

# The Highwood Highlights

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

### Hello residents and welcome spring!

Great things are happening this spring in Highwood. For starters the City received an AA rating from [S&P Global Ratings](#). Some of the highlights from the report, that rates the City's credit worthiness and fiscal management:

- ◆ Strong budgetary performance, with operating surpluses in the general fund.
- ◆ Very strong budgetary flexibility, with an available fund balance in fiscal 2017 of 38% of operating expenditures.
- ◆ Very strong liquidity, with total government available cash at 23% of total governmental fund expenditures and 1.9x governmental debt service, and access to external liquidity.
- ◆ Sales taxes represented 26% of general fund revenues, followed by property taxes at 23%, and charges for services at 19% in fiscal 2017, this indicates strong budgetary flexibility.
- ◆ The City contributed its full actuarially determined contributions to all of its pensions for the past three years and will continue to do so going forward.

The City is happy to welcome the [Western Golf Association](#) as they will hold the [Senior Players Championship July 9-15](#) just across our border in Highland Park at the [Exmoor Country Club](#). While this event brings with it some temporary inconveniences, the City is excited to promote our restaurants and other businesses to the 50,000 fans that will visit over that week. See page 2 for neighborhood meetings to discuss this event.

This summer the City will engage its residents, and a professional planner, to create a **Master Plan for Everts Park**. This Master Plan will serve the City as the vision, resource allocation, and action plan for the Park. It will include a landscape plan, park equipment ideas, and a master site plan, as well as, budget detail and phasing options. The City will plan a community workshop to catalog community needs and desires for the Park and surrounding areas. This process will work through the summer, with the Plan to be delivered in the fall.



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Set your clocks forward on March 10th and check your smoke alarm batteries.

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On the development front, Highwood welcomes [Slyce Coal Fire Pizza](#) to our downtown. This is Slyce's second location and they are located at 254 Green Bay Road. We also are excited to see [Clucker's Charcoal Chicken](#) relocate into downtown at 405 Sheridan Road, best chicken in the State. The **Greenwood American Kitchen and Bar** restaurant, to open at 200 Green Bay Road, is an "American neighborhood kitchen and bar that applies an inventive approach to classic American cuisine", they should open later this spring.



Finally, I am thrilled to announce that the City Council approved new gateway signs to be installed at several entry points into Highwood. The Council felt it is important to designate the entry points into Highwood to instill civic pride and help folks with wayfinding. The sign design was developed over several months with the goal being a traditional but also vibrant sign that exemplifies the spirit of Highwood, both in message and materials. See drawing at the left. The signs will be installed sometime after the spring thaw.

Have a great spring, Go Cubs and Go Sox!

*Charlie Pecaro*

Charlie Pecaro, Mayor

## GOLF TOURNAMENT-NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

### Senior Players Championship

#### Neighborhood Meetings, Exmoor Country Club

The [Western Golf Association](#) and Exmoor Country Club are proud to host the 2018 Constellation Senior Players Championship. Over the week of July 9—15, for the first time since 1997, a PGA TOUR Champions major will be held in the greater Chicagoland area. 78 of the top PGA TOUR Champions players will compete for a purse of \$2.8

million in front of over 50,000 golf fans. Please plan on attending one or both to the **neighborhood meetings** to discuss transportation, parking, and other event details.

**Meeting Dates:** Wednesday, March 28 and Tuesday, April 24

**Time:** 6:00pm

**Location:** Exmoor Country Club 700 Vine Ave Highland Park



# POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Community Awareness Prevents Crime

Staying aware of your surroundings, and building neighborhood connections can help stop crimes before they happen. A list of the Top 5 ideas:

- ☑ **Be on the lookout for out-of-the-ordinary occurrences.** Awareness is your number one tool to prevent crime. **ANY** suspicious activity should be reported to the Highwood Police Department immediately. Do not be shy. Officers are available 24/7/365 to check out anything that looks or “feels” strange. **Call 911 or 847-604-8992.** No need to give your name. Nothing is too minor to report.

