

# THE HIGHLANDER



FEBRUARY 15, 2013

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

## The Art and Science of the City Snow Program

Snow and ice control are performed by the Public Works Department. Timely response and effective execution against variable conditions are essential. The guidance and procedures are formalized in the City's 2012/2013 Snow Operations manual, which can be found at the City's website under Public Works/Street Division page. Online weather information is monitored to determine the impact of storms and the need for salting operations. This pre-storm information forewarns the Department to prepare before the actual storm arrives. Public Safety personnel work closely with the Public Works Department to identify specific salting needs prior to snow plowing operations.

*When are specific streets plowed?* Under normal conditions all streets are plowed at least once within the first six hours of a three-inch snowfall. It is important to note that initial operations are staged simultaneously throughout the City, and that plows may need to make multiple passes along streets to move snow to the curb. Depending on a storm's magnitude, response times will vary. Regardless, snow removal operations will continue until all streets are passable and all parking areas have been cleared.

*Why do plows occasionally fill driveway approaches?* Plows need to make multiple passes to push snow back to the curbs. Plows initially traverse the center of each street so cars can travel in both directions. After this has been accomplished Citywide, the plows return to push the snow back to the curbs so that melting snow can enter the storm sewers and drain away. There are approximately 10,000 residential driveways in Highland Park. Unfortunately, it is not possible for the trucks to plow and not fill in driveway areas.

*How is the application of salt managed?* While the City recognizes that salt has an environmental impact, the initial salting effort concentrates on hills, intersections and inherently hazardous areas. Salt and salt-brine are applied to help break the bond of snow/ice from the street surface which expedites the snow removal and

improves driving conditions.

*How should drivers navigate the road when encountering a snow plow?* These large, heavy trucks are difficult to maneuver in less than optimal driving conditions. Moreover, the sizable plow reduces a driver's visibility. Trucks also generate slush, which obscures visibility. Your best bet: steer clear!

*What assistance can residents provide?* Observe parking restrictions and avoid parking on the street during any significant snowfall until after the road has been cleared. If hiring a contractor to plow your driveway, ensure that your snow is not pushed across the street onto a neighbor's property. Additionally, City ordinance prohibits removing snow or ice from any building, private property, driveway, driveway approach or public sidewalk and depositing it onto public streets. Depositing snow on public streets creates a traffic hazard particularly for streets that have already been plowed.

*What if a snow plow damages my property or mailbox?* Snow plowing is performed under difficult conditions and usually in reduced visibility. Areas adjacent to the street can be damaged without the plow operator even being aware of it. Items in the right-of-way, other than grass, remain the homeowner's responsibility. Lawns damaged by a snow truck will be repaired the following spring by the City. If a mailbox was damaged by a snow plow, please call the City at (847) 432-0807 within 48 hours of damage. The City will place a temporary mailbox and then either repair the damage or reimburse the resident up to \$65 for the purchase and installation of a replacement.

*Who should residents call in an emergency?* The police dispatcher is always available at (847) 432-7730. If storm conditions become extreme, Public Works will activate the Emergency Communications Center at 1150 Half Day Road, which can be reached at (847) 432-0807.

### Water Treatment Plant Upgrades

Constructed in 1929, the City's Water Treatment Plant provides potable water for all water customers in Highland Park, and contractually the City provides water to the municipalities of Deerfield, Lincolnshire and Bannockburn, and to the Glenbrook Sanitary District and Fort Sheridan. The upgrade of the Plant was approved in 2012 and significant improvements are planned through May, 2014. Regular updates regarding the Plant upgrade can be found at [www.cityhpiil.com/WaterPlantUpgrade](http://www.cityhpiil.com/WaterPlantUpgrade).

