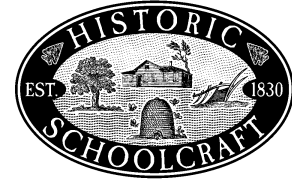


# Village of Schoolcraft



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

[www.villageofschoolcraft.com](http://www.villageofschoolcraft.com)

## ***Vision Statement***

The Village of Schoolcraft commits to building on its strong heritage while moving forward to a vibrant future as a community where all citizens are safe and secure, local businesses thrive, and residents and visitors alike are drawn to the variety of recreational and cultural activities.

## ***Mission Statement***

The Village of Schoolcraft seeks to enhance the community through development that contributes to its welcoming hometown atmosphere, complements its landscape and local business environment, and reinforces its rich history and quality schools.

## **2018 Quarterly Meeting Calendar**

### Village Council 7:00 p.m.

July 2                      August 6  
September 4            September 17

### Planning Commission 7:00 p.m.

July 9                      August 13  
September 10

### Downtown Development Authority 8:00 a.m.

July 5                      August 2  
September 6

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

## **Village President's Message**

### **AND, THE GOOD NEWS IS ...**

1. Summer is officially here and everything here in Schoolcraft is looking beautiful ... flowers, trees, lawns. Early summer is the best time of year!
2. Hats off to our Manager Cheri Lutz and Rob Coffman, Dan Lewis from Prein & Newhof (Village Engineer) for the successful grant application to MDOT. We will be receiving a grant for \$120,000.00 to help with the remodeling of Angell Drive to facilitate the ever-growing Truck Traffic into our Industrial Park. Semi Traffic was rapidly deteriorating the road and shoulders of the street. We have needed to address this for a while, so Cheri, Dan Lewis, Rob Coffman, Representatives from Chemlink and myself, walked the road to examine the extent of the damage first hand. Dan Lewis then provided us with a couple of proposals for repairs. We decided to commit to the repairs and chose the more extensive and better plan, which could work if we obtained an MDOT Grant. Cheri was once again successful in obtaining a Grant and that made this Major Improvement possible.
3. Our good friend and Clerk/Treasurer, Faith Akert retired this year. Faith served the village for just shy of 13 years and was commended by staff and council for her years of great service. Faith helped to acclimate the new person selected to assume her work and fill the newly created position of Finance Director/Assistant Manager, Tammi Youngs. Tammi will be assuming the Manager's position if the need arises. Theresa O'Leary will assume the Clerk/Treasurer position in addition to her normal duties.
4. The "Visioning" portion of our Master Plan is now in the books, and the Master Plan for the next 10 years, will be finished and voted on by the time you read this Newsletter. The Planning Commission now has the task, with Wightman (our Village Planner), of going through all of the Ordinances and making changes that reflect our Village's goals and ideas that coincide with the Master Plan. The next three months (maybe more) will be dedicated to gleaning through the Ordinances for our Village. The newly modified Ordinances will be in effect for many years, some maybe forever, so if you have ideas and concerns, now is the time to bring them forward! Come to a meeting, call the Village Office, go to the Village Website ([www.villageofschoolcraft.com](http://www.villageofschoolcraft.com)), or contact Mae Pfost, (Chairperson of Planning Commission), myself, or any of the Planning Commissioners. Remember, "Village Ordinances" are the Rules that govern everything in this Village, so here's **your chance** to voice your concerns! You are always welcome to appear at any of our Planning Commission meetings. Meetings are the second Monday of every Month, at 7:00 p.m. at our Village Municipal Complex on Grand Street.

Continued on page 2

Village President's Message, continued

5. The Village's biggest summer event is the Schoolcraft 4th of July celebration. This 93rd edition of this day of celebration will be a great occasion for all of us in the Village. In the last few years the attendance has grown to more than 10,000, and this year the number will probably be bigger yet! Attendance at our fireworks display grows more and more by the year, and now we are rated #1 or #2 in Southwest Michigan for the display. Some other surrounding displays are cancelled, so this will also contribute to more people. Our daytime activities are ever-growing and 2nd to none. The parade and the Car Show at Burch Park are wonderful activities that continue to grow as people come from all over the region to see and participate in them. The Schoolcraft 4th of July Celebration is a full family event, with absolutely something for everyone young, old and in between to enjoy. Tell your friends and relatives to come early! Have a wonderful 4th and every other day too.