- ☑ **Get to know your neighbors.** Welcoming new neighbors, and reconnecting with old ones, is a good way toward building a solid community and looking out for one another. Consider an annual block party, use names tags and make it a point to meet and greet.



- ☑ **Install motion sensor exterior lights.** Nothing stops a trespasser in his or her tracks faster than a motion sensing light.

- ☑ **Limit door-to-door solicitation.** Discourage door-to-door salespeople and other strangers from soliciting in your neighborhood. Use “No Solicitation” stickers on your door to make it crystal-clear. Contact the Highwood Police if this notice goes unheeded. Solicitation in Highwood is prohibited without a permit.

- ☑ **Stop crimes of opportunity: ALWAYS** lock your car doors and close your garage. Do not leave keys in your vehicle and do not leave desirable items (laptops, cell phones, tablets, change) in plain sight.

### Be a safe citizen, some rules for your personal safety:

- ◆ Stay alert.
- ◆ Be calm, confident, and know where you are going.
- ◆ Trust your instincts. If it doesn't look or feel right, take action.
- ◆ Stay in areas that are well-lit with high foot traffic.
- ◆ Be conservative in how you handle cash and keep the bulk of it in your wallet or purse
- ◆ Keep expensive property concealed as much as possible.
- ◆ Be aware of your surroundings at all times. If you suspect you're being followed, cross the street and enter a public area (such as a restaurant or store) until you are comfortable.



# CONSIDER FLOOD INSURANCE

## Protect What Matters

Without flood insurance, most residents have to pay out of pocket or take out loans to repair and replace damaged items. Flood insurance reduces the financial burden of a flood event, and makes it easier to make your house a home again.



Most homeowners insurance doesn't cover flood damage.



Most homes in moderate and low-risk areas qualify for the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) Preferred Risk Policy (PRP).



PRPs offer the same quality of coverage as a Standard Flood Insurance Policy and can cover your home and its contents.

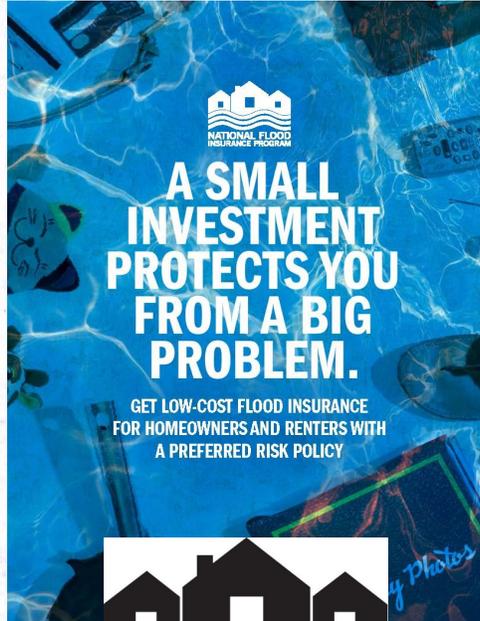


PRPs are available in most communities across the country, wherever flood insurance is available to homeowners and renters.

### Did You Know?

If you live in an area with low or moderate flood risk, you are 5 times more likely to experience flood than a fire in your home over the next 30 years.

The average cost of a PRP is approximately \$395 per year.



## Flood Risk is Real

Every year, thousands of homeowners and renters experience devastating flooding events, even though they don't live near a river or coastline. In fact, floods are the leading natural disaster in the United States and it only takes a few inches of water to cause tens of thousands of dollars in property damage.

Despite the risk, only a fraction of residents protect themselves against the cost of flooding by purchasing flood insurance.

## Get Flood Insurance Today

There are nearly 80 insurance companies that sell PRPs through the NFIP all for the same low price. It's never too soon to contact an insurance agent. And remember, flood insurance typically goes into effect 30 days after your purchase.

## About NFIP

The NFIP aims to reduce the impact of flooding on individuals and communities across the country. It does so by providing flood insurance to property owners like you—who live in communities that adopt and enforce floodplain management standards. These efforts reduce the costs and adverse consequences associated with flooding and help families recover more quickly.

