Town of Dyer



STRIVING HIGHER

Volume 9, Issue 10

October, 2016

www.townofdyer.com

Town Council

Mary Tanis, President

Debbie Astor, Vice President

Joe Cinko

Jeff Dekker

Cathy Lareau

Town Administrator

Tom DeGiulio

Clerk-Treasurer

Patricia A. Hawrot

Board & Commission Open Positions

The Town Council is accepting applications from residents that are interested in serving on a board and commission. Board and commission positions are appointed positions. Any resident interested can download an application from our website at www.townofdyer.com, or pick up an application at the Town Council Office in the Town Hall. Some positions require a specific political affiliation (D or R). Open application period will run **until 3:00 pm on November 10, 2016** See website for additional information or call the Town Hall at 865-6108. The following list shows the positions that we wish to fill.

Park Board

1 Position (4 yr term) D

Police Commission

1 position (3 yr term) D or R

Storm Water Board

1 Position (3 yr term) D or R

Recycling Commission

1 Position (3 yr term)

No Political Affiliation Required

Sanitary Board

1 Position (4 yr term) D or R

Water Board

1 Position (4 yr term) D

Board of Zoning Appeals

2 Positions (3 yr term)
No Political Affiliation Required

Redevelopment Authority

3 Positions (3 yr terms)
No Political Affiliation Required

Town Departments

Town Council Office

865-6108

Clerk Treasurer's Office

865-2421

Department of Public Works

865-4222

Police Department

865-1163

Fire Department

865-4226

Parks & Recreation Department

865-2505

West Lake Rail Expansion Public Workshop

All interested residents of the West Lake Commuter Rail expansion are invited to attend a Community Workshop on Tuesday November 1st beginning at 6 PM at the Plum Creek Center. The workshop will be conducted by The FARR Associates. They are the lead Consultants for the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) portion of the studies being undertaking for the expansion of the South Shore Commuter Railroad to Dyer. Dyer and Munster will share a station at Main and Sheffield/Columbia Aves. Transit Orient-



ed Developments are a combination of both residential and business features that develop as a result of transportation related activities.

During the meeting residents will be asked their opinion on a number of issues relating to the potential TOD. They will register their preferences via an electronic polling system. They will be asked their priorities for the potential development and where they live, work and play. There will be an opportunity to submit written questions to the consultants about their presentations that will be addressed at the end of the session.

We hope that those residents electing to attend find the experience worthwhile and interesting. Seating is limited, reservations are not being taken.

For more information on the West Lake TOD Planning Process go to: http://westlaketod.civicpage.com/ Page 2 Volume 9, Issue 10



Please remember that prior registration is required for most of these programs/events. Please call the Dyer

Parks & Recreations office at (219)865-2505 for class/registration information.

Halloween Parade- Our 16th Annual Halloween Parade takes place Saturday, 10/15 at 2:00 pm. Registration takes place from 1-1:45 pm. Goodie bags will be given to the first 200 kids that register. Following the parade, there will be a raffle and prizes will be awarded.

Pumpkin Painting and Hayride- Dyer Parks and Recreation and teamed up with Elzinga's Farm to offer this program. Children 4 & up will enjoy painting a one-of-a-kind pumpkin at the farm and a hayride through the "Haunted Forest". Parents must ride with children under 10 for an additional \$3 fee. This event takes place 10/15 with your choice of times: 10-11am, 11-12 or 4-5pm. Fees: Res. \$10/ Non-res. \$11.

Witches Hat Halloween Craft- This craft will include a 10" chipboard witches hat that participants will paint and decorate. A black bat will also be decorated. This class is for age: 7 & up on 10/18 from 6-7 pm. Fees: Res. \$11/Non- res. \$12.

Mini Pumpkins- Children 2-6 years old with parent can come out and decorate their very own pumpkin. We will provide everything you need in order to create you one of a kind pumpkin. Class is Fri. 10/21 from 5:30-6:15 pm. Fees: Res. \$10/Non-res. \$11.

It's the Great Pumpkin! - Children 6-11 years old can decorate their own pumpkin on 10/21 from 5:30-6:30 pm. All the material will be provided. Fees: Res. \$10/Non-res. \$11.

Mini Lights & Itty Bites- Our 7th Annual flashlight Halloween Hunt for boys and girls ages 4-6. A flashlight and bag will be needed for this event. A small snack and a Halloween craft will also be done. This event will take place on Wed., 10/26, 6-7 pm. Fees: Res. \$9/Non-res. \$10

Upcoming Recreation Events

Frights, Lights and Bites- Boys and girls ages 7-12 yrs. old can register for our 14th Annual Flashlight Halloween Hunt on Thur., 10/27. Please bring a bag and flashlight. Pizza and a drink will be provided before the hunt. Following the hunt, prizes will be given out. Fees: Res. \$11/Non-res. \$12.

