



1005 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana

# NEWS YOU CAN USE

## OCTOBER 2022

Edited by E. Payne



The Town changed our financial software in 2021. We have many wonderful enhancements; however, a few situations have come up that we must occasionally address. This month we are going to try to clarify online payments through our third-party payment processor. If you do

not pay online or if your payment is automatically deducted through the Town's ACH, this information, although interesting, will not apply to you. Utility billing clerk Robin wrote the following paragraphs to help clarify the online payment process based on her experiences and questions she receives.

### AUTOPAY ONLINE THROUGH INVOICE CLOUD

Many existing autopay customers have signed up for autopay through our online portal partner, Invoice Cloud. In most instances, changes are made online and we are not aware of the changes. At that point there are two autopay options on the water account. We are making every effort to avoid any problems this may cause by implementing a procedural change. If a customer signs up for auto pay through Invoice Cloud AND already has auto pay through the Clerk-Treasurer's Office (checking or savings), we will take that to mean the customer no longer wants the option through the office. We will remove the auto pay option here in the office and leave the online choice.

### INVOICE CLOUD FEES

Please remember that any autopay you sign up for *online, through Invoice Cloud* has a convenience fee assessed by Invoice Cloud. In addition, the credit/debit card auto payments through Invoice Cloud have a pre-set LIMIT of \$300.00. If your bill is higher than \$300.00, the payment will be denied. You will receive an email notification, sent to the email address you have on file with Invoice Cloud. The Clerk-Treasurer's Office will not contact you about your auto pay being denied. PLEASE watch your emails for any type of notification. You are responsible for payments on your account and any late fees the denial of payment may cause.

You are not *required* to sign up for auto pay through Invoice Cloud. We do have other options to pay, including a FEE FREE auto pay.

And remember, the service charge for payments returned by the bank for any reason, whether made through the Clerk-Treasurer's Office or Invoice Cloud, is \$27.50 for each occurrence. If you have any questions, please contact utility billing at (219)836-6948 or (219)836-6949 or you can contact me at (219)836-6945. Have a great October!

*Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Munster*



Tune into **WJOB 1230 AM Radio** and listen to Community Programming Initiative, in which members of the Munster Town Council and guests discuss issues in town. Program runs the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 a.m.



**EARLY VOTING BEGINS**  
**OCTOBER 12, 2022 - NOVEMBER 7, 2022 (Noon)**  
**MUNSTER TOWN HALL**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM B**

**Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday**  
9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

#### **Thursdays**

9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Saturdays (October 29th & November 5th)**

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

**Monday, November 7th (Day before Election Day)**

9:00 a.m. - Noon

**Tuesday, November 8th - Election Day**

6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

(Vote at your normal polling  
location on Election Day)

For complete information on voting locations, check voting status, who's on the ballot, voting hours, and finding your voting location, please visit websites listed below. Also please contact **Lake County Board of Elections and Registrations** at (219)755-3795 for additional questions regarding election and voting.

**[www.indianavoters.in.gov](http://www.indianavoters.in.gov)**

**[www.lakecounty.in.gov](http://www.lakecounty.in.gov)**



## MUNSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT'S FIRE PREVENTION WEEK AND ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE

The Munster Fire Department would like to announce their annual Fire Prevention Week and Open House. Fire Prevention Week is October 9th through the 15th. The theme for 2022 is **"Fire won't wait. Plan your escape."** During this week, firefighters visit the local schools to share the prevention week theme and fire safety awareness to the students.

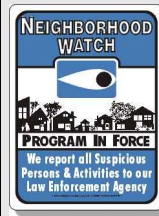
On Saturday, October 8th the Fire Department will host their annual Open House. The event runs from 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. and is held at Fire Station #2, located at 550 Fisher St. This is a free event and open to the public. We encourage all residents of Munster and surrounding communities to attend and bring their families & friends. The events of the day will include: a live fire demonstration, rides on the antique fire engine, live extrication demonstrations, fire safety house, informational displays, hands-on training with a fire hose, free literature, door prizes and concessions.

