



The Highlander

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by the City of
Highland Park

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& March 2021

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Shopping, dining, and enjoying Highland Park's vibrant business districts is easier than ever - even during cold weather! Visit cityhpil.com/curbside to browse a list of businesses and restaurants offering convenient curbside pickup, carryout, delivery, and virtual services.

Flip to the back cover to learn more about changes Highland Park businesses have made to serve you throughout the pandemic, and new changes in the Central Business District that will drive business growth in downtown Highland Park.



Spring Forward March 14

Remember to set all clocks forward by one hour on Sunday, March 14 at 2 AM.

The Fire Department reminds residents to change smoke detector batteries to save lives.

COVID-19 Vaccine Updates

Sign up for the City's eNews to receive weekly COVID-19 updates in your inbox, including news about COVID-19 distribution.

Neighborhood Meetings

Neighborhood Meetings with elected and appointed officials from the governments serving Highland Park will be held virtually in April and May.

Consolidated Election: April 6

Election Day is Tuesday, April 6. Early voting will be available at the Highland Park Country Club, March 22 - April 3. Voters may request mail-in ballots now at LakeVoterPower.info.

Highland Park at a Glance



2020 Neighborhood Meetings

The City of Highland Park, North Shore School District 112, Township High School District 113, Park District of Highland Park, Highland Park Public Library, Moraine Township, Lake County and other governments serving Highland Park will host several Neighborhood Meetings this spring to meet with residents and discuss Highland Park community priorities.

Neighborhood Meetings are an opportunity for residents to interact with staff and elected officials in a friendly, informal environment. The public is invited to provide input and feedback to Highland Park's governing bodies. Residents may attend any meeting. The schedule of these two-way conversations are:

- **April 15, 11 AM**
- **May 3, 5:30 PM**
- **May 19, 5:30 PM**

These meetings will be virtual. Please RSVP and indicate which meeting you wish to attend. The unique link will be provided. Links are also posted on the Meeting Calendar on the City's website. For more information, please contact the City at **847.926.1000** or cityhp@cityhpil.com.



Community Solar Program

Residential and small commercial customers can save money on their electric bills and support clean energy development with community solar. No need to install solar panels on your property. When you subscribe to community solar, you receive electricity in the same way as you do now, with a 20% savings on your ComEd energy supply costs. You will receive two separate bills - one from ComEd and one from the community solar supplier. There is no sign up fee, no cancellation fee, and you may cancel at any time. To learn more or to sign up for the North Shore Community Solar Program, visit www.northshorecommunitysolar.com.



Energy Efficiency Webinar

Energy efficiency can help you save money while making your home or business more comfortable. Join the City of Highland Park, North Shore Gas, and the Power Bureau, LLC for a free webinar on Wednesday, March 3 at 6:30 PM to learn about the opportunities available to you. Hear about incentives and funding available for energy efficient upgrades and get introduced to the new City of Highland Park Community Solar Program. Visit cityhpil.com/energywebinar to learn more.



COVID-19 Vaccine Information

Although vaccine supply remains limited, vaccination of Illinoisans in initial priority groups has begun. Register to be notified when you can make an appointment for a vaccine at allvax.lakecohealth.org. When supply increases, individuals may also be able to make appointments at pharmacies or with their medical provider. The City will provide weekly updates in Tuesday eNews. Learn more at cityhpil.com/vaccine.



Consolidated Election April 6

The Consolidated Election for Township, City Council, Park District, School District, and other officials will be held on Tuesday, April 6. On Election Day, polls will be open from 6 AM until 7 PM. Early voting will be held from March 22 - April 3 at the Highland Park Country Club, 1201 Park Avenue West. Hours are Mon. - Fri., 9 AM - 5 PM; Sat., 9 AM - 2 PM. Request a mail-in ballot at LakeVoterPower.info. Learn more at cityhpil.com/elections.



Regional Flood Mitigation April 8, 6 PM

Given the intensity and frequency of storms impacting the area, the City and communities on the Skokie and Middle Fork Rivers have been meeting to address flood mitigation solutions. The next meeting will be held virtually on Thursday, April 8 at 6 PM. City officials and representatives from Lake County Stormwater Management, Army Corps of Engineers and others will update on efforts to mitigate ongoing flooding concerns. RSVP to attend at cityhp@cityhpil.com or call **847. 926.1006**.



Report Potholes

With freeze-thaw cycles occurring this time of year, potholes become a burden for all of us. Help Public Works maintain City streets by reporting potholes via the City's 24-hour Pothole Hotline at **847.926.1178**. Just leave a message with your name, address, phone number and specific pothole location. Pothole repairs may also be reported on the City's website at cityhpil.com/service by clicking on "Customer Service Request" on the main page.

Repairs are typically addressed within 24 - 48 hours upon notification. In winter, Public Works crews fill potholes with cold patch, a quick, temporary solution to make roads drivable until permanent repairs can be made when asphalt plants open in the spring.

Contact Public Works at **847.432.0807** during business hours or non-emergency dispatch at **847.432.7730** during off hours.



State of the City 2021

Nancy R. Roterer
– Mayor Nancy R. Roterer

Mayor Nancy R. Roterer delivered the State of the City address at the January 25, 2021 City Council meeting.

I am delivering this update in a time where we've just witnessed the historic inauguration of our 46th President of the United States and the peaceful transfer of power, recognized and honored the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr, continue to reflect upon the recent events in the nation's Capitol, and experience the ongoing devastation of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation and around the world.

Things have not been easy. The sacrifices made by each and every one of us have been enormous. Most importantly, I want to send a message of deep gratitude to each of you - for your patience, resiliency, support, and care for each other. You are the heart of Highland Park.

