



NEWS YOU CAN USE

NOVEMBER 2008

Edited by Charlene Stout 836-6999

2008 FALL LEAF COLLECTION

Due to the aftermath cleanup of the flood throughout Munster, the leaf and branch pick up programs have been delayed. The town will begin collection of leaves that are placed in a windrow starting Monday, October 20. Crews will pick up leaves placed in a windrow as long as the **weather permits**. Branch pick up will end Friday, November 14. Branches **will not** be picked up after November 14.

Please do not put leaves in garbage cans or bags. Able Disposal will not pick them up. If you bag your leaves with other garbage, it will not be picked up.

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

MUNSTER PD SEEKING DONATIONS FOR THIS YEAR'S SHOP WITH A COP PROGRAM

For the past three years, the Munster Police Department has participated in the "Shop with a Cop" program held at the Schererville Wal-Mart each December. This program allows police officers to take local children shopping for Christmas presents who may not have been able to receive any presents this year due to financial difficulties. Each year the Munster Police Department has been able to take families shopping due to the generosity of our residents and local businesses. The more money that is raised, the more families and/or money that can be spent on each individual child from our community.

Last December, Munster Police officers took 48 of these children shopping at the Schererville Wal-Mart as a result of the generosity of area residents and local businesses. The children and their parents were very appreciative and moved by your support which helped make their holiday season a little bit brighter.

We hope that many residents and local businesses will be able to help the Munster Police Department once again this year. If you would like to make a donation, **please make checks payable to the Munster Police Department** (memo line: Shop with a Cop) and send them to: Munster Police Department, Officer James Ghrist, 1001 Ridge Road, Munster, Indiana 46321.

We ask that donations please be in by November 17, 2008 so that we will know how many families can be helped in December. Please feel free to contact Officer Ghrist with questions at 836-6657 or www.jghrist@munster.org.

THANKSGIVING DAY COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Garbage and recycling collection for Thanksgiving week will be regular pick up for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. **There will be no refuse and recycling pick up on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27.** Thursday collection will be on Friday and Friday pick up will be on Saturday.

MUNSTER CIVIC FOUNDATION FLOOD RELIEF FUND

As our residents continue to recover from September's flood, individuals and businesses from Munster and nearby communities have been extremely generous in the contributions of various kinds toward the relief effort. In particular, monetary donations are being made to the Munster Civic Foundation, a 501(c)(3) corporation, at Munster Town Hall, 1005 Ridge Road, Munster, and at Peoples Bank 9204 Columbia Avenue, Munster. Checks should be made payable to **Munster Civic Foundation**, with "Flood Relief" noted in the memo field on the face of the check.

As of October 14, 2008, over \$85,000 has been donated and the directors of the Foundation will soon determine how the funds are to be disbursed. Following is a list of donors. The list will be published again next month in *News You Can Use*. We hope to see your name on the list!

\$10,000 Donors

Munster Lions Club, Inc., Lorin & Helen Brown, White Lodging Services Corp, Anonymous

\$5,000 Donor

Strack & Van Til LLC

Donors of \$1,000 to \$4,999

Norman & E. Kay Brucer, Calumet Electric Supply Corporation, MaryKay S Caparros, Church in Munster Inc., Community Foundation of NW Indiana, Michael A Damore, Double T Towing, 1st Metropolitan Builders, JRB Properties LLC, Midwestern Electric Inc., Munster High School Speech & Debate Team, Munster Jewel Osco - Employees, David & Paula Nellans, Terry McMahon & Co. PC, Tri State Hose & Fitting, Vanis Salon & Day Spa - Staff

Donors of \$500 to \$999

Louise Brossart, John & Juliane Burke, F/S Mechanical, Rose Ann Madarang, Brett & Mary Jane Marcotte, Edwin T Mulder, Munster FOP Lodge 147, Munster HS Dance Team 2008-2009, David & Nancy Murphy, Jeffrey & Teri Oesterle, Edward Sandrick, St Michaels Polish Catholic Church, T & M Tire Service Inc., David & Joan Thompson, Walter & Nancy Urbanski, K. Don Williams

