

**HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!** A holiday honoring fathers did not become official until 1966, when President Lyndon Johnson declared the third Sunday in June Father's Day. President Richard Nixon made this proclamation permanent in 1972.



# GAZEBOEXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • JUNE 2014

## BEAUTIFICATION GRANT

Community Foundation awards \$37,000 to enhance 45th Street green space

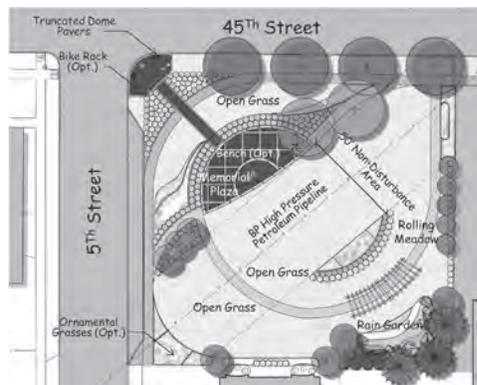
The transformation from unkempt field to a serene green space complete with plantings, benches and pathways is beginning along 45th at Fifth Street.

A sculpture named for Ashley Ritz, the Highland High School student who lost her life at the intersection in 2003, will anchor the space.

On tap for the 2014 construction season will be site grading along with installation of both electric lines and an irrigation system. The green space will take shape in 2015 when shrubs, trees, grass and flowers are planted and pavers are installed to create a walking path and plaza.

The \$94,000 cost of the project is being paid for through donations to the Highland Community Foundation. Most recently, the community foundation donated more than \$37,000 to the Park Board to advance the project.

Richard Underkofler, secretary of the Highland Community Foundation, thanked everyone who has been supporting projects, such as the green space park and blue heron rookery,



The Arsh Group, planners and landscape Architects, Merrillville.

through the community foundation.

“We have events to raise money for projects that enhance Highland,” he said. “Our goal has been to show steady, incremental progress and thanks to our residents and local business contributions, we have been able to do just that.”

**HOW YOU CAN HELP:** Set your legacy in stone with a personalized paver or make a monetary donation to the Ashley Ritz Memorial sculpture. **PAGE 2**

## EMERGENCY VET CENTER TO OPEN IN HIGHLAND

The North Central Veterinary Emergency Center is expanding to Highland!

An affiliate of Purdue University, the emergency veterinary clinic converted three available storefronts in the 2400 block of Ridge Road adjacent to Jimmy John's into one urgent care center for animals that will begin accepting furry and feathered patients in early June.

Practice Manager Heather Barbour said when the decision was made to expand, she began scouting for locations in Northwest Indiana in October and found the perfect location in Highland.

“We will have four or five vets working at the clinic, which will be open around the clock every day of the year,” she said.

Redevelopment Director Cecile Petro said the clinic is another valuable addition to the town. “Highland is an excellent destination for professional services. In the past three months, we have had Milestone Therapy and now an emergency veterinary clinic move into town,” she said. “This brings the number of new, highly skilled employees to almost 100.”

**FOR MORE INFO:** Please call (219) 881-1600.

## LIFE-SAVING TOOLS

Highland is one of 11 local fire departments to receive life-saving tools thanks to steel giant Arcelor Mittal.

Fire Chief Bill Timmer is grateful for the new spreader-cutters, which allow first responders to quickly open a gap wide enough to pull a trapped victim free.

“Our first priority is the safe removal of individuals from a crash, which isn't always easy to do,” Timmer said. “When we are dealing with a serious crash, minutes matter. This new equipment allows us to perform that task more quickly than ever before.”

## E-911 AGREEMENT

Months after Highland officials joined with neighboring communities in challenging the details of a new E-911 center, the council received sufficient assurances from Lake County to allow them to endorse the measure that will centralize police and fire dispatch operations in Crown Point.

Highland – along with St. John, Schererville and Cedar Lake – opposed the measure until they received commitments from county officials regarding costs, revenue sources and staffing. The E-911 center is planned to cost \$20 million to build and \$10 million per year to operate.