I'd like to recognize my City Council members – Tony Blumberg, Michelle Holleman, Dan Kaufman, Alyssa Knobel, Adam Stolberg, and Kim Stone. We are a team. As elected officials, there is no absolute right or wrong – just, at times, very hard choices and difficult decisions. The burden of responsibility is always heavy, and even moreso during a pandemic.

Thank you to our dedicated staff. City Manager Ghida Neukirch and the senior staff – we are grateful for your leadership. While we have been staying safe in our homes, our dedicated employees have kept our city operating. Our first responders put their health and their families' health at risk to keep us safe. We thank them for their continued bravery and compassion.

There is no denying that the pandemic created a perfect storm. It has affected each and every one of us. It has upended

our daily routines, social interactions, work habits, and even our sense of time and place. Many of us have experienced severe personal economic challenges and grief due to the loss of loved ones. We lost the ability to visit our favorite restaurants and businesses and in turn, they have taken a beating, forcing many to close or adapt to a new way of doing business.

While it is easy to get discouraged, we should instead be inspired as we reflect on the heroism of our essential workers, the spirit of togetherness that we are experiencing in the face of adversity, and our strength as we continue to persevere.

While the pandemic may have started as a public healthcare crisis, it has also become a governance and financial crisis. Strong, accessible, and responsible local governance has been paramount. While no one expected the major events that we experienced in 2020, we were able to rely on our carefully crafted core priorities to guide us. As a City, with your input, we have been strategic in developing those priorities - public safety, fiscal stability, infrastructure investment and community vibrancy. These have been our pillars for the past ten years and while every single one has been challenged by this pandemic, we have been nimble, resilient and effective in meeting our challenges because of them.

Every level of government continues to experience severe economic impacts related to the pandemic and the City has not been immune. Costs of pandemic-related City operations rose quickly and City revenues have been stretched beyond anything anyone could have anticipated, causing a potential shortfall of millions of dollars. To address challenges in the short-term, many infrastructure and other projects were put on hold, events

and programming were cancelled, portions of our staff were furloughed, and our work-force was diminished by 10% through attrition and staff reductions. While careful prior planning provided strong reserves upon which we could draw this year, we continue to face fiscal challenges throughout the pandemic and possibly beyond. I am proud to say that despite these external forces, we recently approved our tenth balanced operating budget in a row, our financial house remains in order, and City operations continue almost seamlessly.

We know that we cannot wait for the pandemic to end to start re-setting, re-imagining, and re-building. As we continue to work closely with the Lake County Health Department and the Illinois Department of Public Health to increase the vaccine's roll out, we recognize that the length and intensity of the pandemic has taken a toll on our local economy. With this in mind, the City swiftly created numerous initiatives focused on supporting our restaurants and small businesses as they faced and continue to experience pandemic-related challenges. We reduced or eliminated fees, created grants for mitigating pandemic-related costs, rolled back restrictions and permitting requirements, and joined in marketing efforts to showcase our valued businesses. We are fluid in our approach and work regularly with our businesses to provide them support. On their behalf, all of us at the City continue to ask, when possible, that you patronize our local businesses. Our community has depended on them throughout the years and they need us now more than ever.

We continue to make strategic changes to our zoning, particularly in and around our downtown, resulting in transit-oriented, market-driven housing

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www.cityhpil.com/signup



www.facebook.com/HighlandParkIL



@CityHPIL



www.youtube.com/user/CityHPIL

Our Community



COVID-19 Reminders

Remember to follow all of the 3Ws to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth
- Watch your distance; stay six feet from others
- Wash your hands thoroughly

Find information about free COVID-19 testing at dph.illinois.gov/testing. For more about the City's response, visit cityhpil.com/covid-19. Sign up for eNews to receive twice-weekly email updates from the City at cityhpil.com/signup.



Fix-A-Leak Week, 3/15-21 World Water Day, 3/22

The EPA's Fix a Leak Week is March 15 - 21. World Water Day is held each year on March 22. Both focus on saving water, our most precious resource. Visit epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week and worldwaterday.org. For info about the City's water supply, contact our Water Production Division at [847-433-4355](tel:847-433-4355) or waterplant@cityhpil.com.



Snow & Ice Reminders

Snow Plowing Operations: Snow removal begins with the clearing of the City's main arterial routes, followed by side streets and cul-de-sacs. Street plowing operations continue until all streets are passable and all parking areas have been plowed. Learn more: cityhpil.com.

Parking Restrictions: From December 1 - March 31, vehicles cannot be parked longer than 15 minutes on any public streets between the hours of 2 AM and 6 AM, regardless of weather conditions.

Sidewalks: Please be considerate of neighbors and clear your sidewalk of snow and ice. After snowfall of 4" or more, the City's contractor will plow sidewalks once street plowing operations are completed. Find authorized overnight parking lots at cityhpil.com/parking.

Private Snow Removal Services: If hiring a contractor to plow your driveway, ensure that your snow is not pushed across the street onto a neighbor's property. City ordinance prohibits removing snow or ice from any building, private property, driveway, driveway approach or public sidewalk and depositing it onto public streets.

Hydrants: The Fire Department appreciates assistance from residents in clearing snow from the area surrounding fire hydrants.

Questions: During business hours, please contact Public Works at [847.432.0807](tel:847-432-0807). After hours, call Police Non-Emergency, [847.432.7730](tel:847-432-7730).



Mayor's State of the City - continued

development that includes affordable units, is sensitive to the environment, and encourages longtime residents to easily downsize, allowing new neighbors to move here. As a result, over time, more people will be able to shop, dine and visit our downtown, helping to ease resident property tax burdens through the generation of increased sales tax revenue. This new housing also enables our seniors to age in place, continuing a Highland Park tradition of multiple generations of families in our hometown.

