



NEWS YOU CAN USE

1005 Ridge Rd., Munster, IN 46321

MARCH 2012

Edited by Charlene Stout 836-6999

TOWN'S SMALL SHOPS OR OFFICES FOR LEASE (1220 TO 4020 Sq. Ft.) CALL:

Russ Snyder
Partners Real Estate
922-3440

Rob Klein
Cyrus Realtors
924-9305

Stan Wolucka
Wolucka and Assoc.
781-4767

SPRING LEAF COLLECTION

Starting **Monday, April 2**, and continuing through Friday, April 27, public works crews will be collecting leaves between 7:00 am and 2:00 pm. The volume of leaves is difficult to estimate, so we cannot specify the day your neighborhood will be serviced. Please have your leaves out on Monday, April 2. Town crews will start in the northwest section of town Monday, April 2, and work south. If the town is completed before the week is over, crews will go through the town again.

A leaf vacuum will be used to collect the leaves. Place leaves in a windrow (long continuous pile). If your street has curbs, place leaves just behind the curb on the grass parkway. **DO NOT PLACE LEAVES IN THE STREET.** If your street does not have curbs, place leaves on the edge of the street pavement. Please be careful not to mix leaves with large sticks, rocks or other debris which could cause injury to an employee or damage the equipment. If you have any questions, contact the public works department at 836-6971.

BRANCHES AND YARD WASTE PICK UP

Starting **Monday, April 2**, branches will be picked up with the chipper the same day as your garbage and recycling pickup.

Branches should not be longer than five feet and thicker than three inches in diameter. In the spring and fall there is a large volume of branches and we can also have quite a bit of rainy weather, causing collection to run a day behind schedule.

Twigs and yard waste should be put into your garbage cans or bagged. Small branches should be bundled and tied. These bundled twigs and yard waste will be picked up by Republic Services on your regular collection day. If you have any questions, contact the public works department, at 836-6971.

STORZ HYDRANT CONVERTERS

You may have noticed the new Storz connections on the hydrants throughout the town.

Munster, Griffith, Highland, and Dyer Fire Departments were awarded an "Assistance to Firefighters Grant" to install converters on every fire hydrant in the four communities to accept the five inch water supply hose that is carried on all of our fire apparatus. The large fittings on the hydrants were various sizes in each community and required many adapters which would use up valuable time. These Storz adapters will save time that could save lives.

MUNSTER POLICE DEPARTMENT SEEKING DONATIONS TOWARDS NEW POLICE K-9 PROGRAM

The Munster Police Department is currently seeking donations from local businesses, community organizations, and residents towards the department's new Police K-9 Program. This program will allow the department to purchase a specially-trained police dog, a patrol car fitted for specific K-9 use/transportation, and necessary equipment.

Once implemented, this program will allow the Munster Police Department to have its own police K-9 unit that is quickly available to assist with drug searches at traffic stops, drug sweeps at our schools, building searches, tracking suspects or missing persons, or demonstrations for the public during community events throughout the year. This program will become an extremely valuable part of the department's policing efforts.

These types of programs come at a considerable cost. **If you would like to help with funding this important program**, please make checks payable to the **TOWN OF MUNSTER (memo line: K-9 COPS Fund)** and send them to the **Munster Police Department, c/o Nancy Nadratowski, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana, 46321.** Donations towards this program are tax deductible, and sponsors of the program will be listed on the Town of Munster's website as well as in future program publications.

If you have any questions, please contact Chief Steve Scheckel at (219)836-6655 or sscheckel@munster.org. Thank you in advance for your support of this valuable program in the fight against crime and drugs in our community.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The School Town of Munster will be conducting Kindergarten registration on **March 7, 2012** for all new students who plan to attend during the 2012-2013 school year. You must register in your home school between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., or from 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 7, 2012

- **Eads Elementary School - 8000 Jackson Avenue**
- **Elliott Elementary School - 8718 White Oak Avenue**
- **Frank Hammond Elementary School - 1301 Fran-Lin Pky**

In order to be eligible to register for Kindergarten a child must be five years old on/or before August 1, 2012. To register for first grade a child must be six years old on/or before August 1, 2012.

