

JULY 4TH FESTIVAL SPECIAL SECTION INSIDE

GAZEBO EXPRESS

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



From our summer concert series and outdoor market to our expanded downtown restaurant crawls and amazing festivals, summer is chock full of fun for everyone. Here are the highlights:

[DRONE LIGHT SHOW CAPS OFF JULY 4TH FESTIVAL]

For the first time ever, the Highland Council of Community Events will light up the night sky **July 7** with a drone light show that can best be viewed from Main Square Park. Turn the page to get all the details on this year's July 4th Festival including festival hours, details on the beer garden, entertainment lineup, parades and more!

[HIGHLAND EXPANDS SEASONAL RESTAURANT CRAWLS]

Highland Main Street has a plan to extend the fun of sultry summer evenings **July, August** and **September**, closing Highway from Kennedy Avenue to Fifth Street to vehicular traffic on the last Tuesday of the month, beefing up the Downtown Restaurant Crawl by adding picnic tables and entertainment streetside. "We encourage Highland to spend time with neighbors, family and friends downtown," HMS President Rhonda Bloch said. "It's a street party that offers some of the best food in town."

[SUMMER CONCERTS]

Grab a comfy lawn chair and head to Main Square Park this summer for live entertainment from 7-9 p.m. Here's the lineup:

JUN 12: Soul Entertainment
Blues

JUN 19: Pawnz
Motown

JUL 10: Soulguru
Pop

JUL 17: Crawford Band
60s-70s music

AUG 7: Stingrays
Swing and 20s-50s music



[HIGHLAND MARKET]

Grab your sneakers and a tote before heading downtown for the Highland Market. Hosted by Highland Main Street, the market features food, crafters and more from 3-7:30 p.m. Thursdays, through **September 26** at the Municipal Parking Lot, 2730 Highway.

[BBQ FESTIVAL]

Save the date! You're not going to want to miss this year's Backyard BBQ Fest **September 13-15** at Main Square Park. Come for the live music, beer garden, food and crafts. Stay for fan favorite carnival rides that are new to this year's BBQ festival weekend.

DATES & TIMES

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

FESTIVAL HOURS: noon-10:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: 12:30-2 p.m.

★ Finnegan's Rainbow of Fun

\$30 WRISTBANDS: 2-6 p.m.

BEER GARDEN: 2-10:30 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT: 5-10:30 p.m.

ALL-AMERICAN MILE: 6 p.m.

TWILIGHT PARADE: 6:30 p.m.

THURSDAY, JULY 4

FESTIVAL HOURS: noon-10:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: 12:30-2 p.m.

★ Dance Party

\$30 WRISTBANDS: 2-6 p.m.

BEER GARDEN: 2-10:30 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT: 3:30-10:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, JULY 5

FESTIVAL HOURS: noon-10:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: 12:30-2 p.m.

★ Finnegan's Rainbow of Fun

\$30 WRISTBANDS: 2-6 p.m.

BEER GARDEN: 2-10:30 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT: 2:30-10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

FESTIVAL HOURS: noon-10:30 p.m.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: 12:30-2 p.m.

★ Griffith Super Squad

KIDDIE PARADE: 1:30 p.m.

\$30 WRISTBANDS: 2-6 p.m.

BEER GARDEN: 2-10:30 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT: 2:30-10:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

FESTIVAL HOURS: noon-9 p.m.

SPECIAL ABILITIES DAY: noon-2 p.m.

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES: 12:30-2 p.m.

★ Highland Police Canine

★ Highland Firetruck Rides

★ Self-defense Demonstration

★ SCOOPIE

\$30 WRISTBANDS: 2-6 p.m.

BEER GARDEN: 2-9 p.m.

ENTERTAINMENT: 2-9 p.m.

DRONE LIGHT SHOW: 9 p.m.



HOSTED BY THE HIGHLAND
COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY EVENTS

BEER GARDEN ★



2-10:30 PM JULY 3-6 | 2-9 PM JULY 7

Enjoy beer, wine and ready-to-drink cocktail cans in our expanded venue. Patrons must be at least 21 to purchase alcohol. ID is required. Final call to purchase drink tickets is 30 minutes before the end of the festival each night.

FOOD & CRAFT VENDORS ★

NOON-10:30 PM DAILY

Check out this year's food and craft booths. Foodies can get their fill on everything from cheesy treats and pierogies to funnel cakes and elephant ears. Craft and business vendors featuring jewelry and clothing as well as items for your pet and home will be part of the mix.

KIDDIE PARADE ★



1:30 P.M. SATURDAY, JULY 6

The Kiddie Parade begins at the Highland Municipal Parking Lot on Highway and Kennedy avenues. It then continues east on Highway and ends at Main Square Park. A special gift is provided for each child who participates, with some lucky winners finding GOLDEN TICKETS for free wristbands good for festival rides. **INFO:** Register at highland.in.gov or highlandcce@highland.in.gov.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT ★

