

# THE HIGHLANDER



APRIL 20, 2012

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## North Shore Residents Will Save at Least 41% Annually on Electricity Rates Starting This Summer

*Consortium communities negotiate savings under one of the largest aggregation programs in Illinois*

Less than one month since the March 20 referendum, on April 17 the North Shore Electricity Aggregation Consortium (“Consortium”) announced a new rate for electricity that will yield at least 41% savings off the current Commonwealth Edison residential electricity rate, and save residential customers hundreds of dollars annually. This is one of the largest aggregation groups under a single form agreement in Illinois.

Over the next three years, MC Squared Energy Services, LLC (“mc2”), the Consortium’s selected alternative electricity supplier, will supply power to an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 Consortium customers. The Consortium communities locked in electricity rates of 4.836 cents per kilowatt-hour (“kWh”) through the May 2013 ComEd billing cycle. The current ComEd residential rate is 8.233\* cents per kWh. New rates through mc2 are anticipated to begin in June and July.

Official correspondence from the Consortium communities regarding electricity aggregation will be mailed in the near future to eligible customers via regular postal service. At that time, customers will have 21 days to determine if they want to “opt-out” of the municipal program. Under this “opt-out” program, all residential and small commercial retail customers (those whose annual usage is 15,000 kWh or less) will be switched automatically to mc2, unless the customer affirmatively opts-out of the program and continues service through ComEd or another provider. Residents and

small businesses that have already switched to an alternative provider will be able to “opt-in” to the mu-

nicipal aggregation program; those residents and businesses should contact mc2 directly at (888) 808-7731 or email at [NorthShore@MC2energyservices.com](mailto:NorthShore@MC2energyservices.com) for more information about registration.

mc2 responded to the Consortium’s request for proposals for electricity aggregation services and was the lowest responsible bidder of seven vendors that submitted proposals. As part of the agreement with mc2, the Consortium communities will review electricity rates annually within the 36-month time period to ensure that customers are receiving the best possible rate.

On March 20, voters in all eight Consortium municipalities approved a referendum authorizing each municipality to operate an “opt-out” electricity aggregation program for its residents and small businesses. Through an intergovernmental agreement, the Consortium has been working together since December 2011 and engaged the consulting firm Intelligent Power Partners and the law firm of Holland & Knight LLP to provide professional expertise to the Consortium.

Under this program, residents will also have the opportunity to support renewable energy resources through a Green Power Program that purchases renewable energy certificates. To learn more about mc2, please visit [www.mc2energyservices.com](http://www.mc2energyservices.com). For more information, please contact Emily Palm, Assistant to the City Manager, at (847) 926-1004/[epalm@cityhpil.com](mailto:epalm@cityhpil.com).

\* The current ComEd Basic Electric Service Rate in effect from October 1, 2011, through May 31, 2012, including the Purchased Electricity Supply Charge, Transmission Services Charge and the April 2012 Purchased Electricity Adjustment Charge.



For more information about electricity aggregation, please utilize this QR code or visit [www.cityhpil.com/electricityaggregation](http://www.cityhpil.com/electricityaggregation).

*Learn more about Highland Park Restaurant Week on Pages 2 and 3!*

# 'HIGH' NOTES

## Lawn Sprinklers Require Annual Testing

If you have a lawn sprinkler system, please schedule a backflow prevention device test when the system is started. These systems require annual testing to prevent contamination from flowing back into the household water supply. Backflow preventers are also used on fire protection systems, boilers and swimming pools. These also need annual testing. For more information, visit [www.cityhpil.com/crossconnectionprogram](http://www.cityhpil.com/crossconnectionprogram) or contact the Water Plant at (847) 433-4355.

## City Offers Electronic Water Billing Opportunity for Residents

In support of efforts to "go green," the City of Highland Park is pleased to offer its customers the option to receive water bills via email, commonly known as an E-bill. With E-billing, bills will be received via email and will no longer be sent by paper copy via regular postal mail. The E-bill enrollment form is available on the City's website at [www.cityhpil.com/ebill](http://www.cityhpil.com/ebill). Based on the date of enrollment, it may take up to two billing cycles to activate E-billing. Please note that enrollment in the E-billing program does not alter payment options for water bills. Payment options still consist of the following methods: automatic payment, online payment, payment in person at City Hall, or remitting a payment in the drop box across from City Hall. For more information regarding E-billing enrollment, please contact the Finance Department at (847) 432-0800.