## ... TOWN TICKER ...

Ready for some pampering? Check out the relaxing massages and luxurious body scrubs at **ESPA**, a new holistic spa on Jewett Avenue in downtown Highland. Enjoy discounted services throughout the month of June. **INFO:** 219-923-ESPA or my-espas.com. ... **Lincoln Fitness Center** has a bevy of June promotions to get you motivated. Members can bring a friend for free during **Bring a Friend Week** – June 5-11 or bring their dad for free during **Dad's Weekend** – June 13-15. U.S. veterans and active military non-members may work out for free during **Armed Forces Week** – July 1-7. ... Need a ride? The **GPTC Lakeshore South bus** now stops at Ultra Foods before heading to Munster and Hammond.

**TALKING TRASH**

Residents are reminded to properly place and store refuse/recycling bins.

Town ordinance stipulates residents must place containers for collection at ground level within the right-of-way of a street or alley and must be accessible and not more than 15 feet from the side of the street or alley from which collection is to be made.

Collection bins must also be placed in an orderly and sanitary manner on the days designated for the collection and must be removed to the rear of the premises after collection is made and on the same date of collection.

**CURFEW RULES!**

It is a curfew violation for a teen age 15, 16, or 17 to be in a public place from 10:30 p.m. - 5 a.m. weekdays and from midnight - 5 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. It is also a violation for kids under 15 to be in a public place from 10 p.m. - 5:30 a.m. any day.



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**NEWS TIP? STORY IDEA?**

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**A RUN TO REMEMBER ...**



Members of the Highland Police Department as well as some of their family members ran the 2014 Chicago Run to Remember 5K run along the lakefront in memory of Highland’s two fallen officers – Robert Markley and Donald R. Sheppard – who were killed in the line of duty. Sheppard was killed in 1971 during a gun fight with an escaped convict. Markley was struck and killed by an intoxicated driver in 1978 while directing traffic as police responded to a kidnapping. Front row from left are Brian Orth, Ralph Potesta, Shawn Anderson, Danny Ponce. Standing from left are Todd Anderson, Steve Denby, Sarah Storm, Brian Stanley, Lee Natelborg, Dan Matusik Jacqui Ponce, Stephanie Stewart, Tony Kowal and Darren Conley.

**PERSONALIZED PAVERS, MONETARY DONATIONS TO BEAUTIFY NEW PARK**

Looking for a unique way to memorialize a loved one’s life, graduation, marriage?

The Highland Community Foundation has the answer with their “Set Your Legacy in Stone” initiative, which allows individuals to purchase a personalized paver that will be placed as part of the beautification of the 45th Street green space improvement project.

“This is a wonderful opportunity for patrons of the park to leave a legacy for this generation as well as for those who follow us,” Foundation Secretary Richard Underkoffler said.

“We have been blessed with generous contributors, who have helped us raise money to transform the green space. We are asking for that generosity to continue through the purchase of these pavers and donations to the park sculpture.”

**FOR MORE INFO:** Please email Kathy Grimler at [hcfpavers@gmail.com](mailto:hcfpavers@gmail.com).

**PAVER DONATIONS**

Pavers are available in three sizes and prices:

- **Half Stone:** \$100 (3 lines of 10 characters)
- **Standard:** \$150 (4 lines of 13 characters)
- **Extra large:** \$200 (6 lines of 16 characters)

**INFO:** Paver order forms are available at the Farmer’s Market each Saturday this summer and at Town Hall, 3333 Ridge Road.

**SCULPTURE DONATIONS**

**CHECK DONATIONS:** Donations for the Ashley Ritz Memorial sculpture are payable to the Highland Community Foundation with “Ashley Ritz Memorial” in the memo. Please mail to:

**Highland Community Foundation**  
c/o Public Art Committee  
P.O. Box 1783  
Highland, IN 46322.

**ONLINE DONATIONS:** To make a secure online donation, go to Legacy Foundation and click on “Donate Now”. After entering your donation amount, PayPal, Debit or Credit Card information, please direct your contribution to Highland Community Fund (HICF).

# Play Ball!

New scoreboard, playing field, ball players revive Highland Babe Ruth and Travel League

On an unusually chilly late May evening, Laura Carpenter snuggled under a comfy fleece blanket to watch her son, Sam, play ball.

