



# THE SCHERERVILLE CROSSROADS

Vol. 8 Issue 2 • April / May 2021



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## What's Happening in Town

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### APRIL

- 14 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 19 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.
- 26 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.

### MAY

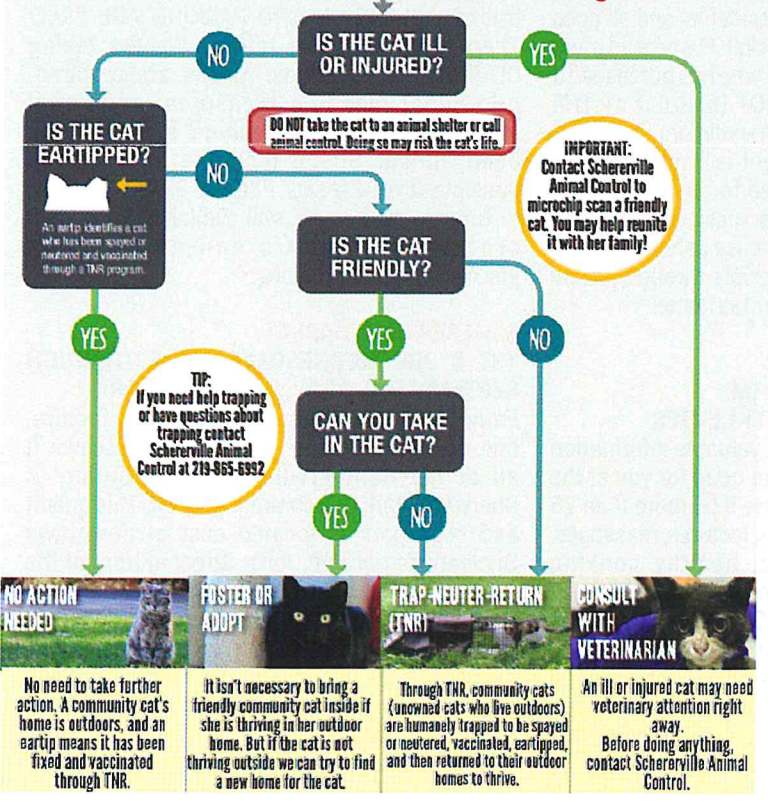
- 3 Plan Commission Meeting 6 p.m.
- 5 Park Board Meeting 6 p.m.
- 6 Board of Safety Study Session, 5:30 p.m.; Board of Safety, 7 p.m.
- 12 Waterworks Board, Redevelopment Commission, Utility Board, Town Council 7 p.m.
- 17 Plan Commission Study Session 6 p.m.

- 24 Board of Zoning Appeals Meeting 6 p.m.
- 31 Memorial Day, Town Hall closed

### JUNE

- 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.

## Spring is Kitten Season



## WHAT TO DO IF YOU FIND KITTENS:



Rob 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

## Schererville studying utility rates

Schererville officials are currently in the midst of conducting a utility rate study that will likely indicate Schererville's rates will probably be going up.

"The last time the water and sewer utility rates were studied was in the mid-1980's," said Town Manager Robert Volkmann. "The last time we raised the sewer rates was in the mid-1990's. We are due for some increase."

Schererville operates its own water distribution system purchasing Lake Michigan water wholesale from Indiana-American Water. There

have been increases in our water rates due to increases in our water supply rates from Indiana American; the last Schererville water rate increase was in 1999 or 2000.

The Schererville WasteWater Treatment Plant at 550 Kaeser Boulevard serves the wastewater needs of a population base of approximately 60,000 people in the communities of Schererville, St. John and unincorporated Lake County

Watch for more information about utility rate changes in our next newsletter.

## Help promote good storm water quality, prevent harmful discharges

Our Town has many buildings and pavement surfaces which don't allow rain and snowmelt 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, downstream rivers, and waterways 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.

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 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 material-mixture has a thick, oatmeal-like consistency.
3. Leave lid off, and allow mixture to air-dry (one to two days) until dry and solid.
4. Place at curb for regular trash pick-up, without lid on paint can. 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 been dried out, it's still considered hazardous waste and must be taken to a hazardous-waste 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.

