



Business Connection

Halloween

Trick-or-treating hours are from 3 - 7 PM on Sunday, Oct. 31; please note COVID-19 guidelines for a safe and spooky celebration for all. Celebrate with live music & candy at Port Clinton Square Oct. 28, and the Ravinia District Candy Stroll Oct. 29; see back cover.

p3

Fall Events

Save the date:

Light the Night Holiday Lighting
Nov. 6, 3 - 5 PM, Port Clinton
Square

Veterans Day Virtual Observance
Nov. 11, 11 AM, cityhpil.com.

Find holiday reminders on p2.

p5

Winter Parking Ban Begins Dec. 1

Reminder that vehicles cannot park in excess of 15 minutes on any public streets between the hours of 2 AM and 6 AM from December 1 to March 31.

p2

Special Feature: Business Development Strategic Planning 2022- 2024

p4

Highland Park at a Glance



November Holiday Reminders

Veterans Day is Thursday, November 11. City offices will be closed. For assistance, please call the non-emergency public safety line, **847.432.7730**. There is **no** change to refuse and recycling.

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 25. City offices will be closed on Thanksgiving and Friday, November 26 in observance of the holiday. For public safety assistance, residents may call the non-emergency public safety line at **847.432.7730**.

There will be no refuse and recycling collection on Thursday, November 25. The regular Thursday collection will occur on Friday, November 26 and Friday collection will be on Saturday, November 27. Services return to normal on Monday, November 29. For more info, contact Lakeshore Recycling Systems at **773.685.8811** or visit **LRSrecycles.com**.



Serve on a City Advisory Group, Board or Commission

The Mayor and City Council are preparing to appoint interested residents to City Advisory Groups, Boards & Commissions for terms beginning January 2022. *Applications for high school juniors to serve as Student Commissioners are also available.* Visit **cityhpil.com/boardsandcommissions** for a list of the various groups, goals, responsibilities and requirements. For information, contact the City Manager's Office at **847.926.1000** or **cityhp@cityhpil.com**.



City receives budget award for the 27th year in a row!

Congratulations to the City for receiving the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 27th year in a row! The award is a reflection of the City's commitment to the highest principles of governmental budgeting. The GFOA assesses how well an entity's budget serves as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide, and communications device. For more information on the City's Budget visit **www.cityhpil.com/budget**.



Winter Parking Ban Begins December 1

The City's "Snow Ordinance" (72.040) is in effect each year from December 1 through March 31. Vehicles cannot park in excess of 15 minutes on any public streets between the hours of 2 AM and 6 AM from December 1 to March 31. This City-wide ban on parking facilitates snow removal operations and decreases occurrences of accidental damage to vehicles parked on City streets or in City parking lots. This ban is applicable at all times regardless of snow conditions. For Winter Parking Regulation concerns, contact Anton Galati, Police Sergeant, at **847.432.7730** or **agalati@cityhpil.com**.



Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

Often called the invisible killer, carbon monoxide is an invisible, odorless, colorless gas created when fuels burn incompletely. Heating and cooking equipment that burn fuel can be sources of carbon monoxide if not working properly.

Carbon monoxide detectors should be installed in a central location outside each sleeping area and on every level of the home. Test your carbon monoxide detector once a month; replace them approximately every seven years. Carbon monoxide detectors are available at home improvement stores.



Friendly Fall Reminders



- Dog Licenses for the 2021-2022 license year must be purchased and displayed by October 1, 2021. Renew online at **cityhpil.com** or by mail. Please contact the Finance Department at **847.432.0800** or **finance@cityhpil.com** with questions.
- It is illegal to dump leaves, grass clippings and other debris on City streets or into the drainage system. This can create slippery road conditions and increase the risk of clogged inlets and street flooding. Contact Public Works Sewer Section staff Monday – Friday, 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM at **847.432.4355**.
- Swimming pool owners are reminded that pools are to be drained directly to a sanitary sewer. It is illegal and harmful to lake and river ecosystems to discharge pool water into storm sewers, ravines or over land. Contact Public Works at **847.432.4355**.
- Prior to shutting down lawn irrigation systems for the winter season, please ensure the system is drained completely and the backflow prevention device is properly stored to prevent system damage from freezing temperatures. Contact Public Works at **847.432.4355**.
- On Sunday, November 7 at 2 AM, Daylight Savings Time will end and all clocks must be set back by one hour.
- Remember to change the batteries in your smoke detectors when you change your clocks to save lives. Install a smoke detector outside of every sleeping area and on each floor of your home. For questions about installation or maintenance of a smoke detector, contact the Fire Prevention Division at **847.926.1075**.



Prioritize Our Local Economy

Nancy R. Roterling
– Mayor Nancy R. Roterling

A thriving local economy is vital to the strength and quality of life in any city. When we shop and dine locally, we boost our city's economy while also supporting core city services such as infrastructure and police and fire protection. Moreover, thriving business districts draw residents and visitors alike to come together and celebrate as a community.

Recently, the City Council reviewed our Business Development Strategic Plan with our Business Development team and discussed our city's proactive efforts to support our local economy. In addition to the help we've provided existing businesses

to assist them through the pandemic's challenges, grants and a streamlined permitting process have boosted the number of new businesses opening. The effects of zoning changes are being felt with more residents now able to walk into town from their downtown apartments, and new experiential opportunities are drawing folks to our various business districts. Special events throughout the year provide on-going opportunities to sample new foods and celebrate the arts. Ongoing streetscape improvements create inviting business districts, and a recent walkabout with Council members,

myself, City staff, and property owners highlighted opportunities for continued collaboration.

We all benefit from a strong Highland Park economy. By prioritizing shopping and dining locally, together, we continue to provide jobs, support City services, and enhance the vibrancy of our city.

Know a business you'd like to see in town? Drop me a note at nrotering@cityhpil.com. We are constantly reaching out and encouraging businesses to see Highland Park as their new home!

