

SUMMER 2023



Bridgman

COMMUNITY BUZZ



PHOTO COURTESY OF: JOHN TRUESDELL

One community working together to serve you better.

In a joint effort with the City of Bridgman, Lake Township, Bridgman Public Library, and Bridgman Public Schools, we present this community newsletter.

We hope you find it informative and useful.



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Superintendent News from Superintendent Shane Peters

Dear Bridgman Families
and Residents,

It's hard to believe that we
are quickly approaching the end of another school year!

The Bridgman Public Schools Board of Education and staff extend our heartfelt congratulations to the Class of 2023. These 62 Bridgman High School graduates have had a remarkable and unforgettable four-year journey, marked by a range of academic, athletic and artistic accomplishments. We take immense pride in your dedication, perseverance, and success and wish you all the best for your future endeavors.

The commitment and hard work of our Bridgman Public Schools staff deserves recognition. Their unwavering dedication to students and parents, coupled with their tireless efforts to provide the highest quality education in Berrien County is truly commendable. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to our entire staff. Thank You!

Whether you're a stay-at-home parent looking for extra income or a retiree seeking a few hours of work outside the house, **Bridgman Public School has a range of opportunities in transportation, food service and custodial departments that may suit you!**

These roles involve working with our students and can offer a rewarding experience. Visit our website at bridgmanschools.com for further information or contact the Office of the Superintendent to explore available options.

Bridgman Public Schools has maintained an outstanding reputation across the state of Michigan with exceptional academic standards, varied extracurricular activities and ample opportunities for all students in a small school district. Such remarkable achievements are only possible because of our community's unwavering support for public education and genuine concern for the well-being of our teachers and students.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at (269) 466-0271 or speters@bridgmanschools.com.

*The strength of our
community is our schools
and the strength of our
schools is our community.*

Go Bees!
Shane M. Peters, Superintendent



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Bridgman Elementary School will be offering free summer lunches to any child 18 and under from June 12th to August 4th. Meals will be served in the elementary school cafeteria and must be eaten on-site.

Job Openings

There are several open job opportunities within our district. If you would like to be part of our organization, please visit bridgmanschools.com/human-resources to learn more and apply.

- Speech & Language Pathologist (Full-time)
- Substitute Van Driver, Bus Driver, Custodian, and Food Service Workers
- Custodians (Full-time & Part-time)
- Elementary Special Education - One-to-One Paraprofessional
- Aquatic Center Senior Staff, 7th Grade Volleyball Coach, and Varsity Boys Tennis Coach

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BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Bridgman High School News from Principal Gerald Heath

This edition of the Bridgman Buzz finds Bridgman High School (BHS) approaching the finish line to the end of

the school year. I am very proud of our students' hard work as well as the incredible efforts of our teachers and support staff. I am confident that as we finish out the last few weeks of the 2022-23 school year, students will continue to work to make great strides in their education.

ALLEE BAUER

This winter, BHS sophomore Allee Bauer had the opportunity to work with University of Michigan running back Blake Corum to design a shoe. The shoe was auctioned off to help raise money for C.S.

Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor. We are delighted to share that Allee has completed all of her chemotherapy treatments!



COMMUNITY ART EXHIBITION

This Spring, we had 24 students' artwork accepted into the 2023 Community Art Exhibition at the Box Factory. Their artwork was displayed throughout the month of April.

- Allee Bauer - Drawing
- Elisabeth Busick - Acrylic & Drawing
- Takiya Cornelius - Drawing
- Livvie Forbear - Acrylic
- Samantha Gardner - Collage
- Brooke Henderson - Acrylic & Drawing
- Estefania Hernandez-Sanchez - Acrylic & Drawing
- Na'Quan Jackson - Drawing
- Taylor Kirk - Acrylic
- Gabriele Laukavicius - Acrylic & Drawing
- Evie Lawrence - Acrylic
- Logan Lee - Acrylic & Drawing
- Andrew Mabry - Acrylic
- Lucas Melton - Acrylic & Drawing
- Savannah Murphy - Acrylic & Drawing
- Lucas Rumsa - Acrylic & Drawing
- Ava Savedra - Collage
- Monica Scharnowske - Drawing & Watercolor
- Nolan Staniszewski - Drawing
- Grace Swenson - Drawing
- Paige Tackitt - Drawing & Watercolor
- Hannah Volk - Acrylic & Chalk Pastel
- Krystina Walker - Colored Pencil
- Isabel Werelius - Acrylic & Drawing
- Lillian Werelius - Collage
- Grace Wydick - Watercolor



DECA STATE COMPETITION

Mrs. McGee had 78 students participate in the DECA State Competition. The day was a great success as 22 students qualified for the international competition with 11 students being named as alternates. They will be competing in Orlando, Florida from April 21-26.

International Qualifiers:

- Ava Starbuck, Charlie Pagel & Madison Kaminski
Business Operations Research
- Ellie Brown, Kale Brown & Emma Mangold
Finance Operations Research
- Anne Scott & Sophie Fenech
Hospitality & Tourism Operations Research
- Jonathan Cabrera & Clara Fast
Community Awareness Program
- Lindsey Salmon, Nora Bomar & Julian Van Plew-Cid
Innovation Plan
- Payton Payne
Start-Up Business Plan
- Travis Locke & Kylie Ott
International Business Plan
- Jill Kaspar - Professional Selling Event
- Tanner Peters - Merit Award Program
- Max Babcock - Merit Award Program
- Riley Gloe - Merit Award Program
- Mathieu Price - Merit Award Program
- Reid Haskins - Merit Award Program

International Alternates:

- Abbie King
Innovation Plan
- Sky DeMuth & Brooklyn DeMuth
Start-Up Business Plan

- Lily Barker & Nia Hernandez
Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event
- Nick Rumsa & Nolan Roberts
Ethics Team Event
- Nathan Blied
Automotive Services Marketing
- Aiden Conley
Restaurant & Food Service Marketing
- Riddhi Patel & Aiden Sokol
Hospitality Services

BHS BAND & DRAMA

The BHS band performed on Monday, March 6 at Andrews University and **earned a very high Division I rating!** Congratulations!

The BHS Drama Department put on an excellent performance of “Shrek Jr., The Musical”. A wonderful time was had by the cast, crew and audience members!

CLUB & ORGANIZATION ACTIVITIES

In February, Mr. Miller, BHS Physical Education Teacher and Boys Basketball Coach, led an effort to raise money for Bridgman Cares. **Bridgman Cares is an organization that supports all K-12 students who are in need of basic school supplies, clothing and food.** Mr. Miller said, “As a Bridgman Public Schools staff member and coach, I have personally seen how Bridgman Cares changes the lives of our students by boosting their confidence and morale.” The BHS Boys Basketball Program sponsored a fundraiser during Winterfest where the team sold



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

High School News cont.

t-shirts to raise money for the organization. The shirts were sponsored by local businesses. Community members that bought shirts were given free admission to the game. Please thank Mr. Miller for all his hard work and effort!

The BHS Key Club held a bake sale in February to raise funds for the District 8 Michigan Key Club environmental fundraising effort. The club raised \$150 and District 8 raised \$702 in total for the Oceans Conservancy. They also recently held a collection drive in March to benefit the Blossomland Learning Center school store. This is a local effort between St. Joseph, Lakeshore, and Bridgman Key Clubs, and they stocked the store for the Blossomland students to enjoy.

The National Honor Society (NHS) has been busy the past few months with tutoring in the Pass Lab. On February 27 - March 3, the organization hosted "Hat Week" to raise money to help fight Cystic Fibrosis. NHS also hosted the Berrien County Blanket Brigade at the high school in April, where members made blankets for hospice patients. The organization will finish off the school year with the annual "Pennies for Patients" collection and the spring road clean-up.

