



# Mishawaka Communicator



Working together to build the "Best Hometown in America" by delivering exceptional services, promoting safe and clean neighborhoods, elevating the quality of life, and inspiring pride in our community.

Dave Wood, Mayor

[www.mishawaka.in.gov](http://www.mishawaka.in.gov)

July 2015

## A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood



The Church-Union, Norfolk Southern Railroad Underpass is substantially complete after three construction seasons! Not only does it provide improved sewer, water and electric infrastructure to our citizens and businesses but it also moves traffic, emergency responders and pedestrians more effectively and safely with new traffic signals, new LED, energy efficient streetlights, wider sidewalks and new landscaping amenities. We made these improvements while NOT having to close the road down to traffic. Gone is the famous "weeping underpass" and the standing water caused by collapsed sewers underneath the road that was the impetus for the project.

I think that the new underpass provides a beautiful entry into the downtown from the South Side. This project was part of a much larger Main Street corridor improvement plan that spans many decades with multiple phases. Our long-term goal is to make this corridor 5-lanes from one end of the City to the other. Over the past 10 years, the City has spent over \$85 million to improve this corridor and the underlying infrastructure that is effectively the backbone of our City. It goes from our southern boarder to our northern and connects the residential and industrial south side to the historic Downtown, the Edison Lakes Corporate Park, the St. Joseph Medical Campus and the Northern Shopping District. While we have made big strides in recent years to get this accomplished within the City limits, there is a section of Bremen Highway between Dragoon Trail and Ireland Road that remains in the County. Right now, the only section that is not five lanes in the City is Union Street between 9th Street and Dragoon Trail. It will be many years before the corridor is complete but we are already planning for future widening as part of numerous projects.

As our City grows, as we become a regional leader in retail, healthcare and quality of life amenities, more people are coming to Mishawaka to eat, shop, play, seek healthcare and visit. As a result, the need to communicate how to get around is increasingly important. I want the first impression of Mishawaka to be a great one. As part of the State of the City this year I

*(cont'd on next page)*

## Traveling With Children

*Health Information from Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center*

Talk to your doctor or nurse before traveling with a child. If your child has a chronic illness, consider bringing a copy of recent medical reports and a list of all medications your child is taking. Bring snacks and familiar foods with you. This helps when travel delays meals or when the available meals don't suit the child's needs. Small crackers, un-sugared cereals, and string cheese make good snacks. Cookies and sugared cereals make for sticky children.

**Flying** - Children often have trouble with pressure changes at takeoff and landing. The pain and pressure will almost always go away in a few minutes. If your child has a cold or ear infection, the discomfort may be greater.

Some tips to prevent or treat ear pain:

- Have your child chew sugar-free gum or suck on hard candy when taking off and landing. Most children can learn to do this at about age 3.
- Bottles (for infants), breastfeeding or sucking on pacifiers can also help prevent ear pain.
- Give your child plenty of fluids during the flight to help unclog the ears.
- Avoid letting your child sleep during takeoff or landing. Children swallow more often when they are awake. Also, waking up with ear pain can be frightening for the child.

**Eating out** - Try to maintain your normal meal and sleep schedule. Ask that your child be served first (you can also bring something for your child to munch on). If you call ahead, some airlines may be able to prepare special kid's meals.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul 22	Kamm Island Fest 5:00-9:30p
Jul 4	'Soul Funkshun" Fireworks at dusk (Beutter Park)

## Summer Concert Series

Battell Park Bandshell

Mondays 7-8pm

Beutter Park

Thursdays 6:30-8:30pm

Eberhart-Petro

Fridays Jul 10, 24, & Aug 7  
7:30-9pm

Complete schedule  
available online at  
[mishawaka.in.gov/  
summer-concert-series](http://mishawaka.in.gov/summer-concert-series)

## Summer Movie Nights

*(beginning at dusk)*

Jul 17	"Field of Dreams" (Rose Park)
Jul 18	"Tangled" (Merrifield Pool) "Meet & Greet / Sing-a-long" with Rapunzel prior to the movie.
Jul 31	"Free Willy" (Hillis Hans Park)
Aug 1	"Space Jam" (Borley Park)

## EBERHART-PETRO GOLF COURSE

Jul 8	63rd Annual Garbage Open
-------	-----------------------------

## A Letter from Mayor Dave Wood *(continued)*

mentioned the City's initiative to provide branding and wayfinding signs. Going back over a decade ago to when I was on the City Council, I thought that the City should have better identification. To this end, the City has contracted with Franko Design LLC of Osceola to develop concepts and put together the designs and specifications necessary to install welcome and directional signs in key locations and on major thoroughfares throughout the City.