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facebook.com/HighlandParkIL



youtube.com/user/CityHPIL



Halloween Guidelines

The City encourages families to celebrate Halloween safely this year in light of ongoing health concerns due to COVID-19. With the proper precautions, everyone can enjoy a safe and spooky celebration. Children may trick-or-treat on **Sunday, October 31**, between the hours of **3 – 7 PM**. Please review the following guidelines to help promote a safe experience for all who choose to participate:

- Do not participate in trick-or-treating if you are feeling unwell, if someone in your house is unwell, if you are awaiting COVID-19 test results, or if you know that you have been exposed to COVID-19.
- Turn on your porch lamp or outdoor lights to show that your home is welcoming trick-or-treaters.
- Consider using a motion-activated noise maker to notify you when trick-or-treaters are at the door, such as a motion-activated Halloween decoration, rather than having trick-or-treaters ring the doorbell, which can be a high touch-point. Add a sign to your door to indicate that kids should not ring the doorbell.
- Face coverings are encouraged as a courtesy to others, especially when trick-or-treating at the homes of seniors who are at greater risk of severe illness from COVID-19.
- If you would prefer to answer the door to greet children individually, pass out candy instead of inviting children

to take a treat from a communal bowl. Ask children to tell you their choice of a treat, rather than taking it themselves.



- If you would prefer not to pass out candy, consider leaving individually-packaged bags on your porch for children to take, rather than a communal bowl of candy. If preparing goodie bags, wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds before and after preparing the bags.
- Individuals should use hand sanitizer regularly throughout the trick-or-treat hours.
- Consider distributing treats other than candy, which parents can sanitize before giving to kids: stickers in cellophane packaging, pencils, erasers, etc.
- Please refrain from distributing coins or cash.
- Please do not distribute homemade treats or fresh fruits.

Not all families will feel comfortable participating in trick-or-treating this year; teach children not to ring the doorbell if a light is not on, or if a no trick-or-treating sign is posted. All trick-or-treaters are encouraged to be respectful of their neighbors' decisions to participate in trick-or-treating or not.

Business Development Strategic Plan

Retention & Attraction

Goal: Seek opportunities and implement strategies to retain and expand existing businesses, attract new businesses, and broaden the sales tax base to sustain a balanced and healthy business climate.

Retention Strategies

- Engage with the City's largest employers and sales tax generators to retain & support their growth.
- Coordinate with property owners to retain businesses within the community by providing support, economic development incentives, and resources.
- Assist property owners and brokers with tenant attraction, retention, and expansion.
- Conduct business outreach through on-site visits, regular communication with business owners, and the Business Development eNews.
- Recognize outstanding commercial landscape, streetscape, signage, and window displays through the Beautification Award Program.
- Recognize business longevity with the Business Recognition Award.
- Provide for streetscape maintenance and beautification in business districts.

Attraction Strategies

- Proactively contact prospective businesses, provide leads to brokers and property owners, and guide new businesses through the regulatory and permit process.
- Promote available commercial properties.
- Administer the Small Business Facade Improvement Grant Program.
- Develop and administer a Build-Out Grant Program for new businesses.
- Encourage pop-up shops and experiential uses.
- Produce and promote the City's business startup guide.
- Provide guidance to prospective businesses and site selectors.

2022-2024 Strategic Planning Process

The City has begun work on the new Business Development Strategic Plan, building on the work that has been achieved thus far. Objectives for the new plan include:

- identifying property development, redevelopment, & repositioning opportunities
- enhancing local and regional partnerships
- evaluating land uses and parking
- augmenting communications, outreach, and marketing
- pursuing additional efficiencies and improvements to City processes
- establish performance metrics to evaluate objectives

Business development stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and property owners will be invited to provide feedback through focus groups and community outreach. Meetings will be held in Q4 2021, with the new plan ready to be implemented in Q1 2022. Learn more at cityhpil.com/business.

Business Marketing & Promotion

The City will promote existing businesses and its assets to increase awareness locally and regionally.

- Administer the City's Economic Incentive Programs (Small Business Facade Improvement Program; Sales Tax Rebate Program).
- Implement a digital-first, city-wide marketing and branding campaign to position the City as a destination for dining, shopping, and entertainment.
- Promote business openings, expansions, and relocations across print and digital modalities.
- Maintain an online business directory. Oversee citywide signature events including Food Truck Thursdays, facilitate relevant special event permits, and help businesses leverage City events as marketing opportunities.
- Promote the City as a venue for conferences, events, and meetings.
- Provide opportunities for business owners to promote special products and events.

Local, Regional & State Partnerships

The City will coordinate with local, regional, and state partners to unify efforts toward community and regional vibrancy.

- Serve as Ombudsman and primary local government contact for businesses, property owners, brokers, and business development organizations.
- Offer continuing education to business owners through SCORE Chicago and a partnership with the Highland Park Public Library.
- Engage residents through the Business & Economic Development Advisory Group.
- Administer & support Special Service Areas in the Ravinia Business District, Central Business District, and Briergate Business District.
- Support the Briergate and Ravinia Tax Increment Financing Districts.
- Liaise with county, state, and regional agencies to promote business development.
- Seek grant opportunities that support business and community vibrancy.

Community Calendar

Ravinia Farmers Market

Wednesdays, Now - October 27

7 AM - 1 PM / Open rain or shine

Jens Jensen Park and Dean Avenue between Roger Williams and St. Johns

RaviniaFarmersMarket.com

The Ravinia Farmers Market vendors offer fresh produce, meat, cheese, bakery goods, flowers and more.

The Art Center of Highland Park

TheArtCenterHP.org

1957 Sheridan Road / 847.432.1888

Looking Up: The Photography of Henri Dauman

Now through November 13

Gallery Hours 10AM - 4PM, Mon - Sat

Midwestern Premiere of the internationally renowned *Life* and *Time* magazine photographer. No admission fee. Building is accessible and docent-led tours are available by calling The Art Center.

Recycled Art Sale

October 15 - 23

A large collection of art will be offered for sale as a fundraiser for The Art Center.

Artemis Chamber Orchestra

Dance!

Saturday, October 30, 7 PM

Trinity Episcopal Church

425 Laurel Avenue

artemischamberorchestra.org

This free concert includes performances of Antonín Dvořák's *Czech Suite*, Aaron Copland's *Appalachian Spring*, and the world premier of Ari Fisher's *Three Jewish Dances*.