At the time of registration, parents must present a **certified/original birth certificate** of the child, and a valid driver's license with the current address. (Baptismal and hospital records are not acceptable as proof of birth).

Also at registration, parents will be asked to complete a student information sheet for their child. Please be prepared to list two emergency contacts with phone numbers, the child's physician with phone numbers, and if applicable, the name and number of the child's day care facility.

PENNSY PATH CONTINUES

The Town has received a grant to install the remainder of the Pennsy Path from Calumet and 45th to the state line. The portion from Fisher Street behind the Public Works garage to the existing Lansing path will be installed during the Fall of 2012, while the remainder of the path from Calumet Avenue to Fisher will be completed during the Summer of 2013. The Town of Schererville is working on extending the Pennsy Path to Route 30 and beyond. Within a few years cyclists will be able to ride from Lansing to Crown Point on one continuous path. If you have any questions call James Mandon, PE, town engineer at 836-6995.

WICKER PARK AND SCHOON DITCH SEWER SEPARATION PROJECTS

In mid-February, the Hammond Sanitary District Board of Commissioners approved the engineering plans and authorized the solicitation of bids for the separation of sewers in these two neighborhoods. The bid opening for both will be on March 20. The estimated cost for Schoon Ditch is \$2.8 million, while Wicker Park is expected to cost \$3.5 million. The purpose of these projects is to improve drainage and to significantly reduce the incidence and severity of sewer back-up and stream pollution. The Schoon Ditch project includes the area from Greenwood to Baring, from Park to Schoon Ditch. Wicker includes River Dr. to Ridge, Northcote to Hawthorne. If all goes well, these projects

could begin in mid-summer. After the projects are awarded and contracts are signed, the town staff will be meeting with residents from these neighborhoods to provide information, answer questions, and to listen to residents. If you have questions or comments about this project call James Mandon, PE, town engineer at 836-6995.

SEVENTH PHASE OF HART DITCH IMPROVEMENTS TO BEGIN SOON

The Lake County Commissioners, Surveyors Office, and Town of Munster have been working together since 1999 to identify and correct significant erosion problems in Hart Ditch. Within a few weeks the seventh such project will begin in an area between Fran-Lin and 45th Street. Erosion protection mats and walls will be installed to help stabilize banks and backyards which adjacent to the ditch. Just under \$600,000 will be spent this year split between the County and Town. Based on weather conditions and water levels, construction is expected to start in early March and be completed by the beginning of July. If you have any questions call James Mandon, PE, town engineer at 836-6995.

SECOND PHASE OF FRAN-LIN IMPROVEMENTS TO BEGIN SOON

The second and more disruptive phase of the reconstruction of Fran-Lin, from 45th to White Oak, will be bid in March and begin in April. Last year, storm sewers were installed and streets patched. This year, spot curb and sidewalk replacement, removal of existing asphalt, stone and soft soil will take place, along with the installation of underdrains, new stone and thicker, stronger pavement. Since clay will be exposed and the weather is unpredictable at times, this project will go much slower than last year's and there will be significant inconvenience to residents in and around this area. The town will do what we can to minimize this disruption. After the project is awarded and contracts are signed, the town staff will be meeting with residents from the neighborhood to, provide information, answer questions, and to listen to residents concerns.



Open Monday - Saturday
11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

(219) 836-6983

Serving Gourmet soups, salad and sandwiches.

Catering, carry-out, and delivery available.

CENTENNIAL PARK GOLF COURSE

SIGN UP FOR UPCOMING LEAGUES FOR THE 2012 SEASON

- Monday Junior League starts June 11
- Monday Evening Ladies' League starts May 7
- Tuesday Morning Men's Senior League starts May 1
- Wednesday Morning Ladies' League starts May 2
- Thursday Evening Two Man Team League starts May 3
- Friday Evening Couples' League starts May 4

Call Matt Meneghetti, PGA Professional for further details,
(219)836-6932.

