



THE SCHERERVILLE CROSSROADS



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Caleb Johnson, Councilmember Ward 5



Mike Troxell, Clerk-Treasurer



Randy Wyllie
Judge, Schererville Town Court



Boy Scout Troop flag raising

Schererville remembers 9-11

A beautiful, cloudless September morning in 2001 changed America, her people and their way of life with massive fireballs, sun-blocking clouds of choking smoke and ash, and the heart-breaking loss of nearly 3,000 innocent lives.

On the 20th anniversary of that day, people of all ages gathered at the Schererville 9-11 Memorial to remember and honor those who lost their lives in the attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in a Pennsylvania field, and the firefighters and police officers who responded, including more than 400 who perished.

Prayers, music and memories blended in the solemn ceremony that began at 10 a.m. with remarks by Schererville Board of Safety member Michael O'Rourke. He is also a member of the committee who organized the 20th anniversary remembrance ceremony.

The Reverend Father Lev Holowaty, pastor of Descent of the Holy Spirit Orthodox Church in Schererville, and Father Mick Kopil of Valparaiso-based St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church offered prayers that opened and closed the two hour ceremony.

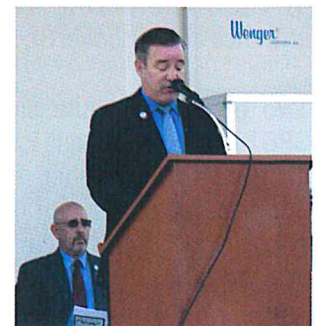
The Lake Center Counterpoints – 11 students from Lake Central High School – lifted their voices to sing the National Anthem and in an



Lake Central Counterpoints choir

a cappella musical tribute at the end of the ceremony.

Dyer resident Don Basco, who survived the attack on the World Trade Center, served again as the keynote speaker. He was in the North Tower when the airliner hit and said that he remembers every moment of the terrorist attack, and his own race for survival. He also told those gathered about first-responders who helped rescue people before they lost their own lives.



Keynote speaker Don Basco

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Leaf pickup begins week of October 11

Autumn leaves must fall, and this year the Public Works Department will begin leaf pickup on the north side of U.S. 30 the week of October 11 and continue until it starts snowing, usually in mid-December. Branch pickup also follows this schedule dependent upon the weather. Each week the route alternates between the north and south sides of U.S. 30.

On Friday of each week, crews concentrate on the streets that require flaggers. These are the main streets where traffic counts and speed limits require extra personnel to assure the safety of the work crews. Residents who live on a flagger street should call the office when they have placed a pile of branches or leaves along the roadway for pick-up. This helps assure that you do not get missed in a given week. Flagger streets are as follows: Main St., Burr St., Kennedy Ave. (from Junction to Main), Junction Ave. (from Kennedy to Joliet) Joliet St. (east of Austin Ave.), Cline Ave., St. John Rd., US 30, US 41, 77th Ave. and Austin Ave. (south of US 30).

No pickups are scheduled on holidays, including Veteran's Day, Thursday, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving, Thursday and Friday, Nov. 25 and 26; Christmas, Thursday and Friday, Dec. 23 and 24; and New Year's Eve, Friday, Dec. 31.

During the week of Thanksgiving – Monday, Nov. 22 through Wednesday, Nov. 24 – crews will collect leaves on town properties

including the parks, the water towers, etc. The regular schedule resumes north of U.S. 30 during the week of November 29. You can find a printable calendar online at www.Schererville.org by clicking on the Documents section.

Branches and leaves need to be in separate piles or they won't be picked up.

Branches left curbside for pick-up are to be no larger than 6" in diameter. These are the limits of the department's chipping machines. Branches are to be placed in a pile facing in one direction in the parkway between the sidewalk and street. Branch piles placed in the street can create a hazard and you could be cited for creating a hazard in the street.

To ensure your leaves are picked up, please place them in a narrow pile or row (away from the branches) in the grassy area between the sidewalk and curb by 7 a.m. on the Monday morning of your designated week. Please don't place leaves in cans or plastic/paper bags. Only loose leaves will be collected.

If your area doesn't have curbs, place the leaves within 5 feet of the street so Public Works equipment can reach them. Please don't rake leaves into the street or rake leaves into ditches or drainage swales. And please don't park any vehicles in front of the leaf piles.

Your cooperation is always appreciated.