In the coming year, some priority projects include the continued planning to replace the obsolete Ravinia fire station, rebuilding a crumbling Clavey Road, a vital east-west artery in south Highland Park, revisiting our economic strategic plan, continuing to shine a spotlight on the need for regional flood mitigation efforts, short- and long-term planning to revitalize the Crossroads shopping district, and most of all – we look forward to coming together again as a community in person.

Despite fiscal obstacles and unclear timelines, it is necessary that we continue to plan, continue to progress to the extent feasible. As American author Alan Lakein, best known for his quotes about time management and planning once said, "Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now."

We do not do our work alone. Collaboration and synergies benefit the public and improve efficiencies. We continue to work closely with our sister governments, not-for-profit and other community partners, and area clergy. Thank you to all of our partners who work with us throughout the year. These collaborative relationships result in a broad range of initiatives that benefit our community's day-to-day life, help us coordinate during times like these and plan for the future. Our work together exemplifies representative government at its best. This year, we were tested, and I am proud that although we each have separate functions, we came together to promote a culture of inclusivity, and to

support critical human and social services for our neighbors in need.

Your input is the most vital. Your priorities are our priorities. In the coming months, we will virtually hold our annual neighborhood meetings in partnership with our sister governments. We will apply our listening and learning to the development of our annual budget – our most important policy statement. With fiscal prudence as our directive, we will plan for the future with an eye on our community's short- and long-term needs and hopes, challenges and opportunities.

At the end of the day, every person, every family, deserves to be safe and healthy in their home, on their street, in their neighborhood, at their place of work, and they deserve equal access to opportunity. None of us can predict what may come next, but we will continue to build and learn from the past as we work together to create a bright future.

Again, to each of you - our community - thank you.

Community Calendar

Health & Safety Reminders For In Person Events

Observe all COVID-19 Protocols

- Face coverings required for all over age 2
- Wash hands frequently
- Maintain a 6' distance from any others outside your household
- Stay home if you are feeling ill
- Stay home (1) if you have been exposed to or are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19; (2) if you are awaiting a test or test results for COVID-19; or (3) if you are under any quarantine due to local travel guidance.

Visit www.cityhpil.com/covid-19

The Art Center of Highland Park
US: All People Everything & THEM: All People Everywhere
Now through April 12
TheArtCenterHP.org

1957 Sheridan Road / 847.432.1888
Galleries Open Monday - Friday, 10AM - 4PM and Saturday, 12PM - 4PM

In a polarized world, what does it mean to be an "US"? Is it grouping people together personally, as in the us of our family or community? Or is it political, grouping us by party, by race, by gender, or by place of origin? Similarly "THEM" explores how systems of labeling "other" lead to systemic discrimination, racism and conflict. In this extremely divisive era, how do we overcome the "us versus them" mentality? What brings US together?

City Gallery Art Stroll

'What the World Needs Now is . . .' Our answer is 'Love AND Art'

TAC & Art Makers North showcase professional artists in Central & Ravinia Business Districts storefronts for strolling (or drive-by) gallery experience, February 12-April 2. Vote for your favorite artwork and you can win a raffle prize. Map to guide you to the location of each artist available on TAC website after 2/12. Local artists and most of the work is available for purchase.

Midwest Young Artists

Winter Orchestra Concerts

Saturday, March 13, times TBD

Winter Choral Concerts

Sunday, March 14, times TBD

Chamber Music Soirees

Sunday, March 14, 1:30 & 2:30 PM
youtube.com/MidwestYoungArtists

All concerts are held at the MYAC Center, 878 Lyster Rd in Highland. The concerts take place inside MYAC's new *heated* outdoor event tent, attendees are required to wear masks and bring their own chairs; free of charge.

Virtual Events

Affordable Housing Info

Tuesday, March 9, 6PM

Tuesday, April 6, 6PM

Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH)

847.263.7478 ext. 10

CPAHousing.org

Register at cpahousing.org/class-registration or call the number above. Registration is required to provide Zoom link.

Highland Park Players

Musical Theatre & Tap Dance Workshop

February 15 & 22, 7:15PM
highlandparkplayers.com

Cost \$15; register to receive Zoom link.

Come join Jenna Schoppe, a Jeff Award winning choreographer, and the Highland Park Players in the final installments of the Musical Theatre & Tap Dance Workshop!

Greater Midwest Foodways

Meet Former First Lady

Jacqueline Bouvier Kennedy

February 21, 1:30PM

highlandparkplayers.com

Free; register [312.380.1665](tel:312.380.1665) or

greatermidwestfoodways@gmail.com

Leslie Goddard in character as Mrs.

Kennedy. It is 1964 and the former first lady is struggling to cope. She reviews her life, sharing stories about her marriage, fight for privacy amidst intense media scrutiny, work to restore the White House, and her attempts to showcase the arts.

Call 4 Calm

free emotional support text
line, Text "TALK" to 552020

Rebuild. Reimagine. Reignite.

Highland Park Chamber of

Commerce Annual Meeting

Wednesday, March 3, 8:30AM

Register: chamberhp.com

The HP Chamber of Commerce invites the community to the Annual Meeting and look to the future for our business community. We'll introduce the 2021 Chamber Board of Directors, provide an overview of the strategic goals, present business recognition awards, and welcome City Manager Neukirch to give the City's perspective for the business community.

Highland Park Historical Society

Picture Postcards: The Happy Invention

Wednesday, February 24, 7PM

Katherine Hamilton-Smith, founding curator of the Curt Teich Postal Archives, offers a look at the power of picture postcards. Postcards for the 1893 World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago made Illinois the birthplace of an American industry.

