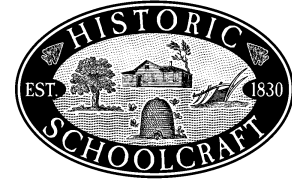


Village of Schoolcraft



Preserving our Past, Enriching our Present, Planning our Future

www.villageofschoolcraft.com

Village President's Message



Change is in the air! You can feel it in the air and in the cooler temperatures – fall is on its way.

School is back in session, activities are picking up, and the leaves are falling down. I hope you had a great summer and a safe one.

There was a lot of activity over the summer at Burch Park. It is great to see the children playing on the equipment, and the many times people got together for a picnic or to reunite.

In my house the summer has been busy. My 4 year old daughter, Adele, just started pre-school, and the stream of all the things she is learning pours out of her at the dinner table. My two year old, Jack, was (and is) mesmerized with the library construction and the new construction on the corner of Lyon and Grand. "Is the digger working" has got to be the most asked question of the summer. I can understand his excitement, I'm excited too. The Library is having an open house on October 15 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. It is nice to see improvements and investments made in our community, and I want to thank everyone that participated.

Over the past few months, the Downtown Development Authority and the Downtown Revitalization Committee worked together to create a unifying statement for the Village of Schoolcraft. After many ideas, meetings and hours they came up with "Preserving our Past, Enriching our Present, Planning our Future". I think you will agree, this statement perfectly depicts what the charm and values of the Village of Schoolcraft is all about. Also, please note, our Vision and Mission Statements are on page 6 of this Newsletter. They too capture the essence of the Village. Thank you committee members for all your hard work on these.

The new council will meet for the first time on October 3. Russel Barnes retired from the Council after nine years of service, over which many changes were made. None of us should take it for granted that some are willing to give their time and service for the betterment of our community. I

want to personally thank Russel and wish him the best for the future. I also want to welcome Russell Barnes Jr. to the Council. The year ahead will be a busy one.

The voter turnout in our past election was 9% of registered voters. That's not a number I'm proud of, and I'm open to ideas on how to improve voter turnout and participation in village government. Feel free to drop me an email or send me a letter.

Enjoy the colors this fall; I look forward to seeing you around town. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you as your Village President. I welcome any and all feedback. Remember to look at our website for village information (<http://villageofschoolcraft.com>), and to check us out on Facebook. Go Eagles!

Dan DeVries
Village President

2011 Quarterly Meeting Calendar

Village Council 7:00 p.m.
 October 3 October 17
 November 7 November 21
 December 5 December 19

Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.
 October 10 November 14
 December 12

Downtown Development Authority 8:00 a.m.
 October 6 November 3
 December 1

All meetings are open to the public and are held at the Municipal Complex at 442. N. Grand Street

News from the Village Manager's Desk

There are plenty of activities going on in the Village of Schoolcraft as we move into the fall season. We are currently working on the renovation of the Community Center located on Cass Street. To date, we have had the brickwork restored, new double hung windows installed, and soon you will see the addition of an overhead porch area with Doric Columns, a new entryway door with side panels, and a cement walkway. We are excited about this project, and appreciate your patience as we complete it.

In addition to physical projects, staff will begin working on the budget for the 2012/2013 fiscal year. There will be many challenges as we work through the budget process due to decreasing revenue sharing and lower tax revenues.

By now, most of you know that we have a four unit retail development going up on the corner of Grand and Lyon Streets. Developers of the property are planning on having the project completed this year, and have several businesses in mind to fill the vacant spaces. On the opposite end of town, the former Farmer's Daughter's Market has been purchased, and will be redeveloped as a banquet hall and retail store.

Our committees and commissions have been busy as well. Both the DDA and Downtown Revitalization Committee have been working with the Barton Group to attract and encourage new business development. One example of their hard work is the four unit retail complex mentioned above.

There are still plenty of recreational activities to take advantage of before the cold weather sets in. The playground at Burch Park is available year around, and no matter what the weather, kids seem to have a great time on the playground equipment. On Saturday, October 1st, the Family Fall Fest (10 a.m.—3 p.m.) and Chili Cook-Off (1 p.m.—3 p.m.) will be held at Burch Park. There will be plenty of things to do, and some great chili to sample too! Last but not least, is the annual Christmas Walk held on December 2nd and 3rd.

For additional information about Village activities, please visit us on Facebook or contact us at 679-4304.

Cheri M. Lutz
Village Manager



Schoolcraft Police Department

Halloween Safety

It's that time again when children enjoy dressing up and roaming the neighborhood in search of some of their favorite candy. The Schoolcraft Police Department will be out in full force to help ensure a safe Halloween. Here are some things all of us can do to help make this Halloween safer for everyone.

