

THE HIGHLANDER



MAY 15, 2011

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

City Council Approves 2011 Street Program

Scheduled work to include street resurfacing, curb repairs

On April 11 and April 25, 2011, the City Council approved two contracts to complete nearly \$1.2 million worth of street repairs in 2011, including 13 streets paved with asphalt, two streets constructed with concrete and two concrete street reconstructions. The City expects to spend approximately \$1.1 million this year to spot repair curbs, and grind and resurface asphalt on 13 streets and reconstruct two concrete streets at a total length of approximately 3.3 miles. Streets are selected for repair based upon a pavement condition index (PCI), which is generated by an analysis that factors the condition and age of street surfaces when they were last evaluated in September 2008. Additionally, a separate Concrete Street Repair Program contract was approved by the City Council on April 25.

The City expects to spend approximately \$100,000 this year to spot-repair curbs and replace concrete surfaces on two streets at a total length of approximately 0.33 miles. For both projects, the streets targeted for rehabilitation range in PCI from 38 to 50. Work is expected to begin in late-May and finish by mid-October, contingent upon weather conditions and project modifications. Both contracts were bid through a municipal partnership consisting of several other north shore communities working together to combine similar construction projects and achieve an economy-of-scale. Although street selection is largely based on PCI, the list of

streets may be altered due to unforeseen changes in street conditions. Affected residents will receive a letter describing expected activities and a projected timeline for specific projects. For more information regarding the 2011 asphalt and concrete street repair programs, visit www.cityhpil.com or contact Bill Hall, Project Manager, at (847) 432-0807/bhall@cityhpil.com.

The following streets are included in the 2011 street repair program.

Street Name	From	To
Balsam Road	Ridge Road	West End
Clavey Road	Ridge Road	Union Pacific Rail
Egandale Road	Vine Avenue	North End
Grange Avenue	Park Avenue West	North End
Green Bay Road	Central Avenue	Deerfield Road
Highland Place	Burton Avenue	Broadview Avenue
Lewis Lane	Hemlock Lane	West End
Lilac Lane	Deerfield Road	Windsor Road
Old Briar Lane	Ridge Road	Barberry Road
Old Briar Road	Red Oak Lane	Magnolia Lane
Pleasant Avenue	Washington Place	North End
Second Street	Green Bay Road	Elm Place
Sherwood Road	Midland Avenue	South End
St. Johns Avenue	Beech Street	Roger Williams Avenue
Washington Place	Burton Avenue	Broadview Avenue
Windsor Road	Deerfield Road	South End

New City Council Members Sworn-In

On May 9, the 2011-2013 Highland Park City Council inauguration was held, which included the swearing in of Mayor Nancy Rotering, Councilman Anthony Blumberg, Councilman Paul Frank and Councilman David Naftzger. Mayor Rotering and each newly-inaugurated council member will serve a four-year term. They join current City Council members Steve Mandel and Jim Kirsch. In addition to the inauguration ceremony, outgoing City Council members were recognized for their years of service. Mayor Michael Belsky was recognized for his 16 years on the City Council, 8 of which as Mayor. Additionally, Councilman Scott Levenfeld served 8 years on the City Council, Councilman Larry Silberman served 8 years on the City Council, and Councilwoman Terri Olian served 6 years on the City Council. It is anticipated that the current City Council vacancy will be filled by the June 27 City Council meeting. For more information, please contact the City Manager's Office at (847) 926-1000.



On May 9, the 2011-2013 City Council inauguration was held. The City Council (from left to right): Jim Kirsch, Nancy Rotering, Paul Frank, Steve Mandel, David Naftzger and Anthony Blumberg.

