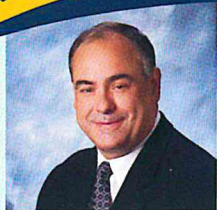




# THE SCHERERVILLE CROSSROADS



*Recycling helps create a better environment*



Bob Guetzloff, Councilmember Ward 3



Tom Schmitt, Councilmember Ward 4



Robin Arvanitis, Councilmember Ward 1



Kevin Connelly, Councilmember Ward 2



Caleb Johnson, Councilmember Ward 5



Mike Troxell, Clerk-Treasurer



Randy Wyllie  
Judge, Schererville Town Court

Creating a better environment for ourselves and generations to come includes recycling. Republic Services provides both garbage and recycling pickup for Schererville and offers useful, simple guidelines to help all of us become better recyclers on its website, <https://www.republicservices.com/residents/recycling/basics>.

**These guidelines are based on three principles:**

- Know what to throw.
- Be sure your recyclables are empty, clean and dry.
- Don't bag it.

**KNOW WHAT TO THROW**

Paper, flattened cardboard, metal cans (including beverage and food cans), and hard plastics such as bottles and jugs can be recycled.

Recyclable paper includes newspapers, notebook paper, envelopes, junk mail, phone books, brochures and magazines. Make sure paper pieces are larger than a credit card. Also remove all staples and paper clips and remove the plastic windows from envelopes before recycling.

**Don't recycle** to-go cups and paper plates soiled with food, tissue or sparkly wrapping paper, paper towels or napkins.

Cardboard is a form of paper that can be reused to make a number of products especially more cardboard. Examples of cardboard you can recycle include moving boxes, food boxes, shipping boxes, envelopes and folders. Remove shipping labels and packing tape from cardboard boxes. Milk cartons can be recycled if they are empty, clean and dry. Please flatten your cardboard to make space for more recyclables.

Make sure the cardboard you put in your recycling container isn't contaminated by food, liquid or waste. *That includes no greasy pizza boxes, and wet or soiled materials.*

Beverage and food cans are good to recycle. Before you drop them in the recycling container, however, take a moment to remove any paper or plastic labeling, and clean the contents of any food waste.

Although hard plastic containers such as water bottles, milk jugs, and detergent containers can go

in your container, flexible plastics including grocery bags, bubble wrap, and foam *cannot* be put in the recycling container.

The following are tips for plastic recycling: Keep lids on bottles or toss them in the trash. Lids are too small by themselves. Rinse and dry all food and drink containers. Detergent containers can be recycled as long as they are free of soapy residue.

"When in doubt, throw it out," the Republic Services website advises.

**BE SURE RECYCLABLES ARE EMPTY, CLEAN & DRY**

Just one dirty item can contaminate an entire truckload of recyclables. That means all those potential recyclables end up in a landfill. To prevent that from happening, follow these steps:

- Empty recyclable items such as beverage and food containers and hard plastic containers.
- Gently rinse the recyclables and shake out all the water.
- Let each item dry before placing it in your recycle container.

**DON'T BAG IT**

Never bag or bundle your recyclables. Put them individually in your recycling container.

**What NOT to put in your recycle container**

The following are items that cannot go into recycling:

- Appliances
- Batteries
- Bubble Wrap
- Christmas Lights
- Clothes
- Coat Hangers
- Diapers
- Electrical Cords
- Food Waste
- Food Wrap
- Garden Hoses
- Household Cleaners
- Paint
- Pizza Boxes
- Plastic Bags
- Polystyrene
- Rubber Balls
- Sports Equipment
- Syringes/Razor Blades
- Tires
- Toys/Stuffed Animals
- Waxed Cartons
- Wood/Yard Waste

"Now more than ever, recycling is important to the health and sustainability of our communities," Republic Services notes on its website. "Recycling services conserve our natural resources, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help our economy by providing a steady supply of reusable materials."

## *Snow removal involves team effort from everyone*

Keeping our streets plowed and salted during snowfall events requires a team effort that includes the Public Works Department, residents and businesses. The Public Works Department is responsible for snow removal on approximately 115 miles of streets throughout Schererville. This doesn't include U.S. 30 or U.S. 41, which are maintained by the Indiana Department of Transportation State Highway Department.

Main roadways are plowed and salted first. These streets are usually pre-treated with a brine solution before a winter storm hits. This helps keep the snow from packing and freezing to the pavement. When plows are dispatched to begin plowing, they spread road salt behind each truck using a spinner. **Drivers need to keep a minimum distance of 50 feet from the plow to avoid having the salt strike their vehicles.**

After the main roadways are completed, the plows begin on the secondary tier streets, usually the main entrances into subdivisions.

The Public Works Department finishes by completing the third tier streets within the subdivisions – streets that service the residents of that street and their visitors. The Public Works Department always attempts to keep these streets open, making one or two passes up and down them during a snowfall event. However, pushing the snow back to the curb line is usually not completed until the snow has stopped falling and the main streets and secondary streets have been completed.

Plow trucks must clear snow on streets to the curb line, and that sometimes causes snow to be plowed into cleared driveways entrances. The streets must be clear to the curb line to provide access for emergency vehicles, to provide mailbox access for postal carriers and to expose storm water inlets in case of a rapid thaw.

