

MEMORANDUM



TO: CLAY J. PEARSON, CITY MANAGER
FROM: VICTOR CARDENAS, ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: MAYORS EXCHANGE 2013
DATE: FEBRUARY 7, 2013

*For discussion/planning
on Feb 11.*

The City of Novi has successfully participated in educational Leadership Exchanges (Mayor's Exchange) with communities for the past six years. In the past City officials have partnered with communities in Michigan, Illinois and Ohio. A thriving Town in the great State of Indiana, Fishers, has been identified as a community that resembles the demographics found in Novi. Officials from Fishers were introduced to the Mayor's Exchange concept in 2011 when they hosted Westerville, OH.

To coordinate schedules, June 9 -10^{*} is being proposed to travel to Fishers, IN. We believe this experience will garner several new ideas and provide an alternative view of conducting municipal business. Officials from Fishers have not identified when they plan on traveling to Novi but we will look to confirm that date in the near future.

The Town of Fishers is considered a northern suburb of the City of Indianapolis. Current population is 76,794 and the median household income is \$75,638 compared to the City of Novi's median household income of \$76,561. Similar to Novi they have received national recognition; in 2010 and 2011 Bloomberg Business Week determined Fishers was the Best Affordable Suburb in the United States. Predominant businesses have a large presence in Fishers, such as Sallie Mae, and Roche Diagnostics along with regional medical facilities for St. Vincent health systems and Indiana University Health Saxony Hospital. Additional background information is attached.

Town of Fishers Quick Facts:

Time Zone: Eastern (with DST adjustments in the Spring and Fall)



Fishers Town Flag

The Town of Fishers Flag is comprised of three colors: "Kelly" Green, "Holland" Blue, and "Weaver" White. The green represents the Town's green fields. The blue represents the skies, White River, and Geist Reservoir. The white represents the Town's crossroads: 116th Street and Interstate 69. The angled bar moving upward to the right reflects the Town's growth, and the two gold triangles represent balances that symbolize the Town's balanced and fair approach to governance.

Population Information (2010):

Population: 76,794

Median age: 31 years

Racial Composition

White (non-Hispanic): 85.6%

Hispanic: 3.4%

Black or African American: 5.4%

American Indian or Alaska Native: 0.2%

Asian: 5.5%

Other: 0.9%

2 or more races: 1.1%

Household Information (2010):

Average household size: 2.91

Total number of housing units: 28,511

Occupied housing units: 27,218

Vacant housing units: 1,293

Income Information (2010):

Median household income (in dollars): 75,638

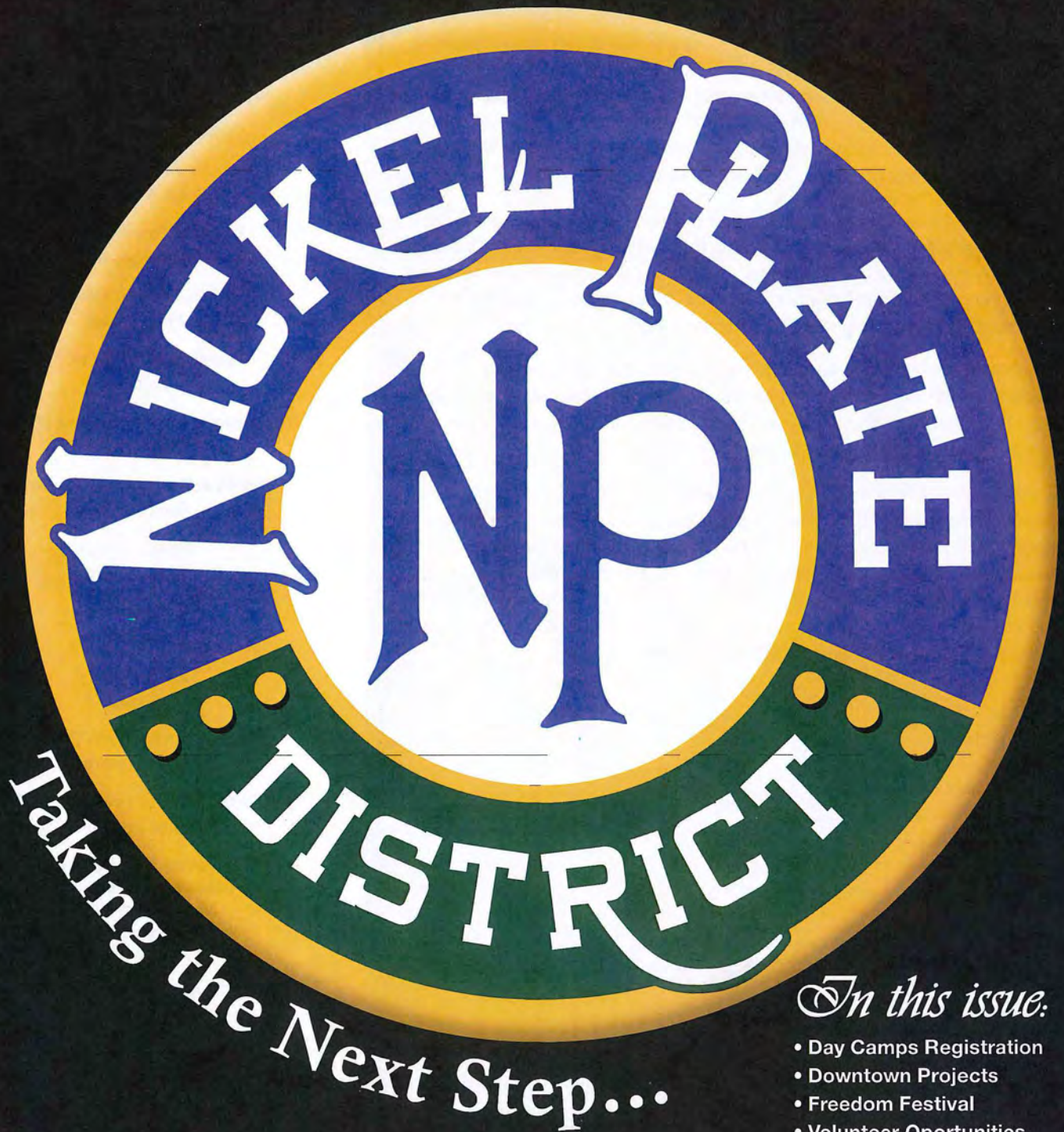
Median family income (in dollars): 81,971