For more information about PRPs, call **1-800-427-4661** or contact your insurance agent.

# VEHICLE STICKERS FOR DISTRICT 112 GRANTS



## DRIVE FOR EDUCATION VEHICLE STICKER UPGRADE PROGRAM

### Supporting the 112 Education Foundation Grant Program

The 112 Education Foundation is a private non-profit organization. During its over 20 year history, the Foundation has raised over half a million dollars to benefit the students of North Shore School District 112. Monies raised through vehicle sticker donations directly support the Foundation Grant program. **Highwood residents can support the Foundation Grant program by upgrading their vehicle sticker with any size donation; donations of \$30 or more will receive a special student-designed vehicle sticker.**

In **2017**, the Foundation funded over **\$40,000 in grants**. Recent grant programs have included:

- ◆ school robotics teams and a district-wide robotics competition
- ◆ enhanced music programs for all ages
- ◆ wellness education
- ◆ STEM/STEAM labs
- ◆ a theater program with Hamilton Chicago cast members
- ◆ experiential outdoor learning opportunities

There are more opportunities than ever for educational enrichment, waiting to be turned into realities - and that is where the residents of Highwood can help. Thank you for supporting the 112 Education Foundation and its students. To learn more, please visit our [website](#).

For more information on the 112 Education Foundation Sticker Upgrade program, please contact Highwood City Hall by calling 847-432-1924 or visit the City of Highwood [website](#).



# HIGHWOOD RECREATION CENTER

## Spring is At the Rec!

**Spring is here!** We wanted to take a moment to remind everyone of the wonderful programs we have available at the Highwood Rec Center. From basketball to theater, there is something for everyone! In addition, we are a wonderful venue for birthday parties, baby showers, and most gatherings. Feel free to contact us with any questions about program dates, times, or rental rates. (847) 432-6633.

### IMPORTANT DATES

Spring Break Open Gym 12:00-3:00pm



### GROUP FITNESS

#### Group Fitness

**Zumba with Humberto** – Tuesdays,  
Contact Rec Center for Information

**Zumba with Mercedes**- Sundays and Wednesdays,  
Contact Rec Center for Information

### PROGRAMS

#### Youth Sports Basketball

**Finish Strong Athletic**-[www.finishstrongathletics.com](http://www.finishstrongathletics.com)

Private Trainers/Lessons are available- please call (847)  
432-6633



#### Soccer

**Elite Soccer Futsal:** program contact,  
[dochpelite@gmail.com](mailto:dochpelite@gmail.com)

**Little Legends**-[www.llsoccer.com](http://www.llsoccer.com)



#### Theater, Drama, and Dance

**The Performer's School**-[www.theperformersschool.com](http://www.theperformersschool.com)

Theater camps available!



#### Martial Arts

**Chu's Dragon Academy Taekwondo,**

Contact Master Chu at 312-415-6387

**Goju Ryu Karate,** Contact Joe at 847-710-5570



Office Hours  
Monday – Friday  
11:30AM - 4:00 PM  
847-432-6633



Book Your Children's Birthday Parties  
at the Highwood Rec Center!

