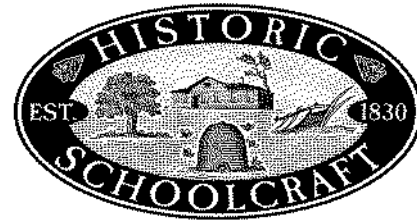


The Village of Schoolcraft

Winter 2010 Edition



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Village Official and Staff Directory

269-679-4304 Administrative Office
269-679-5600 Police Department
269-679-5658 DPW
1-800-627-2801 Bruce Dean
Associated Government Services

President:	Daniel P. DeVries
Trustees:	Scot Dailey Russel Barnes Todd Carlin Dorothy J. Clark Keith Gunnett Carl Tackett
Manager:	Cheri Lutz
Clerk/Treasurer:	Faith Akert
Office Assistant:	Theresa O'Leary
Police Chief:	Bryan Campbell
Sergeant:	Jamie Edwards
Officers:	Matt Britton Jim Day Mark Stoneburner Larry Weers
Auxiliary Officers:	Mary Secondi Larry Schwabauer
DPW Super:	Gordon Shaw
Asst. Super:	Rob Coffman

A Message from the Village President



Happy New Year! I hope that 2009 was a good year for you and your families, and I wish you the best in 2010. I look forward to navigating the challenges and opportunities of 2010 with our Village Staff and our Village Council. The effects of the recession are still with us, and will continue to challenge local government as we feel the full impact of real estate decline and lower revenue sharing. The Village Manager and Treasurer are approaching these issues head on with work well underway for the 2010 Village Budget.

You have hopefully noticed the completion of several projects in the Village. We were able to capitalize on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA, or stimulus), and get Eliza Street resurfaced and updated. The Village also put in new park equipment which has become quite a hit with many of our residents (my two-year old loves the colors and variety). A huge thanks to all of the volunteers who helped put the equipment in.

I am excited about 2010, and serving you as Village President. I encourage all of you to be involved in our community, and give your feedback on how the Village is doing. Remember to look at our website for Village information (<http://villageofschoolcraft.com>). Go Eagles!

2010 QUARTERLY MEETING CALENDAR

Village Council

7:00 p.m. Village Hall. January 4,18, February 1, 15, March 1,15, 2010.

Planning Commission

7:00 p.m. Village Hall
January 11, February 8, March 8, 2010.

Downtown Development Authority

January 7, 2010. Village Hall.

From the Desk of the Village Manager.....

The Village Staff hopes that all of you enjoyed a happy holiday season, and we extend our best wishes to you for a Happy New Year.

The new year brings many opportunities and challenges as we move forward into the new year. We are working on the 2010/2011 Budget, and we are pleased to tell you that we will continue to provide the same quality services that you have grown to appreciate. Included in our budget year for 2010/2011 is our sidewalk installation and replacement program, brush and leaf pick up, street and sidewalk maintenance, and police and fire protection.

The Annual Village Wide Garage Sales are scheduled for April 16 & 17, 2010, followed by our Village Wide Clean Up Day on April 24, 2010. We continue to provide financial support to South Community Services who hosts a variety of programs and events in the Village of Schoolcraft, and we look forward to assisting the 4th of July Committee with their fantastic 4th of July Celebration.

The 21st Annual Christmas Walk was a huge success bringing hundreds of people into the community to visit our stores and restaurants. On behalf of our merchants, we extend a big thank you for participating in this festive event.

We are pleased to announce the recent appointment of Mr. Dan Hartlieb of Midwest Printing to the DDA Board, and Mr. Josh Graber to the Planning Commission. We look forward to working with them, and know that they will be an asset to the Village.

The DDA is reviewing Phase II & III of the Streetscape Project, and is hopeful that both phases will be completed within the next few years. That being said, there is still much fundraising to be done, and the DDA will begin planning events and activities for all to enjoy.

As always, please give us a call if you have any questions, and we look forward to serving you in the New Year.

Cheri M. Lutz
Village Manager





Schoolcraft Police Department

Winter Driving Tips

Rule No. 1 for driving in snow and ice is simple: Drive more slowly.