Sincerely,

Keith Gunnett  
Schoolcraft Village President  
Cell 1-269-569-6057

## News from the Village Manager's Desk

After what seems to have been a long winter, summer is here! It's great to see flower gardens, more people walking, and kids playing outside now that the warm weather is here.

We hope you will join the festivities on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The Lions Club Pancake Breakfast is a great way to start off your day. Schoolcraft boasts one of the largest 4<sup>th</sup> of July parades in the area and is always fun to watch. Many hours of work and preparation goes on behind the scenes to make the parade happen. Deb Reynolds has been involved with the parade since 1981 and has been in charge since 2003. The parade is a wonderful tradition for everyone. The Annual 4<sup>th</sup> of July Car Show is held in Burch Park with over 125 cars participating. At dusk the fireworks start and it is always a spectacular show. For a full schedule of the day's activities, see inside this newsletter.

For those of you who are planning summer building projects or planning to expand your home or business, please be sure to check with the Village of Schoolcraft before you begin. Generally speaking, permits are required for most projects and it is much easier if we are in communication before the project begins. Contact Associated Government Services for detailed information at 1-800-627-2801.

The Village of Schoolcraft wishes all of you a safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July, and a wonderful summer.

As always, please feel free to stop in or call us (679-4304) if you have any questions or concerns. The Village Office is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Cheri M. Lutz  
Village Manager  
cmlutz@villageofschoolcraft.com



## Schoolcraft Police Department

### Yearly Activity Report 2016/17

#### Complaint Activity

Nature	2016	2017
Total Complaints	1028	1049
Assist Vicksburg Police	96	116
Assist Kal. Co. Sheriff	108	117
Assist So. County EMS	71	72
Village Vehicle Crashes	73	66
Ordinance Violations	35	31
Property Inspections	270	368

#### Traffic/Ordinance Enforcement

Nature	2016	2017
Traffic Stops	1000	695
Tickets Issued	734	485
Warnings	402	321

#### Arrests

Nature	2016	2017
Total Custodial Arrests	47	55
Intoxicated Drivers	7	8
Warrants/Other	40	47

Chief Bryan Campbell  
bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com

## Schoolcraft Community Library Summer Palooza

August 2, 2018

Burch Park

Friends of the Schoolcraft Community Library is partnering with community businesses/organizations on Thursday, August 2 in Burch Park and you are invited! From 5:00-7:30 p.m., come out and meet more Schoolcraft area businesses as we play games (with prizes), enjoy food, and spend the evening getting to know our community.

Activities include:

- Silent Auction
- Book Sale
- Bake Sale
- Craft Vendors
- Music in the park
- Food Vendor (Lions Club)
- Free Family fun games and balloon animals
- Free vision screenings with the Sight Mobile courtesy of the Lions Club

### Chili Cook Off

October 6, 2018 at Burch Park.

Sponsored by Kalamazoo County State Bank in cooperation with the Schoolcraft Ladies Library.  
More information to follow.

### Friendly Reminder Control Tall Grass and Weeds

Schoolcraft residents are reminded of the importance of property maintenance responsibilities. Please take time to properly maintain your property by controlling weeds and keeping lawns mowed on a regular basis. Growth in excess of 9 inches is prohibited by village ordinance.

### Schoolcraft's Citizens of the Year

Congratulations to Deb Reynolds and Marilyn Jones for being chosen Schoolcraft's Citizens of the Year! They were chosen by the Citizen of the Year Committee for their many hours of volunteerism and contributions to the community. Both Deb and Marilyn were presented plaques at the June 18 Council meeting. They will also be riding in the 4th of July Parade.

