

July 14, 2021

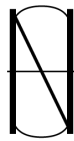


Business Development

eNews



Welcome To Highland Park



NANA OKAZAKI PLOTKIN

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Custom Made Clothing &

Tailoring

Nominations for 2021 Mayor's Beautification Awards

The Business and Economic Development Advisory Group is currently accepting nominations for the 2021 Mayor's Beautification Awards. The Award recognizes Highland Park property owners and business owners that have made improvements to enhance visual appeal consistent with the environment and the

community. Given annually, award recipients will be granted a Mayoral Certificate; public recognition at a 2021 City Council Meeting, and publicity in *The Highlander*. Below is a list of business categories eligible for this award and the criteria by which businesses will be judged



Business Categories

Auto Dealership, Commercial / Mixed-Use Development, Service, Restaurant, and Retail.

Award Criteria

Appearance, Cleanliness, Consistency, Window Clarity, Code Adherence,

Façade Condition, and Landscaping.

Please complete a nomination form on the City's website at cityhpil.com/HPawards or contact the Office of Business Development at 947.026.1046 or mrosen@cityhpil.com to request a form. Completed nominations must be returned to City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, Highland Park, IL 60035, Attn: Mayor's Beautification Award. Nominations must be postmarked by **September 17**.

Roger Williams Ave. Closed for Railroad Crossing Repairs 9 AM Thursday, July 15 – 9 AM Wednesday, July 21

Union Pacific Railroad is scheduled to make necessary repairs to the train tracks on Roger Williams Ave. between Burton Ave. and St. Johns Ave. Vehicular and pedestrian traffic will be detoured to allow for these essential repairs.

The Roger Williams Ave. sidewalks and roads will be closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic from Burton to St. Johns Avenue beginning at 9:00 AM on Thursday, July 15. The roadway is expected to reopen at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, July 21.

Union Pacific Railroad will post sidewalk and street closure signs and vehicular and pedestrian detour routes before the closure.

[A detour map is available.](#)

Metra train schedules and commuter parking lots will not be affected.

Food Truck Thursdays and the Ravinia Farmers' Market will continue as planned.

Food Truck Thursdays Continues Through September 9



Food Truck Thursdays will run weekly from 4:30 PM to Dusk through September 9 in Jens Jensen Park - Roger Williams Ave. between St. Johns

Ave. and Dean Ave.

**Roger Williams Ave. will be closed at the railroad crossing on July 15.
Please see the detour information above.**

Food Truck Lineup for July 15

[Louie B Fresh](#)

[The Fat Shallot](#)

[Da Pizza Dude](#)

[Chicago Lunchbox](#)

[Kona Ice](#)

[Culinary Gangster](#)

Puffy Houzz

Royal Ice Cream Truck

[Tacos Marios](#)

Plus Local Favorites [Abigail's](#) and [Ravinia Brewing Company](#)

Music Lineup

July 15: [Ben Tatar](#) (Kids Show) 4:30–5:45 PM

[Jared Rabin Band](#) (Rock N Roll) 6:15–8:15 PM

July 22: [Big Sadie](#) (American Roots) 4:30–5:45 PM

[The DB's](#) (Soulful Blues) 6:15–8:15 PM

July 29: [Pierce Crask](#) (Americana Blues) 4:30–5:45 PM

[Dave Spector & Brother John Kattke](#) (Chicago Blues Duo) 6:15–8:15 PM

August 5: Desert Birds (Gypsy Swing) 4:30–5:45 PM

[La Tosca](#) (Italian Mambo Ensemble) 6:15–8:15 PM

August 12: Surprise Local Guest Opener 4:30–5:45 PM

Basement Band (Rock N Roll - Local Ravinia/ HP Resident Band) 6:15–8:15 PM

August 19: Surprise Local Guest Opener 4:30–5:45 PM

[Akasha](#) (Reggae) 6:15–8:15 PM

August 26: Surprise Local Guest Opener 4:30–5:45 PM

[Railheart](#) (Rock N Roll with Cosmic Country) 6:15–8:15 PM

September 2: Surprise Local Guest Opener 4:30–5:45 PM

[The Acoustic Generation: Matt Cantlon Aloha Ukulele's Band](#) (Folk Rock)
6:15–8:15 PM

September 9: Surprise Local Guest Opener 4:30–5:45 PM

[The Hoyle Brothers](#) (Country) 6:15–8:15 PM

For sneak peeks of weekly food trucks and event updates, be sure to like and follow [RaviniaDistrict.HighlandPark](#) on Facebook.

Ravinia Farmers Market



Jens Jensen Park **486 Roger Williams Ave, Highland Park**

The [Ravinia Farmers Market](http://raviniafarmersmarket.com) runs weekly from 7 AM to 1 PM through October 27 in Jens Jensen Park - Roger Williams Ave. between St. Johns Ave. and Dean Ave.

Bitter Jester Music Festival



The Bitter Jester Music Fest is celebrating fifteen summers of live music beginning on Friday, July 23.

Six bands from across the Midwest will be featured each week with a panel of professionals selecting a winner each Friday in this “battle” style concert series. Winning bands plus four additional “Wild Card” bands move on to compete at the City-sponsored Grand Finale Concert at Wolters Field

before the belated Independence Day Fireworks display on Sunday, Sept.
5. Music starts at 3:00 PM and goes right up until the fireworks.

Come for the music, stay for the craft beer and wine from [Ravinia Brewing Co](#), the Pizza from [Judy's Pizza](#), and the Gelato from [Sweet Home Gelato](#)!