Donors of up to \$499

Alvin G. Dempsey Ins. Agency Inc, Anonymous, Diane F Anton, Arzumanian Nursery, Edmund & Janet Babinski, Jerome Baffa, Norbert Bohling, Jan Boss, Francis & Bernice Brady, Timothy Bradley, Shirley Braner, Edna Brant, William & Bess Brennan, Anne Brennan, Cornelia Brown, Pablo & Christine Bukata, John & Elizabeth Bush, Alice Buxton, Alfred & Judith Buycks, Alice Buzuvis, Ann Carter, David Cerven, David & Abir Clark, Larry & Merry Copp, James & Catherine Cozzie, James & Dawn Czarnik, Jeanine Davies, Martha Davits, Joseph M Dolak, Larry Doniak, Al Dorfenkel, David & Cheryl Dornberg, George & Dawn Dragicevich, Tom Drake, Stephen Dzeba, Jeanne Elder, Mark & Carol Elias, Rosemary Englund, Joseph Ferraro, Pamela Franker, Marilyn & Ed Furticella, Imelda Gabatanga, John M Garmon, Richard J Gaskey, Amanda Gibson, Anna Glover, Amy & Hugh Goodman, Michael & Catherine Goodson, Steve & Debbie Gray, Bonnie Gray, Dennis Halfacre, Hammond Trophy Shoppe, Cornelius Harrington III, Richard D Harvey Sr., John & Eileen Hasse, Wayne Hays, Deborah Helminski, Hinesight Inc. DBA Action International, Judith Holzhauser, Horizon Bank, Ronald & Elaine Howes, Dr. & Mrs. R.L. Hulett, Steven & Dionne Hulse, Jennifer Johns, William & Nancy Johnson, Jim & Marie Jones, Michael & Kate Jones, John Joseph, Anthony & Cheryl Jurincie, James & Nancy Kaczka, Richard & Sandra Kalemba, Norman & Patricia Karne, Michael & Nadine Keer, Keilman Austgen & Sinal PC, Nancy Kiesling, Paul & Sharon Klus, John & Carol Knoepke, Miriam Kodice, Patricia Konstantinopoulos, Alexander Kott, Ernest & Angela Krumbein, Michael E Krupa, Lake Central HS Faculty - Social Comm, Donald & Mary Jean Lesko, Monica Lewis, Barbara S Lindsay, George & Susan Livarchik, Tony & Rosemary Lopiccio, Daniel & Barbara Lowery, E Gregory Luksich, Stacy Lulich, Keith & Margaret Madderom, Kathleen Maicher, April Markul, Michael & Andrea Markus, Kevin & Donna Marszowski, Phyllis Mason, Leland & Gloria McDonald, Michael & Deena McNurlan, Barbara Meeker, RJ & Carol Miedema, Sandra Miller, MJF Investments LLC, Jean Vander Molen, Austin Lee Moore, Emily B Morgan, Munster Braves Baseball Club, Erin Lusk, Colleen Lusk, Kathryn Walsh, Anna Ackerman, Allison Hemmingway, Dennis & Robin Nelson, Dennis & Maureen Nierengarten, Michele Noe, Colleen O'Connor, Michael & Mari-Jo Olenik, Iris Ourach Trust, Fred & Natalie Owles, Jorge Pagan, Larry & Melanie Partain, Pat Pawliik, Mary Helen Payonk, Mary Lou Perkovich, Martha Poirier, Penelope Pondo, Sandra Porter, Prairie State Dental Hygiene Class of 2009, Steven Preslin, Barbara Pressler, Michael & Karen Pucher, Carolyn Ramanna, Remember When Attn:Harold Hull, Kenneth & Carol Repasi, James M Riedl, Marilyn Rippey, Edward & Heken Rosenwinkel, Lloyd & Janice Rowe, Barbara Royal, Anthony Ruffalo, Laura Santacaterina, Mr. & Mrs. James Schmidt, S J Schultz, Theresa Secondino, David & Jo Anne Shafer, Robert Shields, Jean A Sidor, Margaret Sinde, Ronald & Christine Small, William & Linda Smutzer, Wilma Snedecor, Cheryl Sorrels, Southridge Elementary in Highland Teachers, Raymond Jr. & Tina Sowa, St Margaret Mary Church no. 149, Harold & Donna Stacy, Karen & Ronald Stein, Lisa Stojkovich, James & Charlene Stout, Carol Strudas, Kathleen Szala, JoAnne S Terczak, Patricia Mucha Tiberi, Tiger Cub Scouts Den 5, Vidal & Lourdes Torres, Lorraine Treen, Lance & Janet Trusty, Dennis & Debbie Turner, William P Umlauf, John & Kristan Vargo, James & Lisa Varnum, Beth Vesa, Daniel & Kathleen Vroom, Dr John & Dolores Vukovich, Wilbert & Kathleen Walllett, Floyd & LaDonna Wasson, Steven & Janice Watson, Dave Watson, Daniel & Nancy Weinberg, Chester & Mary Wilk, Hugh Williams, James & Patricia Wilson, John & Nancy Winiecki, James & Carol Yarovsky, Len & Ita Zabroski, Donna Zavesky