LIGHTING

Make sure the pathway to your home is well lit. If you are using candles to light the way, make sure they are a safe distance from the sidewalk or driveway. Some children wear items made of paper or carry paper bags. If you are going to use the "dark" affect, make sure there are no tripping hazards in the way.

CLOTHING

Use clothing or a costume that allows others to see your child from a safe distance. It's not uncommon for some children to ride their bikes, roller blades, or skateboards from house to house. Some children can travel at high speeds and before you know it, they can be right on top of you.

CANDY

Talk with your children about eating candy before they get home. You should inspect the candy before they eat it. Make sure you inspect "all" the candy. Anything that looks like it was tampered with should be thrown out.

GROUPS

If your child will be trick or treating without you, make sure your child walks or rides with a group of children and never alone.

Chief Bryan Campbell
bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com

Fire Hydrant Flushing October 18, 2011

Be sure to run your water before doing laundry to prevent yellowing.

Village of Schoolcraft Trick or Treat 5:30—8:30 p.m. October 31, 2011

Village Office Closures

November 24 & 25
December 23 & 26
December 30
January 2

Village Address

When sending correspondence to the Village of Schoolcraft, be sure to put **P.O. Box 8** on the envelope, or it will not reach us.

Leaf Pick Up

- Leaf pick up begins the last week of October and ends the week of Thanksgiving
- Only leaves will be picked up. Please keep debris out of leaf piles
- Do not combine leaves with sticks, root balls, trash or stones
- Piles of leaves should be within 6 ft. of the edge of the street, but not in the street

Brush Pick-Up

The last day for brush pick-up is Monday, October 31. Please use the following guidelines when putting your brush at the road:

- Brush may be put out at the road the Wednesday before pick up.
- All end cuts of brush must be placed in the same direction (facing the road).
- Brush piles must be no larger than can be picked up by any one person. Branches should be no larger than 4" in diameter.
- Twigs must be bagged or boxed.

The Village of Schoolcraft does appreciate your cooperation.

Winter Streets and Sidewalks

During the snow season, we ask for your patience and cooperation regarding snow removal. It is our goal to remove it as quickly and safely as possible.

Our first priority is to open major and local streets. This can be accomplished more efficiently if vehicles are not parked along the street. When possible, please be sure to park off the street during the winter months.

Once the snow has been removed from the streets, the DPW will remove the sidewalks of snow. Be sure your vehicles are not blocking the sidewalks. Village residents who have placed decorative fences along the public sidewalks may wish to remove them during the winter months to avoid any damage that may occur during the snow removal season.

Snow Removal

State and Local Ordinance prohibits the plowing of snow into or across sidewalks and streets. This ordinance is for vehicular and pedestrian safety.

Please be sure that when you are cleaning snow from your driveway you are also keeping it off the sidewalks and roadway.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated by our winter walkers.

WE'RE ON THE WEB! VISIT US AT
WWW.VILLAGEOFSCHOOLCRAFT.COM

Village of Schoolcraft eNews

If you would like to receive the Village of Schoolcraft Newsletter via email, let us know. You can email us at the above website or cmlutz@villageofschoolcraft. You can also call the Village of Schoolcraft Office at 679-4304.



Find us on
Facebook

Social Networking is Here! The Village of Schoolcraft is pleased to announce our presence on Facebook. You will find a link to our Facebook page at www.villageofschoolcraft.com. We look forward to communicating with you via Facebook, and look forward to hearing your positive comments about our community, special events, service organizations, and businesses. Please keep in mind that we will receive and respond only to positive comments.

Fun Facts About Fall Leaves

Fall colors are best when late summer is dry and autumn has bright sunny days and cool nights below 40 degrees.

The leaf colors of red, yellow and brown are in the leaves all year long and only become exposed when the green chlorophyll disappears in the fall.

Maples, Oaks, Elm, Birch and Ash trees are just a few of the trees that give spectacular colors during the fall season.

Leaves are basically food-making machines. They are able (through photosynthesis) to turn water, carbon dioxide and sunlight into a nutritious substance called glucose, which in turn provides sustenance for plants and trees. The leaves use a green pigment, chlorophyll, to aid in the photosynthesis.

As the days shorten and leaves absorb less light, trees prepare for autumn by stopping the food-making process. Consequently, the production of chlorophyll drops off, turning some leaves orange and yellow in the fall.

Downtown Development News

It has been an active, productive, and enjoyable year for the Village of Schoolcraft's Downtown Development Authority (Schoolcraft DDA). While we have more to do, we have made good progress in our efforts to attract businesses to look to Schoolcraft as a good place to do business.

Other items we are pursuing are entry way signs to welcome visitors at our north and south entry points on US 131. We are also exploring the feasibility of a small scale façade improvement plan for businesses located in the DDA District. Additionally we would like to see bi-monthly business networking opportunities, perhaps rotating at different businesses.

