

- Keen-Agers**
- “A Christmas Carol” 11/20 12:00-3:00 p.m.
  - Keen-Ager Book Club 12/5 10:00-11:30 a.m.

- Trips & Travel**
- Medieval Times 11/7 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
  - Four Winds Casino 11/12 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
  - Chg. Holiday Shopping 12/2 9:30-4:30 p.m.
  - Lawry's/Xmas Lights 12/7 12:45-7:30 p.m.
  - Little Traveler 11/22 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
  - O' Christmas Tree 12/2 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



Enjoy the crisp November weather

with a walk in on of our local parks!

See you on the trails!

## GOLF SHOP NEWS

Great deals on merchandise up to 40%off

Gift Certificates available for Holiday Gifts

## TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 2013

Town Council Mtg/Redevelopment Com.	Mon., Nov. 11	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Board of Zoning Appeals	Tues., Nov. 12	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Plan Commission	Tues., Nov. 12	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room
Park Board Meeting	Tues., Nov. 19	7:00 pm	Munster Town Hall
Board of Safety	Thurs., Nov. 20	7:30 am	Conference Room “C”
Town Council Mtg/Redevelopment Com.	Mon., Nov. 25	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.

**SET YOUR RADIO AT 1230 AM WJOB RADIO ON**

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

JOHN EDINGTON - 836-2637, [jwedington34@comcast.net](mailto:jwedington34@comcast.net) JOHN REED - 219-712-4104, [jpratlaw@aol.com](mailto:jpratlaw@aol.com)  
 DR. ANDY KOULTOURIDES - 922-4403, [drkoul63@gmail.com](mailto:drkoul63@gmail.com) DAVE NELLANS - 923-3490, [dnellans@munster.org](mailto:dnellans@munster.org)  
 JOSEPH SIMONETTO - 838-1856, [jsimonetto@munster.org](mailto:jsimonetto@munster.org) DAVE SHAFER - 836-6940, [dshafer@munster.in.gov](mailto:dshafer@munster.in.gov)  
 MUNSTER TOWN HALL - 836-6900 MUNSTER POLICE DEPT. DISPATCH - 836-6600

## MUNSTER BUSINESS COMPLEX, CALUMET AVENUE, SHOPS OR OFFICES FOR LEASE (1220 TO 4020 Sq. Ft.) CALL:

Russ Snyder  
Calumet Commercial Real Estate  
219-730-5221

Rob Klein  
Cyrus Realtors  
219-924-9305

Stan Wolucka  
Wolucka and Assoc.  
219-781-4767



1005 Ridge Rd., Munster, IN 46321

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## NOVEMBER 2013

Edited by Laura Pramuk 836-6901

## HOLIDAY SCHEDULING INFORMATION

THANKSGIVING DAY – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2013  
 CHRISTMAS DAY, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2013  
 AND  
 NEW YEAR'S DAY, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2014

REFUSE AND RECYCLING WILL BE PICKED UP ONE DAY LATER AFTER THE HOLIDAY.



## LIGHTNING PREDICTION SYSTEM

The Lightning Prediction System will be turned off on November 1, 2013, and will be resumed in the spring. If you have any questions, you can contact James Knesek, Director of Operations at 836-6970.



## SPRINKLER METERS

Due to usage on sprinkler meters being recorded during the months they are not billed, the Water Department has made a slight change to the way sprinklers will be billed. Instead of the meter not being billed at all during the ‘off’ months, they will continue to be billed ONLY WHEN THERE IS USAGE. There will not be minimum charge during that time, so if there is no usage, there will be no sprinkler bill for that month. This will take effect on the December bill and continue through June. For the July through November bills, you will remain subject to a minimum charge based on the size of your meter and will be billed according to usage. Please see the Utility Billing Policies, Rules and Regulations, available on the Town of Munster website, for any further details.

## LEAF AND BRANCH PICK UP

The Town of Munster's **branch** pick up will end on Friday, November 15, 2013, and the Fall **Leaf** pick-up will end on Friday, December 6, 2013 (weather permitting). The Public Works Department must now prepare 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

## 2013 FALL LEAF COLLECTION

The Town of Munster 2013 Fall Leaf Collection will begin on Monday, October 14, and will continue through Friday, December 6, **weather permitting**. Leaves will be picked up Monday through Friday, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

The Street Department crews will begin each day where they left off the previous day. **LEAF COLLECTION WILL NO LONGER BE ONCE A WEEK. PICK UP WILL NOW BE ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS. Leaves in bags will not be picked up by the town or by Waste Management.** According to State Law, leaves cannot be put into the landfill.

