**City of Chester Hometown Heroes Banner Program Guidelines**

**Mission**

The purpose of this program is to honor and pay tribute to those from the Chester area who have or are serving our country in a branch of the military. This program will recognize Chester’s servicemen and women who have served or given their lives to our country in the United States Armed Forces.

**Application Requirements**

In order to be considered for a banner, the nominee must meet the following requirements:

1. Lived in the Chester, Illinois at some point in their lifetime.

2. Served in one of the following branches: Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, National Guard, and Coast Guard.

3. Meet one of the following criteria: currently be active duty, be an honorably discharged veteran, died in the line of duty.

**Banner Design, Time Frame & Location**

Banners are double sided, vinyl material and include the service person’s name, branch of service and photograph. Banners of those who have died in the line of duty will be designated with a gold star, date of birth and death, veterans and honorably discharged will be designated with a white star and active duty will be designated with a blue star. Banners will be displayed for a two-year period on the designated light posts. Banner locations will be selected randomly and specific display locations cannot be requested. The banners will be displayed from Memorial Day through Veterans Day for a period of two years. Once the banners are removed they will be available for pickup at the Recreation Director’s office at City Hall. Banners must be picked up by the person who submitted the application by December 31st. Unclaimed banners will become the property of the City of Chester and may be discarded or disposed of.

**Banner Photograph**

A 5 x7 high quality photo of the Service Person in uniform is required. There may be no additional people in the photograph. Please do not send an original photo. The photo WILL NOT be returned.

**Banner Pricing**

A $75 application fee is required for each banner application submitted. This fee is for the production, installation and removal of each banner. The City of Chester is not responsible for replacing banners that are stolen, damaged or destroyed due to age, vandalism, or any acts of nature including high winds. A new application and sponsorship fee is required to initiate display for a new two-year period. (A new banner will be produced and displayed.)

**Application Process**

Applications will be reviewed on a first-come, first-served basis. An application package must include a completed Application Form, proof of Military Service (DD214, military ID, etc.) may be required, a 5 x 7 high quality photo and a $75 check payable to City of Chester Hometown Heroes (reference “Banner Program” on the check and mail to City of Chester Hometown Heroes Banner Program, 1330 Swanwick Street, Chester, Illinois 62233. The deadline to submit your application is March 31, 2022. **NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED OR ACCEPTED AFTER THIS DATE.** If your application is accepted you will also receive a proof to approve before the banner is created. The City of Chester will not be responsible for any banner errors that were approved by the applicant. Any application package that is not accepted will be returned to the applicant.

**Contact & Questions**

For questions or more information please call Patti at 618-826-1430 or email chesterecreation@chesterill.com

**CITY OF CHESTER HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM APPLICATION**

**Date of Application Submission: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**\*\*\*\*Application Deadline in March 31, 2022\*\*\*\***

Please review the Hometown Heroes Banner Program Guidelines for further details

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| **Nominee Information** | |
| Full Name \*as it will appear on the banner | Military Rank |
| Branch of Military | Did Veteran die in the line of duty? |
| Veteran must grant permission to be honored on a banner if currently living. Please have Veteran sign and date below.  **Photo Release:** I hereby grant the City of Chester permission to use the attached photo in the City of Chester Hometown Heroes Banner Program.  **Signature: Printed Name: Date:** | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Nominator Information** | |
| Contact Name | Relationship to Veteran |
| Phone | Email |
| Address | |
| I take full responsibility that all information provided about the Veteran being honored is accurate and correct.  **Signature: Printed Name: Date:** | |

**Completed submission includes the following:**

Completed application, military verification (DD214, military ID, etc.) {If requested}, 5 x 7 high quality photo, $75 check made payable to City of Chester

Hometown Heroes Banner Program.

**Please mail all completed submissions to City of Chester Hometown Heroes Program, 1330 Swanwick Street, Chester, Illinois 62233**

**Questions: Please call Patti at 618-826-1430 or email chesterrecreation@chesterillinois.com**