

THE

HIGHLANDER



NOVEMBER 15, 2010

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

City Manager Presents Proposed 2011 Budget to City Council

On October 6, City Manager David Limardi submitted the Fiscal Year 2011 Proposed Annual Budget to the Mayor and City Council for review and consideration. The Proposed Budget incorporates revised Financial and Budgetary Policies based on discussions with the City Council in April and May of 2010. With many of the City's previous financial policies retained, more comprehensive budgetary policies have been added to enhance the budget process and ensure long-term sustainability. Recent and current national economic conditions require that municipalities no longer operate in the same manner, and difficult decisions are required to establish a new baseline for City operations going forward. A number of changes in the fund structure have been proposed to enhance transparency, clarity and financial sustainability. Realignment of funding sources for certain City funds are proposed in 2011 to ensure that economically sensitive revenues fund a greater proportion of capital costs to avoid impacting service levels for residents during recessionary periods.

The total 2011 Proposed Budget, including all expenditures and inter-fund transfers, amounts to \$83,370,195. The City's operating budget – which includes personnel, contractual and commodities expenditures – is proposed at \$52.15 million, with savings exceeding \$1 million when adjustments comparing the 2010 and 2011 budgets are included. Several changes in full-time and part-time positions have been proposed, resulting in a net reduction in 17.75 full-time equivalents (FTEs).

The City's long-term investment budget consists of planned capital improvements and debt service costs associated with the bond financing of capital improvements in accordance with the City's Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. This budget is proposed to total \$25.7 million in 2011, up from \$14.1 million in 2010 and due primarily to the multi-year Water Treatment Plant improvement project. Capital funding allocations for streets, sewer and water system improvements are proposed at increased levels for 2011, adjusted by the 20-city average construction cost index to ensure that inflationary factors in construction are reflected in the City's funding levels.

The City is required to budget for transfers and reserves, although they do not represent actual outflows of City resources. Transfers and reserves of \$5.5 million are projected for 2011, down from \$6.5 million in 2010. Transfers between funds are also treated as revenue in the receiving fund. Reserves are funds that will not be spent in the current fiscal year unless the appropriation is transferred to an expenditure account.

Despite significant expenditure savings proposed for 2011, rate adjustments are necessary in the water and sanitary sewer fees to ensure sustainability of these enterprise funds. A water rate adjustment from \$1.68 per 100 cubic feet (cf) to \$1.73 per 100/cf effective January 1, 2011, was approved by the City Council on October 25 and is projected to impact the typical 4-member household by \$18 per year. The City's water and sewer rates continue to remain among the lowest on the North Shore.

The 2011 Proposed Budget includes a recommended property tax levy that would have been reduced, except for State mandated pension funding requirements and a requested increase to fund Library operations. The City continues its efforts to seek legislative public safety pension reform at the state level in order to provide residents with property tax relief.

The Proposed 2011 Budget is available for review on the City's website at www.cityhphil.com. Residents are encouraged to review the City Manager's Proposed Budget Preparation Notes, also available on the website, which provide a more detailed summary of changes proposed for 2011. The public hearing on the Proposed Budget, originally scheduled for November 22, has been rescheduled to the December 13 City Council meeting to allow for an additional budget workshop with the City Council on November 29 at 4:30 p.m. All meetings are held at City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue. For more information, please contact the Finance Department at (847) 432-0800/finance@cityhphil.com.

Ravinia Post Office Closed as of November 13

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has announced that the Ravinia Post Office Station closed on Saturday, November 13. The USPS indicated that the agency evaluated post office stations across the country to find ways to realign its network and services in order to reduce infrastructure as a result of the national economic climate. Mail volumes have decreased and are not expected to return to the same level even when the economy recovers. Ravinia P.O. Box customers will continue to use the name "Highland Park" and "60035" in their mailing address and will not be required to change their mailing address if they keep their P.O. Box at the Highland Park Post Office. The Highland Park Post Office lobby is also open 24 hours a day to pick up mail from P.O. Boxes. Highland Park Post Office hours are: 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday; and 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., Saturday. Residents with questions may call the Highland Park Post Office directly and ask for Postmaster Vickie Henderson at (847) 433-3201 or visit www.usps.com.