Cul-de-sacs present several challenges for the Public Works Department. They are wider than most streets which allow them to

hold more snow. They also have more driveways. This leaves less area for the snow to be pushed to the side when clearing the road.

To help with snow removal efforts, we ask residents and businesses to **NOT** shovel snow from driveways into the street. The snow should be pushed to the sides of the driveway. Shoveling snow into the street causes ice patches, creating a hazard for drivers, and increases the amount of snow that may come back into your driveway during street plowing.

Please help keep fire hydrants clear of snow. This will assist the Fire Department if an emergency arises. Public Works employees are usually not available to do this until after the snow has been plowed from all streets.

As in the past, salt will continue to be spread on the main roadways. On the second and third tier streets, salt will only be applied to the intersections, curves and hills. All drivers should use caution when using the roadways under adverse conditions.

Town Ordinance 791 prohibits parking on the street when there is a snowfall of 2 inches or greater. That Ordinance reads, "No person shall park any vehicle on any street within the corporate limits of the town whenever there is two (2") inches or more of snow thereon, until said snow is removed. Any vehicle which is parked on said street when depth of snow exceeds two (2") may be towed away."

Your cooperation is always greatly appreciated so that the Public Works Department can maintain the streets in a safe, efficient and economic manner.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact us Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM until 3:30 PM at (219) 322-6688 or (219) 322-5486. If you need to contact us after hours or in an emergency, we can be reached through the Police Department at (219) 322-5000 (non-emergency number). Emergency numbers are (219) 322-2121 or 911.

## *Citizen's Police Academy honors graduates*



*Nine graduates of the Citizen's Police Academy were honored November 22 during a ceremony at the Schererville Police Department.*

Law enforcement involves many important duties, and nine Schererville residents recently gained insight into the workings of their police department and what new technologies the department has to offer during the 9-week Citizen's Police Academy.

Class curriculum included such topics as patrol functions, hand-held radar training, criminal investigations, accident investigations, DUI investigations, self-defense, firearms, railway enforcement and use of force issues.

The nine academy participants were honored November 22 during a graduation ceremony. They are now eligible to apply for the Schererville Volunteers in Police Services program, said Chief Peter Sormaz.

The Schererville Police Department launched the Citizen's Police Academy in 1994 with sponsorship from the U.S. Department of Justice. Since its inception as one of the first citizen academies in the State of Indiana, the Schererville Citizen's Police Academy has won the U.S. Justice Department's Exemplary Law Enforcement Award.



### **THE SCHERERVILLE CROSSROADS**

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Lu Ann Franklin, Editor



All following events at SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER, 500 E. JOLIET ST.

### CRAFTS AT THE CROSSROADS

#### HAND-MADE CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW SATURDAY, DEC. 11 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

LAST CALL FOR GIFTS!! LAST CALL! It's just two weeks until Christmas and your last chance to shop for your favorite hand-crafted/homemade items!

Schererville Parks brings back all those unique goods and goodies for you and your loved ones this holiday season. This Craft show will have CRAFTERS ONLY! No direct sellers! So you're sure to find something you've never seen before!

You'll find more than 75 crafters as well as food trucks and free raffles. ADMISSION & PARKING ARE FREE!

### GRINCH CANDY CANE HUNT 2021

#### FOR AGES 3-5, 6-9 & 10-13

#### SUNDAY, DEC. 12 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

The Grinch is up to his old shenanigans again! Join Schererville Parks as we help save Christmas & Candy Canes from nasty Mr. Grinch!

Children in age groups 3 to 5, 6 to 9 and 10-13 will search the Community Center for hidden candy canes before Mr. Grinch can get his

furry fingers on them. Some of those candy canes will even have hidden surprises!

Before each group hunts, we will warm up with hot cocoa, a craft project and cookies.

Kids ages 3 to 5 will search from 10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. while those ages 6 to 9 will track down candy canes from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Finally those ages 10 to 13 will on the hunt from 1 to 1:45 p.m.

There's a limit of 100 children (plus one parent) per age group. The fee is \$10 for residents/+20% for non-residents.

Register at [www.schererville.org](http://www.schererville.org).

### BEDTIME CHRISTMAS STORIES 2021

#### MONDAY, DEC. 13 6 TO 7:30 P.M.

Join us as the Northwest Indiana Storytelling Guild has a magical night planned with Christmas stories and songs by the glow of the fire. Holiday cookies and drinks will be provided to all participants. Wear your pajamas, bring your sleeping bags and pillow for a relaxing good time! THIS IS A FREE EVENT!

### COMMUNITY CONNECT 2022

#### MONDAY, JAN. 10, 2022 7 TO 8 P.M.

#### SCHERERVILLE PARKS & RECREATION DEPT.

Another year is coming, and we can't wait to tell you about it!

Calling all Crafters, Vendors, Food Vendors, Food Trucks, Businesses and Entrepreneurs –you don't want to miss this! We are looking to connect with you and it's your chance to "Get in the Know" about all of Schererville's Shindigs.