'HIGH' NOTES

Donate Your Old Automobile

The Highland Park Fire Department is looking for used and soon-to-be discarded vehicles for Fire Department training purposes. These vehicles may be in any condition, running or not. If you have a car or van that you would like to donate, please contact Lieutenant Bill Brennan at (847) 433-3110/[wbrennan@cityhpil.com](mailto:w Brennan@cityhpil.com). The City will provide information concerning the donation of vehicles and the necessary paperwork required by those wishing to make a donation. The Fire Department will also arrange to pick up any vehicle that is slated for donation.

Enter Fourth Of July Parade

If you are a local organization, business or neighborhood group, consider participating in the 2011 Fourth of July parade. Applications will be accepted until June 7, 2011. To obtain an application, visit www.cityhpil.com or contact Jennifer Dotson in the City Manager's Office at (847) 926-1006/jdotson@cityhpil.com.

'Losers Win' Program Set to Begin This Summer

The Healthy Highland Park Task Force, in conjunction with the Healthcare Foundation of Highland Park, is again sponsoring a 'Losers Win' community weight loss challenge. This summer, all adults who work or reside in Highland Park or Highwood and who have weight to lose, which is identified by a body mass index of at least 25, will have the opportunity to participate in this community wellness program. The Task Force, in conjunction with the Recreation Center of Highland Park, will offer tools to help citizens get on the path to a healthier lifestyle. Some of these tools will include free indoor and outdoor exercise classes along with ongoing health tips, advice and information. The 10-week challenge will commence at the beginning of July. Citizens may register as an individual or as a group of 3-10 people. For more information, contact Emily Palm, Assistant to the City Manager, at (847) 926-1004/epalm@cityhpil.com.

Alliance Hosts Downtown Garden Festival

Downtown Highland Park is getting a botanical makeover. Several local landscape architects will be "adopting" the outdoor planters along Central Avenue and creating unique floral designs to enhance the summer landscaping in Downtown Highland Park. The plantings will be in place throughout the summer season, with a kick-off event scheduled for Saturday, June 11, hosted by the Downtown Highland Park Alliance. The Downtown Highland Park Garden Festival will feature garden-themed activities and events for all ages. For more information visit www.downtownhp.com or contact Bridget Kagan, Downtown Highland Alliance Marketing and Communications Coordinator, at (847) 780-4293/bridget@downtownhp.com.

Report Potholes to Public Works Department

With the onset of warmer weather and the freeze-thaw cycles that occur this time of year, potholes may materialize on City streets. To help the Public Works Department in its efforts to maintain City streets in the best possible condition, please report potholes to the City via the Pothole Hotline at (847) 926-1178. This hotline is available 24-hours a day and allows residents to report a pothole location. Residents are asked to leave their name, address, phone number and the specific location of the pothole. Additionally, potholes may also be reported online on the City's website at www.cityhpil.com. Please note that all repairs completed now are temporary and some areas will require repairs to be made more than once because weather conditions in conjunction with traffic movement may displace the material. Permanent repairs will be made later this spring when the asphalt necessary to complete the repairs is available. For more information, please contact the Department of Public Works at (847) 432-0807.

Resident Input Sought for Upcoming Survey

Do you wish that Highland Park had dedicated bicycle lanes on certain roads? Are there destinations in your neighborhood that you find it hard to walk to? The City is in the beginning stages of updating master plans for accommodating pedestrians and bicyclists. Highland Park residents are encouraged to take an online survey that will influence local bicycle and pedestrian planning for years to come. Survey responses will be collected through June 15. To access the survey please visit www.cityhpil.com. For more information, please contact Lee Smith, Senior Planner, at (847) 926-1612/lsmith@cityhpil.com.