GSA, Key Club, SADD and Interact Clubs collaborated to celebrate the Great Kindness Challenge in January. They focused on offering acts of kindness throughout the building.



LILEPIX PHOTOGRAPHY

CLASS OF 2023

As the last few weeks of school fly by, our seniors begin to prepare for the next step in their lives. I am so proud of how they have grown over the last four years and am confident that they will flourish in their future endeavors. The future of this class represents great diversity, as many are off to college or trade school, most close by, while others are planning on continuing their post-secondary education quite a distance away. The high school course work completed by some students has allowed them the opportunity to jump directly into the workforce. We are also honored to have a few graduates that are looking to pursue a career in the military. **The staff at BHS wishes our senior class the best of luck in their future careers and lives.**

Commencement exercises have been scheduled for June 4 at 1 p.m. Details will be shared with students and families as the date approaches.

Finally, I would like to thank Bridgman Public Schools and the larger community for their continued support as we approach the end of another successful school year.

Gerald Heath, High School Principal



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Bridgman Aquatic Center



The community pool has something for everyone! If you are a senior (62 years or older) and reside in Lake Township or the City of Bridgman, ALL of our classes are FREE. You can find detailed information on all of our classes, schedules, rentals, swim teams, lap swim and more on our website.

FLOAT YOGA!

Tuesdays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.

This **NEW CLASS** is designed to practice yoga on a floating board, called a Glide Fit. This yoga practice will connect your mind, body, and breath as well as strengthen your core and improve balance. A swim suit is not required for this class. Fitted shorts, pants, tops, or any yoga gear are acceptable. You will need to get in the water to get to the Glide Fit. There are only 6 spots available. If the class is NOT full, drop-ins are welcome! Register online.

BAC CLOSED on MONDAYS

Starting Monday, April 24 the aquatic center will close at 11 a.m. for the Bridgman Elementary School students and their annual time at the pool for swim lessons and water safety training.

KIDS SWIM LESSONS

The next session starts Monday, June 19. Register online beginning June 12.

POOL PARTIES!

Where is the best place to hold your birthday party? Why the Bridgman Aquatic Center, that's where! Jump off the diving board, shoot hoops with your buddy and race your Dad to the other end of the pool – this and more are included in your rental. Reserve your Saturday 3-4 p.m. spot today which includes the use of the balcony for food and beverages and may be decorated for your party.

BRIDGMANPOOL.COM



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



F.C. Reed Middle School News from Principal John Truesdell

Dear Community Members,

I hope spring weather has finally arrived by the time you read this article! As the

end of the 2022 - 2023 school year hurries into focus, the F.C. Reed Middle School faculty is excited about the social, emotional and academic growth that our students have demonstrated over the winter months. Each day has been a proactive step toward preparing for Bridgman High School, and beyond.

NATIONAL READING MONTH

While March was not our favorite month from a weather perspective, indoors it was quite memorable as we celebrated National Reading Month. **The middle school English Language Arts Department organized a building-wide Tournament of Books, selecting 16 popular novels that are frequently read by middle schoolers.** Classes then spent each Friday debating which books were their favorites, ultimately voting on the best novels to see which books would progress through the tournament bracket. Mrs. Foxworthy and Mrs. Knowlton even opened a pop-up “Starbooks” cafe in the building, where students could sip refreshing beverages and explore new literature. **During the month of March, students collectively read over 1,334,490 words in their Reading Plus literacy program.** I’m proud

to share that the average RMS student has grown 1.6 reading levels since the start of the year!

COMPETITIVE MATH TEAM

While students were busy reading during the snowy months, they were also busy expanding their understanding of Mathematics. **Mr. Milligan and the Mathcounts Club, the competitive math team at RMS, had one of their most successful seasons on record.** In fact, the team of 7th and 8th graders earned the prestigious Gold Level designation from the National Math Club. This is a rigorous designation and **RMS was only the 16th math club to earn this award nationwide in 2022 - 2023** when they were notified. At the time of publication, only 72 out of 2,013 middle school clubs (3.5%) across the United States have achieved this status. Further, **F.C. Reed Middle School was the first math club in Michigan to achieve the Gold Level ranking. As of submission of this article, there are only three middle school clubs throughout the entire state that earned this title!**



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MRS. HARAZIN HONORED

I'm proud to share that a member of the RMS faculty was recognized throughout Berrien County for her contributions to public education. In late February, Mrs. Vanessa Harazin, the RMS 5th grade paraprofessional, was notified that she had been selected by Berrien RESA as a finalist for the Excellence in Education Award. This is an award presented by the countywide Parent Advisory Committee and Vanessa was nominated due to her prestigious track record supporting special education students. Mrs. Harazin was one of 8 finalists in Berrien County, and her accomplishment reflects the RMS faculty's dedication to prioritizing ALL students in their preparations for high school.



8TH GRADE HONORS NIGHT

Finally, I'd like to give a special shout out to all our current 8th grade families. Thank you for your partnership over the last four years; it has certainly been an adventure! **We will miss our current 8th graders, who are soon to be promoted to Bridgman High School and become the Class of 2027 at the Grade 8 Honors Night Program on June 8, 2023.** We can't wait to see what they will achieve as they move onward and upward at Bridgman High School.

There are just be a handful of weeks left in the 2022 - 2023 school year. Thank you to all the community members that have embraced the vision of Bridgman Public Schools and have collaborated with our staff to prepare and support all students for lifelong learning.

It is our job to provide the resources and opportunities that inspire resilient students that are critical thinkers. Members of the Bridgman Public School community continue to illustrate why this is such a special place to raise and educate the next generation of Bridgman Bees.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at jtruesdell@bridgmanschools.com if you want to learn more about F.C. Reed Middle School or to inquire how your organization can partner with the middle school staff.

Your partner in education,
John Truesdell, Middle School Principal



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Bridgman Elementary School News from Principal Lori Graves

**The 2023 winner of
the Excellence in
Education award**

was presented to Melissa Payne, a special education teacher at Bridgman Elementary School! Melissa teaches reading, writing, math and social skills to the early elementary and third grade students. Melissa has been teaching at Bridgman for 25 years.

The Berrien RESA Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) created the Excellence in Education Award to recognize individuals who have gone “above and beyond” in their work with special education students.

Melissa was nominated by her peers at Bridgman because of her dedication and commitment to her students, parents and staff. According to Superintendent Peters, **“It’s evident to everyone who has worked with Melissa that she possesses remarkable teaching abilities. The letters and words submitted in favor of her nomination serve as proof of her excellent recognition in this regard. Without a doubt, Melissa is highly deserving of this honor, and we feel grateful to have her as a teacher at Bridgman Elementary School.”**



In addition to her teaching responsibilities, Melissa has promoted the teaching profession and worked with aspiring teachers.

“Melissa has mentored many high school students, and this allowed them to work with a master teacher,” said Lori Graves, Bridgman Elementary School Principal. “Due to Melissa’s guidance and encouragement in the classroom environment, multiple students have pursued a successful career in education.”

Lori Graves, Elementary School Principal



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Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence

from the Chairman, Al Barker

The school year is cruising along – we are almost through the second semester with the printing of this edition of the Bridgman BUZZ!! The Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence (BFEE) wants to finish strong in 2023, and the Bridgman Public School (BPS) administration, faculty and students are contributing to this desired outcome! Together the BFEE and BPS, have collaborated on several grants, with an educational difference being made.

In an effort to maintain our readiness to support our school system, we're looking for volunteers to join our ranks. Your service will support our vision to “Inspire students to positively impact their world.” Foundation Trustees are community volunteers who experience a sense of satisfaction from the success stories told by BPS students and their teachers. Once you get involved, the time spent at board meetings and event planning sessions becomes insignificant after you receive your first story that produces a smile! If interested in becoming a Board Trustee, please share your desire through our web site at bridgmanfoundation.org under the volunteer tab.