Since collection begins each morning promptly at 7:00 a.m., please have your leaves ready for collection prior to that time. With the large area being covered each day, town crews will not be able to go back into an area that has previously been collected that same week. The entire town will be picked-up once every two weeks, **weather permitting**. Following are a few tips which will help the town do a much quicker and better job:

- Place leaves in a “windrow”, a long continuous pile. Crews will be using a leaf vacuum to collect leaves.
- If your street has curbs, place leaves behind the curb on the grass parkway. **Do not place leaves in the street;** this causes drains to clog and creates unnecessary flooding.
- If your street does **not** have curbs, place leaves on the edge of the street pavement.
- Refrain from parking on the street adjacent to the piles of leaves between the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- Do not place sticks, bricks, stones, or other material in the piles of leaves. High velocity equipment is used and these items can damage the equipment, or more importantly, may injure an employee or bystander.

**IMPORTANT: Leaves will not be picked up in bags. Please rake leaves to the parkway.**

If you have any questions call the Public Works Department at 836-6971.

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS FROM THE  
MUNSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

With the holidays approaching, the Munster Police Department encourages residents to take the following precautions to help ensure a safe holiday season:

- When shopping, do not carry large amounts of cash, and only bring the credit cards that you know you may be using.
- Keep your wallet in your front pocket, or your purse zipped up and slung in front of you to help prevent pick pocketing.
- Do not leave purchased items/gifts in plain view inside your parked vehicle. Keep them in the trunk, out of sight, if you need to continue shopping. It’s always best, however, to take purchased items home instead of leaving them in your vehicle.
- When possible, shop with a friend and look out for each other.
- Be aware of frauds and scams, where individuals may call you or come to your door impersonating the Salvation Army, the police department, or other programs for the needy. Only donate to causes that you contact directly and which you trust from past experience.
- Be wary of individuals coming to your door asking to shovel snow. Only allow trusted individuals to help you.
- Keep your home well-lit whenever possible, using dusk to dawn lamps and timed lighting. Do not display large amounts of gifts underneath your Christmas tree in plain view of an outside window and keep your bushes trimmed below the window line to help prevent people from hiding behind them.

MUNSTER POLICE SEEKING DONATIONS  
9TH ANNUAL “COPS AND KIDS”  
HOLIDAY SHOPPING PROGRAM

This December, Munster Police officers and dispatchers will be taking pre-selected area children in need shopping for gifts or clothing in an effort to brighten their holiday season. Last December, they were able to take approximately seventy (70) children shopping (our highest participation total ever) thanks to the generosity of many residents, businesses, and community organizations.

The Munster Police Department is currently seeking donations for this year’s Cops and Kids event through Friday, November 15, 2013. The more donations we receive, the more children we can assist. If you would like to make a monetary donation, please make checks payable to the **Town of Munster (memo: Cops and Kids)** and mail them to the **Munster Police Department, c/o Officer James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, IN 46321**. For more information, contact Officer Ghrist at 836-6639 or [jghrist@munster.org](mailto:jghrist@munster.org). Thank you in advance for your support this year.

TRIMMING PARKWAY TREES  
CUTTING BACK TREES & SHRUBS IN ALLEYS

According to Munster code, it is the responsibility of the property owner to keep trees trimmed to a proper height so as not to interfere with pedestrian or vehicular traffic. There are numerous trees that are over growing into the streets hitting vehicles. The Public Works Department will be cutting back these trees in the fall and spring to prevent damage to vehicles. The tree limbs hanging over the street will be cut back to the curb line.

There are alleys in town that are overgrown with shrubs and trees. Town trucks and garbage trucks are unable to get through these alleys without damage to the vehicles. Crews will be cutting back these trees throughout the fall and spring to prevent damage to vehicles. Please maintain your own trees and shrubs if you do not want the town to do the trimming. If you have any questions, contact the Public Works Department at 836-6971.

**COMMUNITY PARK IMPROVEMENTS  
PHASE THREE**

The third phase of construction in Community Park is proceeding well. The first two phases included rebuilding four softball fields, new field lighting, a press box, replacing underground utilities, installing a more adequate storm water collection system including detention pond, playground equipment, parking lots, and walk paths. Phase three is rebuilding four baseball fields, remodeling the concession stand, more underground utilities, more new field lighting, another new press box, and more walk paths. Phase three construction began after the league season was over in July, and will be completed by the end of this construction season. Even though the south part of the park remains open, we ask that you stay away from the current construction area. If you have questions about this project, call or email James Mandon, PE, town engineer, at 836-6995 or [jmandon@munster.org](mailto:jmandon@munster.org).

