

# The Highwood Highlights

## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

*Happy Holidays,*

As we head into another winter and towards 2020, I continue to be impressed by the popularity of our community; our events, our businesses, and our opportunities. Things look bright for our little gem on Lake Michigan and as usual I love keeping everyone updated on what's happening since our last newsletter. Listed below are a few hot topics:

**Pumpkin Fest 2019:** thanks [Celebrate Highwood](#) for another successful Pumpkin Fest. **Thank You** to all of the volunteers that continue to give their time and energy to this truly unique festival. Please consider helping out next year.

**Audit Complete:** the City is audited annually by an outside accounting firm, [BKD Ltd.](#) The annual audit is a third party examination of the prior fiscal year for any anomalies or irregularities. The Audit also provides the City Council and staff with valuable direction to improve internal controls and to comply with ever-changing state and federal regulations relative to municipal finance. A few highlights of the City's excellent financial position:

- ⇒ The City's Auditor reported a "clean" audit, meaning the financial statements were "fairly presented the respective financial position of governmental activities". In other words, the financials were accurate and correct.
- ⇒ Expenses were \$242,624 less than revenues and expenditures were under budget by \$168,081. This indicates a continued focus on managing costs while maintaining an appropriate revenue stream to provide city services and incentivize development.
- ⇒ The General Fund reported a fund balance this year of \$2,102,406. The Council is committed to ensuring that surplus funds are returned to the community in the form of capital projects and other long term investments.
- ⇒ Also of note, August 2019 sales tax receipts set a new all-time record in Highwood.

**New Businesses:** the City welcomes several new restaurants and businesses including: Fresh Carry Out Café' 320 Green Bay Road, Himalayan Sherpa Kitchen (coming to replace the Curry Hut), Inca Peru Peruvian Kitchen 760 Sheridan Road, and AK Nails, 742 Sheridan.



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**New residential project 546 Green Bay Road:** The City Council recently approved a planned unit development for five story residential development of 40 total units at 546 Green Bay Road. The development includes 32 interior parking spaces, balconies, and a complementary color of brick.

**Free Trees:** the City of Highwood and the Chicago Region Trees Initiative are collaborating together through a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to plant trees in Highwood next spring. It's **FREE** to participate. We will provide the trees, supplies, and lead the planting. All you need to do is commit to watering the new tree in front of your home between May and October Click [here](#) to participate.



**Please Make the 2020 Census Count:** The coming US 2020 Census count is directly related to how much money the State of Illinois returns to the City of Highwood from state income and motor fuel taxes. These funds are used to pave roads, maintain street lights and sidewalks, improve parks, and pay for police and other services. **So... make sure you participate when asked to do so. There are also jobs available:** work for the US 2020 Census. Go [here](#) for job information.



Check out our [website](#), [Facebook](#), public meetings broadcast on [YouTube](#) and please feel free to send in your thoughts or attend a City Council meeting. Also, please sign up for notifications on the City's website! Have a wonderful holiday season. Enjoy the winter and please help others when you can. (Especially shoveling SNOW!)

My blessings, and have a great winter,

*Charlie Pecaro*

Mayor



**WINTER LESSONS:  
HOW TO WALK ON ICE**

**1** Normally, when we walk, our legs' ability to support our weight is split mid-stride.

**2** Walking this way on ice forces each leg to support the weight of the body at an angle that is not perpendicular to the surface of the ice, resulting in a nasty fall.

*oblique angle—nasty fall*

**1** To walk on ice, keep your center of gravity over your front leg.

**2** One animal that has figured this out is a penguin. Think of yourself as a penguin and you'll be all right.

**WRONG WAY**

**RIGHT WAY**

# POLICE DEPARTMENT



## Safe Shopping Online Tips

The Highwood Police Department reminds shoppers of to be [careful shopping](#)

### 8 TIPS FOR SAFE HOLIDAY SHOPPING ONLINE

**TIP 1**

**RANSOMWARE: THE COAL IN YOUR VIRTUAL STOCKING.**

Prevent ransomware by using your best defense—avoiding it altogether. Don't open attachments from shopping sites you don't know or trust.

