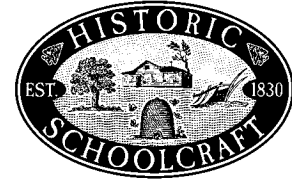


Village of Schoolcraft



www.villageofschoolcraft.com

Village President's Message



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! I hope that the winter is treating you well. Thank you for supporting the Village Christmas Walk in December. It was great to see so many of you out visiting all our local businesses. Thanks also to the businesses for sponsoring this great event. My children particularly loved the reindeer and ponies!

The library expansion appears to be progressing well. If you get a chance, drive by to see the work in progress. Please check in with the library for opportunities to donate to the new building.

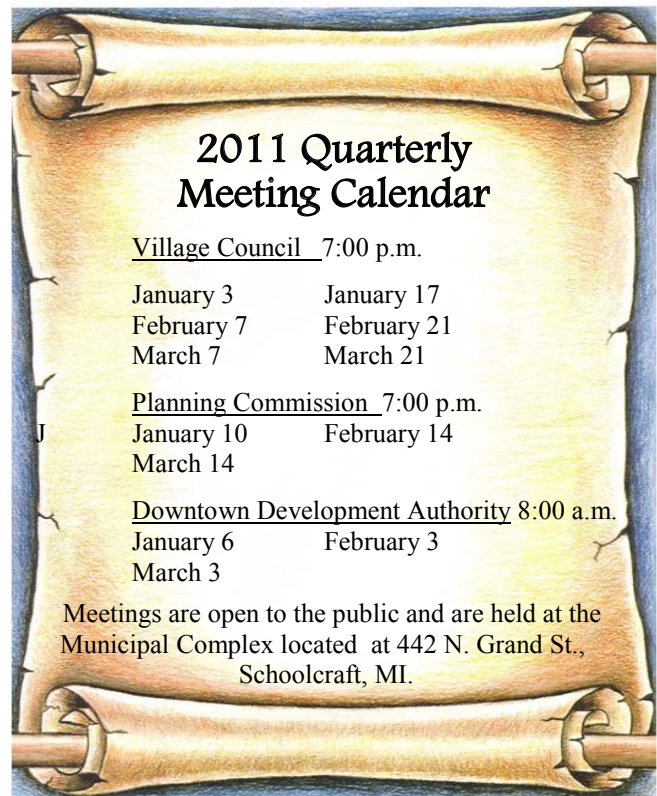
As we enter the long stretch of winter, please be safe! The DPW is doing an excellent job of plowing the streets and sidewalks, but remember to always take extra time (walking or driving) in bad weather. I know we love to see the fresh snow fall, but I always love seeing the snowplow pass by my house when I need to get to work. They put in some very bizarre hours to keep us safe and running in any weather. Thank you Rob and Adam for what you've done, and for what you will do this winter.

I want to take the time to thank the Village Council, Planning Commission, DDA, and the Village Staff for an excellent 2010. We face numerous challenges as a small community in tough economic times, but I believe we have the right team to tackle these challenges head on. I look forward to 2011 and the opportunities it will bring.

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.

January 3	January 17
February 7	February 21
March 7	March 21

Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.

January 10	February 14
March 14	

Downtown Development Authority 8:00 a.m.

January 6	February 3
March 3	

Meetings are open to the public and are held at the Municipal Complex located at 442 N. Grand St., Schoolcraft, MI.

News from the Village Manager's Desk

The Village of Schoolcraft wishes all of you a Happy New Year. I hope that it is filled with hope, happiness, good health, and appreciation for family and friends.

As the Village brings in the new year, there is much work for us to do. The Village Staff is busy preparing a budget for the 2011/2012 Fiscal Year, planning for projects in the upcoming year, and looking for ways to improve services, and operations. As we interact with residents and business owners in the community, we are continually amazed at your friendly ways, and we strive to give you great service with a friendly smile.

For the Village of Schoolcraft, there is much activity taking place during the quiet, sleepy winter nights. Our Police Department is in constant communication with the DPW advising them of road and weather conditions. While all of us are sleeping, our DPW crew is out and about plowing and salting roads, and clearing sidewalks so that our residents have safe roads to drive on and sidewalks to walk on as we make our way into work, school, and other activities. More than once, I have heard what an excellent job our guys do keeping the roads and sidewalks clear of snow.