'HIGH' NOTES

City Offices Closed for Thanksgiving

City Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 25, and Friday, November 26, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday. Residents are asked to call the Public Safety Switchboard at (847) 432-7730 if assistance is required. Also, please remember that garbage will not be collected on Thursday, November 25. Residents with regular Thursday refuse and recycling collection will receive service on Friday, November 26, and residents with normal Friday collection will receive service on Saturday, November 27. For more information, contact Veolia Environmental Service at (847) 272-4145.

Affordable Housing Opportunities Available

Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) has announced that three affordable 3-4 bedroom/2-bath homes are available, with a price range between \$140,000 - \$180,000. Two of the homes are LEED certified. Total principal, interest, taxes and insurance payments are approximately \$900 - \$1,300 per month. CPAH will hold an information session about Highland Park's affordable housing programs on December 7, 400 Central Avenue, #III, at 7:00 p.m. Sessions are also available by appointment. For more information, please contact CPAH at (847) 681-8746 or visit www.cpahousing.org.

SWALCO Event Announced

In celebration of America Recycles Week, the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) will host a Recycle-O-Rama Environmental Fair on November 20 from 9:00 a.m. until Noon at the Warren-Township High School O'Plaine Campus, 500 N. O'Plaine Road, Gurnee. The event will offer an opportunity to gather resources on recycling, composting, vermicomposting and living a sustainable and eco-friendly lifestyle. Lake County residents will have an opportunity to recycle household items that cannot be placed in curbside recycling. Visit www.lakecounty-il.gov/swalco for a complete list of acceptable items and additional information.

Neighborhood Meetings Conclude in November

The City of Highland Park will host its last three remaining neighborhood meetings in November as part of an ongoing effort to share information concerning current objectives of the City government with the community. Residents will have an opportunity to conduct a dialogue with the Mayor, members of the City Council and the City Manager. Remaining neighborhood meetings are scheduled as follows:

- Moraine District: Monday, November 15, 7:00 p.m., Indian Trail School, 2075 St. Johns Avenue
- South Green Bay/Ravinia Districts: Tuesday, November 16, 7:00 p.m., Lincoln Elementary School, 711 Lincoln Avenue West
- Daytime Meeting: Friday, November 19, 10:30 a.m., Highland Park Police Station, Training Room, 1677 Old Deerfield Road

For more information, contact Brian Bourdeau in the City Manager's Office at (847) 926 1043/bbourdeau@cityhpil.com.

5k/10k Races to be Held on Thanksgiving

On Thursday, November 25, Running Away Multisport (R.A.M. Racing) will host inaugural 5k & 10k Turkey Trot runs in downtown Highland Park. The events are scheduled to begin at 7:00 a.m. and will run concurrently with each other. This event is anticipated to attract approximately 2,000 participants and will require the temporary closure of streets on the race routes. After 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 24, approximately 10 parking spaces in the north section of the public parking lot at St. Johns and Park Avenues will be utilized in preparation for the race. Both the 5k and 10k routes will begin at St. Johns and Park Avenues and head south. For more information about the race, including route maps and to register, please visit www.northshoreturkeytrot.com.

Budget Meetings Continue

The City's next budget workshop will be held on November 29 at 4:30 p.m. The public hearing and City Council consideration of the proposed FY2011 budget is scheduled for December 13 at 7:30 p.m. All of these meetings will be held at City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Avenue. Please visit the City's website at www.cityhpil.com to view the City calendar for a complete list of all City meeting dates and times, as well as agendas and packets. For further details, please contact the Finance Department at (847) 432-0800/finance@cityhpil.com.