Swedish Pancakes for Breakfast?

Thursday, March 4, 7PM

Folklorist Marcus Cederström, from the Department of German, Nordic, and Slavic Studies at UW-Madison, explores what the foods we eat tell us about immigration, identity, and Nordic-American life by focusing on coffee, lutefisk, and, of course, Swedish pancakes.

All Highland Park Historical Society events are virtual. Register in advance via email to archives@highlandParkHistory.org to receive the program's Zoom link.

Highland Park Strings

New From Ravinia

Thursday, March 11, 8PM

Broadcast on 98.7 WFMT

Enjoy a 45-minute performance of the Highland Park Strings, with violin soloist Maya Anjali Buchanan, featured on the "New from Ravinia" series of concert broadcasts. highlandparkstrings.org.

Our Community



Private Diseased or Dead Trees: Monitor & Take Action

As spring approaches, so does the start of another tree growing season! Once the leaves are back on a tree, it's apparent which are dead or diseased. Dead trees in the woods provide wildlife habitats for birds and insects. Diseased or dead trees located on a private property should be assessed by a Certified Arborist. Of particular concern are trees that can destabilize due to root decay and become hazardous. For example, a dead Ash tree needs timely action. Residents are encouraged to proactively work with neighbors and remove any potentially unsafe tree(s) including those on or very close to a property line.

A Tree Removal Permit is required for removal of any tree with a trunk diameter greater than 8 inches as measured from 4.5 feet above the ground. There is no fee charged for a permit to remove a dead, dying, or diseased tree. Visit cityhpil.com/trees. For information on Tree Removal Permits, the Tree Preservation Ordinance, or general inquiries on trees and their care, contact Keith O'Herrin, City Forester, at **847.926.1604** or koherrin@cityhpil.com.



Green Bay Trail Enhancements & Call for Volunteers

Since 2017, the City has been removing invasive plants along the Green Bay Trail (Robert McClory Bike Path) and replacing them with pollinator habitat of native wildflowers, shrubs and trees. European buckthorn, Japanese honeysuckle, and Norway maple are detrimental to habitat gardens. A healthy pollinator area provides habitat for native species and improves trail user experience with fall color and other seasonal interest. In time, new native shrubs and trees will fill in and provide a vegetation screen.

So far, the City has restored nearly 2 acres of the trail between Roger Williams Avenue and Beech Street. In 2018 and 2019, students, volunteers, staff, and contractors planted approximately 12,000 native wildflower, 350 native shrubs, and 50 native trees. In 2020, contractors installed 1,000 plugs and 600 shrubs. In spring 2021, trail enhancements will continue with additional planting by contractors. City plans to collaborate with volunteers and area school students in 2021 and 2022, within allowed regulations due to COVID-19 safety protocols. To volunteer, please contact Keith O'Herrin, Ph.D., City Forester, at **847.926.1604** or koherrin@cityhpil.com.

Moraine Township

Please note that this section is submitted, written and edited by Moraine Township and does not reflect the views or opinions of the City.

Moraine Township Provides Free Income Tax Preparation for Low-and Moderate-Income Taxpayers



Moraine Township is pleased to offer free income tax return preparation to low-and moderate-income taxpayers. To keep clients and volunteers safe, tax preparation will be virtual this year!

Under the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program, the Township partners with the IRS to train and certify volunteers to prepare basic returns. The program will run from February 2 through April 12, 2021, and is available to taxpayers with adjusted gross income of less than \$57,000.

Interested taxpayers should leave a message at **847.780.6644**, and a volunteer will return their call and get them started.

Assistance for Moraine Township Residents

If you know of a Moraine Township

resident in need of assistance, please have them call **847.432.3240**.

- Food Pantry Tuesdays 10 AM until 12:30 PM. Residents should call the Township if they are unable to visit the pantry due to family illness, sheltering in place, or working during pantry hours.
- Emergency Rent and Utility Assistance for income-qualified residents.
- Help signing up for food, utility and health insurance.
- Door-to-Door van rides for seniors and disabled residents.
- Job search assistance for income-qualified residents.
- Referral to other agencies for specific resident needs.

Additional Time To Obtain Subsidized Health Insurance for 2021

Open enrollment for health insurance under the Affordable Care Act has been reopened beginning Feb. 15 and running through May 15. Moraine Township will offer remote assistance to residents. Trained and certified counselors are available to work remotely one-on-one with residents to help ensure that enrollees receive the premium reductions they may be income-qualified to receive.

Call **847.432.3240** for an appointment.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The Moraine Township office is not open to the public at this time, but staff is available for remote assistance at **847.432.3240**.

Highland Park Senior Center

Serving Seniors ages 50 and better

54 Laurel Avenue

847.432.4110

The Highland Park Senior Center provides education, recreation, enrichment and support services targeting a population from 50 years of age and older. The Senior Center is currently closed due to COVID-19, however staff is committed to offering high-quality, virtual activities throughout these unprecedented times. The list below outlines a partial listing of Zoom programs available to members of the Highland Park Senior Center. Please call 847.432.4110 to join the Center or for program details and Zoom links.

