

Welcome to Ferdinand





Mission Statement

Our Mission Statement:

The Town of Ferdinand and its employees are committed to the continuous improvement of services, infrastructure, and recreational opportunities so that the quality of life remains high for current and future residents. As such, Ferdinand's employees are devoted to continuing and completing any and all work that will make the Town an even better place to live and work.

Location

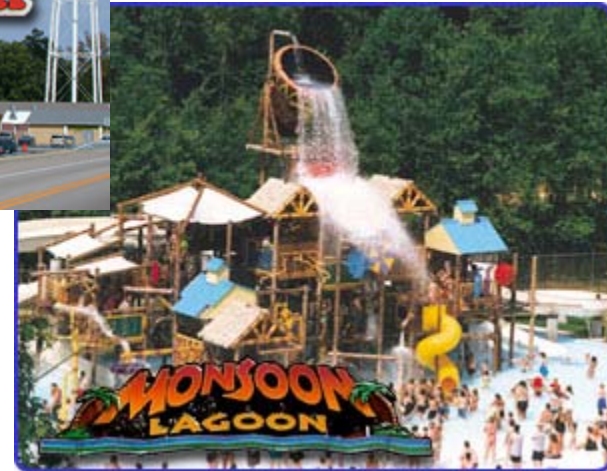
- Amidst the rolling hills of south central Indiana.
- 13 miles south of Jasper, 26 miles south west of Patoka Lake, and one half mile north of Interstate 64.
- Approximately halfway between Evansville and Louisville.
- The Town is bisected by SR 162 (Main Street) and lies south of SR 64. The Ferdinand-area is comprised of several small municipalities that shop and eat in Town (Birdseye, St. Anthony, St. Marks, St. Meinrad, Mariah Hill, etc.).





Location (cont.)

- Eight miles north of Holiday World, Indiana's number one tourist attraction.
- Holiday World attracts more than 1,000,000 visitors, most of which use the Ferdinand exit.



Local Character

- Since its settlement (January 8, 1840), the Town of Ferdinand has been known for its hard-working population in local trades and industries, as well as in the agricultural arena.
- Our community is renowned for its well-crafted furniture, as is most of Dubois County, and its strong German-Catholic background.
- The community boasts many locally-owned businesses that provide local services, small-town dining, and unique shopping experiences.
- Local events such as the Heimatfest, Christkindlmarkt, and Herb and Garden Days truly celebrate our character and heritage.



View of St. Ferdinand Church from Ninth Street

Parks and Recreation

- Ferdinand owns and operates two parks (10 acres and 35 acres), two public lakes (35 acres) for fishing, nine ball fields, six soccer fields, one lighted basketball court, three volleyball courts, eleven horseshoe pits, golf and archery ranges, and a community and convention center.
- Nearby recreational facilities include: Ferdinand State Forest (7,000 acres), Patoka Lake (8,000 acres of water), Lincoln State and Federal Parks, and Paoli Peaks (skiing).



18th Street Park Playground



View from the Ferdinand State Forest



Forward Thinking

- Indiana's HomeTown Competitiveness Program, the Vision Group, and the recently completed ten-year Comprehensive Plan all work to make the Town a better place for future generations.



Arial view over the heart of downtown Ferdinand.

Demographics



View of Ferdinand's horizon line

- 2000 U.S. Census Data
Population – 2,277
Households – 808
Families – 569
- Educational Attainment
High school degree or higher – 78.8%
Bachelors degree or higher – 24.4%



Education

- The Southeast Dubois School corporation consists of two elementary schools, one intermediate school, and one junior/senior high school.
- Forest Park Jr.-Sr. High School has been an Indiana 4-Star School since 1990.
- FPHS has a 98.1% attendance rate and a graduation rate of 96%.



Ferdinand Elementary School



Pine Ridge Elementary School



Cedar Crest Intermediate School



Forest Park Jr.-Sr. High School

Wired Community

- PSC, Perry-Spencer Communications, provides the latest in telecommunication services, including local telephone, long distance toll, DSL, fixed wireless, satellite, and Fiber-to-the-Home (FTTH) high-speed Internet access, dial-up, toll-free Internet access and digital cable TV.
- PSC offers its co-op members the opportunity to “stretch their dollars” by providing service bundles that can be created to best suit the customers wants and needs.



PSC office located in St. Meinrad, Indiana



Medical Care

- Located in Jasper, Indiana, Memorial Hospital and Health Care Center employs more than 1,300 people and has more than 150 physicians. As a regional health center, the staff provides a comprehensive range of medical care for residents of Dubois and surrounding counties including more than 7,700 inpatients and 172,000 outpatients.



Sisters of St. Benedict Monastery

- The Sisters of St. Benedict of Ferdinand was founded in 1867 by four young Benedictine sisters who came from Covington, Kentucky, to teach Ferdinand's German settlers; the Sisters have been serving area residents ever since.
- The monastery's architectural magnificence has earned it the name "Castle on the Hill." The heart of the monastery is the church, listed in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Also on the grounds are a Lourdes Grotto, outdoor Stations of the Cross, the Rosary Steps, a walkway for recitation of the traditional prayer, and Hildegard's Labyrinth for walking prayer and meditation.



Town Events

- The **Christkindlmarkt** heralds in the Christmas shopping season. Four locations, which include two sites brimming with antiques and collectibles, and two locations filled with handcrafted artisan creations are here for your holiday shopping pleasure. Thousands attend this event each year.
- The **Heimatfest** and **Fireman's Ball** provide excellent ways for the community to gather and socialize. Activities include the Little Miss and Mister Pageants, the Queen Pageant, Homemade Wine Judging, the 5K Walk/Run, the German Beer Garden, a variety of tournaments, and carnival games for the children.
- The **Annual Town-wide Yard Sale** boasts over 100 garages, lawns, driveways, and porches throughout town overflowing with housewares, clothing, home decor, toys, and countless other items.



The trolley and organ grinder during the Christkindlmarkt.



Town Events (cont.)

- **Ferdinand Herb and Garden Days** is a popular annual event drawing gardeners and shoppers far and wide. Herbs, perennials, annuals, vintage garden accessories, antiques, home and garden decor make Ferdinand the place to be.
- Each spring, during the **Garden Tour**, gardeners in and around the Ferdinand area have the opportunity to display their hours of planning and hard work. A tour of the finest gardens gives citizens the chance to marvel at the landscapes of their neighbors and friends—and even pick up ideas for their own gardens at home.
- During Ferdinand's **Primitive Days**, everyone can enjoy the season with a cornucopia of values as Ferdinand Merchants fill their shops with the delectable autumn sights, smells, and good old-fashioned bargains.



Community Organizations

- The **Ferdinand Historical Society** is dedicated to preserve and promote the history of the Ferdinand community. Each year, the Society adds to their large catalog of documents, photographs and artifacts that trace the founding of Ferdinand in 1840, and its history, through the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries.
- The **Kiwanis Club of Ferdinand** has been active in the Ferdinand Community since 1981. Members are business and community leaders interested in fostering leadership for the youth of the community through it's support of clubs for students Ferdinand area schools.
- The **Tri-County YMCA** is committed to teach, model, and implement the guiding principles of Respect, Responsibility, Honest, Caring and Doing Your Best. By emphasizing these principles in all of their programs, they challenge youth and adults to accept and demonstrate positive values.

Town Government



Ferdinand Town Hall

- Ferdinand is governed by a three-member Council and has a Town Manager that oversees an 18-person staff (Wastewater, Utilities Department, Street Department/Property Management, Police Department, and a Volunteer Fire Department).



Questions?

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