One of our challenges is that the City's main north-south arterial roadway changes names five times. This is a point that was driven home to me when I recently had to give someone directions from the south side to a shopping complex on the north side. The conversation went something like this: "Take Bremen Highway, then to Union Street, then to Church Street, then to Main Street, then to Gumwood Road without having to make one turn of your steering wheel."

Historically, these name changes happened as one road was expanded or re-aligned to connect to another existing road. Since many businesses and homes are located on these sections of road, there is no practical way of renaming the road to one common name. A change in address, even if you are in the same location, is like moving without packing boxes. Emergency services, bills, your driver's license, checks...all are tied to your address.

Yet a corridor that is so important to the future of our City deserves its own name, one befitting of our City's namesake. Therefore, On June 25, 2015 I signed a proclamation designating the corridor as the "Princess City Parkway". We will be placing wayfinding signs attached to our ornamental light poles to provide a uniform image through the corridor. This won't change anyone's address, but it will thematically tie the corridor together. The goal is that providing this common brand will help provide clarity to those visiting or are just not familiar with a particular section of town. These signs will also have the added benefit of contributing to the streetscape and positive image of the City. Our plan is to have our directional and Princess City Parkway signs installed late this year.

Remember, there is lots to do in Mishawaka in the summer. Visit Merrifield or Mary Gibbard pools with the kids or grandkids. Come down to one of the concerts in the park. Enjoy a walk in the evening on the Riverwalk and inspect our recent improvements at Central Park and the new Camp LaSalle play structure in Merrifield Park. Most of all, have a happy and safe rest of your summer. Watch out for the kids!



*Mayor Paul*

## Government in Action - Honor Park

Honor Park was first conceived in the late 1940's as a memorial to a soldier who had died during World War II. An engraved stone was initially placed at the park location however it eventually became broken and a new concept for a memorial was designed. In 1997, interim City Planner Bill Schalliol envisioned the use of four actual artillery shells from the Military Honor Park being built at the South Bend Regional Airport. This second monument was dedicated in August, 1997.



In 2000, the City of Mishawaka reconstructed the streets around Honor Park and the surrounding neighborhood, which provided an opportunity to redesign the landscape for the monument. The City's Landscape Supervisor submitted a design using the same shells from the previous memorial. The shells were mounted in cement blocks for stability and painted black with gold tips. The color scheme chosen for the shells is symbolic of a "live shell". In reality, the shells were never used in World War II except for practice and were disarmed prior to being donated.

Normain Heights, the neighborhood surrounding Honor Park, was one of the first housing communities built in the area after World War II. It was specifically built to provide housing for returning World War II veterans. 315 houses built on battle-named streets to seven designs.

In 2014, Councilman-at-Large Dan Bilancio noticed that the Park was beginning to look worn and tired. Knowing what an important memorial this was to this neighborhood, Dan started the campaign to get some much needed work done in this park. With the help of Park Superintendent Terry Zeller, Honor Park was given a facelift and paving bricks, already in storage at the 5th Street Recycling Center, were installed by Ross Masonry of Mishawaka. This was the perfect solution to the worn and patchy grass and weeds growing all around the Park.

This work would be a lasting and perpetual way to keep Honor Park memorialized. The renovation and clean-up of the Park has been completed and a ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on May 20th to rededicate Honor Park, just before Memorial Day, back to the veterans of the City of Mishawaka and the surrounding neighborhood.



Visit us online at  
[www.mishawaka.in.gov/parksandrecreation](http://www.mishawaka.in.gov/parksandrecreation)

### ONLINE ACCESS

Web <http://mishawaka.in.gov>  
Facebook <http://facebook.com/cityofmishawaka>  
Mishawaka  
Communicator <http://mishawaka.in.gov/communicator>

Send your questions, comments, or concerns to [communicator\\_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov](mailto:communicator_feedback@mishawaka.in.gov)