



1005 Ridge Rd., Munster, IN 46321

NEWS YOU CAN USE

NOVEMBER 2015

Edited by Laura Pramuk

Lake County's Centralized Dispatch Center



As of Wednesday, October 7th Police, Fire and Ambulance dispatching for the Town of Munster was transferred to Lake County's Centralized Dispatch Center. **If Police, Fire or Ambulance services are needed please dial 911.** The call center will determine if the call is an emergency or a call for service. Should a business or resident need to report or cancel an alarm they should also dial 911. To report an after hours Public Work's emergency such as a water main break or downed tree blocking the roadway please dial 911.

The Munster Police Department's previous non-emergency numbers, 219-836-6600 and 219-836-6601, are no longer operational. To contact an officer, Police Administration, the Detective Bureau or the Record's Division please dial **219-836-6650**, during normal business hours. To contact any employee or department of the Town of Munster please dial **219-836-8810**.

Online Credit Card Payments

Many have asked about online credit card payments. The day has arrived!

You may go to www.munster.org and click on "Pay Utility Bill" to pay your bill with a credit card with *no fee*. If you have ever used our online bill pay in the past, be sure to refresh your browser so it takes you to our new online bill pay service. You may bookmark the site directly with: www.munster.org/utilitybill.

You will need to know your 9-digit account number and the **numbers only** of your address. If your address is 1234 Main St, you will enter only **1234** in the second box. You can find your account number on your monthly bill, see diagram below.

Another feature available is viewing your monthly bill online. This does not look *exactly* like the bill you receive in the mail, but very similar. You can see the totals and the breakdown of the bill. The balance listed on the webpage is current as of the business day prior and when you make a payment it will show on your account 1 to 2 *business days* after payment. Please be patient with us as we tweak the user interface on this feature. The bills you receive in the mail will not change, this online feature is just an added service to better serve our customers.

We appreciate your patience and we hope this added feature helps us serve you even better!

TOWN OF MUNSTER
Utilities Department
1005 Ridge Road
Munster IN 46321-1895

This product is 100% recyclable

DUE IF PAID BY		11/20/14	48.95
DUE IF PAID AFTER		11/20/14	58.95

Account Number **0123456-78**
Name **Smith, John**
Service At **1234 Main St**

PLEASE RETURN TOP PORTION WITH PAYMENT - MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO TOWN OF MUNSTER

BALANCE AS OF 10/23/14		IF PAID DISREGARD	
Meter Number	1	2	0.00
Type	Water		
Prior Reading	427	0	
Present Reading	427	0	

Account Number **0123456-78**
Name **Smith, John**
Service At **1234 Main St**
Billing Period 09/15/14 TO 10/15/14

Account Number
Service Address Number

MUNSTER PARKS AND RECREATION

836-PARK (7275)



Beginning on November 1st, Rentals for 2016 Park Shelters, the Social Center and Heritage Park Gazebo are available to reserve. Please stop by our office to reserve your special day. All money must be paid in full upon registration. Questions? Please

call us at (219) 836-7275.

Also, Sunday mornings at the Social Center are now available for group, continuous rental. If you are interested, please call (219) 836-7275 for more information.

Active Adult

11/3-11/17	Excel Basics
12/2	Excel In-A-Day
11/4	Goggle Docs
11/15	Holiday Make and Take (scrubs, lotions bars & body spray)
12/5	Spiritual Growth, Development & Training Workshop

We also offer private computer lessons as well as, horseback riding lessons at your convenience. Please call the park office for details (219) 836-7275.

Keen-Agers

11/16	Flight of Amelia Earhart (Lunch & Show)
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Youth Programs

11/5-12/17	Chess Tournament	Ages: 7-14
11/9-12/7	Creative Fingers	Ages: 5-6
11/9-12/7	Inventors Workshop	Ages: 5-8
11/9-12/7	Minecraft	Ages: 8-12
11/11	Robotics for Kids	Ages: 5-12
11/14	Robotics for Kids	Ages: 5-12
11/18	Engineering for Kids	Ages: 5-12
11/21	Engineering for Kids	Ages: 5-12
11/24-12/29	Gymnastics	Ages: up to 3 (with parent)
11/24-12/29	Preschool Gymnastics	Ages: 3-5
11/27 or 11/30	Thanksgiving Break Engineering Camp	Ages: 8-12

Youth Sports

11/21-12/19	Intro to Sports	Ages: 3-5
11/21-12/19	Tot Athletics	Ages: Toddler
11/23-12/14	Basketball Basics	Ages: 4-6
11/24-12/15	T-Ball 101	Ages: 4-7



It's never too early to start your holiday shopping. Need a unique gift? Think about supporting Munster Parks and Recreation by giving a pool, golf or Keen-Ager membership.

