

North Township NAVIGATOR

YOUR GUIDE TO NEWS AND SERVICES IN EAST CHICAGO, HAMMOND, HIGHLAND, MUNSTER AND WHITING • WINTER 2019



First Responders from East Chicago, Hammond, Highland, Munster and Whiting join North Township Trustee Frank J. Mrvan to break ground for a new memorial honoring fallen first responders at Wicker Memorial Park.

FALLEN HEROES MEMORIAL

North Township Trustee Frank J. Mrvan is looking for an outpouring of support from the community to make the dream of a Fallen Heroes Memorial a reality.

Whether it's a brick or a bench, your donation will help us create a memorial to North Township police officers, firefighters and emergency medical services personnel who died in the line of duty.

"Since it was dedicated nearly a century ago, Wicker Memorial Park has been the place to honor those who have given their lives in service to our country," Mrvan said. "It is fitting we work now to expand this vision to include our first responders."

North Township FALLEN HEROES MEMORIAL



MORE INSIDE

Turn to Page 5 for complete details including renderings of the memorial and how you can help.

TOWNSHIPS JOIN FORCES TO CREATE WINTER BASE CAMP FOR VETERANS

North Township is part of a multi-agency initiative created for local veterans needing assistance.

North and Calumet townships along with Army combat vet Jim Chancellor will jointly provide week-end-long activities that combine fun activities with informal sessions that provide education and information on wrap-around services available to vets in a no-pressure environment.

"Our overnight base camps will be held once a month at the Calumet Township Multi-Purpose Center. In addition to meals and snacks, the center has Ping-Pong, bean bag games, a large screen television for football fans and even a movie night with popcorn and soft drinks," he said. "What we have found is that vets who are the hardest to reach are the ones who need it most."

HOW TO REGISTER

For more information or to register for an overnight, contact Veterans Coordinator Jim Chancellor at (219) 771-6243 or Jim@veteranscollection.com.

Upcoming base-camp dates:

- ★ December 7-8
- ★ January 18-19
- ★ February 22-23



WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU! FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT US AT NORTHTOWNSHIPTRUSTEE.COM.



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TRUSTEE'S HAMMOND OFFICE

5947 Hohman Ave.
 Hammond, IN 46320
Phone: (219) 932-2530
Fax: (219) 937-4412
Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday – Friday

EAST CHICAGO OFFICE

2100 Broadway
 East Chicago, IN 46312
Phone: (219) 398-2435
Fax: (219) 397-2190
Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday – Friday

HESSVILLE CIRCLE OF SERVICES

2835-165th Street
 Hammond, IN 46323
Phone: (219) 803-0659
Hours: 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday – Friday

WICKER MEMORIAL PARK

8554 Indianapolis Boulevard
 Highland, IN 46322
Phone: (219) 838-3420
Hours: 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Monday – Friday
www.WickerMemorialPark.com

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 The Idea Factory • (219) 779-9041
www.theideafactory.us.com

Printed by Miss Print
 8244 Calumet Avenue
 Munster, IN 46321



ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM HELPS RESIDENTS SAVE ON WINTER UTILITIES

Up to \$500 is available for qualifying township residents who need assistance paying winter heating costs.

Asst. Chief Deputy Gilda Orange said North Township is working with residents at both the East Chicago and Hammond offices to maximize assistance through the Northwest Indiana Community Action Energy Assistance Program.

“What we do is help residents navigate the process and maximize assistance,” Orange said. “Typically, residents – either homeowners or renters – qualify for \$200 to \$500 to help pay electric and gas bills, which can become overwhelming during those cold winter months.”

Final assistance dollars vary based on individual circumstances.

EAP is available by appointment only

SHOVELING ASSISTANCE

North Township wants to match seniors, who need help digging out, with volunteers, who have a shovel or snowblower. During heavy snow, the township implements an automated call system to help those who are snowed-in and need help getting out.

INFO: If you need assistance or want to volunteer, please call our Snow Hotline at (219) 306-1344.

Monday through Friday. East Chicago residents should call Case Manager Sabrina Bell at (219) 932-2530 ext. 364 to secure an appointment and get a list of documents needed to process the application. All other township residents should call Case Manager Catherine Thomas at (219) 932-2530 ext. 315.