Internet exchange spot now available at Schererville Police Department

Internet purchases have become part of the new normal, with some shoppers exchanging merchandise in person. To create a safe environment for those in-person transactions, the Schererville Police Department now has added an internet exchange spot in the department's parking lot outside of the Schererville Town Court entrance at 25 E. Joliet St.



Two green and white signs reading "MEETUP SPOT Internet Purchase Exchange Location" were installed in September, said Police Chief Pete Sormaz. The parking lot is under constant video surveillance. That system was recently upgraded at a cost of about \$55,000, he said.

If needed, a resident can call the dispatch center at (219) 322-5000 and ask that a police officer witness an exchange in the parking lot, Chief Sormaz added.

According to a post on the Schererville Police Department's Facebook page, meeting a stranger

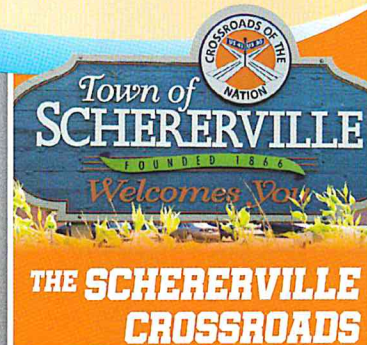
to sell an item in the police department parking lot is safer than meeting in an unmonitored spot or at someone's house.

Chief Sormaz said the idea for a monitored internet exchange site at the police department came about after he was walking through the parking lot in the summer of 2020 and met a man who was selling a pair of

shoes as part of an online transaction. The man asked if Chief Sormaz could stand by while he sold the shoes to the buyer.

In addition, the Chief said he noticed individuals testing and selling bicycles near the Pennsy Greenway trail head behind the police department.

"We want to provide a safe environment for internet exchanges that take place on a number of platforms including Facebook Marketplace," Chief Sormaz said. "If you want to sell an item and feel uncomfortable about where to exchange that item, please use our location."



is a publication of the
Town of Schererville
10 East Joliet St.
Schererville, IN 46375

Printed by
Minuteman Press
2315 Wicker Ave.
Schererville, IN 46375

Lu Ann Franklin, Editor



scherrerville parks & recreation

SCHERRERVILLE MARKET

**1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS,
OCT. 6 & OCT. 20, 3-8 P.M.**

SCHERWOOD PARK, 500 E. Joliet St.

From trinkets to treasures, goodies to foodies, one-of-a-kinds to unique finds – you'll discover it all at the Scherrerville Market at Scherwood Park this fall. This quaint and cozy park is located east of downtown Scherrerville right off Joliet Street in front of the Scherrerville Community Center and Sherwood Golf. Check out the crafts, devour delicious treats from food trucks, enjoy live music, experience the scenery on the winding walking trail, re-live the history of the Hilbrich Log Cabin and so much more!

** Interested crafters & food trucks can email us at jbarnes@scherrerville.org for an application. **

FREE YOGA IN THE PARK

**WEDNESDAY, OCT. 6 & WEDNESDAY, OCT. 20
5-6 P.M.**

SCHERWOOD PARK

Free Yoga in the Park is back and has teamed up with our Scherrerville Market! Join instructor Aly Juran as we bring back this fit favorite near the log cabin behind the Community Center, 500 E. Joliet St. Enjoy the beautiful scenery while challenging yourself to be the best you can be! Please bring a water bottle and your own Yoga mat. Plus AFTER the event, you can shop till you drop and enjoy your favorite food truck goodies.

HALLOWEEN COOKING CLASS

(FOR AGES 4-6)

TUESDAY, OCT. 12, 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.

**SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER,
500 E. JOLIET ST.**

Bring your little ones to this special Halloween Cooking Class so they can make and enjoy some tasty treats! The fee is \$17 for residents/+20% for non-residents. Register at www.scherrerville.org.

HALLOWEEN COOKING CLASS

(FOR AGES 7-12)

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 13, 4:30 - 6 P.M.

SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Trick or treat, smell my feet, make us something good to EAT! It's the season for Halloween and tasty treats! Join Scherrerville Parks as we make Halloween-themed foods at

this Halloween Cooking Class! The fee is \$25 for residents/+20% for non-residents. Register at www.scherrerville.org.

