



Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge Road

NEWS YOU CAN USE

October 2024

Edited by D.Z.

A message from Town Council President

"I feel the need...the need for speed"

Lately in Munster, it seems like everyone wants to be like Tom Cruise. From speeding down side streets, to trying to beat the red light, it feels like our local streets have become more like the Indy 500.

Your council has been working together to try many different ways to bring drivers back in line by installing speed bumps, closing roads, emphasizing school and pedestrian crossings and using portable radar signs. Part of the reason for hiring more police officers was to help patrol areas where speeding seems to be a major issue.



Nationwide, speeding fatalities reached a 14 year high in 2021 and made up almost 1/3 of all traffic fatalities. Whether you're 16 or 60, distracted driving is the main reason people are unaware that they may be speeding. The biggest distraction is the cell phone, followed closely by reaching for food or a dropped item. We all need to recognize speed triggers, including tailgating or trying to catch up with the car in front of you. Prevention starts with YOU!

The Town of Munster is looking into many alternate ways to slow down cars, but your help is the best prevention. You can avoid driving too fast by checking your speedometer often, being aware of STOP signs and other traffic signs, concentrating on the task at hand and avoiding distractions.



An older friend of mine was known for her "lead foot". She was out doing errands and was stopped by an officer, receiving a ticket. A few blocks later, in a different neighborhood, she was caught speeding again. She tried to get out of another ticket by explaining to the officer that "she had just gotten a ticket from the other officer just 10 minutes ago!" Don't be this citizen.

When you reduce your speed, you are not only a safer driver but you can save on your insurance by not having any tickets. To help with this, allow extra driving time by leaving a bit earlier. Speeding costs you more than just the price of a ticket, which can run from \$200 for 1-10 miles over the limit, up to \$300 for 21 miles over the limit. In addition to this, there are court costs and lost work time.

Speeding costs, you extra gas and replacing tires and brakes sooner. Check online for Apps that monitor your speed and help you find the easiest way to get to your destination.

The council along with MPD and the Public Works Department will continue to find the best ways to reduce speeding in Munster, but we need you to do your part! In the words of my granddaughter (when she was only 4 years old)...



SLOW DOWN BUDDY!!!

If you would like to discuss speeding in your area of town, please feel free to reach out to me at (219)-680-6364 or dnellans@munster.org

David B. Nellans, Town Council President

A message from the Clerk Treasurer

Resident Questions & Updates

I always enjoy hearing from our residents, and I appreciate the thoughtful questions you bring my way. As I periodically do, I'd like to share a few of the topics that have come up recently. If one of you is asking, chances are others may find the information helpful too.

Garbage Totes

Several years ago, the Town partnered with Homewood Disposal for weekly garbage collection and bi-weekly recycling. Homewood Disposal purchased the existing totes from our previous provider and continues to maintain or replace them as needed. If your tote is missing a lid, a wheel, or has damage caused by animals, reach out to Homewood Disposal directly at (708) 798-1004. They will assess your tote and determine if it needs repair or replacement.

2025 Budget Planning

Our office is already hard at work preparing for the 2025 budget. The seven department heads have submitted their anticipated needs for the upcoming year, and we are now reviewing state estimates and past performance to shape the budget. Once finalized, any necessary adjustments will be made at year's end to ensure we're ready to fund our services and projects in 2025.

Collection Boxes at Town Hall

With early voting beginning at Munster Town Hall on Tuesday, October 8th, it's also a great time to bring in any items you'd like to donate. Drop off old eyeglasses, bread tags, and pop tabs in the designated collection boxes. Please note that we can no longer accept batteries at Town Hall.



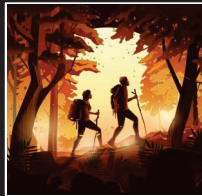
Thank you for staying engaged and informed. If you have more questions, feel free to reach out—I'm always happy to help! (219) 836-6945 and wmis@munster.in.gov

