



1005 Ridge Rd., Munster, IN 46321

NEWS YOU CAN USE

NOVEMBER 2016

Edited by Laura Pramuk

Town Hall will be Closed November 24 & 25, 2016 In Observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday



HOLIDAY SEASON SAFETY TIPS

If you are leaving town, please contact the Munster Police Department's Records Division at 219-836-6650 and provide your name, address, when you'll be gone, and any other helpful information.

- If you'll be out of town for a while, ask a friend or neighbor to shovel snow or to park a car in your driveway.
- Keep your home well-lit during the evening hours, using dusk to dawn and motion-detecting lighting. Keep shrubs trimmed below the window line to help eliminate hiding places for burglars.
- Do not carry large amounts of cash while shopping, and only take necessary credit cards.
- Carry your wallet in your front pocket while shopping, and sling your purse (zipped up) in front of you to help prevent pickpocket attempts. Never leave your purse hanging behind you on a restaurant chair, or in a shopping basket.
- Store purchased items in the trunk of your vehicle and do not place shopping bags in plain view inside of your vehicle. This encourages thefts.
- Shop with a friend, and carpool together. If you walk out to a dark parking lot and are afraid to walk to your vehicle, you can call 911 to request an escort. An officer will respond when available.
- If someone attempts to rob you by taking your purse or purchased items, please give them up to prevent injury to yourself. Remember that you can replace items, but not your life.
- Be aware of individuals collecting for phony charities at your door or by phone. They could be scam artists. Never let someone you don't know into your home, and talk to visitors through a locked storm door. Report suspicious individuals immediately and never give anyone your personal information. Only provide donations to reputable sources that you know and trust.
- If you see anything suspicious around the shopping districts or parking lots, please call 911 immediately and move to a safe location.



SEEKING "COPS & KIDS" PROGRAM DONATIONS

The Munster Police Department is currently seeking donations towards their 12th Annual "Cops & Kids" holiday shopping program. During this program each holiday season, Munster officers

volunteer to take pre-selected children shopping for toys, clothing, and other items with funds donated by area residents, businesses, and community organizations. Last year, over 50 area children were assisted through this program thanks to the generosity of others.

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, IN 46321. The deadline for donations is Friday, November 18th.

For more information about this program, please contact Officer Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org. Thank you in advance for your support this holiday season.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULING INFORMATION
THANKSGIVING DAY – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2016
CHRISTMAS DAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25, 2016
AND
NEW YEAR'S DAY, SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2017

Refuse and Recycling will be picked up one day later than your regular pickup day after the holiday



THANKSGIVING CATERING FROM CENTENNIAL PARK

Choose from a variety of selections including whole roasted turkey course meals. An A La Carte menu and desserts are also available.

Full course dinners feeding from 4 to 14 people. To view the menu visit centennialparkmunster.com/thanksgiving.

Or stop by the clubhouse and pick up an order form in The View Restaurant (219) 836-6930.

Orders must be submitted by **NOVEMBER 14TH**.

Orders can be picked up in The View Restaurant between 8 am and 8 pm on **NOVEMBER 23RD**.

Heating instructions for the meal will be provided. Enjoy a Tasty Thanksgiving Dinner without all the Work!

MUNSTER PARKS AND RECREATION 836-PARK (7275)

The Holidays are coming and Munster Parks and Recreation joyfully extends an invitation to you and your families to register for our holiday programs and special events!

To help with decorating, register your kids for **Twist and Create**, an interactive class where your child will make a holiday centerpiece out of balloons (11/21 - Pumpkin Tower and 12/14 - Holiday Tree.)

31st Annual Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair

December 3 & 4

Munster High School

There are 130 vendor booths with concessions offered by the Band Backers as well as Free admission and Free parking.

holiday
Craft Fair



Rock Along with Santa

December 7

Community Park Social Center

This yearly event features a singing, guitar-playing Santa who will read *The Night Before Christmas*, sing festive songs and listen to everyone's wishes by the fireplace. The event includes a craft and a light dinner of sandwiches and kid-friendly food. R \$10 NR \$15 per person and preregistration required.

Breakfast with Santa

December 18, 10 am - 2 pm

Centennial Park

\$24.95 Adults/\$13.95 Kids/FREE Under 4



Adult Sports

Adult basketball continues through 12/20.