Our community once again celebrated a past BFEE tradition with the Now & Forever event held on February 25 at the Bridgman American Legion with

outstanding “eats” from Classic Catering. There was music that brought our theme of the “Wild West” alive and a silent auction too! We want to thank all who donated and purchased silent auction items which became a fundraising event on its own, and also the 100+ patrons that joined us for the celebration!

Keeping the community celebration moving forward, the **11th Annual Lost Dunes Golf Outing will take place on May 8** where once again community support will abound! We will celebrate the golf outing sponsors for their amazing commitment and of course, our golfers who make this a BFEE fundraising anchor event, allowing us to continue to serve BPS!

In closing, I want to reflect on being a volunteer. As we have heard, 80% of success is just showing up. I believe that is what drives a volunteer to do what they do, they care. **Our BFEE vision is to, “Inspire students to positively impact their world.” Where will you show up next to impact a student’s world?**

Al Barker, BFEE Chairman

We strive to inspire students to positively impact their world.



CITY OF BRIDGMAN



City of Bridgman News from the City Manager, Juan Ganum

This is the summer of road construction in Bridgman, as the City undertakes a planned improvement of

Lake Street between Church Street and Gast Road. The project, which will begin shortly after Bridgman Public Schools let out for summer break on June 9, involves the reconstruction of the road surface and the replacement of sanitary sewer mains in certain areas, primarily between Tower Street and Gast Road. Curbs and sidewalks are not planned for replacement, unless they are directly above sewer mains that are impacted by the project.

The total estimated cost of the road improvement portion of the project is \$625,400, of which, 81.15% (or \$511,890) will be funded through federal funds. The City will match the road project with \$113,510 (or 18.85%) of the total cost. The sewer component of the project, estimated at \$254,410, will be covered entirely by the City's Sewer Fund. Both the road reconstruction and sewer main replacement have been budgeted within the City's capital improvement plans.

Among the planned enhancements to the roadway are the creation of a bicycle lane on the south side of Lake Street and more prominent crosswalk markings at the Tower Street intersection. The bicycle lane will extend the existing lane along Lake Street from Weko Beach to Church Street. The City's aim is to work

with Lake Township, which is planning a trail along Gast Road between the Township Park and Bridgman High School, to extend trails and bicycle pathways throughout the community. Our goal is to also improve pedestrian safety, particularly along school routes.

In other news related to Lake Street, **we are sad to announce the retirement of the Bridgman Hometown Hero banners**, one of the City's most popular initiatives in recent years. In 2017, the City asked residents to help celebrate our local military heroes by nominating veterans to be featured on banners. Our community's response was phenomenal, as residents submitted hundreds of photographs of their family members dating from World War I to the present. The City installed the banners along Lake Street between Red Arrow Highway and Church Street during the fall of 2017 and again during the fall of 2018, featuring alternating sets of Hometown Heroes for the past 6 years. **The project showcased Bridgman's deep appreciation of its veterans' noble efforts on behalf of our country.**

With the retirement of the Hometown Hero banners, the City is considering a variety of options for future banner designs and concepts, both during summer and fall. If you have any suggestions, please contact us at 269-465-5144 or through the City's website at bridgman.org under "Contact Us". We are also happy to chat with our residents at the counter as well!

Juan Ganum, City Manager



ASSESSMENT CHANGE NOTICES

Assessment Change Notices were mailed in February. These notices are sent to inform property owners of the new current year Assessed Value (AV), State Equalized Value (SEV) and Taxable Value (TV). They also indicate any changes that may have occurred to the property due to transfers of ownership or Principal Residence Exemption (PRE) changes. It is important to review these notices to make sure they correctly reflect this information as well as your current mailing address. **Please pay close attention to the PRE percentage. Your summer tax bill will be incorrect if the PRE percentage is incorrect.** If you find any errors with the mailing address and/or PRE percentage, please contact the Assessing Department.

The State Tax Commission requires assessors to annually inspect a percentage of properties in each class. This spring, summer and fall you may see me in your neighborhood reviewing properties and updating photos of property improvements. I am looking for changes to the property and verifying that the property information on file is updated and accurate. I will be wearing City of Bridgman identification tags while performing these property reviews. If I stop at your house, I will knock on the front door and/or leave a tag so that you know I was there. These inspections are necessary to maintain current and accurate property data. This data, combined with sales studies, is used to develop fair and accurate assessed values.

The assessing department has property record cards on file for every parcel of land in the city. You are always welcome and encouraged to review your property record card(s).

If you have questions or would like more information call me at 269-465-5144 x104, or email jbaumann@bridgman.org or visit the City of Bridgman website at bridgman.org.

NEW CITY CLERK



Sheila Reitz was appointed as the Bridgman City Clerk on November 21, 2022. Most recently, Sheila served the residents of Berrien County as the Berrien County Elections

Administrator and Chief Deputy County Clerk. Prior to her service at the county, Sheila served as the Buchanan Charter Township Clerk. Sheila has earned the designations of Michigan Professional Municipal Clerk (MiPMC) from the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks and the Certified Municipal Clerk (CMC) designation from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Sheila and her husband reside in Stevensville and she is looking forward to serving the Bridgman community through her new role. Please give her a warm, Bridgman welcome!



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

Election Updates & Changes in the Law by Sheila Reitz, City Clerk

Hello Bridgman residents!

I am beyond excited for the opportunity to serve the residents of the City of Bridgman. I began my service with the City in December 2022 and would like to thank all the residents that I have met and the Bridgman City staff for their warm welcome. I pledge to do my best to serve each of you.

UPCOMING ELECTION

Lake Michigan College has opted to place a proposal on the ballot for August 8, 2023. If you would like to receive an absentee ballot application or be placed on the automatic absentee ballot list, please contact me for more information by calling 269-465-5144.

NEW ELECTION OPPORTUNITIES

As Michigan residents, we can experience the four seasons of spring, summer, fall, and winter. Each season has its own beauty to be enjoyed and brings forth change and opportunities to be explored. Like the seasons here in Michigan, elections also evolve and change with the passage of new legislation. The State Bureau of Elections, county clerks and local clerks across the State of Michigan are working diligently to make sure that all qualified and registered voters are able to express their right to vote in a manner of their preference.

In November 2022, Michigan voters passed Proposal 2022-02. This proposal established new requirements for the administration of elections. Although legislative guidelines to provide a framework for implementation of those requirements are currently being written, here is a brief overview of the new opportunities available to our registered voters within the City of Bridgman:

- Qualified and registered voters in the State of Michigan will now have the opportunity to cast their ballot in person at an early voting site for each statewide and federal election before election day. An early voting site may be a single precinct or a combination of precincts from multiple jurisdictions. Processes and procedures are still being developed by the State Bureau of Elections.
- An absentee ballot cast by a military or overseas voter will now be counted if the ballot was postmarked on or before election day and received by the appropriate election official within six (6) days of election day. It is important to note that this only applies to military and overseas voters. All local ballots must be received no later than 8 p.m. on election day to be counted.
- Qualified and registered Michigan voters have the right to apply to automatically receive an absentee ballot for every future election. You will no longer have to fill out an absentee ballot application for every election.



- Prepaid postage for all absentee ballot applications and ballot return envelopes will now be made available.

As always, if you have any questions about your eligibility to vote or the voting process in the City

of Bridgman, please call me at 269-465-5144 or email me at sreitz@bridgman.org.

I look forward to serving you as your City Clerk.