City of Highland Park

Light the Night

Saturday, November 6, 3 - 5 PM

Port Clinton Square, 600 Central Avenue

cityhpil.com / 847.926.1000

Join Mayor Rotering and the City Council for the lighting of over 200 trees for the 2021 holiday season. Family-friendly activities include Santa, music and more - there will be a community flash mob! Visit cityhpil.com/lightthenight for more info and to learn the dance.

Highland Park Poetry

HighlandParkPoetry.org

Joseph Kuhn Carey Reading & Poetry Open-Mic

Saturday, November 13, 5 PM

Jennifer Dotson Reading & Poetry Open-Mic

Saturday, December 11, 5 PM

Madame ZuZu's

1876 First Street

Pilgrim Chamber Players

pilgrimplayers.org

Fifth House Ensemble

Sunday, November 14, 3 PM

Omnibus String Quartet

Sunday, December 12, 3 PM

Highland Park Community House

1991 Sheridan Road

Cost: \$20 adult, \$16 senior & \$8 student

847.433.0972 / carollhonig@comcast.net

Endurance Venture

northshoreturkeytrot.com

North Shore Turkey Trot

5K & 10K Run

Thursday, November 25, 7:30 AM

Race Start at St. Johns & Park Avenues

St. Johns North Parking Lot Closed. Event

set up begins 6AM on Wed., Nov. 24.

Uptown Music Theater of

Highland Park

umthp.org

Brand New Day

Cabaret Performance

Friday, November 26, 7:30 PM

Highland Park Community House,

1999 Sheridan Road

Uptown Music Theater of Highland Park presents its third annual cabaret - *Brand New Day*. This performance of Broadway songs celebrates family, friends, community, and inspiration. Performers from Highland Park, including HPHS alumni, and surrounding communities share their musical talents in a one-night-only show. Audience members are required to wear masks and provide proof of vaccination. Visit umthp.org for tickets and info.

Virtual Events

Highland Park Historical Society

All Historical Society events are virtual.

Register in advance archives@highland-parkhistory.com

Chicago's Second Greatest Fire: The Stockyards Fire of 1934

Tuesday, October 21, 7 PM

Jeff Stern, Fire Museum of Greater Chicago, tells how a fast moving fire in cattle pens in the Union Stock Yards required the efforts of 1,600 firemen and 100 pumpers to control.

The Pilgrim Kitchen & Harvest Celebration of 1621

Tuesday, November 9, 7 PM

On the 400th anniversary of the Harvest Feast between New England colonists and the Wampanoag people, John Ota shares culinary history, architecture, cooking methods and foods of the first Thanksgiving, 1621.

Pearl Harbor - 80th Anniversary

Tuesday, December 7, 7 PM

December 7, 1941 - a Day of Infamy - propelled the U.S. into World War II. Battlefield expert Robert Mueller reviews why and how the Japanese almost wiped out the American Pacific Fleet in one attack.

Community Partners for Affordable Housing

Buying an Affordable Home in Highland Park?

Attend a CPAH virtual information session to learn about the program and to apply. All programs held via Zoom.

Upcoming dates:

November 9, 6 PM & December 7, 6 PM

cpahousing.org/class-registration

City of Highland Park

Veterans Day Observance

Thursday, November 11 at 11 AM

Visit cityhpil.com for link to view the program.

The City hosts a virtual Veterans Day Observance. Representatives from local veterans groups will be present. Mayor Nancy Rotering and other special guests will speak. The HPHS Brass Quintet will perform patriotic music. All are welcome.

Our Community



Halloween Safety Tips

Prepare for a festive Halloween by reviewing these guidelines with your adventurers to ensure a safe night for everyone:

- Don't trick-or-treat alone. Stay in a group and communicate to an adult where you will be going.
- Teach children how to obtain help or call 911 if they have an emergency or become lost.
- Walk on the sidewalk, not in the street.
- Only cross the street at designated crosswalks.
- Look both ways. Listen and watch for cars before crossing the street. Don't hide or cross the street from between parked cars.
- Wear light-colored or reflective-type clothing or try to affix reflective tape on costumes or treat bags to be more visible.
- Use face paint rather than masks or things that will cover your eyes.
- Carry a flashlight with fresh batteries to light your way.
- Accept your treats at the door and never go into a home.
- Always have an adult inspect the candy before eating. Don't eat candy if packaging has been opened. Small, hard pieces of candy are a choking hazard for young children.

Find more safety tips at cityhpil.com/halloween.



Openlands Lakeshore Preserve Update

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Mid-Atlantic awarded a contract to a private firm on September 24, 2021 to study Openlands Lakeshore Preserve. This follows a site visit by NAVFAC Environmental experts on August 25, 2021 aiding in efforts to reopen the site. The preserve was forced to close for the safety of all the week of April 5, 2021, due to the discovery and disposal of three explosives. These items were safely removed and disposed of by the proper authorities. NAVFAC advised the team that the study is slated to begin on the site this fall with a goal of completion before summer of 2022.

Naval Station Great Lakes, the City of Highland Park, Lake County, and Openlands have a weekly subject matter expert and leadership meeting to discuss efforts underway to support the return of public access to Openlands Lakeshore Preserve. The team is committed to addressing concerns to return the preserve to its intended purpose for the enjoyment of all. The team ask the public to respect the closure while an assessment is completed and do not enter the preserve.

Continued updates on the status of this project will be provided in the City's eNews. To sign up to receive these emails, visit cityhpil.com/signup.

Moraine Township: Health Insurance, Holiday Gift Drive & Transportation

Moraine Township Offers Help Enrolling for 2022 Health Insurance on the Federal Marketplace

Open Enrollment November 1, 2021 through January 15, 2022

Moraine Township offers assistance to residents wishing to enroll for 2022 health insurance on the Federal Marketplace under the Affordable Care Act. Trained and certified counselors are available to work one-on-one with residents to help them understand their options, balance their medical needs and budgets, compare coverage and costs, and ensure that enrollees receive the premium subsidies and cost-sharing reductions they may be income-qualified to receive.