## IDOT Commences Project on Deerfield Road Bridge

Please be aware of construction and lane closures on Deerfield Road over the East Skokie River from April through September. The Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) project consists of the removal and replacement of the Deerfield Road Bridge over the East Skokie River. The construction will be completed in two stages with the north half of the bridge being replaced in the first project stage and the south half of the bridge replaced in the second project stage. Two-way traffic will be maintained with only one lane in each direction. There will be detours in place

to accommodate lane and ramp closures; please plan your commute accordingly and allow additional time when traveling this route. For more information, please visit IDOT's website at [www.dot.state.il.us/road/lake.htm](http://www.dot.state.il.us/road/lake.htm). As information and project progress becomes available, please visit [www.cityhpil.com/constructionprojects](http://www.cityhpil.com/constructionprojects).

## Consider A Knox-Box System for Your House

The Highland Park Fire Department Knox-Box® program helps save time to provide life-saving assistance. A Knox-Box is a secure emergency-access tool that gives first responders immediate entry to a building or property without using force. The steel Knox-Box, installed near a property's front entrance or gate, contains a master key that allows emergency responders to enter a house or commercial building without using force. The Knox-Box system helps to administer life-saving assistance quickly to those who need it. Residents and property owners who are interested in learning more about the Knox-Box system may contact the Fire Department at (847) 433-3110.

## Highland Park Restaurant Week is Underway

Hang up those pots and pans and put away those oven mitts because "Restaurant Week" is coming to Highland Park. Beginning April 19 through April 29, dozens of local restaurants will offer tasty items from their celebrated menus. From bagels to burgers, Highland Park's inaugural Restaurant Week is sure to offer something for everyone's palate. For more information, contact the Downtown Alliance at (847) 780-4293 or visit [www.eatouthighlandpark.com](http://www.eatouthighlandpark.com).

## CPAH Hosts Affordable Housing Information Sessions

Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) is a not-for-profit organization that provides affordable housing to low and moderate income households that live or work in the area. The program helps to bridge the gap between the cost of local housing and the incomes of people who live or work in the community. Homes are sold to income qualified households at

40-60% below market value. To qualify, a household of four may not have income exceeding \$60,000. To learn if affordable housing might be right for you, please attend the following information sessions:

- Saturday, April 28, at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, May 15, at 7:00 p.m.

Information sessions will be held at 400 Central Avenue, Suite 111. To register or for more information, please contact Amy Kaufman at (847) 681-8746/[akaufman@cpahousing.org](mailto:akaufman@cpahousing.org). More information is also available at [www.cpahousing.org](http://www.cpahousing.org).

## Parking Permit Replacement Information

In January 2012, the City of Highland Park replaced cardstock parking permits with static cling window permits. It has recently come to the City's attention that due to a manufacturing issue, some commuters have encountered difficulties in attaching the static cling permits to the rear windshield of their vehicles. To help resolve this issue, the manufacturer has provided the City with ultra-removable permits with a new adhesive. The static cling permits are designed for commuters and employees who frequently change vehicles and must remove and reattach their permits often. The new ultra-removable permit is designed to be applied to a single vehicle and can only be removed one time in a single piece. The City will be retaining stock of both permit types throughout the 2012 calendar year to best serve all parking patrons. Commuters and employees who would like to exchange their static cling permits for the new ultra-removable permits are asked to contact the City of Highland Park Finance Department at (847) 432-0800/[finance@cityhpil.com](mailto:finance@cityhpil.com).

## SWALCO Hosts Household Chemical Recycling Events

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) will host household chemical waste collection events on Monday, April 23, and Saturday, May 12, at its facility, 1131 N. Estes Street, Gurnee. For more information and to register for an appointment to drop off materials, please visit [www.swalco.org/collectionevents/householdwastecollectionevents](http://www.swalco.org/collectionevents/householdwastecollectionevents).