Golf Learning Center Open for the Summer Season

The Highland Park Golf Learning Center is now open for the 2011 season. The Center is operating on the following summer schedule:

May 1 - September 30

- Monday-Thursday: 7:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
- Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
- Saturday-Sunday: 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Punch cards are also available for purchase, ranging in cost from \$110 for mats to \$150 for grass. Punch cards may be used Mondays through Thursdays through the duration of the season. Additionally, residents who buy one punch card will receive a free round of golf including a cart for use at the Highland Park Country Club between Monday through Thursday during the season. For additional information about the Highland Park Country Club, please call (847) 433-9015 or visit www.highlandparkcc.com. Also, River's Edge Adventure Golf is now open for the season. For more information about River's Edge Adventure Golf, please call Rob Van Duyse at (847) 433-3422. Both facilities are located at 2205 Skokie Valley Highway.

Message from the Mayor

On May 9, we swore in a new City Council at City Hall. I am delighted to welcome Tony Blumberg, Paul Frank and David Naftzger to the City Council. They each bring unique individual experiences and perspectives to the dais: Tony as an attorney and former Plan Commission member; Paul as a government affairs consultant to Illinois universities and colleges; and David as the Executive Director of the Governors of the Great Lakes and former vice-chair of the Natural Resources Commission. They are joining eighteen-year Council veteran Mayor Pro-Tem Steve Mandel and ten-year Councilman Jim Kirsch.



We live in a terrific community and I know that they all share my belief that this hometown of ours is a great place to raise a family, run a business, pursue varied interests, enjoy the natural beauty and we will work hard to continue its excellence.

The first order of business will be the appointment of someone to fill my Council seat. In a departure from past practices of the Mayor appointing to fill a vacancy, I've asked my Council colleagues to join me in selecting the seventh member of our team. My goal is to create an open and inclusive process. We announced the vacancy and process to fill it a few weeks ago and interested residents have submitted resumes. Following interviews, we will select the seventh Council member by June 27.

As we look to the next few months, we will be focused on a number of issues, foremost: addressing the very real financial and planning issues our City is facing.

Last week, the new Council members and I met with all City Department Directors to discuss current and future plans. In addition, over the next few weeks, I am meeting with each City employee and have spent this past month attending most commission meetings in order to discuss our priorities. The Council members and I will also be reaching out to residents and talking with School and Park District board members over the summer to discuss specific issues and ideas. Neighborhood meetings will continue in the fall.

In June, we will be taking a close look at our budget, analyzing how we are doing and addressing policy decisions that will impact the 2012 budget. A very real concern is the recent announcement by the State of Illinois that it may withhold certain monies from city governments in an effort to address its budget deficit. This would have serious consequences for our City and we have been in contact with Rep. Karen May and Sen. Susan Garrett, who know how strongly we oppose this policy.

Other front-burner issues will include the disposition of the Highland Park Theater, long-term financial planning, coordinating visions for economic development, infrastructure investment plans, and working with our sister governments to maximize our ability to serve you, the heart and soul of Highland Park.

We on the Council are thrilled to have the opportunity to work hard on your behalf and to move Highland Park forward.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nancy R. Patton".

Affordable Housing Opportunities Are Now Available

The Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) has three 3-bedroom/2-bathroom single-family houses now available for people who live or work in Highland Park. House prices range from \$160,000 - \$175,000, or approximately \$1,200 per month for principal, interest, taxes and insurance. The maximum allowable income is 80% of the area median income, or approximately \$60,000 for a four-person household. To learn more about available houses in Highland Park, CPAH will offer the following 45-minute information sessions on affordable housing opportunities available through the CPAH and the City of Highland Park Inclusionary Housing Program. Please call (847) 681-8746 to register for one of the following workshops. Workshops are held at 400 Central Avenue, #111.

- Wednesday, May 25, at 7:00 p.m.
- Saturday, June 11, at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, June 28, at 7:00 p.m.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Monthly Business Report

The following businesses have opened in Highland Park. For more details, please contact Carolyn Hersch, Economic Development Assistant, at (847) 926-1027/chersch@cityhpil.com.

