

# Town of Meridian Hills

VOLUME 5, ISSUE 2

JULY 21, 2008

## “DRAINAGE 2.0”

The heavy rains we had this spring revealed some of the continuing drain-

In response, the Town of Meridian Hills hosted a second drainage presenta-

The presentations addressed some of the more confusing issues dealing with drainage, including responsibility, maintenance, reporting drainage issues, DPW’s process in addressing issues, and the Town and City’s cooperative effort to improve drainage issues moving forward.



age issues in our community. Although they called it a “500 Year Flood,” it doesn’t take much rain to create drainage problems - from mosquito infestations to property damage.

In response, the Town of Meridian Hills hosted a second drainage presentation for residents on July 14th titled “Drainage 2.0” put on by the Department of Public Works. The Town first hosted a DPW drainage seminar titled “Drainage 101” on March 7, 2006.

Please be sure you’re doing your part by making sure water is able to traverse your property unimpeded; remove leaves, silt and debris from stormwater drains near your property; keep swales free of weeds and debris; and report problems to the Mayor’s Action Center at **327-4622**.

Visit [meridianhills.org](http://meridianhills.org) to view the presentations and additional info.

## Town Partners Program

Although the Town maintains the roads and provides supplemental police patrols, we have limited resources and limited jurisdiction. In an effort to facilitate improved safety, appearance, and quality of life in our community, we created the “Town Partners Program.” We identified services that would be beneficial for resi-

dents in the Town, then contacted companies that were willing to offer discounted rates for our residents. From new mailboxes to home security systems, home lighting systems, driveway paving, tree trimming, and even membership at Rivi, discounts are available simply by mentioning the “Meridian Hills Resi-

dent Discount.” To see the complete list of Town Partners, please visit [meridianhills.org](http://meridianhills.org) Programs are subject to change without notice, and the Town does not endorse or warranty the services of the providers, but if you’ve been putting off replacing that old mailbox, maybe the Town Partners Program can help!

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### POLICE

Emergency 9-1-1  
Non-Emergency 327-3811  
Answering Mach. 253-5678

### ADMINISTRATION

#### Town Council

Jim Rush, President  
257-1886

Terry O’Brien  
979-5646

Walter Friehofer  
253-5556

#### Clerk Treasurer

John Taylor  
459-7708

#### Town Attorney

Sue A. Beesley

#### Town Engineer

Jay Vorisek, P.E.

#### Town Marshal

Michael S. Russo

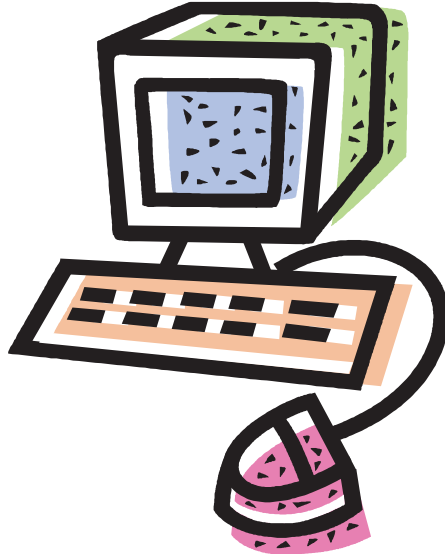
[meridianhills.org](http://meridianhills.org)

# TOWN WEBSITE

The website for the Town of Meridian Hills has grown quite a bit over the last several years. It's become an impressive resource for residents, builders and contractors, realtors, and government officials.

The site is easy to navigate and is clearly laid out. The agendas and minutes posted on the Town's website are complete as far back as 2004!

Some of the newest features include a listing of the **Town Partners Program** mentioned earlier in this newsletter, and a **Vacation Check Request Form**. If you wish to notify the Meridian Hills Police of your absence while on vacation or away from your home, you can fill out an online Vacation Check Form that prompts certain information. The info is then forwarded to the Meridian Hills Police who will be advised you are away.



Some of the other resources posted on the website include:

- Committees
- Town Officials
- Agendas
- Minutes
- Financial Summaries
- Municipal Code
- Past Newsletters
- Police Summaries
- Setback & Zoning Standards
- Town Partners Program
- Vacation Check Request Form
- Related Links
- Contact Information

In addition, there are a number of other documents posted on the site including:

- Town Drainage Policy
- Basic Tree Pruning Tips
- Town Planning Presentation
- Town Survey Results

- DPW's "Drainage 101" presentation
- DPW's "Drainage 2.0" presentation
- Arboricultural Standards
- Drainage Study Report
- Drainage Basin Map
- Town Boundaries

The "Related Links" feature offers di-

*"The agendas and minutes posted on the Town's website are complete as far back as 2004!"*

rect hot links to websites of the temple, churches and schools within the Town, as well as government agencies like the Mayor's Action Center, your city, township and state representatives, and Holliday Park.

The next time you're browsing online, please be sure to visit [meridianhills.org](http://meridianhills.org) and take advantage of this valuable resource.

If you'd like to receive agendas for regular council meetings and occasional emergency notices, please send your email address, home address and name to [tobrien@obrienauto.com](mailto:tobrien@obrienauto.com).