RELIEF FROM PROPERTY TAX BILLS

Taxpayers throughout Lake County have been affected by windstorms, tornadoes, floods, and other disruptive events that imposed financial hardships, making it difficult to make timely payments of obligations including property taxes. The Lake County Treasurer is working on a plan for taxpayers to make payments of property taxes over a 12-month period. However, at the time of this printing, approvals for the plan have not yet been granted, and it would be premature to apply for this program. The Lake County Treasurer asks that residents monitor the news media for an announcement of the payment program.

OUTDOOR STORAGE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

With summer over, residents are preparing their boats, campers, motor homes, sea-doo's, etc., for winter storage. The questions and problems arise in the storage of personal property. Where and how can you store your property.

A. Generally, no personal property other than lawn furniture shall be stored, maintained or permitted outside an enclosed area, i.e., garage, building, or carport.

B. Boats, trailers, campers, or motor homes may be located in rear yards, placed on a hard surface (concrete or bituminous) and screened by an opaque fence or landscaping to a height of six feet above the ground the property is resting on. The property must be owned by the persons who reside at the lot on which they are stored.

C. Prohibited areas. Personal property shall not be stored or maintained on or within the area designated as front yards. The front yard is the area of the yard facing the public street for a depth of 30 feet, a portion of the side yard is included if this depth is applicable.

D. Occupation of property. Such personal property shall not be inhabited at any time on the lot.

E. No more than one recreational vehicle, motor home, camper, trailer, boat, or similar item of personal property may be temporarily parked in the front or side yard, outside of a totally enclosed structure, and unscreened, for a maximum of three days in any consecutive 30-day period, for the purpose of loading, unloading, or servicing. Said temporary parking is permitted only if said property is located on the driveway.

MUNSTER PARKS & RECREATION 836-PARK

KEEN-AGERS

- ◆ **“A Fabulous 50’s Christmas”** - Lunch at Giovanni’s followed by the show at the Towle Theater. Sat., Dec. 13, 12:00 - 4:00 pm, Fees: \$42R / \$47NR / \$40 Keen-Agers
- ◆ **A Wonderful Life** -Lunch and Show at the Center for Visual & Performing Arts, Thurs., Dec. 18, 12:00 - 4:00 pm, Fees: \$50R / \$55NR / \$47 Keen-Agers / \$30 show only
- ◆ **Keen-Ager Holiday Party** - Holiday Party with entertainment, favor & raffle prizes at Centennial Park Banquet Facilities, Thurs., Dec. 4, 12:00 - 3:00 pm, Fees: \$15 Keen-Agers / \$35 Non-Keen-Agers

DAY TRIPS

- ◆ **Little Travelers Holiday Shopping** - Fri., Nov. 14, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Fees: \$30R / \$35NR / \$28 Keen-Agers
- ◆ **The Promenade Bolingbrook** - Fri., Nov. 21, 12:15 - 7:15pm Fees: \$32R / \$37NR / \$30 Keen-Agers
- ◆ **Lawry’s & Chicago Christmas Lights** - Sun., Dec. 7, 1:15 - 7:30 pm. Fees: \$75R / \$80NR / \$74 Keen-Agers

- ◆ **Cedar Creek Christmas in Cedarsburg, WI** - Fri., Dec. 12, 7:15 am - 6:30 pm, Fees: \$75R / \$80NR / \$73 Keen-Agers
- ◆ **Divine Performing Arts Chinese Spectacular** - In Chicago, Sun., Dec. 28, 12:30 - 5:00 pm, Fees: \$87R / \$92NR / \$84 Keen-Agers

OVERNIGHT TRAVEL

- ◆ **Christmas at Frankenmuth**, December. 2 - 4, Fees: Single \$699 / Double \$549 / Triple \$519
- ◆ **Sunny San Diego, Baja Mexico Cruise** - Mar. 10 - 16, Fees: \$1,799 Double
- ◆ **New Orleans, Western Caribbean Cruise** - Mar. 27 - April 5, Fees: \$1,659 Double

- ◆ **Peru: Ancient Land of Mysteries-2009** - April 14 - 27, (Reg. deadline: Nov. 14)
- ◆ **Southern Charms, Bahama Islands Cruise** - April 21 - 27, Fees: \$1,799 Double

EDUCATION

- ◆ **“You’re on the Air”** - Voice-over class on Thurs., Nov. 6, Fees: \$50 Munster Town Hall

FITNESS

- ◆ Take this proven stress buster to increase your energy! Stay **Youthful with Yoga** will help you become more limber and lose weight. Class runs November 11 through December 16, from 9:00 - 10:00 am at the Social Center.