For the mother of three, Kane Field has been her summer home away from home for nearly a decade.

Both sons played Little League before graduating to Babe Ruth, where most evenings you'll find Sam hunkered down at second base for the Arizona Wildcats.

Sam is part of the resurgence of Babe Ruth baseball in Highland. Interest in the league had waned in recent years before longtime youth baseball leader Dan Vassar rolled

up his sleeves with a plan to put the league back front and center.

From approximately 33 players last year, the league has grown to include 108 players and eight teams, including a traveling division.

"In a time where many other Lake County Babe Ruth leagues are struggling for numbers, we added a substantial number of players.

"I would like to thank the players and parents who came back to play," Vassar said. "The resurgence of the HBR league is a direct result of their belief in our vision.

"I also want to thank the local business owners who have stepped to the plate with generous donations of dollars, time and talent to help us expedite our plan."

## Information

**BABE RUTH:**  
Ages 13 to 15

**SENIOR LEAGUE:**  
Ages 16 to 19

**WHEN:** Games are held almost everyday throughout the season. Visit [highland.baberuthonline.com](http://highland.baberuthonline.com) for the latest schedule.

**WHERE:** Kane Field at Homestead Park, 8003 5th Street.

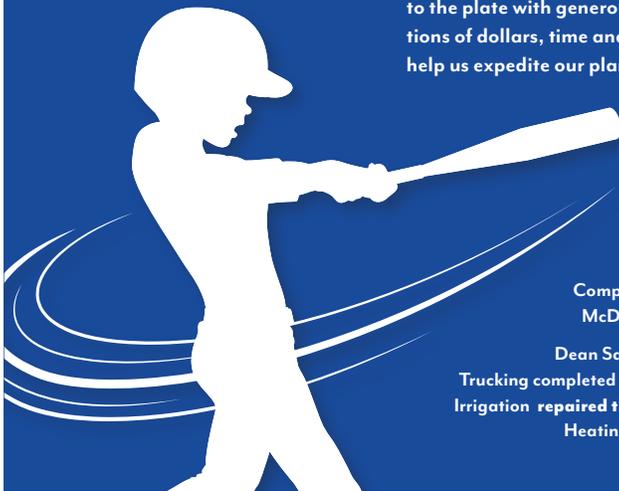
**INFO:** Call President Dan Vassar at (219) 924-1945 or email [highlandbaberuth@yahoo.com](mailto:highlandbaberuth@yahoo.com).

## A special thank you!

Thank you to the following generous donors for making us look so good!

Babe Ruth Alumni Tom Crowel of Crowel Companies and Randy Conn of the south Highland McDonald's donated the new 16-foot scoreboard.

Dean Savarino of Dean's Landscaping and Krooswyk Trucking completed the new infield. Mark Hirschak of Rainmaker Irrigation repaired the sprinkler system. Mike Burbridge of Burbs Heating & Cooling fixed our concession equipment.



## OPERATION SOS

Operation SOS - Support Our Service members - is seeking a rent-free location, such as a small home or garage, to store the items it collects for overseas military personnel. The nonprofit group packages and sends as many as 400 care packages at a time.

**INFO:** If you'd like to help or make a donation, please call Colleen Aguirre at (219) 923-5799.

## ATHLETICS GOLF OUTING

It's time to register for the 3rd Annual Highland Athletic Department golf outing. Proceeds benefit the entire Highland Athletic Department.

**WHEN:** noon Saturday, **JULY 14**

**WHERE:** Scherwood Golf Course in Schererville

**FEES:** \$100 person/\$400 foursome includes golf, lunch and dinner.

**REGISTRATION:** Deadline **JULY 1**

**INFO:** Call Athletic Director Ken Bye at (219) 922-5611 or email [atkbye@highland.k12.in.us](mailto:atkbye@highland.k12.in.us).

## OUTDOOR STREET MARKET

Enjoy the warm summer weather at the annual outdoor market featuring fresh produce, cheeses, breads, teas, coffees, spices, tamales and more.