Beautification Award Recipients Announced

The City of Highland Park is pleased to announce the winners of the 2010 Beautification Awards. These winners serve as an example of the City's efforts to beautify the community through attractive landscaping, streetscape, signage and window displays. The award winners are as follows:

- Retail: Citywoods, 651 Central Avenue
- Restaurant: Vibe at 1935, 1935 Sheridan Road
- Services: North Shore Shell Stations, 10 Skokie Valley Road & 1411 Park Avenue West
- Auto Dealership: Gregory Hyundai, 490 Skokie Valley Road
- Office/Apartment/Condo: Ravinia Crossing Condominiums, 695 Roger Williams Avenue
- Special Recognition: Property Owner Larry Hillman, for improvements to the south side of Central Avenue between Green Bay Road and Second Street

The award winners were selected by the Business and Economic Development Commission (BEDC) Beautification Work Group. The Beautification Award recognizes commercial properties that have integrated aesthetics and the environment in the Community. Recipients were also recognized at the November 8 City Council meeting. For more information, please contact Carolyn Hersch in the City Manager's Office at (847) 926-1027/chersch@cityhpil.com.

BUSINESS REPORT

Monthly Business Report

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

New Businesses

- **SoShee Boutique Inc.**
599 Roger Williams
Women's Boutique
(847) 432-6969
www.sosheeboutique.com
- **Michael Remi Kitchen & Bath**
595 Roger Williams Avenue
Kitchen & Bath Cabinetry,
Design & Remodeling
(847) 433-8400
www.michaelremi.com
- **Allura Fine Jewelers**
1848 First Street
Fine Jewelry
(847) 433-2444
www.allurajewelers.com
- **Just 4 Friends**
Teen/Tween Clothing &
Accessory Boutique
461 Central Avenue
(847) 681-8200
- **Traveling Hygienists**
Dental Hygiene for the Elderly
1770 First Street, Suite 420
(847) 309-5670
www.mobileoral.net
- **FDIS Northern Illinois**
Credit Card Processing &
Merchant Equipment
1548 Old Skokie Road
(847) 266-1220
www.paperrollschicago.com
- **Oscar's Shoe Repair**
Repair of Shoes, Bags and
Leather Items
2226 Green Bay Road, Ste. 112
(847) 748-8530

Relocation

- **Coldwell Banker**
Residential Real Estate
1741 Second Street
(847) 433-5400
www.coldwellbankeronline.com

Message from the Mayor



The holiday season is quickly approaching and consumers have numerous retail and restaurant options throughout the Chicagoland area. While current economic conditions have affected us all on different levels, the decision to shop locally in Highland Park to the extent that you can is a reinvestment in the community.

Did you know that Highland Park has over 65 restaurants and 250 retail businesses that include salons, spas, clothing stores and auto dealers? There is a wide array of retail options to suit your needs and wonderful restaurants that can host holiday functions in each business district. Shopping locally keeps the business districts vibrant and thriving. Plus, shopping locally provides and maintains employment opportunities for numerous people.

The decision to shop or dine locally in Highland Park results in ancillary benefits that you may not have realized. A percentage of each dollar spent in Highland Park goes directly to the City's general revenue fund, which then funds City services and projects. This holiday season, please remember that a portion of every dollar spent in Highland Park assists the City by maintaining a healthy balance of revenues, and mitigates the need to increase other forms of revenue. The City is projected to collect \$12.1 million in sales taxes in 2010, accounting for nearly 38% of the revenues in the General Fund. General Fund expenditures include most of the core services provided by the City to its residents, including police and fire services. Sales taxes generated in Highland Park help to keep the City's portion of the property tax levy low, as the City accounts for only 6.5% of the total tax bill.

Highland Parkers have many choices throughout nearby communities and major malls, but shopping locally produces immeasurable benefits for the City. Please look on page 4 of this month's *Highlander* for more information about the upcoming holiday events that will help all Highland Parkers celebrate the season. Have a Happy Thanksgiving and a safe holiday season!

Thank you,

Updated City Parking Maps Available

The City offers numerous locations to shop and dine throughout Highland Park. The City's parking map, with detailed information about all City parking lots, is available for free at all municipal offices. A printable version is available at www.cityhpil.com/community/parking.html. As a reminder, Renaissance Place Garage offers convenient parking for shoppers and diners. Parking is free in the garage for up to three hours. Present your receipt from either Renaissance Place Cinema, the Highland Park Theatre or any restaurant in the Central Business District and park at a discounted rate of \$2.00 for up to five hours. The Renaissance Place Garage also offers "customer only" parking in the southeast portion of the garage. For more information, contact Jennifer Dotson in the City Manager's Office at (847) 926-1006/jdotson@cityhpil.com.

