

# GAZEBO EXPRESS

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENT SOURCE FOR THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND • SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2024

## YOUR OPINION MATTERS

### MASTER PLAN: SHAPING THE FUTURE OF HIGHLAND

When it comes to creating a blueprint to guide development – and redevelopment – for the next 20 years, Redevelopment Commission President George Georgeff said input from residents will be invaluable in shaping the future. “We want to hear from you and your neighbors,” Georgeff said. “This is an important initiative for our town – from our business districts to our parks and neighborhoods.”

#### [ WORKSHOPS ]

The Town of Highland will invite the public to attend workshops in the upcoming months to discuss a vision for downtown Highland and the Kennedy Avenue corridor. Please visit [highland.in.gov](http://highland.in.gov) for updates on times, dates and locations.

### SAFE STREETS FOR ALL: CREATING AN ACTION PLAN

Highland is partnering with American Structurepoint to study roadway and intersection safety needs throughout the community. Your input is vital to developing the town’s Comprehensive Safety Action Plan. We want to hear from you!

#### [ SHARE YOUR INPUT ]

Stop by our booth and share your thoughts from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. **October 12** at the Craft and Vendor Show at Lincoln Community Center or take a survey at [highland.in.gov](http://highland.in.gov).



#### [ 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BACKYARD BBQ ]

Carnival rides and an extra day have been added to this year’s Backyard BBQ. Join us for the delicious food, beer garden, crafts and live music as we celebrate the end of summer.

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

**Festival Hours:** 5-10:30 p.m.

**Rides:** 5-10 p.m.

#### Entertainment lineup:

5 p.m. - Little Giant

6:45 p.m. - Buck Daddy

8:30 p.m. - Rockology Chicago

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

**Festival Hours:** Noon-10:30 p.m.

**Rides:** 2-10 p.m.

#### Kid’s Activities:

12:30-1:30 p.m. - I Dig Dino

#### Entertainment lineup:

3:30 p.m. - Ashlyn

6 p.m. - I’m With Frank

8:30 p.m. - Nate Venturelli

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

**Festival Hours:** Noon-9 p.m.

**Rides:** 2-9 p.m.

#### Special Abilities Day:

Those with special abilities can enjoy the carnival rides from noon-2 p.m.

Register your child by emailing [highlandcce@highland.in.gov](mailto:highlandcce@highland.in.gov).

#### Kid’s Activities:

To Be Announced

#### Entertainment lineup:

2 p.m. - Rocky Road Band

4:30 p.m. - Crawlpuddies

7 p.m. - Bonfire

**[ PUBLISHING CHANGES ]**

Beginning with this issue, the Gazebo Express will be published bi-monthly. Look to the November-December issue for information to keep your holidays merry from Thanksgiving to the New Year.

**[ NO BURNING LEAVES ]**

Just a friendly reminder that open burning of leaves, twigs and other yard waste is prohibited within town limits. Visit [highland.in.gov/MunicipalCode](http://highland.in.gov/MunicipalCode) to learn more.

**[ CRIME WATCH ]**

Join us at 6:30 p.m. **Sept. 18** for a Crime Watch meeting in the Community Room at the Highland Police Department, 3315 Ridge Road. **INFO:** Email Officer Justin O’Malley at [jomalley@highland.in.gov](mailto:jomalley@highland.in.gov).

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**GEORGE GEORGEFF**  
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**WARD 3**  
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**WARD 4**  
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**WARD 5**  
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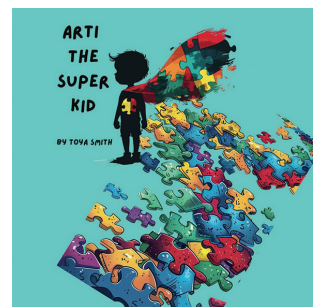
**[ MAKING WAY FOR A NEW TRADITION ]** The remains of the historic Traditions Restaurant, 2739 Highway, were torn down in August to make way for the restaurant to be rebuilt following a fire last year. Owner Ruben Ibarra said plans for a new and bigger eatery are underway. “Once it was clear we would be rebuilding and not just repairing the parts of the structure that had been damaged in the fire, we started dreaming of the restaurant Traditions could be,” he said. “We just have to take the project one step at a time. We are moving forward.” [ photo provided ]

## Former councilwoman pens autism book

Highland resident and former Town Councilwoman Toya Smith envisioned stories focused on sending children the message that it is okay to be different – that autism could be their super power.

“I started coming up with books for kids, like “Arti the Super Kid,” a couple of years ago. They were adventures with characters who are considered out of the mainstream,” Smith said. “This year, I decided it was time to write the stories down and make them available to all of the Arti’s of the world and anyone who knows someone like the Super Kid. My goal is to help readers accept every child for who they are.”

Smith plans for the stories of Arti to be part of a series. “The Sun Didn’t Shine” is already available. “Arti The Super Kid’s Furry Friend” is due out soon.



“Arti the Super Kid” is available for purchase at Miles Books, 2819 Jewett in Highland as well as Amazon, Barnes and Noble and other online retailers.

Highland Main Street presents ...