Per capita income (in dollars): 39,891

Fishers Town Talk

Official newsletter for the Town of Fishers, Indiana

February 2013



Taking the Next Step...

In this issue:

- Day Camps Registration
- Downtown Projects
- Freedom Festival
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Neighborhood and Tree Grants
- Town Government Academy Registration
- Fishers on Tap



Dear Resident,
Welcome to the February issue of *Town Talk*!

In this issue, we are excited to highlight the downtown development planning process. The town's community development department is currently developing a plan for downtown Fishers that will shape how the area redevelops for years to come—Fishers 2030 is in full swing and we ask for your input at the upcoming public meeting. Join us at Town Hall on February 6 from 12-2 p.m. or from 6-8 p.m. We hope to hear from you!

On February 12, we will review the first major downtown development in the Municipal Complex. The Flaherty & Collins Properties development will occupy 3.4 acres and will include a mixed-use, multi-family project with ample parking and a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly atmosphere. Please turn to page four for more information and preliminary project renderings.

The summer will be here before we know it and the town's parks and recreation department is ready to provide another year of excellent summer camps for Fishers' youth. Nature, sports, creativity and much more is promised this year for kids for kids from 3 to 10-year olds.

We were happy to hear that Fishers was named the Third Friendliest Town in America and agree with Forbes Magazine that our community is a safe, engaged and great place to live. Our open spaces, low crime rate and excellent school system were the main criteria for the designation. However, Fishers would not be the third friendliest town without the excellent residents who live, work and play in our community. Thank you for choosing Fishers and making it an award-winning, excellent place to live.

Respectfully,

Fishers Town Council

John Weingardt, President
C. Pete Peterson, Vice President
Scott A. Faultless
Stuart F. Easley
David C. George
Michael L. Colby
Renee L. Cox

Produced by the Town of Fishers, Indiana, Public Relations Department, *Town Talk* is an official newsletter for the Town of Fishers, Indiana. Additional copies are available at the Fishers Town Hall. For more information about the Town of Fishers, visit us on the Web at www.fishers.in.us.

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John W. Weingardt, President
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Scott A. Faultless, Stuart F. Easley,
David C. George, Michael L. Colby, Renee L. Cox

Town Judge

Daniel E. Henke

Clerk/Treasurer

Gaye Cordell, IAMC, CMC

Town Manager

Scott A. Fadness

Deputy Town Manager

Nathan George, ICMA-CM

Public Works Director

Eric Pethtel

Engineering Director

Jeff Hill

Community Development Director

Tom Dickey

Parks & Recreation Director

Barry Russell

Police Chief

George Kehl

Fire Chief

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Fishers Parks & Recreation Summer Day Camps Registration

Registration will begin Friday, March 1 at 9 a.m.