Shop Local Gift Card Program Continues

Shoppers can earn a \$50 Downtown HP Gift Card by participating in the second-annual 'Shop Local Rewards' program. Shop at any five or more Downtown Highland Park businesses between November 20 - December 24 to collect receipts totaling \$500 or more and receive a free \$50 Downtown HP Gift Card accepted at over 80 businesses in Downtown Highland Park. Receipts must be collected in an official 'Shop Local Rewards' envelope, available at the Downtown Highland Park Alliance Office, 442 Central Ave., second floor. For more information, visit www.downtownhp.com or contact Bridget Kagan, Downtown Alliance Marketing and Communications Coordinator, at (847) 780-4293/bridget@downtownhp.com.

CITY NEWS

New Residential Refuse and Recycling Program Underway

New rates and services under the recently approved waste hauling franchise agreement became effective October 1, 2010. The new franchise agreement preserves the volume-based rate structure and back door collection that were contained in the City's previous franchise agreement with Veolia, while expanding it to also include curbside collection.

Residents who would like to switch recycling services or carts may do so at no charge until Tuesday, November 30, 2010. Beginning on December 1, residents switching from curbside collection to back-door collection will be subject to a \$50 switch fee and residents switching from back door to curbside will be subject to a \$40 delivery cart fee. A discounted cart delivery fee will be assessed to residents switching from curbside subscription to curbside volume-based collection between December 1 and March 31, 2011; thereafter, a cart delivery fee of \$40 will apply. Stickers reflecting a reduced rate of \$2.35 for volume-based refuse and yardwaste collection are now available at the following locations: City Hall, Sunset Foods, Jewel-Osco, Mutual Ace Hardware,

Craftwood Lumber, Walgreens and Dominick's in Bannockburn. Residents may continue to utilize unused stickers purchased under the previous agreement.

Residents who no longer require 18-gallon recycling bins may drop them off at the Electronics Recycling Facility, 1180 Half Day Road, between 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. If a resident wishes to dispose of previous refuse containers, they may do so by placing the containers at the curb with a note attached requesting Veolia to dispose of them. Please note that refuse containers and recycling bins will not be recycled if they are placed at the curb for disposal.

For further details regarding this new program, please contact Veolia Customer Service at (847) 272-4145/highlandpark@veoliaes.com. Residents with additional questions concerning the City's new franchise agreement may contact Renee Helm at (847) 926-1030/rhelm@cityhpil.com or Brian Bourdeau at (847) 926-1043/bbourdeau@cityhpil.com in the City Manager's Office.

Upcoming Events to Kickoff Holiday Season

The first annual Ravinia Holiday Fair will commence on Thursday, November 18, from 3:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Festivities will be located at Jens Jensen Park, 540 Roger Williams Avenue, with holiday music, poetry, cider and donuts. At 4:00 p.m., Santa will arrive by fire truck to make a special appearance with holiday stockings. From 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., local businesses will host a holiday shopping fair featuring strolling musicians. For more information, please contact Event Organizer Marcia O'Hara at (847) 266-4000.

On Saturday, November 20, the City, the Chamber of Commerce, Port Clinton Square, and the Downtown Alliance will host the annual Holiday Lighting ceremony at Port Clinton Square, 600 Central Avenue. Scheduled activities include:

- 11:00 a.m.: Ice sculptures, portraits and building blocks
- 3:00 p.m.: Carolers, entertainment for children and refreshments
- 4:00 p.m.: Santa arrives at Port Clinton Square by fire truck, along with the Highland Park High School marching band
- 4:30 p.m.: Tree lighting

For more information, contact Renee Helm in the City Manager's Office at (847) 926-1030/rhelm@cityhpil.com.

Public Works Department Completes Forestry Master Plan

Beginning in 2005, the Department of Public Works commenced preparation of Master Plans for all City infrastructure systems, including sanitary and storm sewers, streets, water distribution, facilities, bridges and forestry. The purpose of a Master Plan is to develop a comprehensive approach to operating, maintaining and improving the City's various infrastructure systems and other assets.