Sheila Reitz, City Clerk

BRIDGMAN

5k Run/Walk, 10k Run, & 1.1 Mile Fun Run
Saturday, July 8, 2023



Register at: runsignup.com/bridgman5k10k

TO REGISTER NOW, SCAN HERE



QUESTIONS? CONTACT US AT:

BRIDGMAN5K@BRIDGMANSCHOOLS.COM

REGISTRATION

5K RUN/WALK AND 10K RUN

\$30 : THROUGH JUNE 11
T-SHIRT GUARANTEED
WITH OPTION TO UPGRADE

\$35 : JUNE 12 THROUGH JULY 8
T-SHIRT IS NOT GUARANTEED

\$5 : 1.1 MILE FUN RUN
INCLUDES FINISHER MEDAL FOR
ALL YOUTH RUNNERS

SATURDAY, JULY 8TH

7:00 AM - PACKET PICK-UP & LATE REGISTRATION

8:00 AM - 1.1 MILE FUN RUN

8:30 AM - 5K RUN/WALK & 10K RUN

FOR RACE UPDATES, FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM @BRIDGMAN5K10K



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

Parks & Rec News from Sara Ball, Parks & Recreation Director

Summer is quickly approaching. Residents are encouraged to purchase their 2023 seasonal park pass at City Hall.

Residents of Bridgman and Lake Township may purchase a seasonal park pass by presenting their vehicle registration. Senior citizens 65 and older who live in Bridgman or Lake township will receive one free pass per household. **Park passes are valid from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.** The daily parking fee is \$15 per vehicle. Daily parking fees may be paid for at one of three (3) kiosk machines at the beach with a credit card only. Park hours are 5 A.M. to 11 P.M. with parking enforcement hours of 7 A.M. to 8 P.M.

Take your four-legged furry friend for a walk, but please remember to keep them leashed and off the sand at Weko Beach. For those who wish to trek their dogs to the water's edge, we invite you to **use the boardwalk on the south side of Weko to visit the "dog beach"** on the northern edge of Warren Dunes State Park.

The City's Parks and Recreation Department is excited to announce the installation of a new playscape at Toth Park later this year. This project is funded by a grant through the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund of \$50,000, a donation from AEP for \$75,000, a MParks Foundation grant for \$2,500, private donations and the Parks and Recreation Department's own funds of \$200,000. The estimated project totals \$312,000.

The Parks and Recreation Department is an enterprise fund, which means that it is a self-supporting government fund that sells goods and services to the public for a fee. The Parks Fund is supported by charges for camping and cabin reservations, beach parking, kayak and paddleboard rentals, Weko Beach House rentals, and concessions.



If you have questions about the Toth Park playscape project, campground or Weko Beach House reservations or general questions about Bridgman parks, please contact Sara Ball, Parks and Recreation Director at 269-465-5144 or sball@bridgman.org.



One of two playscape options being considered at Toth Park.



For a list of the 2023 Recycling Events hosted by Berrien County, go to berriencounty.org/564/Berrien-County-Community-Recycling-Event.



Concerts start at 7 P.M.
Free Admission

- | | |
|--------|---|
| May 28 | PastTime Oldies |
| Jun 11 | Sean Miller
Acoustic Singer
Americana |
| Jun 25 | The Third Degree
Classic Rock |
| Jul 9 | Blue Shoes
40's Hits to Today |
| Jul 23 | Van Dyke Review
Rock n' Roll |
| Aug 6 | Kyle Brown & the Human
Condition
Folk Rock Fusion |
| Aug 20 | Saturday June Band
Rock n' Roll |
| Sep 3 | Whateverly Brothers
Acoustic Goodness |

Weko Beach Campground
5301 Lake Street, Bridgman, MI 49106

The City reserves the right to cancel at any time due to health regulations and inclement weather.



CITY OF BRIDGMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT



With the nicer weather approaching, please remember that unregistered and non-working vehicles parked on properties are in violation of the city's anti-blight ordinance. All vehicles must be properly registered and in normal working order or the property owner can be cited for ordinance violations. This ordinance also pertains to junk, debris and long grass on any residential or business property as well. Let's keep Bridgman looking great!

Thank you and have a safe summer!

Chief Dan Unruh

WEKO BEACH

We would also like to remind everyone who is planning to enjoy Weko Beach & Campground this season that **NO ALCOHOL or DRUGS are allowed on the premises**. No animals are allowed on the beach, sand or boat launch. Signs *are* posted. Animals must always remain on leashes and can reach Warren Dunes State Park by walking south via the boardwalk only. All vehicles must have a parking sticker or season pass visible at all times and be properly parked while at Weko Beach.

SPEED LIMITS

We encourage all residents and visitors that while enjoying the Bridgman area, they obey all speed limits throughout the city along with watching for people/children walking and riding bikes.

We will again be placing the department's radar signs throughout the city in efforts to slow speeders down.

Here are some violations that officers will be strictly enforcing:

- Disobeying/rolling through stop signs
- Passing vehicles on the right
- Improper lane use
- School bus passing

PROPERTY CHECKS

We also provide property checks of our residents' homes while out of town or on vacation. Feel free to contact us to have our officers check your property while you're gone.





facebook.com/bridgmanpd

BRIDGMAN.ORG

9765 Maple Street
Bridgman, MI 49106
269-465-5144

The Bridgman Police Department provides 24-hour coverage, along with certain services such as: vehicle lockouts, property checks, bank escorts, background checks and unwanted/expired medication disposal. We also have several dedicated part-time and reserve police officers available to assist us when needed.



School Bus Safety Tips for Drivers: Stop Means Stop!

The majority of bus-related deaths and injuries involve pedestrians - mostly children - who are struck by a bus or injured when they are exiting the bus to cross traffic.

- Slow down and prepare to stop when a slowing bus has its overhead yellow lights flashing.
- Stop at least 20 feet away from buses when red lights are flashing, unless driving in the opposite direction on a divided highway.
- Slow down in or near school and residential areas.
- Look for clues-such as safety patrols, crossing guards, bicycles, and playgrounds-that indicate children might be in the area.
- Watch for children between parked cars and other objects.





An Update from CGA President, John Bonkoske

The CGA has had an excellent year! For those of you not aware, the CGA - The Greater Bridgman Area

Council for Growth and Advancement - represents a mission to promote and grow our community through various economic growth and development strategies.

A year ago, we set out a master plan with multiple goals to lay the groundwork for a better Bridgman and a more resilient and productive CGA. This included a rebranding of our name to more clearly define and accurately represent our mission, researching and applying for various grants, creating a new website, developing a viable and sustainable marketing and media presence, educating ourselves on economic development initiatives, and integrating and aligning ourselves with larger economic growth entities. This blueprint laid the foundation for our continued progress and growth.

I can confidently say that, along with the participation of our excellent executive committee and board members, we have achieved our planned goals and look toward a bright future of on-the-ground, tangible growth in the years to come. This is an exciting time for us - and for Greater Bridgman. Here are a few things that the CGA has been up to lately, as well as some of our plans for the future.

BRIDGMAN COURTYARD PROJECT

We're particularly excited about our recent partnership with the City of Bridgman to lead a successful crowdfunding campaign through the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Public Spaces Community Places program. The Bridgman Courtyard project was a huge success!

We exceeded our \$50,000 goal through crowdfunding, which was then matched by a \$50,000 grant from MEDC. Talk about a win for (and by) the community!

This creative placemaking project is located between Accents and Rochefort's on Lake Street. You will soon be able to enjoy a transformed outdoor space that includes a wooden pergola structure, all new furnishings, fresh concrete, and a vibrant rug mural designed and installed by the Bridgman High School Art Club. **We are proud of the collaborative efforts that made this possible and would like to thank everyone who contributed to this exciting project.** We look forward to enjoying this new community-built public space with you this summer!



