



The Highlander

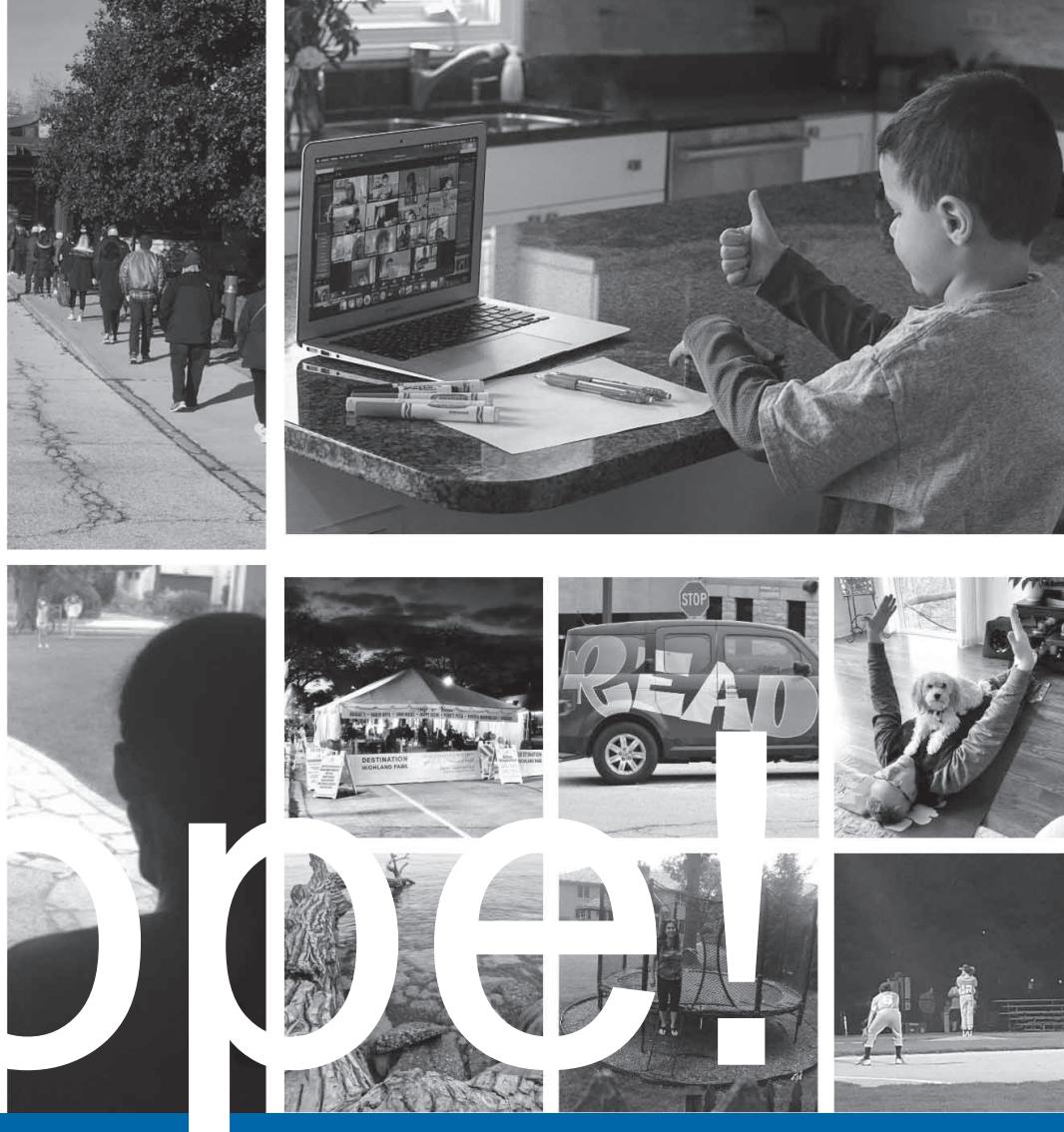
Published
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by the City of
Highland Park

December 2020
& January 2021

Published
December 15, 2020

2020 has been a year like no other. This collage is composed of images from resident submissions to our Capture the Heart of Highland Park photography contest in the category "Persevering in a Pandemic."

We look forward with hope and optimism to a bright new year with COVID-19 vaccines and seeing our region advance to Phase V of the Restore Illinois Plan.



December & January Holiday Closures

COVID-19 Holiday Guidance

Christmas & New Year are Fridays, Dec. 25 & Jan. 1st. Refuse and recycling picked up on Saturday. MLK Day of Service is January 18 - no change to refuse or recycling schedule.

Understand CDC guidelines for enjoying a healthy holiday season and reduce the surge: stay home as much as possible, avoid gatherings with individuals from other households, and follow the 3Ws.

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Snow & Ice Control Plan

Be prepared for snow and ice storms this winter by understanding the City's snow operations and guidelines for proper snow removal.

Community Solar Savings

Learn more about how residents can support solar development in Illinois while saving money on electric utility bills.

Highland Park at a Glance



December & January Holiday Reminders

The Mayor, City Council, and staff wish all Highland Park residents and businesses a very happy and safe holiday season. City offices will be closed on Friday, December 25, Friday, January 1 and Monday, January 18, in observance of Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, respectively. Call the Public Safety Switchboard at **847.432.7730** for assistance.

Refuse and recycling will not be collected on Fridays, December 25 and January 1. Customers with Friday collection will be serviced on Saturday, one day after their regular collection day. Please contact Lakeshore Recycling Systems with any questions at **773.685.8811** or visit LRSrecycles.com. *Please note that there is no change to the refuse and recycling schedule the week of January 18.*

Holiday Tree Disposal/Recycling

Lakeshore Recycling Systems (LRS) will collect, transport, and dispose of holiday trees left curbside and free of decorations by all customers on their primary collection day, January 2 through January 22. A sticker is not required. Contact LRS at **773. 685.8811** with questions.