## RAVE Alert, Smart911 system now in effect

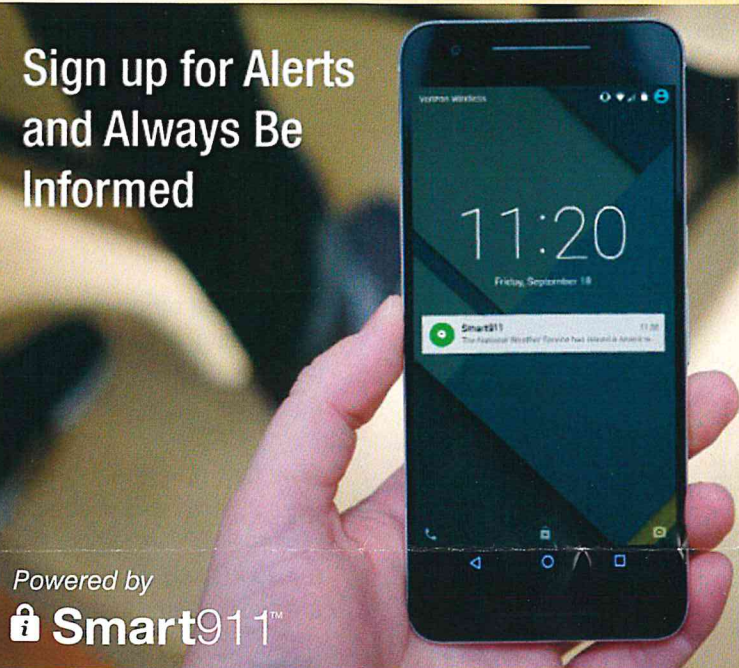
Schererville fully transitioned to Smart911 and RAVE Mobile alerts in March, replacing the CodeRED emergency alert system. Residents wanting to receive notifications from the Town in the future must sign up for a new, free Smart911 account. Doing so allows them to opt-in to receiving alerts from the Town via RAVE in emails, text messages or voice messages on their cell phones.

Opting in to receive alerts via RAVE can include information about severe weather, road closures, water boil advisories, and other important alerts. This system can also notify residents about local emergencies and directions on how to respond.

"We want to reassure residents that if you do not want to sign up for this service, it won't affect their ability to dial 9-1-1 in case of an emergency," said Dan Gin, Schererville IT Director. "All 9-1-1 calls will be handled as in the past."

However, Gin said, signing up for a Smart911 account allows residents to create a Safety Profile that dispatchers will be able to view when called.

"This can save valuable time in an emergency," he said. "Residents can give as much or as little information as they want. That information first responders will know in case of an emergency could include allergies, medications taken, medical conditions, pets, emergency contacts, and more."



Interested residents must create a new account with Smart911 because information from CodeRed accounts (including user ID's and passwords) do not carry over to the new system. To sign up go to <https://www.schererville.org/smart911> and click the green "Sign Up Now" button on the page.

## schererville parks & recreation

**TANG SOO DO KARATE (FOR AGES 4-10)**  
**TUESDAYS, APRIL 13 THROUGH MAY 18**  
**5:30-6:15 P.M. (Champion Squires, Ages 4-6)**  
**6:30-7:15 P.M. (Junior Knights, Ages 7-10)**  
**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Our children 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 goal 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 4th 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 a part of a world-wide organization with over 200,000 members. The fee is \$49 for residents/\$58.80 for non-residents. Register at [www.schererville.org](http://www.schererville.org).

**TROLLS PAINTING CLASS (ALL AGES)**  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.**  
**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Is your little Troll constantly singing, dancing and hugging? Does your child love Trolls? Then bring the family to the Schererville Parks' Trolls Painting Class led by instructor Chris Hnatusko! Each participant will get to choose between 1 and 4 designs to paint. Registration is required for each participant who wants his/her own canvas and utensils. All the materials are provided. Masks are required for this class. There is a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 50 participants. The fee is \$30 for residents/\$36 for non-residents. Register at [www.schererville.org](http://www.schererville.org).

**MICKEY PAINTING CLASS (ALL AGES)**  
**SATURDAY, MAY 22, 11 A.M. - 1 P.M.**  
**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

M...I...C...K...E...Y...M...O...U...S...E!! Mickey Mouse is here and ready to create some Disney magic at our Mickey Painting Class led by Chris Hnatusko. Registration is required for participants who want their own canvas and utensils. All materials are provided. Masks are required for this class. There is a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 50 participants. The fee is \$30 for residents/\$36 for non-residents. Register at [www.schererville.org](http://www.schererville.org).

### CHECK OUT OUR SPECIAL EVENTS!

**MOTHER/SON ROYAL BALL**  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 6-8 P.M.**  
**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Prepare your crowns, tiaras and ties for our Mother-Son Royal Ball and join us as we dance the evening away at this event meant for true royalty! Dinner will be catered by Capri Pizza and includes two chicken tenders, sweet corn,

mostaccioli, garden salad, cake, ice cream and drinks. There will be unlimited fun photo booth sessions included with registration. In addition, professional photos, including digital images sent to email addresses, will be available for \$5. Souvenirs and gifts will also be available for purchase.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$23 for residents/\$27.60 for non-residents, and all ages are required to purchase a ticket. Every child must be accompanied by an adult who has purchased a ticket. TICKETS WILL BE NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. Sign up at [www.schererville.org](http://www.schererville.org). Due to COVID-19, this event is limited to 50% capacity. Masks are required for ages 4 and up. Guests are requested to wear masks while up and walking around the event. Please adhere to social distancing as much as possible throughout the event. If you are sick, please stay home!

