

GAZEBO EXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • JULY 2021

[HIGHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT]

Community policing ups its game

Highland residents enjoy the benefits of a public-safety-savvy police department that employs advances that make sense for the town. From the all-terrain Polaris unit that takes police off-road when they are needed to license-plate reading cameras that have already successfully aided in prosecutions, the department is on the move.



Officer Darren Conley (left), Sgt. Shawn Anderson and Officer Jim Mullins are three of the eight members of the new bike patrol team, which includes Sgt. Glenn Cox, Officers Dan Matusik, JJ Garza, Luke Paprocki and Joel Sullivan.

[HIGHLAND BICYCLE PATROL] Four high-end bicycles and eight eager officers are patrolling events and festivals along with parks and trails to provide another layer of safety in recreational spaces. Wave them down: They're looking forward to meet-and-greets throughout town.



[NEW POLICE K9]

A German Shepherd from the Czech Republic traveled 4,592 miles to become Highland's first K9 officer in nearly a decade. Bane and his handler Officer Tony Kowal have become a team highly trained in searches for missing individuals, articles and narcotics. They begin work on the streets later this month.

[HIGH-FLYING DRONE] Officers Frank Peckler and Tom Manyek are taking crime-fighting – and safety – to the skies over Highland. The two are trained and certified to use the DJI Mavic drone to perform specialized tasks – like locating a missing person or surveying crowds during large events to ensure safety.



Highland Main Street Bureau begins new chapter

A decade after becoming a member of Indiana Main Street, its Highland's counterpart that is being reimagined.

The all-volunteer Main Street Bureau is almost entirely made up of downtown merchants. For 2 Chicks Resale & Consignment Boutique owner Teri Yovkovich, who also leads Highland Main Street, the goal is to galvanize the eclectic community.

"The Restaurant Crawl is a great example of a good idea that just keeps getting better because we are putting our heads together to develop new ways of reaching our customers," Yovkovich said. "As a result of feedback from our customers our retailers are now keeping later hours and offering specials the last Tuesday of the month to give residents another reason to come downtown. This is just the beginning."

Highland Main Street meets at 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday of every month at town hall. The public is welcome.

[SPECIAL REPORT INSIDE]

Downtown Reimagined: From the new to tried-and-true, more than 100 businesses call downtown Highland's historic district home.



From the new to tried-and-true, more than 100 businesses call downtown Highland home. Cultural opportunities, a pedestrian-friendly environment and good restaurants continue to attract new entrepreneurs – like Highland’s first craft brewery – and thousands of visitors each year.

Downtown Reimagined

With dozens of stores you won’t find anywhere else, downtown Highland merchants cater to clientele close to home and those who travel to browse pristine aged tomes, vintage vinyl and one-of-a-kind beaded bags before pausing to grab a bite to eat or a mocha-of-the-day and heading home.

Miles Books owner Jim Rombos said in his 32 years of owning a downtown business, this group of mainstays and start-ups is creating a buzz that keeps growing.

“We get a fair amount of tourists who come to our store and they see Highland for what it is – a wonderful place to shop and eat, a great place to spend a day,” he said. “We grew a significant clientele who came from Chicago and told us what we have here is a treasure.”

Highland Redevelopment Director Kathy DeGuilio-Fox couldn’t agree more.

“The Redevelopment Commission has made a commitment to the storied downtown business district, investing in infrastructure – new lights, sidewalks with stamped concrete intersections, upgraded parking with inviting trees and flowers – as well as other downtown-centric activities like the Restaurant Crawl,” she said.

The goal is to create a destination place with social and cultural importance as well as inviting public spaces.

“We’re creating an energy that is attracting a new, complementary group of businesses. The commission’s upcoming wayfinding signs will spotlight the downtown even more,” DeGuilio-Fox said.

“Downtown Highland has a growing reputation for unique offerings in a district that is true to its mid-century modern roots. Look no further than **Fuzzyline Brewery, Hoosier Highlander, The Counter Italian Ice and Ice Cream, Sakura Bowl and Region Records** to see for yourself.”

There’s even more come. Stay tuned!



[HIGHWAY AVENUE]

Bookended by a who’s who of Highland merchants, Highway Avenue is a delightful mix of eateries, vintage shops, professional offices and more.

Zandstra’s Store for Men – founded in 1963 and the longest-running family business downtown – and its neighbor – **First Financial Bank** – which began operations just six years later – define the western edge of downtown.

At 75 years young, it’s **Hoosier Highlander** that anchors the east side with new owners, who’ve added gallery showings and innovative art classes.



[JEWETT STREET]

Buildings that define the Jewett Street shopping district are among the oldest in town. Shady streets and plentiful bike racks invite shoppers to sit a while.

Today, **Primitive Peddler** occupies the space at 2813 Jewett that once served as a general store when Highland was incorporated in 1910 while **Dan’s Pierogies** works out of a quaint brick storefront at 2945 Jewett that was built in 1925 and housed Highland Motor Sales and the barber shop of Julius Szur.