Life Lessons & Legacies Writing

Wednesdays, 3/3 - 3/24 (4)

1:30 - 2:30 PM

FREE for members, advanced registration required

Poetry Writing

Wednesdays, 4/7 - 4/28 (4)

1:30 - 2:30 PM

FREE for members, advanced registration required

Driver's Test Preparation Course

Thursday, 3/11

10 AM - 12 PM

FREE for members, advanced registration required

Book Club Discussion Group

Mondays, 1 - 2 PM

Zoom, Registration Required

Free; for members only

February 22

Monogamy by Sue Miller

March 29

Hum If You Don't Know the Words by Bianca Marais

Barry Bradford Presents: American Royalty

Fridays, 1:30 - 3 PM

Zoom, Drop-in

Free; for members only

Sponsored by BrightStar Care

February 26

Rita Hayworth

March 26

Little-Known Stories

April 23

Meghan Markle & Wallis Simpson

To access the full version of the *Shorelines Newsletter* please go to www.cityhpil.com/seniorcenter.



112 Updates!



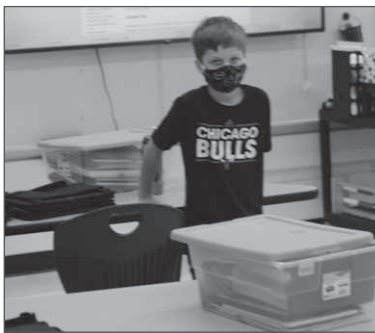
THANK YOU HIGHLAND PARK/ HIGHWOOD ROTARIANS!

District 112 is beyond excited, proud, and grateful to the **Rotary Club of Highland Park/Highwood** for their incredible generosity in donating **\$15,000** for our families in need of food/grocery support! Together with school principals and Family Engagement Specialist, Mr. José Castrejon, the District will work with families in need to access this incredible donation from our neighbors and friends.

Formed in 1905, Rotary International is the world's first service club organization with over 1.2 million members in 34,000 clubs worldwide. The Highland Park/Highwood club serves its two adjacent communities, giving life to the Rotary motto, "Service Above Self"; For more information about the Rotary Club, contact info@highlandparkrotary.org or visit www.highlandparkrotary.org.

WE ARE BACK

From Tuesday, October 20, 2020, until Friday, January 29, 2021 District 112 was on a pivot to a Remote Learning Model due to local public health guidance regarding the pandemic. In early January new guidance moved school COVID-19 decision making to a risk assessment and metrics-combined framework. School districts were advised to utilize metrics along with the ability to mitigate risk to make in-person learning decisions. **A large portion of our students returned to the Hybrid In-person Learning Model on February 1, 2021.**



We are overjoyed to have staff and students back in our classrooms! The District continues to follow strict guidelines and protocols related to COVID-19 infection mitigation. These mitigation efforts include indoor air quality upgrades, enhanced cleaning, daily symptom self-certification, saliva screening for staff & students, asymptomatic testing for staff, and all employees will be offered vaccines on February 7 & 28.

2020 and 2021 has been a time for the history books and it has been our honor to serve this community and continue education and growth during this challenging time.

District 113 | COVID-19 Vaccination



Dear D113 Community,

The road the pandemic has taken us down has been unpredictable, everchanging, and difficult. Good news, any good news, has been rare, but good news is what I have at the time this column was submitted to *The Highlander*. You read that correctly. Good news. District 113 staff members and six other Lake County school districts, including North Shore School District 112, have COVID-19 vaccinations waiting for them through a partnership with Walgreens.

Districts 112, and 113 along with Bannockburn School District 106 had an opportunity to partner with Walgreens to create our own POD for all our staff members. As superintendents, our first obligation is to our respective students and staff, and securing vaccinations for our respective staff members fulfilled that obligation. There are, however, other ethical considerations in distributing vaccines. We knew that by creating our own POD we were effectively increasing the supply of vaccine for the Lake County Health Department to distribute to all Lake County educators. In our first meeting with Walgreens, we raised the equity issue of including in our POD more Lake County districts in our geographical area, particularly those that do not typically have the same access to resources that we do. Walgreens enthusiastically supported this approach and committed enough vaccine and staff to accomplish it.

Now seven school districts are working together with Walgreens to provide both doses of the vaccine to 3,325 staff members over four days: North Shore School District 112, Bannockburn School District 106, Beach Park School District 3, North Chicago District 187, Zion Elementary School District 6, Zion Benton Township High School District 126, and District 113. Collectively, we serve 14,410 students.

This is a critically important step on the way to getting back to normal school, which is so important to our students' education and their social emotional well-being.

The approximately 15,000 educators in Lake County still have the opportunity to receive vaccinations through the Lake County Health Department's AllVax program. By vaccinating a fifth of that population, educators and others in Phase 1b will move through the system more quickly.

The next issue for the Highlander will be April. Let's hope that spring brings even better news.

Bruce Law, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic programs and events are subject to change. Please go to pdhp.org for the most up-to-date information.

Sat Feb 20 | 10-11:30am | Life Size Games | All Ages

\$22/family, Sunset Woods Park, 1801 Sunset Rd
Spend time outdoors, walk along the trail, and play a life size board game. While pretending to be birds, your family will roll the dice, fly away from predators, or possibly get caught and banded by a naturalist. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Sun Feb 21 | 10-11:30am | Indoor Herb Garden | Adult \$30

VIRTUAL Break the winter blues by starting an indoor herb garden. The aroma and taste of fresh herbs are sure to help you forget that it's still winter. See page 38 for details. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Fri Mar 5 | 4-7pm | Spring Skating Virtual Exhibition | All Ages

\$15 to participate, Centennial Ice Arena, 3100 Trail Way
Featuring skaters enrolled in our Learn-to-Skate and Freeski programs at Centennial Ice Arena. Skaters who wish to skate may enroll online or in person at Centennial Ice Arena. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Sat Mar 13 | 10-11am & 11:30am-12:30pm | Maple Syrup Harvest | Ages 6-Adult