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Message from the Mayor

### Highland Park Restaurant Week Is Here! April 19-29

Take a break and “eat out” during Highland Park’s inaugural Restaurant Week presented by the Downtown Highland Park Alliance. Delight in the dishes that make Highland Park the destination for foodies from near and far. From BBQ, bistros and burgers to gelato, artisan salads and healthy treats, Highland Park’s inaugural Restaurant Week is sure to offer something pleasing for everyone’s palate. Throughout the week, over three dozen of Highland Park’s acclaimed restaurants will offer specialty dishes and pricing with unique events and specials. For more information, visit [www.eatouthighlandpark.com](http://www.eatouthighlandpark.com). Besides offering an opportunity to sample new restaurants or return to old favorites, Restaurant Week is about the importance of supporting local businesses. Local businesses provide a sense of community and energy in our City; they also provide jobs and a significant source of funding for City services by generating sales tax revenues. The individual economic impact of running the City is significantly reduced when revenues can come from sources other than property taxes. Sales tax revenues gained from activities like dining out and shopping are generated not just by our residents, but also by visitors. So encourage your out of town friends to join you for dinner during Highland Park Restaurant Week!



### Meeting Our Community’s Human Services Needs

We as a City are interested in making sure that the human service needs of our community are fully met and that residents are aware of what services are available. To this end, we created a Human Services Task Force to assess service needs, improve service availability and increase resident awareness. Specifically, we will be focusing on the needs of our seniors, youth, immigrant populations, the economically disadvantaged, and those with disabilities, physical and/or developmental.

As resources are stretched across all service-providing entities and state funding is broadly cut, needs are increasing. It is our goal to come together as a community on behalf of our community. The first stage of this process will be a needs assessment. We are seeking input from residents as well as service providers.

All residents and human service organizations are invited to participate in the first phase of our program by attending one of two needs assessment meetings at the West Ridge Center, 636 Ridge Road. Choose between two dates to attend:

1. Tuesday, April 24, at 8:15 a.m. (check in and coffee); Discussion 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
2. Saturday, April 28, at 9:45 a.m. (check in and coffee); Discussion 10:00 a.m. – Noon.

Please invite your neighbors and colleagues to this discussion. If you would like to attend, please notify Don Miner at (847) 926-1861, or via email at [dminer@cityhpil.com](mailto:dminer@cityhpil.com). Make sure to leave contact information including the name of your organization (if you will be representing one) as we will be sending further information before the date. Feel free to contact Don if you have any questions. Can’t join us? Share your insights via a survey available by the end of April on the City’s website [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com) or email Don Miner at [dminer@cityhpil.com](mailto:dminer@cityhpil.com).

Following the needs assessment, the Task Force will conduct focus groups and then develop an inventory of services available to our community members. This will help us identify gaps in services so we can work with our sister governments and local agencies to develop a comprehensive plan for our community. Once the comprehensive plan is established, the Task Force will focus on broadly communicating all of the services available and maximizing accessibility. Thank you!

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

## Follow the City on Facebook and Twitter!

Residents may get up-to-the-minute information from the City via social networking websites, Facebook and Twitter. Residents may follow the City of Highland Park on Facebook and Twitter by clicking the direct links from the City’s home page at [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com). Interested parties may also connect with the City directly from Facebook and Twitter by searching “City of Highland Park, Illinois” on Facebook and “CityHPIL” on Twitter. The City will use these sites to provide residents, businesses and visitors with pertinent Highland Park news and events, including public alerts, press releases and event reminders. For more information, please contact Emily Palm, Assistant to the City Manager, at (847) 926-1004/[epalm@cityhpil.com](mailto:epalm@cityhpil.com).

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Monthly Business Report

The following businesses have opened, relocated or are under new ownership in Highland Park. For more details, contact Carolyn Hersch, Economic Development Assistant, at (847) 926-1027/[chersch@cityhpil.com](mailto:chersch@cityhpil.com). For a complete list of registered businesses, visit [www.cityhpil.com/shoppinganddining](http://www.cityhpil.com/shoppinganddining).