LETTER FROM THE NORTH TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE

“From helping families to helping our youth, we have so many blessing this holiday season”

During this season of counting blessings and offering thanksgiving, I want to thank all of you for the extraordinary gifts you have bestowed to those most in need as we look forward to 2020.

HELPING LOCAL FAMILIES

Sixty families received the warm coats, scarves, mittens and hats you donated. Your generosity surpassed our demand which means we have been able to help dozens more receive the gift of warmth – through the St. Joseph’s soup kitchen in downtown Hammond, which feeds more than 100 individuals in need every day, Northgate Church in Hessville, St. Joseph’s Carmelite Home in East Chicago and St. Vincent de Paul Society at St. Casimir Church in Hammond.

Our goals next year will be to continue programs that help mend society. I am blessed to have staff who see needs as opportunities to find ways to help.

HELPING LOCAL YOUTH

We are looking forward to 2020 and our second **13 Reasons Why Not**, a symposium that includes students from the township’s eight high schools and diocese’s three regional high schools. Sessions will include bullying, suicide prevention, substance abuse and teen dating violence taking top priority. Just weeks later, we will host the second annual **Youth Summit**, an opportunity to build up and empower our youth.

FRANK J. MRVAN
 North Township Trustee



Hello Winter

WELCOME!

Wicker Park is alive with activity throughout the winter season. Bundle up for a brisk walk or bring the kids and dog along to frolic in the snow.

WINTER SNOW TRAILS

When the weather outside is frightful, walkers and runners are accompanied on the Wicker Park trails by snow-shoe enthusiasts and cross-country skiers. Bring your own equipment and join in the fun on either the 2.5 mile trail or half-mile inner path.

DOG RUN

Our dog park features pet fountains, benches and plenty of space to run around. The annual fee is \$25 for township residents, \$60 for out-of-township and \$100 out-of-state. Register at the Wicker Memorial Park picnic office.

Download forms at WickerMemorialPark.com.

SHELTER & PICNIC RENTALS

As the end of the year approaches, Wicker Memorial Park begins fielding calls to rent space at one of its eight picnic areas and six buildings. "We open reservations right after the New Year and expect that all of our facilities will be fully booked for the summer by the middle of January," Park Superintendent Brett Bierman said. "Folks know how popular Wicker Memorial Park is for family reunions, picnics and get-togethers."

Reservations for the 2020 summer season – May 1 to Sept. 30 – begin 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 2. The North Township rates are:

	<u>WEEKEND*</u>	<u>WEEKDAY**</u>
PICNIC AREA	\$100	\$75
PAVILION	\$550	\$325
STANDS	\$225	\$175
SHELTERS	\$175	\$125
BREEZEWAY	\$275	\$225

*Friday through Sunday ** Monday through Thursday

Reservations are available for out-of-township and out-of-state residents at a higher cost.

Discounts are available for nonprofit organization members, veterans, police officers and firefighters who are North Township residents.

LEARN MORE: WickerMemorialPark.com



SENIOR ACTIVITIES

SENIOR LUNCHEONS

Seniors enjoy great food, entertainment, guest speakers and door prizes for \$5. Lunch is served at noon. Doors open at 11 a.m. Friendly reminder: **There's no luncheon in January. RSVP required for all luncheons.**

DECEMBER 11: Mixed green salad, baked ham with horseradish, green beans almondine, baked potato with butter, chives and sour cream, apple pie. Includes bread and butter, coffee or hot tea.

FEBRUARY 12: Vegetable soup, baked fish, scalloped potatoes, green beans and tapioca pudding. Includes bread and butter, coffee or hot tea.

WHERE: Wicker Park Social Center

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Please call (219) 932-2530, extension 2.

FOUR WINDS CASINO

Roll the dice and let Lady Luck guide you to fame, fortune or at least a rollicking good time on this trip to New Buffalo, Michigan.

WHEN: 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. **March 25.**

WHERE: Four Winds Casino

FEE: \$30 per person includes round-trip transportation to/from Wicker Park. Upon arrival at the casino, you'll receive a \$15 slot credit and a \$10 food credit.