# 'HIGH' NOTES

## Low Cost Business

### Workshops and Mentoring

After working closely with area business and property owners, the City's Business & Economic Development Commission recognized a need for small business mentoring and counseling. SCORE Chicago will offer their low cost business workshops and free mentoring services to area businesses at the Highland Park Public Library. SCORE is a non-profit association dedicated to entrepreneur education and the formation, growth and success of small business. The following workshops are scheduled:

March 5, 7:00 p.m. An Evening with Robert Pozen, Author of *Extreme Productivity: Boost Your Results, Reduce Your Hours*

April 4, 7:00 p.m. Ten Things Every Entrepreneur Must Know

May 2, 7:00 p.m. Taking Your Business Online

June 6, 7:00 p.m. Social Media Marketing for Small Business

For information on the SCORE mentoring program, contact Larry Lakin, SCORE Chicago, [larry.lakin@comcast.net](mailto:larry.lakin@comcast.net). Also, contact Carolyn Hersch, Economic Development Coordinator, at (847)-926-1027/[chersch@cityhpil.com](mailto:chersch@cityhpil.com).

## City Recognized for Financial Reporting

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada has awarded the City with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment. The CAFR was judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the financial story of the municipality. The City's Finances are managed by Nicole Winikates, Director of Finance. The GFOA award is a credit to Ms. Winikates, the directors and employ-

ees of the City of Highland Park, and the City Council for working diligently to ensure sound financial policies and to ensure that the City's finances are managed in the most fiscally responsible manner. Information about the City's finances can be found on its web site at [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com). Access City Department/Finance/Know Your City's Finances for a wealth of information such as the latest published Comprehensive Annual Financial Report, Fiscal Year 2013 Budget effective January 1, 2013, Moody's Investor Report on the City's Bond Rating and more. For more information, please contact Nicole Winikates at (847) 926-1020 / [nwinikates@cityhpil.com](mailto:nwinikates@cityhpil.com).

## City Thanks Shirley Fitzgerald for 25 Years of Service

On January 4, Shirley Fitzgerald, City Clerk, retired after 25 years of service to the Highland Park community. Hired as a part-time Deputy City Clerk in July 1987, Ms. Fitzgerald quickly became a full-time employee in 1988 and was promoted to City Clerk in 2003. She was recognized by the Mayor and Council on January 14 for her dedicated service. The City thanks Shirley Fitzgerald for her years of contributions and wishes her well in retirement.

## Affordable Housing Available

Would you like to own an affordable home in Highland Park? Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH) wants to help. Please attend one of the following information sessions to find out if you qualify:

February 26, 7:00 p.m.

March 16, 10:00 a.m.

CPAH currently has a 3-bedroom, 2-bathroom town home available in Highland Park for income qualified households. It has a two car attached garage and is blocks from the Metra station. To find out if you qualify for this spacious, light home, or to register for an information session, please contact CPAH at (847) 681-8746 or contact Amy Kaufman at [akaufman@cpahousing.org](mailto:akaufman@cpahousing.org). All information sessions are held at CPAH's office located at 400 Central

Avenue, Suite 111, Highland Park. For pictures of the homes or additional information, please visit [www.cpahousing.org](http://www.cpahousing.org).

## Art is Alive Contest Winners Announced

Winners of the *Art is Alive in Highland Park* juried art competition were recognized on January 11. The competition, sponsored by the Cultural Arts Commission and The Art Center, recognized the following recipients: elementary school, Aiden Landes; middle school, Abby Rubin; high school, Isabella Mordini; adult, Karen Hohman. 90 entries in a range of medium including painting, drawing, photography, and sculpture that were submitted for judging. Finalist and winner artworks are on display in the Highland Park Public Library throughout February. For information, contact Lee Smith, City Planner, at (847) 926-1612/[lsmith@cityhpil.com](mailto:lsmith@cityhpil.com)

## Fix A Leak Week

The average American household wastes more than 10,000 gallons each year from easy-to-fix water leaks, which is why in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the City encourages homeowners to find and fix leaks during the fifth annual Fix a Leak Week, March 18 through 24. Sponsored by EPA's WaterSense program, Fix a Leak Week reminds homeowners of the easy steps they can take to help save water in their community now and for future generations. For more information visit [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com) or contact Water Plant Superintendent Don Jensen at (847) 433-4355 / [djensen@cityhpil.com](mailto:djensen@cityhpil.com).