In an effort to further improve the quality and efficiency of forestry management, the City Council approved the City's first Forestry Master Plan in September 2010. The Master Plan includes background regarding the City's Forestry program and operations, and identifies long-term goals and objectives for the continued preservation and improvement of the City's Urban Forest. Implementation of the goals and objectives developed from completion of these tasks are intended to protect and enhance the valuable forestry resources that exist in Highland Park. Municipal trees contribute an important part of the City's urban landscape while providing a wide variety of social, community, economic and environmental benefits. The benefits include climate moderation, improved air quality, water conservation, and habitats for wildlife.

The Master Plan was developed in accordance with the adopted standards of the International Society of Arboriculture and meets the requirements for American Public Works Association Accreditation. To view a copy of the plan, visit www.cityhpil.com/pw/forestry.html, or contact Joe O'Neill, City Forester, at (847) 926-1604/joneill@cityhpil.com.

The Highland Park High School Band, under the direction of Dr. James Hile, has been named the winner of the 2010 Mayor's Award for the Arts, among nine nominations submitted to the Cultural Arts Commission for consideration. The Mayor's Award for the Arts is an annual award that recognizes outstanding achievements or contributions to the arts in Highland Park. Congratulations to the Highland Park High School Band and Dr. Hile!

PUBLIC SAFETY

Red Light Cameras Installed to Improve Traffic Safety

In an effort to improve traffic safety and compliance with traffic laws, the City of Highland Park and Redflex Traffic Systems installed automated red light enforcement cameras at the highway intersection of U.S. Route 41 and Park Avenue West in June of 2010. The Illinois Department of Transportation issued permits for the southbound U.S. Route 41 approach at Park Avenue West and the westbound Park Avenue West approach at U.S. Route 41. Historically, this intersection has had some of the highest number of vehicle accidents with associated injuries within the City. The automated red light enforcement cameras became operational on June 30. A two-week written warning period was conducted from June 30 through July 13. On July 14, Redflex Traffic Systems and the Police Department began processing and issuing citations for red light violations. Red light traffic violators who have received a red light camera violation citation and have questions may call the Highland Park Photo Enforcement Program Customer Service Call Center toll-free at (877) 847-2338, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. (CST) for further information. Residents may also contact Sergeant Chris O'Neill at (847) 432-7730/coneill@cityhpil.com.

Winter Parking Regulations Effective December 1

Residents are reminded that the City's "Snow Ordinance" takes effect each year between December 1 and March 31, and that vehicles may not be parked in excess of 15 minutes on any public street between the hours of 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. This is a Citywide ban on parking to facilitate snow removal operations when necessary, and to decrease occurrences of accidental damage to vehicles parked on streets or in City parking lots. This ban applies at all times regardless of snow conditions. Authorized overnight City parking lots are identified on the City's website at www.cityhpil.com and require a valid overnight parking permit that can be obtained at City Hall, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Written warnings will be issued beginning December 1, 2010, through December 15, 2010. Beginning on December 16, 2010, through March 31, 2011, citations will be issued for violations. Presently, fines for violation of this ordinance are \$20. For more information, contact Sergeant Chris O'Neill at (847) 432-7730/coneill@cityhpil.com.

November 'Street Smarts' Tip: Winter Driving Safety

Winter driving can be unsafe, especially on slick roads coupled with low visibility. Vehicles should be maintained, especially during the winter. If a vehicle stalls, motorists can become involved in hazardous situations. To minimize the possibility of a breakdown, motorists should have a technician inspect vehicles, including the battery, antifreeze, tires, wipers, ignition system, thermostat, hazard lights, heater and brakes. The Highland Park Police Department offers these additional suggestions for safe travel:



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- Drive with headlights on and do not use bright lights during a snowstorm;
- Keep the gas tank full;
- Drive slower and increase the distance between your car and the vehicle in front of you;
- If pavement is snow or ice covered, accelerate slowly and brake gently;
- If the vehicle slides on pavement, ease off the gas pedal or brake and steer into the direction of the skid.