2012 ANNUAL GOLF PASS

Individual	Monday - Friday (5-Day)	\$450
Individual	7-Day Annual Pass	\$500
Junior (under 18)		\$225
Senior (62+)	Monday - Friday (5-Day)	\$340
Senior	7-Day Annual Pass	\$390
Annual Golf Cart Pass		\$300
DRIVING RANGE Membership (Individual)		\$400

LIGHTNING PREDICTION AND WARNING SYSTEM

The Thorguard Lightning Prediction Warning System will be reactivated Monday, March 19, at the following parks throughout the town: Community, Beech, Ridgeway, Frank Hammond, Stewart, White Oak, Twin Creek, and Centennial. These parks were chosen because of the high level of activity. Signage will be posted throughout the parks, so please take the time to read the guidelines to familiarize yourself and family about how the system works.

When a potentially dangerous weather situation is approaching, the system will sound a 15-second warning blast, warning that a potentially dangerous weather situation is approaching. If you hear the alarm, clear the park immediately, and seek proper shelter. Open air shelters do not provide adequate protection. All activities must stop as soon as the horn is heard. Three short horn blasts means "all clear." If the all clear does not sound after 30 minutes, cancel the event.

The system will operate seven days a week from 6:00 am to 11:00 pm, from March 19 through November 30. The system will be tested on the first Wednesday of each month at 10:00 am.

The signal horn can be heard throughout the town. If you hear the alarm, even if you are at another location, seek proper shelter. During threatening weather, avoid open areas, water, metal, wire fences, overhead wires and power lines, isolated trees, elevated ground, dugouts, and never use cellular phones. If you have any questions, contact Jim Knesek, director of operations, at 836-6970.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BUNNY

Centennial Park
Saturday, March 31
10:00 a.m. (Limited Seating)

Hop on down the bunny trail and enjoy a delicious breakfast. Sign up now. Don't forget your camera so you can take pictures with our special visitor.

Adults: \$11, Children 4-12: \$8, Under 3: Free
Please call Centennial Clubhouse at 836-6930 for reservations.



MUNSTER PARKS & RECREATION 836-PARK

SPECIAL EVENTS

Underwater "Egg"stravaganza

Munster High School
Sunday, March 11, 2:00-3:30 pm
Resident Family of four or fewer: \$10

Egg Hunts

(All Egg Hunts are held at Centennial Park Fees are:
Resident \$3/On-Site \$5)

- **Great Egg Chase** - March 30, 8:00 pm (bring your flashlight)
- **Community Egg Hunts** - March 31, 8:30am (Rain date: April 1, 2:00pm)
- **CSRI Egg Hunt** - March 31, 8:30am (Rain date: April 1, 2:00pm)
- **Doggie Egg Hunt** - March 31, 9:45am (Rain date April 1, 3:00pm)

14th Annual Car & Motorcycle Show and Spring Arts & Crafts & Business Fair

Saturday, May 5 (Rain date: May 12)
9:00am - 4:00pm
Cars, cycles or trucks pre-registered: \$20/on-site \$25
Vendor booth space still available.

Munster Parks and Recreation fitness classes at **Fitness Pointe** begin the first week in April. **Registration deadline: March 28!** **Walk Yourself Lean, Fit & Pain Free, Yoga & Breathing** and **Zumba** classes begin the first week in April.

Munster Parks and Recreation's **Continuing Education Medical Classes** are beginning soon! Please register for **Pharmacy Technician, EKG Technician** and **Medical Billing & Coding** as soon as possible. These classes and more are also available to take online at your convenience. For more information, call Barb at 836-6923.