**Nieto's**  
Restaurant  
429 Temple Avenue  
(847) 432-0770  
[www.nietosrestaurant.com](http://www.nietosrestaurant.com)

**2nd Street Enoteca**  
Restaurant  
1825 Second Street  
(847) 432-6550

**Menchie's**  
Self-Serve Yogurt Shop  
1929 North Sheridan  
(847) 276-0116

**Body N' Motion**  
Fitness/Dance Studio  
1540 Old Skokie Rd  
(847) 791-5082

**New Ownership**  
Weiland Flowers  
1781 St. Johns Avenue  
(847) 432-0600

**Cairo Animal Hospital**  
1170 Park Avenue  
(847) 432-0157

**New Location**  
Nourished 4 Life  
1282 Old Skokie Road, Suite 3  
(847) 831-0711

## City Council Approves Lobbyist Registration Ordinance

On February 13, 2012, the City Council approved Ordinance No. 15-12 that established a lobbyist registration requirement in Highland Park. Ordinance No. 15-12 requires that all persons who are compensated for efforts to influence any legislative or employee action by the City of Highland Park must register as lobbyists no later than January 20 of each calendar year, or within five business days after engaging in any activity that requires registration as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 37.006(A) of the Highland Park Code.

The lobbyist registration form requires the names and addresses of the lobbyist's clients, and payment of an annual registration fee of \$25. Lobbyists are required to file amended registrations throughout the year as necessary, and to notify the City Clerk upon termination of their lobbyist activities. Lobbyist registration information is available through the City Clerk's Office for public inspection.

Ordinance No. 15-12 provides exemptions for the following activities from the definition of a lobbyist, including:

- Filing an application for a City permit or license;
- Responding to a request for proposal or formal bid solicitation;
- Representation in formal adversarial proceedings, such as the Administrative Hearing System, Zoning Board of Appeals or Plan Commission;
- Representation by an employee, director or officer of a not-for-profit entity for that entity; and
- Unpaid representation.

Lobbyists may register through the City Clerk's Office or online at [www.cityhpil.com/lobbyistregistration](http://www.cityhpil.com/lobbyistregistration). For more information, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (847) 926-1034.

## Bike-Walk Plan to be Considered by City Council this Spring

This Spring, the City Council will consider adopting the Bike-Walk HP 2030 Plan as an element of the City's Master Plan. The Bike-Walk HP 2030 Plan contains a Complete Streets Policy and a Non-Motorized Transportation Plan for Highland Park. Both align with the City's Sustainability Strategic Plan and are oriented toward improving Highland Park for cyclists and pedestrians and increasing access to the City's public transportation facilities. The Complete Streets Policy contemplates that Highland Park's public roadways will be designed and improved so the needs of all users, whether motorists, cyclists, or pedestrians, will be considered and accommodated to the extent feasible. The Bike-Walk HP 2030 Plan seeks to make it easier and safer to reach community destinations without the use of a car. The Non-Motorized Transportation Plan element identifies specific types of programs and physical improvements to be implemented in Highland Park during the 18-year timeframe of the Plan.

To date, the Bike-Walk HP 2030 Plan has been reviewed and recommended for City Council adoption by the Transportation Commission and the Plan Commission. To view upcoming City Council agenda packets and to see when the Plan will be considered by the City Council, visit [www.cityhpil.com/citycouncilagendapacket](http://www.cityhpil.com/citycouncilagendapacket). For more information, please contact Lee Smith, City Planner, at (847) 926-1612/[lsmith@cityhpil.com](mailto:lsmith@cityhpil.com).

## Street Light Watch

**Residents who see street lights on during daytime hours are asked to call the Public Works Department at (847) 432-0807. The City thanks you in advance for your assistance!**

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Spring Clean-Up Program Commences on April 28

The City's annual Spring Clean-Up Program will be offered by Veolia Environmental Services on four consecutive Saturdays beginning April 28 and ending May 19. This year, collection will again coincide with residents' primary garbage collection day (the primary collection day is the day both garbage and recycling are collected). Refer to the map on the right to determine your primary collection day and then utilize the table below the map to view your Spring Clean-Up collection date. In order to keep City streets clean, it is requested that residents not place any material out for collection earlier than one week before a scheduled collection.

### Oversized Items

Veolia Environmental Services will pick up all allowed oversized items that are placed at the curb on residents' scheduled Spring Clean-Up days. To discard waste from a do-it-yourself project, please make sure that the material is bundled so that one person can pick it up and place it in the truck. Carpeting must be rolled and should not exceed the weight that one person can carry. Waste material generated by general contractors will not be accepted.