Mark your calendars now for our Fishers Parks & Recreation Summer Day Camps.

Children can choose from both, our recreation and our nature camps.

NATURE CAMPS

- The Daring Camp for Girls, Ages 9-13 (Girls Only): Girls will make a feather quill pen, bird watch, and more.
- The Dangerous Camp for Boys, Ages 9-13 (Boys Only): Boys will tie knots, study fossils, make water bombs, and more.
- Recycled Art, Ages 8-12: Kids will create masterpieces using their own imagination and items that are usually thrown away.
- Games Galore, Ages 8-12: Campers will play games and design and compete in their own obstacle course.
- Animal Myths, Stories and Sayings, Ages 7-9: We will explore stories and sayings that involve animals.
- Flowers, Trees, Roots, and Leaves, Ages 6-8: This camp is full of sensory experiences and science experiments that involve plants.
- Feathered Friends, Ages 5-7: This camp is all about birds from the beak to the tail.
- Natural Discoveries, Ages 4-6: Campers will have the opportunity to make their own natural discoveries this week.
- Animal Tales, Ages 3-5: Each day a children's book will inspire discovery of plants, animals and the environment.

RECREATION CAMPS

Adventure Club for ages 7-10

- Sports of All Sorts: Play classic sports and learn some new ones.
- Build and Destroy: Work in teams to plan, design and build! Then, get a chance to "destroy" their designs.
- Chicken and Noodles: Use pool noodles and rubber chickens to do relays, noodle pinball, capture the chicken, and many others.
- Splish Splash: If you love a good water fight, this week is for you! Get drenched in games, crafts, relays, splash pad fun and more.



- Larger Than Life Games: We will play giant versions of Jenga®, tic-tac-toe, snakes and ladders, speed cup stacking, dominoes and more.

And much more!

Kids Zone for ages 5-6

- Animaniacs: Have fun with and learn about the animals of the world at this fun filled week.
- Creation Station: Create slime, oobleck, your very own playdough and much more.
- Summer Sleuths: Bring your sleuth and solve the clues to have a great time at this detective summer camp.
- The Four Seasons: Come and have a stay at our "four seasons" hotel as we complete crafts, play games, and do activities for the four seasons of the year.
- When I Grow Up: What do you want to be when you grow up? Enjoy a number of visitors as they help you think of what you want to be when you grow up.
- Water Wonderland: It's all about water! Slide down slip n' slides, have a water balloon fight, and play dry, dry, wet.

And much more!



Little Tykes for ages 3-4

- Under the Big Top: Step under the big top and experience the circus first hand at this week of camp.
- Messy Little Monsters: Play with finger paint, shaving cream, slime and silly string as we get as messy as possible.
- Walk the Plank: Campers must report to the captain or else they will walk the plank in this pirate camp.
- Fun with Food: Make and enjoy sweet, sour, sugary, and salty snacks at camp this week.
- When I Grow Up: Enjoy a number of visitors as they help you think of what you want to be when you grow up.

And much more!



Register for one or more camps at the Fishers Parks & Recreation office,
11565 Brooks School Road, Fishers 46037 Monday-Friday between 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.; online at
www.fishers.in.us/parks/summercamp; or via US mail using our registration form.



Downtown Development Project up for Council Approval



Conceptual 116th Street Elevation



Conceptual Municipal Drive Elevation

The proposal for the first major mixed-used development project in downtown Fishers will go before Town Council on February 12 to seek approval. The Project, developed by **Flaherty & Collins Properties**, would be located on the northwest corner of 116th Street and Municipal Drive. The property will occupy 3.4 acres and will include 241 luxury apartments, 16,500 square feet of restaurant and retail space, a 4-story parking garage with over 400 parking spaces, and 7,000 square feet of residential amenities. If approved, the project will break ground mid 2013.

The \$33 million pedestrian oriented, mixed-use project in downtown will provide what Fishers residents have long asked for: a vibrant, pedestrian-friendly downtown. The project will provide an area where people can live, shop, dine, and be entertained.



The property will have two stories of residential space above a double-height first floor retail space along 116th Street. The rest of the site will be 4 stories of residential and parking space. The exterior materials will be high-quality materials, including primarily brick and stone. There will also be major improvements to the public space surrounding the new property. These improvements include sidewalks, street lights, landscaping, streetscaping, and additional on-street parking adjacent to the building.

The majority of the funds to support the project will come from new property taxes paid by Flaherty & Collins, with the remainder coming from other projects in the TIF area.