## Character Counts Awards

Now accepting nominations for the Robert Barnard Character Counts Pillar Award honoring nominees whose beliefs, attitudes and actions consistently exemplify the six pillars of character: trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship. These awards are a collaboration between the City of Highland Park, North Shore School District 112 and Highland Park High School. Nominations must be made no later than Friday, March 1 and may be submitted at [www.cityhpil.com/charactercounts](http://www.cityhpil.com/charactercounts). For more information, contact Don Miner, Manager of Youth & Senior Services, (847) 926-1861/[dminer@cityhpil.com](mailto:dminer@cityhpil.com).

# CITY COUNCIL NEWS

## Letter from the Mayor

As 2013 gets underway, the City is focusing on the critical priorities of municipal government: streets, sidewalks, water mains, bridges, public safety and community development. We are making long overdue investments into our infrastructure and significant changes to our own operations to ensure responsible professional oversight, efficiencies, and high quality service. In late January, the City Council and staff discussed over 85 work goals for 2013, centered on these priorities and reflective of City Council policy, resident feedback and staff recommendations.



Our 2013 budget includes a number of important infrastructure projects that will serve our community for years to come. On February 15, we broke ground on a long-awaited update to our water treatment plant, which was built in 1929. With upgrades to water filtration technology and increased capacity, the renovated plant will provide high quality water and the ability to meet the continued demands of our residents as well as the five communities that have purchased their water from us for over thirty years. Payments from those municipalities will help pay for the water plant renovations and reduce the cost to Highland Park residents.

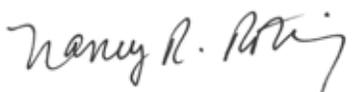
Millions of dollars will also be reinvested in our community as we resurface roads, replace old water mains and improve neighborhood connectivity with the first expansion of our sidewalks in decades. In addition, important renovations to the library are complete, adapting our popular library space to the 21st Century.

Public safety is critical to our city and we are working with our Fire and Police Departments to ensure that our procedures are as effective and efficient as possible. Code enforcement and shared services are two areas receiving close scrutiny in 2013.

Economic development brings jobs, sales tax revenue and a sense of vibrancy to our city. Projects focusing on supporting our businesses and marketing Highland Park to our region promote the efforts of our small businesses in ways which reward their hard work and introduce new visitors to our city.

For 2013 we have budgeted conservatively, targeting financial reserves between 35-40% of the City operating budget and working to preserve our Aaa credit rating. We are keeping a close eye on the State of Illinois's financial problems and their potential impact on local government budgets. Preserving our fiscal stability and protecting our revenues from a State government interested in shifting its own financial burdens to local taxpayers are critical goals in 2013. Additionally, exponentially increasing public safety pension fund obligations mandated by the State, but funded by the City, have the potential to impact the long-term sustainability of our funds. We are dedicated to providing a secure retirement to our first responders, who are not eligible to receive Social Security, but current funding parameters threaten the very security of those retirement funds and will diminish critical operating dollars for the City going forward. As a result, contingencies anticipating the potential impact of State government-driven decisions beyond our control must be part of our budget equation.

The City Council, City staff and I are dedicated to providing high quality municipal services. As we pursue these 85+ work goals on behalf of our City in 2013, we will be seeking efficiencies within and partnering with our sister governments to find synergies and ways in which we can serve you better. We are fortunate to have a top notch professional team running the City and are eager to execute this comprehensive plan through 2013 and into the future. To see the complete plan, go to the City's website [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com). As always, I look forward to hearing from you with any questions or suggestions about how we can do better at City Hall.