WHO YA GONNA CALL? PAINTING CLASS

FOR ALL AGES

SATURDAY, OCT. 16, 11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Halloween is here and what better way to celebrate than with the GHOSTBUSTERS!! Join us as we paint Slimer or the Marshmallow Man in this class led by instructor Chris Hnatusko. Participants will get to choose which character they'd like to paint when they arrive for the class. All materials are provided. The fee is \$25 for residents/+ 20% for non-residents. Register at www.scherrerville.org.

HALLOWEEN HOUSE DECORATING CONTEST 2021

DEADLINE TO ENTER: SUNDAY, OCT. 17

Ready to take on the challenge of becoming the best decorated Halloween house in Scherrerville? Scherrerville's Halloween Décor Contest is back! We will award People's Choice & Judges' Pick. Winners will receive a Town of Scherrerville Prize Package. This contest is open to Scherrerville residents only, and there's a \$5 fee to enter the contest. Register by Oct. 17 at www.scherrerville.org.

Other important dates include:

- Oct. 18, 6-9 p.m. – Houses recorded. Scherrerville Parks staff will visit each registered house to document your hard work (take photos, videos, etc.)
- Oct. 21–Oct. 31 – Voting period. Patrons may vote on our Facebook Page.
- Nov. 1, Noon – Winners will be announced on social media.

HALLOWEEN STORIES & CAMPFIRE

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 27 6-8 P.M.

SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Children and adults – join us for an evening of spooky tales told around the glow of a campfire by Cindy Horgash and the Northwest Indiana Storytelling Guild. Please bring your own lawn chairs and blankets for this FREE EVENT! We'll provide the snacks!

KIDS' NIGHT OUT – CREEPY CARNIVAL

(AGES 4-11)

FRIDAY, OCT. 29 5:30-10 P.M.

SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

It's Kids' Night Out...PARENTS NIGHT OFF!!

Are your kiddos looking for a Spooky good time without parents?? Then sign them up for this Creepy Carnival where they will enjoy dinner, dessert and a Halloweeny great time! Register now because this event will sell out! The fee is \$19 for residents/+20% for non-residents. Sign up at www.scherrerville.org.

HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW 2021

SATURDAY, NOV. 6 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Get your holiday shopping off on the right foot by joining us for the biggest Craft Show in Scherrerville Park history! There'll be more than 200 crafters, food trucks, free raffles and so much more! ADMISSION & PARKING ARE FREE!

** Interested crafters & vendors can email us at jbarnes@scherrerville.org **

CRAFT AND CONQUER CRAFT SHOWS

SATURDAY, NOV. 13, 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. (SHOW 1)

SATURDAY, NOV. 20, 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. (SHOW 2)

**FRIDAY, NOV. 26, NOON-5 P.M. (SHOW 3
FINALE)**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 27, 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. (SHOW 3
FINALE)**

SCHERRERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Calling all craft fanatics: Do you have what it takes to Craft & Conquer?? Scherrerville Parks is giving you four more opportunities to get everyone on your list something that's truly special! And notice that the final two craft shows are on Black Friday and Small Business Saturday! You'll find more than 75 crafters as well as food trucks and raffles. ADMISSION & PARKING ARE FREE! So grab your list and check it twice because we're ready to CONQUER these craft shows...Are you?

** Interested crafters & vendors can email us at jbarnes@scherrerville.org **

SANTA COMES TO TOWN

FRIDAY, NOV. 26, NOON TO 5 P.M.

HILBRICH LOG CABIN, SCHERWOOD PARK

It's that time of the year again...Santa is Coming to Town!

Join Scherrerville Parks as we ring in the season of cheer with Santa!! Santa will arrive on a fire truck and meet/greet with families in the Hilbrich Log Cabin. There'll also be free hot chocolate and cookies to enjoy at this FREE EVENT!!

Tri-Town Safety Village teaches children & adults about fire safety, much more

October is Fire Safety Month which emphasizes making certain smoke alarms are working, having a plan in case of a fire and knowing how to escape a fire.

For 16 years, the mission of the Tri-Town Safety Village has been to teach children and adults about fire safety in the home and how to get out safely and quickly when there's a fire.

"We have a full-size two-story Survive Alive House that utilizes modern special effects technology to simulate an actual fire," said Bill Jarvis, Executive Director of the Tri-Town Safety Village located at 1350 Eagle Ridge Dr. in Schererville.