### Appliances

Residents with appliances for collection such as refrigerators/freezers (doors must be removed), stoves, dishwashers, washers/dryers, furnaces/boilers, hot water heaters, air conditioners, and microwave ovens must call Veolia at (847) 272-4145 to arrange for pick-up. When calling, please indicate your name, address, and the type of item to be collected. Please note that residents must bring the item to the curb in order for it to be collected.

### Prohibited Items

Items must be placed at the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. on collection day. The following items will not be accepted: regular garbage; yardwaste; debris generated by landscapers, tree trimmers, or contractors; demolition material from fences, roofs, or exterior building debris; rubber tires; batteries; and oil and household hazardous wastes such as paint, pesticides, or pool chemicals.

Additionally, effective January 1, 2012, in accordance with Illinois law, it is illegal for landfills to accept electronics, such as monitors, printers, televisions and computers. As a reminder, the City, in conjunction with the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) hosts an electronics recycling drop-off site at the Firearms Training Center, 1180 Half Day Road, on Tuesdays and Fridays from 7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

### Sustainable Practices Incorporated Into Highland Park Residential Services

Veolia Environmental Services uses a fleet of collection trucks that 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 need to be placed side-by-side and within four feet from the curb no later than 7:00 a.m. on their designated collection day.

For additional information on the City of Highland Park's Spring Clean-Up Program, contact Veolia Environmental Services at (847) 272-4145, or Brian Bourdeau in the City Manager's Office at (847) 926-1043/[bbourdeau@cityhpil.com](mailto:bbourdeau@cityhpil.com).



Area	Collection Day	Spring Clean-Up Day
SE	Monday	Saturday, April 28
SW	Tuesday	Saturday, May 5
NE	Thursday	Saturday, May 12
NW	Friday	Saturday, May 19

# 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., April 23	Firefighters Pension Fund	4:00 p.m.
	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council	7:30 p.m.
Tues., April 24	Firefighters Pension Fund	4:00 p.m.
	Business and Economic Dev.	6:00 p.m.
Wed., April 25	Transportation Commission	6:30 p.m.
Tues., May 1	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Wed., May 2	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., May 3	Human Relations Comm.	6:30 p.m.
	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., May 7	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., May 8	Library Board of Trustees (494 Laurel Avenue)	7:30 p.m.
Wed., May 9	Natural Resources Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., May 10	Historic Preservation	7:30 p.m.
Mon., May 14	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council	7:30 p.m.
Tues., May 15	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., May 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.hplib.org](http://www.hplib.org). The Library will open at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 2, and will be closed on Tuesday, May 8.

**Meet Alexandra Wilkis Wilson, Cofounder of Gilt Groupe, Friday, April 20, 1:00 p.m.** The cofounder of Gilt Groupe discusses her new book, *By Invitation Only: How We Built Gilt Groupe And Changed The Way Millions Shop* and explains how she and a friend launched a groundbreaking business that took fashionistas by storm and revolutionized the fashion and e-commerce industries. Wilson provides an inside view of the fashion industry, too. Presented with the Harvard Club of Chicago.

**Money Smart Week: Tuesday, April 24, Wednesday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.** Estate Planning 101: April 24 - Learn about legal planning tools and understand why estate planning is for everyone, not just the rich and famous. Asset Protection: April 25 - Learn the legal tools to protect your assets in 2012. Both programs are presented by Kenneth M. Bloom, attorney and CPA.

**Meet The Author: Sadakat Kadri - Heaven on Earth: A Journey Through Shari'a Law from the Deserts of Ancient Arabia to the Streets of the Modern Muslim World, Thursday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.** Dispelling myths and exploring the provenance of the shari'a or Islamic law, Kadri, a human rights lawyer and legal historian, offers a portrait of Islamic law in his new book, *Heaven on Earth* and provides a look at a misunderstood but vital part of Muslim life.

**Instrument Petting Zoo and Musikgarten Class, Saturday, April 21, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Ages 3-Adult.** Try guitar, string, percussion and wind instruments as instructors from the Music Institute of Chicago and the Field Violin Workshop demonstrate the instruments. Stop by for a Musikgarten class with songs and instruments. Musikgarten class - newborns-six-year-olds, accompanied by an adult.

**Get Tech Savvy, Saturday, May 5, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** Bring your electronic devices - cell phones, ereaders, digital cameras, laptops - and your questions. Drop by and meet with a member of the Library's teen tech-savvy team for one-on-one guidance.