Residents may also drop-off trees free of decorations, wires or any other materials for recycling by the Park District through January 24. Drop-off locations are in posted areas of parking lots at Larry Fink Park, 1377 Deer Creek Parkway, and Danny Cunniff Park, 2700 Trailway. Park District crews chip the trees for use as mulch. Residents are welcome to use the mulch for their own gardens and landscapes. Contact Dan Voss, Director of Parks, at **847.579.3130** or dvoss@pdhp.org with questions.

Volunteer Snow Shoveling for Low-Income Elderly & Disabled

The City offers a volunteer snow shoveling program to serve low-income elderly and disabled residents. Income-qualified individuals requesting assistance from the Volunteer Snow Shoveling Program may register in advance by calling Jennifer Aiello at **847.432.4110**. After a snowfall of 2 inches or more, registered individuals may request assistance with shoveling the home's driveway and walkway; every effort will be made to secure and dispatch a volunteer team to assist within 48 hours. The homeowner is responsible for providing shovels, ice-melting materials, etc. Volunteers and recipients will be required to complete City liability waivers. Contact Jennifer Aiello, Social Services Coordinator at **847.432.4110** or jaiello@cityhpil.com.



Warming Centers

Warming centers operate on an ad hoc basis to assist residents during emergencies such as power outages. Face coverings are required for all over the age of two, and individuals should follow all other COVID-19 regulations. Please do not visit a warming center if you have COVID-19 symptoms, have tested positive for COVID-19 even if asymptomatic, or have been exposed to a confirmed case. Visit cityhpil.com/warmingcenters.

City Hall, 1707 St. Johns Ave., 8AM - 5PM Mon. - Fri. Call **847.926.1000**.

Highland Park Public Library, 494 Laurel Ave., 11AM – 7PM Mon. - Thurs.; 11AM – 5PM Fri. – Sun. Call **847.432.0216**.

Makom Solel Lakeside, 1301 Clavey Road. Evening hours available. Call **847.433.3555**.

Trinity Grace Church, 1506 Half-Day Road. Evening hours available. Call Public Safety Switchboard at **847.432.7730** for contacting Trinity Grace Church after hours.

The Police Department is not a warming center due to COVID-19.



COVID-19 Holiday Guidance & Vaccine Distribution

Safe Holiday Celebrations Public health officials recommend that holiday gatherings be limited to your immediate household only. Please celebrate virtually as the CDC has determined that in-person gatherings contribute to the exponential rise in COVID-19 cases. However, the CDC and IDPH have issued guidelines for those who do choose to host in-person holiday events, including:

- All gatherings are limited to 10 or fewer guests. Face coverings should be worn at all times, except when eating or drinking.
- Outdoor activities are preferable. If indoors, open windows to allow fresh air to circulate.
- Do not travel if you are sick with fever, cough, or other symptoms of COVID-19. Do not travel if you have recently tested positive for COVID-19, are waiting for the results of a test, or have had close contact in the past 14 days with a person who has tested positive.

Visit cityhpil.com/holidays to learn more.

COVID-19 Vaccine Information The Lake County Health Department will coordinate with IDPH on vaccine distribution in our area. The City will work closely with LCHD and will communicate information at cityhpil.com/covid-19 and via eNews.



Hope for a Bright New Year!

When the pandemic hit in spring 2020, we hoped it would be over by the time the tulips pushed through the earth. Then the Fourth of July. Then Labor Day. Now we are facing a winter holiday season with escalating COVID-19 rates locally and throughout the country. The reality is that the pandemic will be with us for a while — even with vaccines and improved medical treatments on the horizon. But the outlook for 2021 is promising!

The economic uncertainty during the pandemic has been challenging for our small-business owners. Many in our community and beyond are facing major impacts to their own budgets and have

scaled back spending. Others have turned to different shopping habits to help keep themselves and their families safe.

Whether you plan to spend a lot or a little, it makes a difference to our local shops and restaurants. If you are financially able to do so, please consider a community approach to holiday and daily shopping. This pandemic will end. The decisions we each make right now will play a large part in the future of our local economy and the vibrancy of our town. Our restaurants and shops want to hear from you. If you cannot dine at your favorite restaurant, most will happily accommodate an order over the phone

for curbside pick-up or delivery. If you cannot shop locally in person, do it online or order over the phone for curbside pick-up or delivery. Visit cityhpil.com/curbside to get started.

As the most unprecedeted year of our lives comes to a close, let's work through it together. Throughout this holiday season, and as we move into a new (and hopefully) better year, I wish you peace amid the difficulties, healing for whatever aches, and hope for a better tomorrow.

— Mayor Nancy R. Rotering

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Updates



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@CityHPIL

Winter Walking And Cycling - Wear Reflective Gear And Be Safe!

Dark nights and snowy conditions don't deter pet owners or avid joggers, walkers, and bicyclists from enjoying outdoor activities in winter! However, low moonlight, overcast skies, and inclement weather significantly decrease motorists' visibility.

It is everyone's responsibility to take safety precautions when sharing the road. Pedestrians and bikers should follow these safety tips:

- Always wear reflective and light-colored clothing.
- Wear LED arm-bands, flashlights, and reflective material to increase visibility. Lots of reflective material is best!
- Don't assume drivers can see you.
- Pets should have a leash or harness with reflective material or LEDs, especially for walking at night.
- Use sidewalks where available; avoid walking or jogging in the street. If no sidewalk is available, walk or jog against the flow of traffic so you can see vehicles coming towards you.
- Avoid wearing headphones and be attentive.

Drivers should avoid unnecessary travel during snowstorms and severe weather where possible. During snowy conditions, drive slowly with headlights on, but avoid using bright lights, which can increase glare and reflection from falling snow.

For additional information or to report a complaint, please contact Sergeant Anton Galati at the Police Department at **847.432.7730**.



facebook.com/HighlandParkIL



youtube.com/user/CityHPIL

Martin Luther King Day of Service: Mon. January 18, 2021

Join together with the community virtually on Monday, January 18, beginning at 10 AM for the 12th Annual Martin Luther King Day of Service. The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. federal holiday is a perfect opportunity for Americans to honor Dr. King's legacy through service. The MLK Day of Service moves us closer to Dr. King's vision of a beloved community.