11/15-12/6	Ballet Fitness
11/7-11/28	Essentrics
11/22-varies	Yoga and Breathing
11/3-12/15	Zumba
11/16-12/7	Adult Tap
12/12	CPR
11/2-16	Excel 101(night)
11/2	Excel In-a-Day

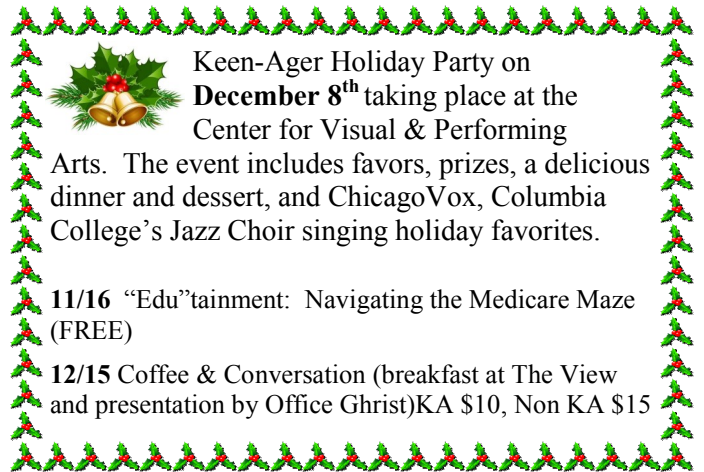
Trips and Travel

11/11	Travel the World in 36 Rooms at Little Traveler
11/15	Four Winds Casino
12/3	Lawry's, Chicago Christmas and Zoo Lights
12/10	"Illumination" Tree & Lights Extravaganza
3/16/17	"Saturday Night Fever" at Drury Lane

Register now for Spring Multi-Day Travel

(Makes a Great Holiday Gift!)

2/9-17	Discover Panama
3/2-13	Hawaii Four Islands
4/2-9	Backroads of Sunny Florida
4/6-11	Cherry Blossom Time in our Nation's Capital
4/19-29	Ireland Coast-to-Coast
4/23-27	San Antonio Fiesta
4/30-5/7	Pacific Northwest & California
4/20-29	Rome & the Amalfi Coast
8/2-7	Iceland: Land of Fire & Ice (Don't hesitate; will fill quickly!)



Keen-Ager Holiday Party on **December 8th** taking place at the Center for Visual & Performing Arts. The event includes favors, prizes, a delicious dinner and dessert, and ChicagoVox, Columbia College's Jazz Choir singing holiday favorites.

11/16 "Edu"tainment: Navigating the Medicare Maze (FREE)

12/15 Coffee & Conversation (breakfast at The View and presentation by Office Ghrist)KA \$10, Non KA \$15

New this year, we are offering fun and educational trips and camps during school holidays. Don't worry about what your child(ren), ages 6-12, will be doing during their days off; we will make sure they are occupied and having fun. On **11/7**, your child can visit **Lincoln Park Zoo** and enjoy a walking tour "Animals Living Together." On **11/8**, we will travel to the **Kids Science Lab in Chicago** where your child will do hands-on experiments to learn science!

Youth Sports

11/14-12/19	Adult/Tot Sports
11/5-26	Beginner Tots - Learn to Skate
11/5-26	Blackbirds Youth Hockey Development Program
11/14-12/19	Dodgeball (program uses super soft balls with safety in mind)
11/9-12/14	Lil' Dribblers
11/5-26	Pre-Alpha Beginner Skate
11/15-12/20	Soccer Skills Clinic
11/14-12/29	Sports and More
11/15-12/20	T-Ball Skills Clinic
11/9-12/14	Total Sports
11/10-12/29	Wado-Ki Karate

**HELP
WANTED**

Seeking Instructors in the following areas:

- Fitness Instructors (for classes in dance, weights, kickboxing, etc.)
- Dog Trainer (Puppy preschool or Grooming 101)
- Any adult and youth education teachers...do you have a hobby or interest you'd like to share?
- Senior Programming...do you have expertise in Social Security, Medicare or the like?
- Pickle Ball instructor

Munster Parks and Recreation offer a variety of events and classes all year long. For more information visit our website: **WWW.MUNSTER.ORG/PARKS**

OR

Stop by our office in Town Hall

**munster
PARKS
AND RECREATION**



2016 FALL LEAF COLLECTION

*LEAF COLLECTION PICK UP
WILL BE ONCE EVERY 2 WEEKS*

The Town of Munster 2016 Fall Leaf Collection will begin on Monday, October 3, 2016 and will continue through December 2, 2016, **weather permitting**. Leaves will be picked up between the hours of 7 am to 2 pm, Monday through Friday. 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 BE APPROXIMATELY ONCE EVERY TWO WEEKS.** State Law prohibits disposal of leaves into landfills. Therefore, **leaves in bags will not be picked up by the town or Waste Management.**

