







# What's Happening in Town

# Pinterest

Tom Schmitt, Councilmember Ward 4

Robin Arvanitis, Councilmember Ward

Kevin Connelly, Councilmember Ward 2

Rob Guetzloff, Councilmember Ward 3

Mike Troxell, Clerk-Treasurer

**Randy Wyllie** 

- Board of Safety Study Session, 6 p.m.; Board of Safety, 6:30 p.m.
- 10 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 15 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 22 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

- Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- Board of Safety Study Session, 6 p.m.; Board of Safety, 6:30 p.m.
- Town Dump open for drop-offs 8 a.m. Noon
- Plan Commission Meeting/Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 20 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 27 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m. (Subject to change)

Outpouring of support continued from front

- 27 Memorial Day Town Hall closed
- 3 Plan Commission Meeting/Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.

St. John Township staff and volunteers worked to organize shopping days

for residents displaced by the fire at Sherwood Lake Apartments.

"The people from the apartment complex went through a horrible

Volunteers, Township staff members and the Red Cross organized the

donated items so that displaced residents could shop on Saturday

March 9 and Monday, March 11 at the St. John Township Community

"Donations continue to be collected and can be dropped off during

regular business hours from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday at

the St. John Township Community Center," Lareau said. "The following

donations are recommended: VISA gift cards, fuel gift cards, Walmart gift

event," Chief Patterson said. "We needed to help with this effort."

Center, 1515 Lincoln Hwy in Schererville.

- 5 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 6 Board of Safety Study Session, 6 p.m.; Board of Safety, 6:30 p.m.
- 12 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 17 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 24 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

- Plan Commission Meeting/Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- Independence Day Town Hall closed
- Board of Safety Study Session, 6 p.m.; Board of Safety, 6:30 p.m. (Subject to change)
- 10 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 15 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 22 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.



Donations collected for residents displaced by the fire at Sherwood Lake Apartments are ready for those residents to shop at the St. John Township Community Center.

for the residents can be found on the St. John Township Trustee website."

Sherwood Lake Apartments Fire Victims and checks should be payable to St. John Township Trustee with Sherwood Lake Apartments Fire Victims on the memo line, she said. Recently the Town of Schererville donated \$2,000 to help those displaced by the Sherwood Lake Apartment fire.

by calling (219) 865-2705.

"Thank you to all first responders for their outstanding commitment and service to the community. Thank you also to the St. John Township



cards and local grocery store gift cards. A list of specific clothing needs

Questions regarding donations can be directed to the Trustee's office



Donations poured into the Sherwood Lake Apartment clubhouse from members of the community. (This photo was taken before the donations were sorted and boxed and taken to the St. John Township Community Center).

Volunteers begin to sort through donations collected at the Sherwood Lake Apartments for residents displaced by the fire.

# Outpouring of support for residents displaced by fire at apartment complex continues

On February 29, a massive fire at the Sherwood Lake Township Trustee office and the Red Cross could apartment complex changed the lives of 40 residents who called the 36-unit structure home.

Fortunately for all the residents, officers with the Schererville Police Department responded to the scene at 11:47 p.m. and began evacuating residents after seeing smoke coming from the third floor of the complex, said Police Chief Pete Sormaz. "Three minutes later the Schererville Fire Department arrived." he added.

"The police officers went door to door in a systematic search. One of our officers suffered smoke inhalation and was treated and released. None of the residents were injured," Chief Sormaz said. "The manager of the complex was called to open the office and the Red Cross arrived."

As the residents gathered outside the burning structure, they were directed to the apartment complex clubhouse where the Red Cross could collect information from them so that the St. John

provide assistance.

For example, the Red Cross set up housing for some residents at a shelter in Hobart. The Sherwood Lake Apartments also began accepting donations for the displaced residents.

As word spread, those donations filled the Sherwood Lake clubhouse, said Cathy Lareau, St. John Township Trustee. "The response was overwhelming. Some gave monetary donations and gift cards. There were house wares, shoes, clothing and personal hygiene items," she said.