COURTYARD CONCERT SERIES

In 2022, the CGA responded to several business owner requests to help increase foot traffic along Lake Street on Sundays. **The CGA developed and implemented the Courtyard Concert series, which provided free outdoor concerts every Sunday afternoon from June through August.** The casual concerts were put on by local, acoustic musicians and were well attended by residents and visitors. The neighboring businesses noticed an increase in foot traffic and sales during the concerts! This programming was made possible thanks to sponsorships from many local businesses. Based on the success of last year, we're excited to bring Courtyard Concerts back for the 2023 season in the newly built Courtyard! **Please watch for the lineup on our Facebook page!**

MAKERS TRAIL FESTIVAL

The CGA hosted the Makers Trail Festival last June. This event drew thousands of people to Weko Beach to enjoy local breweries, wineries, distilleries, food trucks and several live bands throughout the day.

While we were thrilled with the overall turnout, the CGA decided the event would be better managed by professional event planners. **We are excited to share that St. Joseph Today has taken the lead on planning the Makers Trail Festival in 2023 and beyond.** Please be sure to give them a warm welcome to Weko Beach!



BRIDGMAN COURTYARD RENDERING PROVIDED COURTESY OF JULIE STRATING.

HOLIDAY VILLAGE

Bridgman was bustling with activity during Holiday Village in December. Many businesses hosted festive events such as a pet parade, photos with Santa, cookies and storytime with Mrs. Claus, temporary tattoos, paint your own decorations, holiday movies with popcorn, food and beverage specials, caroling, the tree lighting ceremony, a live band with dancing, and so much more. We were thrilled to introduce free trolley rides so participants could easily access all of the fun. Additionally, a scavenger hunt was added to give the kiddos a little extra adventure!

Thank you to everyone who planned and contributed to this wonderful community event. And thank you to all the visitors who joined the festivities that day! We are looking forward to hosting Holiday Village 2023!

BUSINESS & BREWS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

We just held our first Business & Brews Roundtable Discussion at the end of March. Business owners and managers were invited to join us at Tapisy Brewing to learn more about what the CGA has been up to and brainstorm ideas to spark economic growth in our community.

We had a wonderful turnout with great collaboration. Business owners and managers are invited to join us at upcoming meetings.



If you're interested in getting involved or supporting our efforts, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. We'd love to hear from you. Our new website is in development but in the meantime, you can reach us at facebook.com/BridgmanArea.



WHAT IS THE CGA?

The CGA is proud to be the invisible glue that connects people and builds relationships that form the framework for strong communities.

As an all-volunteer run organization and board, we rely on community support to continue our work. In a thousand ways, our board members work tirelessly to be the grassroots leaders and “keepers of the spirit” upon which so much of community cohesiveness and thoughtful progress depend.

The CGA believes that economic development is just as important as improving the quality of life for *everyone* in the area. Bridgman is a great place to live, work, and play, and we want to keep it that way.

By working together, we can make the area an even better place to be. Thank you for being a part of the Greater Bridgman community, and we look forward to what the future holds!

BOARD MEMBERS

President

John Bonkoske

Vice President

Julie Strating

Treasurer

Bob Clark

Secretary

Tara Heiser

Director

Marty Mason

Director

Rich Kubsch

Director

Brett Boyd

Director

Georgia Gipson

Director

Beth McNeil

Director

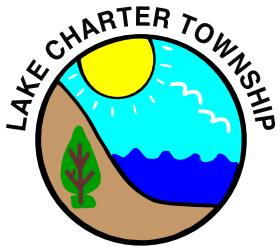
Kathy Ramso

Director

Cheri Heward

Director

Amanda Drew



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP



Township News from Supervisor, Zach Carson

Dear Township Residents,

Now that the flowers are starting to bloom and the grass is getting greener, it means spring is here! It is a busy time of year!

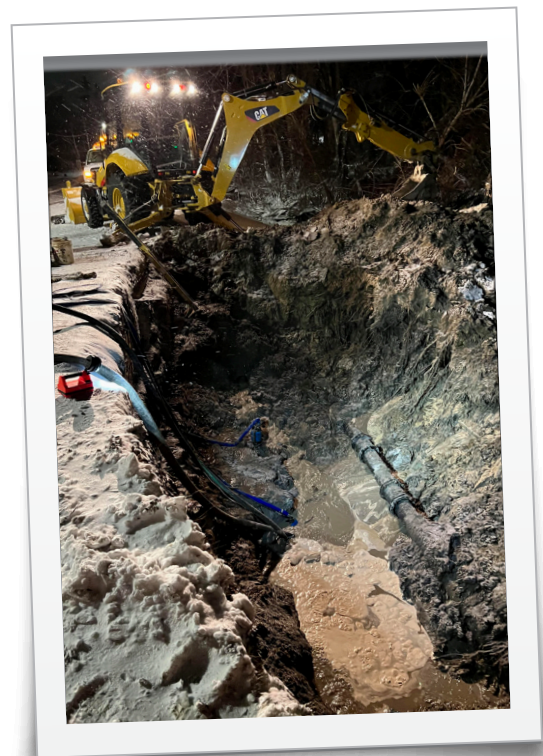
The park and cemetery maintenance workers have been busy with spring cleanup and getting the water turned on at all of the properties so we can keep them looking great. Here in the office, elected officials are continuing to do our part to expand broadband services in our community. **We are committed to working with Berrien County to get an internet service provider to apply for Realizing Opportunity with Broadband Infrastructure Networks (ROBIN) grant funding** which would get the ball rolling. We also plan to apply for additional funding opportunities to support the work.

I continue to use my time in the office to better the community in several ways. By the time this article is published, **I will have completed a citizen planner class to help me better understand the duties of the Planning Commission and what it takes to build a great community.**

I have also attended several fire and police meetings, and even a few calls. I have always felt that walking in someone else's shoes helps you understand what it

takes to do their jobs. For example, on Christmas Eve, I helped our outstanding water department employees fix a watermain break - which was a project that lasted well into the night! **I would like to personally thank the neighboring residents that brought us food and drinks and those that stopped in the Township Hall to thank us for working that cold night.** It's always a great feeling to see all the kind people that make up the wonderful community we live in!

Zach Carson, Supervisor



Building & Zoning News

from Building Administrator, Rich Kubsch

I am excited to provide a short update on the activities of the Township Planning Commission! The Planning Commission has just received the final Master Plan draft and is starting to wind down this process. The Commission will review the final copy for any small errors, post it for the public to review, and finally send it to our neighboring communities for comments. Hopefully the Master Plan will be completed within a few months.

Two new members have joined the Planning Commission, making the five-member board a seven-member board. Appointed by the Supervisor and Township Board are **Bill Shuler and Jason Kaeding**. We are happy to have these individuals join our team! Thank you to Bill and Jason as well as the other appointed members for donating their time and talents to serve this community.

Up next, **the Planning Commission will be working to update the zoning ordinance**. The last time the ordinance had an overhaul was in 2011, receiving only minor updates over the years. We will be reviewing the ordinance in detail, looking for any errors and updating any possible shortfalls. This fall, residents will have the opportunity to attend scheduled Planning Commission meetings where we will review the proposed updates publicly.

Lake Township had the opportunity to host a Citizen Planner course which was facilitated by Michigan State University Extension Government & Community Vitality Educator, Tyler Augst. The classes are designed for planning commissioners, zoning board of appeals members and legislative leaders for local government. The class had 50 people attend from local governmental offices from all over southwest Michigan. Classes were held every Wednesday night for 6 sessions total. It is always good to see people who are in local government positions seek education to improve their skills. Tyler did a great job teaching and keeping this large group involved!

That's all for now. Have a great spring and summer!

Rich Kubsch, Building Administrator

LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Supervisor

Zach Carson

Treasurer

Bob Clark

Clerk

Gloria Payne

Building Admin

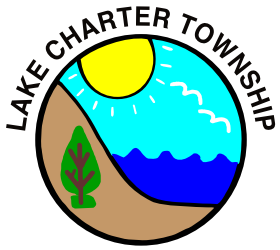
Rich Kubsch

Water

Superintendent

Jeff Burkhard

**Find helpful info
on our website
including
building forms,
permits, zoning
forms & maps,
and more!**



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP



Treasurer, Park & Trail News from Bob Clark

We are busy preparing for our 2023 annual audit and processing tax bills. **Be sure to look for your 2023 summer tax bills in early July** and don't forget to update any address changes!