*meridianhills.org*

*The September Regular Council Meeting  
will be held on September 22*

## REMEMBERING JAMES TUOHY

*The Town of Meridian Hills lost a friend recently with the passing of Mr. James Tuohy on May 2 after a long battle with Parkinson's disease. Mr. Tuohy was very involved in our community serving as Town Councilor from 1979 to 1988, and as Town Attorney for 15 years from 1989 to 2003. The Town was very fortunate to have Mr. Tuohy as an advocate and our condolences go out to his family.*



## Town Beautification Update

The Town Council approved the installation of four new Town Entry signs in 2007. The construction was expected to begin last fall, but the contractor encountered some scheduling conflicts. We spent the spring completing the necessary paperwork with the city and ironing out the details. Work is now scheduled to begin after Labor Day weekend.

The Town was also notified in December that we finally received a Keep Indianapolis Beautiful grant for 2008. The grant is to improve the green space on the north bend of Meridian Hills Boulevard, where one of the new Town entry signs will be located, however KIB said they were having trouble securing the services of a professional landscape architect. We contacted Jud Scott of Vine &

Branch - one of our Town Partners - and he donated the professional services of his employees to work with us. We developed an improved plan that will enhance the area and one of the major gateways to the Town. In addition, a new decorative streetlight at this location replaced the existing one at *no cost* to the Town. The rest of the work at this location is scheduled for late September.

Lastly, four missing street name signs are being replaced with the new decorative signs.

This fall should see a lot of improvements in the Town. If you're interested in donating your time or money toward this effort - especially on *your* street - please contact Terry O'Brien at **979-5646**.

***Vine & Branch's experts are trained to perform thorough Visual Tree Assessments to identify weak/damaged trees.***

Eight areas are examined during a Visual Tree Assessment. So far we have shared 6 steps with you toward becoming more aware of the health of trees on your property. Here are the next two steps in this series:

7. Inspect for miscellaneous hazards like thorns over a side walk, or hedge apples over a green- house etc.
8. Consider the "target". What will the tree or portion of the tree hit if it falls?

Visit [www.vineandbranch.net](http://www.vineandbranch.net) and click "Helpful Owner Tips" to read "Premises Liability and Your Trees" and learn more. When in doubt call us to assist you!

**Vine & Branch**  
Inc.  
Arboricultural  
Horticultural  
Consulting Services



**Contact the Vine & Branch  
experts today!**

**317.846.3778**

[www.vineandbranch.net](http://www.vineandbranch.net)

[info@vineandbranch.net](mailto:info@vineandbranch.net)

Town of Meridian Hills  
P.O. Box 40437  
Indianapolis, IN 46240

www.meridianhills.org

Phone: 459-7708  
Fax: 334-0955

## Calendar of Events

### Regular Council Meetings - 7:00pm

The September Regular Council Meeting  
will be held on September 22

November 10

January 12, 2009

### August

- 2 "Sherwood Village Picnic,"  
Sherwood Dr. & Williams Crk. Dr.  
4pm, 253-1958
- 7 "Rob Dixon Quartet,"  
Holliday Park Summer Concert  
Series, 7pm, 327-7180

### September

- 1 LABOR DAY
- 4-5 "Rummage Sale,"  
First Congregational United Church  
of Christ, 257-5397
- 11 PATRIOT DAY
- 22 "Town Council Regular Meeting,"  
Hilbert Early Education Building,  
Park Tudor, 7pm

### October

- 3 "Homecoming," Park Tudor vs.  
Triton Central High School,  
Park Tudor, 7pm, 415-2700
- 4 "Pet Blessing,"  
St. Luke Catholic Church, 12pm,  
259-4373
- 5 "Blessing of the Animals,"  
First Congregational United Church  
of Christ, 257-5397
- 10 "Stephen Hamilton Organ Concert"  
Second Presbyterian Church,  
7:30pm, 253-6461
- 25 "Indianapolis Symphonic Choir  
Concert," Second Presbyterian  
Church, 8:00pm, 253-6461
- 31 HALLOWEEN - Be Careful!

# DPW PAVING COLLEGE!

Although the Town of Meridian Hills has almost 12 miles of roads within our boundaries, we share some responsibilities with the City of Indianapolis. The City maintains Meridian, Spring Mill, College and 71st Street. They're also responsible for drainage issues within the Town, including rights-of-way, and culverts and bridges under our roads. We meet often with DPW to work toward improving City issues within the Town.

In the last few years, DPW has added turn-lanes on Meridian at 64th Street and at the entrance to Second Presbyterian Church. At our request, they also installed an east-west pedestrian crossing at College and Nottingham, and have worked with us to replace all the traffic warning signs with the new

diamond-grade fluorescent yellow signs.

This summer, DPW is paving College from 71st Street to 86th Street! We've met several times with DPW to optimize the project for the Town. At our request, they plan to pave 75th Street east of College to the bridge, and re-stripe the shoulder for pedestrian and bicycle use only. Although we have a good relationship with DPW, they still recommend that residents report any issues on these roads to the **Mayor's Action Center at 327-4MAC.**



*This newsletter is produced by the Communications Committee for the Town of Meridian Hills.  
If you're interested in contributing to the newsletter,  
please contact Terry O'Brien at 979-5646 or Helen Carroll at 722-4350.*

**Town of Meridian Hills**  
**P.O. Box 40437**  
**Indianapolis, IN 46240**

*meridianhills.org*

*Town of Meridian Hills*  
*Established 1937*