Residents who are currently enrolled in health insurance plans through the Marketplace can re-enroll in their existing plan for another year or select a

new plan. A counselor will help enrollees learn about changes that may have taken place in their existing plan, or review details and compare costs of alternative plans.

To schedule an appointment with a Moraine Township Certified Application Counselor, call **847.432.3240**.

Phyllis Santullano Holiday Gift Drive Sponsors Sought

Moraine Township partners with the community and schools to facilitate holiday gift distribution to children of struggling families in our Township.

We are reminded daily of how fortunate we are to live in a community with a spirit of generosity and compassion that is second to none. One parent wrote to us after last year's holiday gift drive that "as a parent I was worried because this year we are not able to buy them gifts.

But there are special people like you."

For more information about sponsoring a child this holiday season, please visit morainetownship.org.

Door-to-Door Transportation for Seniors and Disabled Residents

Moraine Township's affordable and reliable paratransit service ensures that Township seniors who no longer drive, or are disabled, have access to medical care and other quality-of-life transportation needs. While medical trips and work transportation take priority, residents are also welcome to schedule rides for errands, volunteering, and other quality-of-life trips. Call **847.432.3000** to schedule a ride! Riders are required to wear masks.



Highland Park Senior Center

1201 Park Avenue West
847.432.4110

Monday - Thursday, 9 AM - 4 PM and Friday, 9 AM - 1 PM

Medicare Part D Open Enrollment

Open enrollment for the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan extends from October 15 - December 7, 2021. During this period, you may change from your current drug plan or enroll for the first time. Everyone is encouraged to re-evaluate their insurance coverage due to changes in the drug plans or changes in your own prescriptions. Trained volunteers are available to assist in navigating the enrollment process in a personal appointment either over the phone or virtually via Zoom. To schedule an appointment, please contact Jennifer Aiello at jaiello@cityhpil.com.

Gentle Yoga

Level 1 / 2

Instructor Andy Amend leads this class through gentle movements to increase flexibility, strength, and well-being. Students are led through stretches, yoga postures, breathing practices, and then guided into deep relaxation. No class 11/26.

Day / Dates: Fridays, 11/5 - 12/17 (6)
Class / Time: Chair, standing, and mat: 10 - 11 AM
Chair and standing: 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM
Fee: \$42 / NM: \$62

Tai Chi

Level 2 / 3 (While not strenuous, solid balance is required)

Tai Chi is a martial art that improves balance and body awareness. Its relaxed, slow, and precise body movements enhance body strength and mind clarity. Ken Ning will guide you to nurture the Qi (life force) within, to flow smoothly and powerfully throughout the body to help concentration, energy, stress relief and harmony.

Day / Dates: Tuesdays, 11/2 - 12/14 (7)
Time: 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Fee: \$49 / NM: \$69

Online Membership and Activity Registration

Senior Center business may be conducted in person, over the phone, or at the Senior Center's online portal to join as a member, renew your membership, and register and pay for activities.

To access the full schedule of activities, the online portal, and further Senior Center information, please visit: www.cityhpil.com/seniorcenter.



Long Range Elementary School Facilities Planning Phase II Update

District 112 Sets Sights on November 2022 Referendum

The most recent update on North Shore School District 112 Long-Range planning comes from a recent Board of Education Committee of the Whole meeting focused on the modernization of the District's elementary schools. Dr. Lubelfeld explored the recent history in District 112 including the approval of the middle school upgrades plan, known as Long Range Plan Phase I in November 2018. He highlighted the completion of the newly modernized Northwood Middle School as well as the now-in-progress modernization of Edgewood Middle School with the anticipated move-in date of February 2023. Both projects were done at no additional cost to the taxpayer through alternate revenue funding of the bonds.

The Board was presented with preliminary draft scenarios the administration and architect design team developed that will lead to community engagement and an anticipated November 2022 referendum ballot question for the community to decide on funding to modernize the remaining elementary schools in District 112. The plan calls for the reduction of the current ten school model to a more efficient nine school model. The administration presented two different big-picture scenarios with two different versions of each scenario. In the end, the administration and board decided to use one scenario as a template for the work the administration needs to do for the board to arrive at a final referendum proposal for improvement of the community's most important assets, its elementary schools.

This scenario calls for the sale of Green Bay school and Lincoln school with the possibility of selling off unused land assets (e.g. Olson Park). It includes some level of upgrade, accessibility improvement, roofs/bricks/boilers replacements, and overall modernization at each of the District's older elementary schools (Oak Terrace is relatively new). It calls for Ravinia to become fully handicapped accessible as well as the intentionally and future focused home of high needs, low incidence special education programming. Ravinia would receive a robust renovation to house the special education programs, possible increases in overall student population due to housing developments in process and planned, and to modernize the school while retaining its historic look and feel. The K-5 dual language educational programs would remain at Red Oak and Oak Terrace. Due to the sale of Green Bay, the Early Childhood Center currently housed there would move to Red Oak. This is the outline of the scenario that was presented at the meeting.

Red Oak	Oak Terrace	Sherwood	Wayne Thomas	Ravinia	Braeside	Indian Trail	Elm Place
Modernize / Infrastructure DL + ECC ¹	Minor Targeted Improvement DL ²	Modernize ³ / Infrastructure Shift ILP to Ravinia	Modernize / Infrastructure	Modernize ³ / Infrastructure Addition (accessibility) SAIL/ILP	Modernize / Infrastructure Shift SAIL to Ravinia	Modernize / Infrastructure	Swing School Construction Phasing / Future Flexibility

Next Steps: The board will review design ideas and plans for Red Oak and Ravinia on October 27, they will meet and review the estimated costs for the whole plan at a meeting scheduled for December 2nd, and then a Citizen's Task Force will meet in January, February, and March to discuss the ballot issues. The next Facilities Committee meeting on Wednesday, October 27, at 6:00 pm and will be open to the public (as are all Board meetings). As is our practice, we will continue to broadcast these meetings live; the board generally meets in person at 1936 Green Bay Road.

For more information visit www.nssd112.org/PhaseII.

