EAST CHICAGO life

YOUR LOCAL SOURCE FOR EAST CHICAGO NEWS AND EVENTS

ELEVATING COMMUNITY...

Cops will become coaches when the East Chicago Police Department and Parks and Recreation partner for an eight-week Elevate Community Co-ed Basketball League in August and September.

The games provide instruction and friendly competition for students who will be entering the first through eighth grades this fall.

So come out and cheer on these East Chicago-only teams from 4 to 8 p.m. at Heritage Hall and Unity Center.

INFO: For more information, please call Parks and Recreation office at (219) 391-8474.

"From our lakefront to the Cline Avenue Bridge, East Chicago is truly a city of hope and progress"

When we celebrated the blessing of the marina two short months ago, even we didn't know how exciting and productive summer would be.

DIVE FOR DEBRIS ...

At the same time the city worked to complete a new patio at the Washington Park greenhouse, we scoured the depths of our waters to collect plastics and paraphernalia that have accumulated there.

Right after the Fourth of July, a cadre of divers assembled at our Lake Michigan shore with a plan to clean out hundreds of pounds of debris that have been laying unseen for years or even decades.

I want to extend a huge East Chicago thank you to everyone involved — particularly the 20 divers who took the time to help us. They rid the underbelly of the marina of bottles, tubing, signs and even tires coated with zebra mussels.

PENNIES FOR PUPPIES ...

It is with a full heart that I thank the children at Harrison Elementary, who donated a whopping $873 to help our shelter animals while they are in our care. Our children put in a great deal of effort to raise that kind of money. It is a shining example of what our parents and grandparents are doing right by our children. This is just one more reason why I love our city.



CLINE AVENUE BRIDGE ...

Look north and you will see the new Cline Avenue bridge popping up on the skyline. Instead of lamenting the news that the state would not be rebuilding a major arterial road that links Chicago to our city, East Chicago has been blessed to have a private company step in to make it happen. Read more inside this issue of East Chicago life.

ANTHONY COPELAND
Mayor City of East Chicago



WORK OF ART: From the 685 interconnected pieces that make up the bridge pillars and deck to the inlaid azure-blue mineral dyes that mirror the waters of Lake Michigan, the Cline Avenue Bridge blends aesthetics and functionality.

CLINE AVENUE BRIDGE NEARS COMPLETION

With a scant five months remaining until a new Cline Avenue toll bridge opens to the public, United Bridge Partners is opening its doors to the community to share the process and what motorists can expect once the 6,236-foot span is complete.

East Chicago Mayor Anthony Copeland said direct benefits to the community include:

- **Reduced congestion**, particularly from semitractor-trailers heading to and from the city's northern industries
- **Easier navigation** for local trips for city residents
- **New source of revenue for the city**: At 10 cents per toll and an estimated traffic count of 10,000 cars and trucks per day, the city could reap an extra $365,000 per year.

"The new Cline Avenue Bridge is the shortcut everyone in the region has been eagerly anticipating," said Terry Velligan, general manager of operations at Cline Avenue Bridge LLC, the local corporation set up to build the bridge.

"We see this bridge as a gateway of Lake County that will serve as a dependable, direct route while providing benefits to the community," he said. "As an East Chicago native with deep ties to this community, I'm proud to play a role in returning this vital transportation link to Northwest Indiana." •

WHAT'S NEXT?

The public is invited to attend the upcoming Saturday Sidewalk Talks, which offer a behind-the-scenes look at the making of the Cline Avenue Bridge.

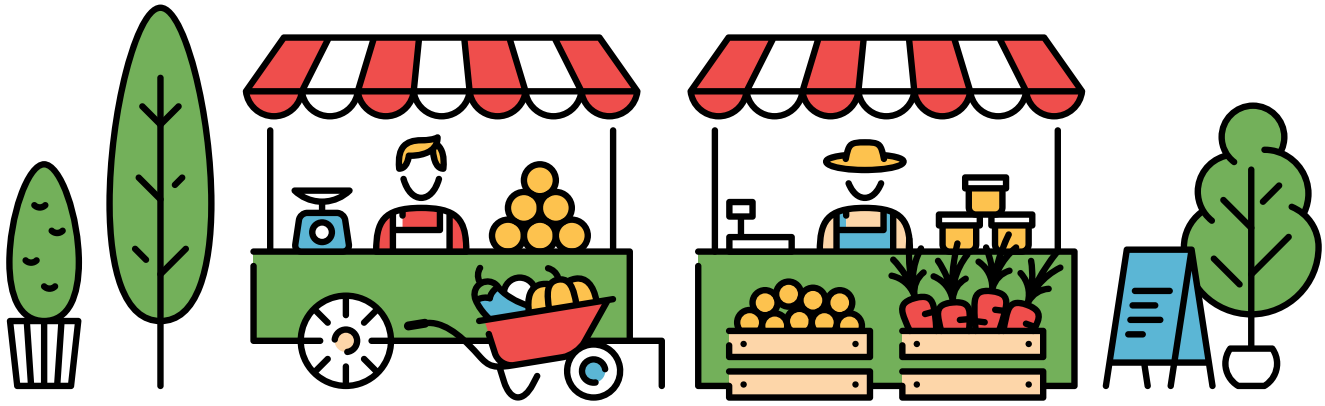
State-of-the-art lighting along with finishing touches are creating an attractive and enduring landmark, an icon of economic progress residents can feel proud to have in their hometown.

WHEN: 9-10 a.m. Saturday, **August 17** and Saturday, **September 21**

WHERE: Cline Avenue Bridge offices, 219 Riley Road, East Chicago

INFO: (219) 276-8902

FARMERS MARKET



LAKE COUNTY EATS LOCAL

ON-THE-GO MARKETS OFFER ORGANIC PRODUCE AND EGGS

Juicy, ripe tomatoes, crisp cucumbers, sweet peppers, summer squash — and more — are available by local farmers who are selling their organic produce and eggs at mobile farmers markets right here in East Chicago.

