



# THE SCHERERVILLE CROSSROADS

## *Rohrman Park playground improvements to include age-appropriate play areas, handicapped-accessible features*



Improvements planned at the Rohrman Park's playground will create a larger, safer space for children to enjoy, said John Novacich, Superintendent of the Schererville Parks & Recreation Department.

"These improvements will include ADA accessibility for children with disabilities as well as play areas that are designed to be age-appropriate," said Novacich. The ADA improvements will also include sidewalks that tie into existing sidewalks near the park's shelter and changes to the parking area that meet ADA standards, he said.

A Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$122,390 will help pay for the park improvement costs, Novacich said. "Fortunately, we ordered the new playground equipment and have it ready to install, especially with the supply-chain issues now."

Gariup Construction Company based in Gary was awarded the contract after the project went out to bid late last year. The new playground will cover more than 5,000 square feet at Schererville's largest park, which features 41 acres located at 6750 Rohrman Road, Novacich said. "We anticipate the project to start in the spring, and we'd like to have the project completed by the end of June."

After the old playground equipment is removed, the age-appropriate play areas will be created. The area designed for children ages 2 to 5 will feature tot swings, slides, and a spinner. A separate set of swings, a climbing structure, and slides will be part of the play area designed for children ages 5 to 12, he said.

"We also have an 'arch-oodle swing' which is similar to a tire swing," Novacich said. Another feature will be a sitting area with benches set between the two play areas as well as benches located at the edge of the play area for older children.

In addition, the entire playground area will have a poured-in place soft rubber surface, similar to that used in other Schererville parks, he said.



Kim Arvanitis, Councilmember Ward 1



Tom Schmitt, Councilmember Ward 4



Kevin Connelly, Councilmember Ward 2



Bob Guetzloff, Councilmember Ward 3



Caleb Johnson, Councilmember Ward 5



Mike Troxell, Clerk-Treasurer



Randy Wyllie  
Judge, Schererville Town Court

## *Schererville Parks planning a Splash Pad at Scherwood Park*

Beating the summer heat will be even more enjoyable this year thanks to a Splash Pad being planned for Scherwood Park, located at just off Joliet Street adjacent to the Community Center.

"We are looking to put in our first Splash Pad at the park, which will include a variety of spray features in the 70-foot by 60-foot area south of the main parking center," said John Novacich, Superintendent of Schererville Parks & Recreation Department.



To assist with the design and selecting of the Splash Pad features, the Park Board received input from children as part of a first-grade class project at Homan Elementary School, Novacich said.

He said those features will include "a bucket trio that looks like a tree that drops buckets of water, a 9-foot high interactive structure

called a hydro helix that sprays a pattern of water, a water way that is like a curtain of water beads, an arch jet tunnel, and two curved sitting walls with spray jets."

Novacich said the department plans to start construction of the Splash Pad in the spring and have it finished by summer.

## *Social Security, Retirement Planning available at Dyer-Schererville Library*

Knowing the basics of Social Security and planning for retirement is vital for adults of all ages.

In March, the Dyer-Schererville Branch of the Lake County Public Library at 1001 W. Lincoln Highway in Schererville will partner with The Society for Financial Awareness (SOFA) to provide Social Security & Retirement Planning Basics seminars. The two free one-hour presentations by guest speaker Ray Kozicki will take place from 5:30-6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 3, and from 10-11 a.m., Saturday, March 12. Each seminar will provide the same information.

Kozicki will address a number of topics, including the following:

- Factors to consider when determining what age to file for Social Security benefits
- Ways to avoid higher taxation of your Social Security benefits
- Retirement threats and how to avoid them
- Learning about thought processes related to income creation in retirement
- Learning about wealth-eroding factors and how to avoid them.

Space is limited, said Chris Rettig, library branch manager. Reserve a seat for either of the sessions by calling the library at (219) 322-4731 (press 4) or register online at [www.lcpln.org/events](http://www.lcpln.org/events).

For more information about SOFA, log on to [www.sofausa.org/about](http://www.sofausa.org/about).