**WHEN:** 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturdays, **JUNE 7 - OCTOBER 18**

**WHERE:** Main Square Park

**INFO:** Visit [www.highlandparks.org](http://www.highlandparks.org) or call (219) 838-0114.

## LITTLE LIGHTS PRESCHOOL

Little Lights Preschool is enrolling students for its fall session.

**WHEN:** Fall session begins **AUGUST 19**

**WHERE:** Suburban Bible Church, 3010 41st St.

**FEES:** \$450 per child

**INFO:** Visit [www.suburbanbible.org](http://www.suburbanbible.org) or [www.facebook.com/littlelights](http://www.facebook.com/littlelights) for info and downloadable registration forms.

## SHRED DAY HELPS RESIDENTS CLEAR THE CLUTTER

Bring your tattered, torn and ready-to-be-recycled documents, publications, even spiral-bound notebooks and traditionally bound volumes to Highland's first Shred Day.

Highland Public Works in partnership with Secure-Shred, a division of Opportunity Enterprises, is hosting Shred Day to give individuals and businesses the chance to get rid of documents, such as out-of-date forms, while preserving peace of mind.

OE creates job opportunities for individuals with disabilities. The staff will be onsite to collect your confidential materials in secure totes, which will be shredded at OE's Valparaiso facility.

"All of us have paper we simply don't want any more. We found the OE's safety and security measures beyond reproach," Public Works Director John Bach said. "People can rest easy knowing their personal information is not at risk."

## 2014 SHRED DAY

Time to clean out the clutter? Highland residents and businesses are invited to bring outdated documents and forms to be securely shred by Opportunity Enterprise's SecureShred staff.

**WHEN:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **JUNE 28**

**WHERE:** Highland Public Works Facility, 8001 Kennedy Ave.

**INFO:** Call (219) 972-5069.

### RED HOT TENNIS CAMP

Learn proper tennis techniques from instructors Steve and Ofelia. Steve is a longtime USPTR tennis pro at Match Point and head coach at Calumet College. Ofelia is a USPTR tennis pro at Match Point, assistant girls tennis coach at Highland High School and assistant coach at Calumet College. Camp is open to boys and girls 5 to 18 years old. Dress comfortably and bring your own tennis racquet and water. All participants receive a camp T-shirt!

**SESSION 1:** Monday - Thursday, **JUNE 9 - 26**

**SESSION 2:** Monday - Thursday, **JULY 7 - 24**

**WHEN:** 8 to 9:30 a.m. or 9:30 to 11 a.m.

**WHERE:** Highland High School tennis courts

**FEES:** \$125/\$135 per 3 week session; \$85/\$95 per 2 week session; \$45/\$50 for 1 week.

**INFO:** Call (219) 838-0114 or visit us online at [www.highlandparks.org](http://www.highlandparks.org).

### SOUNDS OF SUMMER

Sultry skies and oh-so-warm evening temperatures lend themselves to spending time outdoors. Grab a comfy lawn chair and your favorite bug spray and head to Main Square for Highland Park's summer concert series.

**JUNE 12:** Tonal Attitude - *rock, pop, funk, blues*

**JUNE 19:** Oscar and the Majestics - *garage rock*

**JUNE 26:** Neverly Brothers - *rock 'n' roll*

**JULY 10:** Dan Mateja & the Downtown Sound - *legendary polka music*

**JULY 17:** Piano Man Mike Sigman - *Billy Joel & Elton John tribute*

**WHEN:** 7 to 9 p.m.

**WHERE:** Main Square Park Gazebo

**NOTE:** In the event of inclement weather, concerts will be held in the Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse. Please bring your own chair.

**INFO:** Call (219) 838-0114 or visit us online at [www.highlandparks.org](http://www.highlandparks.org).

### MOVIES IN THE PARK

Join Highland Parks and Recreation for an evening in the park to sit back, relax and watch "Frozen" on the big screen. The concession stand will sell popcorn and fountain drinks. Bring a blanket or comfortable lawn chair. If it rains, the movie will be shown in the Lincoln Community Center Fieldhouse.