Sincerely, 

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## City Receives Aaa Rating from Moody's Investor Services

Moody's Investors Service issued a Aaa rating on the City of Highland Park's planned refunding issue for December 10, 2012, and affirmed this rating on all outstanding debt. Rating Agencies issue credit ratings for an issuer, such as a local government or corporation, to assist investors in selecting secure investments for their portfolios. Credit ratings represent the future forecast of an organization's financial stability and similar to that of a personal credit score, also determines the rate or cost at which an organization may borrow funds.

The City of Highland Park's Aaa credit rating represents the highest credit rating that can be earned by an organization. This rating is a result of sound financial management, conservative decision making and strategic planning on the part of the Mayor, City Council and City leadership. The City has earned a Aaa rating

over time by maintaining a stable revenue base and a strong reserve of funds to assist in times of economic downturn or unexpected, catastrophic events. The City's reserves have assisted management in controlling costs to residents and businesses in Highland Park and avoid sharp spikes in fees or property taxes.

The City of Highland Park's Aaa credit rating allows for borrowing funds at a lower rate, which reduces the cost of capital projects and enables the City to spend resources on additional capital projects or enhancements in services. The savings offered by a high credit rating are significant; it is estimated that the City may be able to save as much as \$500,000 in interest costs on its upcoming Water Treatment Plant project due to its stellar credit rating. For more information, please contact Finance Director Nikki Winikates at (847) 926-1020/[nwinikates@cityhpil.com](mailto:nwinikates@cityhpil.com).

## City's Stormwater Management Fee Explained

On May 1, 2006, the City implemented a stormwater management fee to offset the operation and maintenance costs of the stormwater sewer systems in the City. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) requires that the City regulate stormwater runoff. To comply, the City maintains a stormwater utility system for the purpose of collecting and treating stormwater runoff and the prevention of erosion. The EPA provides no funds to the City to meet these regulations. The City's stormwater infrastructure includes 165 miles of storm sewers and 10,453 inlets/manholes. Approximately 90,000 feet of these storm sewer pipes are cleaned and inspected annually. The City Council established a financial goal for the City to minimize its reliance on property tax revenues and to rely more heavily, wherever possible, on user-based fees. To achieve this goal, reductions were made in the property tax levied to support operations of the Street and Bridge Fund, which accounts for the operation and maintenance of the City's streets, sanitary sewers, storm sewers, bridges, sidewalks, ravines and trees. It was determined that the storm sewer division would be made 100% fee supported with the enactment of this fee. The storm water management fee is included on water and sewer bills as a separate line item. The fee is based on the impervious surface area of a given parcel to ensure that users pay a fee proportional to the impact their property has on the stormwater systems. Impervious surfaces are those that do not allow for the absorption of stormwater. Currently, the City's database includes measurements for structures, driveways, parking lots, tennis courts, swimming pools and other impervious surfaces.

The City currently assesses a fee for sanitary sewer systems based on water consumption. The City must maintain separate storm and sanitary systems, and the costs associated with maintaining each system is tracked separately. The storm water fee generates revenue to support the storm sewer division budget, previously supported by property tax revenue. The Ordinance establishing the stormwater management fee sets out the basis on which the fee is charged. One impervious area unit (IAU) is defined to be 2,765 square feet of impervious surface area on a given parcel. The base fee is assessed at \$5.00 per month for properties with up to one IAU. Properties that have greater than 1.00 IAU are charged \$5.00 per month multiplied by the number of IAUs calculated on the parcel. The City utilizes building permit records to regularly update the impervious surface fee calculations in the billing system. If the impervious surface area is increased on a property with construction of an extension on the house, the stormwater management fee will be revised.

The stormwater management fee is assessed on all parcels of property in the City. Both condominiums and apartments represent impervious surfaces subject to the fee. In most cases, the base fee of \$5.00 per month will apply. For rental properties, each tenant will need to discuss this with their respective landlord. The City's Ordinance does not designate responsibility for payment of the fee in the case of rental properties. The party responsible for payment of the water bill will be assessed the fee.