Weekly beginning Friday, July 23 - Friday, August 13
Port Clinton Square (600 Central Avenue)
7 -1030 PM

Sunday, September 5
Wolters Field Concert & Fireworks (1080 Park Ave W)
3 - 9 PM

Music Lineup coming soon!

For more information and to hear some great music, be sure to like and follow [@BitterJester MusicFestival](#) on Instagram and [@BitterJesterBattle](#) on Facebook.



Live Music at [Norton's](#)



[Norton's](#) - 1905 Sheridan Road
847.432.3287 / nortons-restaurant.com

[Click here to view an interactive map](#) of Highland Park restaurants.
Or view The [Highland Park Dining Guide](#).

Are you a Highland Park Restaurant that would like to be featured?
Email your specials and promotions to mrosen@cityhpil.com.

Business Of The Week:
[Inspired Organics Children's Boutique](#)



Inspired Organics Children's Boutique

was founded by a mom who wanted to make sure the brands and products she chooses carefully for her children were readily available for customers. The boutique carries organic clothing, natural products, eco-friendly toys, and sustainable non-toxic furniture.



Inspired Organics Children's Boutique supports brands that give back. Most brands carried in the shop are like-minded small businesses that ethically and sustainably manufacture, provide fair wage jobs in impoverished communities and donate profits to charities benefiting children.

Better Clothes – Better Products- Better for Babies, Children, and the Environment.

Inspired Organics Children's Boutique - 583 Central Avenue
874.926.3005 / inspiredorganicschild.com

Sign Up For Business of the Week!

Each week a new business is chosen and promoted on the City's Facebook Page, Website, E-Newsletters, and on the Central Avenue Digital Kiosks, regardless of the business location.

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!**

Sponsor-a-Planter Program

Through the [**Sponsor-a-Planter Program**](#), the City of Highland Park offers residents an opportunity to beautify the City's Central Business District and the Ravinia District by sponsoring one or more available municipal planters during the summer and fall seasons.



The City will recognize sponsors on a 5" x 7" placard featured in the planter, or sponsors may choose to recognize or memorialize an individual or family. The City will also recognize sponsors on its website.

To participate, residents pay an annual fee to the City for the flower planting and maintenance as well as the addition of the 5"x7" placard for one season (May—Nov). Planting will commence upon receiving the funds.

Annual cost of a planter sponsorship, including the placard:

- Large Planter: \$750 (Central Business District Only)
- Medium Planter: \$350
- Flower Pot: \$200

If you are interested in sponsoring a planter, please contact the Business Development Office at 847.926.1027.

Business owners interested in participating in beautifying the Central or Ravinia Business Districts are invited to learn more about the [**Sponsor-a-Planter program**](#).

SCORE Mentoring is back at the Highland Park Library

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.

SCORE Webinar

How to Maximize the Impact of your Marketing Plan

Tuesday, July 27

6:30 - 7:30 PM

[Register HERE](#)

This webinar will focus on how to identify the best target markets for your product/service, and how to leverage that information to maximize your sales and profit potential.

Presenter: Chris Banakis, a mentor with SCORE North Cook and Lake County Chapter, has an extensive background in sales, marketing, and new business development and strategy. He currently operates a boutique business and technology advisory firm that focuses on smart grid and distributed energy resource technologies.

Get Free Help from a SCORE North Cook and Lake County Mentor
northchicago.score.org

Highland Park Chamber of Commerce

Sidewalk Sale 2021 July 30 & 31

The Chamber staff along with the Sidewalk Sale task force, are proud to announce the dates for Sidewalk Sale 2021. Through everything, we are committed to helping our local businesses thrive, safely reopening our community, and to welcoming back visitors and shoppers to Highland Park.



Click for the current Sidewalk Sale [Guidelines & Regulations](#), and [Sponsorship Opportunities](#). You will find links to register your business as a vendor on both documents. **The final application deadline is Thursday, July 15th.**

Webinar: The Art of Pivoting: Strategies for Developing a Flexible Business Model for the Future



Wednesday, July 21

9 - 10 AM

[Register Here](#)

The COVID-19 Pandemic has caused changes to business models in every industry. Learn how three business owners pivoted to extend their brand identity using technology and social media. Listening to customer's wants and needs has never been so important. The discussion will include how to use data to make your next move. This session will include time for Q&A on how you can apply these concepts to your specific industry.

chamberhp.com

Financial Aid for Retailers and Restaurants Grant Program

The City of Highland Park has a matching grant program to assist restaurants and retailers with operational costs incurred to provide a safe environment for customers and staff in compliance with state and federal public health guidelines for the coronavirus pandemic. The program will accept applications from qualifying restaurants and retailers located and operating within a commercial building in Highland Park with a net worth of less than \$2 million and generating less than an average of \$200,000 in profit per year for two years after taxes. Qualifying restaurants and retailers may apply for reimbursement of up to 50% of eligible expenses related to COVID-19 public health mitigations, to a maximum of \$10,000 for restaurants and \$5,000 for retailers, for costs incurred between August 15, 2020, and December 31, 2021, or until funds are depleted. [More information is available here.](#)



Additional Resources

[Available Commercial Space](#)

[Business Directory](#)

[Establishing Your Business](#)

[Chamber Of Commerce](#)

[SCORE](#)

[U.S. Small Business](#)

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

[Lake County Health Department](#)

[NorthShore University
HealthSystem](#)

[Illinois Department of Public
Health](#)

Administration

Job Center of Lake County -
Business Services

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 bi-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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