

THE HIGHLAND PARK LANDMARK™

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LOVE IS IN THE AIR The Landmark announces its annual How We Met Contest, Page 6



DOWN THE MOUNTAIN Windward Boardshop opens in Highland Park, Page 10



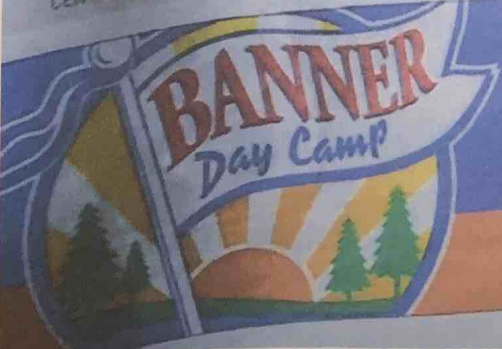
SNOWY SHENANIGANS Residents have a ball at Winter Fest, Page 11

Sam Midanek (left) and daughter Tegan (center), of Highland Park, meet with author Jenny Meyerhoff at the Highland Park Public Library's Kid Lit Fest Saturday, Jan. 9. MIROSLAW POMIAN/22ND CENTURY MEDIA



READ AND GREET

Highland Park Public Library holds Kid Lit Fest, Page 11



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PLAN AND DESIGN COMMISSION

McGovern House development

EMMANUEL DZOTSI, Staff Writer

The Highland Park Plan and Design Commission met Tuesday, Jan. 5, kicking off the board's activity for 2016.

This meeting marked the first time the Commission met since November, but a busy agenda meant the holiday was well and truly over.

The commission approved a number of business items, including the final development plan for two multi-unit resubdivisions.

The first of these, a project to be known as McGovern House, is intended to be a 73-unit apartment complex at the junction of Central Avenue and McGovern Street.

Prior to the meeting, McGovern House had been un-

der consideration for nearly 18 months, a fact that was not lost on principal developer Greg Merdinger.

Merdinger was visibly relieved to see a unanimous approval vote following a thorough question session led by Commissioner Michael Leaf, who expressed concerns that the project plans did not allow adequate sidewalk space.

Commissioner Phil Kaplan was among those urging approval, and said that the project had passed its litmus test.

"This has been an evolution, and everything changed has been a positive," he said.

Two other pieces of business presented to the com-

mission were a series of design reviews seeking the commission's approval.

The first of these was a continuation of design review for the partial demolition of the former Fuddrucker's on Clover Road.

The plan, as proposed by Fettner Construction, would see a so-called "bump out" facing the eastern side of the property removed and replaced to better match that side of the building.

Fettner Construction representative David Fettner was keen to impress upon the commission that the improvements would help secure a new tenant for the property, which is currently vacant.

"We want to make this new facade match with the rest of the building," Fettner said. "This way it will work for a doctor's office, or another potential tenant."

The motion to approve the design review passed, with Chairman Adam Glazer abstaining due to missing an earlier review of the project.

Another development during the meeting was the approval of a design for a new Ravinia Brewing Company gastropub.

The new gastropub is set to be located in the historic corner building at 615 Roger Williams Avenue in the Ravinia Business District.

The building was first constructed in 1928 as a store

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