



NEWS YOU CAN USE

JUNE 2009

Edited by Charlene Stout 836-6999

HOLIDAY PICK UP SCHEDULE

Independence Day, Saturday, July 4, 2009

Due to Independence Day being on a Saturday, there will be no disruption of pick up.

Pick up will remain the same prior to and after the holiday.

MUNSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT FOCUSING ON PREVENTING THEFTS FROM VEHICLES

Due to an increase in the number of thefts from vehicles this spring, the Munster Police Department is asking residents to help prevent such crimes from occurring by following the safety tips listed below:

- ◆ Always keep your vehicles locked even if they are parked in the garage. Keep your garage locked as well.
- ◆ Never leave valuables such as purses, wallets, GPS systems, your I-Pass, radar detectors, visible coins, laptops, briefcases, CD wallets, or other similar items inside your vehicle. These are the most common types of items that have been stolen recently after the window is smashed.
- ◆ Join the Munster Crime Watch program and keep informed about recent crime activity through the Weekly Crime Watch Report (available only through e-mail). Contact Officer Ghrist to receive it.

Call the police department IMMEDIATELY when you see any suspicious activity, no matter how insignificant it may seem. Your call could help prevent crime in your neighborhood.

For more information about these tips or the Munster Crime Watch program, contact Officer James Ghrist at 836-6260 (ext. 2218) or jghrist@munster.org.

CHILD ABDUCTION AWARENESS PRESENTATION FOR PARENTS

D.A.R.E. Officer James Ghrist of the Munster Police Department will be giving this presentation which provides information to parents in the subject area of preventing child abduction. The presentation is Tuesday, June 30, from 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm at the Munster Town Hall. Participants are asked to pre-register through the Parks Department by calling 836-PARK. For more information contact Officer Ghrist at 836-6260 (ext. 2218) or jghrist@munster.org. Parents are welcome to bring their children, however, be advised that some of the information may be of an adult nature. We hope that many parents will take advantage of this important presentation sponsored by the Choice Community Council.

FOURTH OF JULY FESTIVITIES

The Town of Munster always puts on an amazing fireworks show on July 3rd to celebrate Independence Day, but this year is going to be more exciting than ever! The festivities are being moved to Centennial Park.

On Friday, July 3, the event will begin with food vendors opening up at 6:00 pm. The Northwest Indiana Symphony, sponsored by Community Hospital, will be performing from 7:30 pm until the fireworks begin at 9:15 pm. The fireworks are sponsored by the Munster Civic Foundation. After the fireworks, there will be additional musical performances to be announced later this month. Throughout the festivities, there will be food and alcohol available for purchase.

July 4th will have the same great parade route beginning on Saturday, July 4 at 2:00 pm at Fisher and Calumet. Be sure to mark your calendars now for the new venue for fireworks on July 3rd in Munster and come out to celebrate the parade July 4th.

NEXT PHASE OF THE LITTLE CALUMET RIVER FLOOD PREVENTION PROJECT (Columbia Avenue to Northcote Avenue) To Begin in June

A pre-construction conference was held on Thursday, May 14, for Stage VII (Columbia to Northcote) and the following is a summary of what was discussed:

- The contractor's name is Ceres Environmental, from Brooklyn Park, MN (Minneapolis metro area)
- Since they are out-of-state they plan to subcontract major portions of the work to local contractors
- The Notice to Proceed with the work was issued on May 11, 2009; and acknowledged on May 12, 2009; completion deadlines are from this date
- Contract duration is 575 calendar days for the entire project (September 24, 2010), with 500 calendar days to complete the flood protection (December 8, 2010)
- 75 days are for clean-up, seeding, patching streets, etc.
- Contract amount is \$13,814,973.70
- Projected start-up is anticipated to be June 15, 2009
- Project sequence will be clearing/grubbing, pile driving, construction of flood wall
- They will not use cranes to drop pile, but rather will use a hydraulic ram to push pile, in an effort to minimize damage to homes