Over the last year, I have had the opportunity to participate with a number of community service groups, the people who give to the community through their service and time. Schoolcraft is fortunate to have so many good people and organizations that are dedicated to helping others who are in need, and who work to keep the rich history of Schoolcraft alive.

On behalf of the Village of Schoolcraft, I wish all of you a Happy New Year.

Cheri M. Lutz
Village Manager



Schoolcraft Police Department

Shop With a Hero

On Wednesday December 8, 2010, Schoolcraft's Patrolman James Day and Auxiliary Officer Mary Secondi participated in Shop with a Hero at Meijers on Shaver Road. Several Police agencies participated in this program and the Officers assisted underprivileged youth from the South County area pick out items for Christmas. The youth are provided with a \$150 gift card complements of Meijers and each family received a large food basket.



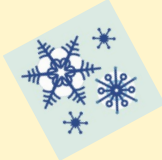
Chief Bryan Campbell
bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com

Barn Sale

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Tackett are accepting quality donations for the Village Wide Garage Sale held on April 29 and 30, 2011. Proceeds from the sale will be donated to the DDA for Phase II and III of the Streetscape Project.

If you have items that you would like to donate, please call Carl Tackett at 269-341-4957, 269-341-4956, 269-679-4030, or 269-679-4907.

Fun Facts About Snow



What Is Snow? When water freezes inside clouds, ice crystals form. Ice crystals are crystals that have formed around tiny bits of dirt that have been carried up into the atmosphere by the wind. The ice crystals join together creating snow flakes. Once the flakes are heavy enough they fall to the ground as snow. Each snowflake is made up of 2 to about 200 separate crystals.

What Color Is Snow? Believe it or not, snow is actually clear/transparent. Snow appears white because the crystals act as prisms, breaking up the light of the sun into the entire spectrum of color. The human eye is unable to handle that kind of sensory overload. Therefore, we see the snow as white or sometimes blue. The color of snow can depend on the environment in which you live. For instance, if you live in a place where your soil is red, the snow is pink because red dust blows into the clouds, discoloring the snow.

How Big Is A Snowflake? Most snowflakes are less than one-half inch across. The largest snowflake recorded was fifteen inches in diameter. All snowflakes have six sides and no two snowflakes are alike.

How Many Snowflake Shapes Are There? Scientists think that there are five different shapes of snow crystals. A long needle shape, a hollow column that is shaped like a six-sided prism, thin and flat six-sided plates, six-pointed stars, and intricate dendrites.

What Makes The Different Shapes? The shape that a snow crystal will take depends on the temperature at which it was formed. The colder it is outside, the smaller the snowflakes that fall. The fluffiest snow falls at temperatures around 15°F.



Christmas Tree Pick Up

The Village of Schoolcraft's Department of Public Works will be picking up Christmas Trees, which are placed in the right of way, through January 28, 2011.

Free Tax Preparation and Filing

Free tax preparation for individuals and families with household income of up to \$49,000 in 2010. Taxes are prepared by IRS-certified volunteers. Starting January 6th, 2011 call 2-1-1 to schedule an appointment or go online to www.gryphon.org for more information. On Thursday, February 24, 2011 this service will be available at the Pipefitters Union Hall on Shaver Road. You must call to make an appointment.

Annual Village Wide Garage Sale

Friday April 29, 2011 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
Saturday April 30, 2011 9:00—3:00 p.m.

Spring Clean Up

Saturday, May 7, 2011 Must have items out to the curb by 7:00 a.m. on May 7.

Boy Scout Paper Drive

On the first and third Saturday of each month, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Boy Scout Troop Number 251 collects newspapers and phone books for their paper drive. The drop off is on N. Richardson in Vicksburg, across the street from J&S Party Store.

Water Utility

Water bills are sent on or near March 1, June 1, September 1, and December 1. If you do not receive a bill, call the Village Office at 679-4304, and we will send you another one. Payment is **ALWAYS** due on the 15th, unless it falls on a weekend, then it will be due on the Monday after the 15th.

