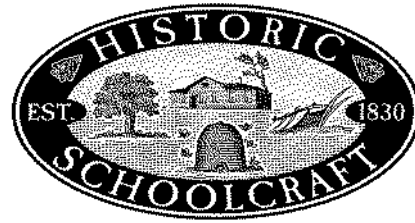


# The Village of Schoolcraft

Winter 2008 Edition



## INSIDE THIS ISSUE.....

A Message from the President

Village Manager's Corner

Police Department News

Community News

News You Can Use from the DPW

## Village Official and Staff Directory

269-679-4304 Administrative Office

269-679-5600 Police Department

269-679-5658 DPW

President:	Loren Warfield
Trustees:	Russel Barnes Scot Dailey Keith Gunnett Walt Mullin Carl Tackett Jim VanDyken
Manager:	Cheri Lutz
Clerk/Treasurer:	Faith Akert
Office Assistant:	Theresa O'Leary
Police Chief:	Bryan Campbell
Sergeant:	Jamie Edwards
Officers:	Matt Britton Mark Mellinger John Keith
Auxiliary Officers:	Craig Copeland Mary Secondi Larry Schwabauer
DPW Super:	Gordon Shaw
Asst. Super:	Rob Coffman

## A Message from the Village President



The Christmas Season is a time that we pause to reflect on the things that bring meaning and value to our lives. It is also a time to remember how fortunate we are to live in a country that offers us the freedom to do and be whatever we want.

As we share the love of our families during this holiday season, and enjoy the traditions of the holidays, I would also like to express my gratitude and appreciation to those brave men and women serving in the armed forces who are working to defend our freedom, and to thank them for their bravery, courage and dedication to this country.

On behalf of the Village of Schoolcraft, I wish for all of you a peaceful and fulfilling new year.

## 2008 QUARTERLY MEETING CALENDAR

### Village Council

7:00 p.m.. Village Hall

January 7, 21, February 4, 18, March 3, 17.

### Planning Commission

7:00 p.m.. Village Hall

January 14, February 11, March 10.

### Downtown Development Authority

8:00 a.m.. Village Hall.

January 3, February 7, March 6.

## *From the Desk of the Village Manager.....*

One of the many things that I have come to love about the Village of Schoolcraft is how beautiful this community looks during the holiday season. From the beautifully decorated homes and Burch Park to our lovely downtown, the Christmas spirit in Schoolcraft reflects the very essence of the Christmas Season. As we change from one year to the next, I would ask all of you to pause a moment to reflect on some of the things that are meaningful to you and bring joy and value to your lives.

With the closing of the year comes much work for us here with numerous projects underway. Staff is currently working on the development of the 2008/2009 Fiscal Year Budget, and Department heads are busy compiling their wish lists.

One of the projects that will be contemplated will be painting of the water tower which was constructed in 1991, and has not been repainted since construction. The Village Council will be presented with two options for painting the tower.

Surveys for the proposed sanitary sewer project were sent out to 158 residences and businesses in the proposed district. Data from these surveys will be tabulated and presented to the Village Council in early January.

On behalf of the Village Council and Village Staff, we wish all of you a joyful New Year.

*Cheri M. Lutz*  
*Village Manager*



## *Do you have a home or business improvement project planned?*

If you are planning on making improvements to your home or business this year whether it be new construction, an addition, installation of a fence, a new sign, or any number of other improvements, please be sure to contact Associated Government Services at 1-800-627-2801 before starting your project to assure you are in compliance with our Village Zoning Ordinance.



# Schoolcraft Police Department

## PARENT AND CHILD SAFETY TIPS

- ✓ **Always check first** with a parent, guardian, or trusted adult before going anywhere, accepting anything or getting into a car with anyone.
- ✓ **Do not go out alone.** Always take a friend with you when going places or playing outside.
- ✓ **Say NO** if someone tries to touch you, or treats you in a way that makes you feel scared, uncomfortable or confused. Get out of the situation as quickly as possible.
- ✓ **Tell a parent, guardian or trusted adult** if you feel scared, uncomfortable or confused.
- ✓ **Make sure you know where each of your children is at all times.** Know your children's friends and be clear with your children about the places and homes they may visit. Make it a rule for your children to check in with you when they arrive at or depart from a particular location and when there is a change in plans.
- ✓ **Never leave children unattended in a vehicle, whether it is running or not.** Remind children to never hitchhike, approach a vehicle or engage in a conversation with anyone within a vehicle they do not know and trust, or go anywhere with anyone without first getting your permission.
- ✓ **Be involved in your children's activities.** As an active participant you'll have a better opportunity to observe how the adults in charge interact with your children. If you are concerned about anyone's behavior, take it up with the sponsoring organization.
- ✓ **Listen to your children.** Pay attention if they tell you they don't want to be with someone or go somewhere.
- ✓ Notice when anyone shows one or all of your children a great deal of attention or begins giving them gifts.
- ✓ **Take the time to talk to your children** about the person and find out why the person is acting in this way. Teach your children they have the right to say **NO** to any unwelcome, uncomfortable, or confusing touch or actions by others and get out of those situations as quickly as possible. If avoidance is not an option, children should be taught to kick, scream, and resist. When in such a situation, teach them to loudly yell, "This person is not my father/mother/guardian," and then immediately tell you if this happens.
- ✓ **Be sure to screen babysitters and caregivers.** Many states now have a public registry allowing parents and guardians to check out individuals for prior criminal records and sex offenses. Check out references with other families who have used the caregiver for a babysitter. Once you have chosen the caregiver, drop in unexpectedly to see how your children are doing. Ask your children how the experience with the caregiver was, and listen carefully to the responses.
- ✓ **Practice basic safety skills with your children.** Make an outing to a mall or park a "teachable" experience in which your children practice checking with you, using pay telephones, going to the restroom with a friend, and locating adults who may be able to help if they need assistance.
- ✓ **Remember there is no substitute for your attention and supervision.** Being available and taking time to really know and listen to your children helps build feelings of safety and security.
- ✓ With your parents help, **choose a safe house** where you can go if you need help fast, like if you ran into a bully or an unusual stranger. If you get lost or need help **RIGHT AWAY**, run to the closest store or library and tell an adult.
- ✓ Remember the **rules about strangers:** don't talk to them, don't go anywhere with them, and don't take anything from them. If **ANYTHING** makes you feel uncomfortable, get away and go to your safe house.