- The contractor is obligated to maintain the same level of protection (height of the levee) as is currently in place
- Both Northcote and Columbia bridges will be closed at different times each for about three weeks, in order to connect the walls to the bridges
- Contractor will start at Northcote with two crews, one on either side of the river, and work west at approximately the same rate
- The Army Corps of Engineers will provide the town with a monthly newsletter to be distributed to residents, providing information on both, progress to date, and what to anticipate in the next month
- Contractor will carefully videotape the area and nearby home exteriors to establish pre-construction conditions
- Much was said about the fact that residents along the river have gone through a very difficult time, and the contractor needs to be understanding, cooperative, and respectful of their property

If you have questions about anything listed above or the project in general, please call James Mandon, PE, town engineer, at 836-6995.

WALGREENS FLOOD WARNINGS

The Town of Munster has contacted the Munster Walgreens regarding the flood warnings that appear on their electronic message board on the corner of Calumet and Fisher. These warnings often refer to the Kankakee River but are posted as flood warnings in all of Lake County by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) service. The local Walgreens branch cannot override these warnings.

Please do not be alarmed by these messages; tune to local news if you are worried about severe weather.

MUNSTER ROTARY, MUNSTER LIONS CLUB DONATE TO MUNSTER D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

The Munster Police Department's Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program recently received two large donations of \$2,000 each from the Munster Rotary and Munster Lions clubs. These generous donations will be used to help purchase t-shirts and teaching materials for the program, which is presented to several thousands students in five elementary schools each school year in an effort to educate young people about the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse. The police department would like to thank both organizations for their continued support of our community policing programs. For more information about how you can help sponsor the Munster Police Department's D.A.R.E. Program, contact Officer James Ghrist at 836-6260 (ext.2218) or jghrist@munster.org.

CHARGE PILES

The Town of Munster charges to pick up large piles of garbage, debris and yard waste. If the Public Works Department determines the pile is excessive, the minimum charge for pick up is \$75. If it is determined to be a charge pile, a letter will be left

on your door and the letter must be signed and returned before your pile will be picked up. If you have any questions, contact the public works department at 836-6971.

PICK UP OF WHITE GOODS

The town picks up white goods on Wednesdays. White goods are washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers, dishwashers, microwaves and hot water heaters. If you have a white good item to be picked up, please call the Town of Munster Public Works Department at 836-6971 so we may take your address for pick up. All other large items can be put out for Able Disposal to pick up on your regular garbage pick up day. Able Disposal will pick up one large item per week in addition to your regular garbage.

FREE WOOD CHIPS AVAILABLE

The Town of Munster is offering free wood chips to Munster residents. The wood chips are available at the Public Works Garage, 508 Fisher St., Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 2:30 pm. Chips are also available on the first Saturday of the month, **weather permitting**, now through September, from 8:00 am to 12:00 pm. You will be required to show proof of residency and are responsible to load your own wood chips. If you have any questions, contact public works at 836-6971.

YARD WASTE DISPOSAL

Please do **NOT** put your yard waste bags at the curbside before 12:00 pm on the day preceding your regular scheduled pick up day. Yard waste bags should not be more than three-quarters full. Able Disposal workers have to lift the bags chest-high to throw them into the garbage truck. If you have any questions, call the public works department 836-6971.

MOSQUITO CONTROL

Mosquitoes are not only a familiar summer nuisance but also a health hazard. They can be transmitters of West Niles, encephalitis, malaria and yellow fever to humans, and heart worms to pets. The pesticide the town applies has no odor and is harmless to humans and pets.