Foss Swim School
Swimming Instruction
1927 Skokie Valley Road
(847) 266-3677
www.fossswimschool.com

Safari Childcare
Daycare
776 Red Oak Lane
(847) 861-9284
www.safarichildcare.com

Spruce Tree Direct
Landscaping & Delivery of Plants and Trees
1481 Park Avenue
(866) 560-1921
www.sprucetreesdirect.com

Sharp Motor Sales
Internet Auto Sales
1372 Old Skokie Road
(847) 471-3725
www.sharpmotorsales.com

Highland Park Chiropractic SC/Dr. Michael Kauf
Chiropractor
600 Central Avenue, #144
(847) 266-5656

Fields Fiat of Highland Park
Auto Dealership
250 Skokie Valley Road
(847) 579-6900
www.fiatusaofhighlandpark.com

Game Slam
Interactive Online Sports Gaming
1893 Sheridan Road, #103
(847) 780-4797
www.gameslam.com

Cellular Device Restriction Takes Effect on June 1

On January 24, 2011, the City Council amended the Distracted Driving Ordinance to require all motorists driving in Highland Park to utilize cellular devices in a hands-free mode while operating a vehicle. This ordinance amendment will take effect on June 1, 2011, and is intended to improve safety for pedestrians and motorists. The amended Distracted Driving Ordinance requires that:

- No person shall drive a motor vehicle while using any wireless, mobile, cellular, analog wireless or digital telephone, personal data assistant or electronic communication device.
- The term “using” includes without limitation, talking or listening to another person on the telephone; text messaging; sending, reading or listening to an electronic message; and browsing the Internet.

The amended Distracted Driver Ordinance does not apply to the following:

- Law enforcement officers and operators of emergency vehicles when on duty and acting in their official capacities.
- Persons using a telephone with a hands-free device that allows the driver to talk to and listen to the other party on the telephone without the use of the driver’s hands.
- Persons using a telephone, personal data assistant, or electronic communication device for the purpose of contacting or communicating with public safety or other emergency service providers while driving a motor vehicle.
- Persons using a telephone, personal data assistant, or electronic communication device in a motor vehicle that is in a parked position.

Police will conduct a one-month written warning period after the amended ordinance takes effect. Police will begin issuing citations for hands-free cellular device restriction violations on Friday, July 1, 2011.

Residents seeking more information regarding cellular device usage while driving can find additional information on the following websites: www.nsc.org, www.distraction.gov and www.cyber-driveillinois.com. For more information regarding the amended ordinance, please contact Police Sergeant Chris O’Neill at (847) 432-7730/coneill@cityhpil.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Motorists and Bicyclists Reminded of Proper Methods to Share the Roadway

While traffic enforcement is a primary police function, the Police Department would like to provide continuing education for the motoring and bicycling public to ensure the safety of the community that utilize roadways every day.

On most roadways, bicyclists have the same rights and responsibilities as other roadway users. In Illinois, bicyclists are required to:

- Travel in the same direction as vehicles, riding as close to the right edge of the roadway that is safely feasible;
- Ride no more than two-abreast on the roadway, so as not to impede vehicle traffic;
- Stop at all posted stop signs and yield to pedestrians in a crosswalk;
- Bicyclists are encouraged to wear adequate safety helmets; in Highland Park, bicyclists under sixteen years of age are required to wear a bicycle helmet; and
- Be visible; State law requires bicycles to have a headlight and a rear light or reflector at night.

As a reminder, please note the following motorist responsibilities:

- Motorists are expected to “share the road” with bicyclists;
- Motorists should pass bicyclists with three feet or more of space between the motorist and bicyclist;
- Motorists are required to yield when making right and left turns in front of bicyclists; and
- Motorists should actively look for bicyclists in the roadway or on sidewalks when leaving driveways, alleys or side streets.

For additional information on bicycle rules of the road and safe bicycling practices, visit www.bikelib.org and www.sos.state.il.us/publications/pdf_publications/dsd_a143.pdf. The Highland Park Police Department is committed to achieving the highest level of motorist, pedestrian and cyclist safety within the community. Please assist the Police Department in this goal by complying with the specified traffic laws. For more information, or if you require further clarification of these laws, please contact Highland Park Police Sergeant Chris O’Neill at (847) 432-7730/coneill@cityhpil.com.

