

# STRIVING HIGHER

Town of Dyer

## Year in Review



### 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

This edition of Striving Higher allows us to take a look back at the highlights of 2017. 2017 was a busy year for the Town of Dyer.

The **West Lake Expansion** studies were completed and sent to the Feds for review and "grading." NICTD anticipates answers this spring. The State and Locals have done their share to lock in financing. The Feds have to authorize their share.

**Infrastructure** is always a top priority. Communities that do not aggressively keep up with their infrastructure suffer from delayed maintenance and increasing replacement costs.

Our homes are an interesting analogy. You can only patch your roof for so long. Eventually, you will need to replace it. Your leaky roof impacts your family. If the town keeps deferring maintenance, it impacts everyone who lives and passes through our town.

The Town has to make budget decisions about where to invest the scarce resources into infrastructure improvements. Every resident and business owner wants to enjoy a new street, utilities, playgrounds, and parks.

The method we use to select which streets are to be resurfaced considers many factors. We work hard to coordinate the projects to maximize our cost/benefit. These projects are called "One Dig." We consider the condition of the three underground utilities (sanitary, storm, and water). In some cases, the problems below the street may require work in advance of the street condition deteriorating.

In 2017, we completed a One Dig on Blaney, Roy, and James. The combined cost was \$1,046,039.20. Funds for this project were contributed from the three utilities and other capital funds.

In addition, we completed Calumet Avenue north of U.S. 30. This was funded with Tax Increment Financing revenues and a grant from INDOT's Community Crossing Matching Grant program.

We are finalizing our residential streets for 2018 and looking at 2019. We will be announcing those streets in the near future. We have received a \$400,000 Community

Crossing Grant to work on **Sheffield/Hart Street** from Main Street to U.S. 30. That work will begin this spring.

The water utility completed the repainting of the Sandy Ridge elevated tank. In addition, the utility contributed over \$600,000 to the 2017 One Dig project.

The Sanitary Board has begun several significant projects at the **Waste Water Treatment Plant**. These projects include the Sludge Holding and Sludge Dewatering Buildings. While these are not glamorous projects, they are critical to the overall operation of the Treatment Facility and sanitary system.

The Sanitary Board completed \$250,000 of spot repairs throughout the collection system. In 2018, we have authorized \$350,000 to continue these annual repairs. Our first priority is in areas where residents have experienced basement back-ups.

The Sanitary Board initiated a comprehensive inspection and televising of the entire sanitary sewer collection system. This project will be completed in the spring of this year. The results of this project will give the town a clear direction as to the areas of the system that need priority maintenance. Funds are being budgeted to undertake a multi-year repair program.

The Storm Water Management Board designed its largest project in many years, the **Berens-Monaldi Subdivision** One Dig. Bids were received on January 31st and this project will begin in the spring. For Phase I, Forest Park Dr., Monaldi Pkwy., South St., and a small section of Lakewood Dr. will be completely reconstructed.

All of these improvements are the result of the boards having new revenues from the rate increases that were adopted in late 2016 and put into place in February 2017. It is important when the town increases rates or taxes to use that money as efficiently as possible to provide services back to those who paid the taxes and the rates. We have many projects that we began planning in 2017 that will be under construction in 2018 and we will keep you informed on them through this newsletter.

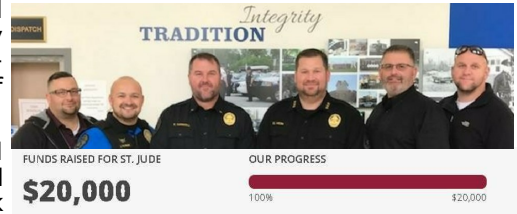
## Police Department

The Police Department oversees many areas within the town structure. The department is responsible for the following services: Police, Records, Crossing Guards, Code Enforcement, and Animal Control. The police department is staffed by 31 sworn officers, four civilian full-time staff member, one part-time staff member, and five crossing guards.

Throughout 2017, we continued to host a variety of public activities and events such as DARE, National Night Out, Police Memorial, and actively participated in all town events. We sponsored several new activities, including No-Shave November, which raised over \$20,000 for St. Jude. Our staff also organized a supply drive for hurricane victims in the south.

Dyer PD maintained professional partnerships with Northwest Regional SWAT, Major Crimes Task Force, and the Indiana Department of Homeland Security, allowing officers to gain experience and networking through Task Force assignments.