"The walls glow red, the doors heat and windows flash just like during a real fire. Then the house fills completely with smoke, Jarvis said.

"Children are taught to get low, feel the door and learn how to get out safely during that simulated fire. Once outside, they dial 911 to summon help. An actual firefighter and police officer are on hand for each session, he said.

"Children learn to meet at a rally point outside the house, and things such as what not to handle," Jarvis said about the sessions held during the spring and fall.

"We work with children from public, parochial and private schools and those who are home-schooled from all over Lake County including Schererville, Dyer, St. John, East Chicago, Lowell, Crown Point and Merrillville. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, we worked with 3,900 students," he said.

"During the winter and summer, the Tri-Town Safety Village also works with adults in assisted living facilities, he said.

"They are taught how to get out of their home or room and not to try to put out the fire by themselves," Jarvis said. "Another lesson includes having a prescription bottle that includes a list of all their medications placed in the refrigerator. EMS personnel will know right away if the person is a diabetic, for example."

"The Tri-Town Safety Village began in 1994 on land originally donated by the Teibel family. In addition to the Survive Alive House and a Veterans Museum, this actual child-size town includes



replicas of local businesses and real railroad and street crossing areas complete with working train crossing and stop light equipment.

Education programs include lessons about home hazards, bicycle, electric and basic water safety; train and railroad track safety; and 811 safety, known as NIPSCO Digging Safety to avoid utility lines.

Community members and organizations play a major role at the Tri-Town Safety Village, Jarvis said.

For example, statues of a Firefighter and Police Officer provided by the Schererville Central Lions Club were recently dedicated at the Tri-Town Safety Village.

"We are grateful to the Lions Club for sponsoring these statues honoring the men and women who help keep us safe," Jarvis said.

Volunteers are also encouraged to lend their skills.

"We always welcome volunteers who want to help with gardening or maintenance. Call us at (219) 865-9600," Jarvis said. "Also like us on Facebook. You can get information about all our events."

One of those upcoming events – Safe Trick or Treat – takes place at the Tri-Town Safety Village on Saturday, Oct. 23 from noon to 3 p.m.

"Local businesses will line up and give out candy to children who attend," Jarvis said. "It's a great way to celebrate!"

Due to a surge of COVID-19 cases, the Open House traditionally held on the first Saturday of October at the Schererville Fire Station, 1650 Cline Avenue, was cancelled, said Schererville Fire Chief Robert Patterson.

October is Fire Safety Month, so remember to make certain your smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms are in good working order, the Chief said.

Learn the Sounds of Fire Safety

FIRE PREVENTION WEEK™
firepreventionweek.org

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Schererville remembers 9-11

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Jeff Hasley plays Taps

Following Basco's presentation, one member of Schererville's Boy Scout Troop 532 lowered the American flag while fellow scout troop members saluted. Taps were played by Jeff Hasley of the Schererville-based American Legion Post 485. Then in tribute to those fallen brothers and sisters from law enforcement, firefighting and military service, the Lake County Sheriff Pipes and Drums Band played "Amazing Grace."



The Lake County Sheriff Pipes and Drum Corps

Along with O'Rourke, Basco served on the committee whose members organized the 20th anniversary remembrance ceremony. Other committee members included

- Schererville Police Chief Peter Sormaz
- Schererville Deputy Police Chief Steven McNamara
- Schererville Fire Chief Robert Patterson
- Schererville Deputy Fire Chief Dave Meyer
- Schererville Town Manager Robert Volkmann
- Schererville Director of Operations Jim Gorman
- Schererville Superintendent of Parks John Novacich
- Angella Cress-Kuryga, officer manager of Plumbers Local 20 based in Merrillville
- Mike Szany of Szany Electric in St. John
- Patti Mendoza, pastoral assistant at St. Michael Parish, Schererville
- Brenda Fanno, a 5th grade teacher at St. John the Evangelist School in St. John

Sarah Gordon, an 8th grade student at St. Michael School in Schererville, created the cover for the 20-year anniversary ceremony which featured an American flag hoisted by two fire engine ladders on a road that led to a beautiful rising sun.

"Sarah is an amazing volleyball player and an excellent student – always making the honor roll," said Colleen Kennedy, principal of St. Michael School.

Gordon currently serves as vice-president of the student council and plans to attend Marian Catholic High School in Chicago Heights, where her brother, Andrew, is currently a junior, Kennedy said.