Flaherty & Collins' project will be completed by early 2015.

To view proposals for the new structure and for more information, visit the Fishers website at www.fishers.in.us and follow us on Twitter @FishersIN or Facebook: Fishers, Indiana.

Downtown Redevelopment Planning

The Town of Fishers in partnership with a consultant team, **CONTEXT Landscape Architecture and Land Design Inc.**, is in the process of developing a plan for downtown Fishers that will shape how the area redevelops for years to come.

Residents and town staff recognize this area has great potential and this current planning endeavor will help shape this area. Community input is extremely important throughout the planning process in order to ensure that the plan meets the community's needs.

To aid in obtaining public opinion, the Town has set up two additional downtown planning open houses. Residents and local businesses are invited to join and give their ideas and opinions on the design ideas. Within the next month,

the Department of Community Development will propose a new zoning code for the downtown area which will then be considered by the Fishers Planning Commission and the Town Council.

The goal of the Fishers Town Center planning process is to create a distinctive, livable, and vibrant downtown in Fishers. In order to accomplish this, the Town of Fishers is currently undergoing a process to develop a framework master plan and form-based code to the town center. The mission is to

develop a plan that offers options for future growth that are market driven, true to Fishers' Central Indiana heritage, and results in a vibrant place for residents and visitors to live, work, play, and learn.

Over the years, the Town of Fishers has embarked on various efforts to study and plan for the downtown area. The previous planning efforts were recorded in several town documents that have laid the groundwork for the current downtown planning efforts.

The most recently completed document, the 2011 Town Center Plan, provide a guide for future growth and physical development of the downtown core of Fishers. It establishes a framework for private development projects and provides a foundation for public and private investments within the town core. The plan is a result of efforts on the part of the Town Council, the Town Center Redevelopment Steering Committee, residents, and town staff.

The 2011 Town Center Plan designated the new boundaries of downtown and created five districts, each with an individual image and design. The 2011 plan described the intended look and feel of each district, and proposed architectural standards as well as desire future land uses for each district.

As the next step, the town is creating a master plan for downtown Fishers. With the help of the design consultant team, this plan uses the guidelines set forth in the 2011 Town Center Plan to graphically illustrate the proposed built form of downtown. The town held open houses in December and January to present the draft master plan to the community and receive valuable feedback.

During the previous open houses, planners discussed the proposed downtown master plan at the Town Hall Auditorium. In addition to Community Development staff, the consultant team was also available to answer questions. Staff and the designers presented the proposed vision for downtown redevelopment, along with graphics. Documentation of public and anonymous comments on the

plans were recorded. This information, along with all future comments, is being compiled and analyzed by town staff to help influence and improve the overall plan.



The next step in the process of planning downtown development is to create a regulatory framework that reflects the desired vision. In order to accomplish this, the Town of Fishers will soon begin the process of creating a form-based code for the town center.

A form-based code is a document used similarly to a zoning code. However, unlike traditional zoning codes that regulate primarily by the separation of land uses, a form-based code uses physical form (such as architecture and landscape standards) as the organizing principle for the regulating framework. Like a zoning code, the form-based code will be adopted into law and

used to evaluate new town center development. Unlike traditional zoning code, the form-based code offers more flexibility of uses for property owners and tenants, while guaranteeing new development to provide predictable design results and high-quality public spaces.

The visioning process for the 2011 Town Center Plan reignited discussion of redevelopment in the town center. As a result of the plan, along with overwhelming desire from residents to create a more vibrant downtown center, a new mixed-use development has been proposed for the town center. The new project, being developed by Flaherty & Collins, is proposed for the northwest corner of 116th Street and Municipal Drive. The proposal will go before the Town Council this month to seek approval.

There are two additional upcoming public meeting dates, where residents and local businesses are invited to ask questions and comment on the draft versions of the form-based code before it goes to the Town Council for further review. The meetings are February 6 from 12 – 2 p.m. and 6 – 8 p.m. at the Town Hall Auditorium.

Please visit www.fishers.in.us for more information on downtown planning and other ways to get involved.

Fishers Freedom Festival's 25th Celebration

A Quarter Century of Celebrating Freedom.



This year is the 25th celebration of the Fishers Freedom Festival held on **Saturday, June 29 & Sunday, June 30 at Holland Park** and we want to add special features and events for the public to enjoy. We are looking for your ideas of what you would like to see at this upcoming event. We are also interested in adding some features for teens and seniors.

