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ilyse@ripplepublicrelations.com**WEBSITE:**<https://www.celebratehighwood.org/garlic-fest/>**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***--photography available--***HIGHWOOD'S ANNUAL GARLIC FEST DECLARED A STINKING GOOD TIME***Winners Announced in the Best Tastes of Garlic in the Sweet and Savory Categories*

HIGHWOOD, IL (AUGUST 18, 2021) — On Wednesday, August 18th, the intoxicating scent of garlic and the promise of a stinking good time beckoned record-breaking crowds back to the newly renovated Everts Park for Highwood's Annual [Garlic Fest!](#) [Celebrate Highwood](#)'s smelliest event showcased the beloved flavor of garlic, known for its culinary and medicinal purposes, while attendees sampled a variety of garlic creations from out-of-the-ordinary garlic-infused chocolate, cookies, ice cream and cocktails, to the classic, savory options like pastas, sandwiches, sauces and spreads.

In addition to the annual People's Choice Award for the Best Taste of Garlic in the Sweet & Savory categories, this year's competition included a professional panel of judges including Garlic Guru dynamic duo Janet and Henry Pieracci, Mike Stark, Publisher of Highland Park Neighbors, Jon Levy, President of Highland Park Bank & Trust and Michael Goldstein, Senior Residential Lender, Wintrust Mortgage.

And the winners are.....

Taste of Garlic Competition in the categories of Sweet & Savory:**JUDGE'S CHOICE SAVORY**

- **1st Place Savory** – [Heff's Cowboy Kitchen](#), Waukegan, IL, for their Garlic Soy Chicken Wings. Note; while this was the first competition for Bryan Heffernan, namesake and chef/owner of Heff's Cowboy Kitchen, he is well known around Highwood as the first chef at the original Washington Gardens and owner of Highwood's Shrimp Walk (since closed).
- **2nd Place Savory** – [La Casa de Isaac and Moishe](#), Highwood, IL, for their Roasted Garlic Lamb Brisket Empanadas
- **3rd Place Savory** – [Flyin Hawaiian](#), West Chicago, IL, for their Garlic Shrimp and White Rice with Caramelized Chopped Garlic

JUDGE'S CHOICE SWEET

- **1st Place Sweet** – [Susie Regan](#), Highland Park, IL, for her Susie's Sweet Heat Candied Garlic Bacon
- **2nd Place Sweet** – [Chicago Mike's Ice Cream](#), Highwood, IL, for their Vanilla Bean Black Garlic Infused Chocolate Chunk Ice Cream
- **3rd Place Sweet** – [Maryanne's Sweet Treats](#), Highwood, IL, for her Roasted Garlic Chocolate Chip Cookies

PEOPLE'S CHOICE SAVORY

- **1st Place Savory** – [The Toadstool Pub](#), Highwood, for their World Famous Bloody Mary with Garlic Infused Toadstool Pub vodka, Stephanie's Homemade Garlic Pickle, Susie's Sweet Heat Candied Garlic Bacon, and a mozzarella ball and olive stick.
- **2nd Place Savory** – [Flyin Hawaiian](#), West Chicago, IL, for their Garlic Shrimp and White Rice with Caramelized Chopped Garlic.
- **3rd Place Savory** – [La Casa de Isaac and Moishe](#), Highwood, IL, for their Roasted Garlic Lamb Brisket Empanadas.

PEOPLE'S CHOICE SWEET

- **1st Place Sweet** – [Maryanne's Sweet Treats](#), Highwood, IL, for her Roasted Garlic Chocolate Chip Cookies
- **2nd Place Sweet** – [Susie Regan](#), Highland Park, IL, for her Susie's Sweet Heat Candied Garlic Bacon
- **3rd Place Sweet** – [Chicago Mike's Ice Cream](#), Highwood, IL, for their Vanilla Bean Black Garlic Infused Chocolate Chunk Ice Cream

Garlic Fest Recipes To Go are available on the [Celebrate Highwood Website](#), courtesy of Michael Goldstein, Senior Residential Lender, Wintrust Mortgage.

Live entertainment was provided by Ravinia Ramblers, a local band composed of veteran musicians who put their own spin to familiar covers by using deep vocal harmony. Music sponsored by [Coffee Cup Productions](#).

Live entertainment was provided by local [School of Rock](#) student musician Lily Falberg, with a solo acoustic set, and Bill Pantle & The Tribute to Old Blue Eyes Trio- Classic Sinatra and selections from The Great American Songbook, plus Some Jazz instrumentals too!

A special thanks to Celebrate Highwood Sponsors that help make producing Highwood Garlic Fest possible including [Highland Park Bank and Trust/Bank of Highwood-Fort Sheridan and Michael Goldstein Senior Residential Lender Wintrust Mortgage](#).

For more information on Celebrate Highwood and their 2021 Event Calendar, please visit www.celebratehighwood.org, or call (847) 432-6000.

ABOUT CELEBRATE HIGHWOOD:

Celebrate Highwood is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity established in August 2016. Managed and operated by volunteers, our mission is to bring the community together to raise funds for local and national charities. Through producing events that cater to the citizens, businesses and visitors of Highwood, our goal is to give back, build strong community spirit, and establish Highwood as THE prime entertainment destination for dining, festivals and events on the North Shore. For more information on all of Highwood's festivals, please visit www.CelebrateHighwood.org, www.facebook.com/celebratehighwood, or call 847-432-6000.

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