Any property owner whose property does not impact on the City stormwater utility system to the extent of the fee charged to that property may apply for a credit. Applications must be made in writing to the City Engineer and include sufficient documentation to assess the application's merit. Please contact the City's Engineering Division at (847) 432-0809 regarding the process to apply for a credit. Appeals of the classification, calculation or application of the stormwater fee may be addressed in writing to the City's Director of Public Works. Appeals must state clearly the reason and basis for the appeal, and appellants are urged to include any relevant documentation in support of their appeal. For more information, contact City Engineer John Welch, (847) 432-0809/[jwelch@cityhpil.org](mailto:jwelch@cityhpil.org).

# COMMUNITY NEWS

## February Business Report

The following businesses have opened recently in Highland Park.

### Blue Cat Café

600 Central Avenue  
(847) 926-7142  
Coffee shop with Food & Soft Alcohol

### Fund Dynamics

1811 St. Johns Avenue #202  
(312) 768-4860  
Account Management

### Royce

1850 Second Street  
(847) 433-8600  
American Restaurant

### Jeff Cohen Creative

485 Roger Williams  
(847) 347-2509  
Portrait Photography

### Nina Weiss / Art Endeavors

3150 Skokie Highway #12  
(847) 840-0527  
Fine Art Studio, Teaching & Creative Meeting Space

## Business Recognition Awards

Mayor Rotering, the City Council, and the Business & Economic Development Commission recognize the following businesses that have been in the community for over 25 years:

### Ross Cosmetics & Boutique

45 years  
625 Central Avenue  
(847) 433-4340

### Bethany Early Childhood Learning Center - 44 years

1696 McGovern Street  
(847) 432-2269

### Mesirow Financial

43 years  
610 Central Avenue, Suite 200  
(847) 681-2300

Interested in business news and information? Sign up to receive the bi-weekly newsletter at [www.cityhpil.com](http://www.cityhpil.com).

## 2013 Business Recognition Awards

On January 28, the City Council presented the 2013 Business Recognition Award to businesses that have been in our community for over 50 years. This Award recognizes excellence and innovation in business operations, and a commitment to the Highland Park community. These businesses serve as an example to all of how hard work and dedication to providing quality service can lead to decades of success. Pictured: Front Row (left to right); George Anton of Anton's Fruit Ranch, Mary Turcuato of Old Elm Club, Dwight Ekenberg of Exmoor Country Club, Joe Scopelliti of Guy Scopelliti Original Landscaping, Gabrielle Rousso of the Art Center of Highland Park, Herb Loeb of Warren Sand Company, Dr. Andrew Altman of Altman Dental Care, Dr. Mark Lowenthal of Associated Allergists & Asthma Specialists, Jean Wallace-Baker of the Highland Park Community Nursery School and Day Care Center, Marsha Grayson of Birchwood Country Club, and Chair Alyssa Knobel of the Business and Economic Development Commission. Back Row (left to right); Councilman Higginson, Councilman Blumberg, Councilman Frank, Mayor Rotering, Councilman Kirsch, Councilman Naftzger and Councilman Kaufman. Not pictured; Highland Park Pools and Supplies and the Music Institute of Chicago.



## Rules of the Road

While State and City entities are responsible for providing and maintaining related traffic and pedestrian safety infrastructure on City roadways, vehicle drivers are responsible for their own driving behavior. A few basic "Rules of the Road" from the Illinois Vehicle Code are provided below to remind drivers of their legal responsibilities.