Other tips include:

- Keeping a greater distance from the car ahead of you.
- Start slowing down sooner for stops and turns, check traction periodically by tapping the brakes.
- Stay aware of conditions outside the car.

Do you know that a car traveling 55 mph covers 81 feet per second. Distance between vehicles should double in marginal conditions, from one car length for every 10 mph of speed to two or three car lengths depending on just how bad conditions are. For example, on snow and ice, cars traveling 40 mph should be eight to twelve car lengths apart.

If your car starts to slide when brakes are applied stop braking immediately, and apply the brakes again, but more slowly.

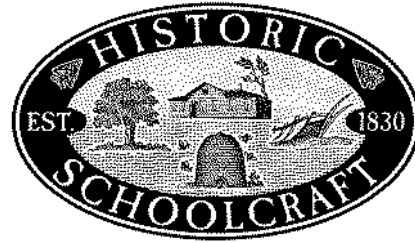
Steer into skids. If your car is sliding to the right, turn the wheel to the right until you have control, then gently steer back into the road.

Chief Bryan Campbell

bcampbell@villageofschoolcraft.com



2010 Meeting Dates



VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2010 COUNCIL MEETINGS

January 4, 2010
January 18, 2010
February 1, 2010
February 15, 2010
March 1, 2010
March 15, 2010
April 5, 2010
April 19, 2010
May 3, 2010
May 17, 2010
June 7, 2010
June 21, 2010
July 6, 2010 (Tuesday)
August 2, 2010
September 7, 2010 (Tuesday)
September 20, 2010
October 4, 2010
October 18, 2010
November 1, 2010
November 15, 2010
December 6, 2010
December 20, 2010

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 2010 DDA MEETINGS

January 7, 2010
April 1, 2010
August 5, 2010
November 4, 2010

Meetings are held on a quarterly basis at 8:00 a.m. in the Village Hall.

VILLAGE OF SCHOOLCRAFT 2010 PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

January 11, 2010
February 8, 2010
March 8, 2010
April 12, 2010
May 10, 2010
June 14, 2010
July 12, 2010
August 9, 2010
September 13, 2010
October 11, 2010
November 8, 2010
December 13, 2010

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

E-MAIL NEWSLETTER NOW AVAILABLE

Would you like to receive your newsletter via e-mail? If so, please give us a call, and we will add you to our distribution list. Newsletters are mailed quarterly during the months of January, April, July and October.



HOME DELIVERY OF COMMERCIAL EXPRESS

From time to time, we receive complaints regarding the delivery of Commercial Express Newspapers especially when they are thrown in the Village right-of-way.

If you do not want to receive a paper, please contact the Distribution Manager Chris Pawloski at 388-8429, and your name will be removed from the delivery list.

Water Bills

From time to time, we hear comments from our water customers stating that they did not receive a water bill

Water bills are mailed on or near the following dates:

March 1

June 1

September 1

December 1

If you do not receive a water bill near the scheduled mailing date call the Village Office to have another bill sent to you.



Frequently dogs are picked up in the Village that are lost, have broken their chains, or have simply run off for a wild adventure without permission from their owners. When possible, these dogs are brought to the Village Office while the officer tries to locate the owners.

If you are a dog owner, and you would like to have register your pooch, please stop by the Village Office with a picture for our records so that we can give you a call if your pooch shows up on our doorstep.





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 clearing snow from your driveway you are also keeping it off the sidewalks and roadway.

Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated by our winter walkers.

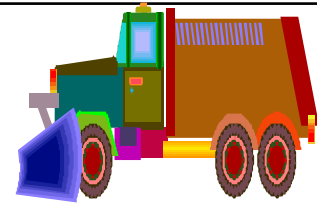
Recycling and Environmental Awareness Policy

At the December 21, 2009, Village Council meeting, the Village Council adopted a Recycling and Environmental Awareness Policy.

The adoption of this policy was requested by Village Staff who wish to do their part to recycle, re-use and dispose of products and materials in a manner that will minimize the impact on the environment.