Both storefronts serve as anchors to mini-shopping districts with each business amplifying the others.

[COMMUNITY GARDEN]

Located just east of the Main Fire Station on Highway, the Community Garden fills a food and social need. Volunteers plant, tend and harvest produce from May through October.

[PARKING DEPOT]

The new downtown parking lot at the corner of Highway and Kennedy – surrounded by beautiful landscaping and rain gardens – has a host of new features, including: electric car charging stations, bicycle parking, a new restroom depot along the bike path and plans for a future trolley shelter.

[MAIN SQUARE PARK]

Main Square Park, located along Ridge Road, serves as a hub for recreational activities, special events, festivals, live entertainment, movies, theatrical performances as well as a popular wedding site at the park’s Gazebo.

[PUBLIC ART]

Highland – the same town that began the public art movement with the Downtown Ducks and places a high value on the arts – boasts several murals throughout the downtown business district.



1900

Tenant farmer John Jansen, his daughter Susie, and his parents stand near a load of onions at home on Carolina Street.



1910

President Andrew Reiner and cashier Henry Daugherty in front of the farmers & Merchants Bank on corner of Highway and Kennedy avenues.



1920

Hattie Lamprecht cuts peonies from the family farm located along Kleinman Road.



1930

Freight and passenger trains ran through downtown highland several times a day until the service was terminated in the 70s.



1940

Schoon’s Super Market was a popular fixture in town. The building was later incorporated into the expanding highland department store.



1950

Jerry and Don Scheeringa are shown in the pig pen with their nephew, Larry Ruiter, on the farm at 9436 Cline Avenue.



1960

Sylvia Zatkulak, Margaret DeMuth and Sue Grimm work on manual typewriters at the Highland Auto License Branch on Kennedy Avenue.



1970

The Town Theater has been a landmark for decades entertaining generations of highland residents over the years.



1980

Mary Stonebraker, Marian Battistini and Bertha Moore man the Highland Historical Society booth at the fall festival.



1990

The town identified its original Downtown Redevelopment Area in 1997, and has expanded on several occasions.



2000

The area where the former Main School once stood is marked by a gazebo, which was rebuilt in 2007 and is a popular site for weddings and events.



2010

Formed in 2011, Highland Main Street attracted a cadre of individuals who wanted to add vitality to downtown. What came next: cash mobs, car cruises and festivals.



2020

The pandemic brought new challenges for Highland business owners. However, with hard work and a little ingenuity, they not only survived, they thrived.



Highland Preschool

Classes are structured to teach proper school behavior. Children should bring a healthy snack and drink to each class, along with a backpack to carry home class projects. Children must be fully potty trained and able to leave parents for the full two hours. Preschoolers will work on sharing, learning ABCs, shapes, numbers, colors, cutting with scissors, making crafts as well as working on listening skills and attention span.

3-4 year olds: Tuesday and Thursday August 17-December 9

4-5 year olds: Monday, Wednesday, Friday August 16-December 10

For more information: highlandparks.org

[SECOND SUNDAYS]

Grab a comfy lawn chair and head to Main Square Park for live entertainment through September. Opening acts perform at noon and headliners 1 p.m. Here's the lineup:

JULY 11 Frank Ruvoli
Solo acoustic
Mellencougar
Mellencamp and more

AUG 8 LeAnn Stutler
Country | Christian
International Polka Band
Chicago's #1 polka

VENDORS WANTED! Seeking fruits, vegetables, cheeses, breads, spices, business booths and more to complement our concert series.
INFO: highlandparks.org

[JULY RESTAURANT CRAWL]

Join Highland's popular Restaurant Crawl the last Tuesday of the month. Participating restaurants feature a special for \$5 or less. Retail businesses will also be open late so diners can shop.

WHEN: 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, July 27

WHERE: Downtown Highland

INFO: highland.in.gov

[SUMMER THEATER]

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets and bug spray for Disney's The Little Mermaid.™ Concession stand will be open. Programs are \$2. All proceeds help offset the cost of production.

WHEN: 8 p.m. July 29-31 | August 5-7

WHERE: Main Square Park Gazebo

INFO: highlandparks.org

[FISHING CONTEST]

Contestants – ages 6-13 – will participate in a catch-and-release tournament at Meadows Park Pond. Prizes will be awarded. Bring your own fishing pole, hooks and bobbers. Limited bait provided.

WHEN: 8-10 a.m. Saturday, July 17

FEE: \$10 residents | \$13 nonresidents

INFO: highlandparks.org

[SKYHAWKS SPORTS CAMPS]

These fun programs at Lincoln Center emphasize critical lessons in sports and life, such as teamwork, respect and sportsmanship.

FLAG FOOTBALL CAMP: July 19-23

CHEERLEADING CAMP: July 19-23

BASKETBALL CAMP: July 26-30

INFO: skyhawks.com