Veolia Environmental Services Incorporates Sustainable Practices Into Highland Park Residential Services

As of April 2011, Veolia Environmental Services has transitioned all refuse and recycling collection trucks to operate on compressed natural gas (CNG). CNG fuel burns with 85% fewer emissions than traditional motor fuels, thereby reducing the City’s carbon footprint while improving local air quality. In addition to operating with compressed natural gas, the collection trucks have an automated arm that is used to empty refuse and recycling carts placed at the curb. In order to ensure residents’ refuse and recycling is collected as scheduled, the City would like to remind all residents who utilize curbside collection that refuse and recycling carts must be placed side-by-side and within four feet from the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. on their designated collection day.

The City would also like to remind residents who utilize volume-based collection, that all refuse containers placed out for collection require a sticker. Stickers can be purchased at a number of locations including City Hall, Sunset Foods, Jewel-Osco, Mutual Ace Hardware, Craftwood Lumber, Walgreens, and Dominick’s in Bannockburn. Additionally, please note that Veolia has between 7:00 a.m. through 7:00 p.m. to collect refuse, recycling and yard waste. If Veolia has not collected refuse, recycling or yard waste by 7:00 p.m. on the designated collection day, please contact Veolia at (847) 272-4145 to report a missed collection. For additional information regarding the CNG trucks or the residential franchise, please contact Brian Bourdeau in the City Manager’s Office, at (847) 926-1043/bbourdeau@cityhpil.com.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

CITY MEETINGS

The public is invited to attend City meetings, which take place at City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue, unless otherwise noted. Dates and times are subject to change. Call (847) 432-0800 for further details.

Mon., May 16	Sister Cities Foundation	7:00 p.m.
	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., May 17	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., May 19	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., May 23	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Tues., May 24	Business and Economic Dev.	6:00 p.m.
Wed., May 25	Transportation Commission	6:30 p.m.
Wed., June 1	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., June 2	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., June 6	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Thurs., June 9	Historic Preservation	7:30 p.m.
Mon., June 13	Finance Committee	3:30 p.m.
	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council	7:30 p.m.
Tues., June 14	Library Board of Trustees	7:15 p.m.
	(494 Laurel Avenue)	
	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Wed., June 15	Natural Resources Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., June 16	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

The Highland Park Public Library presents free literacy and cultural programs. Registration for certain programs may be required as noted. The Library is located at 494 Laurel Avenue. For more information, call (847) 432-0216 or visit www.hplibrary.org. The Library will be closed on Monday, May 30. The Library will be open during normal hours on Tuesday, May 31, and will open at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, June 1.

A Sendak Celebration - Thursday, May 19, 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
View the exhibit *In a Nutshell: The Worlds of Maurice Sendak* that explores how Sendak's artistic journey has led him deeper into his family's history and Jewish identity, sample treats based on Sendak's stories, and enjoy traditional music performed by a trio from the Maxwell Street Klezmer Band. Special guests will read a selection of Sendak's stories.

Family Rumpus - Saturday, May 21, 9:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. All Ages. Let the wild rumpus begin with a treasure hunt! Meet a Wild Thing and make life-sized Wild Things portraits with the help of faculty from The Art Center of Highland Park. Children ages 3-6 can enjoy a special Max and friends storytime at 10:30 a.m. (Pick up storytime tickets in the Youth Department at 9:00 a.m.)

Highland Park Renaissance Faire, Sunday, June 5, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. All Ages. Hear ye! Hear ye! Come one, come all to the faire! Music and merriment for all! Assemble at the clearing near the rose garden. In case of rain, the faire will take place in the royal library.