An initiative led by a bevy of local organizations and funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has two goals: make locally grown, nutrient dense fruits and vegetables available while supporting local farmers.

The Legacy Foundation, NWI Food Council, Purdue University Cooperative Extension along with the cities of Gary and East Chicago have partnered to create Lake County Eats Local.

"We are encouraging the community to shop the markets that have been created just for them," Program Coordinator Freida Graves said. "Our markets accept SNAP/EBT, Senior Vouchers, WIC, debit or credit cards and cash."

FRESH & LOCAL PRODUCE

Lake County Eats Local makes organic produce and eggs accessible to East Chicago residents at scheduled locations. Learn more at **lakecountyeatslocal.org**.

AUGUST 9

Washington Park
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

AUGUST 21

Salvation Army
8:30-11:30 a.m.

New Mission of Jesus Christ
noon-2 p.m.

Unity Plaza
2:30-4:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 6

Kosciuszko Park
9 a.m.-2 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 14

Salvation Army
8:30-11:30 a.m.

New Mission of Jesus Christ
noon-2 p.m.

Unity Plaza
2:30-4:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 18

Salvation Army
8:30-11:30 a.m.

New Mission of Jesus Christ
noon-2 p.m.

Unity Plaza
2:30-4:30 p.m.

KEEPING EAST CHICAGO SAFE ...





NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME ...

Join Mayor Anthony Copeland and the East Chicago Police Department for the city's annual National Night Out Against Crime from **5 to 7 p.m. August 6**.

The Lake County Sheriff's Helicopter is back and so are our very own Super Heroes. The event will also feature, food, music, a bike raffle, fire trucks and the opportunity to take a dip in the Washington Park pool while chatting it up with East Chicago's Finest.

WHERE: Washington Park Pool, 144th and Grand Blvd.

INFO: Find us on Facebook, YouTube, Twitter and ECTV.

COMMUNITY POLICING ...

As the newly minted Chief of Police, Hector Rosario is looking to revive community policing as a way to reduce crime citywide. Already this summer, Rosario has created neighborhood bicycle patrols and is rolling out a voluntary program where residents allow police to review home security system footage when a crime has occurred.

"We have officers on walking patrols and are hosting meet-and-greets throughout the city," the 18-year-veteran officer said. "We want our residents to know we are here to keep them safe."



SEE SOMETHING. SAY SOMETHING. Call our anonymous tip hotline at (219) 391-8500.



The next generation of life-size and more-than-life-size sculptures is coming soon to a park near you. The metal sculptures — ranging from six feet to nine feet — will replace the group that arrived in East Chicago a year ago.

Parks and Recreation Director Mayra Acosta said each of the 10 metal sculptures was selected with care. "We make choices based on what we believe residents will enjoy while considering safety."

From giant lollipops to abstract designs, Acosta looks for artwork that has no sharp edges and isn't easy to climb. "We also look to see if there are interactive features," she said, "where people can touch, feel and do."

THE CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
AND PARKS & RECREATION PRESENT ...

ART IN THE PARK

METAL SCULPTURES ADD BEAUTY, WHIMSY TO OUTDOOR SPACES







Find the new sculptures at ...

[KOSCIUSZKO PARK]
151st and Indianapolis Boulevard

[MACARTHUR GOLF COURSE]
139th Street and Indianapolis Boulevard

[MARKTOWN PARK]
Broad Street and Pine Avenue

[NUNEZ PARK]
136th Street and Elm Street

[RILEY PARK]
Chicago and Grasselli Avenue

[SUNNYSIDE PARK]
141st Street and Grace Street

[TOD PARK]
140th Street and Indianapolis Boulevard

[VETERANS PARK]
4525 Indianapolis Boulevard

[WASHINGTON PARK]
142nd Street and Parrish Avenue

WOW FEST

Join us for the ultimate back-to-school bash! The 12th annual festival features free book bags, hair cuts, braiding, health screenings and dental checkups. Enjoy the gospel concert, food and refreshments at this family-friendly event.

WHEN: 2-8 p.m. **August 11**
WHERE: Jeorse Park Beach

AUGUST MOVIE NIGHT

Grab a lawn chair and head to the park to watch "Spiderman into the Spider-Verse" on the big screen.

WHEN: 7 p.m. (dusk) **August 22**
WHERE: Washington Park

ANNUAL BEACH CLEANUP

Join the City of East Chicago and the Lions Club for our annual beach cleanup.

WHEN: 9 a.m.-noon **August 17**
WHERE: Jeorse Park Beach

NEW ADDITION DAY

Enjoy fellowship, food and family fun at this annual neighborhood celebration. Admission is free.

WHEN: noon-6 p.m. **August 31**
WHERE: Smith Park

MEXICAN INDEPENDENCE

Celebrate our culture with a Mexican Independence Day parade and festival.

WHEN: Parade kicks off at noon **Sept. 15** from Block Stadium. The festival is 2-11 p.m. at Jeorse Park Beach.

SEPTEMBER MOVIE NIGHT

Grab a lawn chair and head to the park to watch "Ralph Breaks the Internet" on the big screen.

WHEN: 7 p.m. (dusk) **Sept. 26**
WHERE: Tod Park

CITY OF EAST CHICAGO
4525 INDIANAPOLIS BOULEVARD
EAST CHICAGO, IN 46312

C. Rt. Presort
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1
Hammond, IN
46320

ECRWSS

RESIDENT
EAST CHICAGO, INDIANA 46312