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: Please call Deena at (219) 838-3420.

EASTER HAM BINGO

Grab a friend and head to Wicker Park for an afternoon of fun.

Winners receive a gift card for a ham. Township residents only. Must show picture ID.

WHEN: noon to 2 p.m. **April 2.**

Doors open at 11 a.m.

WHERE: Wicker Park Social Center

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED:

Call Deena at (219) 838-3420.

Reservation deadline is **March 27.**

PICTURES with SANTA

Bring your little ones for a visit and free photo with Santa.

WHEN: 3:30-5 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 12

WHERE: North Township Trustee's East Chicago office, 2100 Broadway

INFO: Call (219) 398-2435.



BIRTHDAY PARTY for JESUS

Children and their parents are invited **December 5** to celebrate the birth of Jesus at Wicker Park Social Center, 2215 Ridge Road in Highland. Each child should bring a gift in the form of hygiene items – such as shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant – as well as diapers of any size for Haven House. This free event features crafts, games, face painting, stories, cookie decorating, pizza and beverages.

Preschoolers

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Kindergarten-Grade 5

4:30 to 7 p.m.



Reservations
(219) 730-8931

COMING 2020



HOW YOU CAN HELP ...

The North Township Fallen Heroes Memorial – anchored by three granite pillars – will include benches, memorial bricks and ample green space to give survivors and a grateful community a respectful location to mourn – and to remember.

Whether it’s an investment in a brick or a bench, your donation will be used to create a permanent memorial to North Township first responders who died in the line of duty.

“This is a place for remembering and giving thanks,” North Township Trustee Frank J. Mrvan said. “We have been blessed that these brave souls took it upon themselves to keep us safe.”

THANK YOU ...

Dean Savarino, of Dean’s Landscaping, as well as Kevin Nordyke and Shelley Marshall of Hillside Funeral Home and Cremation Center in Highland, have created a vision for the memorial (shown above).

A special thank you to our top donors and in-kind sponsors: BP, Belgard, Dean’s Landscaping, Hillside, North Township, The Idea Factory and The Times.

North Township
**FALLEN HEROES
MEMORIAL**



THEIR DUTY WAS TO SERVE.
OUR DUTY IS TO REMEMBER.

MEMORIAL BRICKS

Looking for that special gift that gives back while giving to others?

Commemorate the graduation of a favorite niece or a marriage that has lasted a lifetime.

Our 4” x 8” engraved bricks are a perfect tribute to your loved ones.

Your purchase will make the dream of a living memorial to North Township’s Fallen Heroes a reality.

NTTFALLENHEROES.ORG

Visit the Fallen Heroes website for a virtual walk-through of the memorial and learn how you can help!

Name/Company: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

- YES, I WANT AN ENGRAVED 4” X 8” BRICK FOR \$50
- YES, ADD A DUPLICATE “KEEPSAKE” BRICK FOR \$25

Please engrave my 4” x 8” brick as follows:

3 lines | 16 characters each (includes spaces, punctuation)

TOTAL ENCLOSED = \$ _____

Please make contributions payable and mail to:

Wicker Park Memorial Fund
8554 Indianapolis Boulevard, Highland, IN 46322

For more info: Call the park office at (219) 838-3420.



TOWNSHIP ASSISTANCE

We connect people and services!

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PRESCRIPTIONS • TRANSPORTATION

ASSISTANCE IS JUST A PHONE CALL AWAY!

(219) 932-2530

Frank J. Mrvan



NORTH TOWNSHIP TRUSTEE
BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY

5947 HOHMAN AVENUE
HAMMOND, INDIANA 46320



SWEETHEART'S DANCE

2-4 PM FEBRUARY 8
WICKER PARK SOCIAL CENTER

DANCING ♥ DJ ♥ PRIZES ♥ CRAFTS ♥ FOOD

WHO CAN ATTEND? CHILDREN - AGES 3-12 - ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT
ADMISSION: \$5 PER COUPLE, \$3 EACH ADDITIONAL CHILD INCLUDES FOOD

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED: PLEASE CALL (219) 313-3934