### **THE SCHERERVILLE CROSSROADS**

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Lu Ann Franklin, Editor





# What's Happening in Town



## FEBRUARY

- 7 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 9 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 11 Daddy-Daughter Enchanted Forest Dance #1, Schererville Community Center, 6-9 p.m.
- 12 Daddy-Daughter Enchanted Forest Dance #2, Schererville Community Center, 6-9 p.m.
- 21 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 22 Tang Soo Do Karate Session, Schererville Community Center, 5:30-7:15 p.m.
- 24 Health & Wellness Fair, Schererville Community Center, 3-6 p.m.
- 26 Aliens From Outer Space Painting Class, Schererville Community Center, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- 28 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

## MARCH

- 1 Tang Soo Do Karate Session, Schererville Community Center, 5:30-7:15 p.m.
- 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.
- 8 Tang Soo Do Karate Session, Schererville Community Center, 5:30-7:15 p.m.
- 9 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 14 Yoga Mondays Session, Schererville Community Center, 6-7 p.m.
- 15 Tang Soo Do Karate Session, Schererville Community Center, 5:30-7:15 p.m.
- 21 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 25 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

- 28 Yoga Mondays Session, Schererville Community Center, 6-7 p.m.
- 29 Tang Soo Do Karate Session, Schererville Community Center, 5:30-7:15 p.m.

## APRIL

- 4 Yoga Mondays Session, Schererville Community Center, 6-7 p.m.
- 5 Tang Soo Do Karate Session, Schererville Community Center, 5:30-7:15 p.m.
- 6 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 7 Board of Safety Study Session, 5:30 p.m.; Board of Safety, 7 p.m.
- 11 Yoga Mondays Session, Schererville Community Center, 6-7 p.m.
- 13 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 15 Good Friday – Town Hall closed
- 18 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 18 Yoga Mondays Session, Schererville Community Center, 6-7 p.m.
- 22 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.
- 25 Yoga Mondays Session, Schererville Community Center, 6-7 p.m.

## MAY

- 3 Primary Election Day – Town Hall closed
- 4 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 5 Board of Safety Study Session, 5:30 p.m.; Board of Safety, 7 p.m.
- 11 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 16 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 27 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.
- 30 Memorial Day – Town Hall closed



## Owners of vehicles with out-of-state plates need to register for Indiana plates

Indiana has seen a major influx of new residents, many coming from Illinois. Part of becoming an Indiana resident means registering vehicles and obtaining Indiana license plates for those vehicles.

The Schererville Police Department officers use a license plate scanner during patrols of the town's streets, said Police Chief Peter Sormaz.

"Over the past several weeks, officers have been working their way through neighborhoods searching for out-of-state plates on vehicles and have issued more than 225 warnings," Chief Sormaz said.

"The warning is accompanied by a letter informing the resident how to register and obtain an Indiana license. There is a short period of time to comply with the law once the warning is issued," he said. "We are looking for compliance."

The Bureau of Motor Vehicles branch in Schererville is located at 1320 Eagle Ridge Drive. Other area BMV branches are located at 1244 N. Main Street in Crown Point; 1038 E. Ridge Road in Griffith; 7931 Indianapolis Blvd. in Hammond; and at 5117 E. 81<sup>st</sup> Avenue in Merrillville.

For more information log on to [www.in.gov/hmv/](http://www.in.gov/hmv/)



## DADDY-DAUGHTER ENCHANTED FOREST

DANCE 2022 – DANCES #1 & 2

FRIDAY, FEB. 11 & SATURDAY, FEB. 12  
5:00-9 P.M.

### SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Calling all Elves, Fairies, Unicorns, Princesses and Princes, Kings and Queens! The mystical Enchanted Forest has magically appeared at the Schererville Community Center, coincidentally on the weekend our Dads and Daughters celebrate the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance!

So Dads, treat your daughters to an enchanted night filled with magic and a little bit of mayhem! You definitely won't want to miss this!