Please send us your ideas, why you love the festival, or why you think the festival is important to our community via email or our **Facebook/Twitter**. In addition, the festival is looking for event sponsors, silent auction donation items, guide advertisers, and lots of volunteers.

With over 50,000 attendees from all over the U.S., there is something for everyone in your family to enjoy. This free family event hosts around 130 art & craft sites, over 100 business booths, 30 food vendors, 40 free games booths, lots of live entertainment, and so much more.

The festival utilizes hundreds of volunteers every year to make the Fishers Freedom Festival event occur annually. Volunteers can sign up on our website at www.fishersfreedomfestival.org. A variety of volunteer positions are available.

A quilt is being made of all previous years' T-shirt designs for public display at the event. Each design on the quilt represents a previous winner's design from our community out of the hundreds of entries received annually.

Back in 1989, the founders of the Fishers Parade and Festival decided to have a community gathering to showcase community spirit, encourage volunteerism in the community and to celebrate the freedoms afforded to all Americans. With the help of volunteers, the event originated as a one-day community picnic, parade, and a few games for the children. Due to the overwhelming participation by the public, this event grew to a two-day event.

The mission of the Fishers Freedom Festival is to encourage fellowship through civic partnerships and citizen involvement by creating a safe environment, developing needed community services, promoting family integrity and striving to improve the quality of life for every resident by investing in human potential.

For more information on volunteering or about the festival, please visit www.FishersFreedomFestival.org, email info@fishersfreedomfestival.org, visit 8591 East 116th Street in Fishers or call 317-595-3195.

Sponsor Opportunities for Movies in the Park Program



A limited number of individual movie night sponsor opportunities are available for the 2013 Fishers Movies in the Park series. The free, PG-rated, family-friendly movies will be held outdoors at the Fishers Amphitheater Friday evenings in April and May. Sponsoring a movie evening will provide your group or business a great way to support a rapidly growing community event while reaching a desirable consumer market.

More information about Movies in the Park is available at www.fishers.in.us/parks/movies.

To learn more about individual movie sponsorship, please call (317) 595-3150, or write parkinfo@fishers.in.us before February 8.

Neighborhood and Tree Matching Grants Reminder

The Town of Fishers is currently accepting applications for two grants that have been offered in the past with great success: the Neighborhood and Tree Matching Grants. These annual grants are part of the Town's effort to enhance the appearance of the community.

The purpose of the Neighborhood Matching Grant is to give older neighborhoods within the town limits an incentive to plan and complete a project that will either enhance their appearance or otherwise improve the community.

Grant funding cannot exceed 50 percent of the total cost of the project or a maximum of \$5,000. Since the inception of the program in 2000, the town has awarded over \$333,000 in neighborhood matching grants.

Approval priority is given to projects that are expected to have the greatest positive effect on the Town of Fishers. Neighborhoods that apply for this particular matching grant should be subdivisions that are ten years old or older. Project approval is based on several selection criteria and also an evaluation process, including how much of the project is needed, how well the project improves the aesthetic of the roadway and quality of life in the community and subdivision and how the project affects the whole community. The application deadline for the 2013 Neighborhood Matching Grant is March 8.

In addition to the Neighborhood Matching Grant, the Town of Fishers is also offering the "Plant a Tree, Grant a Tree" Tree



Matching Grant. The Tree Matching Grant program awards funds to neighborhoods, non-profits, and homeowners within the town limits as an incentive to plant trees and enhance the beauty of our community.

Planting trees enhances natural aesthetics, increases property values, and benefits the environment. The grant selection criteria and evaluation process of the Tree Matching Grant is the same as that of the Neighborhood Matching Grant and neighborhoods are eligible for a 50 percent match.

The deadline for applications for the 2013 "Plant a Tree, Grant a Tree" program is also March 8.

The Neighborhood Matching Grant and Tree Matching Grant Committees meet the middle of April to review and decide on the final recommendations that will be submitted to council for approval. The Committee recommendations will be prepared and taken to Council for approval at their meeting on May 8. Approved grant work must be completed and a reimbursement request submitted to the Town of Fishers by November 1.

For a list of requirements and approved projects or additional information, on both matching grants, please visit www.fishers.in.us.

Arbor Day Tree Planting Call for Sponsors



Join Fishers Parks & Recreation for this special opportunity to support the health and vitality of our community's park system by sponsoring the planting of additional trees during the Fishers Arbor Day Tree Planting April 26. You need not be present to sponsor a tree, but are welcome to join in the celebrations if you choose. A permanent, commemorative plaque accompanies each planted tree. Businesses, organizations, scout troops, and individuals are encouraged to sponsor a tree. Honor a loved one, your family, or help your business make its support known. Sponsorship cost varies by species. Contact us before Friday April 5 to make arrangements to sponsor a tree.