The Town of Munster controls mosquitoes in three ways:

- Briquettes are put in areas where there is standing water to kill mosquitoes before they hatch
- The town sprays to kill the adult population of mosquitoes between 10:00 pm and 7:00 am

To reduce mosquito breeding in your yard:

- Repair leaky pipes and outside faucets
- Get rid of old tire, cans, buckets, drums, bottles or any water holding containers
- Fill in or drain any low places (puddles, ruts) in yard
- Empty plastic wading pools at least once a week and store them indoors when not in use
- Make sure your swimming pool is properly cared for while on vacation

- Fill in tree-rot holes and hollow stumps that can hold water with sand or concrete
- Change the water in bird baths, plant pots, and drip trays at least once each week
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed around the house so adult mosquitoes cannot hide

To reduce your risk of being bitten by mosquitoes:

- Stay indoors at dawn, dusk and in the early evening
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants when outdoors
- Spray clothing with repellents containing permethrin or 35 percent DEET, since mosquitoes may bite through clothing
- Whenever insecticide or insect repellent is used, be sure to read and follow the manufacturer's DIRECTIONS FOR USE, as printed on the project.

If you have any questions, contact the public works department at 836-6970 or 836-6971.

TOWN OF MUNSTER

ART ON THE TOWN

COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

The Town of Munster has a very innovative way of promoting art within the community. When the town awards a tax abatement to a business looking to expand or move to the area, one percent of the value of that tax abatement must be used to fund a piece of art to give the community a cultural amenity to enjoy. This program brought multiple pieces dotting the landscape with additions on the way this spring.

Each month one piece of art will be highlighted. This is the third in this series. "Home" is sponsored by Peoples Bank and was created by artist Charlotte Lees. This piece of art is located at 9204 Columbia Avenue and is a tilted flag of a family in Northwest Indiana. The piece is a 12' by 8' steel and aluminum with borders of homes and buildings including the steel mills of Northwest Indiana. There is a family playing in a park setting and wavy lines representing Lake Michigan. The piece represents family and the dream of homeownership. This piece is over 1000 pounds and was created by Charlotte Lees out of Salon, Ohio. It was installed in 2005.



NEWS FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT 836-PARK

CENTENNIAL Park Golf Course & Driving Range

<u>Monday-Thursday</u>	<u>Resident</u>	<u>Non-Resident</u>
Before 11am & 3pm	\$15 / 9 holes	\$20 / 9 holes
REPLAY	\$10 / 9 holes	\$15 / 9 holes

From 11am to 3pm	\$12 / 9 holes	\$17 / 9 holes
REPLAY	\$10 / 9 holes	\$15 / 9 holes

Seniors 62+ and Juniors under 18	\$13 All Day	\$18 All day
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Friday	\$15 / 9 holes	\$20 / 9 holes
REPLAY	\$10 / holes	\$15 / 9 holes

10 Round Weekday Pass	\$120	\$170
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Weekend & Holidays		
From 6am to 4pm	\$19 / 9 holes	\$24 / 9 holes
REPLAY	\$15 / 9 holes	\$20 / 9 holes

From 4pm to Close	\$13 / 9 holes	\$18 / 9 holes
REPLAY	\$ 8 / 9 holes	\$12 / 9 holes

10 Round Weekend Pass	\$170	\$220
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*REPLAY: These fees are for the second 9 Holes of play, applicable on current day only

Driving Range	\$5 per token
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Cart Fees		
Pull Carts	\$3	\$5
Electric Carts	\$10 per rider	\$15 per rider
	\$17 for single	\$22 for single

Golf Annual Passes		
Individual	\$490	\$840
Junior (under 18)	\$300	\$700
Seniors (62+)	\$300	\$700

***Prices for the 2009 Golf Season**

THE MUNSTER CENTENNIALS RETURN

The Munster Centennial Team has regrouped for this year and will play the Deep River Grinders on Sunday, June 28th at 2:00 pm at Beech Park. The Deep River Grinders are a vintage baseball team that plays by the rules of 1858. The Grinders travel all over the Midwest to play throughout the year. A home and away game has been scheduled with the Grinders with the second game being played on Sunday, July 26 at 2:00 pm at Deep River County Park. For more information, call Munster Parks and Recreation at 836-PARK.