- **Stop Signs** - All drivers and bicyclists must make a complete stop at the stop line at all posted stop signs. If a stop line is not present on the pavement, stop completely at the stop sign before entering the intersection
- **Traffic Control Devices** - All drivers and bicyclists are required to obey traffic control devices. This includes traffic signals, traffic control signs restricting traffic, turns, U-turns and access
- **Speed Limit** - Drivers are required to obey the posted speed limit. In Highland Park, the citywide speed limit is 25mph unless posted otherwise. Fines and penalties are enhanced for excessive speeds and for violations in school speed and construction zones
- **Signaling Turns** - All drivers and Bicyclists are required to signal all of their turns and lane changes. This communicates driver or bicyclist intention to others and reduces the risk of a crash and related injuries
- **Pedestrian Right-of-Way** - All drivers and bicyclists are required to come to a complete stop and yield the right-of-way to pedestrians in a marked crosswalk. A driver or bicyclist must yield to a pedestrian when the pedestrian is in an unmarked crosswalk on the driver's side of the roadway and when there are not any traffic control signals
- **Hand-Held Cell Phone Use Restrictions** - Hand-held cell phone use in school or construction speed zones is restricted statewide. Violations are considered a moving violation and carry enhanced fines and penalties. In addition, Highland Park, Deerfield, Lake Forest, Winnetka, Evanston, North Chicago and Waukegan also have local hand-held cell phone use while driving restrictions. Drivers can be stopped and cited for this primary offense.

The Illinois Rules of the Road are available online at <http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/publications/motorist/rorts.html>. For more information, please contact Sergeant Chris O'Neill at (847) 432-7730/[coneill@cityhpil.com](mailto:coneill@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., Feb. 18	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 18	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Thurs., Feb. 21	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 25	Sister Cities Foundation	7:00 p.m.
	Committee of the Whole	4:30 p.m.
	City Council Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 26	Business & Econ. Development	6:00 p.m.
Mon., Mar. 4	Design Review Commission	7:00 p.m.
Tues., Mar. 5	Plan Commission	7:30 p.m.
Wed., Mar. 6	Transportation Commission	6:30 p.m.
	Housing Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Mar. 7	Human Relations Commission	7:30 p.m.
	Zoning Board of Appeals	7:30 p.m.
Tues., Mar. 12	Ravinia Festival Relations	6:30 p.m.
	Library Board of Trustees	7:30 p.m.
	(494 Laurel Avenue)	
Wed., Mar. 13	Natural Resources Commission	6:30 p.m.
Thurs., Mar. 14	Historic Preservation	7:30 p.m.

## LIBRARY PROGRAMS

The Highland Park Public Library presents a variety of free literary and cultural programs. Registration for certain programs may be required as noted. The Highland Park Public Library is located at 494 Laurel Avenue. The Library will open at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, March 6.

### Open House, Sunday, February 17, 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

The remodeling is finished – stop by and see what's new! See the digital media room, conference rooms, watch demonstrations of new technology and enjoy refreshments. 1:30 p.m. – Ribbon cutting with Mayor Rotering.

### Get Tech Savvy, Saturday, March 2, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Need help with your electronic devices? Bring your cell phones, ereaders, digital cameras, laptops, and your questions to the library. Drop by and meet with a member of the Library's teen tech-savvy team from Highland Park High School's computer club for one-on-one guidance.

### Civil War Diarist Mary Chestnut, Wednesday, February 27, 10:30 a.m.

Actor and historian Leslie Goddard portrays Mary Chestnut who witnessed crucial events during the Civil War. Her journal has been called "the most famous war diary of a Southern woman." Presented with the Highland Park Senior Center. Sponsored by Highland Park Nursing and Rehab.

### Meet The Author, Robert Pozen: Extreme Productivity: Boost Your Results, Reduce Your Hours, Tuesday, March 5, 7:00 p.m.

Pozen, a senior lecturer at Harvard Business School, will reveal his secrets to workplace productivity and high performance including how to set priorities, organize your day, and read and write effectively. Books will be for sale and the event will conclude with a book signing. Presented with SCORE.

### Wheel of Wisdom Game Show, Saturday, March 16, 2:00 -3:00 p.m. Kindergarten-8th grade.

Kids, test your knowledge of books, movies, and the history of the library, and win prizes. Registration required and limited to residents of Highland Park or residents of the North Shore School District 112 Service Area. Register at [www.kidsevents.org](http://www.kidsevents.org).