Golden Opportunities 2016 coupon books are available at the Park Office for \$25.

Wellness & Fitness



11/23-12/16	Body Blast
11/11-12/16	Classical Pilates Mat
11/16-12/16	Yoga & Breathing
11/17-12/17	Yoga & Breathing
11/12-12/17	ZUMBA
11/10-12/15	ZUMBA

Trips & Travel

11/6	House of Treasures (Little Traveler)
11/17	Four Winds Casino
12/5	Lawry's, Zoo Lights & Chicago Christmas Lights
12/12	"Illumination" A Tree & Lights Extravaganza!



A trip makes a wonderful gift for that special someone. Our upcoming multi-days trips include: Scotland, Yellowstone & Grand Teton, Hawaii, Paris, San Francisco, Arizona, Arkansas, Blue Ridge Mountains Oktoberfest 2016, Gulf Shore, The Great Train Race, New York's Haunted History Train, Pacific Northwest by Rail, Great Volcanoes of America's West and Yosemite, Lake Tahoe & Wine Country. Besides these planned tours, we also offer tours throughout the world. Just tell us where you would like to travel and we'll make it happen.

Did you know you can now register online for many park programs and activities? Click on the registration button on our website www.munster.org or give us a call to get started.

munster
PARKS
AND RECREATION

Keen-Ager Holiday Party
Thursday December 10, 2015
11:30 am—2 pm



A savory meal will precede a musical performance by Radio Memories, featuring The Dentons, in a "Holiday Cheer" show. Fee includes lunch at the Center for Visual & Performing Arts, entertainment, favors, and raffle prizes.

KA \$30 Non-KA \$45

News for Snowbirds

It is that time of year that some of our residents may be planning their winter away from the cold and snow. If you are a part of that group, please remember a few things:

- You will need to continue to pay the minimum bills. Setting up automatic payment (ACH) is the best way to be sure those bills are paid on time and the correct amount is paid. Please remember that you will be charged a late fee if an amount goes unpaid. You may call us at the beginning of any month to check the balance due.
- We can also temporarily send your bills to another address if you prefer. Just let us know where to send them temporarily. When you get back to town, call us again to have the bill sent to your local address.
- If you want your water turned OFF, you must schedule a time for our maintenance staff to turn the water off (this is the only way to suspend billing). For your protection, **it must be a time when someone will be there to confirm it is off.** There is a \$20 fee to turn the service off and a \$20 fee to turn it back on. That DOES save you money if you are going to be gone for several months. Remember that we will not turn service on to an empty house, so call us one business day in advance to set an appointment time when you can either be there yourself or can have someone you trust with access to the home be there to confirm when service is turned on that there are no issues inside your home.

Please call 219-836-6948 or 219-836-6949 to address any of these topics. Most of all, enjoy your winter escape!

Annual "COPS & KIDS" Holiday Shopping Program

The holidays are right around the corner, and the Munster Police Department will once again be holding their annual "Cops & Kids" holiday shopping program. Each December, Munster Police officers join with other surrounding police departments in taking children in need shopping for clothing or toys in early December with funds that have been donated throughout October and early November. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to the Town of Munster (memo: Cops & Kids) and mail them to the Munster Police Department, c/o Officer James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana 46321. **Donations will be collected through Friday, November 20th.** For more information, please contact Officer Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org. Thank you in advance for your generosity this holiday season!

HOLIDAY SCHEDULING INFORMATION

Thanksgiving Day – Thursday, November 26, 2015
Christmas Day - Friday, December 25, 2015 &
New Year's Day - Friday, January 1, 2016

Refuse and recycling will be picked up one day later after the holiday

Leaf & Branch Pick Up

The Town of Munster's branch pick up will end on *Friday, November 13, 2015*, and the Fall Leaf pick-up will end on *Friday, December 4, 2015* (weather permitting).