"My staff, the Red Cross and volunteers sorted through the items, organizing them and putting them in boxes. Schererville Fire Chief Robert Patterson and employees of the fire department, public works department and park department loaded the boxes into vehicles and brought them to the St. John Township Community Center," Lareau said.

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All your garbage and recycling cans must be stored where they can't be seen from the street or YOU WILL BE FINED!

According to Ordinance 1801, all your garbage/recycling cans must be kept inside your garage or behind a fence or

shrub when it's not your collection day.

"This is a serious nuisance." said Sam DeCero, Code Enforcement Officer with the Schererville Police Department. "Keep the garbage and recycling cans out of street view or you will be ticketed.'



Any monetary donations should specify that the funds are to be used for

"Our job is to make sure all of the residents' needs are met," said Lareau. staff for the excellent care they take in helping Township residents."

## Library hosts unique programs for all age groups

Spring brings a variety of unique programs to the Dyer-Schererville Branch of the Lake County Public Library, located at 1001 Lincoln Hwy in Schererville.

"The Solar Eclipse event on Monday, April 8 will kick off a series of exciting events for all age groups," said Beth Alyea, Manager of the Dyer-Schererville Branch of the Lake County Public Library.

National Library Week, which runs from Sunday, April 7 through Saturday, April 13, will be celebrated with two programs, she said. Registration is required for both programs and can be made by visiting the library's website at www.lcplin.org/events.

- All Ability: A Bookish Bouquet Geared toward adults (ages 16 and older) with special needs, this event runs from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9. Participants will create pipe cleaner flowers and book-inspired bouquets to take home.
- National Library Week: Puzzle Challenge Test your puzzlesolving skills on Saturday, April 13 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Teams of two to four participants will compete to complete a 500-piece puzzle in two hours.

"In addition, we have a special event planned for teens, ages 10 to 18 on Wednesday, May 8." Alvea said. Participants can learn how to care for a betta fish at this event that will be held from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Each participant will be able to take the betta fish home. A signed permission slip for this program must be received by the library staff by April 16, she added.

The library will also host other programs during April and May, including the following:

- Cutting the Cord: Tips for Saving on Cable Bills. This program that takes place from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30 will teach participants the basics of transitioning away from cable TV and the associated costs. Registration is necessary.
- Samurai: An Introduction to Japanese Swordsmanship will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, May 7. Participants will explore the art of Japanese swordsmanship and the Tensin Shoden Katori Shinto Ryu. Registration is required.

Two of Purdue Extension's Programs on Alzheimer's and Memory will also be held at the Dyer-Schererville Branch. On Wednesday, May 15 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. the session will be "Ten Warning Signs of Alzheimer's". Then from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, the program will be "Healthy Living for the Brain and Body." These sessions require registration.

For more information and to register for any of these events, please visit the library's website at www.lcplin.org/events.

# Help promote good storm water quality, prevent harmful discharges

surfaces which don't allow rain to soak into the ground. We rely on storm drains to carry large amounts of runoff from roofs and paved areas to nearby waterways. Unfortunately storm water runoff also carries pollutants such as oil, dirt, chemicals, and lawn fertilizers directly to streams and rivers where that pollution seriously harms water quality, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Schererville residents can help promote good storm water quality and prevent harmful discharges into our local streams, ditches, waterways and downstream rivers a number of ways. For example, don't dump lawn clippings into streams or ditches; either compost or recycle them. Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep driveways, sidewalks, and roads instead of using a hose. Households can also prevent polluted runoff by picking up after pets and using, storing, and disposing of chemicals properly. Check your vehicles for leaks. Contact the Schererville Public Works Department at Publicworks@schererville.org with any questions about storm water maintenance.

Our town has many buildings and pavement Lake County residents can also dispose of household hazardous wastes thanks to the Lake County Solid Waste Management District. Latex paint is among the hazardous wastes processed for disposal at these collections or during regular trash pick-up. The proper disposal of latex paint includes the following steps, according to the LCSWMD:

- 1. Remove the lid and add an equal amount of any of the following: cat litter, sawdust, oil-dry granules. sand, or paint-drying crystals, to an equal amount of latex paint.
- 2. Stir contents until the paint and absorbent materialmixture has a thick, oatmeal-like consistency.
- 3. Leave the lid off and allow the mixture to air-dry (one or two days) until dry and solid.
- 4. Place at curb for regular trash pick-up. Haulers will take the paint if they can see that it is dried out.