Training continued to be a priority, with officers logging over 3000 hours of training. Personnel were scheduled for a wide variety of training from the mandatory state training to advance Police Executive Leadership Academy (PELA). A proactive self-initiated approach to police work has been taken with a concentration of crime reduction and preservation of the current quality of life that exists within our community. This approach has allowed us to reduce overall crime and still dedicate time and efforts in the community policing methods. Below are the yearly comparisons for Dyer PD's activity. These numbers represent a **26% reduction in overall crime for the Town of Dyer.**



### Uniform Crime Reporting

| Classification | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Homicide       | 1    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Rape           | 3    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Robbery        | 2    | 3    | 5    | 6    | 2    | 6    | 3    |
| Assault        | 74   | 37   | 43   | 43   | 41   | 45   | 32   |
| Burglary       | 32   | 26   | 17   | 14   | 20   | 16   | 22   |
| Theft          | 288  | 248  | 167  | 169  | 161  | 150  | 96   |
| Stolen Auto    | 17   | 18   | 13   | 5    | 8    | 15   | 19   |
| Total          | 417  | 334  | 245  | 237  | 232  | 232  | 172  |



### Yearly Activity

| Category                 | 2011  | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016  | 2017  |
|--------------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| Calls for Service        | 10636 | 9755 | 9666 | 9758 | 9384 | 10145 | 10123 |
| Arrests/Offenses         | 789   | 651  | 525  | 524  | 763  | 909   | 637   |
| Accidents                | 385   | 415  | 422  | 496  | 479  | 515   | 512   |
| Citations                | 2093  | 2344 | 2709 | 2171 | 1817 | 2542  | 2850  |
| Warnings                 | 1681  | 1988 | 2676 | 3712 | 2697 | 4726  | 4711  |
| Training Hours           | 1457  | 1393 | 1628 | 2085 | 4000 | 2033  | 3014  |
| Traffic Stops            | -     | 4343 | 5716 | 5979 | 4885 | 7272  | 7305  |
| Homeland Security Checks | -     | 2206 | 7086 | 5620 | 8377 | 7767  | 4242  |
| Ordinance Violations     | 167   | 279  | 500  | 598  | 591  | 658   | 450   |

## Park Department

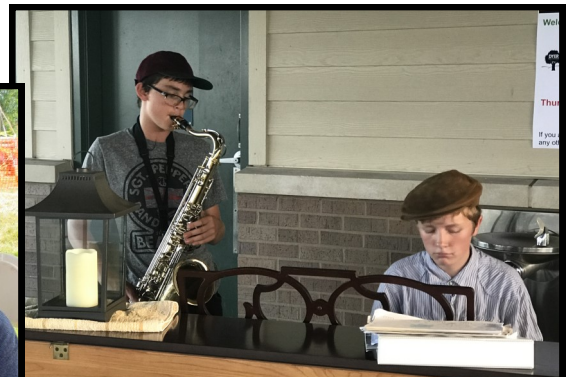
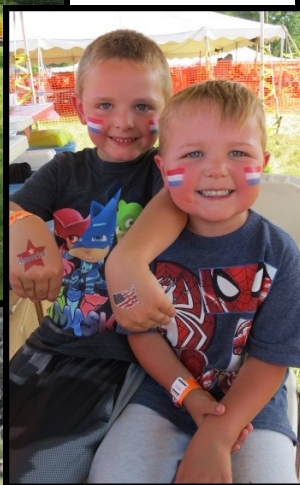
In 2017, the Parks and Recreation Department made strides to improve our current parks and begin developing new ones. Below is a list of park improvements they have pursued this year:

- **Eighty trees planted** at Northgate Park and 200 seedlings planted at Protsman Elementary.
- Online registration for activities now available at **ParksRegistration.TownofDyer.com**.
- New bleachers installed at Northgate and Central Parks.
- Portable Restroom enclosures installed at Pheasant Hills, Northgate, and Elmer Miller Parks.
- **New playground equipment** and surfaces installed at Northgate, Elmer Miller, Veterans, Eberly, and Hearthstone Parks.
- Walking paths being started in Eberly and Hearthstone Parks.
- Upgraded ball fields at Central Park, including a bullpen for two fields.

