

STRIVING HIGHER

Town of Dyer

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Town Council

Jeff Dekker, President
Mary Tanis, Vice President
Joe Cinko
Debbie Astor
Cathy Lareau

Clerk-Treasurer

Patricia A. Hawrot

Town Manager

Tom DeGiulio

Town Departments

**Town Council &
Town Manager's Office**
865-6108

Clerk-Treasurer's Office
865-2421

Public Works
865-4222

Police Department
865-1163

Fire Department
865-4226

Parks & Recreation
865-2505

Social Media

Follow us for announcements!
Facebook.com/TownOfDyer
Twitter.com/TownOfDyer

From the Desk of the Town Manager

Summer is finally here! The days are longer and there are shorter periods of darkness. The kids are home from school and are out and about. Keep them busy, get them enrolled in **Parks & Recreation activities.**

With the **Independence Day** holiday quickly approaching, the neighborhoods will be filled with neighborhood displays of fireworks. Please be responsible in the use of fireworks. **Safety, courtesy and common sense are three important things to remember.** Never let kids shoot off fireworks unsupervised; younger kids should not be allowed to set them off. Every year, we hear of injuries that could have been avoided. Be courteous to your neighbors; they should not have to patrol their property the next morning. Clean up the mess made by your exploding fireworks. Use common sense and think about where you are setting off the fireworks. Dry conditions can set off fires that can get out of hand very quickly. Make sure that spectators are a safe distance away.

The Town Council recently adopted Ordinance 2018-03 that will have a major impact on many properties. **The Council voted to ban all types of Storage Containers in all zoning districts, except R-1 and R-2.** In these districts, they are only permitted during construction work and must have a valid Building Permit issued to the property. The fee for the permit is \$100 per unit. Letters will be going out to violators. They will have a specific amount of time to abate the Violation. Violations will be issued on a per day basis. The longer the property fails to comply, the higher the violations amounts.

One of the more common complaints we are receiving is the problem of **tall grass and unkempt yards.** The

Town Code requires grass in undeveloped lots to be no taller than 10". On developed lots, the height is 6". This is one of the trickiest issues that communities deal with each year in the spring and early summer. We will begin to aggressively enforce this ordinance violation. Delinquent property owners will be cited any time their property is in violation.

Residents have asked why we do not just go in and cut the delinquent property. We will be implementing a new system that will fine delinquent property owners or the entities that hold the title. If we do not get compliance, we will have a private contractor cut the lot and we will attach liens, including the fines, to the property. The difficulty with liens is that they are paid either with the annual taxes or upon sale of the property. The latter is a problem if the property is in Foreclosure or at a Tax Sale.

We are trying to get this issue under control. We will never eliminate the problem. If you see an address that appears to be in violation, please contact Code Enforcement at 865-1163.

Construction starts on the **Berens-Monaldi Infrastructure Project.** Work will continue all summer into early fall.

The Town will begin work on **Sheffield Avenue** south of Main Street to Rt. 30, and 213th between Sheffield and Calumet. We are coordinating with NIPSCO on a major upgrade project they are working on in the same area.

Design work for **sidewalk extensions** on Great Lakes Drive to Fairview, as well as improvements to clean up that intersection are underway. We hope to have this work completed by the fall.

Open Positions

WE'RE HIRING!

The Town of Dyer currently has several open positions in our Park Department and Department of Public Works including part-time front desk staff, full-time laborer, temporary summer help, and part-time help in the Waste Water Treatment Plant.

Please visit TownofDyer.com and find more details about employment opportunities under the Home tab. Applications and job descriptions are available there.

Please call the Park Department at 865-2505 or DPW at 865-4222 for more details about the positions they are offering.

Summer Shred Event

Lake County Solid Waste Management District is holding their Summer Shred Event on June 16th from 9 AM-1PM at Hammond Public Works (601 Conkey Street).

Lake County residents may bring up to 4 paper grocery bags of paper per household to be shredded.

This event is NOT for businesses.

CommuniTree



In early Spring, we were awarded 30 trees through CommuniTree. We received 10 Burr Oaks, 5 Tulip, 13 Sycamore, and 2 American Linden.

Central Park and Veterans Park received ten trees each. Elmer Miller Park and Pheasant Hills Park received five trees each.

Train Safety

The following are several more facts about railroad crossings from INDOT. Please keep these things in mind as you approach railroad crossings and remember to be alert.