Crypto-ransomware attacks rose five-fold to hit 718,000 users in one year.

**TIP 2**

**SANTA ONLY CLICKS ON LINKS FROM TRUSTED SOURCES.**

Don't click on phishing links sent to you through texts or SMS apps.

**TIP 3**

**SCOPE OUT SITES FOR SAFE HOLIDAY SHOPPING.**

Check out reviews of online shopping sites to decide if they're safe or not, before you put in your credit card information.

**TIP 4**

**WRAP YOUR PASSWORDS IN LAYERS OF COMPLEXITY.**

Mix letters, numbers and characters into your passwords to protect them from hacking.

Only 38% of users think of newer, more difficult passwords.

**TIP 5**

**DON'T LET CYBERCRIMINALS STEAL YOUR HOLIDAY CHEER.**

Make sure you're not shopping on public Wi-Fi, because cybercriminals love to lurk there. Encrypt your private data with a VPN to keep it safe.

**TIP 6**

**ENJOY CYBERSAFE HOLIDAY SHOPPING.**

When you're buying gifts online, make sure you switch to cellular before your purchase anything.

**TIP 7**

**AVOID ADWARE LIKE BAD FRUITCAKE.**

Read the fine print when you're downloading freeware for your purchases. The fine print might include accepting "adware"—advertising add-ons to browsers.

**TIP 8**

**CHECK YOUR PURCHASED LIST TWICE.**

Make sure your shipping confirmation email is legitimate—cybercriminals send out phishing emails hoping for a quick click.

## Winter Driving Tips

### SLIP AND SLIDE: TEST ROAD CONDITIONS FREQUENTLY

Periodically, check traction (available grip) when driving in challenging conditions. Road conditions can change drastically in a short period of time/distance in winter. Apply the brakes with moderate pressure to determine the available grip and modify your driving, if needed, to respond to ever-changing road conditions.



### GRIP IT GOOD!

It's best to avoid braking or acceleration when negotiating a turn.

- 1 Brake before the turn
- 2 Negotiate the turn
- 3 Accelerate after the turn



### YOU CRUISE, YOU LOSE

Avoid cruise control in wet, icy or snow conditions to maintain control of acceleration and deceleration at all times.



# RECREATION CENTER

## Winter at the Rec Center

Winter 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, call: **847-432-6633**.

### IMPORTANT DATES

**Rec Center Closed For  
Floor Resurfacing  
December 20<sup>th</sup> - January 3<sup>rd</sup>**



### GROUP FITNESS

#### Group Fitness

##### **Powercore Pilates**

Contact Dave Sternshein  
Dave.cycle.pilates@gmail.com

##### **Zumba with Mercedes**

Sundays and Wednesdays  
847-571-0466

### PROGRAMS

#### **Basketball**

##### **Finish Strong Athletic**

[www.finishstrongathletics.com](http://www.finishstrongathletics.com)

##### **Highwood Small Fry**

[www.highwoodsmallfry.org](http://www.highwoodsmallfry.org)  
847-604-4355

#### **Youth Soccer**

##### **Little Legends** Ages 3-8

[www.ilsoccer.com](http://www.ilsoccer.com) Tony Youhanna  
847-530-5386

#### **Martial Arts**

##### **Chu's Dragon Academy Taekwondo**

Contact Master Chu 312-415-6387

##### **Brasa Jiu Jitsu of Highwood**

Contact Aditya 630-335-3855

#### **Theater, Drama, and Dance**

The Performer's School

[www.theperformersschool.com](http://www.theperformersschool.com)

**Theater camps available!**



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

**Office Hours  
Monday – Friday  
11:00AM - 3:30 PM**

## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT - SWALCO

The **Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO)** was formed in 1991 to implement the Lake County Solid Waste Management Plan, and currently is comprised of members from 45 municipalities, including Lake County and Great Lakes NTC, representing approximately 85% of the county's population.

In 2014, the SWALCO Board approved the 5 year update to the plan. The 2014 plan update set a 60% recycling goal for 2020. Lake County is currently recycling 48% of its municipal waste. Achieving the 60% goal will require SWALCO's members to continue exploring and enhancing recycling programs and implementing more programs to divert food scraps and other organic material from final disposal. See all of the SWALCO programs with links on this page.