If you cannot make it to the Village Office during the business hours of 8:00-5:00 (we are open during the lunch hour), for your convenience, there is a secure drop box outside the main entrance to the Municipal Complex. Please do not put cash in the drop box.

Village of Schoolcraft eNews

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

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.



Nixle is a **Community Information Service** built exclusively for secure and reliable communications. The Nixle service is built on the most authenticated, secure, reliable, and high-speed platform, ensuring communications are trusted and accurate. Nixle provides up-to-date emergency information to subscribers. If you want to subscribe, please register at www.nixle.com

A Bit of History

The Reason US 131 Runs Through the Middle of Schoolcraft

In the early 1950's, the Michigan State Highway Department (MDOT) had made an initial decision to bypass Schoolcraft with US 131 which was to become a divided highway from the Indiana State Line to the Straights. Realizing that this would probably be the death of the growing Village, Mayor Hornell and the Village Clerk Leo Burch made a couple of trips to Lansing to plead their case before the highway department.

When this approach seemed like it was failing, they enlisted the help of a recent Michigan State graduate, Jack Moses, who was living in the

Village of Schoolcraft at the time. Mr. Moses had bragged that he knew all the secretaries in the governor's office.

Mr. Moses, Mayor Hornell and Clerk Leo Burch paid a third visit to the highway department. Along the way, they decided to stop by the governor's office to pay a "courtesy" call to Governor "Soapy" Williams.

A few weeks later, Mayor Hornell introduced the Governor to the Schoolcraft Ladies Library Association, and soon after, Schoolcraft became the only town located on US 131.

Village of Schoolcraft

Streets

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 Cherry
 Eliza
 Holmes
 Lyon
 Pearl
 Robinson
 Vienna
 Willow

Angell
 Bernard
 Cedar
 Clay
 Grand
 Lincoln
 Maple
 Pine
 South
 Walnut

Ashery
 Birch
 Centre
 Duncan
 Hayward
 Lovell
 Osterhout
 Poplar
 Tulip
 West

Winter Streets and Sidewalks

During 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. 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.

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

NO TAX DOLLARS FOR THE LIBRARY EXPANSION PROJECT---It has come to the attention of the library board that there is an unfortunate misconception about the tax dollars the library receives each year and the expansion project that is in process right now. The Schoolcraft Community Library is considered a village library and has three areas it serves---the Village of Schoolcraft, Schoolcraft Township and Prairie Rhonde Township. The property owners in these three areas pay library millage to the Schoolcraft Community Library (1.0 mil in the Village and Schoolcraft Township and 0.5 mil in Prairie Ronde Township). These tax monies are designated for and used solely for the maintenance and running of the library. Tax dollars are not and cannot be used for the library expansion. However, libraries receive additional funding from sources such as fees, fines, book sales, penal fines, donations, DVD rentals, memorials etc. It is from these sources of income that the Schoolcraft Community Library has been scrupulously saving since 2002, planning for the future of the library as its needs continue to grow but the space continues to decrease. Also, grants are being sought and fundraising efforts are ongoing as the library seeks to close the gap between what has been saved or raised and what is still needed to complete the expansion project. If there are any additional questions regarding the expansion project please feel free to call the library at 679-5959 and talk to the Director, Bobbi Truesdell.

BRICK FUNDRAISER FOR THE LIBRARY EXPANSION---As many of you know, the library is expanding its facility and parking area in 2011 and we are inviting you to be part of the growing excitement that is building in the community. We have many opportunities for you to participate---pledge cards where you can make a donation of any size to the project, a quilt raffle starting in January, "An Intimate Night into the Past", a historic fundraising event in March, an auction in April and our Brick Fundraiser going on throughout all of these. The library is selling bricks to individuals or families to be used in our new walkway coming into the new library entrance. These bricks can be engraved as a memorial to someone from your past or your present, or they can have a special saying engraved on them. The bricks come in two sizes---4 x 8 bricks are \$100 each /3 lines with 18 characters available for engraving on each line. The 8 x 8 bricks are \$200 each /6 lines with 18 characters available on each line. This is a wonderful way to create a special memory for your family and help the library at the same time.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP AT THE LIBRARY---**January thru April**---The Adult Book Discussion Group will continue their meetings at the library on January 12 at 2 p.m. (* please note the date change for January). The book they will be discussing is The Postmistress by Sarah Blake. The books for the following months are February 2---Hiding in the Spotlight by Greg Dawson, March 2---Detroit Electric Scheme by Daniel Johnson, April 6---The Other Wes Moore by Wes Moore, May 4---The Unquiet Bones by Mel Starr, June 1---Mark Twain Autobiography by Mark Twain, July 6---Various titles by Barbara Kingsolver---Reader's choice. Check the library website for updates---www.schoolcraftlibrary.org.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY---The Friends of the Library, a group that supports the library with funding, providing baked goods for special events, help with special events, underwriting Battle of the Books and Summer Reading program, will resume meeting on Friday, January 14 at 10 a.m. at the Schoolcraft Community Library. They will be discussing help for Battle of the Books and fundraising efforts for Summer Reading and the new library expansion project. So, are you yearning to help your community and your library---come join us and see where you can be of service. Call the library at 679-5959 if you have any questions.