We would love to add new membership to our Schoolcraft DDA Board as well. The Schoolcraft DDA was formerly the Schoolcraft Business Association. While it's name is reflective of it being a more formally established entity, its core mission is the same, to promote the goals of the DDA District. Currently our DDA members are Dan Hartlieb of Midwest Printing & Promotions, LLC; Dan DeVries, Village President; Dale Miller of Harding's; Rob Swartz of Marjo's; Deb Reynolds of KCSB; Rich Peart of Schnauzers Bar and Grille; and Jim Stamper of Heirloom Rose Florist. If you are a Village of Schoolcraft resident or work at a business in Schoolcraft, and have interest in becoming a board member, please contact the Village Office or any one of the DDA members. We would be happy to speak with you.

Dan Hartlieb
DDA Chairperson

A Bit of History



The Schoolcraft Ladies Library holds great significance in its place in the social history of the Village of Schoolcraft. The Ladies Library Association was founded in 1879 by Mrs. Mary Allen Barney. Its purpose was to provide educational opportunities to women as there were no state educational institutions in the area until Western Normal College (Western Michigan University) was established in 1903. The association sponsored book reviews, musical evenings, and studies of great writers for the educational advancement of the women of Schoolcraft. After twenty years of meeting in private homes and rented halls, the association decided to construct its own library building. In addition to fundraising activities such as ice cream socials, a gift of \$1,250 from James Hale Bates enabled the association to purchase property from the Hatch family and initiate a contract with the architect William G. Robinson of Grand Rapids, Michigan, for the development of building plans. The library association continues in operation to this day and has maintained its original collection of books.

JUST A FEW OF THE BACKYARD BIRDS FOUND IN THIS AREA

S	I	N	Y	C	H	I	M	N	E	Y	S	W	I	F	T	D	F	M	G	M	H
S	G	P	E	M	N	W	E	L	G	A	E	Q	E	P	K	D	Q	W	N	O	V
F	N	X	N	A	B	D	A	G	S	X	Q	L	I	B	U	Z	I	G	I	U	R
K	I	Z	A	H	L	R	D	R	W	J	O	U	L	F	S	L	L	D	T	R	E
C	W	N	R	O	G	I	O	F	B	I	M	U	Q	S	D	D	R	Z	N	N	K
A	X	C	C	I	G	B	W	B	R	L	E	O	G	T	B	I	G	F	U	I	C
R	A	W	H	H	R	K	L	O	I	J	E	F	U	J	B	N	S	N	B	N	E
D	W	L	N	A	O	C	A	Q	A	N	B	R	U	E	I	P	U	D	O	G	P
I	R	Z	Z	W	S	A	R	Y	I	U	K	T	U	L	A	T	R	N	G	D	D
N	A	B	W	K	B	L	K	W	R	E	N	L	R	R	H	V	A	Y	I	O	O
A	D	P	H	O	E	B	E	X	Y	X	B	A	R	A	O	X	F	O	D	V	O
L	E	M	S	W	A	L	L	O	W	F	T	O	T	O	T	L	D	B	N	E	W
A	C	H	I	C	K	A	D	E	E	S	W	C	G	L	Q	B	V	I	I	A	A
G	D	R	I	B	G	N	I	M	M	U	H	C	M	M	D	O	A	C	O	F	V

- Black Bird
- Cardinal
- Chimney Swift
- Finch
- Humming Bird
- Mourning Dove
- Phoebe
- Starling
- Wild Turkey

- Blue Bird
- Cedar Waxwing
- Crane
- Grosbeak
- Indigo Bunting
- Nuthatch
- Robin
- Swallow
- Woodpecker

- Blue Jay
- Chickadee
- Eagle
- Hawk
- Meadowlark
- Oriole
- Sparrow
- Warbler
- Wren



President Dan DeVries presents a resolution to honor Russ Barnes for his nine years of service and dedication to the Schoolcraft Village Council.

Schoolcraft Village Council

The Village of Schoolcraft is pleased to introduce our Village Council.

- President Daniel P. DeVries
- President Pro-Tem Scot Dailey
- Trustee Russell L. Barnes, Jr.
- Trustee Todd Carlin
- Trustee Dorothy Clark
- Trustee Keith Gunnett
- Trustee Carl Tackett

Meetings are open to the public, and are held at 7:00 p.m. at the Municipal Complex

The Village of Schoolcraft extends its best wishes to former councilmember Russel Barnes. Russel began serving on the Village Council in March of 2002, and has been dedicated to serving the best interests of Village residents and business owners.

Russel was instrumental in moving the water main from the middle of Grand Street, to the west side of Grand Street during the 2005 Streetscape Project. This project was a great benefit for motorists, residents and for the Village's Water Department.