The live house fire demonstration is at 3:00 p.m. An actual 12' X 12' furnished room will be set on fire to show the rapid spread and the devastating effects that fire can have on a structure and its contents. The importance of leaving a building and not returning during a fire as well as getting out as fast and safely as possible will also be some important safety messages stressed during our demonstration.

The Munster Fire Department is currently seeking donations towards this year's Fire Prevention Week and Open House. This annual event is funded solely through the generosity of local residents and businesses. **If you would like to donate, checks should be made payable to: THE TOWN OF MUNSTER and mailed to 550 Fisher Street Munster, IN 46321 ATTN: Deputy Chief David Strbjak.**

For more information, please contact the Munster Fire Department's – Fire Prevention Division at (219)836-6960 or email [dstrbjak@munster.org](mailto:dstrbjak@munster.org) or [jrebey@munster.org](mailto:jrebey@munster.org).

**TRICK-OR-TREAT**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 31ST**  
**5:00 P.M. – 7:00 P.M.**



## MUNSTER CRIME WATCH MEETING

The Munster Police Department will be holding their final quarterly Munster Crime Watch Meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 26<sup>th</sup> (please note the different day of the week for this meeting) at 7:00pm at the Munster Town Hall. In addition to recent crime statistics and updates, the police department will be introducing their newest School Resource Officer for Wilbur Wright Middle School and will be discussing school safety and other community policing program updates. A \$30 Target gift card will be awarded as a door prize and crime prevention information will be available. For more information, please contact Officer James Ghrist at (219)836-6639 or [jghrist@munster.org](mailto:jghrist@munster.org).



## MUNSTER POLICE SEEKING "COPS & KIDS" PROGRAM DONATIONS

Every December since 2005, Munster Police officers have taken area children in need shopping for toys or clothing with funds that have been donated by local residents, businesses, and community service organizations. They will once again be holding their "Cops & Kids" holiday shopping event this year with your help and support. If you would like to provide 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 Thursday, November 10th.** Thank you in advance for your support of our program this year!



The Munster Town Council is requesting Munster residents submit or update applications for Munster Boards and Commission. We have several vacancies in 2023. The application can be found on the Town website [www.munster.org](http://www.munster.org), or you may contact Town Clerk-Treasurer at [wmis@munster.org](mailto:wmis@munster.org).



Branch Collection will continue in the month of October and will end on Friday, October 22, 2022 and will resume in the Spring.

Wood Chips available on Saturday, October 1, 2022 from 8:00 am. – 12:00 p.m. at the Public Works facility located at 508 Fisher Street. Bring a shovel and something to put the wood chips in.



# OCTOBER

10/1	Pumpkins, Witches and Hayrides Oh My!
10/3	Clinical Medical Assistant w/ Externship
10/3	EKG Technician Certification
10/6	Christmas Lights and Christkindl market DEADLINE
10/7	ServSafe Food Manager
10/8	Home Alone Training
10/9	Cuban Salsa Dance
10/11	Tiny Terrors Halloween Party
10/13	Cupcakes and Competition
10/14	Coffee and Canvas
10/18	Kool-Aid and Kanvas
10/19	Chinatown Explorer Tour
10/20	Tiny Tot at Susan's School of Dance
10/20	Ballet/Tap/Tumble at Susan's School of Dance
10/21	Bitty Hip Hop at Susan's School of Dance
10/21	Walk in the Woods
10/22	Birding in Munster
10/22	Trunk or Treat
10/22	Bieker Woods Night Walk
10/23	Floating Pumpkin Patch
10/24	Slam Dunk Basketball
10/27	Trick or Treat BINGO
10/27	Tiny Punters
10/27	ZUMBA
10/27	Wado-Ki Karate
10/28	People's Bank Series – Wealth Management



**Pumpkins, Witches and Hayrides Oh My!**  
**Saturday, October 1st**  
**10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.**  
**Centennial Park**

Pick a pumpkin from our patch, enjoy a hayride, have your face painted, jump in the bounce houses or play games. Come in costume and trick or Treat. Stage entertainment and more will be included – some tickets sales apply.