**DADDY/DAUGHTER ROYAL BALL**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 6-8 P.M.**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 6-8 P.M.**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 17, 6-8 P.M.**

**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Kings and their princesses can dance the evening away at our Daddy-Daughter Royal Ball on their choice of three dates. At this event designed for true royalty, dinner will be catered by Capri Pizza and includes two chicken tenders, sweet corn, mostaccioli, garden salad, cake, ice cream and drinks. There will be unlimited fun photo booth sessions included with registration. In addition, professional photos, including digital images sent to email addresses, will be available for \$5. Souvenirs and gifts will also be available for purchase.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$23 for residents/\$27.60 for non-residents, and all ages are required to purchase a ticket. Every child must be accompanied by an adult who has purchased a ticket. TICKETS WILL BE NOT BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. Sign up at [www.schererville.org](http://www.schererville.org). Due to COVID-19, this event is limited to 50% capacity. Masks are required for ages 4 and up. Guests are requested to wear masks while up and walking around the event. Please adhere to social distancing as much as possible throughout the event. If you are sick, please stay home!

**HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 3-6 P.M.**

**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Join us for an afternoon of valuable information and demonstrations that are good for you at the Health & Wellness Fair. There'll be more than 75 resource booths, screenings, lectures, massages, stress-relief techniques, healthy cooking demonstrations and heart healthy refreshments. This is a FREE EVENT! COVID-19 precautions will be in effect and masks will be required.

You can also donate blood at the Versiti Blood Centers mobile blood bus from 3 to 6 p.m. during the Health & Wellness Fair. Appointments are preferred, although walk-in's will be accepted depending on the schedule and social

## ATTENTION, CLASSES!

distancing. A photo ID and mask are required. To schedule an appointment, go to [www.versiti.org/IL](http://www.versiti.org/IL) or call (800) 786-4483.

\*\*Interested vendors can contact the Park office at (219) 865.5530 ext. 6103.\*\*

**CINCO DE MAYO PARTY IN THE PARK**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 5-9 P.M., REDAR PARK**

Begin your Cinco de Mayo festivities early at our Cinco De Mayo Party in the Park! Join us at this family event to enjoy Mexican food, live entertainment, beer, margaritas and more! We will have something for all ages. Dance to the music of Spoken Four. Sample beverages provided by Region Ale at the Beer & Margarita Garden. Feast on palate-pleasing delights from food trucks. Play festive games. Check out the crafters and vendors. This spring event will also feature free giant bubble-making, a balloon artist, bounce houses and more!

COVID-19 precautions include the following – masks are required while up and walking around the event; social distance as much as possible; there will be additional restrooms and hand-washing stations added. If you're sick, please stay home!

\*\* Interested crafters & food vendors can email us at [jbarnes@schererville.org](mailto:jbarnes@schererville.org). \*\*

**SPRING FEVER CRAFT SHOW 2021**

**SATURDAY, MAY 8, 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.**

**SCHERERVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER**

Spring has sprung! Join us for the first craft show of 2021 and our first Spring Show in two years! It's the day before Mother's Day, so stop by and pick up something truly special! Here you'll find more than 175 crafters inside the Community Center and outside as well as food trucks. ADMISSION AND PARKING ARE FREE! There'll also be free raffles. We are taking COVID-19 precautions: Masks are required. Additional cleaning measures, additional restrooms and hand-washing stations have been added. Social distance as much as possible. If you are sick, PLEASE STAY HOME!

\*\* Outside spaces are still available. Interested crafters & vendors can email us at [jbarnes@schererville.org](mailto:jbarnes@schererville.org) \*\*

**SCHERERVILLE MARKET**

**1ST & 3RD WEDNESDAYS, JUNE THROUGH SEPTEMBER, 3-8 P.M., SHERWOOD PARK**

From trinkets to treasures, goodies to foodies, one-of-a-kind unique finds – you'll discover it all at the Schererville Market debuting at Sherwood Park this summer and fall. This quaint and cozy park is located east of downtown Schererville right off Joliet Street in front of the Schererville 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, relive the history of the Hilbrich Log Cabin and so much more!

\*\* Interested crafters & food trucks can email us at [jbarnes@schererville.org](mailto:jbarnes@schererville.org) for an application. \*\*

## You can make a difference during National Prescription Drug Take Back Day

Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands – a result that's dangerous and often tragic. According to the 2018 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 9.9 million Americans misused controlled prescription drugs. And the majority of those abused drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet.

On Saturday April 24, you can help make a difference by participating in the National Prescription Take Back Day at the Schererville Police Department, 25 East Joliet Street, said Police Chief Peter Sormaz. The hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Simply clean out your medicine cabinet and turn in those prescription drugs safely and anonymously in the drop off box located in the police station lobby, Chief Sormaz noted.

"The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications," according to the Drug Enforcement Administration's website, [https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html).



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