Hosted by the City of Highland Park's Human Relations Advisory Group and the Park District of Highland Park, this year's virtual event will feature an inspirational keynote speaker followed by a variety of break-out sessions, all of which will carry on the vision and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Additionally, there will be an essay contest, donation drop-off points throughout Highland Park to secure specific items needed for local charities, a listing of make-at-home service projects, a listing of family and adult volunteer opportunities, and an online MLK trivia quiz.

For up-to-date details and to register to attend the live Zoom event, please visit www.cityhpil.com/MLK.

For additional information, please contact Laura Frey at lfrey@cityhpil.com.

Our Community



2020-2021 Snow & Ice Control Plan

Public Works proactively monitors weather reports and works closely with Public Safety officers to ensure efficiency. Timely response and effective execution against variable weather conditions are essential.

When are specific streets plowed? Under normal conditions, all streets are plowed at least once within the first six hours of a three-inch or less snowfall. Initial snow removal operations are staged simultaneously throughout the City and multiple plowing passes along streets are required to move snow to the curb. Response times can vary depending on the magnitude, duration, and timing of the storm. Snow removal operations will continue until all public streets are passable and all parking areas have been cleared.

Why do plows fill driveway approaches? Plows must make multiple passes to push snow back to the curbs. Plows initially traverse the center of each street so that cars can travel in both directions, then return to push the snow back to the curbs. This allows melting snow to enter the storm sewers or other drainage systems. The City has approximately 10,000 residential driveways and unfortunately, it is not possible for plow trucks to turn the snow blade away at each driveway.

How is salt application managed? Initial salting efforts concentrate on hills, intersections and inherently hazardous areas. Salt and salt-brine help break the bond of snow and ice from the street surface while minimizing the use of salt, expediting snow removal and improving driving conditions.

How should drivers navigate the road when encountering a snow plow? The large, heavy snow plow trucks are difficult to maneuver, especially in less than optimal driving conditions when snowy conditions reduce visibility. Plow trucks

also generate slush which can further obscure visibility, so it is important to always stay clear of snow removal equipment.

What assistance can residents provide? Observe street parking restrictions and avoid parking on the street until after the road has been cleared after a significant snowfall event. City ordinance prohibits parking on City streets and public parking lots between 2 AM and 6 AM from Dec. 1 - Mar. 31.

If a contractor plows your driveway, ensure the snow is not pushed onto a neighbor's property. The City prohibits removing snow or ice from any building, private property, driveway, driveway approach or public sidewalk and depositing it onto public streets where it can create a traffic hazard for motorists, especially on streets that have already been plowed.

What if a snow plow damages my property or mailbox? Snow plowing is performed under challenging weather and traffic conditions and areas adjacent to a street can occasionally be inadvertently damaged. Hardscape or streetscape items within the right-of-way are the homeowner's responsibility. Lawns damaged inadvertently by a City plow truck within the City right of way will be repaired the following spring, upon notification from the homeowner. Report a mailbox damaged by a City plow or equipment to Public Works at **847.432.0807** within 48 hours. 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.

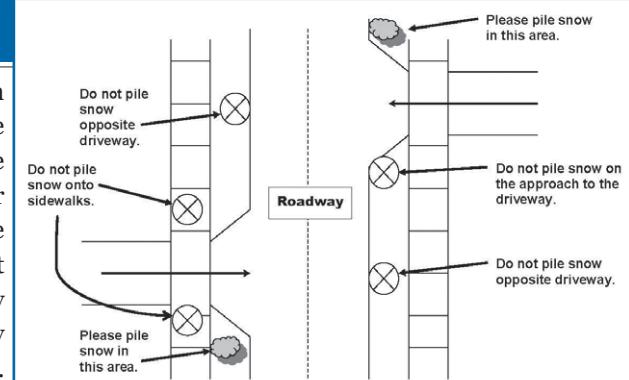
Who should residents call? In an emergency, dial **911**. During regular working hours, contact the Public Works Department at **847.432.0807**. During off-hours, please call the Police non-emergency hotline at **847.432.7730**.



Snow Removal Guidelines

It is a violation to remove snow from one parcel of property and deposit it onto another parcel (including the adjacent public parkway) without consent of the property owner. The code does provide an exemption to allow plow operators to deposit snow on the City parkway located immediately adjacent to and on the same side of the street as the property from which the snow is being removed. Property owners should inform their private snow removal companies of the Snow Removal Ordinance provisions. Snow plow operators observed improperly

depositing snow in violation of the ordinance will be cited; however, residents are ultimately responsible for compliance and may also be cited. A violation may subject the snow removal company and/or originating property owner to a fine of up to \$200. It is the responsibility of the abutting property or business owners to clean the public sidewalks for snow events with less than 4" of snow. Public sidewalk routes will be plowed after accumulation of 4 inches. This process of



clearing residential sidewalks can take up to 72 hours as streets and high pedestrian foot traffic areas take priority. For more information, please contact Police Sgt. Galati at **847.432.7730** or agalati@cityhpil.com.

Community Calendar

Health & Safety Reminders

Observe all COVID-19 Protocols

- Face coverings required for all over age 2
- Wash hands frequently
- Maintain a 6' distance from any others outside your household
- Stay home if you are feeling ill
- Stay home (1) if you have been exposed to or are experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19; (2) if you are awaiting a test or test results for COVID-19; or (3) if you are under any quarantine due to local travel guidance.

Visit www.cityhpil.com/covid-19

The Art Center of Highland Park Of Time and Place

Now through January 2, 2021

TheArtCenterHP.org

1957 Sheridan Road / 847.432.1888

Galleries Open Monday - Friday, 10AM - 4PM and Saturday, 12PM - 4PM

These are dynamic times and The Art Center Highland Park Galleries' new exhibit is titled, Of Time & Place. This kind of fluidity is a result of COVID-19, which has distorted our perspectives and shaken our foundation. This exhibit explores how the pandemic has changed our perspectives of how we pass time, where we quarantine, and with whom we create bubbles of contact. Included works were selected by guest juror, Victoria Marchio, a Highland Park resident and award-winning photographer. This exhibit may also be experienced online: <https://theartcenterhp.org/of-time-place-virtual-gallery>.