### [CLOTHING & TEXTILES](#)

It is estimated that nearly 85% of all clothing and textiles end up in landfills in the U.S. today.

### [COMMERCIAL HAULING ORDINANCE](#)

In 2014 State legislation was enacted that amended the authority of municipalities to enter into exclusive franchise contracts for waste and recycling services for local businesses and institutions.

### [ELECTRONICS RECYCLING](#)

The SWALCO Residential Electronics Recycling Program supports four collection locations within Lake County.

### [HOUSEHOLD CHEMICAL WASTE \(HCW\)](#)

Household Chemical Waste (HCW) is a term used to describe a variety of chemical products found in a household that have toxic or hazardous characteristics.

### [PHARMACEUTICAL DISPOSAL OPTIONS](#)

### [REUSE-A-SHOE PROGRAM](#)

Every year, across the globe, millions of pairs of shoes end up in landfills or disposed of in some way, creating a lot of waste.

### [HOLIDAY LIGHTS RECYCLING](#)

### [RECYCLING GUIDELINES](#)

Please take the time to learn how to recycle specific items within Lake County.

### [60% RECYCLING TASKFORCE](#)

The 2009 Solid Waste Management Plan Update, approved by the Lake County Board on April 13, 2010, contains a recommendation that requires both Lake County and SWALCO to convene a task force and appoint members to address the goal of increasing recycling in Lake County.

### [BUSINESS ELECTRONICS RECYCLING](#)

The Solid Waste Agency of Lake County (SWALCO) provides opportunities for residents to recycle their broken or unwanted electronics through an extensive network of drop off locations operating throughout Lake County.

### RECYCLING GUIDELINES

**YES!**

**METAL**  
Steel & Aluminum  
Containers and Foil

**PAPER**  
Cardboard (Flattened),  
Office Paper, Newspaper, Magazines

**GLASS**  
Bottles & Jars Only

**PLASTIC**  
Bottles, Tubs,  
& Jugs Only

**FOOD & BEVERAGE  
CARTONS**

**Clean & Empty  
LEAVE CAPS & LIDS ON**

**NO!**

**No Plastic Bags  
or Product Wrap**  
(Return clean  
to retailer)

**No Big Items**  
(Electronics, Wood, Propane  
Tanks, Scrap Metal or  
Styrofoam - For other options,  
visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org) for our online  
Where Do I Recycle This Guide)

**No Tangles**  
(Pampers, Hoses,  
Wires, Cords,  
Ropes or Chains)

**No Clothing,  
Textiles or Shoes**  
(Visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org) for a list  
of Clothing & Textile or  
Reuse-A-Shoe collection  
drop-off sites)

**No Food,  
Liquid, Diapers,  
Batteries  
or Needles**

**Do Not Bag  
Recyclables**

**YUCK!**

To find out more about recycling in Lake County, Illinois, or what you can do with items not accepted in your recycling cart, including other recycling and reuse programs visit [swalco.org](http://swalco.org), or contact SWALCO at 847-377-4950.  
January 2019

**SWALCO**



The [Highwood Historical Society \(HHS\)](#) has one of the largest memberships of any historical society in Lake County with more than 275 members. The HHS is committed to preserving Highwood's unique history. We collect memorabilia, news articles and items important to preserving Highwood's history.



We recently held an exciting and memorable "Weddings in Highwood" exhibit. It included over 200 photos and items from current and former residents as well as 15 wedding dresses and men's outfits that represented clothing from 1925 to the 1990's. Look for more of these type of exhibits in the year to come. The history of Highwood's businesses has been suggested-we have had a diverse and interesting range of local stores and companies that that have shaped our community. Check your files for photos and items that will make this exhibit interesting and fun for all to see. We welcome everyone's input.



