small Business Development & International Trade Center](#) offers confidential, no-cost, one-on-one virtual advising sessions.



INTERNATIONAL TRADE CENTER

To schedule a meeting click [HERE](#)

Attraction & Retention Series - Affordable and easy solutions for small business owners addressing key issues associated with attracting, hiring, and keeping talent in today's tough labor market.

Join Management Consultant Michelle Arentz, owner of Lazarus Learning LLC, in this virtual seven-part series exploring what workers are looking for and how small businesses can be competitive beyond wages.

This series will run on Tuesdays from March 15 to April 26
9-9:45 AM

[More information and Registration](#)

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](#)

Highland Park Career Exploration Program

Interested in sharing your profession with a high school student exploring their career options? The Highland Park Career Exploration program (HPCE) provides students with the opportunity to gain valuable insights into a potential career path and goals. Students are matched and meet with professionals to discuss career aspirations, work initiatives, and other professional inquiries.

[Learn more about HPCE](#)

Get Hired Illinois

The State of Illinois has launched [Get Hired Illinois](#) to connect job seekers with employers and training opportunities as well as employers who are looking to fill open positions with available workers. Visit [GetHired \(illinois.gov\)](#) for more information.



Additional Resources

[Available Commercial Space](#)

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

[Business Directory](#)

[Establishing Your Business](#)

[Chamber Of Commerce](#)

[SCORE](#)

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

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

[Lake County Health Department](#)

[NorthShore University
HealthSystem](#)

[Illinois Department of Public Health](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and
Prevention](#)

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

For more information on the City's response to COVID-19, contact the City's Communications Manager Amanda Civitello at acivitello@cityhpil.com.

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 Melissa Rosen at mrosen@cityhpil.com. The City reserves the right to edit and/or filter submissions. No pricing information will be published.

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