**Do Your Part  
Get SepticSmart**

Think at the Sink

Don't Strain Your Drains

Don't Overload the Commode

Shield Your Field

Test Your Well

Septic Tank

Groundwater Recharge

Aquifer

**Protect It and Inspect It—Have your system inspected every three years and have your tank pumped every three to five years.**

- **Think at the Sink:** Avoid pouring fats, grease and solids down the drain.
- **Don't Overload the Commode:** Only put things in the drain or toilet that belong there.
- **Don't Strain Your Drain:** Be water efficient and spread out water use.
- **Shield Your Field:** Remind guests not to park or drive on a system's drainfield, where the weight could cause damage.
- **Test Your Well:** If you're on a well, test the water annually.

**2018 Village Taxes Due  
September 14, 2018**

Payment at **Schoolcraft Township:**  
50 East VW Ave. Vicksburg, MI 49097  
Hours: 9-4 M-Th. [www.schoolcrafttownship.org](http://www.schoolcrafttownship.org)  
or 649-1276 for information

**Office Closures**

Wednesday, July 4, 2018  
Monday, September 3, 2018

**Notary Service**

The Village Office offers Notary Service Monday through Friday, 8-5. The service is free of charge to Village residents and \$3 for non-village residents.

**Wishing you a  
very happy  
and safe 4th of  
July!**

## Schoolcraft's 93rd Annual Independence Day Celebration Wednesday, July 4th, 2018

**7-11 AM- Pancake Breakfast-** Schoolcraft Upper Elem.-Sponsored by: Schoolcraft Lions Club

**6:30-7:30 AM- Late Registration** for Road Race-High School

**7:30 AM- 1 Mile fun Run/Walk** (free-High School)

**8 AM - 5 Mile Firecracker Road Race-** High School-reg.early @- [www.firecracker5.com](http://www.firecracker5.com)

**8 AM - 3 PM-Schoolcraft's Annual Car Show. Burch Park.**

**9 AM-2PM- Ice Cream Social - Schoolcraft United Methodist Church**

**10 AM- Parade lineup**

**11 AM- Parade!!!!!!** Parade route: Eliza St. to Grand St. to Clay St.

**Noon-?** American Legion Chicken & Ribs BBQ- Legion Hall Clay St.

**Post Parade Events:** Underground Railway House tours till 3:00pm - Sponsored by Schoolcraft Historical Society  
Fire Truck Rides & Fire Prevention Trailer-Upper Elem. - Sponsored by South Kalamazoo County Fire Authority

**2-6 PM** American Legion Dance-American Legion Hall on Clay St.

**10:00 PM- FIREWORKS!!!** - famous choreographed fireworks show held north of Schoolcraft High School. Parking available in school lot. Bring your own blanket or seating – Fireworks funded by donations to Schoolcraft 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee, PO Box 231, Schoolcraft, MI 49087

### **Lions Club Pancake Breakfast/Vision Screening**

The Lions Club will be holding their annual Pancake Breakfast on July 4th 7-10:30 a.m. at the Schoolcraft Upper Elementary on East Clay Street. Be sure to bring your friends and family for a great breakfast. Breakfast is free for veterans, and men and women in uniform. Tickets are \$6 for adults; \$3 for kids ages 6 to 12. Kids 5 and under are free.

The Sight Mobile will be at the breakfast site from 8-10 a.m. to provide vision screening for infants to 18 years of age.