District 113 | Focus on Long-Term Planning and Sustainability



Dear District 113 Community,

By now you should have received in the mail a letter from me as Board President asking you for your questions, comments and ideas as the District 113 Board of Education contemplates how to address District 113's structural budget deficit and facilities needs in light of declining enrollment and future projections. I hope you have taken the opportunity to review information on our dist113.org/Future113 website and have shared your thoughts through our Future@dist113.org email or took the opportunity to attend the tour and listening session at Highland Park High School on October 5 and at Deerfield High School on October 19.

District 113 faces the following challenges:

- 1) Increasing structural deficits in the annual budget,
- 2) Continued shrinking of our student population, and
- 3) Pressing needs for facilities repairs at both high schools.

As I wrote in the letter, District 113 has options for addressing these needs, and we want to hear your ideas and input as we work together to chart a course for the next 10 years that manages our resources toward optimal benefit and sustainability over the long term. Regardless of the outcome, what will not change in future years is our commitment to D113's unwavering focus on cultivating passion, unlocking potential, and inspiring excellence among our students and staff.

Sincerely,

Jodi Shapira
President, Township High School District 113 Board of Education

Park District of Highland Park

Please note that this page is submitted, written and edited by the Park District and does not reflect the views or opinions of the City.



A “SPECIAL STEWARDSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITY”: THE PARK DISTRICT COMMITTED TO KEEPING UP WITH NATURE'S CHANGES

When people visit Highland Park's beaches, they can see, in the best of times, spectacular views of Lake Michigan and, on clear days, the distant Evanston and Chicago skylines. But in the wake of unprecedented rainfalls and significant beach erosion, they have been more likely to see fences.

Brian Romes, executive director of the Park District of Highland Park, understands their frustration. But the Park District, he said, is not sitting idly by while unprecedented high lake levels and rainfall exact a potentially devastating toll on the natural jewels in Highland Park's crown. Deliberate and decisive actions have and will continue to be taken to ensure that the Park District keeps up with nature, despite nature's penchant for trying to stay one step ahead.

Consider Rosewood Beach. Just five years ago, it was named one of the country's five best-restored beaches, according to the American Shore & Beach Preservation Association; this after the Park District's restoration of the beach including the importation of beach-quality sand to counter the effects of erosion and provide habitat restoration.



Rosewood Beach Sand Nourishment Project Completed in 2020

But in 2019, historic high Lake Michigan water levels coupled with an historic increase in frequency and intensity of storms at one of the Park District's most trafficked facilities wreaked havoc, jeopardizing the ability to use the beach for swimming and recreation, as well as its physical infrastructure, the boardwalk, playground, and Interpretive Center.

“The Park Board addressed it expeditiously and appropriately,” Romes said of two shoreline protection projects. The first, in the fall of 2019, saw the Nature and Swimming Coves built out by 40 feet, and strategically-placed sand provided enhanced stability against waves. The second, in the spring of 2020, saw the Recreation Cove replenished to protect the cove, which is adjacent to the boardwalk and playground, while stone was installed along the interior of the south breakwater as a further hedge against sand erosion.



Erosion Damage at Moraine Beach Path

Meanwhile, around the same time, Romes said, the record rainfall eroded the path that provides access to Moraine Beach, necessitating its closing. Erosion also hit Millard Park and Beach. Then came the pandemic, which put many projects in a holding pattern.

Ironically, during COVID, Highland Park's beaches have become a prime destination. “Everybody wants to go to the beach,” Romes said. “And what do they see when they get there? They see the breakwater at Park Avenue barricaded and this past summer, fences at Moraine and Millard. Highland Park is seeing an influx of young families who told us they moved here partly because of our amazing lakefront, and they ask, ‘What’s with the fences?’ ‘What are you guys doing?’

The Park District is doing plenty, from the enactment of an updated Lakefront Master Plan, which focuses on park and recreation amenities, and a Beach Management Plan, which addresses the management and maintenance of the four lakefront properties under the Park District's supervision, to routine maintenance, resource management, and community educational outreach.

The Beach Management Plan, noted Rebecca Grill, Natural Areas Manager for the Park District, was funded by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources' Coastal Management Program. Its impetus, she said, was helping lakefront communities experiencing erosion on their beaches build their understanding about how to manage changes wrought by climate change and dynamic lake levels, and to implement best practices for national resources on the beaches.

A major misconception, Grill said, is that the natural resources don't change “when the opposite is true. They change hourly, daily, over the season, over the year. They are extremely dynamic.”

Including lakefront properties, Highland Park has upwards of 350 acres of designated natural areas throughout the park system. “They are critical and essential,” Romes said. “We've heard it from our community and the Park Board. We are one of 13 Chicago suburbs that have lakefront properties. Between leisure, recreation, and appreciation of the natural world, it's extremely valuable and important. At the same time, we are committed to doing things the right way to maintain these dynamic environments and the public's safe access to them. Careful planning and engineering are the cornerstones of every project!”

The Park District of Highland Park's mission statement is to “enrich life,” and appreciation of the natural world is a vital part of that. “We have a special stewardship and responsibility regarding Lake Michigan,” Grill said. “We are part of the last natural Lake Michigan watershed in Illinois -- anything that falls on the ground east of Green Bay Road is going pretty much unfiltered into Lake Michigan. That's one of the things we talk to students about, and we hope they carry this (sense of responsibility) forward to the places they will live and work – and perhaps return to Highland Park to raise their kids.”

“The educational component is huge,” Romes said. “That the Park District has a Natural Areas Team is a testament to the importance we put on educating the public and taking care of these natural resources. But even those who profess to acknowledge climate change and how the environment is changing sometimes don't understand why we have to close down an area for a short period because of safe access concerns.

Continued on bottom of next page

PIER PRESSURE: NEW AGREEMENT ALLOWS PARK DISTRICT TO MOVE FORWARD WITH PARK AVENUE BOATING FACILITY AND BEACH UPGRADES



Park Avenue Boating Facility and Beach is at once a microcosm of the challenges the Park District of Highland Park faces in trying to keep up with nature and climate change (or even one step ahead) to protect the property from erosion and ensuring access to recreation and leisure activities. But it is also a unique area that stands apart from Rosewood, Moraine, and Millard Beaches, according to Brian Romes, the Park District executive director.