Trains have the right-of-way because they cannot quickly stop for a motorist at crossings, or for trespassers on the tracks. The average freight train, traveling at 55 MPH, takes anywhere from 1 to 1.5 miles to stop. Traveling at the same speed, the average automobile can stop in only 200 feet. The heavier the object, the longer the stopping distance. In addition, the contact surface between a train's steel wheels and the steel rails is only the size of a dime! That results in very little friction created when compared to automobile tires on asphalt or concrete.



Federal law requires trains to sound their horn at all highway-rail grade crossings. Drivers often do not pay attention or do not expect to see a train at familiar crossings. The blast of a locomotive horn may be the only warning that gets the driver's attention. Never assume that a seldom-used track has been abandoned.

Bike Patrol is Back!



Bike Patrol is back! Coming to a neighborhood near you, Dyer Police Department's School Resource Officers have put away the school books and will be patrolling your neighborhoods for the summer.

From the PD



Dyer Police Officers were recognized at the annual District One Law Enforcement Council's Awards Banquet. Corporal Hendron and Officer Boss were recipients of the 2017 "Officers of the Year" for Dyer PD.

The officers performed lifesaving actions during the department's annual National Night Out event by performing the Heimlich maneuver on a choking co-worker.

Historical Society

The next Historical Society Speaker is Ken Schoon, retired IUN professor, on July 7th. Refreshments will be served.

Ken will cover the topic "Shifting Sands: Restoration of the Calumet Region." He will present his book about how community activists, government entities, and corporations have worked together to turn around the once vastly polluted lands and waters of NWI.



Flood Information

The Town of Dyer participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and has adopted flood hazard area protection standards. As a public service, the Town of Dyer's Stormwater Director, Bryan Lane, will provide the following information upon request:

1. **Basic flood map information**

- A. Whether a property is in or out of the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA).
- B. Zone, base flood elevation, and panel reference information from the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM).
- C. Copies of Elevation Certificates for certain improvements to properties located in floodplains.
- D. Copies of Letters of Map Amendments (LOMAs) and Letters of Map Revisions (LOMRs) on file in our office.
- E. A handout regarding the flood insurance purchase requirement that can help people seeking a mortgage or financing for property located in the SFHA.



2. **Additional flood map information**, including floodways and regulatory requirements for development in a floodway.
3. **Known flooding problems** not shown on the FIRM maps, such as localized drainage problems or areas served by stormwater pumps.
4. **Anticipated flood depths** on a property in a flood hazard area.
5. **Information on prior flooding at a site**, if available.
6. **Sensitive areas serving natural floodplain functions**, such as wetlands, critical habitats, and open space.

To request flood map information, you may contact Bryan Lane with the property's address or parcel number by phone at 219-865-6108 or email at blane@townofdyer.com. Bryan is generally available from 7:30 AM until 3:00 PM, Monday through Friday. You can also visit at 1 Town Square for a one-on-one visit. There is no charge for this service.

In addition, if you are having problems with your property related to drainage, have questions about retrofitting existing structures to floodproof them, or would like to discuss proper siting of new structures to reduce the potential for future flood damages, the Stormwater Department may be able to assist you as well. Use the same contact information above to contact Bryan Lane to discuss this further.

New Fire Truck

At the end of May, the Fire Department received a new pumper. It is a 2018 E-One Typhoon chassis with a stainless steel body that cost \$427,868. It has a 1,500 gallon per minute pump, a class A foam system, carries 1,000 gallons of water and 30 gallons of foam, seating for six, and a pre-piped deck gun.

This pumper will replace a 1989 Pierce Arrow pumper. The primary use for the apparatus will be structure fires. The foam system allows for better use of water and quicker extinguishment of fires. It is not for petroleum fires.

After some training, this truck should be on the road by the time you are reading this newsletter.



Upcoming Parks & Recreation Events

If you would like to view our classes, special events, pictures and other fun things to do, check out our website: parks.townofdye.com or on our Facebook page: Dyer Parks and Recreation. Register online at: parksregistration.townofdye.com. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter: @DyerParksandRec. For more information, please contact Dyer Parks at (219) 865-2505.