Dear Town of Munster Resident:

Munster is considering starting an Express Bus Service to Chicago. In order to do this we need information to see if there is any interest in such a service. If you regularly commute to Chicago we would appreciate if you would complete the following questionnaire. If you pay your water bill by mail you can return the questionnaire with your water bill. If you pay your water bill on line or if you would prefer to complete the questionnaire on line, you can go to the following site and complete the questionnaire.

www.valpo.edu/organization/copc/survey

Your responses will be analyzed by the Community Research & Service Center at Valparaiso University and will be kept strictly confidential. Thank you very much for your help.

1. Do you commute at least several times a month to the Chicago area for work, school, or other purposes?

- Yes No

If you responded “No” to Question 1, you do not need to continue with the survey. Thank you for your time.

If you responded “Yes” to Question 1, please continue with the survey.

2. When you commute to the Chicago area where does your trip usually begin? Please indicate the nearest intersection.

Nearest intersection: _____

3. What is the primary destination of your usual commute?

The Chicago Loop or Downtown area. Please provide a specific location, such as an address, intersection, or building name.

Outside the Chicago Loop or Downtown area. Please provide a specific location, such as an address, intersection, or building name.

A city other than Chicago. Which city? _____

4. What mode of transportation do you generally take on your commute?

- Car/Drive Alone Carpool
 Bus Train

4a If you traveled by bus, which bus do you take?

4b If you travel by train, which train do you take?

Departing Station:

Train number or departure time: _____

Arrival station or stop: _____

4c If you travel by train, how do you get to your destination, once you leave the station in Chicago?

- Walk Taxi CTA/PACE
 Metra Trains Other

5. Generally when you commute, about what time do you leave home?

6. Which of the following best describes your reason for traveling to the Chicago area?

- Work Shopping
 Education/School Special Event Other

7. Munster is considering an Express Bus Service with limited stops for Chicago commuters. Please indicate how likely you would be to use this service.

- Highly Likely Somewhat Likely
 Somewhat Unlikely Highly Unlikely

8. How often would you use the Express Bus Service?

- Daily 3-4 times/ week
 1-2 times/week 1- 4 times/ month
 Occasionally Never

If you answered "Highly Likely" or "Somewhat Likely" for this service, continue. If not, please skip to Question 13.

9. What would be the best departure times for you for the Express Bus service to Chicago? Check the best time.

- 5:00 AM – 5:59 AM 6:00 AM – 6:59 AM
 7:00 AM – 7:59 AM 8:00 AM – 8:59 AM
 Other Time _____

9a. What would be the best return times for you for the Express Bus service?

- 3:00 PM – 3:59 PM 4:00 PM – 4:59 PM
 5:00 PM – 5:59 PM 6:00 PM – 6:59 PM
 7:00 PM – 7:59 PM Other Time _____

10. If you are Highly or Somewhat Likely to take the Express Bus Service to Chicago, please answer the following questions.

How important are the following features?

Restroom:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

Wi-Fi Internet:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

Cushion/Reclining Seats:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

Overhead Racks:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

Reading Lights:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

Parking Lot Security:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

Emergency Departure Service:

- Very Important Somewhat Important
 Somewhat Unimportant Very Unimportant

11. What would you consider to be a reasonable one-way daily fare that you would be willing to pay?

12. Are there any additional special accommodations or features that you would like to see on the buses?

13. Are there any additional comments you would like to make about the bus service?

Thank you very much for completing this questionnaire. Please return the questionnaire with your water bill. The Community Research and Service Center at Valparaiso University will analyze the questionnaires and will prepare a report of the findings. If you would like to see the results of this survey or be kept informed about the progress of this project, please give us your email or mailing address.

TOWN COUNCIL, BOARD AND COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR NOBEMBER 2008

Event	Date	Time	Location
Town Council Regular Meeting	Mon., Nov. 10	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Park Board Regular Meeting	Tues., Nov. 18	7:00 pm	Conference Room "A"
Board of Safety	Thurs., Nov. 20	7:30 am	Conference Room "C"
Board of Zoning Appeals	Tues., Nov. 25	7:00 pm	Main Meeting Room
Plan Commission	Tues., Nov. 25	7:30 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