Project 2020: Together

Experience this collaboration with the Museum of Childhood Ireland in The Art Center's Cortesi Gallery.

Virtual Events

Affordable Housing Info

Tuesday, January 12, 6PM

Tuesday, February 9, 6PM

Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH)

847.263.7478 ext. 10

CPAHousing.org

All staff are available by phone and email. Classes and info sessions are held via Zoom while CPAH's offices closed. Register at cpahousing.org/class-registration or call the number above. Meetings will be offered by Zoom as needed. Registration is required to provide Zoom information.

Highland Park Historical Society

The Loop: The "L" Tracks That Shaped and Saved Chicago

Wednesday, January 27, 7PM

The Highland Park Historical Society hosts Patrick T. Reardon who unfolds the fascinating story about how Chicago's elevated Loop was built, gave its name to the downtown, helped unify the city, saved the local economy, and was itself saved from destruction in the 1970s.

All Highland Park Historical Society events are virtual. Register in advance via email to archives@highlandParkHistory.org to receive the program's Zoom link.

**Face coverings show care
and respect for others
and are required when 6'
distance is not possible.**

Creative Opportunities

Now Accepting Submissions

Highland Park Poetry's 2021 Poetry Challenge

Deadline is January 29, 2021

www.highlandparkpoetry.org

Highland Park Poetry invites poets and wordsmiths of all ages to write a response to one of the following prompts: **Fruits and Vegetables** (the United Nations has declared 2021 the year of Fruits & Vegetables; ok to concentrate on one); **Common Threads**; and the **Sweetelle** (an invented poetic form by Allison Joseph). Visit the website to download the submission guidelines and entry form. If you have questions, send an email to jennifer@highlandparkpoetry.org.

Now Accepting Submissions

East on Central

Deadline is March 1, 2021

www.eastoncentral.org

East on Central: a journal of literature and art is now accepting submissions for its 20th edition. Deadline for submissions is March 1, 2021. Find guidelines and submission forms at www.easton-central.org. The video of the fabulous East on Central virtual publication party is available online at www.easton-central.org. Included are a viewing of all artwork, selected art discussions and readings of poetry and prose from the 19th edition of the journal. A special treat is a virtual painting display! Be sure to order your copy of the new *East on Central* at www.eastoncentral.org.



Online Payments Temporarily Suspended From December 24 at 2PM through January 4 at 8 AM

Please be advised that the City's online payment system will be temporarily disabled starting December 24 at 2 PM through January 4 at 8 AM, as part of the City's implementation of new computer software.

During this time, all City online payments, including payments for water bills, licenses, permits, citations, and any invoices from all City departments, will be unavailable. Payments are not accepted over the phone.

Payments can still be made by mail or drop box, located in the parking lot adjacent to City Hall. Please contact the Finance Department at 847.432.0800 or finance@cityhpil.com for more information.

Our Community



Community Solar Program

Residents may register now to reserve space on one of the community solar projects participating in a new community solar program developed with neighboring North Shore communities and the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus. Highland Park ComEd customers can support solar development in Illinois and save 20% on electricity bills without installing or maintaining solar equipment on their property. Once the community solar project is complete, residents on the reservation list will be notified to subscribe on a first-come, first-served basis. There is no cost to put your name on the reservation list, and you can remove your name at any time. Once the ComEd customer agrees to subscribe, the subscriber's billing will be a seamless two-stage process. First, the net metering credits for your share of the generation created by the community solar project will be applied to your monthly ComEd electric utility bill. Second, after you have received your net metering credits from ComEd, MC Squared Energy Services, LLC. will bill you for 80% of the net metering credits – leaving you with a discount of 20% of all net metering credits. Learn more at cityhpil.com/communitysolar.



Tree Pruning for Healthy Tree Care!

The City has been recognized as a Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation for the 40th year. Highland Park is known for its ravines, bluffs, open spaces, and urban forest canopy. We are regionally recognized as a leader in preserving trees during construction, as our tree ordinance balances development and preservation.

The Department of Public Works Forestry Section manages approximately 30,000 public trees, divided into seven regions. Every winter, the urban forestry program performs preventative maintenance by inspecting and pruning trees in one of seven regions. This systematic maintenance program ensures that City trees provide the greatest return on invest-

ment. The annual tree pruning program inspects for the health and safety of parkway trees. Parkway trees are pruned for proper form and structure, for clearance over the street and sidewalk, and for removing dead and dying limbs. This results in street trees that are more resistant to storm damage, such as the Derecho on August 10, 2020, and longer-lived.

This winter, City-authorized contractor, Balanced Environments Inc., will prune region 6, the area south of Central Ave. and north of Roger Williams Ave., east of St. Johns Ave. Please contact Keith O'Herrin, Ph.D., City Forester at **847.926.1604** or koherrin@cityhpil.com with any questions or for more information.

Moraine Township

Moraine Township Helping Neighbors Through This Crisis

As 2020 closes, Moraine Township would like to thank our community for joining with us to help provide a safety net for residents.

In mid-March -- seems like a lifetime ago -- we closed the Food Pantry from "shopping" to "drive-through" to ensure the safety of our clients, volunteers and staff. Our amazing community stepped up and provided the resources to purchase food in lieu of dropping food off as in days of yore, and that support has grown and continued as Food Pantry visits soared during the fall and winter.

We are purchasing and distributing healthy shelf-stable food, dairy, meat, produce and multi-grain bread weekly from local stores and

vendors, distributing cleaning supplies and personal care products monthly, and grocery gift cards to local stores whenever possible. Our amazing and generous community makes this possible.

With low-income hourly workers in the service industry being laid off in the spring and again this winter, through November Moraine Township distributed over \$60,000 of rent, utility and other assistance to help residents weather this crisis. We also helped households sign up for SNAP, utility assistance, Medicaid and health insurance as needed and eligible.

*If you know of Moraine Township residents in need of assistance, please have them call **847.432.3240**.*

For many of us, 2020 has been a difficult year, but for some of our neighbors, it has been a health and economic crisis. The saying "we're all in this together" has never resonated more. Our goal is to ensure that residents are fed and still in their homes when we get to the other end of this dark tunnel, and the community's partnership makes this possible.