One Day Camp: Art with Chalk Pastels Camp (9-14yrs. old) - We will draw a pattern-rich, poster sized work of art based on a selected theme of the day. Class takes place 6/19 or 7/17 from 2:30-4:30pm. Fee: \$43

We Learn, We Build, We Play Bricks 4 Kidz Camp (6-12yrs. old) - At our fun and interactive one-day camps, students will create a motorized themed build, create three-dimensional designs, brick mosaic designs and have fun making Bricks themed crafts. Class takes place 6/21 or 7/19 from 2:30-4:30pm. Fee: \$48

Sylvan Robotics Summer Camp with Lego (8-12yrs. old) - This hands-on learning experience encourages collaboration among the students, helping them to build important critical thinking skills and demonstrating how seemingly abstract concepts can work together to create a tangible object; a programmable robot. Class takes place 7/9, 11, 16 and 18 from 10:15am-12:15pm. Fee: \$110

5 Star Soccer Camp (5-13 yrs. old)- The 5 Star Soccer Camps are proud to offer a fresh, enthusiastic approach to teaching youth soccer with a program that presents the most current and advanced information on the development of the youth soccer player. This camp

takes place 7/9-13 from 1-3pm. Fee: \$75

Preschool Drawing (4-5 yrs. old) - Young Rembrandts will concentrate on the skills of drawing and coloring while developing fine motor skills, focus, listening, staying on task, patience and spatial organization. Class takes place 7/10-7/31 from 9:30am-10:15am. Fee: \$43

Elementary Drawing (6-12yrs. old) - Our elementary-age curriculum is designed to teach basic to advanced drawing skills, art techniques and vocabulary. Class takes place 7/10-7/31 from 10:30-11:25am. Fee: \$43

Cartooning (6-12yrs. old)- This delightful program combines Young Rembrandts' innovative, step-by-step drawing method with light hearted subject matter that engages children, their sense of humor and their vivid imaginations. Class takes place 7/10-7/31 from 11:30am-12:25pm. Fee: \$43

Preschool Bricks (4-5yrs. old) - During the class, we guide children through the steps of following a model to build a creation, brick-by-brick. As each DUPLO Brick is snapped into place, the children at play are also developing essential skills they will need for kindergarten, such as: letter recognition, counting, patterns, fine-motor skills, order, comparing and vocabulary. Class takes place 7/12-8/2 from 9:30-10:15am. Fee: \$48

Elementary Bricks (6-12yrs. old) - Each of our models is designed to help your child put their STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education into practice. Class takes place 7/12-8/2 from 10:30-11:30am. Fee: \$52

Line Dancing Lessons- Have you

always wanted to learn the simple dance steps to the latest line dances? Classes are 7/17-8/21 from 6:45-7:45pm for ages 14 & up. Fee: \$40

Popcorn in the Park- Join us on 6/22 at Cottonwood Park & 7/20 at Elmer Miller Park for popcorn & to play at the park from 12-1:30pm.

Summer Concert Series- Join us for our free Summer Concerts. The first band is **Crawford's Daughter** on 6/26, **The Sting Rays** on 7/10, **Breaking Dawn** on 7/17 and **Jack Whittle and Band** on 7/31 at Pheasant Hills Park from 7pm-8:30pm. **The Associates** will play on 8/7 at Central Park during National Night Out from 7-8:30pm.

Music in the Park- Calling all musicians! Would you like to showcase your talent during a portion of this event? Dyer Parks & Recreation would like for you to join us on 7/19 to perform on our piano or on your own instrument. Participants of all ages can perform for attendees that come out to enjoy a relaxed night of music. Singers are welcome as well.

Celebration River Cruise-Classic Oldies (8/9) & Q Casino Trip (8/16) - Call for details.

Midwest Training & Ice Center- We offer Parkour, gymnastics, ice skating, hockey and trampoline classes. Call for dates and fees.

Patti's All-American- We offer Gymnastics/Tumbling, Swim Lessons, Ninja Zone and Dance classes. Call for dates and fees.

NEW Fitness Classes: We are offering **Walking/Running groups** (children & adult) for the Beginner or Intermediate, **Boot Camp** and **Core Camps** evening classes We have also teamed up with Mari Fitness to offer **WERQ** and **ZUMBA**.

Monthly Meeting Calendar

June 14	6:00 PM	Town Council Meeting
	6:30 PM	Redevelopment Commission Meeting
June 18	7:00 PM	Plan Commission Meeting
June 21	6:00 PM	Police Commission Meeting
	7:00 PM	Water Board Meeting
June 25	6:00 PM	Sanitary Board Meeting
July 2	7:00 PM	Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting
July 4	All day	Town Hall Closed—4th of July
July 5	6:00 PM	Storm Water Board Meeting
July 10	6:00 PM	Park Board Meeting

Meetings subject to change. Call 865-6108 for confirmation.

Join our text program to receive important updates!