Oil-based paint can be dried out in the same manner. However, even if it has dried out, it's still considered hazardous waste and must be taken to a hazardouswaste site. Please refer to the Lake County Solid Waste Management District's website, www.lcswmd.com or you can contact Lake County Hazardous Waste at (219) 853-2420.



CROSSROADS

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All events at SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER, 500 E. JOLIET ST. unless otherwise noted

#### **GNOME POTTERY PAINTING CLASS FOR CHILDREN AGES 5 & OLDER** WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10 6-8 P.M.

Just hanging with my gnomies! Your kiddos can paint their very own gnome and add it to your family's spring décor. Pottery is provided by Gratefully Painted, Children must be accompanied by an adult. Register at www.schererville.org.

#### **CSRI PAINTING SERIES WITH SCHERERVILLE** MONDAY, APRIL 15 4:30 P.M. TO 5:30 P.M.

We invite participants of the Cooperative Special Recreation Initiative to decorate cookies or create watercolor paintings with Schererville Parks and Recreation! These classes are for participants with special needs, developmental/intellectual disabilities or autism. This is NOT a drop-off event. The fee for each class is \$10. Register at www.schererville.org.

## **MONDAY YOGA SESSION 2** APRIL 15 - JUNE 3 6-7 P.M.

This class with yoga instruction Lynn Bluethmann is suitable for both beginners and those with some experience. It will include basic breathing exercises, foundational poses, sun salutations, and each class will end with a guiet relaxation. This is your chance to discover the transformative power of yoga: vitality, balance, peace, and a sense of well-being. Please bring a mat. The cost is \$43.50 for residents/+15% for non-residents. Register at www.schererville.org.

#### **SUPER MARIO MUNCHIES COOKING CLASS (FOR AGES 4-7)**

TUESDAY, APRIL 16 5-6:30 P.M.

Now's the perfect time for your youngsters to learn how to make goodies for themselves and you! Join Schererville Parks as we make Super Mario-themed munchies during this kid's only cooking class. We ask parents to be patient and let your youngsters experience the art of cooking and make you some awesome treats! Register @ www.schererville.org.

#### **BRICKS FOR KIDZ (FOR AGES 6-12)** TUESDAYS, APRIL 16-MAY 28 5:30-6:30 P.M.

Love Legos? Then you will LOVE Bricks for Kidz! The BRICKS 4 KIDZ one-hour classes explore architecture, engineering and technology concepts using LEGO® Bricks. Students work hands-on to design and build machines. buildings, and other gadgets. They will develop problem solving and critical thinking skills, all while exploring new concepts related to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). Students will get to build everything from the "Air, Land and Sea," to amusement park attractions in our "Ticket to Ride" constructions. These and so many other fun and educational themes are part of our FUN while learning program! We learn, we build, we play with LEGO® Bricks. The cost per student is \$80 for residents/+20% for non-

ALL AND MARKET MARKET AND

residents. Register @ www.schererville.org.

### **TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES KIDS NIGHT OUT (FOR AGES 5-12)** FRIDAY, APRIL 19 5:30-10 P.M.

"Go Ninja, Go Ninja, Go!" The Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles are skating around Schererville for ONE special mission, which is to save Kids Night Out!! Parents enjoy the night off, while the children will enjoy dinner, crafts, activities, a movie, & much more!! Have your child bring a pillow & blanket! Register at www.schererville.org.

### **CROSSTOWN CLASSIC (CUBS vs SOX) PAINTING CLASS (FOR ALL AGES)** SATURDAY, APRIL 20 11 A.M.-1 P.M.

Take me out to the ballgame..

Do you love the CUBS or the SOX? Come on out to the Schererville Community Center and paint your favorite team on canvas during this class with instructor Chris Hnatusko! Registration is required for each participant wanting their own canvas/painting. The cost is \$30 for residents/\$36 for non-residents. Register at www.schererville.org.