*Chief Bryan Campbell*

bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com



The National Park Service, U.S. Department of Interior has informed the Schoolcraft Historical Society that the Dr. Nathan M. Thomas Home known as the Underground Railroad House has met the requirements for acceptance on the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

The benefit to the Historical Society is that the Thomas Home is listed on the National Park Service Network to Freedom Web Site as a site of national historical importance.

## *We're Packing Our Bags and Movin' On Down the Road*

The Village Offices, Police Department and Council Chambers will be moving to our new building located at 442 N. Grand St on January 16th and 17th.

We will be open during normal business hours during this move. Our services will be limited but our smiles will not, and we look forward to serving you in this new location.

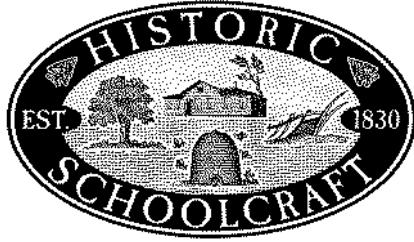
We expect to be in full service on Friday, January 18, 2007, at our new building located at 442 N. Grand Street.

## **Village of Schoolcraft Website**

The Village of Schoolcraft has teamed up with our own Prima Communications to create a Web Site for the Village of Schoolcraft.

In this website you will find current information about the Village of Schoolcraft including services, departments, meeting dates, minutes, committees, community information, event information, and historical information.

Check it out at [www.villageofschoolcraft.com](http://www.villageofschoolcraft.com).



ALL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND

### VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2008 COUNCIL MEETINGS

- January 7, 2007
- January 21, 2008
- February 4, 2008
- February 18, 2008
- March 3, 2008
- March 17, 2008
- April 7, 2008
- April 21, 2008
- May 5, 2008
- May 19, 2008
- June 2, 2008
- June 16, 2008
- July 7, 2008
- August 4, 2008
- September 2, 2008 (Tuesday)
- September 15, 2008
- October 6, 2008
- October 20, 2008
- November 3, 2008
- November 17, 2008
- December 1, 2008
- December 15, 2008

Meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month in the Village Hall at 7:00 p.m. Except during the months of July and August when meetings are held on the first Monday of each month.

### VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2008 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

- January 14, 2008
- February 11, 2008
- March 10, 2008
- April 14, 2008
- May 12, 2008
- June 9, 2008
- July 14, 2008
- August 11, 2008
- September 8, 2008
- October 13, 2008
- November 10, 2008
- December 8, 2008

Meetings are held on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. In the Village Hall.

### VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT DDA MEETINGS

- |                  |                   |
|------------------|-------------------|
| January 3, 2008  | July 3, 2008      |
| February 7, 2008 | August 7, 2008    |
| March 6, 2008    | September 4, 2008 |
| April 3, 2008    | October 2, 2008   |
| May 1, 2008      | November 6, 2008  |
| June 5, 2008     | December 4, 2008  |

Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 8:00 a.m. In the Village Hall.

## *News You Can Use From the DPW*

The Village of Schoolcraft is responsible for snow removal on sidewalks. Please be reminded that state and local ordinance prohibits plowing snow into or across the road and please be sure that your vehicle is not parked across any sidewalk at any time of the year.



The Department of Public Works will be picking up Christmas Trees through January 31, 2008.

Just place your tree in the right-of-way, and we will pick them up throughout the month of January.

*The DPW Thanks You for Your Cooperation  
and Wishes you a Happy New Year.*

The Village of Schoolcraft  
PO Box 8  
Schoolcraft MI 49087

PRESORTED STANDARD  
ECR  
US POSTAGE PAID  
SCHOOLCRAFT MI  
PERMIT NO. 16