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

5-6:30 p.m. **MIKE GREEN**

7-8:30 p.m. **I'M WITH FRANK** – All genres, new and old

9-10:30 p.m. **JUMP** – Van Halen Tribute

THURSDAY, JULY 4

3:30-4:30 p.m. **ELI AND THE ELEMENTS**

5-6:30 p.m. **NOMAD PLANETS**

7-8:30 p.m. **TOGETHER** – Classic Rock/Funk/Soul

9-10:30 p.m. **ELVIS WITH CHANGE OF HABIT**

FRIDAY, JULY 5

2:30-4 p.m. **STERN APPROVAL**

4:30-6 p.m. **THE SMILEY TILLMAN BAND**

6:30-8 p.m. **VISIONS OF SANTANA** – Santana Tribute

8:30-10:30 p.m. **KASHMIR** – Led Zeppelin Tribute

SATURDAY, JULY 6

2:30-4 p.m. **CROSTHREADS** – Iconic Music of Our Time

4:30-6 p.m. **PAWNZ**

6:30-8 p.m. **MR. FUNNYMAN**

8:30-10:30 p.m. **DICK DIAMOND AND THE DUSTERS**

SUNDAY, JULY 7

2-3 p.m. **JIM BULANDA** – Frank Sinatra Tribute

3:30-5 p.m. **MICHELLE VELEZ & THE DAM BAND**

5:30-7 p.m. **ANTHEM** – Classic Rock and Beyond

7:30-9 p.m. **SMALLTOWN** – John Mellencamp Tribute

ALL-AMERICAN MILE ★

6 PM WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

The 40th annual All-American Mile Run kicks off the Twilight Independence Day Parade. It is part of the Calumet Striders 2024 Gold Cup Series! Register early to receive a T-shirt. Open to all age groups, the race begins at 40th Street and Kennedy. The fee is \$15 through July 2 only at runsignup.com or register race day for \$20 from 5 to 6:15 p.m. at the school administration building. **PRIZES:** Awards for Top 3 in each age division plus overall male/female winners, masters male/female winners and Clydesdale/Athena finishers. Males with the fastest sub 4-min mile and females with the fastest sub 4:50-min mile win a \$750 prize. Visit highlandparks.org.

TWILIGHT PARADE ★

6:30 PM WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

The Twilight Parade steps off at 45th and Kennedy/St. James Church. Marching bands, military, veterans, scouts, police and fire groups are free. **INFO:** Register at highland.in.gov or highlandcce@highland.in.gov.

PERSONAL FIREWORKS ★

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. "Fireworks can be dangerous," Highland Police Chief Ralph Potesta said. "Take every precaution to stay safe."

DRONE LIGHT SHOW ★

NEW

9 PM SUNDAY, JULY 7

Celebrate the red, white and blue! New to Highland's July 4th Festival, this spectacular drone light show will light up the brilliant evening sky at Main Square Park – instead of traditional pyrotechnics.

[SOCCER SHOTS]

This engaging soccer class focuses on character development. Our caring team impacts lives on and off the field through best-in-class coaching, curriculum and communication.

JUNE 19-JULY 31*Wednesday evenings***MINI (ages 2-early 3):** 4:45-5:15 p.m.**CLASSIC (ages 3-5):** 5:30-6:05 p.m.**PREMIER (ages 5-8):** 6:15-7 p.m.**JUNE 22-AUG 3***Saturday mornings***PREMIER (ages 5-8):** 9-9:45 a.m.**CLASSIC (ages 3-5):** 9-9:30 a.m.**MINI (ages 2-early 3):** 10-10:30 a.m.**CLASSIC (ages 3-5):** 10:45-11:15 a.m.**WHERE:** Field outside Lincoln Center**FEES:** \$119 for seven weeks. \$20 annual enrollment fee includes jersey.**INFO:** Enroll online only at

soccershots.org/northwestindiana

[BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT]

Teams – in grade divisions 2nd-3rd, 4th-5th, 6th-8th, 9th-12th – are required to roster up four to five players. Every squad is guaranteed at least four games. All players must present school ID from the 2023-24 school year on tournament day.

WHEN: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. Sunday, **June 30****WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center**FEES:** \$100 per team – includes T-shirt**INFO:** highlandparks.org**[BABYSITTING CERTIFICATION]**

Babysitter Lessons and Safety Training is a four-hour class that offers training in pediatric first aid, household safety and fundamentals of childcare.

AGES: 11-14**WHEN:** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, **June 15****WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center**FEES:** \$40 residents | \$44 nonresidents – includes manual and materials.**INFO:** highlandparks.org**YOUNG REMBRANDTS**

ELEMENTARY DRAWING: Our elementary-age curriculum (ages 6-12) is designed to teach basic to advanced drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary. We give your student 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: 10-11 a.m. Fridays, June 14-July 12 (off 7/5) | July 19-August 9**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center **FEE:** \$52 R | \$57 NR

CARTOON DRAWING: Learning to draw can be fun, especially when we create silly characters, funny expressions and drawing sequences that tell a joke! This delightful program combines our step-by-step method with light-hearted subject matter that engages children, their sense of humor and vivid imaginations.

WHEN: 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. Fridays, June 14-July 12 (off 7/5) | July 19-August 9**WHERE:** Lincoln Community Center **FEE:** \$52 R | \$57 NR**[RESTAURANT CRAWL]**

Join us for our popular Restaurant Crawl from 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, **June 25** in downtown Highland. The concept is simple: participating restaurants feature a special for \$7 or less, so that visitors can “eat their way through downtown,” stopping at their usual haunts and discovering new ones along the way.

INFO: Visit highland.in.gov.**[ST. JAMES FESTIVAL]**

This family-friendly festival features live entertainment, food, a beer garden, bingo, a big six wheel as well as a kids zone with kiddie rides.

WHEN: 5-11 p.m. Friday, **June 21;**2-11 p.m. Saturday, **June 22** and2-10 p.m. Sunday, **June 23****WHERE:** St. James the Less Catholic Church, 9640 Kennedy Avenue**INFO:** (219) 924-4220