The Park Department also continued and created many successful recreation programs for residents to enjoy. Below are some recreation successes for 2017:

- Created the **"Popcorn in the Park"** events.
- **Purchased a piano** for use at the new "Music in the Park" events.
- 2017 Summer Camp participation was the highest to date.
- A second **Chicago Lights Tour** was added due to the popularity of the trip.
- Our "Holiday Shopping Spree and Craft Fair" was expanded to allow additional vendors. Donations by these vendors enabled us to offer a substantial raffle at this event.
- Created the **"Business Sponsorship Program."**
- Sold out of several trips and events such as the Route 66 Tour, Royal Princess Ball, Daddy Daughter Dance, and Candy Cane Hunt.
- Successful **"Deck the Homes"** event. Thanks to Gus Bock's Ace Hardware, Jelly Pancake House, Texas Roadhouse, Walt's Food Center, and White Rhino for donations.

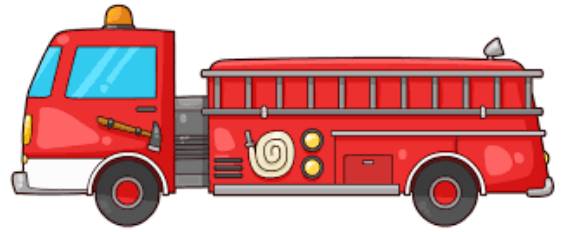
We can't wait to host many more successful events in 2018! Keep an eye on our Facebook and in your mail for the Leisuregram to stay up-to-date on our events.



## Fire Department

The Fire Department was busy in 2017. We responded to **1515 calls**, including 40 fires and 1007 ambulance calls. We also completed a total of **1890 training** hours.

**Two new firefighters** completed the Firefighter 1/11, hazmat awareness, hazmat operations, and NIMS 100, 200, 700, and 800. They also completed their probationary year. A new firefighter begins this month. All firefighters in Dyer are paid on call. There are two part-time firefighters on duty 8:00-4:00, Monday through Friday. One of their duties is fire inspection. In 2017, **every new business was inspected**, along with high life-hazard businesses and buildings with large renovations. Fire inspectors also respond to public concerns and work closely with code enforcement, building inspectors, and the town attorney.



In late summer, Prompt, the private that provided transport for EMS calls closed and the Fire Dept. and Town began looking for a new provider. **Superior Ambulance** was chosen and they started in October and have been doing a nice job. They hired several of the staff from the previous service, which has made for a smoother transition.

The Town Council approved the **purchase of a new pumper**, which is expected at the end of March. It is an E-One Typhoon with a 1,500 gallon per minute pump and 1,000 gallon polytank, class A foam system with a 30-gallon foam tank, seating for 6, 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.

The fire department also visited both elementary schools and a preschool during **fire prevention week**. There were also several station tours for preschools and other youth groups.

## Public Works

The Department of Public Works is in charge of streets, water distribution, storm water collection, sanitary collection, water treatment, wastewater treatment, and building services throughout town. Here are some highlights from 2017:

- Removed 480 tons of solid waste from DPW
- Removed 260 tons of debris from the streets
- Repaired 16 water main breaks
- Pumped 533,000,000 gallons of water
- Treated 665 million gallons of wastewater
- Removed 1830 tons of sludge for land application
- Assisted with town events and road projects
- Maintained detention/retention ponds and street lights
- Continued mowing and mosquito abatement
- Continued maintenance programs in storm water, fire suppression and backflow, and sanitary collection
- Cleaned and televised sanitary lines

Public Works consisted of 29 full-time employees. And earned 2727 hours of overtime for emergencies throughout the year. Primary areas of time allocation were:

- 10388 hours at the Wastewater Treatment Plant
- 5622 hours of water distribution
- 3844 hours of leaf pickup, chipping, mowing, landscaping, and branch removal
- 2269 hours of park maintenance
- 932 hours of snow plowing and salting streets
- 8616 hours of sanitary and storm water sewer maintenance.

Public Works is also saying goodbye to our Director, Dave Proud. Dave has retired after 38 years with the town. We wish him the best of luck!

## Clerk-Treasurer



Photo: Many members of the Clerk's office wearing shirts for leukemia awareness this summer.

The Clerk-Treasurer's Office recently had an examination of our financial records from the past four years. The examination was conducted by auditors from the State Board of Accounts. I'm happy to report we once again had a perfect audit. You can review the reports yourself by going to the **[www.in.gov/sboa](http://www.in.gov/sboa)**.