INFANT/TODDLER PROGRAMS

(18 months - 3 years)

- 4-14/5-5 Sat. **Book Worm** 10:15-11:15am
- 3-24 Sat. **Ceramic Art Creations** 9:00-10:30am
- 3/6-27 Tues. **Movin' with Mommy** 9:30-10:30am
- 3/3-17 Sat. **Rockin' and Rollin'** 10:00-11:00am
- 4/2-23 Mon. **You and Two** 9:00-10:00am

PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS (3-5 years old)

- 4/2-23 Mon. **You and Three** 10:15-11:15am
- 4/7-28 Sat. **You and Three** 9:00-10:00am
- 3/21 Wed. **Princess Fun** 4:00-5:15pm

YOUTH SPORTS

Spring Soccer League deadline: March 9!!

- 4/9-30 Mon. **Dribble, Kick & Goal** 6:00-7:00pm
- 4-11/5-16 Wed. **First Kicks** 9:00-9:45am
- 4-14/5-5 Sat. **Intro into Sports** 10:15-11:15am
- 3-7/4-25 Wed. **Special Needs B-Ball** 6:15-7:15pm
- 4-5/5-3 Thurs. **T-Ball 101** 5:00-6:00pm
- 4-5/5-24 Thurs. **Volleyball Pros** 7:30-8:30pm
- 4-26/6-21 Thurs. **Wado-Ki Karate** 7:15-8:00pm

ADULT SPORTS (Ages 12+)

- 2-27/4-30 Mon. **Adult Open Basketball** 7:00-9:00pm
- 4-9/5-14 Mon. **Water Polo** 4:15-6:15pm

GOLF

Think Spring! Lessons begin in April and fill quickly. Call 836-7275 for registration.

LEISURE EDUCATION CLASSES

- 3-10 Sat. **Scherenschnitte** 1:00-3:00pm
- 3-20 Tues. **Cloud Computing** 10:30am-12:00pm
- 3-22 Thurs. **Excel In-a-Day** 9:30am-2:00pm
- 3-31 Sat. **House to Home** 1:30-3:30pm
- 4/7-14 Sat. **Jewelry Design** 10:00-11:00am
- 4-21/5-26 Sat. **Dog Manners** 1:00-2:00pm

KEEN-AGER ACTIVITIES

- 3-5 Mon. **Secure Your Identity** 9:30-10:30am
- 3-9 Fri. **"Singing in the Rain"** 2:00-4:00pm
- 3-16 Fri. **Senior Wedding Game** 10:00am-12:00pm
- 3-21 Wed. **"Always...Patsy Cline"** 12:00-4:00pm
- 4-16 Mon. **Robert E. Lee** 12:00-2:00pm

TRIPS

- 3-8 Thurs. **FREE Travel Show** 3:00-4:00pm
or 5:30-6:30pm (call for reservations)
- 3-13 Tues. **Flower/Garden Show** 9:15am-4:00pm
- 3-20 Tues. **Shedd Aquarium** 7:45am-2:45pm
- 3-28 Wed. **Four Winds Casino** 9:00am-3:00pm
- 4-20 Fri. **Shopping for Bargains** 8:30am-4:30pm

Call Barb at 836-7275 for our Multi-Day Trip opportunities!!!

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR MARCH 2012

Town Council Meeting	Mon., March 12	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Board of Zoning Appeals	Tues. March 13	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Plan Commission	Tues., March 13	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room
Board of Safety	Thurs., March 15	7:30 am	Conference Room "C"
Park Board Meeting	Mon., March 20	7:00 pm	Munster Town Hall
Town Council Meeting	Mon., March 26	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>.
- To keep up with what's going on in Town, tune in to AT&T U-Verse, Channel 99 (where available). Currently, this channel is showing a bulletin board of events and public information announcements for various activities within Munster. Soon, the channel will have television shows too!

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

JOHN EDINGTON - 836-2637, jwedington34@comcast.net JOHN REED - 219-712-4104, jpratlaw@aol.com
DR. ANDY KOULTOURIDES - 922-4403, drkoul63@gmail.com DAVE NELLANS - 923-3490, dnellans@munster.org
JOSEPH SIMONETTO - 838-1856, 381stsmw@att.net DAVE SHAFER - 836-6940, dshafer@ci.munster.in.us
MUNSTER TOWN HALL - 836-6900 MUNSTER POLICE DEPT. DISPATCH - 836-6600