Information regarding tax payments is always available on our website along with resources related to tax payments, assessments, and tax history.

The park opened April 1 and is ready for another great year! The spring season includes baseball, softball and soccer leagues all taking the field. **There are 360 youths registered to play various sports this spring.** We estimate that equates to around 170 games!

- We are sure baseball and softball fans will enjoy the newly renovated concession stands that are open this season.
- The disc golf course was busy during the mild winter with an estimated 750 rounds played. In 2022, an estimated 4,000 rounds were played!
- There are two cross country meets and four disc golf tournaments also on the calendar.
- The pavilions are rented for 50 gatherings already in 2023. If you want to rent a pavilion, do it soon, dates are filling up fast! Simply check our website or give us a call at 269-465-6601.
- New exercise equipment is ready for use for the first time this year. It is located east of the restrooms.
- A new playground structure is slated to be installed early this summer replacing the one at the south pavilion. The north pavilion structure will also receive some repairs. These playgrounds are heavily used and we strive to keep them safe.





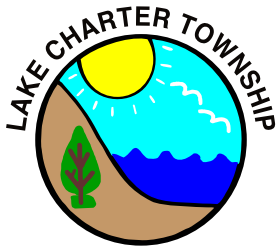
We are still working on grants for the trail project from Bridgman High School and the City of Bridgman to the park. Our second grant request failed the first round; we are now on our third. Hopefully the third time will be a charm! It will be an exciting new way for residents and visitors to get non-motorized access to the park. A walkable, safe way for youth and adults to get to the park will be well received!

The Berrien County Trail Master Plan has been completed!

The Marquette Greenway connecting New Buffalo to the trail that will ultimately connect to Chicago has been approved and funded. Several of the connecting trails along Red Arrow have also been completed.

Work to be completed in 2023 includes trailways coming past Sawyer to Lake Township. We are excited to start planning the connection through Warren Dunes State Park to Bridgman. The plan will ultimately connect many parks and communities in Berrien County and provide non-motorized off-road trails for cyclists, joggers and walkers. Trails have been shown to be very important to economic growth, attracting visitors to the area, and providing local residents with a healthy, safe way to enjoy our parks and surrounding areas.

Bob Clark, Treasurer _____



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP



Election Updates & Changes in the Law from Gloria A. Payne, Township Clerk

There are a few important election updates and changes in law that you should be aware of:

ELECTION UPDATE

Lake Michigan College has moved their millage renewal election from May 2, 2023 to August 8, 2023. However, Lakeshore School voters will still vote on May 2, 2023 at Lake Township Hall for their bond proposal.

CHANGES IN ELECTION LAW

Old Permanent Absent Voter List and New Absent Voter List – In November 2022, the voters of Michigan passed Proposal 2022-02. This proposal established new guidelines for obtaining an absentee ballot. The Michigan Constitution now recognizes that residents, once registered, may submit a one-time **SINGLE SIGNED ABSENT VOTER BALLOT APPLICATION COVERING ALL FUTURE ELECTIONS.**

Recently, Lake Charter Township voters who were on the Absent Voter List received a letter asking them whether they wish to be on the “new” Permanent Absentee Voter Ballot List by completing a form. **The “old” Permanent Absentee Voter Application list**

is being retired and will no longer be in effect.

If you wish to be on the Permanent Absentee Voter Ballot List, you can access the sign up form by visiting Lake Charter Township’s website, lake-township.org, under the Elections tab.

Please be advised, if you mark “YES” on the form, you will be placed on the Permanent Absentee Voter Ballot list and will receive an absentee ballot before every future election until you rescind the request or one of the following takes place:

A voter’s exercise of this right shall be rescinded only if:

- The voter submits a signed request to rescind.
- The voter is no longer qualified to vote.
- The Secretary of State or the election official responsible for issuing the voter an absent voter ballot receives reliable information that the voter has moved to another state or has moved within this state without updating their voter registration address.
- The voter does not vote for 6 consecutive years.

The exercise of this right shall remain in effect without the need for a new absent voter ballot application should the voter change their residence in this state and update their voter registration address.



If you mark “NO” on the form, you will need to request an Absentee Ballot Application before every election that you wish to vote by absentee ballot. You will **NOT** be placed on the Permanent Absentee Voter list.

Nine Days of Early Voting – This law also enacted 9 days of early voting. Nine days before a “State or Federal Election” (not a Local Election), you will be able to come into the office and cast your ballot through the tabulator, without having to wait to do so on the day of the actual election. If your personal preference is to come in and vote in person, that option will continue to be available to you on the designated election date.

New Residents – If you are a new resident in Lake Township and have not registered to vote, the application for voter registration can also be found on our website, lake-township.org, under the Elections tab.

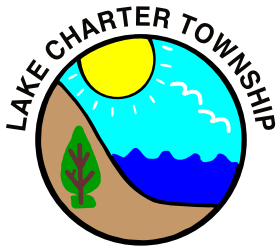
If you wish to serve as an **Election Worker**, an application form is also under the Elections Tab on the website.

If you have questions, please feel free to email me at gpayne@lake-township.org or call 269-465-6601, ext. 111. I will be happy to assist you.

Gloria Payne, Clerk



The Township's new firetruck!



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Water System News from Jeff Burkhard

Hello Everyone,

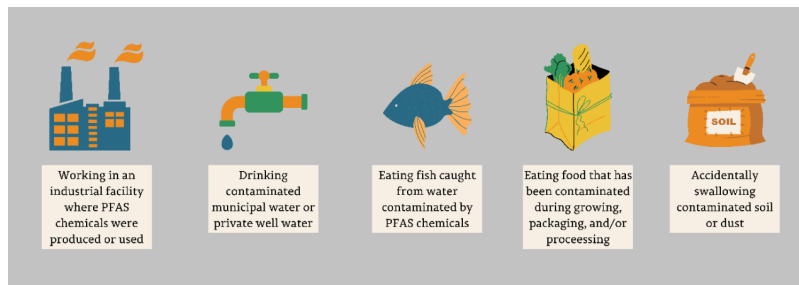
It's hard to believe that we will be making our way through spring by the time you receive this newsletter. Time doesn't stop for anyone.

I want to inform everyone that the **2022 Lake Charter Township Water System Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is now available.** This report is sometimes referred to as the "Water Quality Report" and can be accessed on our website at LakeCharterTownshipWater.org/ccr1. The report includes information regarding water quality, where your water comes from, chemical analysis reporting, resource listings, and other valuable information. Should you have any questions about your water quality, please do not hesitate to contact me.

NEW EPA REGULATIONS

Regulations are constantly changing based on new science or past events. A few up-and-coming issues of interest include the new regulations that Environmental Protection Agency will consider for **Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)**. I have written before about PFAS, which are called "the forever chemicals". These compounds have been in use since the 1940s and 1950s and are still used in some countries, but are making their way into our environment. You probably have heard about them

through the news media. PFAS compounds have been phased out in many manufacturing applications and are being replaced with other compounds, but there is scrutiny with them as well. **PFAS compounds are found in one form or another in products that promote "waterproof" or "stain resistance."** Michigan's Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (MI EGLE) office has a great website with information about PFAS at Michigan.gov/pfasresponse.



In 2024, we will participate in a study that will sample for other PFAS compounds and Lithium.

Lithium is being studied because of its use in pharmaceuticals and batteries. This is another reason to consider how we use and dispose of products.