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. - Knights' Weapons Show and Falconer's Show

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Jester Show and King Arthur Show

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Squire Competition and Falconer's show

3:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. - Knights' Sword Fight

CULTURAL ARTS EVENTS

<i>I Solisti MYA Concert</i> May 21, 7:00 p.m. Call for Details	Midwest Young Artists 878 Lyster Road, Highwood (847) 926-9898	HP Art Walk June 1 - June 30 Call for Details or visit www.highlandparkartwalk.org	Downtown HP Businesses (312) 514-1802
Historic Walking Tour May 22; 2:00 p.m. Call for Details	Port Clinton Square 600 Central Avenue (847) 432-2433	Chicago Children's Choir June 9 7:30 p.m.; \$10-\$45	Ravinia Festival 200 Ravinia Park Road (847) 266-5100
<i>Indexing The World: Invention Abstraction and Dissonance</i> Through June 4 Call for Information	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1888	Concert Dance, Inc. June 10 8:30 p.m.; \$10	Bennett Gordon Hall 200 Ravinia Park Road (847) 266-5100
90 Years of Excellence: Honoring HP Hospital Through June 17 Call for Times; Free	Historical Society 326 Central Avenue (847) 432-7090	Ko-Thi Dance Company June 11 11:00 a.m.; \$5-\$10	Martin Theatre 200 Ravinia Park Road (847) 266-5100

SENIOR SERVICES

Senior Services

Serving adults over 50

54 Laurel Avenue (847) 432-4110

Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Family Caregiver Support Group

First & Third Thursday of each month

7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Free; Held at Family Service, 777 Central Avenue

Caregiving for an aging parent, spouse or close friend can present tough challenges. Other caregivers may have already solved problems like those you now face. This Support Group enables caregivers to share their experiences and learn from others. Led by Paula Cyphers, MA, Social Services Coordinator and Lois Silverstein, LCSW, this group aims to provide the essential support needed to maintain a positive outlook when caregiving for a loved one.

Senior TV Production Team: Open House

Highland Park Public Access Center

1677 Old Deerfield Road

Tuesday, June 7; 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Free

Join this fun and dedicated group at their Open House and learn about who they are and what they do. Tour the production studio, meet the Senior TV Production Team volunteer crew, participate in a mock production involving hands-on experience, and enjoy refreshments. Please call (847) 432-4110 to register.

Cable TV Production Classes

Highland Park Public Access Center

1677 Old Deerfield Road

Thursdays, June 9 - 30; 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.; Free

This 4-part series is designed to get seniors involved with the Senior TV Production Team, and will be taught by City of Highland Park Access Studio staff. Topics include use of the camera, audio and character generator equipment, as well as skills needed to direct a show. Advanced registration is required; please call (847) 432-4110.

Breakfast at the Beach

North Shore Yacht Club, Friday, June 3

9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.; Fee: \$10/Non-Members: \$15

Enjoy a hidden jewel in Highland Park - the North Shore Yacht Club and Park Avenue Beach. This special day features a breakfast buffet overlooking the sandy shores of Lake Michigan. Catered by Sunset Foods, breakfast features eggs, French toast, bagels and cream cheese, bacon, turkey sausage, sweet breads, and fresh fruit. For your dining pleasure, musical entertainment will complement the peacefulness of Lake Michigan. Advance registration is required; please call (847) 432-4110. *Sponsored by Freedom Home Care.*

Mix and Mingle Social Events

These events are designed to give members an opportunity to meet and socialize with new friends. Registration is required; deadline is one week in advance of event date.

Ruth's Chris Steak House Dinner Outing

933 Skokie Boulevard, Northbrook

Wednesday, May 25; 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$40/Non-Members: \$50

Enjoy dinner at the North Shore's top steak house. Dinner includes steak house salad, choice of entree served with mashed potatoes and creamed spinach, chocolate sin cake for dessert, and beverage. When registering please indicate your choice of petite filet, stuffed chicken breast or salmon filet.