Vehicles should be equipped with a winter emergency survival kit, including an ice scraper and snowbrush, jumper cables, windshield washer fluid, a shovel, salt, cat box litter or sand, blankets and extra clothing, non-perishable food and water, a flashlight, flares or roadway reflectors, and a first aid kit. If stranded, wait for assistance from emergency service providers. Current road condition reports are available for Illinois interstate and freeway systems by calling 1-800-452-IDOT. This information is updated every two hours during a storm. For more information, please contact Sergeant Chris O'Neill at (847) 432-7730/coneill@cityhpil.com.



On October 12, the Highland Park Fire Department recognized three retiring members of the Department and officially promoted members of the Department. Fire Lieutenant Robert Anthony and Firefighters Steven Drake and Thomas Wilson retired after 30, 30 and 23 years of service to the City, respectively. Additionally, Fire Lieutenants Timothy Pease and Stanley Olson were promoted to the position of Battalion Chief, and Daniel Zerfass, William Brennan and Stephen Horne were promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Pictured at left, from left to right: Stephen Horne, William Brennan, Daniel Zerfass, Thomas Wilson, Steven Drake, Robert Anthony, Timothy Pease and Stanley Olson.

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., Nov. 15	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 16	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Wed., Nov. 17	Lakefront Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Nov. 18	Environmental Commission	6:30 p.m.
	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., Nov. 22	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council	7:30 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 23	Business and Econ. Develop.	6:00 p.m.
Mon., Nov. 29	Budget Workshop	4:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 6	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 7	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Wed., Dec. 8	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
	Lakefront Commission	6:30 p.m.
	Traffic Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 9	Historic Preservation	7:30 p.m.
	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 13	Finance Committee	3:30 p.m.
	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council	7:30 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 14	Library Board of Trustees (494 Laurel Avenue)	7:15 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 16	Environmental Commission	6:30 p.m.
	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., Dec. 20	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Dec. 21	Plan Commission	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 close at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 24, and will be closed on Thursday, November 25. Also, the Library will open at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, December 3.

Storytimes. Winter storytime sessions, with activities designed to foster pre-reading skills for newborns to six-year-olds, begin in January. Registration begins Monday, December 6, in the Youth Services Department or at hplibrary.org/kids. Visit hplibrary.org/kids for storytime dates and times.

Film Showing and Discussion, Sunday, November 21, 2:00 p.m. Bob Coscarelli, professor emeritus at College of Lake County, introduces and screens a film starring Robert De Niro, about the friendship between a pitcher and a catcher. A discussion follows. Presented with the Highland Park Senior Center. Sponsored by Synergy HomeCare.

Dave DiNaso's Traveling World of Reptiles, Tuesday, November 23, 10:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m., Grades K-8. Come to the Library for a "hands-on" experience with reptiles and amphibians from around the world. Tickets are required and limited to Highland Park residents or residents of the North Shore School District 112 Service Area. Tickets will be available in the Youth Services Department beginning November 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Volunteer Opportunities. Join the Library behind the scenes. A variety of volunteer opportunities are available. Contact the Business Office Manager at (847) 432-0216 x119.

CULTURAL ARTS

History of Toy Trains IV Dec. 4 - Jan. 30 Call for Times and Fee	Historical Society 326 Central Avenue (847) 432-7090	Holiday Gift Boutique December 5 Noon - 5:00 p.m.; Free	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1888
Holiday Pottery Show & Sale Dec. 4 - Dec. 5 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; Free	Nicholas Prokos Stoneware 1698 First Street (847) 432-5904	Band Concert December 9; 7:00 p.m. Free	HP High School 433 Vine Avenue (224) 765-2160
Christmas Concert December 5 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.; Free	Immaculate Conception 776 Deerfield Road (847) 433-0130	Highland Park Poetry December 10 8:00 p.m.; Free	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 926-1006
Community Open Sing December 5 4:00 p.m.; Free	Lakeside Congregation 1221 County Line Road (847) 432-7950	Mini-Nutcracker Performance December 11 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Free	Irina Makkai School 2126 First Street (847) 433-1449
Highland Park Strings Concert December 5 3:00 p.m.; Free	Elm Place School 2031 Sheridan Road (847) 831-3622	Choral & Orchestra Concert December 14 7:00 p.m.; Free	HP High School 433 Vine Avenue (224) 765-2160

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.
Open on Days off of School for Those
Enrolled in Trips Only

The Firehouse will be closed on Thursday, November 25,
and Friday, November 26.