Thanks to a revision in the Lead & Copper Rule, we must verify customers' service line material to their home. We will be contacting 120 residents to go through a verification process to meet this

*26% of the world's population **STILL** does not have access to clean, safe drinking water.*



requirement. The process involves making this verification at three points. You will receive more information if chosen based on the required criteria.

We will also complete the remaining residential exterior cross-connection inspections as mandated by MI EGLE. If your inspection has not already been completed, you will be notified by Hydro Corp., which performs this service for the township. The inspections will be scheduled beginning in June and July.

A cross-connection is a point in a plumbing system where it is possible for a non-potable substance, such as a chemical, to come into contact with the potable (safe) drinking water supply. If you would like to learn

more, we have a great video on the township water plant website, LakeCharterTownshipWater.org.

Water is a precious commodity yet easy to take for granted. **In fact, 26% of the world's population still doesn't have access to clean, safe drinking water.** This seems hard to fathom with modern technology. With that in mind, please enjoy your Lake Township water. If you have any questions, please email me at jburkhardtwater@lake-township.org or call me at 269-465-3850.

Jeff Burkhard, Superintendent Lake Charter Township Water System

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility.

You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets! Pet waste gets washed into waterways and contains pathogenic bacteria and parasites that can be harmful to humans.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Proper disposal of household hazardous waste such as used motor oil, oil-based paint, cleaning solvents, anti-freeze, pesticides and herbicides, etc. is critical to prevent groundwater contamination





BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY



A Letter from the Library by Sarah Skinner, Director

As Michiganders, we always look forward to Spring when we can get back outside and enjoy all of the wonders our beautiful state has to offer. That time has finally arrived! The staff at Bridgman Public Library (BPL) are looking forward to welcoming you with a host of exciting programs and resources. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for our new logo, which premiered in April!

If you stop by, you will find that all of the non-fiction for youth is now shelved in the appropriate area. Thanks to a generous donation from the Friends of Bridgman Public Library, we were able to purchase new shelving for both the Children's Area *and* the Teen Area. The non-fiction titles previously housed in the Adult Collection are now more accessible to those who will be reading them. Little hands won't have to reach so far for that amazing book on Dinosaurs!

The Friends of Bridgman Public Library are always looking for ways to support our efforts, especially when it comes to children. We are so grateful for such an active group. If you would like to volunteer your time with a wonderful organization, please consider joining. Applications are available at the Library.

Our Community Garden is back for its 11th year! Gardeners have returned for another growing season

filled with sunshine, organic food, and friends. This unique program provides community members with a place to grow their own food by renting a plot for the growing season. True to the definition of a Community Garden, our gardeners work together to maintain the garden grounds by mowing, trimming, and pulling weeds in the shared Community Beds. This is a great opportunity to learn about gardening or teach the next generation the importance of growing organic food. BPL hopes to expand the garden in the near future so that more of our community can take part. We look forward to "growing bigger" with our gardeners this season!

As always, our team has come up with some great activities and prizes for our Summer Reading Program. This year, the program runs from June 19 through the end of July. We have a program for every age so be sure to sign up starting June 12!

Finally, BPL would like to welcome two new staff members! Mandi joined our Circulation and Patron Services Team in January. You may have seen her smiling face while checking out your materials. She also leads our Baby and Me program on Wednesday mornings. She's a real gem so be sure to say "Hello" the next time you are in!

We would also like to welcome our new Program Specialist, Kyle, who joined us in March. He comes to



us with many fresh ideas for programs geared toward everyone in our community. Be on the lookout for new and exciting programs this spring and summer. And make sure to give Kyle a “high five” if you enjoyed his program!

As always, thank you for your support of BPL. We value your opinion and welcome your feedback!

Kindest regards,
Sarah Skinner, Director



ADULT PROGRAMS

Zoom links and additional information can be found on the library website at bridgmanlibrary.com.

ARTPLAY FOR ADULTS

MAY 3, JUN 7, JUL 5, AUG 2 – 6 P.M.

Explore different art processes in a fun, relaxed environment. No art skills required.

SHOTS FIRED IN TERMINAL TWO

MAY 23 – 6:30 P.M.

Author William Hazelgrove will talk about his book and share his personal experience of being at the Fort Lauderdale airport when shots were fired in terminal two. He will describe the chain of events that set the stage for this tragedy and ultimately ended with five people dead.

SCARLET IN BLUE

JUN 15 – 6:30 P.M. AT FOREVER BOOKS IN ST. JOSEPH (312 STATE ST.)

A local library collaboration meet and greet with Michigan Notable Author winner, Jennifer Murphy. Jennifer will talk about her book, Scarlet in Blue.

HOURS

Mon – Thur
10 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

Friday
10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

Saturday
10 A.M. TO 4 P.M.

Sunday
CLOSED

LIBRARY BOARD

President
Liz Bogue

Vice-President
Ed Valauskas

Secretary
Sue Collins

Treasurer
Jim Kole

Trustee
Rick Fuller

Trustee
Sue Janoskey

Trustee
Aaron Noll

Trustee
John Wilk

Trustee
Catherine Worcester



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

ADULT PROGRAMS CONT.

ALL TOGETHER NOW - ADULT SUMMER READING

JUN 19 – JUL 31

Sign up at the library beginning June 12. Complete the challenge by reading five books (printed or audio) checked out from the library to receive a prize and to be entered into a grand prize drawing.

SUMMER AIR FRYER MEALS

JUN 20 – 6 P.M. *via Zoom*

Our favorite Culinary Instructor, Mary Spencer, is back and will be cooking up some air fryer meals perfect for the summertime. Bon appetite!

ROOTS TO REMEMBER

JUL 25, AUG 1, 8, 22 – 6:30 P.M.

Have you ever wanted to learn about your ancestry but didn't know where to begin? In this 4-week series, Karianne Silva will provide instruction and guided practice into the world of genealogy. Please bring a laptop if you'd like to do research.

ON-GOING ADULT PROGRAMS

KNIT N YARN

MONDAYS, 1 – 3 P.M. AND EVERY 3RD TUESDAY, 6 – 8 P.M.
MAY 16, JUN 20, JUL 18, AUG 15

Learn to knit or crochet, share your latest project or get help with a yarning problem.

2ND WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP

5:30 P.M. *In person*

Books will be ready for check out one month before the meeting. See library website for complete 2023 book list.

- May 10 *The Death and Life of the Great Lakes* by Dan Egan
- Jun 14 *The Old Man and the Sea* by Ernest Hemingway
- Jul 12 *Run Rose Run* by Dolly Parton & James Patterson
- Aug 9 *Lord of the Flies* by William Golding

ALZHEIMER'S CAREGIVER SUPPORT GROUP

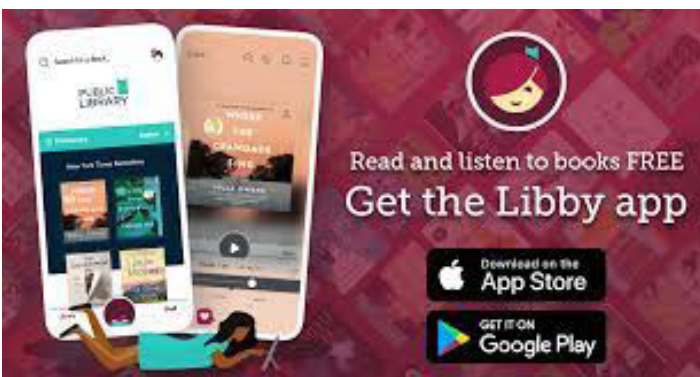
LAST TUESDAY OF THE MONTH AT 2 P.M.

Build a support system with people who understand.

NEW! MAKERS SPACE

1ST THURSDAY & 3RD WEDNESDAY 5 – 7 P.M.
BEGINNING MAY 4

Drop in during open hours and work on your personal projects. 3D printing, Cricut, art supplies and more are available to use. Children must have adult supervision. See library website for more details and for supply/material fees.