Wendy Mis, Clerk-Treasurer, Town of Munster



- 10/1 Jr. Beginner Gymnastics
- 10/1 Koolaid & Kanvas – Pumpkin Painting
- 10/1 Learn the Basics of Coding
- 10/1 Girls/Boys Tumbling
- 10/1 Scarecrow Festival **Registration Deadline**
- 10/2 Baby Tumblebears
- 10/3 Ninja Bears
- 10/4 4 Bear Tumblebears
- 10/4 All American Ninjas
- 10/4 Batik Exploration on Rice Paper
- 10/5 Ducks of Northwest Indiana
- 10/5 Paint Pour Galore
- 10/5 Pumpkins, Witches and Hayrides OH MY
- 10/7 2/3 Tumblebears
- 10/7 3 All Me Tumblebears
- 10/7 Preschool 4/5 Tumblebears
- 10/7 Girls/Boys Tumbling
- 10/7 Layers of Mixed Media
- 10/7 Chili Cook-off
- 10/8 Benefits of Funeral Pre-Planning
- 10/10 Hydration Mask Making – Crafting your own Skincare Essential Workshop
- 10/11 Coffee and Canvas – Pumpkin Painting
- 10/11 Scarecrow Festival
- 10/13 Styling for Beginners – Curly and Coily Hair Series
- 10/15 Vito's Vault Lunch/Show **Registration Deadline**
- 10/16 Dolly Date **Registration Deadline**
- 10/17 Ballet, Tap and Tumble
- 10/17 Tiny Tot
- 10/18 Servsafe Certification
- 10/18 Hardy's Reindeer Ranch **Registration Deadline**
- 10/19 Home Alone Training
- 10/19 Cold, Flu and COVID – Medication Safety
- 10/19 Let it go – Ladies Empowerment Walk
- 10/19 Bieker Woods Night Walk
- 10/23 Dolly Date
- 10/25 Ask Dermatology w/ Renata at SKIN Derm
- 10/25 Friday Movie Moments – Haunted Mansion
- 10/26 Mad Scientists Lab
- 10/30 Ghost Tour w/ American Ghost Walks
- 10/31 Spooky Seniors BINGO

Pumpkins, Witches and Hayrides OH MY will take place on Saturday, October 5 from 10AM-2PM at Centennial Park. For a child \$20 wristband, children are allowed a hayride (w/ parent), pumpkin, face painting, balloon artist, pony ride and bounce house. Free activities include trick-or-treating the vendors, Blippi character meet/greet from 10:30-11:30am, games, stage contests, costume contest and more.



Bieker Woods Night Walk

Saturday, October 19 from 6:30-9PM

At Bieker Woods, \$5 admission will allow the tour guides to lead you through chills and thrills, new frights or perhaps the forgotten graveyard. Seeking volunteer tour guides – contact Mara at

mdicarlo@munster.org. Sponsored by: Munster Girl Scouts.



Servsafe Certification is a 1-day course, hosted by Sanitized on Safety which includes instruction, book and an exam. Indiana law requires one person certified in food safety and Illinois law requires that all food service establishments have one Certified Food

Protection Manager. This fun and engaging class is also informative for at home cooks and caterers.

Hydration Mask Making will take place on Thursday, 10/10 from 5-7PM at Town Hall. Perform a self-applied mini facial using products and food-grade ingredients guided by a licensed Esthetician. You will be able to self-apply and take home a mask you make along w/ a mask brush.



Looking to further your education? We offer **Continuing Education online classes!** Visit www.healthtoday.com/munster or www.yougotclass.org/munster for over 20+ offerings.

Vito's Vault Lunch/Show

*Registration deadline is 10/15.

*Tour departs Friday, 11/15 at 10:00AM.

Enjoy a delicious 4-course meal, savor some of Vito's homemade Hooch, and then be treated to a lively 90-minute stage show featuring glorious tunes from the 20's and hilarious comedy sketches.



Thinking ahead to your 2025 party? We will begin taking **2025 Social Center, Weddings and Park Shelter rentals beginning Friday, November 1 at 8:30AM.**

Hardy's Reindeer Ranch

Registration deadline is 10/18



Visit this Ranch featuring 16 reindeer, over 5,000 Christmas trees, a barn gift shop, and a western-style banquet hall. Get up close w/ the reindeer, enjoy a lunch and then some entertainment. Tour departs Thursday, November 21, at 9AM.



Cold, Flu and COVID – Medication Safety

Saturday, 10/19 from 12-2PM at Town Hall.

Learn about medication safety related to OTC drugs commonly used to treat symptoms of cold, flu and COVID. Product selection, understanding dosing instruction on the labeling, medication expiration and storage will be covered. Class will be taught by a Doctor of Pharmacy of 20+ years.



OCTOBER IS NATIONAL BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH

October is National Bullying Prevention Month in the United States. Parents can help to prevent and respond to bullying situations by:

- Regularly speaking with your children about their experiences at school while encouraging them to report any issues to you right away.
- Remind your children about the importance of treating others with respect and making sure that everyone is included.
- Advise your children to make sure to notify a trusted adult right away if they are feeling unsafe or hurt due to another student's actions and not to be afraid to do so. A bully's power and control will only grow if they believe that their victim will not report them, and the situation will only get worse.
- Remind them that as a bystander they can make a huge difference and that they should lead by example. If they witness bullying they should always act in a way that feels comfortable to them. Either tell a trusted adult, be a support to the victim, or advise the bully in a confident but respectful way that what they are doing is wrong and that they should be respectful. Someone should always make an adult aware of the situation so that proper follow-up is conducted as well.
- Children or teens should notify a trusted adult right away if they see anything online regarding another student writing about being in crisis or who is experiencing depression or bullying.