The Firehouse Youth Center offers trips on weekdays when school is not in session. Advanced registration with payment is required. Please call *The Firehouse* at (847) 433-3090 for further details and to register. For those enrolled in a day off of school activity, *The Firehouse* opens at 9:00 a.m. and closes at 6:00 p.m.

To receive e-mail announcements and updates, please call *The Firehouse* to have your name added to the e-mail distribution list. You may also find *The Firehouse* on Facebook.

RINK SIDE SPORTS

Monday, November 22

Noon - 5:00 p.m., Members: \$50/Non-Members: \$75

Enjoy arcade games, laser tag and ice skating all in one place. Lunch, activities and transportation are included.

FUNWAY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

Tuesday, November 23

Noon - 5:00 p.m., Members: \$50/Non-Members: \$75

Enjoy bowling, roller skating and arcade games at Funway. Lunch, activities and transportation are included.

DAVE & BUSTERS

Wednesday, November 24

Noon - 5:00 p.m., Members: \$50/Non-Members: \$75

Featuring over 200 arcade games. Lunch, activities and transportation are included.

GAMING TOURNAMENT

Highland Park Public Library

Saturday, December 4; Grades 4-5 and Grades 6-8

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Free

Pizza, drinks and dessert provided. Registration is required; please call the Library at (847) 681-7030 beginning November 20.

WINTER BREAK TRIPS & EVENTS

Monday, December 20 - Thursday, December 23

Special trips and activities will be announced in the next issue of the *Highlander* and via e-mail.

SENIOR SERVICES

Serving adults 50 and over
54 Laurel Avenue (847) 432-4110

Visit www.cityhpil.com/cmo/senior_center.html for more information and a complete listing of available programs and classes.

LIVE ON THE LINKS: CLASSIC CONCERTS

PILGRIM CHAMBER PLAYERS

Highland Park Country Club

Friday, November 19, 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Free for Members; Advance Registration Required

The Pilgrim Chamber Players present a musical program that will include Serenade, a Trio for clarinet, violin and piano by Peter Schickele, and a Trio by Menotti for the same instruments. Also featured is a Sonata for clarinet and piano by the Argentinian composer Guastavino and music by Dvorak for piano 4-hands. The concert features Kristin Figard, violin and piano; Elizandro Garcia Montoya, clarinet; and Carol Honigberg, piano. Sponsored by Whitehall of Deerfield Healthcare Center.

HOLIDAY CONCERT & LUNCHEON

Highland Park Country Club

Friday, December 10, Noon - 2:30 p.m.

Members: \$20/Non-Members: \$30

Gather friends and join others for this holiday tradition. The holiday menu includes homemade beef barley soup, a choice of char-broiled pesto crusted London broil or brown sugar glazed salmon, white cheddar au gratin potatoes and mixed vegetables. For dessert, enjoy a delicious holiday surprise. Following lunch, musical entertainment will feature professional actors from the Music Theatre Company of Highland Park. The performance will include holiday classics and musical theater songs. Enjoy a special appearance by Laurel Larks. Sponsored by Freedom Home Care.

WHEN THE GOLDEN YEARS ARE BLUE

Thursday, November 18, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Free For Members; Advance Registration Required

Julie Learner from Family Services of South Lake County discusses seasonal depression. Attendees will have the opportunity to share and listen to others about how they deal with difficult feelings regarding the holidays, and review effective methods and treatments to improve one's overall mood. Information on local resources available for getting help with depression will also be provided. Sponsored by Right at Home.