The magic begins at 6 p.m. and here's what to expect:

Dinner & drinks – Freshly baked chicken tenders, buttery sweet corn, whipped buttery mashed potatoes & gravy, crisp side salad with choice of dressing, and a HUGE ice cream bar

Dancing with LIVE DJ!

Games with prizes

Unlimited fun photo booth sessions

Professional photo (included with pair of tickets)

Themed craft

Dance souvenirs available to purchase

All participants are required to purchase a ticket (for all ages). Each registered child must be accompanied by a registered adult. **Masks are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.**

**Any food allergies or special food accommodation must be communicated to the Parks Department no later than one week before the dance.**

The fee is \$23 for residents/+20% for non-residents.

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

## TANG SOO DO KARATE SESSIONS 2022

FOR AGES 4-10

TUESDAYS, FEB. 22 THROUGH APRIL 5  
(NO CLASS ON MARCH 22)

5:30-7:15 P.M.

### SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Our children's martial arts programs are high-energy, fun, and interactive. Martial arts classes should go far beyond just kicking and punching. Our classes focus on character development, physical fitness, and self-defense – with the primary goals of building a child's discipline, self-confidence, and self-esteem.

The training at our school emphasizes encouragement and positive correction, and we work hard to ensure all students are treated with dignity and shown respect.

Our instructors, under the direction of 4<sup>th</sup> degree black belt master instructor Adam Theros, will teach curriculum that is fun, challenging, and aligns with Northwest Indiana Martial Arts Academy and the World Tang Soo Do Association. When you join our club, you become part of a world-wide organization with more than 200,000 members.

Champion Squires, ages 4-6, will attend classes from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.

Junior Knights, ages 7-10, will take lessons from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m.

The fee is \$49 for residents and \$58.80 for non-residents. **Masks are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.**

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

## HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR

THURSDAY, FEB. 24

3-6 P.M.

### SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

February is American Health Month, so take

care of yours and join us for an afternoon of valuable information and demonstrations that are good for you! There will be more than 75 resource booths, screenings, lectures, massages, stress-relief techniques, healthy cooking demos, and heart-healthy refreshments. This is a FREE EVENT! **Masks are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.**

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

## ALIENS FROM OUTER SPACE PAINTING CLASS (ALL AGES)

SATURDAY, FEB. 26

11 A.M. TO 1 P.M.

### SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

We are NOT alone! Aliens have made a pit stop at the Schererville Community Center for this fun painting class led by instructor Chris Hnatusko! All ages are welcome and all supplies will be provided. The fee is \$30 for residents/+20% for non-residents. **Masks are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.**

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

## YOGA MONDAYS 2022

SESSION 2 (6 WEEKS)

MONDAY, MARCH 14 THROUGH APRIL 25

6 TO 7 P.M.

### SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER

This is your chance to discover the transformative power of yoga – vitality, balance, peace, and a sense of well being! This class, instructed by Lynn Bluethmann, is suitable for both beginners and those with some experience. Please bring a mat. The fee is \$30 for residents and \$36 for non-residents. **Masks are HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.**

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



## Looking forward to Phase 4 of the Pennsy Greenway Trail

Plans for the final phase of the Pennsy Greenway Northwest Trail through Schererville will go out in February, and construction of Phase 4 is scheduled to begin this spring, according to John Novacich, Superintendent of the Schererville Parks & Recreation Department.

A \$2.91 million grant from the state's Next Level Trails Program will fund this 2.25-mile part of the trail, he said. The trail construction will start at Rohrman Park going southeast to the Schererville town border at Clark Road, south of 93<sup>rd</sup> Street, Novacich said.

Because part of the trail goes through unincorporated Lake County, the Town has partnered with the Lake County Parks Department to complete this section of the larger regional Pennsy trail system, he said.

Wood fencing will border parts of the trail and there will be a trailhead with parking located on the west side of Clark Road, Novacich noted.

"The completion of this trail throughout Schererville will link up a 13-mile stretch of the bi-state trail that's part of the 3,700-mile Great American Rails to Trails system in 17 states," he said.