We at Moraine Township will be here for our neighbors for the long haul, and with you look forward to better days in the coming year.



IMPORTANT NOTE: The Moraine Township office is not open to the public at this time, but staff is available for remote assistance at **847.432.3240**.

Highland Park Senior Center

Serving Seniors ages 50 and better

54 Laurel Avenue

847.432.4110

The Highland Park Senior Center provides education, recreation, enrichment and support services targeting a population from 50 years of age and older. The Senior Center is currently closed due to COVID-19; however, staff is committed to offering high-quality, virtual activities throughout this unprecedented time. The list below outlines a partial listing of Zoom programs available to members of the Highland Park Senior Center. Please call 847.432.4110 to join the Center or for program details and Zoom links.

ONE-ON-ONE COMPUTER TUTORING

With the increase in virtual programming, many seniors have requested assistance with navigating programs such as Zoom in order to stay connected with friends and family. The Senior Center offers a program which matches tech-savvy volunteers with Senior Center members for virtual training and troubleshooting! All tutoring sessions will take place remotely, in order to maintain social distancing practices.

NEW YEAR'S EVE TAKE OUT MEAL and GOODY BAG PICK-UP (Contact-free, Curbside pick-up)

Even with the COVID pandemic, we can still ring in the new year in style! The Highland Park Senior Center has partnered with a local catering organization to offer contact-free, curbside pickup for an individual New Year's Eve meal – perfect just for you! This delicious individual meal includes entree (choose beef or fish), potatoes, vegetable, and dessert. You'll also receive a goody bag including a party hat, blower, popper, and other fun treats. *Sponsored by Atria Senior Living - Highland Park*

What:	Individual New Year's Eve Meal
Where:	Pick-Up at the Highland Park Country Club
When:	Wednesday, December 30 from 1:30 - 3 PM
Fee:	\$15 (one per member), additional meals available for \$30 each

NEW YEAR'S EVE LIVE CONCERT (Zoom Program, Drop-In)

Join other members for a live New Year's Eve concert, via Zoom. Pianist Andrew Blendermann and vocalist Sophie Grimm will perform a wonderful set of well-known and well-loved songs featuring a variety of genres. The concert will begin with a New Year's toast, followed by an upbeat musical feast! *Sponsored by Atria Highland Park.*

What:	New Year's Lunchtime Concert
Where:	Your Computer
When:	Thursday, December 31 from 1:30 - 2:30 PM
Fee:	Free for members, \$5 for non-members

BARRY BRADFORD PRESENTS

Zoom Program, Drop-in

Sponsored by BrightStar Care

Friday, December 18	1:30 - 2:30 PM	Irving Berlin's Holiday Inn
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LIVING ROOM CONCERTS LIVE

Zoom Program, Drop-In

Sponsored by Aperion Care

Wednesday, December 23	1:30 - 2:30 PM	Home for the Holidays
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North Shore School District 112

Please note that this page is submitted, written and edited by the NSSD 112 and does not reflect the views or opinions of the City.



Happy Holiday Season From District 112



Happy Holiday Season! We wish you a happy and healthy end to what has been an unprecedented 2020 and the long anticipated start of the 2021 new year!

With the Winter Break almost upon us, we are looking forward to a much needed time of rest. This year has been remarkable for so many reasons which saw us jump into remote learning with little to no advance preparation, finish the year strong, engage in a robust planning process in the summer, and return to a Hybrid In-person/Virtual learning model for the first seven and a half weeks of the school year. I want to express sincere gratitude to our outstanding teachers, staff members, and community members who have supported the district by working in concert to make sure this year has been as enriching as possible for our students, our most important stakeholders.

As we take time to reflect on one of the most tumultuous years in our nation's history, in District 112, we are proud to acknowledge that we have still accomplished a great deal this year. We are optimistic that our future is going to be bright and exciting. The important work we do puts our children on the path to success. Some highlights of our successful work include the following:

- Indian Trail School awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award - first ever for District 112
- Administering surveys, sharing the results, making actionable plans to improve based upon input and ideas from stakeholders
- Portrait of a Graduate - sharing our aspirational vision for each child

As the center of the community, all of the schools in Highland Park and Highwood are honored to Inspire, Innovate, and Engage each and every person to the best of their abilities each and every day. We will emerge stronger and better after this global pandemic. Have faith in your schools and be sure to find the silver linings in this entire experience, find the positive and seek gratitude all year long. We have a clear and coherent planning process for the Pandemic schooling. Follow at www.NSSD112.org/Reopening for information and updates.

Get Our News in your In-box!

Please encourage your friends, neighbors, grandparents, interested people all over the community to sign up for our Community Email Sign-up Link (www.nssd112.org/news)

Download our App!

Please stay informed using our SmartPhone App. Users get instant access to school and district alerts, information, calendars, Infinite Campus, news, photos, and more. Search North Shore School District 112 on iTunes and Google Play.

Stay Informed on Long Range Planning

Our extensive work on the Long-Range Planning process is housed on the Long-Range Plan Web Page (www.nssd112.org/Long-RangePlanning). On your behalf, we are modernizing the middle school campuses that have served us well in their current forms since the 1950s. Our Future is Now!

Thank you for your unending support of our work on behalf of children and the community. Together we'll continue to **Inspire...Innovate...Engage!**

Township High School District 113

Please note that this page is submitted, written and edited by the Township High School District 113 and does not reflect the views or opinions of the City.

District 113 | Update On Second Semester Plans



Dear District 113 Community,

As this issue of The Highlander goes to print, we want to share some important updates with you regarding plans for second semester.

At its November 23 meeting, consistent with how it has reviewed data and recommendations in the last several months, the Board voted unanimously to affirm the Superintendent's decisions on the following items:

Due to the current high level of community COVID-19 transmission, transition to Remote Learning Plus Virtual Services effective November 21. This decision will be re-evaluated by the Board at its February meeting based on current public health data.

As soon as pandemic public health metrics safely allow, transition back to Remote Learning Plus In-Person Services. This will include the development of additional academic-based services.