\$12, Sunset Woods Park, 1801 Sunset Rd
Listen to a folklore of how maple sap was discovered, tap a tree and enjoy a pancake with maple syrup after. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Sat Mar 20 | 10-11:30am | Orienteering | Ages 6-Adult

\$12, Sunset Woods Park, 1801 Sunset Rd
Find out if you can navigate through the orienteering course while equipped with a map and compass. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

M/W/F Mar 22-26 | 1-4pm | Spring Seekers | Ages 6-10

\$120, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd
Conduct science investigations, set off on adventures in the woods, and experience camp like games See page XX for details. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Mon Mar 22 | 10am-Noon | Mix, Splatter & Sculpt | Ages 6-10

\$25, Rosewood Beach, 883 Sheridan Road
Get messy! Mix natural tie dyes, splatter mud and sand paintings, and sculpt tree faces at the beach. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Tue Mar 23 | 10am-Noon | Up & Away to Space | Ages 6-9

\$25, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd
Rockets, moon landings and robots, Oh my! Join as we build rockets, learn about the surface of planets and make simple robots. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Wed Mar 24 | 10am-Noon | It's Not Magic, It's Science | Ages 6-10

\$25, Rosewood Beach, 883 Sheridan Road
How did you do that?! It's science of course. Make glowing smoking bubbles, write with invisible ink, defy gravity, and more! [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Thu Mar 25 | 10am-Noon | Can You Win It!? | Ages 6-9

\$25, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd
Beat the clock in several challenge games. Each round gets tougher until the final challenge... Can you win it all?! [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Thu Mar 25 | 12:30-3pm | Crate Stacking Challenge | Ages 10-15

\$30, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd
While harnessed in and on a belay system, stack and climb up milk crates as high as 25 feet! The more crates you stack the higher you go. Are you up for the challenge? [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Fri Mar 26 | 6-7:30pm | Explore S'more Parks! | All Ages

\$12, Sunset Woods Park, 1801 Sunset Rd
Take an interactive hike with a naturalist that ends around a cozy campfire with s'mores! [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).



Sat Apr 3 | Family

\$45

AT HOME Treat your family to a surprise hassle-free private egg hunt in your own yard! 50 toy-filled eggs and a basket of goodies will be

hidden in your yard by 10am. When the eggs are hidden, a sign will be placed in your yard letting you know it is time for the fun to begin! Must be residents of Highland Park.

[Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

About Us

Enriching community life through healthy leisure pursuits and an appreciation of the natural world.

636 Ridge Road
Highland Park, IL 60035
847.831.3810
pdhp.org



ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO RECEIVE OUR EMAILS?

One of the fastest ways to get updates on Park District news is through our emails! To sign up for our emails go to pdhp.org and click on **"Join Our E-List"** under **"Quick Links"**.

Park District of Highland Park

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CAMP

More Activities & Discounts!

Our summer camps include field trips to fun metro Chicago destinations as well as our Park District outdoor pool, swimming beach, mini-golf course, indoor ice skating rink, and more. Plus, our extended camp day (9am-3:30pm), early registration and sibling discounts make our camps *a great value!*

Register by Feb 28 & Save up to \$100 [GO TO PDHP.ORG](http://PDHP.ORG)



SPRING REGISTRATION March-May

Begins
Wed Feb 17

View brochure &
Register at pdhp.org



INTRODUCING

ON THE GO FITNESS

GET ON. GET GIT. GET HAPPY.

\$5/month gives you access to our complete library of NEW on-demand fitness classes lead by your favorite Rec Center fitness instructors.

Your \$5 monthly subscription fee is donated to the Parks Foundation of Highland Park.

GET ACCESS TODAY!

RConTheGoFitness.org

Park District of Highland Park

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YOUTH GOLF DEVELOPMENT CENTER GRAND OPENING OUTING

Monday, May 24, 2021

Sunset Valley Golf Club
1390 Sunset Road | Highland Park, IL

Join us for the grand opening celebration and outing for this new state-of-the-art youth golf center. The Parks Foundation of Highland Park has teamed up with Illinois Golf Hall of Famer, Joel Hirsch to raise funds for this unique center for young golfers to learn the game.

Event Schedule

11:30 AM	Ribbon-cutting
Noon	Lunch
1 PM	Shotgun Start
6 PM	Cocktails & Dinner
6:30 PM	Awards Presentation

Is your company interested in being a part of this great golf day?

Sponsorships opportunities are available. Contact Nik Lapin at 847.971.0718 or nlapin@pdhp.org for details.

FEE: Includes Golf and Cart, Lunch, Cocktails and Dinner, Goody Bag, and a Commemorative Brick with your personal inscription that will be placed at the Center's walkway (a \$200 value).

\$250 Single Player

\$1,000 Foursome

Register by Thursday, April 1 and receive these great benefits:

- Free round of golf with a cart at Sunset Valley Golf Club.
Single-player booking receives one free round and a foursome booking receives four free rounds. (Valid anytime Mon-Thu, excluding holidays thru October 31, 2022)
- Your inscribed brick will be displayed at the Grand Opening.
For registrations taken after April 1, bricks will be installed in Summer 2021.

Proceeds from the Grand Opening Outing will allow the Parks Foundation of Highland Park to fund the final construction costs and additional amenities to complete the new Youth Golf Development Center.

BOOK NOW AT [SUNSETVALLEYGOLFCLUB.ORG](https://www.sunsetvalleygolfclub.org)

About the Project: Over \$200,000 in donations were raised by the Parks Foundation of Highland Park since 2018 to cover this state-of-the-art facility's design and construction costs. The new Center features: fairways, rough areas, and bunkers replicate the golf course at Sunset Valley, allowing for practice shots up to 50 yards and synthetic turf hitting stations for longer shots.