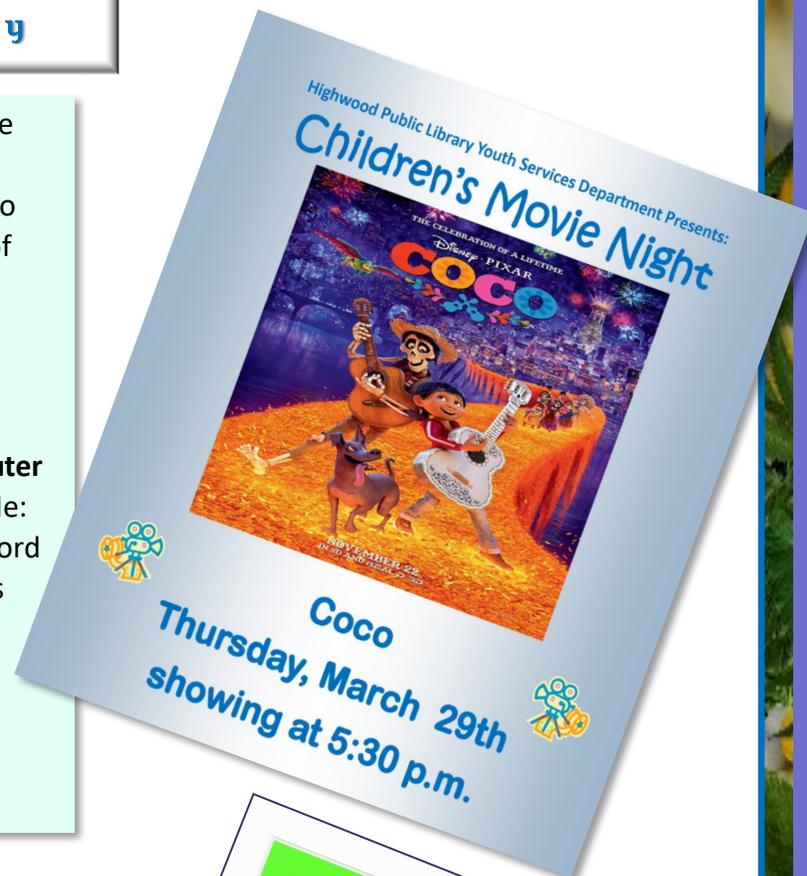
# HIGHWOOD LIBRARY

## What's New At The Library

For starters, the new meeting room is now available for use at no charge by individuals and non-profit groups. Reservations need to be made in advance. To read the meeting room policy and download a copy of the reservation form visit our website [www.highwoodlibrary.org](http://www.highwoodlibrary.org) and scroll down to the meeting room section on the home page, or pick up copies at the library.

The library has started offering **introductory computer classes for seniors and adults**. Topics covered include: an introduction to the Microsoft operating system, word processing, and an introduction to the Internet. Class size is limited so reservations need to be made in advance.

Also, coming soon are classes for accessing the library's electronic book resources.



## Youth Service Programs

Everyone's invited to the **Family Craft Night** on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 p.m. to color Easter eggs and enjoy snacks and hot chocolate. Registration is required for this event.

Or come see a magic show and meet the Easter Bunny on March 24th.

Handcrafts for children are being sponsored by the Together for Childhood Network. In addition to crafts, the programs include games, prizes and treats. The next offering will be on the first Tuesday in April.

Summer is almost here and that means the Summer Reading Program will be starting soon. Registration will begin on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. At that time patrons can start coming to the library to register and receive their logging materials. Don't forget about the library's regular offerings for children and teens such as:

- ◆ Teen Craft Night on the first Wednesday of every month.
- ◆ Movie nights on the last Thursday of every month.
- ◆ Story times for children on Monday and Thursday nights.



## HIGHWOOD LIBRARY — CONT.

### Adult Programs

The **Adult Services Department** also offers regular programs for adults.

- ◆ On the first Wednesday of every month, a morning and an evening **book club** meet.
- ◆ On the first Tuesday of every other month, the library hosts the **Sherlock Holmes Discussion Group**.
- ◆ On the second Wednesday of every month, the **Current Events Roundtable Group** meets to talk about the major news stories of the day.
- ◆ For patrons who wish to improve their English speaking skills, the library hosts the **English Conversation Group** every Tuesday night.
- ◆ And for adults interested in bringing out their creative side, come to the library on the first and last Saturday of every month to learn how to do **cross-stitching**.

For more information visit the Library's website [www.highwoodlibrary.org](http://www.highwoodlibrary.org), or call 847-432-5404.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

### City of Highwood

17 Highwood Ave  
Highwood, IL 60040  
Phone: 847.432.1924  
Fax: 847.432.0735  
[info@cityofhighwood.org](mailto:info@cityofhighwood.org)



### Visit Us At

[www.cityofhighwood.org](http://www.cityofhighwood.org)  
[Facebook.com/cityofhighwood](https://www.facebook.com/cityofhighwood)

### City Hall

#### Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM