

GAZEBO EXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • JANUARY 2024



HIGHLAND TOWN COUNCIL

NEW YEAR. NEW FACES.



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30TH COUNCIL READY TO BUILD ON TOWN LEGACY

“This council is focusing on taking steps that make Highland more competitive with our neighbors, upgrading our parks and reviewing how we use all of our town properties and how we can improve on what we have.”🐦

“This group of councilmen is looking at avenues for improvement. With input from residents, we will create a vision for Highland and develop common goals while working to provide support for our department heads.”🐦

“We are all focused on redevelopment, maximizing the Property Improvement Program for the benefit of our small businesses and taking a new look at Highland’s Master Plan to develop a plan for the future.”🐦

“The 30th Highland Town Council is intent on developing a plan to create areas of major focus – parks, small business, economic development – and looking at specifics. It’s going to be an exciting four years.”🐦

“Our big three issues going into this term are redevelopment, public safety and parks. We have opportunities for revitalization. Our police and fire departments have things they need. Many of our parks will benefit from upgrades.”🐦

[CRIME WATCH]

Join us for a Crime Watch meeting at 6:30 p.m. **Thursday, January 15** in the Community Room at the HPD, 3315 Ridge Road. Officers will discuss recent crime trends. **Info:** jomalley@highland.in.gov or krhein@highland.in.gov.

[SNOW PARKING BAN]

Reminder: All on-street parking is banned when there is more than 2 inches of new-fallen snow. This allows plows to do their jobs in the first critical hours after snowfall.

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NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?

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WAY-FINDING SIGNS HELP SHOPPERS NAVIGATE DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

The Redevelopment Commission is celebrating the placement of way-finding signs in key locations to help visitors easily find their way to local businesses in Highland’s historic downtown.

Redevelopment Director Maria Becerra said the signs are catching the attention of residents as well as out-of-towners, just weeks after being installed in six key locations in the downtown and Kennedy corridors.

“These signs point the way to our businesses that call downtown Highland home,” Becerra said. “They showcase the variety of businesses we have to offer – restaurants, retail, professional services to name just a few. Our goal with this project is to increase traffic to our merchants.”

TOWN COUNCIL SEEKS QUALIFIED MEMBERS FOR HIGHLAND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

If you want to help propel Highland forward, the 30th Town Council is looking for you.

“Our hard-working boards and commissions members are vital to what we do,” returning Town Councilman Tom Black said. “We rely on these individuals to listen and make recommendations to the Town Council based on what they believe is in the best interest of our town.”

Applications are welcome and must be submitted to the Clerk-Treasurer’s office by **Monday, January 18**.

Most boards meet once or twice a month with additional meetings scheduled as they become necessary. Individuals applying for an open position can choose the board or commission that appeals to them.



[HOW TO APPLY]

The Highland Town Council is looking for residents eager to serve on a board or commission. From the Plan and Police commissions to Community Events and the Water Board, the council is looking for residents who want to make a difference in their community.

INTERESTED? Download an application from highland.in.gov and file it with the Clerk-Treasurer’s office – either in person or submitted by mail to the Office of the Clerk- Treasurer, 3333 Ridge Road, Highland, IN 46322.

RECYCLE RECYCLE RECYCLE

Did you know? Every year, more than 300 million tons of new plastic is produced with less than 10 percent of that being recycled. This year's Earth Day theme is Planet vs. Plastic to draw attention to the problem.

Highland is heading into 2024 with a goal to move that needle.

On the heels of a whopping 3,410 pounds of post-Halloween pumpkins that were recycled out of landfills and fed instead to animals at Erin's Farm Sanctuary in Hobart, Highland Neighbors for Sustainability has taken on a project that repurposes film plastic and could qualify Highland for a bench made of the reclaimed plastic and sawdust for residents to enjoy.



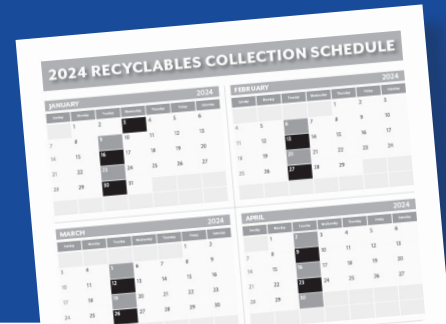
[HELP US REACH OUR GOAL]

Neighbors for Sustainability's Cathy Perrin collects and weighs bags of bread and grocery store bags, bubble wrap, dry-cleaning plastics, newspaper sleeves en route to a town-wide goal of collecting 1,000 pounds by **November 15**. Perrin said residents and businesses are stepping up in a big way. Less than two months into the effort, nearly 150 pounds had been collected.

Please help by depositing your film plastics at Town Hall, Lincoln Community Center or Green Witch Café.

[2024 COLLECTION SCHEDULE]

The 2024 recycling collection schedule starts **Wednesday, January 3**. The insert found in this water bill contains dates for recyclables collection in your neighborhood.



[WHAT CAN I RECYCLE?]

Highland Neighbors for Sustainability remind residents that following items may be placed in recycling bins:

- ♻️ Plastic bottles and jugs – such as milk, pop, soap containers.
- ♻️ Paper – better loose than in bags.
- ♻️ Cardboard – but not pizza boxes.
- ♻️ Aluminum cans.
- ♻️ Aluminum foil – not aluminum pans.
- ♻️ Plastic lids attached to plastic bottles – not by themselves.
- ♻️ Glass of all colors – but not medicine bottles
- ♻️ Metal lids, cans, bottles

[DO NOT RECYCLE]

Please do not recycle the following items as they may contaminate the whole recyclables collection:

- ♻️ Food waste
- ♻️ Shoes, clothing
- ♻️ Toys
- ♻️ Pizza boxes
- ♻️ Diapers
- ♻️ Medicine bottles
- ♻️ Yard waste
- ♻️ Plastic bags, film

[YOUNG REMBRANDTS]

Our curriculum is designed to teach basic-to-advanced elementary drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary. We give students – ages 6-12 – the skills to express their creativity and believe that all children can and should learn to draw. You'll see increased art abilities, learning skills, self-confidence and self-esteem.

WHEN: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Fridays,
January 12-February 2

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$52 residents | \$57 nonresidents

INFO: highlandparks.org

[DOMINOES]

This is an easy game with simple rules, but the fun is limitless. Lunch will be served around noon.

WHEN: Noon-2 p.m. Tuesdays,
January 23 and March 29

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$11 residents | \$13 nonresidents - includes lunch, coffee, soda, prizes.

INFO: highlandparks.org

[GROUP CYCLING]

This class is great for beginners as well as intermediate cyclists – ages 14 and up – to get the day – or your New Year's resolutions – started!

MONDAYS: 5:45-6:30 a.m.
**January 8-29, February 5-26,
March 4-25 and April 8-29**

TUESDAYS: 5:45-6:30 a.m.
**January 9-30, February 6-27,
March 5-26 and April 9-30**

FRIDAYS: 5:45-6:30 a.m.
**January 5-26, February 2-23,
March 1-22 and April 5-26**

WHERE: Lincoln Community Center

FEE: \$34 residents | \$37 nonresidents
\$10 R | \$11 NR drop-ins must be paid during office hours the day before.

INFO: highlandparks.org

Winter Wonderland

SUNDAY ★ JANUARY 21

Cooperative Special Recreation Initiative

Highland Parks and Recreation invites individuals of all ages who have special needs and abilities to join us from **1-3 p.m.** for a day of wintry fun at Lincoln Community Center. Enjoy bounce houses, games, crafts, snacks and more.

Winter Wonderdance

Middle school students – ages 11 to 13 or Grades 6-8 – are invited to dance the night away in our winter wonderland! The **5-8 p.m.** dance includes games, pizza, snacks and more.

Tickets are \$15. Register by Sunday, January 14.



Please note: This event is for residents or Highland students only. No exit prior to end of event. Behavior issues will result in a call home, ejection without refund, and a ban from future events.

[CAKE DECORATING]

Join us from 6-8 p.m. **January 26** in the Lincoln Center Banquet Hall as Jaaleon, from JaaCakes, teaches the fundamentals of decorating cakes using buttercream frosting. Participants – ages 12 and older – will get a step-by-step guide from an award-winning baker/cake decorator. You will leave class with a Winter Wonderland decorated cake. No experience needed.

FEE: \$45 residents | \$50 nonresidents **REGISTER BY:** January 21