**COLUMBIA AVENUE BRIDGE  
UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

Work began in August to replace the Columbia Avenue Bridge over the Little Calumet River. The City of Hammond, Lake County, Little Calumet River Basin Commission, and the Town of Munster are all contributing to not only replace the bridge, but also raise the bridge deck above the flood protection level. In this way the bridge will remain open during flood conditions and sandbagging or placing water bladders will not be necessary. Ellas Construction has removed the old bridge, poured concrete caps on the existing supports and is now working on the deck section. The projected completion date and the reopening of the bridge is mid-December. Until then we ask that motorists avoid the area and use Calumet Avenue instead. If you have questions or comments about this project, email or call James Mandon, PE, Munster town engineer at [jmandon@munster.org](mailto:jmandon@munster.org) or 836-6995.

MUNSTER PARKS AND RECREATION  
836-PARK (7275)

Having just finished our October special events, Munster Parks and Recreation staff is gearing up now for December. Our first big event is our inaugural **Holiday Market**. This market, as with the Farmer’s Market, will feature a variety of vendors as well as several food vendors. You will be able to purchase unique gifts and enjoy seasonal drinks and food items. Be sure and wear your mittens as this event runs from 12:00-6:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 1. If you are interested in being a vendor, please contact Jenna at (219) 836-6922.

On Saturday and Sunday, December 7 & 8, come enjoy our **27<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair**. This fair takes place at Munster High School (8808 Columbia Ave.), from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. both days. If you are looking for something special, you will find everything you need for your home, gifts for your friends, family, and co-workers and enjoy the holiday spirit and concessions at this favorite, regional fair. Over 115 booths will be filled with handmade, one-of-a-kind treasures. Be sure to put this must-see event on your calendar today!

On Thursday, December 12, we have two big events. The first is our **Keen-Ager Holiday Party**. This year’s event takes place at the **Center for Visual & Performing Arts**, from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Keen-Agers will be able to see the trees trimmed by local business and browse the gift shop for unique holiday gifts. A savory meal will precede a musical performance by Beckie Menzie and Tom Michael. One of the cabaret’s most in-demand duos, Becky and Tom have appeared on many stages across the country and around the globe, including Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center. A three-time winner “Outstanding Cabaret Artists,” Becky’s rich voice and piano stylings translate into pure entertainment. Everyone will also receive a favor and a chance for a raffle prize. Our second event is **Rock along with Santa**. Santa Claus is coming to town and making an appearance at The View Restaurant at Centennial Park. The evening will begin with snacks, sandwiches and activities until Jolly Old St. Nick arrives with his guitar to lead us in songs and read “.Twas the Night before Christmas.” Everyone will also get a chance to sit on Santa’s lap! Bring you camera to capture the fun!

Lastly, we are having a **2013 Gingerbread House Decorating Competition**. Area businesses are creating gingerbread houses to be voted on by you! Stop by Munster Town Hall Lobby from December 16-19, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. to vote for the prize-winner. Then on Thursday, December 19, families will drop by The View Restaurant, at Centennial Park, to craft their very own gingerbread house to add to your holiday décor. Fee \$1 per person (1 house per family). The winner will be announced at this family event.

**Golden Opportunities** books are on sale at the Park Office. You can purchase a book of coupons to be used at area restaurants, groceries, entertainment, sports, retail, and more for \$25.

Preschool Programs

- |                   |             |                                    |
|-------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| • Storybook Trail | 11/1        | 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 3:30-4:30 p.m. |
| • Storybook Trail | 2/1         | 10:00-11:00 a.m. or 3:30-4:30 p.m. |
| • Feather Frolic  | 11/8        | 3:30-5:00 p.m.                     |
| • Mommy & Me Art  | 11/12-12/10 | 9:30-10:30 a.m.                    |

Youth Sports

- |                          |            |                  |
|--------------------------|------------|------------------|
| • Basketball Basics      | 11/18-12/9 | 5:00-6:00 p.m.   |
| • Introduction to Sports | 11/2-11/23 | 10:15-11:15 a.m. |
| • T-Ball 101             | 11/13-12/4 | 5:00-6:00 p.m.   |
| • Tot Athletics          | 11/2-23    | 9:00-10:00 a.m.  |
| • Wado-Ki Karate         | 11/7-1/9   | 7:15-8:00 p.m.   |

Leisure Education

- |                    |         |                     |
|--------------------|---------|---------------------|
| • Bread making 101 | 11/9    | 9:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m. |
| • Excel Basics     | 11/6-20 | 6:00-8:00 p.m.      |
| • Excel In-a-Day   | 12/4    | 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. |
| • Voice-Overs      | 11/21   | 7:00-9:00 p.m.      |

Wellness & Fitness

- |                    |             |        |
|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| • Yoga & Breathing | 11/11-12/11 | Varies |
| • Zumba            | 11/5/12/17  | Varies |