We are grateful to our families, our staff and our community for all they have done to support our students during this incredibly difficult time. In particular, we would like to thank our teachers and other staff who continue to engage our students through the many remote services that are available while we wait for this current surge of the virus to subside.

While this holiday season may not be like the ones we have celebrated in previous years, it is still a time to be grateful and to celebrate all that we hold dear.

Please continue to practice the three Ws - wash your hands, wear a mask, watch your distance, and let's add a fourth W - wish everyone a happy, healthy and, hopefully, a much better 2021.

Jodi Shapira
Board President

Bruce Law, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Park District of Highland Park

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



Park District of Highland Park Board of Commissioners Approves 2021 Flat Tax Levy

In an effort to provide relief to Highland Park property owners, the Park Board of Commissioners approved a Truth in Taxation Resolution for a 0% increase for the Park District's 2021 tax levy. As a result, the Park District plans to levy \$11,743,050 in 2021, keeping the percent increase flat in comparison to 2020. The Park District's portion of residents' property tax is approximately 7%.

"This has been an exceptionally challenging year for our residents," said Barney Ruttenberg, president of the Park Board of Commissioners. "Throughout the pandemic, the Park District has adjusted its operations and programming to provide safe and healthy recreational outlets for our community's physical, emotional, and mental well-being. We feel it is our responsibility to do more for our residents struggling with the financial ramifications of this on-going pandemic. Through careful planning and cost-saving strategies, we can keep our tax levy flat for 2021 to provide much-needed relief for our residents during this unprecedented time."

The 2021 Park District flat tax levy includes a combination of a 2.3% Consumer Price Index (CPI) increase in its "tax capped funds," new growth estimated to be approximately \$25 million, and a reduction in the Special Recreation Fund levy from .04% to .0245%. The Special Recreation Fund is used for the Park District's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) capital improvements, member fees for the Northern Suburban Special Recreation Association (NSSRA), and program inclusion fees for participants with special needs. Due to COVID-19, there was a reduction in Special Recreation Fund expenses in 2020. As a result, \$682,550.32 will be added to the Special Recreation Fund's balance in 2021, allowing the Park District to lower the 2021 Levy for this Fund.

"Because of the decreased expenditures in 2020, the reduction in the 2021 Special Recreation Fund levy will not reduce our ability to continue with planned ADA capital improvements, complete projects that require ADA accommodations in the coming years, or meet obligations to NSSRA, including support for the renovation of their new administrative building," said Brian Romes, executive director of the Park District of Highland Park.

"It is our goal to continue creating a safe environment for our residents while creating innovative ways to participate in recreational programs and services. Through efficient and fiscally responsible planning, we aspire to ensure the Park District will continue providing essential recreational outlets for our residents in the short and long-term as our community and our country perseveres through this difficult time," said Ruttenberg.

Park District of Highland Park

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

Winter Events

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic programs and events are subject to change. Please go to pdhp.org for the most up-to-date information.

Wed Dec 30, Jan 13 and 27, Feb 10 | 10-11am | Stories in the Woods | Adult/Child, Ages 6 mo-6 yrs

OUTDOORS

\$5, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd.
Enjoy a story with a naturalist, then take a short hike, and create a craft to take home. Pre-registration required. Children must be accompanied by a paid registered adult. [Register at pdhp.org.](#)

Mon Jan 18 | 9am-Noon | Fire and Ice Magic | Ages 6-10 OUTDOORS

\$33, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd.
Magic is all around us! Set out on a hunt for magical beings and test your magic skills in our icy forest. Warm up with our campfire at the end. [Register at pdhp.org.](#)

Mon Jan 18 | 1-3pm | Winter Wonders | Ages 6-10 VIRTUAL WITH KIT

\$33, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd.
Snow experiments, crystal science, and icy investigations lead us in discovering the wonders of winter! Kit of materials will be provided before program start date. Zoom and supply kit details will be emailed prior to class. [Register at pdhp.org.](#)

Fri Jan 22 | 7-8pm | Living Room Olympics | All Ages

VIRTUAL

\$22/family, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd.
Compete in Olympic inspired games from the comfort of your living room. We will ask you to find household objects while competing against others virtually. There will be a combination of mental and physical challenges. [Register at pdhp.org.](#)

Fri Feb 12 or Sat Feb 13 | Assorted Time Slots | Lights in the Night Story Trail Adventure | All Ages

OUTDOORS

\$15/per person, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd.
Grab a lantern and join us on our nighttime story hike. Make shadow puppets, travel through the cave with no name and find yourself in the magical universe of light. End with hot cocoa as a reward for conquering the night! Tickets must be purchased prior to arrival. [Register at pdhp.org.](#)

Mon Feb 15 | 9am-Noon | Frozen Adventures | Ages 6-10 OUTDOORS

\$33, Heller Nature Center, 2821 Ridge Rd.
Take a winter safari with us to discover what animals are awake and playing in our forest; using snow tracking, shelter building, and hidden clues in our forest. [Register at pdhp.org.](#)

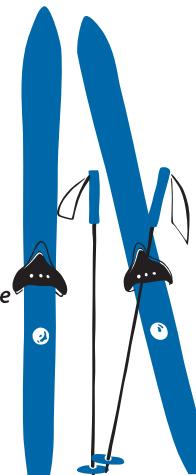
Cross-Country Skiing

*Hit the snow on three miles of ungroomed trails at
Heller Nature Center.*

Reservations Must Be Made Online, No Walk-ins.

- \$10 per person
 - One hour rental time slots
 - 6 patrons per time slot
 - Ski equipment must stay on Heller property
 - Ski equipment and shoe sizes are limited
 - Skis must be returned by 4pm
 - Skis are available for rental whenever snow conditions permit (4" base or greater).
- Call 847.433.6901 to check snow conditions.
- If you have skis of your own, please feel free to use our trails at your leisure from 7:30am to dusk!

Hourly Rental Times
(When there are at least 4 inches of snow):
9 – 10am, 10:30-11:30am, 12-1pm,
1:30-2:30pm and 3-4pm



To make your reservation
Go to [pdhp.org](#)



GET INVOLVED!

The Parks Foundation
is currently seeking
new members & volunteers!

