



NEWS YOU CAN USE

1005 Ridge Road, Munster, IN

FEBRUARY 2021

Edited by: E. Payne

WHAT'S NEW



As we power through another lovely Region winter, many in Town are looking towards the future. This includes the developers of Maple Leaf Crossing and the Lansing Country Club. You may have noticed the heavy equipment at the Maple Leaf site which was installing the underground infrastructure for their development. With the recent approval of their final plat, Maple Leaf is well-positioned to begin construction on buildings when the weather is cooperative.

The sale of the Lansing Country Club to the Saxon Partners closed in January. Some folk may not realize that about 85 acres of the Club sit in Indiana. This project is still in its infancy and has yet to come before the Plan Commission or any other Town body for a formal hearing. When there is more information, we will have a place on our website that you can refer to for documents, plans, etc.

We will also be doing some of our own construction, as well. The Town was recently awarded a matching grant of nearly \$475,000 from the State of Indiana for local street improvements. With these funds, residents on Elliott between Columbia and White Oak, Timrick between Forest and Fisher, Crestwood between Azalea and Bluebird, and Bluebird between White Oak and Foliage will see their streets resurfaced.

Additionally, the Town was awarded a \$25,000 matching grant to beautify the landscape along the newly installed bike path that runs from Calumet Avenue along the Canadian National rail line to the pedestrian overpass. This work will commence in the spring, as well.

Also coming in the future is a potential change in our residential trash and recycling hauler. Our current contract with Waste Management expires in March and we will be going out to bid for this service in February.

Dustin Anderson, Town Manager

Who is eligible to receive vaccine?

- Are you age 60 or older?
- Do you work or volunteer in healthcare and have (physical or close) contact or face to face interactions with patients?
- Are you a first responder?
- If answer yes to any of these questions, you are eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Click here: <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/Eligibility%201.5.21.pdf> to receive complete list of who is eligible.
- Click here: <https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/vaccine/> to find a vaccination site and register.
- www.coronavirus.in.gov for complete information regarding vaccination against COVID-19. Also information specific to Lake County Indiana can be found at www.lakecountyin.org.
- Lake County Indiana Health Department (219)755-3655



CLERK TREASURER

The Clerk-Treasurer's Department, thankfully, rose to the challenge that was the year 2020. They have been amazingly resilient and innovative this past year. We discovered, while the building and office was closed to the public, we could improve the way residents conduct business with the Clerk-Treasurer's office. We have accepted payment through ACH for many years; however, we have added the ability to auto-charge your credit or debit card. Visit the Town website to sign up for this service. You are now able to register online to receive paperless monthly statements. Register online for this convenience. You are able to view copies of current and past issues of this News You Can Use newsletter on the Town website as well.

You have not received a garbage and recycling calendar for 2021. Waste Management has historically provided that information to us. Our contract with them will expire this year, and they have not yet given us the 2021 information. We anticipate a new calendar will be made available to our residents when a new deal is negotiated and signed.

I am currently taking my final two classes at IUN to receive a master's degree in public affairs as well as one additional course that I need to pursue further professional certification. I earned the Indiana Accredited Municipal Clerk certification from the Indiana League of Municipal Clerks and Treasurers in 2020, and I am seeking additional professional accreditations. All this to assist in making the right decisions for the betterment of Munster.

As always, I welcome your comments and questions. The town website is www.munster.org, my email is wmis@munster.org, and my direct line is (219)836 -6945. I look forward to working with you.

All the best, Wendy Mis

Tips for Sharing the Road with Snow Plow Drivers

- Visibility - Take precautions to see, be seen, and stay out of the snow cloud of the plow
- Distance - Stay a safe distance away from plows and give them room to operate
- Passing - Only pass when necessary and never pass on the right
- Speed - Slow down and remember that snow plows operate slowly
- Echelon Plowing - Take special care and never pass plows working in tandem
- Trucks release salt and sand from the back of the truck - if you're too close to the truck, materials could hit your windshield and obstruct visibility.
- A snowplow operator's field of vision is restricted. You may see them, but they may not be able to see you.
- Snowplows turn and exit the road frequently, give them plenty of room to maneuver.
- Don't travel next to a plow, if possible. When plowing through a snowdrift or packed snow, the impact can move the truck sideways.
- **REMEMBER ICE & SNOW TAKE IT SLOW!**

★ **congratulations!** ★



MUNSTER POLICE HONORED FOR TOP NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT IN 2020

The Munster Police Department and Choice Community Council were notified in December that Munster's 25th Annual National Night Out Against Crime Celebration, which was held on October 6, 2020, **was ranked by the National Association of Town Watch as the #1 National Night Out event in the United States** among communities with populations in between 15,000-50,000 people. **Munster was awarded with the National Night Out Cup (pictured)** by the National Association of Town Watch in January.

The National Night Out is celebrated in hundreds of communities throughout the United States each year in an effort to promote positive police and community partnerships through a variety of both fun and educational activities for the public.

The National Night Out is usually held each August as a centralized event at the Munster Community Pool and includes swimming, games, prizes, fireworks, booth participants, safety demonstrations, a community parade, and more, however, due to the current health situation this year's event was organized with different activities so that it could be celebrated by our community in a safe way.