Russel supported the construction of the Municipal Complex, the Water Tower Painting Project, installation of playground equipment at Burch Park and many other projects during his nine years of service.

In addition to supporting Village projects, Russel was a great representative and supporter to the Village Council, and departments of the Village Staff. He served as a board member of the South County Fire Authority for a number of years, and was a great advocate for the Fire Department.



On July 5, 2011, the Village of Schoolcraft adopted a Vision and Mission Statement. The Vision and Mission Statements were based on input from the 2011 Citizen Survey which conveys the importance of our hometown character, values, and our rich historical heritage.

The Vision and Mission Statements were drafted by the Downtown Revitalization Committee and adopted by the Village Council.

Vision Statement

The Village of Schoolcraft values its hometown character, in which the best elements of the Village's rich historical, cultural and natural heritage have been conserved and sensitively enhanced for the benefit of residents and visitors alike.

Mission Statement

The Village of Schoolcraft will continually strive to maintain its friendly, unique hometown character, honoring its rich historical heritage. We will provide excellent, responsive services to our residential and business community. Development will be guided in such a way as to compliment the Village's vision and sense of place by encouraging resident, business, and community involvement.



The Lion's Club begins their monthly meetings during the month of September. Meetings take place on the third Wednesday of each month at the American Legion Post located at 425 E. Clay Street, Schoolcraft, MI. Visitors are always welcome. If you are interested in joining this excellent organization, contact Terry Woytal at 269-207-6071, or visit Schoolcraft Lions Club on Facebook.

Keynotes.....

The Village of Schoolcraft and Business Development

Comments in the recent 2011 Citizen Survey show that there is much concern about business development in the Village of Schoolcraft. This article will talk about recent actions that the Village has undertaken to retain, encourage and recruit business development.

In January of 2011, the Village Council appointed members of the Village Council, Planning Commission and Downtown Development Authority to a task force known as the Downtown Revitalization Committee. The charge of the committee was to find ways to attract new businesses, and improve relationships with existing businesses.

The Downtown Revitalization Committee studied various options to promote business development, and made a recommendation to the DDA to contract with the Barton Group, a marketing and real estate group located in Lawton. The Barton Group conducted a three phase study to determine obstacles and opportunities for business development and retention, and to develop a plan for marketing the Village of Schoolcraft.

As a result of this very aggressive marketing plan, the collaborative efforts of the Village Council, Planning Commission and staff, the Village of Schoolcraft recently approved a site plan for a four unit retail complex located on the corner of Grand and Lyon Streets.

The Downtown Development Authority also plans to hold bi-monthly "Meet and Greet" sessions to allow the opportunity for business owner's to get together to share information and get to know each other.

The flyer below was created by the Downtown Revitalization Committee, and will be used as a marketing tool for prospective businesses and promotion of the Village as a great place to do business.

Say Yes to
SCHOOLCRAFT

*Preserving our Past,
Enriching our Present,
Planning our Future.*

- Great exposure on US131 with more than 19,000 cars passing per day through the center of town
- Beautiful, historic community with parks, lakes, and other recreational activities close by
- Best Independence Day Celebration in Southwest Michigan on July 4th drawing thousands of visitors to the community
- Conveniently located to I-94, situated between Detroit and Chicago
- Average household income of \$63,000 within a 10 minute drive from village center
- Outstanding School system with a history of providing excellent educational opportunities in a safe, nurturing environment




REPRESENTED BY THE BARTON GROUP:
 AMELIA BARKER-KING AND GARY BARTON (269) 216-7350
 10054 WEST TU AVENUE • LAWTON, MICHIGAN 49065
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Village Directory

Administrative Office 269-679-4304
Police Department 269-679-5600
Department of Public Works 269-679-5658
Associated Gov. Services 1-800-627-2801

Village Council

President: Dan DeVries
Trustees: Scot Dailey
Russell L. Barnes
Todd Carlin
Dorothy J. Clark
Keith Gunnett
Carl Tackett

Messages for the Village Council can be left at the Administrative Office or on Village Staff email.

Village Staff

Manager: Cheri Lutz, cmlutz@villageofschoolcraft.com
Clerk/
Treasurer: Faith Akert, fakert@villageofschoolcraft.com
Office
Assistant: Theresa O'Leary, toleary@villageofschoolcraft.com
Police
Chief: Bryan Campbell, bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com
Sergeant: Jamie Edwards
Officers: Matt Britton
Jim Day
Mark Stoneburner
Larry Weers
Aux. Officer: Mary Secondi
Henry Kite
DPW Super: Rob Coffman, rcoffman@villageofschoolcraft.com
Equip/Water
Operator: Adam Wood, awood@villageofschoolcraft.com

Village of Schoolcraft Fall 2011 Newsletter



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