## CULTURAL ARTS EVENTS

<b>Highland Park Strings</b> February 17 3:00 p.m.	Bennett-Gordon Hall 418 Sheridan Road (847) 831-3622	<b>Christine Mild in Concert</b> March 1 \$15; 8:00 p.m.	The Music Theatre Co. 1850 Green Bay Road (847) 579-4900
<b>Jess Goodwin &amp; Janet Kroll</b> February 23 \$20; 8:00 p.m.	The Music Theatre Co. 1850 Green Bay Road (847) 579-4900	<b>Cupcakes &amp; Paint</b> March 8 \$18-\$23; 7pm-8:30pm	West Ridge Center 636 Ridge Road (847) 831-3810
<b>Beauty Imperfect</b> March 1 - April 1 Free; Call for Information	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1888	<b>Poetry Open-Mic</b> March 8 8:00 p.m.; Free	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 681-8595
<b>Moments - Photography</b> March 1 - April 1 Free; Call for Information	The Art Center 1957 Sheridan Road (847) 432-1888	<b>String Fantasy</b> March 17 \$8-\$20; 3:00 p.m.	Pilgrim Chamber Players 1991 Sheridan Road (847) 433-0972

# YOUTH & SENIOR SERVICES

## Youth Services

Serving youth in grades 5-8  
1830 Green Bay Road (847) 433-3090

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

The Firehouse Youth Center is now open on days of school early dismissals. Those registered for transportation the day of early dismissal will be picked up at 12:30 p.m. If your child is registered for another day and you would like transportation, please call to check on space availability. All middle school students are invited to drop in on these days and spend the afternoon socializing, participating in activities, and playing games until 6:00 p.m.

The Firehouse is also now open on selected days off school and for the first time, students in 5th grade! On these days, parents of students in grades 5 - 8 may register their child for the Firehouse program. The Firehouse will be open Presidents Day, Monday, February 18 but advance registration is required. The Firehouse will open at 9:00 a.m. and students must be picked up by 6:00 p.m. Participants will engage in activities all day; and will receive two snacks and lunch. Please call the Firehouse (847) 433-3090 for more information and to register.

The City of Highland Park is currently assessing the needs of families with children in grades 5-8 over spring break, March 25 - 29. The Highland Park City Council has approved reinstating programs on days off school if demand is great enough. A minimum of ten participants has been determined, with a decision to be made on March 15. If you are interested in enrolling your child at the Firehouse for one or all of the days of spring break, please call Don Miner at 847-926-1861. The fee is \$50 per day, which includes lunch and two snacks.



## Senior Services

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

### Mix and Mingles Dine Around the World

Sponsored by BrightStar Care

This series takes you on a culinary trip around the world. Meet new people, and explore the North Shore's great ethnic restaurants. Please register a minimum of one week in advance; (847) 432-4110.

### Ireland: The Ides of March Brunch & Irish Sing Along

Bridie McKenna's - 254 Green Bay Road - Highwood  
Friday, March 15 from 10 - 11:30 a.m.

Fee: \$20 / NM: \$30

Bridie's exterior is in the style of an Irish village street with Post Office, Tobacconist and General Store. Inside you'll enjoy the Victorian Bar, Library, or the Country Bar. Savor the unique taste of Ireland with their delicious brunch featuring prime rib with Yorkshire pudding, roasted salmon, Irish eggs Benedict, pancakes, bacon, sausage, scrambled eggs, grilled asparagus, roasted baby carrots, roasted new potatoes, mashed potatoes, sautéed green beans, fruit salad, Caesar salad, and assorted pastries. Following lunch, enjoy an authentic Irish sing-along.

### Israel: Israeli Independence Day

Mizrahi Grill - 215 Skokie Valley Road  
Thursday, April 11 from 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Fee: \$15 / NM: \$23

Mizrahi Grill uses only farm raised, hormone-free meat that has passed thorough inspections to be deemed kosher. All their dishes feature fresh ingredients and spices used by past generations. At Mizrahi Grill not only do you enjoy food that tastes good but also is good for you! Dinner boasts a delicious sampling of Israeli cuisine including an appetizer plate featuring hummus, baba ganoush, and falafel. The main dish features Israeli salad, rice, Mom's kabob and schwarma. Baklava and a soda of your choice are also included.