For more information please visit www.fishers.in.us/parks/fishersarborday, call 595-3150 or email parks@fishers.in.us.

The Fishers Advantage Business Spotlight

Fishers is home to many unique and exciting businesses. This month we are featuring:



Veteran Construction, soon to be one of the fastest growing companies in Indiana, is a locally and veteran owned full-service residential and commercial restoration company. They specialize in storm, fire, mold remediation, and air quality testing. Though Veteran Construction is a full-service general contractor, they work mostly with insurance claims assisting families through times of crisis and emergencies by restoring their homes back to their original state.

Veteran Construction has been located in Fishers since April 2012, but it was founded by two United States military veterans in 2009. Combining their many years of industry experience, these men decided to create a company where the code of honor they lived by and the principles gained through their military experience were the cornerstone values of their business.

The company and its employees are committed to following their core values, which are based on its veteran lineage. These values are: Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do. Integrity first is defined as the willingness to do what is right in any situation and to exhibit a moral compass on all issues. The value service before

self implies that employees place professional duties over personal desires. Excellence in all they do speaks to the company's passion for the work they perform and all they do. To attest to the dedication to these core values, the company received recognition as an Angie's List Super Service Award winner in 2011. Veteran Construction follows through with these values, not only in their business dealings, but also within the community.



Veteran Construction works closely with Indy Fire Rescue House, a local non-profit that helps families with victims of fires find safe places to stay until their homes are repaired. They also work closely with the Fishers Fire Department and the Fishers Fire Explorers. The company was recently asked to help with Hamilton County Emergency Planning for Businesses. They are also working to try to build a Fire Rescue House in Hamilton County.

Veteran Construction founders chose the "veteran" name to uphold the values of veterans, but

company leaders say that it has also become a motivator for them to always follow the core values in order to do right by the name. Even the company "V" logo is a symbol for the code of honor.

"This is really who we are," said CEO Michael Friery.

Standing true to their military background, Veteran Construction also works closely with veterans in the community and is always looking to hire veterans within the company. Though being a veteran is not a requirement to work for the company, they say that their name does attract veterans to their job openings. Being that most of the employees are veterans, they have a deep understanding of veterans and many of the obstacles they have to overcome.

Veteran Construction enjoys being visible within the Fishers community. Since moving to the town in 2012, the company has been very pleased with its transition into the community.

"[Fishers] fits our size, values, vision, and dreams," said CEO Michael Friery.

With their outstanding values and dedication to the community, Veteran Construction is a great addition to the many unique businesses that Fishers is proud to have in the town.

To find out more about the Fishers Advantage, visit www.TheFishersAdvantage.com.

Public Employee Spotlight:



Sharon Benson

Sharon Benson has worked as Administrative Assistant for the Fleet Management Department for nearly three years and has lived in the Town of Fishers for over 30 years.

"There were not that many stoplights back then," said Benson while reminiscing of her time in the town.

Benson's favorite part of her job is the interaction she gets with other town employees and outside vendors the Fleet Department works with. She also likes the customer service part of her position and being able to help people. Benson doesn't have prior experience working in a maintenance garage, so most of the technical language is new to her. She really enjoys her job and learning many new things about Fleet Management.

Benson and her husband, Richard, have been married for almost 42 years. Together they have a daughter and two granddaughters. In her free time, Benson enjoys reading, crocheting, and crafting. Though there is not a place for her to create anymore, she used to really enjoy working with ceramics. One thing Benson doesn't like is snow.

"I like to be outside," Benson said. "I'm already ready for the spring."

After living in the town for over 30 years, Benson has no plans of ever leaving. She appreciates how convenient it is to live in Fishers, with most stores being within 20 minutes of her home. Most importantly Benson enjoys how friendly Fishers residents are.

"I just love the atmosphere of the town," said Benson.

Town Government Academy Registration Open for Spring Session

Town Government Academy (TGA) is an award-winning, nine-week course that allows residents of Fishers to become "students" and examine the inner workings of town government. Students hear from staff, tour Town facilities, and engage in the collaborative town governing process. At the end of the course, students should have a greater understanding of how Fishers government works for its residents.

The spring semester of TGA begins **Wednesday, March 6 and meets Tuesday evenings from 6-8 p.m.** Most sessions take place at Town Hall but several evenings are off-site visits to the Town's Public Works Garage and



various town parks. The semester ends on May 1 with a graduation ceremony on May 8 during the Town Council meeting.