10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5**

On Jewett between Kennedy & 4th

Support Local Artisans in your Community

### sidewalk sale

While downtown enjoying the market, be sure to check out the sidewalk sale! This is a great time to start your Christmas shopping and snag deeply discounted items!



### for more information & updates

Visit the Highland Main Street Facebook page  
or the Highland Makers' Market Facebook Event page.

### [ OPEN HOUSE & CAR SHOW ]

The Highland Fire Department is hosting an open house and car show from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. **Saturday, October 5** at the Central Fire Station on Highway Avenue. The event features demonstrations, fire truck rides and local vendors. For \$20, you can register your vehicle in the annual car show at [highlandfireassociation@gmail.com](mailto:highlandfireassociation@gmail.com). Proceeds benefit our Shop with a Firefighter program for kids.

### [ CELEBRATE MIGRATION ]

Join Highland Neighbors for Sustainability for a Migration Celebration from 10 a.m.-noon **Saturday, October 5** at the Highland Heron Rookery. Learn about the rookery and celebrate the awe of how many birds pass over the Great Lakes on their way to their winter home.

### [ FALL CLEANUP DAY ]

Republic Waste Services will schedule extra crews **Tuesday, October 22** to collect unwanted items as part of fall cleanup day. Construction debris, concrete, hazardous waste, paint, pool chemicals and leaves are NOT included.

### [ DRUG TAKE BACK ]

Highland Police will be participating with the DEA as a drop-off site for medications from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. **Saturday, October 26** at the Highland Police Department, 3315 Ridge Road. **INFO:** Call Ken Balon at (219) 838-3184.



**[ FRIGHT RIDE ]**

Join Highland Parks and Rec on a spooky 7.5 mile bicycle ride after dusk. Helmets and bike lights are strongly encouraged. There will be two pit-stops along the route for refreshments and bathroom breaks.

**WHEN:** 5-6:45 p.m. check-in and 7 p.m. ride Friday, **October 11** – rain or shine!

**WHERE:** Start and finish at Main Square Park.

**REGISTRATION:** Online only before **October 11** at [bikesignup.com/highlandfrightride](https://bikesignup.com/highlandfrightride). Cash only and onsite the night of the ride.

**[ CRAFT SHOW & VENDOR FAIR ]**

Join us for our annual Fall Craft and Vendor Fair from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

**October 12** at Lincoln Community Center. You'll find a variety of items, including: candles, jewelry, clothing, handbags, handmade items, gourmet dips and more. Vendor fees are \$45 for 10'x10' interior space or \$70 for 23'x6' wall space.

**INFO:** [highlandparks.org](https://highlandparks.org)

**[ COMMUNITY BAND CONCERT ]**

Enjoy the sounds of the season at the Highland Community Band's fall concert from 7-9 p.m. **October 17** at Highland High School's Monbeck Auditorium. Doors open at 5 p.m.

**[ BIG RESTAURANT CRAWL ]**

We're shutting down Highway Avenue from 4-8 p.m. Tuesday, **September 24** for our final expanded Downtown Restaurant Crawl of the season featuring live entertainment, shopping specials – and, of course – soul-satisfying eats.

**INFO:** Visit [highland.in.gov](https://highland.in.gov) or the Highland Main Street Facebook page for latest specials and updates.



# Halloween

## HOME DECORATING CONTEST

### DEADLINE TO ENTER: OCTOBER 17

Ghosts and witches and creatures of fright! Don't miss the call of Halloween night. Do you love to decorate for Halloween? Our Halloween Home Decorating contest is open to Highland homes only! Entrants must submit a photo along with their entry to [lglowacki@highland.in.gov](mailto:lglowacki@highland.in.gov).



**CATEGORIES:** Scariest, Most Inflatables and Best Overall Theme. Have your home fully lit up and decorated **October 11-12**. Voting **October 20-24**. Winners announced on **October 25**.

## HIGHLAND TRUNK OR TREAT

### 10 AM – NOON | SATURDAY | OCTOBER 19

The Highland Council of Community Events invites trick-or-treaters to this free event at Main Square Park. Those looking to participate as a decorated trunk or tent/booth, must register at [highland.in.gov](https://highland.in.gov). Costumes and decorated vehicles are encouraged.

**QUESTIONS?** [highlandcce@highland.in.gov](mailto:highlandcce@highland.in.gov). Rain date is **October 20**.

**TRICK-OR-TREATING:** Highland's trick-or-treating hours are from 5 to 7 p.m. **Thursday, October 31** for all ghouls and goblins!

Don't forget to stop by Mission Bible Church, 41st Street across from Highland Middle School. They'll have trunks in the lot and treats with photo op in the gym from **5 to 7:30 p.m.**

## PUMPKIN SMASH

### 10 AM – 1 PM | SATURDAY | NOVEMBER 2

Highland Neighbors for Sustainability invites you to bring your pumpkins to Main Square Park and aim them at our bullseye! Children's activities. Composting tips. Pollinator plant seed giveaways. Pumpkin remains will be taken to feed animals at a farm sanctuary. Please note: No painted pumpkins. Remove candles and other non-food items.