### America's Top Male Comedian: Bob Hope

Sponsored by Gentle Home Services

The Highland Park Senior Center welcomes back award-winning public speaker and historian Barry Bradford! Join Barry for a fun, fast, and fascinating series. Using numerous video clips, little-known anecdotes, and intriguing insights, Barry Bradford's multimedia presentations will captivate and entertain you.

Highland Park Public Library

Friday, February 22

1 - 2:30 p.m.

Free for members / NM: \$10

Bob Hope is one of the most beloved entertainers in American history. But his private life could not have been more different from his public persona! Barry Bradford will explore both sides of the amazing Bob Hope.

# HIGHLANDER

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THE CITY OF HIGHLAND PARK

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**For more information about City services, please contact the following departments directly:**

City Manager's Office:	(847) 926-1000	Finance Department:	(847) 432-0800
Community Development:		Fire Department:	(847) 433-3110
Building Division	(847) 432-0808	Police Department:	(847) 432-7730
Planning Division	(847) 432-0867	Public Works Department:	(847) 432-0807

## Green Community News

### Recycling Extravaganza a Success

On January 5, 2013 the City of Highland Park, in partnership with the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) and the Dart Container Corporation, held the annual Recycling Extravaganza which drew over 450 participants bringing their old electronics, burnt out CFL light bulbs, worn out batteries, and Styrofoam (#6) to the Public Works Yard/Firearms Training Center at 1180 Half Day Road. The electronics drop off program is available every Tuesday and Friday between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. so you can still drop off items. For a list recyclable items with this program, please visit <http://www.cityhpil.com> or call the City's Sustainability Director Bryan Tillman at (847) 926-1866.

### Construction Debris Recycling Increased

Contractors working in Highland Park recycled more than 8,000 tons of construction debris last year with the beginning of Highland Park's Construction Debris Recycling Ordinance, an outgrowth of the Sustainable Community Strategic Plan and part of an effort to reduce waste hauled to landfills. Contractors are now required to document the amount of debris they recycle for the following projects: construction of a new house or new commercial building, demolition of a principal structure, and construction of an addition and/or remodeling project larger than 2,500 square feet. In 2012, contractors were required to verify that at least 50% of the construction debris was recycled. In 2013, the amount of recycled debris increases to 75%. More information can be found on the Building Division page of the City's website, or contact Mike Croak, Plan Examiner/Inspector at (847) 926-1169 / [mcroak@cityhpil.com](mailto:mcroak@cityhpil.com).

### Composting Program Expands

Curbside food scrap collection and composting was made available to all City residents on January 1, 2013. Pickup is every other Wednesday including February 20, March 6, March 20 and April 3. Highland Park is one of the first communities to offer a composting program and residents are encouraged to participate. For more information on the composting program or to register for curbside collection, please contact Advanced Disposal Services at (847) 272-4145.

### Get Rebates for Energy Efficiency Improvements!

The Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) and its partners created Energy Impact Illinois utilizing grant funding from the U.S. Department of Energy. Energy Impact Illinois helps homeowners retrofit their homes with energy efficient upgrades save, while simultaneously creating jobs, helping the environment, and increasing our country's energy independence. To determine your home's needs, the program is offering free or low-cost home energy assessments, an instant 70% rebate (up to \$1750) on insulating and air sealing improvements. To sign up or for more information, call 1-855-9-IMPACT or visit <http://www.energy-impactillinois.org>

### Electric Vehicle Incentives

Are you in the market for a new car? Did you know that there are a number of incentives for plug-in electric vehicles (including many plug-in hybrid vehicles) to create jobs, reduce pollution, and promote energy independence? For information on these incentives and fuel savings go to [www.cityhpil.com/sustainability](http://www.cityhpil.com/sustainability) or call the City's Sustainability Director Bryan Tillman at (847) 926-1866.