**Next on the agenda is a Bingo fund raiser scheduled for [Buffo's](#) on Saturday, March 23 - 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.** This will be a fundraiser for HHS. On December 11th we hold our holiday dinner and annual raffle which is another way to raise needed funds to pay for expenses occurred to provide Highwood with its museum and special events that involve, educate, and share Highwood's diverse history. HHS welcomes everyone to our events. HHS has no staff and we operate with a wonderful group of dedicated Board members that provide support and assistance as needed.

A strong membership is key to a strong and successful organization. We are happy to answer genealogy questions as well as requests on past Highwood events, businesses, sports activities, and people that have made a difference in Highwood. Let's continue to work together to preserve our 150+ years of history.

*Teta Minuzzo, Past HHS President/ Archivist*

### [Highwood Historical Society](#)

122 North Avenue 847-682-9039

Sundays - 12 noon to 4 p.m.

Tuesdays -10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## HIGHWOOD CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Consider joining the [Highwood Chamber of Commerce](#), membership benefits include:

- Chamber referrals and networking.
- Marketing/Advertising.
- Access to membership mailing list for labels.
- Host networking mixers and events at your business.
- Celebrate business anniversaries and ribbon cuttings. Be included in social media and press coverage.
- Have your business included on our website and highlighted in the Chamber Community Guide.



# HIGHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY - NEWSLETTER

The [Highwood Public Library](#) provides a multitude of community and library services. The first page of their newsletter shown below. Click [here](#) for their complete newsletter.



**Donate**

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THE HIGHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY.

## Special Thanks

**A special thank you to Marni Helford and The Planet Group,**  
for their generous donation of furniture to the Highwood Public Library. Making the library's main floor, computer area, meeting room and staff workroom more comfortable, engaging and welcoming for community members and staff.

**A special thank you to Carpets of Highwood,**  
for their donation of materials and labor that beautified the Highwood Public Library's staff workroom. We thank your great staff for their consideration of our library's schedule, attention to details, and friendly and professional manner.

### HOLIDAY CLOSING TIMES

Tuesday, December 24th, Christmas Eve  
 Wednesday, December 25th, Christmas Day  
 Tuesday, December 31st, New Year's Eve  
 Wednesday, January 1st, New Year's Day



The Highwood Public Library is pleased to announce it has received a grant from the [Highland Park Community Foundation](#). These funds will be used to support the Highwood Public Library's Peer Mentoring for At Risk Latino Youth Program, i.e. Learning Partners Program.

Funding from the [Highland Park Community Foundation](#) will allow the Highwood Public Library the opportunity to develop and offer adolescents from Highwood and Highland Park a safe environment with engaging academic and recreational activities and peer support programming that includes a peer to peer mentorship component.

Our Latino youth need to feel valued and be engaged in wholesome, stimulating activities that encourage them to grow and expand their horizons, and we are extremely grateful for the support we have received from the [Highland Park Community Foundation](#) for providing critical funding to support this program.



## DID YOU KNOW ?

2020 is a year of Census count. It is constitutionally required count of every person living in the United States, and will affect congressional representation, and community funding.



# HIGHWOOD LIBRARY — CONTINUED

**SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO THE HIGHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY**

JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL STORY TIME WITH SANTA CLAUS ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 AT 5:30 P.M. SANTA WILL READ A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS STORY. PARENTS ARE INVITED TO BRING THEIR CAMERAS TO TAKE PICTURES OF THEIR CHILD WITH SANTA CLAUS FOLLOWING STORY TIME. KIDS OF ALL AGES ARE WELCOME!

This program is free.  
Registration begins November 15th.  
Please visit Highwood Public Library Circulation Desk or call 847-432-5404 or email [programming@highwoodlibrary.org](mailto:programming@highwoodlibrary.org).



HIGHWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

IT'S TIME TO... 

## YOGA

Begin your journey to better health and peace of mind.

Classes held the second Saturday of each month at 10:00am.

Highwood Public Library  
102 Highwood Avenue  
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)

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

City Hall  
Hours of Operation  
Monday ~ Friday  
8:30 AM ~ 4:30 PM

City Offices will be closed Monday, September 4, in observance of Labor Day and Thursday, November 23, Thanksgiving and Friday, November 24, Turkey Sandwich Day. We wish you safe and happy holidays.