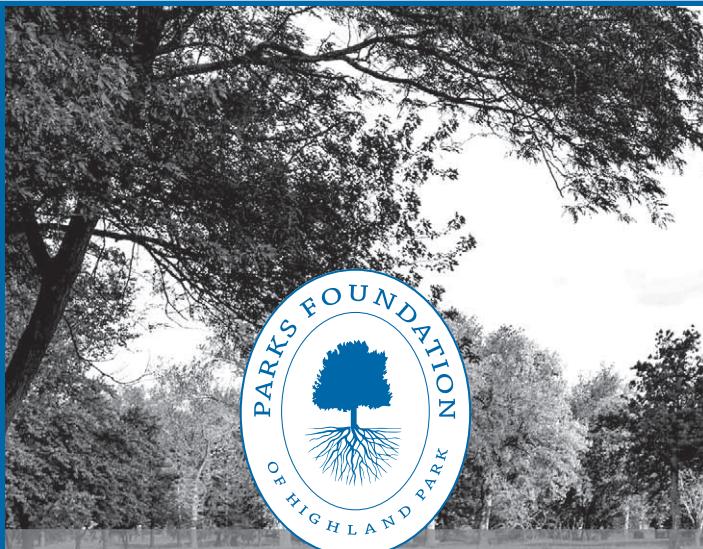
If you have a passion for your
community and your parks;
we would love to have you be
a part of our exciting team.

To apply visit [pfhpil.org](#)



Park District of Highland Park

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



Become a Friend of the Parks!

The Parks Foundation of Highland Park provides scholarships to make sure all local residents have the opportunity for an enriched, healthy lifestyle.

Donate today at pfhpil.org!

Save the Date!

May 24, 2021

Youth Golf Development Center Grand Opening & Golf Outing Fundraiser



GET ENERGIZED
with a Recreation Center of Highland Park outdoor group fitness class under our heated tent.

Reservations are required. For more information, class schedule, and to make reservations go to pdhp.org

**Don't wait,
register today!**



HAPPY & HEALTHY ACTIVITIES



Enjoy our Happy and Healthy at Home library of over 100 free videos and activities. Get your workout in with Recreation Center fitness instructors, practice your tennis swing with our pros from Deer Creek Racquet Club and Sunset Valley, learn something new with your family with our ParkSchool and Heller teachers, and so much more.

[Visit pdhp.org for more information](http://pdhp.org)

About Us

Enriching community life through healthy leisure pursuits and an appreciation of the natural world.

636 Ridge Road
Highland Park, IL 60035
847.831.3810
pdhp.org



PARK DISTRICT
of HIGHLAND PARK

Highland Park Public Library

847.432.0216 hplibrary.org

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Let's Read!

Highland Park's Favorite Books of the Year

Gift Books

Books Make Great Gifts For The Readers In Your Life! Here's What Our Librarians Recommend.

What to Read Next?

Try Perfect Picks For Reading Recommendations

Fill out an online questionnaire and our librarians will curate a selection of titles for you. Receive a customized list including titles that are available 24/7 to download or stream from home. Visit hplibrary.org/read to get started.

Looking for film and TV recommendations?

We've got those, too, including plenty of holiday-themed suggestions. Get started at hplibrary.org/film-music.

The Top Five Books Checked Out in 2020

- The Dutch House*, by Ann Patchett
- American Dirt*, by Jeanine Cummins
- Where the Crawdads Sing*, by Delia Owens
- The Giver of Stars*, by Jojo Moyes
- Blue Moon*, by Lee Child

Nonfiction

- Walking Chicago: 35 Tours of the Windy City's Dynamic Neighborhoods and Famous Lakeshore*, by Robert Loerzel
- Solutions and Other Problems*, by Allie Brosh
- The Best of Me*, by David Sedaris
- A Promised Land*, by Barack Obama
- Modern Comfort Food: A Barefoot Contessa Cookbook*, by Ina Garten
- Yellow Bird: Oil, Murder, and a Woman's Search for Justice in Indian Country*, by Sierra Crane Murdoch

Fiction

- The Pull of the Stars*, by Emma Donoghue
- Anxious People*, by Fredrik Backman
- Everywhere You Don't Belong*, by Gabriel Bump
- Transcendent Kingdom*, by Yaa Gyasi
- The Jane Austen Society*, by Natalie Jenner
- Sharks in the Time of Saviors*, by Kawai Strong Washburn

Poetry

- When The Light of the World Was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through: A Norton Anthology of Native Nations Poetry*, edited by Joy Harjo (the U.S. Poet Laureate)

Try Curbside Delivery or Grab & Go

This Winter, Use curbit and Grab & Go to Pick Up Books and More Request materials at hplibrary.org or by calling 847.432.0216.



When items are available, call the Library to request curbside delivery.

Park in the designated curbit spot in the Library's lower level parking lot and call 847.432.0216 to let us know you've arrived.

Your items will be checked out and brought to your car. You will need to show an ID.



You will be notified when materials are available and have been checked out to your account.

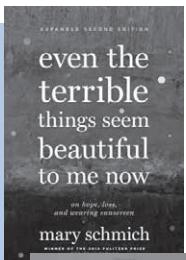
Pick up materials in the vestibule on the Library's lower level **Monday – Thursday, 11 AM – 7 PM** and **Friday – Sunday, 11 AM – 5 PM**.

Highland Park Public Library

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Meet The Author



Mary Schmich *Even The Terrible Things Seem Beautiful to Me Now: On Hope, Loss, and Wearing Sunscreen*

**Wednesday
December 16, 6 PM**

What it means when your father dies. How it feels when summer comes. What it's like to live in a great but troubled American city. The value of wearing sunscreen.

These are some of the topics that Schmich addresses in her book, a collection of columns from the *Chicago Tribune*, including the 10 that won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary. Join us on Zoom as Schmich discusses her book with Bina Martin, Second City faculty member. Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Parents of eLearners Support Group

Wednesday, January 13, 7:30 – 8:30 PM

Is your student participating in virtual learning this year? Feeling overwhelmed? We're here to help! Connect with other parents and caregivers on Zoom to share ideas and advice. Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Shakespeare Project Of Chicago Sonnet Wheel of Fortune

Sunday, January 17, 2 PM

Join the Shakespeare Project of Chicago via Zoom as they "spin the wheel" to select one of Shakespeare's sonnets. An actor has one minute to study the sonnet and then perform it. Learn techniques to help approach reading and understanding Shakespeare and gain an insight into the actor's craft. Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

Digital Resources For You!