## CULTURAL ARTS EVENTS

<b>Women's Club Annual Fundraiser</b> April 21, \$15-\$35 5:00 p.m.	Community House 1991 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1515	<b>Spring Concert</b> May 6, Free 5:00 p.m.	Trinity Episcopal Church 425 Laurel Avenue (847) 432-6653
<b>Stars of Tomorrow: Concert</b> April 22, Free 3:00 p.m.	Community House 1991 Sheridan Road (847) 433-0972	<b>Ron Surace Quartet: Concert</b> May 6, \$10 7:00 p.m.	Community House 1991 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1515
<b>Rotary Club: Second City</b> April 28, \$100 6:00 p.m.	HP Country Club 1201 Park Avenue (847) 432-1500	<b>Mother's Day Concert</b> May 10, Free 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Family Network Center 330 Laurel Avenue (847) 433-0377
<b>HP Players: Tap Dance Clsles</b> April 30 - May 21, \$15/class Call to Register	West Ridge Center 636 Ridge Road (847) 926-3025	<b>Across Musical Borders: Concert</b> May 13, \$8-\$20 3:00 p.m.	Community House 1991 Sheridan Road (847) 433-0972
<b>Cirque Du Art: Spring Gala</b> May 3, \$175 7:00 p.m.	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1888	<b>Infinity Foundation Gala</b> May 18 Call for Information	HP Country Club 1201 Park Avenue (847) 831-8828

# YOUTH & SENIOR SERVICES

## Youth Services

Serving youth in grades 6-8  
1830 Green Bay Road (847) 433-3090

*The Firehouse School Year Hours:*  
Monday - Friday, 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

The last quarter of the school year is upon us! Many families find the Firehouse Youth Center an important part of finishing the year. Many students participate in fall and winter sports, and parents find the Firehouse to be a great way for kids to finish the year in a fun, supervised environment. Learning healthy, constructive ways to deal with downtime, is a vital part in a child's journey to becoming a happy, healthy adult. In addition to the structured After 3 program,



students may opt to utilize the Firehouse on a drop-in basis, be it five days a week, once a week, or once in a while. Whatever way you and your child decide to utilize the Firehouse,

the City welcomes the opportunity for your child to participate in fun activities while supervised by professional staff.

If you find your middle-school student struggling with getting homework done, time management or organization skills, it is not too late to enroll in the After 3 homework program. After 3 at The Firehouse was designed to serve the growing needs of working families with children in middle school. After 3 at The Firehouse provides professional staff who offers your child enriching activities that can develop their potential, build their confidence and help them with their schoolwork. Make the most out of your child's after-school time. Transportation is also available from all three middle schools to The Firehouse in a 14-passenger bus and 7-passenger van. Register to fit the needs of your family, whether it be one day a week or five. Once registered, your child will have a seat reserved for the days you wish.

Days per week	Fee w/out Transportation	Fee w/Transportation
1 Day	\$40	\$80
2 Days	\$80	\$160
3 Days	\$120	\$240
4 Days	\$160	\$320
5 Days	\$200	\$400

## Senior Services

Serving adults over 50  
54 Laurel Avenue (847) 432-4110  
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**Global Perspectives: Occupy Wall Street**  
Highland Park Country Club, Thursday, May 10  
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Free for members/Non-Members: \$15  
Advanced registration required; Call (847) 432-4110  
*Sponsored by Whitehall of Deerfield*

This new lecture series takes you on a global journey exploring international relations, politics and economics, with an impressive line up of speakers. Please call (847) 432-4110 for details on the remainder of the series and to register. Occupy Wall Street (OWS) is a people-powered movement that began in 2011 in Manhattan's Financial District, and has spread to over 100 cities in the United States. Hear Jim Kenney discuss this movement.

**Live on the Links Concert: Old Time Cowboy Music**  
Highland Park Country Club, Thursday, May 17  
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., Free; for members only  
Advance registration required; Call (847) 432-4110  
*Sponsored by Lake Forest Place*

The Live on the Links Classic Concerts are designed to provide members with an afternoon of company and music. Coffee and cookies are provided prior to the performances. Doors open at 1:00 p.m. Rick Pickren and the Bashful Brothers have been delighting audiences with their unique blend of cowboy, bluegrass, folk, Celtic, pop and old time music for the past twenty years. Enjoy songs like *Back In The Saddle*, *Tumblin' Tumbleweeds*, and *You Are My Sunshine*.