About Joel Hirsch: Joel contributed \$100,000 to construct the Youth Golf Development Center. He is a lifelong resident of Highland Park and grew up learning to play golf at Sunset Valley. Joel went on to play for the Highland Park High School Golf Team, which won IHSA titles in 1958 and 1959. He attended the University of Illinois with a golf scholarship and went on to play four Western Opens, 38 USGA events, numerous British Amateur, British Senior Amateur, and British Senior Open tournaments. Joel was inducted into the Illinois PGA Golf Hall of Fame in 1999 and the Highland Park High School Hall of Fame. It is because of his love of the game and Sunset Valley, Joel's dream is coming to fruition -- a new Youth Golf Development Center that will provide young players the opportunity to learn and love the game and enjoy the lifelong benefits that only golf can provide right here at our hometown course.

About the Parks Foundation of Highland Park: The Youth Golf Development Center is the first capital fundraising project for the Parks Foundation of Highland Park. Founded in 2016, the Parks Foundation is a resident-led 501C3 organization and is dedicated to the belief that all community members deserve the opportunity for an enriched, healthy lifestyle. The Parks Foundation aims to provide the resources necessary to ensure that every resident can access our world-class Park District and are committed to supporting the recreational programs and facilities that bring our community together.

Highland Park Public Library

847.432.0216 hplibrary.org

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A Message From Heidi Smith, Executive Director

It's an honor to join this wonderful Library as the new executive director and to guide it forward. I am excited to serve alongside such expert staff as we continue to provide the community with all that libraries can offer even under the most challenging circumstances. I look forward to welcoming you back inside the Library!

For updated information on the Library's reopening, please visit hplibrary.org, and for a look back at all we accomplished in 2020, read on.



"... how wonderful all your virtual activities have been for me and my grandsons to watch and participate in. They ... continue to enjoy everything from storytimes to art projects, singalongs, and science experiments."

Our Doors May Have Been Closed, But Access To The Library Continued!

Our librarians were still providing one-on-one reference and computer help along with book recommendations, answering more than **20,000 inquiries** in 2020.

Events and activities continued, but in a new virtual format.

25,500 joined in, participating in programs from storytimes to bestselling and award-winning author talks to book discussions, crafts, and science experiments. Here's what those who attended had to say:

"... for a little more than an hour, it LITERALLY lifted me away from the moments we are now in."

"Thank you for the opportunity to hear this foremost expert and bestselling author."

"Wow."

Highland Parkers were busy reading! **238,000 books** along with movies and other items were checked out in the Library, with the new **Grab & Go** pickup service, or using **curbit**, the Library's curbside delivery service. Try it out this winter!

New titles, bestsellers, award-winning films, educational videos, and more were available to download and stream with a library card 24/7. **102,000** ebooks, eaudiobooks, and movies were streamed and downloaded from the Library's website in 2020 along with classical, jazz, and popular music and talking books, puzzles, and games for children.

New options to learn and explore were available.

Udemy, the world's largest online education site, with thousands of courses, was introduced. So, too, was an all-access daily pass to NYTimes.com. And to enable internet access, more mobile hotspots were available to check out.



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Books and Authors

Join us on Zoom. Register at hplibrary.org/events.



Photo: Nolis Anderson

Fireside Chat with Dr. Eve L. Ewing

In conversation with *WBEZ's* award-winning journalist Natalie Moore.

Monday, March 1, 6 PM

Dr. Eve L. Ewing, award-winning author, sociologist of education, and assistant professor at the University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration, shares perspectives on her work and the world in 2021. Dr. Ewing's research focuses on racism, social inequality, and urban policy, and the impact of these forces on American public schools and the lives of young people.

Presented in partnership by multiple libraries.

An Evening With Harlan Coben

#1 New York Times Bestselling Author

Thursday, March 25, 7 PM

Windsor Horne Lockwood III — or Win — is a handsome American blueblood, heir to a vast fortune, and one-time FBI agent who uses his intellect and financial resources to deliver his own brand of justice. Win's interest in a set of cold cases propels him on a quest to uncover the answers once and for all. With masterful, classic Coben twists and turns throughout.

Presented in partnership with Aurora Public Library District, Glencoe Public Library, Highland Park Public Library, Lake Villa District Library, Northbrook Public Library, Wilmette Public Library, and Vernon Area Public Library.

Book Discussions

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Davis Schneiderman, English professor at Lake Forest College, leads the discussion.

***The Trial*, by Franz Kafka**
Thursday, February 25, 7 PM

Housekeeping
by Marilynne Robinson
Thursday, April 1, 7 PM

Noted book discussion leader Judy Levin leads the discussion.

Florence Adler Swims Forever
by Rachel Beanland
Tuesday, March 9, 1 PM

The Yellow House
by Sarah Broom
Tuesday, April 13, 1 PM

Film Screening and Discussion

The Long Shadow Movie Screening and Director Q&A

Director Frances Causey's documentary traces her family's legacy of white privilege, placing it in the context of the history of anti-Black racism in the United States.

Director Q&A

Wednesday, February 24, 7 PM

Frances Causey will be joined in conversation with the producer of the film, Nick Kelso. Register at hplibrary.org.

Stream the film between Friday, February 19 – Friday, February 26, at thelongshadowfilm.com/libraries or use your Highland Park Public Library card and check it out any time on kanopy at hplibrary.org.

Presented in partnership with multiple Illinois libraries, Racial Awareness in the North Shore (RAIN), and Together is Better Alliance (TiBA).