The Public Works Department must now transition towards preparing for snow and ice removal.

Please do not put leaves in your garbage can or in bags, Waste Management will not pick them up. Rake your leaves to the curb for Munster's Fall Leaf Collection.



Lightning Prediction System

The Lightning Prediction System will be turned off on November 1, 2015, and will be resume in the spring.

Holiday Season Safety Tips

Throughout the holiday season, the Munster Police Department encourages residents and businesses to make note of these important safety tips:

- Always shop with a friend when possible for safety purposes.
- Keep your wallet in your front pocket or your purse zipped up and slung in front of you (never placed in a cart) while you are shopping. Beware of distraction techniques that pickpockets use (such as bumping you or asking you for directions while an accomplice steals items) in grocery stores, malls, or other crowded areas.
- Never leave purchased items in plain view inside of your vehicle when shopping. Store items in your trunk, or take the items home as soon as possible.
- Try to park in a well-lit area. If you are concerned about walking out to your vehicle, talk to the store about your concerns or you can even request an escort from police (the store can call for you if necessary).
- To protect your home, let the police department know that you will be going on vacation by contacting Officer James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 with the dates/times that you will be gone, along with your address or any other specific arrangements and he will pass it along to the patrol officers.
- Residents should also keep their homes well-lit during the evening hours using timed, motion-detecting, or dusk to dawn lighting. Keep bushes trimmed below the window line to limit hiding places. Also, try not to lay out large amounts of holiday gifts in plain view through the window.
- Report suspicious activity in your neighborhood immediately by calling 911.



ROCK ALONG WITH SANTA
The View Restaurant
Thursday, December 10, 2015
5:30 - 7:30 pm

Here come Santa Claus, right down Calumet Avenue! Enjoy a candy cane hunt, followed by a meal from Meatheads and a holiday themed craft. Santa will lead us in songs with his guitar and read "Twas the Night Before Christmas". Take some silly photos in our photobooth provided by Peek a View. Everyone will also get the chance to sit on Santa's lap. Bring your camera to capture all the fun!

Resident per person \$10
 Non-Resident per person \$15

You must pre-register for this event.



HOLIDAY ARTS & CRAFTS FAIR
Munster High School
Saturday & Sunday, December 5 & 6
9 am - 4 pm

This perennial favorite, drawing vendors from four surrounding states, is a must see holiday event. Unlike shopping at the mall, you will find unique gifts as well as home décor to make your season bright. Attend this festive fair to deck your halls and find one-of-a-kind homemade gifts your friends and family will enjoy.

FREE ADMISSION and PARKING.

Concessions available for purchase.

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 2015

Park Board Meeting	November 3	12:00 pm	Centennial Park
Town Council Mtg/Redevelopment Com	November 9	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Board of Zoning Appeals	November 10	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Plan Commission	November 10	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room
Park Board Meeting	November 17	7:00 pm	Conference Room "A"
Board of Safety	November 19	7:00 am	Conference Room "C"
Town Council Mtg/Redevelopment Com.	November 23	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room

Notes: The above schedule is subject to change. Please telephone Town Hall at 836-6900 to confirm meetings. A schedule of these meetings and others is maintained on the Community Calendar at the Town of Munster website: <http://www.munster.org>.

Tune into WJOB 1230 AM Radio and listen to "Community Programming Initiative" which members of the Munster Town Council discuss issues in town, the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 8:30 a.m.

TOWN COUNCIL & CLERK-TREASURER TELEPHONE AND E-MAIL LIST

JOHN EDINGTON - 836-2637, jwedington34@comcast.net
DR. ANDY KOULTOURIDES - 595-5606, drkoul63@gmail.com
JOSEPH SIMONETTO - 838-1856, jsimonetto@munster.org
MUNSTER TOWN HALL - 836-6900

JOHN REED - 219-712-4104, jpratlaw@aol.com
DAVE NELLANS - 923-3490, dnellans@munster.org
DAVE SHAFER - 836-6940, dshafer@munster.in.gov
MUNSTER POLICE DEPT. - 911



J. Edington



J. Reed



A. Koulourides



D. Nellans



J. Simonetto



D. Shafer