### **BINGO MONDAY - EARTH DAY (FOR AGES 50+)** MONDAY, APRIL 22 1-2:30 P.M.

Celebrate Earth Day by playing BINGO with the Schererville Parks & Recreation Department! The fee is \$6 per person. Register at www.schererville.org.

## **BINGO BEATS - TAYLOR SWIFT EDITION**

THURSDAY, APRIL 25 6-7:30 P.M.

Calling all Swifties and music enthusiasts alike! It's time to put your knowledge to the test and see if you can match the songs in our Taylor Swift Music Bingo extravaganza. Whether you're a diehard fan or just love to jam out to catchy tunes, this event is for you!

Each participant will receive a Bingo Beats card featuring song titles from Taylor Swift's extensive discography. As our DJ plays snippets of Taylor's hits, mark off the corresponding squares on your bingo card. The first player to complete a line or diagonal and yell "Bingo" wins! From "Love Story" and "Shake It Off" to "Blank Space" and "Anti-Hero," enjoy all of Taylor's greatest hits, spanning her incredible career from her country beginnings to her pop domination. Come and compete for some prizes while having fun with the whole family! Register at www.schererville.org.

#### **MOTHER & DAUGHTER TEA TIME**

SUNDAY, APRIL 28 10 A.M. - NOON

You are cordially invited to attend Schererville's Mother Daughter Teatime!

Dress your best for an afternoon of tea, treats, and fun activities for you and your daughter to enjoy. Create your own herbal tea bag, use watercolors to make beautiful note cards, create a personal Teatime recipe book, and take fabulous photos that will last a lifetime. Everyone must have a ticket to attend. Register at www.schererville.org.

#### **YOUNG REMBRANDTS - SESSION #5** (FOR AGES 6-12)

MONDAYS, MAY 6 - JUNE 17 (NO CLASS ON MAY 27) 5:30-6:30 P.M.

Do your kids have a knack for drawing, or do they want to improve their skills? Young Rembrandts may be just the thing for them! Young Rembrandts' elementary drawing teaches children to break complex objects into foundational shapes. As they learn how to deconstruct and reconstruct images, the experience, repetition and variety of engaging and relevant subject matter brings them to increased levels of mastery in drawing - and in life. The fee per student is \$75 for residents/+20% for nonresidents. Register @ www.schererville.org.

#### THE GREAT SCHERERVILLE SPELL OFF (FOR AGES 7-14)

FRIDAY, MAY 10 5:30 P.M.

Do you think you have what it takes to be the top speller in Schererville? Compete and find out! Make it through the rounds without spelling a word wrong and get to the final, where you will be crowned the Spell Off champion!

Register @ www.schererville.org.

### **BLAST! BABYSITTER LESSONS AND SAFETY TRAINING CLASS (FOR AGES 11-15)**

SATURDAY, MAY 11 9 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

The BLAST! (Babysitter Lessons and Safety Training) program is exciting and interactive, providing extensive training in pediatric first aid, household safety, and the fundamentals of childcare. Most current practices for safety and injury prevention, which include First Aid basics for emergency response, and the BLAST! program can prepare 11 to 15 year olds to interview for a babysitting job, select safe and suitable games and activities, prevent accidents, perform first aid, and begin babysitting safely and competently. After the class, all participants will receive a Babysitter Lessons and Safety Training completion certificate via email. BRING A WATER BOTTLE AND SMALL SNACK. Register at www.schererville.org.

### **WOLVERINE PAINTING CLASS** (FOR ALL AGES)

SATURDAY, MAY 11 11 A.M.-1 P.M.

Calling all WOLVERINE fans. This painting class is for you!! Join the Schererville Parks and instructor Chris Hnatusko as we paint one of the most ferocious heroes in the X-men universe, otherwise known as WOLVERINE.

Registration is required for each participant wanting their own canvas/painting supplies. The fee is \$30 for residents/\$36 for non-residents. Register at www.schererville.org.