We are currently working with our bank to implement Positive Pay on our checking accounts. Positive Pay compares checks presented for payment against a file upload which we provide. The bank then contacts us regarding any discrepancies, such as altered check numbers or amounts. This is a fraud protection measure.

If you would like more information on our budgets and finances, please visit **[gateway.ifionline.org](http://gateway.ifionline.org)**.

-Pat Hawrot, Clerk-Treasurer

## Historical Society Speaker



The Dyer Historical Society will host a speaker on March 20th at 7:00 PM to discuss "Irish Legends of the Wee Folk."

Terry Lynch, son of Erin Terry Lynch, shares folktales from the Emerald Isle that bring to life the traditions of fairies, banshees, and leprechauns.

## Code Corner

Although the winter is nearing its close, we want to remind you about the code regarding sidewalks and snow.

Section 6-124 of the Town Code states:

**"It shall be the duty of every person, firm, or corporation owning, occupying, or using any real estate in said Town to shovel and remove all snow and ice from the Public Sidewalks...within a reasonable time from the accumulation thereof, and to keep said sidewalks free from snow and ice."**

If you are out of town during a snow or ice event, please make arrangements to have your sidewalks taken care of.

As usual, if you see a code violation, please call the police department at 865-1163 and ask to leave a message for the code enforcement officer.

# Dyer Fraternal Order of Police The Presents Policeman's Ball

## SATURDAY - MARCH 17, 2018

### Live Dueling Pianos

6:00 PM Cocktails  
7:00 PM Dinner and open bar  
with beer provided by  
Byway Brewing  
8:30 PM Dancing with music by  
Felix and Fingers Dueling Pianos



**Tickets available until  
March 9 on Facebook or  
call the Dyer Police  
Department  
(219) 865 - 1163**

**\$60 per person or  
\$500 for a table of ten to  
benefit the Dyer FOP and  
D.A.R.E Program**



**Halls of Saint George  
905 East Joliet Street  
Scherverville, Indiana 46375**

Indiana State Gaming License Number: 145701

Raffles and 50/50

Posters Courtesy of:



### Keep in Touch

This newsletter is just one of many ways to find information about the Town of Dyer. Follow us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/TownofDyer](https://www.facebook.com/TownofDyer) and Twitter [@TownofDyer](https://twitter.com/TownofDyer).

You can also find information on our website, [TownofDyer.com](http://TownofDyer.com).

For major events or alerts, sign up for our texting program by texting **Dyer1** to **36000**.

Lastly, you can always get your questions answered by calling us at **865-6108**. It's always best to reach out to the Town directly if you have questions about what we're up to or if you need any information!

## Park Activities

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

**Bumper Bowling:** This class is for youngsters ages 3-6. All the fun of bowling without the gutter balls! Fee includes shoe rental and games for the entire session. Classes are held 2/26-3/19 from 4:15-5pm. Fee: \$30

**Bowling:** This class is for 6-13 yr. olds. Each week we'll bowl as much as time permits. Classes take place 2/26-3/19 from 4:15-5:15pm. Fee: \$35

**Private Guitar or Group Guitar:** If you are looking for a one-on-one or group lessons, we have lessons being offered Feb.-April. Call for fees and dates.

**NEW! Essential Oils Workshops:** We will be offering several Essential Oil classes in the New Year. Intro to Essential Oils (3/20), Babies, Kids & Oils (3/2), Healthy Emotions (3/6), Oils & Pets (3/16 & 4/20), Ditch & Switch (4/6) & Springtime Wellness (4/24). Each class meets for 2 hours and is \$15 each.

**Bricks 4 Kidz-Pre-School:** Children, 3 1/2-5, will build 3D models using DUPLO LEGO blocks. Some themes include A TRIP TO THE ZOO, FUN AT THE FARM and FAMOUS PLACES. Classes take place 3/7-28 & 4/4-25 from 4-4:45pm. Fee: \$56

**Bricks 4 Kidz-Elementary:** Students, 6-12 yrs. old, will use Lego bricks, axels, pulleys, gears and motors to create fun and interactive models. Classes take place 3/7-28 & 4/4-25 from 5-5:55pm. Fee: \$56

**Young Rembrandts:** We are offering Pre-School drawing classes, Elementary Drawing and Cartooning classes with

Young Rembrandts in March & April.