Stream or download holiday movies with hoopla and check out cookbooks for holiday recipes, too. How to get started? **Join us on Zoom on Wednesday, December 16, at 11 AM** and learn how you can use hoopla to download and stream movies, TV shows, music, books, and audiobooks. Please note that a Highland Park Public Library card is required to access hoopla. Register at hplibrary.org/events.



Access the Library 24/7 with the HP Library App.

Browse books and movies and reserve your copy with the tap of a finger. Download and read ebooks and emagazines, stream or download movies, register for events, and more. Find the HP Library app in the App Store and the Google Play store.

Check Out A Mobile Hotspot



Connect to the internet any time and almost anywhere. Plug a smartphone, tablet, or laptop into a mobile hotspot and a free internet connection is provided.



Sleep 101 Workshop

Tuesday January 26, 7 – 8 PM

For parents of newborns – 6-year-olds.

Does your child struggle with sleep? Learn how to improve your child's sleep with Linda Szmulewitz, licensed clinical social worker, a certified Gentle Sleep Coach, and the owner of Sleep Tight Consultants. Join us on Zoom. Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

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Winter Fun For Kids

Grab & Go Crafts

Pick up the craft kits during Library hours while supplies last.

Pinecone Snowy Owl Through Sunday, December 20.

Get ready for snow by making your own snowy owl companion!



Sock Snowman

Monday, January 18 –
Sunday, January 24.

Make your own melt-proof snowman out of socks!
You'll need a black marker and scissors at home.



Stained Glass Valentine

Monday, February 8 –
Sunday, February 14.

Create a beautiful tissue paper "stained glass" window decoration for Valentine's Day!



Storytimes

Storytime with Thor Live!

Monday, December 21, 11 – 11:30 AM

Join Miss Melaina and her friend Thor for a special live storytime all about dogs! Join us on Zoom. Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Saturday Morning Stories

Saturdays, January 23, February 6, 20

9:30 – 10 AM. Ages 2 and older.

Join us on Zoom for stories, songs, and stretches to start your weekend off right! Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Boredom Blitz Bingo

January 1 – 31

Blast your winter blues away with Boredom Blitz Bingo! Beginning December 30, pick up your bingo card at the Youth Services Department or print it at hplibrary.org/events and click on December 30. Complete five tasks in a row and turn in your card to be entered into a drawing to win fabulous prizes!

Noon Year's Eve Virtual Dance Party

Thursday, December 31, 11:30 AM – 12:15 PM.

Ages 3 – 6, accompanied by an adult.

Party with us on Zoom! Put on your fanciest outfit and join us for a Noon Year's Eve celebration from home. Instructions for picking up a dance party pack will be emailed to participants. Registration required. Register at hplibrary.org/events.

Highland Park Diaries

Ages 5 – 14.

In the mood to write, draw, collage, or get creative? Missing the feeling of community connection? Introducing the Highland Park Diaries—a collection of collaborative community journals that you can check out and help fill up! Check out a diary to read what others have added, and then contribute your own thoughts and experiences!



ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON

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www.cityhpil.com
cityhp@cityhpil.com



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Adam Stolberg
Kim Stone

City Manager
Ghida S. Neukirch
Editors
Amanda Civitello
Jennifer Dotson

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



Business

The City is committed to supporting local businesses during the pandemic. Business assistance initiatives offer direct cash relief, eliminate administrative barriers, and provide promotional support.

Financial Aid for Restaurants & Retailers Grant Program

The City will reimburse up to 50% of eligible COVID-19 operational expenses for qualifying restaurants and retailers, up to a maximum of \$5,000 for retailers and \$10,000 for restaurants.

2021 Fee Waivers & Deferrals

- Registration fees for businesses occupying 7,000 sq. ft. or less are waived.
- Restaurant license fees are waived.
- 50% of liquor license fees for restaurants and hotels are waived, with payment of the balance deferred until June 30, 2021.

Shop & Dine in Highland Park

Browse a listing of all businesses at cityhpil.com/businessdirectory. Find your next takeout/curbside spot at cityhpil.com/restaurantmap.

Learn about these and other efforts to support local businesses at cityhpil.com/covid-19.



New Businesses

Sally's Nuts
481 Roger Williams Ave
847.748.8947
sallysnuts.com

Grab & go snack shop offering simple sandwiches, salads, snacks, cheese boards and sweets.

Greaves Tours
1316 Old Skokie Rd
800.318.7801
greavesindia.com

A division of Greaves Travel specializing in travel to India, Bhutan, Nepal, The Maldives, Sri Lanka, and the Indian Ocean Islands

Ana Shpilman Skin Care
1910 First St.
847.644.9725
anashpilmanskincare.com
Esthetician

New at Salon Lofts
CJ Studios
847.580.3585
JD Beauty Bar
773.574.6414
KF Aesthetics
312.833.2429
1831 St. Johns Ave
salonlofts.com/salons/highland_park



Shop, Dine & Enjoy Highland Park

Shop the Block Shop the Block this holiday season and you could win a gift card to the Highland Park restaurant of your choice! Submit receipts of \$150 or more from a participating small retailer located on each week's designated block, and you'll be entered to win a \$50 gift certificate to your favorite Highland Park restaurant. Visit cityhpil.com/shoptheblock for details.

At Your Service Purchase \$150 in beauty, health, and wellness services from eligible Highland Park businesses and win a chance for a \$50 gift card to the Highland Park restaurant of your choice. Participating services include: hair and nail salons, massage therapy, salt therapy, cryotherapy, and fitness classes. Visit cityhpil.com/atyourservice to learn more.

Take It To Your Table Follow the City on Facebook (@HighlandParkIL) for posts spotlighting Highland Park restaurants each Tuesday and Thursday. Order in with convenient pick-up and delivery options. Visit cityhpil.com/curbside.