Private Guitar- Participants 10 and older can receive one-on-one lessons for either the beginner or seasoned guitarist. We have 10/26-11/16 or 11/30-12/21 open with 3 different time slots available. Fees: Res. \$100/Non-res. \$105. Please contact for the time slots.

Give Thanks- Participants ages 7-12 years of age will paint a Thanksgiving Turkey on a 12"x12" canvas on 11/2 from 5:30-7 pm. Fees: Res. \$16/Non-res. \$18.

Tiny Turkeys- Children 3-6 years old, with parents/caregiver can create their very own turkey. This class will take place 11/4 from 5:30-6:15pm. Fees: Res. \$10/Nonres. \$11.

Young Rembrandts Drawing Classes- What a great afterschool program! Class time is 2:45-3:45pm at Protsman (11/8-12/13), Kolling (11/14-12/19) and Watson (11/2-12/7). Register online at www.youngrembrandts.com/nwindiana

CPR/AED/First Aid- During this 4 hour class, participants ages 16 and older will receive a completion certificate good for 2 years, program materials and training/ certification in infant, child and adult First Aid/CPR/AED. The next class takes place 11/5 from 9am-1pm. Fees: Res. \$45/Non res. \$50.

Bumper Bowling and Bowling- Bumper Bowling is for children 3-6 years old with parent/caregiver. Bowling is for children 6-13 years old. The next session starts 11/7. Bumper bowling is from 4:15-5 pm and bowling is from 4:15-5:30. The fees are Bumper: Res. \$27/Non-res. \$29. Bowling-: Res. \$32/Non- res. \$35.

Kick'n with the Kids- Children and their parent/caregiver will participate together as they are introduced to soccer. Gym shoes and shin guards are necessary. The next session starts 11/7-11/28. Fees:

Res. \$31/ Non- res. \$34.

Little Ninja's- Hapkido- This program is being offered to your child as an introduction to the Martial Arts. Please wear comfortable clothes. This class is for children 5 & 6 years old. Next session starts 11/15-12/20. Fees: Res. \$45/Non-res. \$49.

Youth Self Defense-Hapkido-This class will promote positive, structured support to enhance your child's safety through knowledge and skill. This is for children 7 -12 years of age and starts 11/15-12/20. Fees: Res. \$45/Non-res \$49.

Women's Awareness & Safety Training-Women 18 and older will focus on physical and mental preparedness in order to enhance your personal safety and security at home, work, and travel. The next session takes place 11/15-12/20. Fees: Res. \$45/Non-res. \$49.

Holiday Shopping Spree & Craft Show-Our 15th Annual Holiday Shopping Spree will take place at Kahler Middle School on Nov, 19th from 10 am-3 pm.

Chicago Christmas Lights Tour- Travel on a motor coach bus to Chicago to see the lights. Stops will include the Planetarium Overlook, travel along Lake Shore Drive to Lincoln Park, North Michigan Ave. and a 1hr stop at Millennium Park. From there we will take a Loop tour with a final 1 1/2hr stop at German Christkindlmarket at Daley Plaza. We will leave the Town Hall at 4 pm and return at approx. 10pm. Fees: Res. \$40/Non-res. \$44. Date: Dec. 2nd

Letters to Santa- Imagine the look on your child's face when the mail arrives and he/she sees a letter from Santa. There is a \$3 fee per letter. You can find a hint sheet online at: parks.townofdyer.com. Print the hint sheet, fill it out, mail it in, drop it off in the drop box or bring it into the Dyer Parks Office with your payment.

Fitness classes that are available through Dyer Parks & Recreation: Yoga, Pilates & Zumba Striving Higher Page 3

Other West Lake Rail Expansion Developments

The West Lake expansion of the South Shore commuter rail line was recently advanced into the "project development" phase by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA).

Being placed in project development means that the roughly \$600 million West Lake Corridor project is now eligible for 50% federal matching funds. A final determination on that federal match awaits completion of an environmental impact study. The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD) and the FTA are preparing a draft Environmental Impact Statement on the project and expect to have the document ready for public review and comment

Being placed in project development means that the roughly \$600 million West Lake Corridor project is now eligible for 50% federal matching funds. A final determination on that federal match awaits completion of an environmental impact study. The Northern Indiana Commuter Transportation District (NICTD) and the FTA are preparing a draft Environmental Impact Statement on the project and expect to have the document ready for public review and comment later this year.

NICTD's goal is to seek a project rating from the FTA for West Lake in late 2017. If successful, the rating would lead to a funding recommendation in the President's 2019 budget. Once approved by Congress, construction could begin in 2019/2020, with the start of service in 2022.