This year's event included three separate neighborhood parades of emergency vehicles, safety mascots, volunteers tossing out giveaway items to children (while wearing masks and gloves), and Citizenship Award winners. Residents were able to watch the parades from the safety of their front yards and were also provided online with Resident Safety Guides with tips to share with their families that day. Area businesses were also provided with Business Safety Guides to share with their staff members and employees.

In addition, a local Girl Scouts Troop raised funds to purchase hundreds of police support signs which residents picked up from the station to hold or display in their windows during the parades, and blue glow necklaces were also made available at the police station for children to wear that day. Members of the community were also encouraged to display blue lights to show their support for the event, and a canned food drive at the station collected hundreds of items that were later transported by the police department to a local food pantry.

The Munster Police Department and Choice Community Council of Munster would like to thank the many dedicated participants, sponsors, and dedicated volunteers who helped to make Munster's National Night Out Against Crime Celebration a positive and memorable day for the community this past year. **For more information about the National Night Out, please contact Officer James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org.**



SNOW REMOVAL ORDINANCES

Please read and remember the Town of Munster's ordinances for snow removal.

Ordinance:

It is hereby declared and proclaimed that it is necessary to the public health and safety that the streets of the town be cleared of snow, and if the clearing of snow is impeded and delayed by vehicles parked on the streets, such impediment and delay is detrimental to the public health and safety.

Whenever there has been snow of two inches or more, in order not to delay the clearing of such streets, all vehicles parked on all streets of the town, except streets in the area bounded by, but not including, Manor, Hohman, Ridge Road, and the northern town limits, shall be removed by the owner. These are the one-way streets between Manor and Ridge Road in the northwest section of town.

If such vehicles are not removed from the streets after two inches of snowfall occurs, and after ticketing, it shall be the duty of the police department of the town to forthwith employ some reputable person to remove such vehicles from the streets.

Ordinance:

The owner and/or occupant of any dwelling, building or subdivided lot or property shall keep the sidewalks in front thereof clean at all times of the year. Within 24 hours after any fall of snow or formation of ice, such snow or ice shall be removed from the sidewalks.

It shall be unlawful for any person to throw, push or deposit in any manner snow, slush or ice onto any street or sidewalk in such a manner as to impede the safe progress and movement of vehicular or pedestrian traffic.

Persons who violate this subsection are responsible for the costs incurred by the town to remove the impediment to safe progress and movement of vehicular and pedestrian traffic.

If you believe that a residence or business is not following this ordinance, please contact either the Munster Police Department by calling 911 or you can report the matter to Community Service Officer Kim Nordhoff at 219-836-6659 for follow-up. If the situation is an extreme safety concern, always call 911.



Electronic Recycling

Waste Management does not pick-up electronics or televisions. Electronics such as personal computers, laptops, printers, cell phones, DVD players and televisions can be brought to the electronic recycling shed located at 508 Fisher Street. The recycling shed is located outside of the gates at the Public Works facility, so it is always open. Your electronic items can be dropped off at any time because there is not an attendant. Electronic Recycling is available for Lake County residents only and not for non-profits, businesses or schools use.



MUNSTER PUBLIC WORKS
219-836-6971/219-836-6970

219-836-PARK

**REGISTER
NOW!**



Spring Soccer is BACK this year! This co-ed league will have your child learning the newest tips and tricks out there today in the soccer world while competing against others. Don't miss out! The **EARLY-BIRD DEADLINE**

is February 26. Games run April 10-May 15. Age groups: 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 and 10-13. Always seeking volunteer coaches, both Head and Assistant coaches. Questions? Contact Skyler at (219) 836-6922 or sramberger@munster.org.

Sponsored by: Land O'Frost



NFL Madden 21 e-Sports Tournament is NEW this year! This tourney will be hosted online from the comfort of your own home through PlayStation/Xbox servers and discord. The winner of this event will take home the title of "Best Madden Player in Munster". All ages welcome. Questions? Contact Skyler at (219) 836-6922 or sramberger@munster.org. Fee: \$10/player



I.R.P.S.S

Investing, Retirement, Preparing and Social Security

Join us for this 4-part series featuring local resident, Adam Robertson from Edward Jones. Topics covered: Foundations of investing (bonds, stocks and packages

investments), Retirement (you'll learn investment strategies to help design the retirement you want), Preparing for the unexpected (emergency fund, credit and insurance/liability protection) and Social Security (minimize benefits amounts based on age, life expectancy, employment and need).

Fee: \$20



Continuing Education Courses – Are you interested in starting a new career? We have many options for you to choose from. In class options include: Clinical Medical Assistant and EKG Technician. These classes begin April 12. Online course options include: Clinical Medical Assistant, Dental Assisting Program, Dialysis

Technician, Phlebotomy Technician, Pharmacy Technician, Medical Administrative Asst., Medical Billing and Coding, Medical Terminology, Paralegal Program and more! Questions? Contact Jill at (219) 836-6926 or jhiggins@munster.org.