There are two distinct areas of Park Avenue. The north area, which includes the parking lot, boat storage lot, and beachfront, is owned mostly by the Park District. A small portion is owned by the North Shore Water Reclamation District, which the Park District leases for recreational use. "The north beach is for passive recreation and leisure activities," Romes said. "But people see a beach, and they want to swim. There is no breakwater at that beach to protect patrons from strong rip currents, and the unknown depths can be dangerous."

At the south end of Park Avenue is the boating facility adjacent to the water treatment plant. Though the City of Highland Park owns the property, the Park District manages the boating facility for recreational purposes along Lake Michigan, including launching powerboats, sailboats, kayaks, and standup paddleboards. In 1981 the Park District installed a concrete boat ramp and decommissioned barge along the sea wall to form the south beach. This area is also home to the North Shore Yacht Club, an affiliate of the Park District that provides classes, lessons, and family-friendly waterfront activities to its members.

Over the past few years, high lake levels accompanied by intense storms have caused damage to the south boating facility, including the barge/breakwater and boat storage pad. Planning to address improvements at the boating facility in the spring of 2020 was put on hold when the country shut down due to the pandemic. After reopening in spring 2021, the concrete ramp collapsed, causing the boat ramp to close for the summer.

We've been hit on both sides with two years of record rainfall followed by two years of record-high lake levels. The top and bottom of the bluffs are getting damage. There were no indicators; they were all record."

The Park District of Highland Park manages 800 acres of property, of which beaches are just a part. It manages 11 facilities, 44 parks, 42 playgrounds, 22 ball fields, and 18 tennis courts. "We have to manage those areas and maintain them properly," Romes said. "With that said, we offer a variety of programs throughout the district, and it's always a balancing act where we put our limited funding."

The Park District remains committed to ensuring safe and accessible access to Park Avenue for passive users of the north area and recreational boaters in the south area. This past August marked a significant step forward to address the replacement of the breakwater/boat ramp and improve the community's access and enjoyment of the north beach. The Highland Park City Council and the Board of Park Commissioners approved a new intergovernmental agreement enabling the Park District to manage and improve the City-owned property.

The new agreement will allow the Park District to use, maintain and improve the Park Avenue Boating Facility for the next 50 years. The stage is set for getting a new breakwater with a walking surface that will allow visitors to enjoy views of the lake and install a boat ramp that will allow for two-way boat launching. The total cost for the project is estimated to be roughly \$2.5 million and could be completed by the end-of-year 2022.

Also in the works are plans for an estimated \$200,000 project that would repair the erosion of the sailboat storage pad at the boating facility. Additionally, approximately \$1.1 million in site improvements are planned to address safe and ADA (American Disabilities Act) compliant access to and across the north lakefront property. A boardwalk will include areas for walking, sitting, and gathering with friends and family. Plantings will also be added to the north beach to maintain natural habitat and improve site aesthetics. To make these projects possible, the Park District has applied for two grants through the Illinois Department of Natural Resources totaling \$600,000. They are also working with the Parks Foundation of Highland Park to raise funds for the boat ramp and breakwater replacement to ensure long-term boating access at the site.

"Our priority is to provide opportunities for our community to enjoy natural areas and recreational services safely," Romes said.

District's current Lakefront Master Plan was developed in 2007 and updated in 2019."

While the 2022 budget has yet to be approved, several benchmark projects are in the works. A Millard bluff stabilization report was recently completed and the Park District is moving forward to have engineering documents completed for essential bluff restoration to be done in the coming months, and construction documents to repair and restore the Moraine Beach path are wrapping up.

"We're moving forward," Romes assures.

The Beach Management and Land Management Plans are available to view on the Park District of Highland Park website (pdhp.org)

"Everything is a priority," stated Jeff Smith, Director of Planning & Projects, "but there has always been an emphasis on the lakefront and it is an integral part of our long-range planning process. The Park

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 Oct 16 | 1-4pm | Crate Stacking | Ages 8-Adult

\$22, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd

Climb to new heights! Challenge your family to climb higher...on milk crates. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).



Fri Oct 22 | Time slots begin at 6:30pm | Family

\$15/per person, Larry Fink Memorial Park, 1377 Clavey Rd

You never know what is lurking in the woods along the way... walk the haunted trail at Larry Fink Memorial Park to and see for yourself! [Purchase tickets at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Thu-Sat Oct 28-30 | Halloween Mini Golf | All Ages

River's Edge Adventure Golf, 2205 Skokie Valley Rd

A frightfully good time playing through our scary course. Dress in costume to receive a discount on your round of golf.

Fri Oct 29 | 7-8:30pm | Scary Skate | All Ages

FREE! Centennial Ice Arena, 3100 Trail Way

Enjoy time skating in your Halloween costumes during this spooky, fun-filled event. Dress in a costume and skate for FREE!

Th Nov 11 | 1-4pm | Nature Bots & Geocaching | Ages 8-11

\$40, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd

Build a nature bot with natural materials and afterwards use a GPS to find hidden treasures in the forest. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Fri Nov 12 | 5:30-7pm | Explore S'more Parks! | All Ages

\$12, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd

Take an interactive hike with a naturalist that ends around a cozy campfire with s'mores! [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Sun Nov 21 | 7-8:30am | Twisted Turkey Triathlon | Age 16+

\$35/40, Recreation Center of Highland Park, 1207 Park Ave W

Calories out before calories in! Take on this indoor non-competitive triathlon consisting of a 10-minute Swim, 20-minute Run and a 40-minute Video Cycle ride. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Sun Dec 5 | 9am-5pm | North Shore Winter Classic Competition | All Ages

FREE to watch, Centennial Ice Arena, 3100 Trail Way

LTS USA sanctioned competition. FUN, introductory, competitive experience from beginning to advanced skaters. All skater levels are eligible to participate. Registration packets are available at pdhp.org. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Tue Dec 14 | 6:45-7:40pm | Magic Class | Ages 5-12

\$21/29, West Ridge Center, 636 Ridge Rd

Amaze family and friends with tricks that involve cards, ropes, coins, mind reading and more. All materials are provided and each child receives a magic kit to take home. [Register at pdhp.org](http://pdhp.org).