WINTER TOT TIME--- For children 18-36 months old and their parents, the library will host a special TOT Time Wednesdays, February 2-23, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. This storytime is designed to be a one-on-one parent/child activity and involves a 20 minute time for fingerplays, stories, and songs and activities in which the parent participates with their child and then 35-40 minutes of free play time for children and parents to play and socialize with one another. You must pre-register and space is limited so call 679-5959 to reserve a spot for yourself and your child.

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS---The Schoolcraft Library will be hosting its 16th Battle of the Books event on Saturday, February 12 at the Schoolcraft High School PAC. There are a record number of teams participating this year (39) from Schoolcraft, Vicksburg and Parchment. The start time will be 9 a.m. and there will be 5 Preliminary Battles and 3 Semi Final Battles. The Grand Battle will be held on Thursday, February 17 at 7 p.m. at the same venue. Come and see the 4th-6th graders wow you with their knowledge of the twelve books they have been reading and studying since October and get ready for a fun and exciting day.

BROWN BAG STORYHOUR---A special storyhour just for Young Five students and Kindergarteners will continue January thru May. The dates for the remaining months are January 12, February 9, March 9, April 13, and May 11. The time is 11:10 to 11:50 a.m. Students should bring a brown bag lunch, a drink (NO RED OR PURPLE PLEASE) and be ready to listen and participate in a variety of stories each month.

Village of Schoolcraft Meeting Dates 2011

**All meetings are held at the Village Hall located at 442 N. Grand Street,
Schoolcraft, MI**

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2011 COUNCIL MEETINGS

The meetings of the Schoolcraft Village Council are held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

- January 3, 2011
- January 17, 2011
- February 7, 2011
- February 21, 2011
- March 7, 2011
- March 21, 2011
- April 4, 2011
- April 18, 2011
- May 2, 2011
- May 16, 2011
- June 6, 2011
- June 20, 2011
- July 5, 2011 */**
- August 1, 2011 **
- September 6, 2011 *
- September 19, 2011
- October 3, 2011
- October 17, 2011
- November 7, 2011
- November 21, 2011
- December 5, 2011
- December 19, 2011

- * Meetings are held on Tuesday when the Village Office is closed for Holiday on Monday.
- ** Only one meeting is held in July and August.



**ALL MEETINGS ARE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2011 DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MEETINGS

The meetings of the Downtown Development Authority are the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m.

- January 6, 2011
- February 3, 2011
- March 3, 2011
- April 7, 2011
- May 5, 2011
- June 2, 2011
- July 7, 2011
- August 4, 2011
- September 1, 2011
- October 6, 2011
- November 3, 2011
- December 1, 2011

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2011 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

The meetings of the Planning Commission are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

- January 10, 2011
- February 14, 2011
- March 14, 2011
- April 11, 2011
- May 9, 2011
- June 13, 2011
- July 11, 2011
- August 8, 2011
- September 12, 2011
- October 10, 2011
- November 14, 2011
- December 12, 2011

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
Russel 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
DPW Super: Rob Coffman, rcoffman@villageofschoolcraft.com
Equip/Water
Operator: Adam Wood, awood@villageofschoolcraft.com

Village of Schoolcraft Winter 2011 Newsletter



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Christmas Walk 2010