It's Election time again and early voting is right around the corner!

Munster Town Hall will be an easily accessible satellite location for voters in town.

Early Voting will take place beginning October 8th through November 4th, 2024.

*Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays October 8th through November 1st, hours are 9:00am to 3:00pm

*Thursdays, October 10th, 17th, 24th & 10/31st hours are 9:00am to 7:00pm

*Saturdays, October 26th & November 2nd from 9:00am to 3:00pm

Monday, November 4th from 9:00am to 12:00 noon.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

Lake County Solid Waste Management District has a program for residents of Lake County to dispose of household hazardous waste. Any question on the Household Hazardous Waste pick up should be directed to Lake County Solid Waste Management District at 219-853-2420.



LAKE COUNTY
SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
Join the Journey

The Munster Public Works Facility **DOES NOT** accept household hazardous waste.

OCTOBER DATES:

**Saturday, October 19, 2024, Griffith Public Works, 134 S. Colfax St., Griffith

Open 9am – 2pm

WARNING ABOUT AREA DISTRACTION SCAMS

Senior citizens are especially warned to be aware of recent area distraction scams where the suspect will either come to your door or approach you in your yard advising that they are from NIPSCO or the town due to an emergency. They will try to lead you to your backyard or basement while a second suspect enters your home and steals valuables. They often wear hard hats, reflective vests, or false identification to make them appear to be legitimate.

Always lock your home and garage while you are working outside and take your key, garage door opener, and a cell phone with you for emergency purposes and also keep your home locked when at home so that these suspects cannot push their way in. If you have not called for service or the individual appears to be suspicious, please talk with them through a locked storm door or side window and call 911 right away so that an officer can check on the situation.

Please be sure to alert neighbors, family members, and friends who are senior citizens about this type of scam.

NOTICE

**BE CAREFUL
BE AWARE
BE SAFE**



CHOICE COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

The Choice Community Council of Munster, which is open to ANY Munster resident who would like to help plan programs, projects, and events aimed at preventing crime, drug, and violence in Munster, will be holding their final quarterly meeting of the year on Wednesday, October 9th at 6:00pm at the Munster Town Hall. During this meeting we will be discussing program ideas for 2025. **A \$25 Target gift card will also be awarded as a door prize.** Again, anyone is welcome to participate if you would like to provide ideas or suggestions. Please note that this is not a Crime Watch Meeting. For more information, please contact Munster Police Officer James Ghrist at 219-836-6639 or jghrist@munster.org. We hope to see you there!

BRANCH PILES for COLLECTION WILL BE SKIPPED FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS:

Branches or bundled piles of brush should be able to be picked up by one person, generally with a tree diameter no greater than 5" maximum. If diameter is greater the pile will be skipped.

*Any branches from a professional landscaper or tree-trimmer will not be picked up. They are to be taken away by the landscaper.

*DO NOT PARK VEHICLES in front of branch piles or the pile will be skipped.

*DO NOT MIX garbage, debris plant material with branch piles- only tree branches or sticks from pruning are acceptable or the pile will be skipped. (Plant debris should be bagged or in your trash toter for Homewood Disposal collection)



Your branch pile should be no larger than the size of a small car.

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD, AND COMMISSION REGULAR MEETINGS OCTOBER 2024

Notes: The schedule below is subject to change. Please contact Munster Town Hall (MTH) 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. **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. The program runs the first and third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 am.**

***Town Council and Redevelopment Commission Meeting Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5078755757?pwd=dTZKK3FGeHB0UUoxYzJjSth1WkdpUT09&omn=89734726133>

Meeting ID: 507 875 5757

Passcode: 126807

Site Plan Review Mtg.	Oct. 3, 2024	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	Oct. 7, 2024	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Zoning Appeals Mtg.	Oct. 8, 2024	6:45 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Plan Commission Mtg.	Oct. 8, 2024	7:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Board of Safety Mtg.	Oct. 15, 2024	7:00 am	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Park Board Mtg.	Oct. 15, 2024	5:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Site Plan Review Mtg.	Oct. 17, 2024	1:30 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)
Town Council/Redevelopment Mtg.	Oct. 21, 2024	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room (MTH)



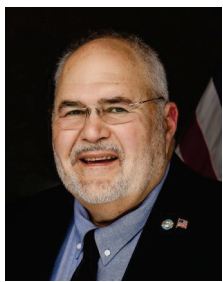
George Shinkan



Joseph Hofferth



Chuck Gardiner



David Nellans



Jonathan Petersen



Wendy Mis

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