Sunset Woods Park Playground Seating Plaza Fundraising



The Parks Foundation of Highland Park is raising funds to build a playground seating plaza located between the new Rocketship (Ages 5 - 12) and Nature-themed (Ages 2-5) playgrounds (Coming Soon). If you are looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community, consider making a contribution to this worthwhile project.

CONTRIBUTION OPTIONS:

Brick Paver: \$200

Celebrate a loved one or a special occasion with a custom inscribed brick paver at the new Sunset Woods playground seating plaza. Your 4" x 8" brick engraved message includes a max. of three lines and up to 13 characters per line, including spaces and punctuation.



For more information contact:
Mike Evans at 847.579.4085 or
mevans@pdhp.org

To purchase visit:



Hopscotch: \$750 (one year)

Promote your business with your logo on a hopscotch. Your hopscotch can be located at any Park District park or in front of any facility of your choice.



For more information contact:
Nik Lapin at 847.971.0718 or nlapin@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".

Highland Park Public Library

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Spooky Stories

MY HEART IS A CHAINSAW
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
STEPHEN GRAHAM JONES

"Jones is one of the best writers working today."
—NPR

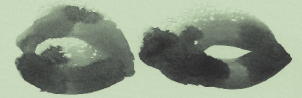
INSTANT NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER
ZAKIYA DALILA HARRIS

The Other Black Girl
A NOVEL
"RIVETING, FEARLESS, AND VIVIDLY ORIGINAL."
—Emily St. John Mandel

WE OWN THIS CITY

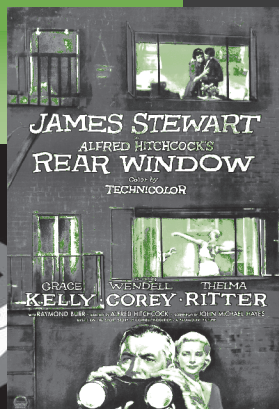
A TRUE STORY OF CRIME, COPS, AND CORRUPTION
JUSTIN FENTON

NEIL GAIMAN



Coraline
A NOVEL

**Just in time for Halloween!
Check out one of these books
for some seasonal reading!**



GHOSTBUSTERS

Check out a comedy or a classic film for more seasonal entertainment.

Find other popular films listed by genre at hplibrary.org/film-music.

Use Your Library Card

Access More Entertainment with hoopla, Libby, kanopy, and Your Library Card!

Get started at hplibrary.org/download.

hoopla

Stream or download movies, TV shows, and music for all ages.



Libby

Use the Libby app to borrow ebooks, audiobooks, and eaudiobooks.

Download Libby at the App Store or on Google Play.

"[It] opened up a whole new world for me."
—Library patron

kanopy

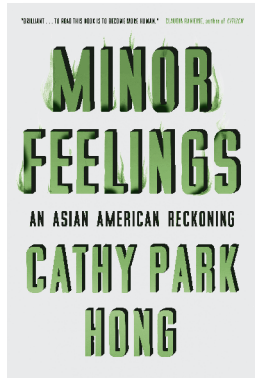
Access thousands of award-winning classic, independent, and instructional films. Try kanopy kids for a curated selection of educational and enriching videos for children, family movies, TV shows, and family-friendly documentaries.

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Join Us On Zoom For These Special Events Register at hplibrary.org/events.



An Evening with Cathy Park Hong

Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning

Thursday, November 4
7 p.m.

Named *One of Time Magazine's 100 Most Influential People of 2021*

Cathy Park Hong discusses her bestselling book, a collection of essays that explore Asian American consciousness. *Time Magazine* called Hong "an energetic and necessary voice in the dialogue surrounding racism in the U.S."

In conversation with *Axios Chicago* reporter Monica Eng.

Presented in partnership with multiple Chicago-area libraries.

Pearl Harbor Remembered

Tuesday, November 30, 1 p.m.

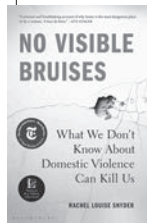
The National WWII Museum, located in New Orleans, tells the story of the American experience in the war that changed the world. As the 80th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor approaches, senior curator and restoration manager Tom Czekanski presents an overview of the museum and the special exhibit that examines the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Presented in partnership with Glencoe Public Library, Indian Trails Public Library, and Vernon Area Public Library.
Photo: National Archives.



Book Discussions

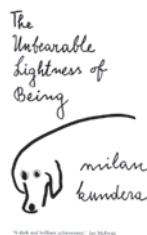
Join us at the Library. Register at hplibrary.org/events.



No Visible Bruises: What We Don't Know About Domestic Violence Can Kill Us, by Rachel Louise Snyder

Thursday, October 21, 2 p.m.

Rebecca Weininger, director of domestic violence law practice at the North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic, leads the discussion.



The Unbearable Lightness of Being by Milan Kundera

Thursday, October 28, 7 p.m.

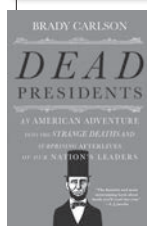
Davis Schneiderman, English professor at Lake Forest College, leads the discussion. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



The Night Watchman by Louise Erdrich

Tuesday, November 9, 1 p.m.

Noted book discussion leader Judy Levin leads the discussion. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.



Dead Presidents: An American Adventure into the Strange Deaths and Surprising Afterlives of Our Nation's Leaders, by Brady Carlson

Wednesday, November 10, 7 p.m.

History teacher Ronald Oberman leads the discussion.

New at the Library!

Introducing Our Memory Cafe

Wednesday, October 20, 1:30 p.m.

A Memory Cafe is a safe space and social gathering place for individuals, loved ones, and caregivers who live with memory loss, mild cognitive impairment, early Alzheimers, or other dementias. Meet at the Library, socialize, and explore a different topic each month that engages the senses.

Visit hplibrary.org/events to register. Look for our Memory Cafe on November 17 and December 15, too.