Highlights of TGA include tours of the Police and Fire departments, Wastewater and Public Works, and Town Hall. Students are able to gain hands-on experience with Public Works vehicles and machinery, see the Police Department Crime Lab and even ride the Fire Department ladder truck 100 feet up. Participants are also able to be directly involved in town decision-making. During the fall semester, students were asked to provide their opinions on the downtown development designs. These opinions were used in the final decision process.

Participation in TGA is free and available to Fishers residents 18 or older. A limited number of seats are available for each semester. Register for TGA by visiting www.fishers.in.us.

Fishers On Tap ~ February 23 from 4 to 8 p.m.

Second Annual Craft Beer Tasting Fundraiser in Hamilton County Focuses on Supporting Local Charities

The Rotary Club of Fishers, Indiana, is hosting its second annual craft beer tasting fundraiser in Hamilton County in support of local service agencies.



Sun King, Upland, Bier, Flat12, and Barley Island are returning from last year along with three new brewers for a total of eight Indiana-based craft beer makers. All brewers will be providing three or more of their private beers to be shared with attendees. In addition to beer sampling, attendees will enjoy live music, hors d'oeuvres, raffles, and door prizes.

The net proceeds from the event will also be matched dollar-for-dollar by Rotary International and redistributed



back into Hamilton County communities by the Fishers Rotary Club as part of their ongoing humanitarian support of those in need. Through the club's network of affiliations with local schools, shelters, food and clothing pantries, and numerous women, men, and children support organizations, ticket purchases will have a direct impact on individuals and families in need.

Examples of groups that will be directly impacted by the funds raised include youth mentoring at local high schools, domestic abuse support service, food and clothing pantries, pregnant teens, victims of violent crimes, water projects in underdeveloped countries, and natural disaster relief programs.

For more information and ticket purchases, please visit www.fishersontap.com.

General Admission is \$40 per person and \$20 for designated drivers. Must be 21 or older to attend.

Green Tip

This winter, fight frost naturally instead of using harsh chemicals. To prevent ice from covering home and car windows, rub the inside of the glass with a saltwater-soaked sponge; dry with a clean cloth. You won't see it, but a residue from the salt will remain to ward off frost. For extra oomph, spray a solution of three parts white vinegar and one part water on the outside of the glass, then wipe dry. On your driveway, steer clear of rock salt (sodium chloride) and urea-based de-icers and consider options such as beet juice, sand, or calcium chloride.



(source: wholeliving.com)

Did You Know...

... you probably have drainage easements and building setback lines on your property?

These easements are legally established preservation areas (deed restrictions) on your property created to protect these areas for the purpose indicated such as: drainage of stormwater, protection of storm sewers (storm and/or sanitary) below ground within the easements, access for maintenance of storm pipes, or placement of additional storm sewers or utility infrastructure as needed or if necessary.



Residents need permits and/or variances from the Town's Community Development Department and Public Works Department for construction of fences, decks, pools, patios, sheds, etc. within these easements.

Also, planting a tree (especially a Willow Tree) in a drainage easement is prohibited especially when storm pipe exists. Doing so will cause the storm sewer to be clogged with tree roots and will cause flooding.

For more information on Stormwater Management, please visit the Town's website at www.fishers.in.us

Special Events



Friday, February 22

Vines for Life Wine Tasting Event

Indianapolis Yacht Club
Three Geist cancer charities joined forces to raise awareness and hope for those living with cancer. Wine tasting, craft beers, gourmet heavy appetizers, live and silent auctions and live music.
www.vinesforlife.com
Ticket Price \$50
7-10 p.m.



Saturday, February 23

Book Benefit & Bazaar

Presented by MOMS Club® of Fishers-Northeast. Vendors and a wide selection of products and creations for the family and home. Browse and buy a variety of hand-made items, home décor, jewelry, clothing and accessories. Event proceeds will directly support youth services at the library. Free event.
www.momsclub.org
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tuesday, February 26

Tiny Tots Pottery Elephants

Ages 1-3
Billericay Park Building
Create your own clay elephants. Parents are required to stay. A naturalist will share a little about elephants after you are done with your masterpiece. Min. 3/Max. 10. Cost is per child. Res. \$14/Non-Res. \$21. Register by Feb. 19
10-10:45 a.m.