**Tiny Terrors Halloween Party**  
**Tuesday, October 11th**  
**5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. (ages 6-12)**  
**Community Park Social Center**

For \$25, you can participate in the coolest Halloween Party ever! Play games and make crafts while eating your favorite snacks and candy. Be sure to wear your costume for the fashion show! Pre-registration is required.



**Walk in the Woods**  
**Friday, October 21st**  
**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.**  
**Heritage Park**

Stroll the grounds and enjoy the jack-o-lantern carvings of local residents and groups for a luminous night time experience. Interested in carving a pumpkin for this event? Pre-register by calling our office and then we'll be in touch about pumpkin pick-up and drop-off. On-site ticket sales to walk the grounds are \$1/person. Munster Historical Society will be hosting concessions.



**Trunk or Treat**  
**Saturday, October 22nd**  
**5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.**  
**Wilbur Wright Parking Lot**

FREE to Trick-or Treat. Join us for some tasty treats and free giveaways.



**Bieker Woods Night Walk**  
**Saturday, October 22nd**  
**6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.**  
**Bieker Woods**

**\$5/person**

In conjunction with Munster Girl Scouts, tour guides will lead you through the chills and thrills around every turn in the woods.



**Floating Pumpkin Patch**  
**Sunday, October 23rd**  
**10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. or**  
**1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.**  
**Munster High School**  
**Pre-Registration required!**  
**\$10/swimmer per session**

Jump into a fun-filled pumpkin patch and swim for your floating pumpkins. All participants must possess basic swimming skills. After the pumpkin patch, you can enjoy family open swim.



**People's Bank Series** featuring **Wealth Management** will be instructed by Jim Dunne, Vice President and Wealth Management Officer for nearly 20 years. On Friday, 10/28 from 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. at the Community Park Social Center, Jim can help explain the importance of a financial plan and

working with a trust advisor. Class is FREE – please pre-register by calling (219)836-7275.

**SALSA**



**Cuban Salsa Dance** runs Sundays, 10/9-10/30 from 12:30 p.m.-2:00 p.m. at the Community Park Social Center – fee \$85. Merge your body and soul while you learn and grasp the Cuban rhythm – no partners needed! Instructor: Edson Cabrera

## 2022 FALL LEAF COLLECTION: PICK UP WILL BE ONCE EVERY 2 WEEKS

The Town of Munster 2022 Fall Leaf Collection will begin on, Monday, October 3, 2022, and will continue through December **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. **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 Homewood Disposal Service.** 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, grass 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 (219)836-6971.

## TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS FOR OCTOBER 2022

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall at (219)836-6900 to confirm meetings. Public meetings are also available utilizing Zoom technology. Visit the Town of Munster website: <https://www.munster.org> (Select Agendas and Meetings) or contact the appropriate department to access the meeting ID and passcode. Also a schedule of these meetings and others are maintained on the Community Calendar at the Town of Munster website.

Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	October 3, 2022	7:00 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	October 11, 2022	6:45 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Plan Commission Mtg.	October 11, 2022	7:30 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	October 13, 2022	1:30 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	October 17, 2022	7:00 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Park Board Mtg.	October 18, 2022	5:00 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Board of Safety Mtg.	October 20, 2022	7:00 a.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	October 27, 2022	1:30 p.m.	MTH (Main Meeting Room)



Dr. Ken Schoon	Ward #1	(219)765-8052	kschoon@munster.org
Lee Ann Mellon	Ward #2	(219)757-1332	lmellon@munster.org
Chuck Gardiner	Ward #3	(708)606-7223	cgardiner@munster.org
Steve Tulowitzki	Ward #4	(219)226-8973	tulo@munster.org
Dr. Andy Koultourides	Ward #5	(219)595-5606	drkoul63@gmail.com
Wendy Mis	Clerk-Treasurer	(219)836-6945	wmis@munster.in.gov