To engage loved ones at home, check out a Memory Kit.

Memory Kits are designed to engage people with dementia or other cognitive issues through sight, sound, smell, touch, and hearing. Kits may include books, puzzles, fidgets, CDs and CD player, cards, art, and other sensory material.

Funded by a grant from the Highland Park Community Foundation.



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Fun for Kids!

Halloween Fun!

Pumpkin Painting

Saturday, October 16

2 – 3 p.m., ages 6 – 9.

3:15 – 4:15 p.m., ages 10 – 14.

Come paint a pumpkin! Get inspired by the season and make your pumpkin the spookiest, silliest, or most beautiful in the neighborhood! Pumpkins, paint, and book-related inspiration will be provided! Meet outside, socially distanced, on the West Lawn. Masks are required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Haunted Gingerbread House

Tuesday October 19, 6 – 7:30 p.m.

Ages 10 – 14.

Feeling spOoOoky? Construct a haunted gingerbread house during a showing of a spooky family movie! Let the creepy movie scenery be inspiration for your masterpiece! All materials will be provided. Masks are required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

HALLOWEEN RAILROAD

The annual Halloween Railroad returns!
Saturday, October 30, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. For families.
Get in the spirit of Halloween with a Halloween-themed model railroad. Watch model trains travel around the "Spookytown" tracks, decorated with Halloween scenes and figures. Don't miss the Thomas the Tank Engine track with Thomas, Percy, and Diesel. Kids are welcome to attend in costume! Masks are required for attendees over the age of two.

Wizarding Workshop

Saturday, November 13, 2 – 3 p.m. Ages 7 – 14.

Calling all wizards! Do you have what it takes to remember your "expelliarmus" from your "obvliate"? What might your future as a wizard hold? Create your own wizard wand and prophecy ball and discover the power of DIY magic! Masks are required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Autumn Sensory Bins

Saturday, October 23, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

For babies – age 5 accompanied by a caregiver.

Drop in.

Explore fall-themed sensory bins with your little ones! Sensory play allows kids to connect ideas with concrete experiences, strengthen neural pathways, and build motor skills. Plus, who doesn't like squishy, smooth, textured, crunchy, colorful, and smelly stuff? Masks are required for attendees over age two.

Finger Knitting

Mondays, October 18, 25, 5 – 6 p.m.

Grades 6 – 8. Drop in for one or both sessions.

Knit with us! Make necklaces and decorative ornaments using just your fingers and yarn! Masks are required.

Grab & Go

Pick up a kit in the Youth Services Department while supplies last.

Beaded Pumpkin

Monday, October 18 –

Sunday, October 24.

Ages 5 – 10.

Get in the mood for fall and Halloween by making your own beaded pumpkin.

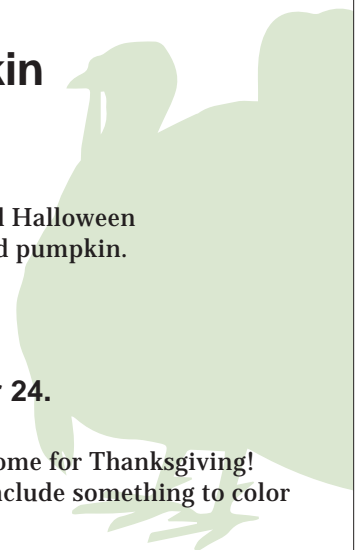
Turkey Craft

Friday, November 19 –

Wednesday, November 24.

Ages 3 – 10.

Make a (paper) turkey at home for Thanksgiving! Supplies needed at home include something to color with, scissors, and glue.



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



Business

ENJOY

highland park

Fall Events

Halloween at Port Clinton Square
Thursday, Oct. 28, 3 - 6 PM

Ravinia District Candy Stroll
Friday, Oct. 29, 2 - 5 PM

Stroll the Ravinia District for self-
ie-ready seasonal decor. Post your
photos and tag @raviniadistrict and
@enjoyhighlandpark to be featured.

Shopping Guide

Your holiday shopping starts here!
Browse Highland Park's specialty
shops across all nine business districts
at enjoyhighlandpark.com/shopping.

Instagram Dining Guides

On the go and looking to grab a bite
to eat? Our new Instagram Dining
Guides, available in-app and at instagram.com/enjoyhighlandpark/guides,
are the perfect place to find a new
restaurant!

Keep up with the campaign by follow-
ing @enjoyhighlandpark.



Business Report

New Businesses

Lee Ross Photography & Design
1833 Second Street
847.780.8888

leerossphotography.com
Photography Studio

Perlis MedSpa & Wellness
1780 Green Bay Road
847.295.5997
perliswellnesscenter.com

Big Frey Promotional Products
1550 Park Avenue West
800.888.1636
bigfrey.com

Center for Covid Control
1850 Second Street
312.210.7546
centerforcovidcontrol.org
Free COVID-19 Testing

Ada's Caffee and Juice Bar
115 Skokie Valley Road
847.456.6914
Coffee Shop

ABC Design Jewelers
603 Elm Place
847.416.1840
abcdesignjewelers.com
Jewelry Store

Sola Salon Studios
1883 Second Street
solasalonsstudios.com

Suburban Tire Auto Repair Centers
260 Skokie Valley Road
224.208.1084
suburbantire.com

Fonseca State Farm
1448 Old Skokie Road. Suite B
847.677.8511
fonsecaSF.com
Insurance & Financial Services

New Owner

Coffee Speaks
610 Central Avenue, Suite 155
773.968.6555
coffeespeakscosquare.site
Coffee Shop

Business Recognition

Fertility Centers of Illinois – Since 1996
767 Park Avenue West
847.266.3535
fcionline.com

The physicians at Fertility Centers of Il-
linois are thought leaders in the field of
reproductive endocrinology & infertility.
Advanced medical education and re-
search are an important foundation for
the services provided, and as such, their
physicians frequently partner with indus-
try leaders to conduct clinical research
studies in an effort to remain at the fore-
front of medical advances and techniques.
Fertility Centers of Illinois strives to offer
the most comprehensive and technologi-
cally innovative fertility care available.