CSRI stands for Cooperative Special Recreation Initiative. A whole section dedicated to those with special needs. This month we have a popcorn and movie event and family game night

scheduled. Pre-registration required. Questions? Contact Abby at (219) 836-6923 or akresal@munster.org.



All About Love (VIRTUAL) – Puppy love. Soulmate. Heart Throb. Sweetheart. Show us what you love this month! Show off your partner, child or pet. Show us your Valentine's day card box, favorite holiday craft or home décor. Do a dance, send a picture, we love it all. Categories will be based on submissions received. Winners will be posted on social media on February 14. Submit your entry by February 12. (By submitting a photo, you agree to allow MPR use of your photo on social media.) Photos

can be emailed to jhiggins@munster.org.



KOOLAID AND KANVAS

Tuesday, February 2nd

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Munster Social Center

\$20 for ages 6-12

Do you like to paint? Join us on this creative journey. You will learn how to use different brushes using simple 1-5 number system and how to mix-blend paint colors. We will be using a brush scoop or brush tip measuring method.

After the background is painted, we will take a little break while it dries and enjoy some Koolaid. Then, we move onto the details and foreground. Please arrive 10 minutes prior to class starting. Aprons will be supplied, however please dress appropriately.

Instructor: Catherine Sams



February



2/2

Koolaid and Kanvas (Ages: 6-12)

2/3

Intro to Online Video Calls

2/4

Wado-Ki Karate (Ages: 4-6, 6+)

2/6

Daddy Daughter Date Night

2/9

I.R.P.S.S.

2/10

I Speak Spanish (Ages: 3-5, 6-11 and 18+)

2/11

Valentine's Day BINGO

2/12

DEADLINE: All About Love (Virtual)

2/13

NFL Madden 21 e-Sports Online Tournament (All Ages)

2/15

Family Game Night (CSRI – Gametime Series)

2/16

Social and Soup Lunch w/ Skyler

2/17

Poppin' & Flix (CSRI – showing Trolls World Tour)

2/19

DEADLINE: St. Patrick's Day Wreath

2/23

Youth Book Club – Amelia Bedelia and Friends Beat the Clock (Grades: 2-4)

2/26

EARLY-BIRD DEADLINE: Spring Soccer

2/26

Wine Tasting Tour

2/27

Babysitting Lessons and Safety Training





Winter Fire Safety Keep Fire Hydrants Free of Snow

In an emergency, every second matters. Fire hydrants that are blocked, concealed or difficult to access due to snow or ice can impede emergency fire response. Snow-covered hydrants can delay fire services, costing crucial seconds or minutes that can mean the difference between saving a structure and its inhabitants and not doing so.

- Consider enlisting others to assist in snow removal around fire hydrants and storm water grates.
- Clear snow and ice from fire hydrants in your area - three feet on each side.
- Shovel path from the street or driveway to the fire hydrant so that it is visible from the road and firefighters can easily gain access.

Community Development
Monday - Friday
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Calumet - Ridge Streetscape Plan January 2021 Update

The Planning Team continues to receive feedback and make progress on the Streetscape Plan. Many thanks to all who participated in the December 10, 2020 virtual open house! In case you missed it, it's not too late to view the presentation and participate in the planning efforts. We still have the following involvement opportunities:

Visit the project website: www.munster-streetscape.org.
Check out the **Documents** page to view meeting materials, the open house **Zoom recording**, and a **summary**.

Tell us what you think: Take Poll #2! (<https://teska.surveymf.com/munster-neighborhood-poll-2>)

Thanks to the fantastic feedback we received from nearly 600 responses to Poll #1. Summary of Poll #1 can be viewed at <https://munsterstreetscape.files.wordpress.com/2020/11/munster-poll-1-summary.pdf>

Poll #2 delves further into streetscape design issues related to Ridge Road and Calumet Avenue.

More to come! Stay tuned to the project for upcoming information and events: <https://munster-streetscape.org/>

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS FOR FEBRUARY

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall at 219-836-6900 to confirm meetings. A schedule of these meetings and others is maintained on the Community Calendar at the Town of Munster website: <https://www.munster.org>.

Town Council/Redevelopment Meeting	February 1, 2021	7:00 p.m.	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Meeting	February 2, 2021	Noon	Centennial Park Clubhouse
Board of Zoning Appeals	February 9, 2021	6:45 p.m.	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Plan Commission Meeting	February 9, 2021	7:30 p.m.	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Meeting	February 15, 2021	7:00 p.m.	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Meeting	February 16, 2021	5:00 p.m.	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Safety Meeting	February 18, 2021	7:00 a.m.	Main Meeting Room (MTH)

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.



Dr. Ken Schoon

Dr. Ken Schoon
Lee Ann Mellon
Chuck Gardiner
Steve Tulowitzki
Dr. Andy Koulourides
Wendy Mis



Lee Ann Mellon



Chuck Gardiner

Ward #1
Ward #2
Ward #3
Ward #4
Ward #5
Clerk-Treasurer



Steve Tulowitzki

(219)765-8052
(219)757-1332
(708)606-7223
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Wendy Mis