Dinner & Concert Dance, Inc. at Ravinia

Bennett Gordon Hall - Ravinia Festival

Thursday, June 9; 6:30 p.m. dinner, 8:30 p.m. show

Fee: \$25/Non-Members: \$35

Concert Dance, Inc. honors its long relationship with Ravinia by programming works that were commissioned by Ravinia Festival and choreographed by CDI Artistic Director Venetia Stifler. Program includes a world-premiere work set to music by Franz Liszt, in honor of the composer's 200th birthday. Prior to the show, enjoy dinner at Mirabelle, Ravinia's famous Chef's Table that offers a bounty of selections from the Midwest that pair perfectly with a night at Ravinia. Featuring themed and guest chef menus that change daily with an endless variety of gourmet selections, you are sure to enjoy this delicious meal. Tickets will be available for pick-up at the front gate the evening of the event from 5:45 p.m. - 6:15 p.m. *Sponsored by Visiting Angels.*

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City of Highland Park
1707 St. Johns Avenue
Highland Park, IL 60035
Phone: 847.432.0800 Fax: 847.432.7625
Website: www.cityhpil.com E-mail: cityhp@cityhpil.com

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

Mayor: Nancy Rotering
City Council: James Kirsch Paul Frank
Steven W. Mandel David Naftzger
Anthony Blumberg

City Manager: David M. Limardi
Editor: Emily I. Palm



Look for LATE NITE HP events on Friday and Saturday evenings in Highland Park.
Visit www.latenitehp.com for more information.



Commonwealth Edison Offers Bill Payment Assistance Program

In response to local unemployment rates and to assist customers who are facing a service suspension due to a financial hardship, ComEd is offering the "Helping Hand" program, which is a program to help customers pay outstanding balances on their electricity bills. Beginning April 18, up to \$1 million will be made available from ComEd's customer assistance fund. The Helping Hand program is open to qualifying ComEd customers who have received a disconnection notice or who have been disconnected. Eligible residential customers, who pay 50 percent of their outstanding service suspension balance, and pay May, June and July bills on time and in full, can receive a credit from ComEd for the remaining 50 percent of the outstanding balance. Funds are limited and restrictions apply. Customers can sign up for Helping Hand by visiting their local Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) agency and providing a disconnection notice, income verification and hardship documentation. Helping Hand is available through May 13 or until funds are exhausted. For additional information on Helping Hand and other assistance programs, customers can visit www.comed.com or call (888) 806-CARE.

Residents Sought to Volunteer for City Commissions

The City is seeking Highland Park residents to serve on the following commissions:

- **Healthy Highland Park Task Force:** *The Healthy Highland Park Task Force seeks to improve the quality of life and health for all Highland Park residents through education and increased awareness in health and fitness opportunities.*
- **Historic Preservation Commission:** *The Historic Preservation Commission identifies properties and structures within the City that are historically significant and advise the City Council on the designations of such properties and structures as either landmarks or historic districts.*
- **Zoning Board of Appeals:** *The Zoning Board of Appeals bears and decides applications for variations from the regulations and restrictions contained in the Zoning Ordinance.*

The Healthy Highland Park Task Force is seeking a member with a fitness, health, nutrition or medical background. The Task Force meets quarterly or on an as-needed basis at City Hall.

The Historic Preservation Commission is seeking a member with a strong interest in and experience in the field of historic preservation. The Historic Preservation Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at City Hall at 7:30 p.m.

The Zoning Board of Appeals is seeking a member with a background in construction and project management, general contracting and project design. The Zoning Board of Appeals meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month at City Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Interested residents should download an interest form at www.cityhpil.com/board-sandcommissions and submit it to DeVona Gaynor, Executive Assistant to the Mayor, at (847) 926-1008/dgaynor@cityhpil.com. Deadline to submit interest forms is Friday, June 3.