Calendar of Events

Tuesday, February 26

Preschool Pottery Elephants

Ages 3-5
Billericay Park Building
Create your own clay elephants. A naturalist will share a little about elephants. Parents are required to stay. Min. 3/Max. 10. Cost is per child. Res. \$16/Non-Res. \$24
Register by February 19
11 a.m.-Noon

Tuesday, February 26

Elementary Pottery Elephants

Ages 6-12
Billericay Park Building
Make your own clay elephants. A naturalist will share a little about elephants after you are done with your masterpiece. Min. 3/Max. 10. Cost is per participant. Res. \$20/Non-Res. \$30
Register by February 19
4:30-5:45 p.m.



Tuesday, February 26

Adult Pottery

Ages 18+
Billericay Park Building
Jeremy South, artist and owner of Rocky Ripple Clayworks will instruct this adult program. Participants will create a designer vase and bowl on and off the pottery wheel. Pottery will be fired and available for pick up at the Parks & Recreation office approximately two weeks after class. Min. 3/Max. 10. Res. \$26/Non-Res. \$39.
Register by Feb. 19
6-8 p.m.

Wednesday, March 6

Town Government Academy (TGA)

Town Hall and off-site visits
Citizens can participate in the nine-week course that takes a hands-on look at town government by allowing students to hear from staff, tour Town facilities and engage in the collaborative town governing process. Free. Fishers residents 18 and older. Limited seats are available. Apply online.
www.fishers.in.us/tga
6-8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 5

Fishers Police Department Citizen's Academy

Fishers Police Department
4 Municipal Dr.
12 weeks of classroom and hands on "police style" training, including: Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch, Criminal Law, Police Canine, Traffic Stops and more. Participants may also complete a ride along with an on-duty Fishers Police Officer. Instructed by Fishers Police Officers. Apply online. Residents 16 and older.
www.fishers.in.us/police
6-9 p.m.

Monday, March 11

St Patrick's Day Cookies & A Story

Billericay Park Building
Children will use cookie cutters to create cookies and listen to St. Patrick's Day stories while they bake. Decorate the cookies, sample one and even have some to take home! For ages 3-6. Min. 8/Max. 12. Drop-Off Class. Res. \$12/Non-Res. \$18. Register by Mar. 4.
1-2 p.m.

Meetings - Open to Public

Monday, February 4

Town Council Meeting
Town Hall Auditorium
7 p.m.

Monday, February 11

Parks Advisory Committee
Fishers Town Hall
7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 12

Redevelopment Commission
Fishers Town Hall
5:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 12

Planned Unit Development (PUD) Committee
Fishers Town Hall
5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, February 12

Plan Commission
Fishers Town Hall
6:30 p.m.

Monday, February 18

Town Council Meeting
Town Hall Auditorium
7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 27

Town of Fishers Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)
Fishers Town Hall
6:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 28

Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)
Fisher Town Hall
9 a.m.

Thursday, February 28

Fall Creek Board of Zoning Appeals (BZA)
Fishers Town Hall
6:30 p.m.

Monday, March 4

Town Council Meeting
Town Hall Auditorium
7 p.m.

There are many events and programs for adults and kids of all ages held at Fishers Parks this month. Open the Fun Guide at www.fishers.in.us to see them all!



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Town Talk is the official newsletter for the Town of Fishers, Indiana



Fishers Awarded Third Friendliest Town in America by Forbes Magazine



The Town of Fishers was recently named the third friendliest town in America by national publication Forbes Magazine. The article noted the Town's minuscule crime rate and Fishers' top school system as strong factors in Forbes' recognition. The Freedom Festival, Summer Concert Series, Renaissance Fair and the Flavor of Fishers Festival were all mentioned as notable year-round activities in Fishers.

Forbes, in partnership with *Nextdoor.com*, a social network for neighborhoods, used data from the U.S. Census, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Chronicle of Philanthropy, and *City-Data.com* to assess 500 small metro areas with populations between 5,500 and 150,000. With the data collected, they were able to rank the towns based on four data points: percentage of owner-occupied homes; the percentage of college graduates; the crime rate; and charitable giving. Forbes chose the first point

because studies have shown a positive relationship between homeownership and neighborhood stability. The second was used due to research that proves college-educated residents tend to display more civic engagement, with higher rates of voting and volunteering. Nextdoor then conducted qualitative surveys among its membership in the towns that rated the highest to help finalize the ranking of the top 15.

Many of the towns on the list also share other commonalities. Almost all of them have public open spaces (like parks and outdoor recreational trails) and a central downtown or main street that lends itself to town-sponsored events. All of the towns host festivals, street markets, and concerts. Many of them also have neighborhood watch groups. All have very little crime, high rates of homeownership, a heavily educated population, and a wealth of community activities.

Thank you, Forbes Magazine!