Collection begins each morning promptly at 7 am, please have your leaves ready for collection prior to that time. Due to the large area which must be covered each day, we will not be able to back-track into areas which have already been collected. The Town's leaf pickup route will be traveled approximately once every **2 weeks, weather permitting**. The following tips will help us continue to provide quality service:

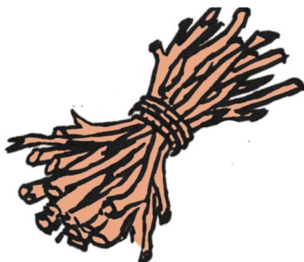
1. Place your leaves in a continuous long pile called a "WIND ROW". We will be using a leaf vacuum to collect your leaves.
2. If your street has curbs, place your leaves right behind the curb on the parkway grass. **Please do not place leaves in the street.** If it rains, these leaves could cover the street drains and cause unnecessary flooding.
3. If your street does not have curbs, place your leaves on the edge of the street pavement.
4. Please refrain from parking on the streets adjacent to piles of leaves between the hours of 7 am to 2 pm.
5. Do not place leaves around trees, sign posts, light or telephone poles.
6. Do not place sticks, bricks, stones or other materials in piles of leaves. High velocity equipment is used during our removal efforts and these items can do damage to equipment or more importantly, may injure an employee or bystander.

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

Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions please call the Public Works Department at 836-6971.

BRANCH PICK UP

The Town of Munster's branch pick up will end on Friday, November 11, 2016, (weather permitting). The Public Works Department must now prepare for snow and ice removal.



NEWS FOR SNOWBIRDS

It is coming to the 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. And 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.



Lightning Prediction System

The Lightning Prediction System will be turned off on November 30, 2016, and will be resumed in the spring.



BLUE STAR MEMORIAL

The Munster Garden Club will have a dedication ceremony for a Blue Star Memorial By-Way Marker honoring our Veterans on November 11, 2016 at 2 pm at the Monon Trailhead Bike/Walk Path on the south-east corner of Ridge Road and Manor Ave.

The event is made possible by the National Garden Clubs, Inc., the Garden Club of Indiana, Inc. and the Northwest District as well as the Munster Parks Department and the Munster American Legion Post 16.

In December, we are offering **Winter Wonderland Holiday Camp!** There are full and half-week camp options that include a field trip, organized games, winter activities, educational challenges and so much more! Age: 6-12



Full Week	7am-6pm	Field Trip	
12/26-12/30	M-F	Bowling	6916-R\$185 NR\$195
01/02-01/06	M-F	Skyzone	6918-R\$185 NR\$195

Half Week	7am-6pm	Field Trip	
12/27-12/29	T/W/TH	Bowling	6917-R\$145 NR\$155
01/03-01/05	T/W/TH	Skyzone	6919-R\$145 NR\$155

Location: Community Park Social Center

Register soon!



Need a gift idea?
The Parks Department is the place to go!

Register your 50+ family member for a **Keen-Ager Membership** including weekly activities, programs, seminars and trip discounts. How about something for those in your family who enjoy traveling? **Day trips and multi-day trips** abound at Munster Parks and Recreation. You can travel the world with our travel partners. Stop by and we'll customize something to fit your needs. We also sell **Golden Opportunities Books** at the park office. Think summer and purchase a **2017 Individual or Family Pool Pass** or a **Golf Membership, Pass or Gift Certificate to Centennial Golf Course**. And let's not forget our furry friends, an **Annual Dog Pass Membership** will keep your dog happy and exercised all year.



TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER 2016

Park Board Meeting	November 1	12:00 pm	Centennial Park
Board of Zoning Appeals	November 15	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Plan Commission	November 15	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room
Park Board Meeting	November 15	7:00 pm	Conference Room "A"
Board of Safety	November 17	7:00 am	Centennial Park
Town Council Mtg/Redevelopment Com.	November 21	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

LEE ANN MELLON - 219-757-1332, lmellon@munster.in.gov	JOHN REED - 219-712-4104, jpratlaw@aol.com
DR. ANDY KOULTOURIDES - 595-5606, drkoul63@gmail.com	DAVE NELLANS - 923-3490, dnellans@munster.org
JOSEPH SIMONETTO - 219-789-6177, jsimonetto@munster.org	DAVE SHAFER - 836-6940, dshafer@munster.in.gov
MUNSTER TOWN HALL - 836-6900	MUNSTER POLICE DEPT. - 911



L. Mellon



J. Reed



A. Koultourides



D. Nellans



J. Simonetto



D. Shafer