New @ The Library

Memory Kits

Designed to stimulate interaction and engage different senses for people with dementia or related disorders, the Library's new memory kits are available to take home and keep. The winter-themed memory kits include a booklet about winter, a scented pinecone, a candy cane, word searches, and more. The kits can be picked up from Grab & Go on the Library's lower level.

Funded by a generous grant from the Highland Park Community Foundation.

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Fun For Kids

Join us on Zoom. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Grab & Go STEM Kit

Ready, Set, STEM! Kaleidoscopes

Monday, February 22 – Sunday, February 28. Ages 5 – 14.

Make a kaleidoscope and learn how it works. Pick up a kit during Library hours while supplies last. You'll need tape, scissors, glue, and a pencil at home.

Staycation Middle School Binge Boxes

Pick up a box in March. For middle school students.

Receive a binge box complete with books, DVDs, stickers, and (optional) snack! Register at hplibrary.org/events and click on any day in March.

Short Story Writer's Workshop

Friday, March 19, 10 – 11 AM. Ages 10 and older.

Learn some tips on how to write short stories. Try fun writing exercises to practice and get feedback from your peers. Then take what you've learned and write your masterpiece!

Disney Trivia

Friday, March 26, 6 – 7 PM, grades 3 – 5, 7 – 8 PM, grades 6 – 8.

From *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* to *Soul* and everything in between: test your knowledge of Disney movies and compete to win the big prize!

Raise A Reader With Storytime Sessions!

Storytime sessions feature activities designed to foster pre-reading skills.

Workshops For Parents

For parents of newborns – six-year-olds.

Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Sleep 101 Workshop

Monday, February 22, 7 – 8 PM

Does your child struggle with sleep? Are naps nonexistent? Learn how to improve your child's sleep with Linda Szmulewitz, licensed clinical social worker, a certified Gentle Sleep Coach, and the owner of Sleep Tight Consultants.

Little Hands Signing

Tuesday, March 9, 7 – 8 PM

Little hands can say a lot! Join Kathy MacMillan, author of *Nita's First Signs*, *Nita's Day*, and *Little Hands and Big Hands: Children and Adults Signing Together*, for a hands-on lesson in using American Sign Language to improve communication, reduce frustration, and create a calmer atmosphere with children of all ages and abilities.

Dollars & Sense

Information to help manage personal finance issues.

Join us on Zoom! Register at hplibrary.org/events.

10 Tips for Getting The Most From Your Retirement Money

Tuesday, March 2, 2 PM

Learn about tools to help manage income taxes, streamline distributions, and more with financial educator Karen Chan.

How To Diffuse The Retirement Time Bomb With Ed Slott

Thursday, March 18, 7 PM

The CPA and nationally recognized retirement planning expert discusses what people in all stages of retirement planning need to know as detailed in his new book.

Money Smart Week: Retirement Income Planning

Thursday April 15, 2 PM

Tax Forms

A limited supply of tax forms and instruction booklets are available at the Library. Please call 847.681.7031 for more information.

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

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For more information about
City services, please visit cityhpil.com
or call **847.926.1000**



Business

Business Development in the Central Business District

There have been a number of exciting changes to promote new commercial and residential development in Highland Park's downtown business district. These policy changes will attract new businesses and adapt to market trends while maintaining the character of downtown Highland Park.

Zoning Changes

- The new Central District Residential Overlay Zone allows for residential developments within a specified area at the heart of downtown Highland Park.
- The Pedestrian-Oriented Shopping Overlay policy was eliminated, removing restrictions that required ground-floor tenants within its boundary to be retail or retail-oriented businesses.
- An experiential uses zoning amendment was adopted, designed to permit additional cultural and recreational business uses alongside traditional retail and commercial uses.

Albion at Renaissance Place Development Approved

The redevelopment of the former Saks Fifth Avenue building will bring 89 residential units to downtown Highland Park.



Businesses Adapt to COVID-19

Over the past year, Highland Park businesses have invested in health and safety enhancements and launched new services in an effort to weather the financial impacts of the pandemic on small and locally-owned businesses and restaurants, including:

- New air filtration systems
- Plexiglas barriers, distancing signage
- Enhanced cleaning & sanitization practices
- New online/personal shopping services; senior/at-risk shopping hours
- Increased curbside pickup and delivery services

Contact the business directly to learn more about the changes they've made so that you can shop and dine with confidence in Highland Park.

Shop & Dine: Browse cityhpil.com/curbside.

City Grant Program: Eligible business owners may still submit applications for qualifying COVID-19-related operational expenses to the City's Financial Aid for Retailers and Restaurants grant program. Visit cityhpil.com/farrgrants.

Marketing Support: Business owners, email mrosen@cityhpil.com to participate in the City's ongoing social media business features, including Take It To Your Table (Tuesdays & Thursdays), Business of the Week (Fridays), and other promotions.



Crossroads Business District Plan

Work continues on the Crossroads Business District planning project. In fall 2020, the City conducted focus groups to solicit feedback from residents, business owners, property owners, and appointed officials of the Plan & Design Commission and Business and Economic Development Advisory Group. Summary findings were presented to City Council in January, 2021. Next steps include researching and drafting an Existing Conditions and Technical Report to be presented to the Plan & Design Commission. Learn more at cityhpil.com/crossroads.



Save the Date: Business Meeting Feb. 24

The City will host a meeting for business owners on Feb. 24, at 9AM to discuss the ongoing impacts of COVID-19, highlight opportunities for business assistance, and brainstorm ways to continue to promote Highland Park's businesses. Results of a survey of business owners, issued in early February, will also be discussed. Business owners should RSVP by 5PM on Feb. 23 to cityhp@cityhpil.com to receive the Zoom link.