Save the Date: Monday, January 17, 2011, is the 2nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service

HIGHLANDER

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City of Highland Park

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



Downtown Master Plan Advisory Group Identifies Goals and Objectives for City Council Consideration

Since 2009, the Department of Community Development has worked with residents, business and property owners, and other stakeholders to develop a vision for the future of downtown Highland Park. The planning process came at a critical time for downtown Highland Park, as the City Council anticipated the need for the community to identify the type of place it wants downtown Highland Park to be in the future. The visioning process for downtown involved public input and ongoing contact with interested parties. In spring 2010, the City Council accepted the following vision statement:

Downtown Highland Park will be a vibrant, easily accessible and sustainable place for people to live, work and engage in commerce, cultural arts and entertainment activities. Future planning and development will promote the Downtown pedestrian and historic character, and adapt to ongoing challenges and opportunities.

Following the visioning process, the Roundtable Advisory Group, a citizen advisory committee formed by the City Council to lead the Central District planning process, developed 10 goals for the Central District:

1. Balance the functions in the Downtown by concentrating retail and personal services in the pedestrian core and support the core uses with office, service and residential uses in the broader Downtown;
2. Establish regulations with respect to building height, development intensity and residential density that will maintain pedestrian and historic character, promote variety in architecture and urban design, and foster continued reinvestment in Downtown;
3. Advance economic development in Downtown by increasing commercial (retail and service), convenience, variety and marketing;
4. Energize the Downtown with community facilities and institutions, gathering events and social destinations throughout the day

and year;

5. Increase collaboration among stakeholders to advance the Downtown Vision;
6. Improve the experience and safety for all transit modes in Downtown (especially for pedestrians, bicyclists and the disabled);
7. Balance the supply of off-street public parking with the demand throughout the Downtown;
8. Increase residential use Downtown in the B4 Zoning District;
9. Improve neighborhood linkages to Downtown through wayfinding and other urban design improvements;
10. Promote sustainability in all forms: demographic, economic and environmental.

Presently, objectives are being developed to implement each of the 10 goals. Implementation steps will include developing specific plans for land use and development, traffic and parking, urban design, gateways and wayfinding, and developing and nurturing strategic partnerships for the betterment of local businesses. Over the next several months, the Plan Commission and City Council will consider the objectives and implementation activities and incorporate them into work programs for City Departments and advisory Commissions. For more information about the planning process and to share your opinions, contact Senior Planner Lee Smith at (847) 926-1612/lsmith@cityhphil.com.

Objectives to enhance the Central Business District have been identified that will serve to implement the 10 goal areas identified by the Roundtable Advisory Group. Each goal addresses issues such as land use, design, business development and commerce.





Experience the Holidays in Downtown Highland Park

Holiday Lighting Ceremony

November 20

Port Clinton Square, 600 Central Avenue

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Enjoy live ice carving and kids activities.

4-5 p.m. Visit with Santa, listen to live caroling and watch the lights turn on at dusk!

Live Ice Carving and Kid's Activities

November 27

Hosted by Port Clinton Square, 600 Central Avenue

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy more live ice carving, with free ice portraits and other fun kid's activities.

Hot Roasted Chestnuts

December 4

Hosted by Uncle Dan's Great Outdoor Store, 621 Central Avenue

11 p.m. Discover that 'hometown' holiday experience with your first hot roasted chestnut! Available for free while supplies last.

Holiday Registry Shopping Night

December 9

Various locations

5-8 p.m. Turn your holiday shopping experience into an event! Enjoy convenient late hours and free refreshments at 28 stores. Visit downtownhp.com for participating merchants.

Live Ice Carving and Kid's Activities

December 11

Hosted by Renaissance Place, 1849 Green Bay Road

From 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. enjoy more live ice carving and kid's activities. Take home your own free Crazy Cube while supplies last!



Ongoing Events

Nov. 20-Dec. 24

Holiday Gift Registry

Make this year's gift-giving the easiest ever for friends and loved ones. Register for the gifts you want to receive at participating stores and be entered to win a \$500+ Downtown Highland Park shopping spree! For a list of the 28 registry locations, visit downtownhp.com

Shop Local Rewards

Earn a \$50 Downtown HP Gift Card for \$500 in purchases among five or more Downtown Highland Park stores from Nov. 20-Dec. 24. Must pick up an envelope at the Downtown HP Alliance office at 442 Central (2nd floor) to participate.

For more Downtown Highland Park events and activities visit:

downtownhp.com