**Summer Reading at the Schoolcraft Community Library  
“Libraries Rock!”**



<b>July 10</b>	<b>** Preschool Scavenger Hunt—3-K</b> <b>10:30-11:30 am</b> <i>Adult presence required.</i>	<i>Search for treasures outside/ around the Library and park.</i>
<b>July 11</b>	<b>Adult Book Club—Prairie Page Turners</b> <i>Discussion of “The Lilac Girls” by Martha Hall Kelly. Refreshments served.</i>	<b>2:00-3:00 pm</b>
<b>July 17</b>	<b>**Games in Burch Park—Grades 1-2</b> <i>Enjoy some fun time in the Park with Miss Pam and Miss Roxanne.</i>	<b>10:30-11:30 am</b>
<b>July 19</b>	<b>Nelson’s Wildlife Safari—All ages</b> <i>See and touch exotic animals from around the world.</i>	<b>3:00-4:00 pm</b>
<b>July 24</b>	<b>**Starlab Planetarium—pre K-5</b> <i>Explore the night skies inside an inflatable planetarium!</i>	<b>Various</b>
<b>July 25</b>	<b>**Craft-Grades 1-2</b> <i>Build a fun craft project with Miss Pam and Miss Roxanne.</i>	<b>12:-1:00 pm</b>
<b>July 26</b>	<b>**Teen Movie and Popcorn Bar—Grades 6-12</b> <i>Call for title information.</i>	<b>2:00-4:30 pm</b>
<b>July 27</b>	<b>All Reading Logs Due!!!!</b>	
<b>July 30</b>	<b>**END OF THE SUMMER PARTY!--“BenJammin”</b> <i>Held in Burch Park. Top Readers announced. Registration required. All ages.</i>	<b>11:00 -12:00 pm</b>
<b>July 31</b>	<b>**TEEN: SUMMER PIZZA PARTY! --Grades 6-12</b> <i>Pizza, games, prizes, Top Readers announced.</i>	<b>2:00-3:00 pm</b>
<b>August 2</b>	<b>Schoolcraft Summer Palooza in Burch Park</b> <i>Family fun for all ages including games, food, music, and craft vendors.</i>	<b>5:00-7:30 pm</b>
<b>August 25</b>	<b>30 Year Anniversary Open House</b> <i>Celebrate 30 years with us! Refreshments and activities TBA</i>	<b>11:00 am -1:00 pm</b>
<b>Tuesdays in July---</b>	<b>**TEEN: Japanese 101 Class—Grades 6-12 (July 3, 10, 17)</b> <i>Learn about Japanese language, culture, food etc.</i>	<b>2:00-3:00 pm</b>
<b>Mondays in July —</b>	<b>Reading Buddies —K-5</b> <i>Children ages K-5th buddy up to read with an older student. Call to schedule.</i>	<b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>
<b>Wednesdays &amp; Thursdays in July—</b>	<b>**PAWS &amp; PAGES—Ages 3-K</b> <b>**TALES TO TALES—Ages 6+</b> <i>Listen to stories with a therapy Dog! Older children read to the therapy dog.</i>	<b>1:00-1:20 pm</b> <b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>
<b>Thursdays in July—</b>	<b>**Petting Zoo Story Hour—3-K (July5, 12, 26)</b> <i>Story time with live animals to pet</i>	<b>10:00-10:45 am</b>
<b>Fridays in July—</b>	<b>**Science Fridays—3-5th grade (July 13, 20,27)</b> <i>Hands-on science project for kids.</i>	<b>1:00-2:00 pm</b>

**\*\*Registration Required**

**SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY 330 N. CENTRE STREET SCHOOLCRAFT, MI 49087 (269) 679-5959**

## 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: Keith Gunnett  
Trustees: Russell Barnes  
Todd Carlin  
Kathy Mastenbrook  
Michael Rochholz  
Sy Spears  
John Stodola

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](mailto:cmlutz@villageofschoolcraft.com)  
Finance Director/  
Assistant Manager: Tammi Youngs, [tyoungs@villageofschoolcraft.com](mailto:tyoungs@villageofschoolcraft.com)  
Clerk/  
Treasurer: Theresa O'Leary, [toleary@villageofschoolcraft.com](mailto:toleary@villageofschoolcraft.com)  
Police Chief: Bryan Campbell, [bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com](mailto:bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com)  
Sergeant: Jamie Edwards  
Officers: Matt Britton  
Henry Kite  
Aaron McCullough  
Eric Ray  
Brady Roberts  
Joe Sheteron  
Aux. Officers: Mary Secondi , Kevin Sampson , and Dick Simon  
DPW Super: Rob Coffman, [rcoffman@villageofschoolcraft.com](mailto:rcoffman@villageofschoolcraft.com)  
Equip/Water Operator: Adam Wood, [awood@villageofschoolcraft.com](mailto:awood@villageofschoolcraft.com)  
Grounds/  
Maintenance: Brent Smith, [bsmith@villageofschoolcraft.com](mailto:bsmith@villageofschoolcraft.com)

## Village of Schoolcraft Summer 2018 Newsletter



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