**WHEN:** Dusk **JUNE 13**

**WHERE:** Main Square Park

**INFO:** Call (219) 838-0114 or visit us online at [www.highlandparks.org](http://www.highlandparks.org).

### BEER GARDEN FESTIVAL

The 17th annual Beer Garden Festival, hosted by Our Lady of Grace Church, features cold beer and food provided by Big Frank's Sausage with an array of sandwiches and Polish treats. Soft drinks and water will also be available.

**WHEN:** 6 p.m. to midnight **JULY 2 - 6**

**WHERE:** Our Lady of Grace, 3025 Highway Ave.

**INFO:** Call (219) 838-9094, (219) 838-7838 or (219) 838-0395.



### ATTEND THE FESTIVAL

The Fourth of July Festival kicks off at Main Square Park and features:

#### WEDNESDAY, JULY 2

**FESTIVAL:** 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**WRISTBANDS:** \$20 from 5 to 10 p.m.

**6 - 7 PM** DJ

**7:30 - 9:30 PM** Allen Wronko

#### THURSDAY, JULY 3

**FESTIVAL:** 5 p.m. to midnight

**6:30 - 7 PM** DJ

**7:30 - 9 PM** Wiseguys

**9:30 - 11:30 PM** Dick Diamond & the Dusters

#### FRIDAY, JULY 4

**FESTIVAL:** 1 p.m. to midnight

**WRISTBANDS:** \$20 from 1 to 5 p.m.

**4 - 6 PM** Chester Brown

**6:30 - 8:30 PM** The Unstoppables

**9:30 - 11:30 PM** Dancing Noodles

#### SATURDAY, JULY 5

**FESTIVAL:** 1 p.m. to midnight

**WRISTBANDS:** \$20 from 1 to 5 p.m.

**1 - 3 PM** DJ

**3:45 - 5:45 PM** Slim Gypsy Baggage

**6:30 - 8:30 PM** New Element

**9:30 - 11:30 PM** Neverly Brothers

#### SUNDAY, JULY 6

**FESTIVAL:** 1 p.m. to 10 p.m.

**WRISTBANDS:** \$20 from 1 to 5 p.m.

**LAST BLAST:** \$15 from 6 to 10 p.m.

**1 - 2:30 PM** Monterrey

**3 - 4:30 PM** Ted Tomczak and the

Take 5 Polka Band

**4:45 - 6:15 PM** Nomad Planets

**7:30 - 9:30 PM** Kashmir

Look around town for \$2 discount wristband coupons.

**INFO:** For festival information, call Kelly Bridges at (219) 670-0764.

### ENJOY THE FIREWORKS

Grab a blanket or your favorite lawn chair and join us for Highland's spectacular fireworks display at 9 p.m. July 4 at Homestead Park.

### KNOW THE RULES

Fireworks are allowed between 5 p.m. and two hours after sunset June 29 through July 9. The exception is July 4 between 10 a.m. and midnight. "We want residents to follow the rules and to be safe," Police Chief Pete Hojnicky said. "Fireworks can be very dangerous. Take every precaution to stay safe."

### RUN THE MILE

The All-American Mile Run, sponsored by Standard Bank & Trust Co., kicks off the Twilight Independence Day Parade. All participants receive a dry-fit T-shirt. Entry forms are available at Lincoln Center. Register race day at the School Administration Building from 5 to 6:15 p.m. Open to all age groups, the race begins at 6:30 p.m. July 3 at 40th Street and Kennedy Avenue. The fee is \$10 in advance and \$15 on race day.

**TOP PRIZES:** Males with the fastest sub 4-min mile and females with the fastest sub 5-min mile win a \$250 prize.

**INFO:** Call (219) 838-0114 or visit us online at [www.highlandparks.org](http://www.highlandparks.org).

### WATCH THE PARADE

This year's Fourth of July twilight parade begins at 6:30 p.m. July 3 at St. James the Less Catholic Church (45th and Kennedy), continues north on Kennedy to Highway Avenue and east along Highway to the park. A kiddie parade will take place at 12:45 p.m. July 4 in the parking lot across from Traditions Restaurant.

**INFO:** For parade information, call Erica Wolak at (219) 718-1610. For Kiddie Parade information, call Maria Culbertson at (219) 616-0554.