The daughter of Greg and April Gordon "is a beautiful person inside and out!" Kennedy added. "We are so proud of Sarah for her artistic ability and serving her school with pride and spirit!"

Bay2Brooklyn cyclists stop at Schererville's 9-11 Memorial on way to NYC

On their way to the Brooklyn Bridge and Ground Zero in New York City in memory of the lives lost on September 11, 2001, a group of 12 bicyclists stopped at the Schererville 9-11 Memorial of the Twin Towers.

The Bay2Brooklyn cyclists began their 3,800-mile trek across America on August 1 from Santa Clara, California. On Friday, August 27 they rode past Schererville Town Hall after exiting the Pennsy Greenway Trail and stopped at the town's 9-11 Memorial located on the Police Department Grounds at 25 E. Joliet St.

This was the second ride this group of active and retired firefighters and military veterans made. They rode across the nation in 2011 for the 10th anniversary of 9-11.



"All of us watched the events unfold on September 11, 2001, and we haven't forgotten the 343. This is why we ride," said Darrell Sales, 58, a retired Santa Clara Fire Department firefighter.

Very much a community project, the construction of this Schererville memorial began in 2012. In 2013, a steel beam from one of the World Trade Center towers was mounted on a concrete base. In 2017, replicas of the Twin Towers were erected using perforated pipes that are illuminated from the inside by red, white and blue lights. Between the two towers there are 2,977 holes representing those who died in the attack, including 343 firefighters, 72 police officers and 55 military personnel.



What's Happening in Town



OCTOBER

- 5 Schererville Market, Scherwood Park, 3-8 p.m.
- 6 Free Yoga in the Park, Scherwood Park, 5-6 p.m.
- 7 Board of Safety Meeting 7 p.m.
- 13 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 18 Study Session 4:30 p.m.; Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 18 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 20 Schererville Market, Scherwood Park, 3-8 p.m.
- 20 Free Yoga in the Park, Scherwood Park, 5-6 p.m.
- 20 Town Council Study Session 6 p.m.
- 25 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.
- 27 Halloween Stories & Campfire, Schererville Community Center, 6-8 p.m.

NOVEMBER

- 1 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 3 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 4 Board of Safety Meeting 7 p.m.
- 6 Holiday Craft Show, Schererville Community Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 10 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 11 Veteran's Day, Town Hall closed
- 11 Veteran's Day Remembrance, Police Department, Veteran's Memorial, 6 p.m.
- 13 Craft & Conquer Craft Show Day 1, Schererville Community Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

- 15 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 20 Craft & Conquer Craft Show Day 2, Schererville Community Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 22 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.
- 25-26 Thanksgiving Holiday, Town Hall closed
- 26 Craft & Conquer Craft Show Day 3, Schererville Community Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 26 Santa Comes to Town, Hilbrich Cabin, Scherwood Park, Noon-5 p.m.
- 27 Craft & Conquer Craft Show Day 3 Finale, Schererville Community Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

DECEMBER

- 1 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 2 Board of Safety Meeting 7 p.m.
- 6 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 8 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 11 Crafts at the Crossroads, Schererville Community Center, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.
- 20 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.
- 20 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 23-24 Christmas Holiday, Town Hall closed
- 29 Special Waterworks Board, Utility Board, Town Council, 6 p.m.
- 31 New Year's Eve, Town Hall closed

Jeff Huet retires as Public Works Director; Andrew Hansen assumes directorship

The Schererville Public Works Department recently bid farewell to Director Jeff Huet, who retired July 9 after 42 years of service with the Town of Schererville. Andrew Hansen assumed the role of Public Works Director following Huet's retirement.

Huet began his employment with the Town of Schererville on May 1, 1979, working at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. There he held several positions, including Wastewater Treatment Plant Superintendent. In June 1994, he transferred to the Public Works Department and rose through the ranks, holding several positions. He was named Director of Public Works in January 2005.

Hansen began working for the Town of Schererville as a summer employee in June 2004. He worked part-time while in high school and college. He graduated from college in May 2011 with a degree in management. The day after he received his college degree, Hansen started full time with the Public Works Department. Like his predecessor, Hansen worked his way through the ranks from laborer to Public Works Director.

"I hope to keep the good work of Mr. Huet up as well as increase efficiencies and continue improving infrastructure throughout the town," Hansen said.