Kick off the summer with golf lessons! Centennial Park's Driving Range has a variety of lessons this summer. Starting the week of June 10, Youth 6-12, Youth 13-17, Ladies, Men's and Couples lessons will take place. Instruction includes the basic principles of grip, stance, swing, chipping and putting. Students will also learn procedures, terminology, rules and etiquette. Check the brochure out for specific days and times as they vary. Hurry because classes fill quickly!

Get out and get active this summer! **Fitness Challenge Camp** is a great opportunity for your child to learn about nutrition, health and exercise throughout the summer. Youth in this camp will have the opportunity to workout at gyms, take fitness classes, take bike rides, go on many field trips and play sports. This experience will only benefit you and your family. Ages 10-14 (other ages may be accepted, contact the park department at 836-PARK).

Summer Enrichment registration is being taken now. A great program, with a variety of education opportunities for your children!

TRIPS AND TRAVEL

- ◆ **Brookfield Zoo** - June 11, \$46R / \$51NR / \$44K / \$51 resident under 50 years old/ \$55 NR under 50 years old
- ◆ **Cherry Picking** - June 24, \$50R / \$55NR / \$49K
- ◆ **Millies Lunch & Show** - June 5, \$70R / \$75NR / \$69K
- ◆ **Presidential Footsteps** - June 29, \$64R / \$69NR / \$62K
- ◆ **Visiting Long Grove** - June 17, \$30R / \$35NR / \$28K
- ◆ **S.S. Badger Cruise** - July 19-22, \$839 double
- ◆ **Treasure Island/Mall** - July 26-29, \$539 double
- ◆ **Western National Parks** - August 6-13, \$2,089 double
- ◆ **Mackinac Island** - June 21-23, \$589 double

We are seeking sponsors (Monetary, Banners, or In-Kind) for:

- ◆ **Munster Music Festival** - July 10-12
- ◆ **"Pooch"apalooza** - August 9
- ◆ **Monday Movie Mania** - June 29, July 27 and August 10
- ◆ **Family Entertainment** - June 16, July 21 and August 4
- ◆ **Date Night under the Stars** - August 28
- ◆ **Opening Day Festivities at the Pool** - Sat., June 6
- ◆ **Father's Day at the Pool** - Sun., June 14
- ◆ **Special Recreation Swim Lessons** - June 29 - July 2, \$2 per person (families welcome)
- ◆ **Water Aerobics** - June 16 - July 9, \$60R / 70NR



KEEN-AGERS

- ◆ **Cell Phone 101** - June 19, FREE
- ◆ **Footloose (Lunch & Show)** - July 15, 12:00 - 4:00pm, \$48R / \$53NR / \$46K / \$30 show only
- ◆ **Hometown Art & Ice Cream** - June 15, 1:00 - 3:00pm, \$12R / \$15NR / \$10K
- ◆ **Patriotic Party** - July 1, 12:00 - 2:00pm, \$18R / \$23NR / \$15K

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD AND COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR JUNE 2009

Event	Date	Time	Location
Park Board Regular Meeting	Tues., June 16	7:00 pm	Conference Room "A"
Board of Safety	Thurs., June 18	7:30 am	Conference Room "C"
Town Council Meeting	Mon., June 22	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Board of Zoning Appeals	Tues., June 23	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Plan Commission	Tues., June 23	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room
Redevelopment Commission	Mon., June 29	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>.

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

HELEN BROWN - 922-7881, hbeckbrown@sbcglobal.net
ROB MANGUS - 972-9359, r_mangus@sbcglobal.net
JOHN EDINGTON - 836-2637, jedington43@comcast.net

MICHAEL MELLON - 836-1766, mmellon@ambfinancial.com
DAVE NELLANS - 923-3490, dnellans@munster.org
DAVE SHAFER - 836-6940, dshafer@ci.munster.in.us