**The Senior Center has a variety of wonderful trips and classes beginning soon. Please call the Senior Center at (847) 432-4110 for further details or to register.**

Day Excursions: The Ice Man Cometh, The Milwaukee Domes, Odyssey Cruise, Light Opera Works

Fitness Classes: Yoga, Tai Chi, Low Impact Dance Aerobics, Zumba Gold, Mix-It-Up, and Sit & Be Fit

Art Classes: Digital Camera, Ceramics, Portrait & Landscape, and Advanced Drawing & Painting

Cards and Games Classes: Beginning Bridge, Advanced Bridge, Canasta, Mah Jongg

Expressive Arts for those with memory loss: Dance Movement, Power of Music, Reflective Art

General Classes: Cable TV Production, Conversational Spanish, Ready-Set-Organize, Connecting with Grandchildren through Social Action

# HIGHLANDER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY  
THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
POSTAGE PAID  
HIGHLAND  
PARK, ILLINOIS  
PERMIT NO. 10

City of Highland Park  
1707 St. Johns Avenue  
Highland Park, IL 60035  
Phone: 847.432.0800 Fax: 847.432.7625  
Website: [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com) E-mail: [cityhp@cityhpil.com](mailto:cityhp@cityhpil.com)

ECRWSS  
POSTAL PATRON

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

Acting City Manager: Patrick Brennan  
Editor: Emily I. Palm



Look for LATE NITE HP events throughout the week in Highland Park.  
Visit [www.latenitehp.com](http://www.latenitehp.com) for more information.



## ComEd to Provide System Upgrades to Enhance Reliability

Highland Park residents may have seen Commonwealth Edison or contractor trucks and service personnel in the area over the past several weeks. ComEd has announced electric system upgrade projects in the area that began March 1 in Highland Park. Work on these projects is expected to continue through May. The upgrades are designed to provide better reliability for Highland Park residents and businesses.

Work already completed this year includes enhanced tree trimming to reduce vegetation related contacts that can cause power outages and replacement or injection of approximately 700 feet of underground residential distribution cable (URD) on Deerfield Road that serves Highland Park residents. Injected cable fills voids in the insulation; when that is not possible, cable is replaced where necessary to reduce the number of customer service interruptions due to cable failures.

ComEd has planned several storm “hardening” projects that reduce the susceptibility of circuits and fuses to storm-related damage caused by high winds and thunderstorms. Toward that end, ComEd will be installing automatic fuse devices near Highmoor Road and Route 22, Ryders Lane and Holley Road, Ridge Road and Castlewood Road, and behind Half Day Road near Arlington Avenue. The automatic fuse devices are used in place of traditional fuses to minimize the number of permanent outages caused by tree branch movement, lightning and other weather related factors.

Another storm hardening project planned to be completed by May is the installation of approximately 4,400 feet of overhead Hendrix spacer cable on five circuits. Hendrix spacer cable helps reduce the number of customer service interruptions by reinforcing overhead electrical wires to prevent damage caused by falling tree limbs. The Hendrix spacer cable installation is targeted for Cloverdale Avenue, Lynn Terrace, Marion Avenue, Stonegate Drive, Croftridge Lane, Sheridan Road near Lakeside Place, and Bob-O-Link Road near Croftridge Lane.

ComEd continues to identify work that will improve reliability performance and reduce customer outages throughout its service territory as part of the Illinois Energy Infrastructure Modernization Act that was enacted in October 2011 by the Illinois General Assembly. Over the 10-year program, ComEd will invest \$2.6 billion to strengthen and modernize its electric system. About half will be spent in reliability-related programs to strengthen the existing power grid serving northern Illinois. This includes replacing underground cable, inspecting, treating and, where necessary, replacing wood poles, and performing storm hardening tasks to further reduce the susceptibility of circuits to storm-related damage.

Residents with questions about the ComEd infrastructure improvements should call (800) Edison-1 (800-334-7661). For more information, please contact Brian Bourdeau in the City Manager’s Office at (847) 926-1043/[bbourdeau@cityhpil.com](mailto:bbourdeau@cityhpil.com).