The Village Council was pleased to have the Village Staff initiate this policy, and to play an active role in reducing the impact of products on our environment.

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 so, when possible, please be sure to park off the street during the winter months.

Once the snow has been removed from public streets, the DPW will remove the sidewalks of ice and snow. Please be sure that 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.

Your Village crew will work as quickly as they can to get the snow removed from the streets and sidewalks, and appreciate your patience and cooperation.

JANUARY IS NATIONAL RADON ACTION MONTH

During National Radon Action Month, Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services is offering free Radon Detection Kits on a first come, first serve basis. Kits may be picked up at the Kalamazoo County Health and Community Services Department located at 3299 Gull Road, Kalamazoo, MI. 269-373-5200

SCHOOLCRAFT COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS

BATTLE OF THE BOOKS 2010!!—The Schoolcraft Community Library will be entering its 16th year of hosting the Battle of the Books event for students at Schoolcraft, Vicksburg and Parchment schools. This event will be held on Saturday, February 13 at the Schoolcraft High School PAC from 10 A.M. to 6:30 P.M. The students who participate are in 4th, 5th and 6th grades and have been reading from a pre-selected list of 12 books since October 23, when the list was released. They are coached by parents, grandparents, teachers, janitors and former battlers. We are so grateful to these individuals who give so generously of their time so these children can participate in this event. This year there are 30 teams participating. (in our starting year we had 7 teams, so you can see how much we have grown!) On February 13, these students, who will be in teams of 5-7 children, will be competing against one another by answering questions regarding these books. Each team will accrue points based on their answers to the questions and their ability to identify and spell the authors' names correctly. The top scoring teams from the Preliminary Battles will go on to Semi Finals later in the day and the top scoring teams from Semi-Finals will go on to the Grand Battle, on Thursday, February 18, 2010, also at the Schoolcraft High School PAC. Area businesses have donated coupons to those students who are participants and the Schoolcraft Friends of the Library will provide gift certificates for the participating teams at the Grand Battle. It is a fun-filled and exciting day for all involved. The community is invited to attend and watch their youth wow them with their knowledge and enthusiasm for reading! It is truly an amazing sight and one you are sure to enjoy! Any questions can be addressed by calling the library at 679-5959.

BROWN BAG STORYHOUR—The Schoolcraft Community Library will continue its Brown Bag Storyhour for students in Young Fives and Kindergarten for the 2010 school year. This storyhour is held monthly at the library from 11:10 to 11:50 A.M. so students from both morning and afternoon Kindergarten and Young Fives can attend. Students are to bring a lunch, a drink (NO RED or PURPLE please), a smile and good listening ears for 40 minutes of stories, songs and sometimes and activity. The 2010 dates are as follows: January 13, February 10, March 10, April 14 and May 12. Come and join us—No registration required. Any questions call the library at 679-5959.

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP AT THE LIBRARY—The Schoolcraft Community Library has started up its Adult Book Discussion Group and had their first session on December 9, 2009. The next group will meet on Wednesday, January 29 and be discussing the book Three Cups of Tea by Greg Mortenson. There will be 2 sessions to choose from—2 P.M. and 7 P.M. Refreshments will be served. Copies of the book are available at the library so call and reserve your copy today—679-5959.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY MEETING—January 8—10 A.M.—The Schoolcraft Friends of the Library will meet at the Schoolcraft Community Library on Friday, January 8, 2010. The Friends of the Library are a wonderful organization that helps support the library in many ways, but one of the most important ways is their underwriting of the Summer Reading Program and financial support of the Battle of the Books event. each year. They have also provided shelving, books, audios, a laminating machine and more. If you are interested in helping the library, come join the Friends of the Library and offer your assistance. New members are always welcome and needed! Call the library at 679-5959 if you have any questions.



NEWS YOU CAN USE FROM THE DPW



Christmas Tree Pick-Up

Department of Public Works will be picking up Christmas Trees through January 29, 2010. Please place your tree in the right of way, and the DPW will pick it up for you.

The DPW wishes all of you a Happy New Year.

The Village of Schoolcraft
PO Box 8
Schoolcraft MI 49087
Return Service Requested

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