**Royal Princess Ball:** Girls' ages 3-9 yrs. old will be excited when they receive an invitation in the mail to the Royal Princess Ball/Party. Girls will have their nails painted, be adorned with stick on earrings, a crown, gemstone ring and a handmade bracelet or necklace. The Ball will take place 3/11 at High Noon-2pm. Fee: \$20 per princess

**Women's Awareness & Safety Training:** Join us in this 2 hour course to gain knowledge and skill in Personal Safety. Learn in enhance your levels of safety and awareness at Home, Work and Travel. Classes take place either 3/14 or 4/11 from 6-8pm for women 16 & older. Fee: \$30

**Easter Egg Hunt:** Sat. 3/17<sup>th</sup> at 2pm SHARP for children 8 & under. Arrive early to visit the Easter Bunny. Everyone must pre-register by phone that live within the 46311 zip code to be entered into the raffle. This is a free event for those living within the 46311 zip code. Those participants living outside the 46311 zip code must pre-register and will incur a \$5.00 fee per child to be entered into the raffle. **There will be no on-site registration.**

**Easter Craft-** Participants ages 8-12 yrs. old will have an EGGcellent time as they decorate an 11" cardboard bunny or egg. Class takes place 3/19 from 6-6:45pm. Fee: \$11

**Plaster Egg Painting-** Participants ages 2-7 yrs. old will enjoy painting a 5" plaster egg with various colors and materials supplied. Class takes place 3/19 from 6-6:45pm. Fee: \$11

**Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt:** All participants need to bring a flashlight and bag to hunt for candy and eggs after having pizza and a drink. Class is 3/22 from 7-8:15pm for participants 9-12 yrs. old. Fee: \$12

**Robotics Spring Break Camp-** We will incorporate the newest generation of motors, sensors and software by pro-

gramming commands directly into the EV3 Intelligent Brick. Class takes place 3/28-30 from 9am-12pm (noon) for boys & girls 9-14 yrs. old. Fee: \$150

**Skyhawks Soccer & Flag Football-** These 6 week classes are designed for the beginner and intermediate players. Soccer will focus on dribbling, passing, shooting and ball control. Flag Football will focus on safety, skills and games. Classes are for participants 5-12 yrs. old on 4/2-5/7 (Soccer) & 4/3-5/8 (Flag Football) from 5-6pm (5-7 yrs. old) and 6:15-7:15pm (8-12 yrs. old). Fee: \$76

**Mother-Daughter Sock Hop:** Are you ready to shake, rattle & roll? Then put on your 50's threads; poodle skirts, saddle shoes, rolled up jeans or your favorite dress and hop on over to register. This event takes place 4/13 for moms and their daughters 13 and younger from 6:30-8:30pm. Fee: \$28 per couple

**Mother-Son Fun Bowl:** Lace up your bowling shoes and get ready for the giggles and laughs as he head right into crazy bowling. This event is for moms and their son/sons (5-12 yrs. old) on 5/6 from 1-2:30pm. Fee: \$12 per person

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

**Coming in the Spring 2018:** Senior Weekly 18 Hole Golf League, Adult Slow Pitch Softball League, & Adult Baseball League. If you are a Free agent looking to be put on a Softball or Baseball team, please go to [parksregistration.townofdye.com](http://parksregistration.townofdye.com) to sign up.

**NEW Fitness Classes:** We are offering several new fitness classes starting in Jan. We are offering **Walking/Running groups** for the Beginner or Intermediate, **Boot Camp**, **Core Camps** and **XL-ent Yoga**. We have also teamed up with Mari Fitness to offer **Cardio Belly Dance**, **WERQ** and **ZUMBA**.

### Monthly Meeting Calendar

|                    |         |                                  |
|--------------------|---------|----------------------------------|
| <b>February 15</b> | 6:00 PM | Police Commission Meeting        |
|                    | 7:00 PM | Water Board Meeting              |
| <b>February 19</b> | All day | Town Hall Closed—President's Day |
|                    | 7:00 PM | Plan Commission Meeting          |
| <b>February 26</b> | 6:00 PM | Sanitary Board Meeting           |
| <b>March 1</b>     | 6:00 PM | Storm Water Board Meeting        |
| <b>March 8</b>     | 6:00 PM | Town Council Meeting             |
|                    | 6:30 PM | Redevelopment Commission Meeting |
| <b>March 13</b>    | 6:00 PM | Park Board Meeting               |

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

**Join our text program  
to receive important  
updates!**