At this "connect event" we will debut new and improved events, provide applications for many events and give you the opportunity to pitch ideas for what you want in Schererville. This is a FREE EVENT and will be highly beneficial for you and your business to attend.

### SPRING FEVER CRAFT SHOW 2022

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 2, 2022 9 A.M. TO 3 P.M.

The countdown to SPRING is on and the fever for Craft Season is getting hot!!

Join us on April 2 for our first Craft Show of 2022! You'll find more than 150 crafters both inside the Community Center and outside, as well as food trucks and free raffles! ADMISSION & PARKING ARE FREE!

\*\* Interested crafters can email us at [jbarnes@scherverville.org](mailto:jbarnes@scherverville.org) \*\*

## *How to apply for your 2022 pets' licenses, avoid late fees*

Schererville residents can begin applying for their pets' 2022 licenses on Monday, January 4, 2022, at the Schererville Police Department, 25 E. Joliet Street. Masks are recommended for those entering the police department's lobby. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

**Please bring proof of your pet's current shot records and proof of spaying or neutering. The Town doesn't keep vaccination/neutering records from year to year. You must bring these papers with you each year. All dogs and cats must be licensed by March 31 of each year, according to Town Ordinance.**

Town Ordinance #1549 also limits residents to owning and licensing 5 dogs and/or cats. Fees for each pet are as follows:  
Spayed or neutered dogs and cats \$ 5.00  
Non-spayed or non-neutered dogs \$20.00  
Non-spayed or non-neutered cats \$10.00



If you don't license your dog or cat by March 31, 2022, you will be charged a \$10 late fee for each pet. **Failure to license your dog or cat could result in fines of \$25 to \$2,500, according to Town Ordinance #1549.**

## *Schererville Fire Department adds to ranks*

In November, the Schererville Fire Department added to its ranks.

"We are very excited that we have just hired five new full-time Firefighters/EMT's," said Fire Chief Robert Patterson. Two began on November 15, while the other three started on November 22. All have previously served with other area fire departments.

The new Firefighters/EMT's include

- Enrique Pulido, 34, from Hammond, who served with the Lake Hills Volunteer Fire Department and Lake Station Fire Department.
- Jacob Thornton, 32, from Chesterton, who previously served as a Liberty Township volunteer.
- Noah Wells, 23, from Crown Point, who served with the Lake Hills Volunteer Fire Department.
- Collin Zackavec, 29, from Dyer, who served with the Dyer Volunteer Fire Department.
- Dominic Zuccarelli, 32, from St. John, who served with the Lake Hills Volunteer Fire Department.

"All five will be enrolled in the 2022 Paramedic program through Franciscan St. Anthony EMS Academy," Chief Patterson said.

"Once the 2022 town budget is approved, the town has given us permission to start the hiring process to increase our full-time staff with two additional members," he added.



## What's Happening in Town



### DECEMBER

- 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.
- 12 Grinch Candy Cane Hunt, Schererville Community Center, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
- 13 Bedtime Christmas Stories, Schererville Community Center, 6 – 7:30 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

### JANUARY

- 3 New Year's Day holiday, Town Hall closed
- 5 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 6 Board of Safety Study Session, 5:30 p.m.; Board of Safety, 7 p.m.
- 10 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 10 Schererville Parks Department Community Connect, Community Center, 7 – 8 p.m.
- 17 Martin Luther King Day, Town Hall closed

- 17 Plan Commission Study Session (subject to change)
- 19 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 24 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

### FEBRUARY

- 2 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 3 Board of Safety Study Session, 5:30 p.m.; Board of Safety, 7 p.m.
- 7 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 9 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 21 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 28 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

### MARCH

- 2 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 3 Board of Safety Study Session, 5:30 p.m.; Board of Safety, 7 p.m.
- 7 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 9 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 21 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 26 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

## Police Department hires four new officers



The new probationary officers who joined the Schererville Police Department are (from left to right) Michael Osborn, Kenneth Galliher, Scott Karras and Tiffany Beemsterboer.

Four new officers joined the ranks of the Schererville Police Department on November 15. Those new probationary officers are Tiffany Ann Beemsterboer, Kenneth Cody Galliher, Scott Kole Karras and Michael Charles Osborn.

They are currently assigned to in-house training at the Schererville Police Department. Beginning in January 2022, the four probationary officers will be assigned to the Hobart-based Northwest Indiana Law Enforcement Academy (NILEA), said Police Chief Peter Sormaz.

"I wish to thank each of our new recruits for choosing to serve and protect Schererville, and for answering the call and undertaking this most arduous path of law enforcement," Chief Sormaz said.

NILEA provides in-service training programs to more than 1,800 police officers, offering in-service training classes and two 15-week basic recruit academy classes annually.

The Academy's Basic course for new police officers consists of more than 600 hours of training in a variety of areas. Criminal and traffic law, firearms, emergency vehicle operations, physical tactics, EMS awareness and human behavior are some of the major areas of instruction during this course.

A variety of other police related subjects such as accident investigation, criminal investigation, domestic violence and sexual assault, Standardized Field Sobriety Test, crime prevention, and drugs and narcotics are included in the areas an officer must study before graduating.