SNOW PLOWING PROCEDURES

On street parking is prohibited in the event of a 2" or greater snowfall. We ask for your cooperation in keeping vehicles off of the street in those events so that we can more efficiently clear the streets.

Please be advised that the procedure we follow when responding to a snow or icing event is to clear the main thoroughfares first such as Calumet Avenue, Sheffield Avenue, 213th St. and the like. Then we move into the subdivisions and begin clearing those secondary roads.

Our plow trucks begin by moving snow from the centerline of the street toward the curb line with the goal being to get as close to the curb line as possible so that vehicles can utilize the entire road width. Depending on the width of the road it can take up to 3 passes to clear the road from the centerline to the curb.



There are 3 primary reasons for clearing the road to the curb lines. First is to provide access for emergency vehicles. Once the plowing effort is completed and cars begin parking on the sides of the roads again there needs to be sufficient room to allow emergency vehicles to travel down the roads. The closer we get to the curb the more room there is for those larger vehicles such as fire trucks and ambulances. The second reason is for mail delivery. If the postal delivery personnel cannot reach the mailboxes from their vehicles (on motor routes) they do not have to deliver the mail. The third reason is for drainage purposes. If we get a rapid thaw after a snow event we need to have the storm water curb inlets exposed so that they can take the water off of the road.

Cul-de-sacs- generally speaking we try to plow the snow away from the curb and toward the center of a cul-de-sac initially so that residents can get to their homes. We then follow that up by pushing the snow up against the most strategically available spot along the curb in the cul-de-sac. These streets can be problematic due to the limited amount of available curb area at which snow can be placed. In large snow events we may have to haul the snow out of cul-de-sac areas.

We receive complaints every year about our trucks plowing snow into cleared driveway entrances. We regret that this occurs but it is unavoidable. It would take much longer to clear the streets if we took the time to avoid the driveways. When clearing your driveway entrance (known as the apron) please take a moment to see if the street has been cleared to the curb line. If it has not, you can expect that a plow will be making another pass down your street. If you want to try to avoid having to clear your apron more than once during a given snow fall and you are able to wait for the street to be cleared to the curb line before clearing your apron that might help to avoid the duplication of effort. We appreciate that most of our residents understand this situation and we hope with this explanation perhaps everyone will have a better understanding of the matter.

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MEETING CALENDAR

October

October 13

6:00 pm Town Council Meeting 6:30 pm Redevelopment Commission Meeting

October 17

7:00 pm Plan Commission Meeting w/ Study Session to follow

October 20

6:00 pm Police Commission Meeting 7:00 pm Water Board Study Session and Meeting

October 25

4:00 pm Town Council BudgetAdoption Mtg.6:00 pm Park Board Meeting

October 26

6:00 Park Board Study Session

October 27

6:00 pm Town Council Study Session followed by Redevelopment Commission Study Session

October 31

6:00 pm Sanitary Board Meeting Study Session 6:30 pm Sanitary Board Meeting

November

November 1

6-8:00 pm West Lake TOD Public Workshop - Plum Creek Center

November 3

6:00 pm Storm Water Board Meeting Study Session to follow

November 7

6:00 pm BZA Meeting

November 8

6:30 pm Recycling Commission Mtg.

November 9

6:00 pm Park Board Meeting

November 10

6:00 pm Town Council Meeting 6:30 pm Redevelopment Comm. Mtg.



Trick or Treat Hours 5-7pm Monday, October 31st



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Halloween Safety Tips from the Dyer Police

- Children should trick-or-treat during daylight hours.
- Children should never be allowed to go out alone on Halloween.
- Children should never eat any treats until they have been examined.
- All fruit should be cut and closely examined before eating.
- Advise children that they should never enter strangers' homes.
- Never invite children into your home
- Children should never accept rides from strangers.
- Children should never take shortcuts through backyards or alleys.
- Set a specific time limit for your children to be out on Halloween

- Adult escorts should carry flashlights.
- Don't leave your home unattended on Halloween night.
- Keep pets inside your home, or other safe place on Halloween night.
- Children should walk, not run, during their trick-or-treat activities.
- Parents should know what route their children will be taking.
- All costumes should be made of lightcolored, fireproof material.
- Children should wear proper fitting, comfortable costumes and shoes.
- Props such as toy guns or swords should be made of pliable material.
- Realistic replica firearms should never be used.
- Masks should not be worn if they impair vision.



Pictured from Left to right are Mary Tanis, Town Council President and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Nowaczyk. Mr. Nowaczyk, a Dyer resident, was chosen to be the torch bearer for the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay on Sunday, October 9th in Merrillville. Mr. Nowaczyk



is the father of SSG David Nowaczyk. He ran in memory of his son who was killed in action in Operation Enduring Freedom in April of 2012.



Plum Creek Christian Academy

The newest addition to the Town of Dyer opened in September of this year.