ONE-ON-ONE TECH HELP

Need tech help? For assistance using the library catalog, requesting interlibrary loans, downloading Libby/Hoopla items to your device or for basic computer/smart phone help, please sign up on the library website for a 30-minute one-on-one session.



YOUTH PROGRAMS

SCIENCE BLACK LIGHT PUPPET SHOW

MAY 9, 4 P.M.

Science comes alive when Master Puppeteer Jean Kuecher and her glowing fluorescent puppets present beautiful science stories in a black light stage. Preschool - 5th grade.

KIDS & TEENS COOK-OFF

MAY 17, JUN 21, JUL 19, AUG 16
4 – 5 P.M. *In person and via Zoom*

Part 1. Join Culinary Instructor Mary Spencer on Zoom for a 4-part series on dishes that tweens and teens would enjoy making...and eating!

Part 2. Participants will then have the opportunity to show off their own culinary skills by submitting a dish for a cook-off competition at the library. Grades 5 – 12. Sign up on our website.

FAMOUS ILLUSTRATOR ART WORKSHOPS

12:30 – 2 P.M.

May 20 *Todd Parr* (grades K-5)

Jun 10 *Ben Clanton* (grades 2-5)* **2 – 3:30 P.M.**

Jul 22 *Mo Willems* (grades K-5)

Aug 19 *Beatrix Potter* (grades 2-5)



ALL TOGETHER NOW – YOUTH SUMMER READING

JUN 19 – JUL 31, AGE 2 – GRADE 12

Enjoy six weeks of reading and summer-time fun! Register at the library beginning June 12. Track your reading time and earn prizes!



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

YOUTH PROGRAMS CONT.

SUNPRINTS

JUN 21, 12 – 2 P.M.

Make art using the power of the sun! Put cutout shapes on light sensitive paper and let the sun cook your art to perfection. Open to all ages.

MOVIE MONDAY

2 P.M.

Jun 26 *The Lego Movie* (PG)

Jul 10 *Top Gun: Maverick* (PG-13)

Jul 24 *Raya and the Last Dragon* (PG)

CUP-STACKING WITH MR. JIM

JUN 27, 3 P.M.

Experience the magic of Mr. Jim at this delightful cup-stacking program. Ages 6 – 13. Space is limited. Registration opens May 27.

BUBBLE DAY

JUN 29, 10:30 A.M. – 12 P.M.

Come cool off while having some wet and whimsical bubble fun in our Toth Street parking lot! There will be plenty of bubble wands and bubble juice, along with sponges and water.

ANIMAL SLEEPOVER

JUL 6, 6 – 7 P.M. (DROP OFF)

JUL 7, 10:30 – 11:30 A.M. (PICK UP)

Drop off your stuffed animal friends for a library sleepover! Animals will enjoy activities, make new friends, and stay the night at the library. A photo album of all of the night's activities will be provided to each child along with juice and pastries at pick-up the next morning!

CLUE BY THE GARDEN

JUL 12, 10:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M. & 12:30 P.M.

Experience the classic game of Clue, but life-sized and outside! Teams will work together in the Toth Street parking lot to try and figure out who killed Mr. Boddy. This program has three sessions and is open to all ages. Space is limited. Registration opens June 12. Only one registration is required per team.

SARETT NATURE CENTER

JUL 14, 11 A.M. & 1 P.M.

Naturalists from Sarett Nature Center will bring some fascinating animals to the library patio and will teach you all about them. This program has two sessions and is open to all ages. Space is limited. Registration opens June 14.

SUNDAE DAY

JUL 17, 11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

What is the best way to beat the summer heat? With ice cream of course! Join us for a make-your-own sundae bar on the library patio. Limit one per person. Space is limited. Registration opens June 17.

**VISIT BRIDGMANLIBRARY.COM FOR
MORE INFO AND TO REGISTER!**



LOCAL AUTHOR TALK WITH REGAN KEATING

JUL 28, 2 P.M.

Regan Keating, author of *Good Day, Harbor Country!*, will talk about her book, writing, and what being an author is all about. Grades 1 – 8.

ON-GOING YOUTH PROGRAMS

EARLY LITERACY CLASSES

Every Tuesday, ages 2 - 5

Toddler and Me 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

Story Hour 10:30 a.m.

BABY & ME

EVERY WEDNESDAY, 10:30 A.M.

Enjoy 30 minutes of guided songs, movement and play with your little one. Newborn – 18 months.

LITTLE EXPLORERS

**MAY 12, 26, JUN 9, 23, JUL 14, 28, AUG 11, 25
10 A.M.**

Preschoolers will explore process art, sensory play and STEAM activities. Ages 2 – 5.

PAWSITIVE READING

**MAY 9, JUN 13, JUL 11, AUG 8
3:30 – 4:30 P.M.**

Young children can practice reading to Zuzu, the licensed therapy dog. Please call the library to reserve a 15-minute time slot.



NEW! D & D CLUB

**MAY 10, JUN 14, JUL 12, AUG 9, SEP 13
4 – 6 P.M.**

Participants will learn how to make a character, be a Dungeon Master (DM) and play Dungeons & Dragons (D & D). Please bring a set of D & D dice. Ages 6+, adults welcome too!



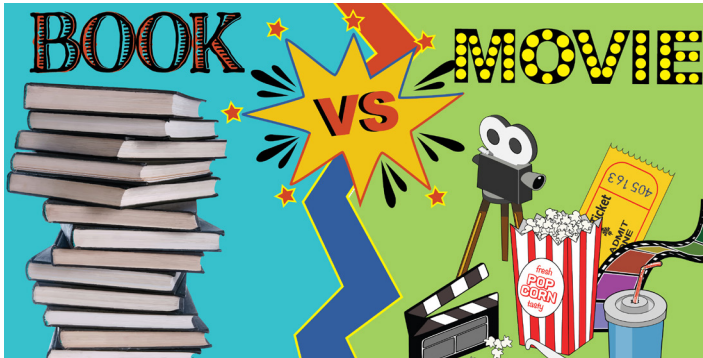
NEW! POKÉMON CARD LEAGUE

MAY 23, JUL 25, AUG 22, 4:30 – 5:30 P.M.

Kids will gather to learn how to play the Pokémon card game, learn to build their own decks for the best advantages, and more! Bring a deck of Pokémon cards if you have them. Grades 1 – 5.



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY



NEW! BOOK VS MOVIE CLUB

4 – 7 P.M.

Participants will have one month to read the book and then they will gather at the library to watch the movie adaptation. Sign up online. Grades 5 – 12.

May 24 *Holes* (PG)

Jun 28 *Percy Jackson and the Lightning Thief* (PG)

Jul 26 *The Martian* (PG-13)

Aug 23 *The Hunger Games* (PG-13)

TEEN PROGRAMS

MAKE A VIDEO
FROM START
TO FINISH

MAKE A VIDEO FROM START TO FINISH

MAY 8 & 22, 5:30 – 7 P.M.

Local video and animation professional, Nicolás Rojas, will lead this workshop in two parts. In the first workshop, learn how to plan and shoot a video. In the second one, learn to edit your video. Please bring a filming device and a laptop with Adobe, if you have it. Grades 9 – 12.

DIGITAL ANIMATION BASICS

JUN 12, 5:30 – 7 P.M.

Are you interested in learning animation? Local video and animation professional, Nicolás Rojas, will teach the principles of animation. Each participant will learn to make a short abstract animation. Please bring a laptop with Adobe, if you have it. Grades 9 – 12.



**FREE WIFI
ALL DAY, EVERYDAY**

**Sign-on to: BPL Public Wi-fi.
No password required.**

Available inside the library as well as
outside on the library grounds.



MOTION GRAPHICS BASICS

JUN 19, 5:30 – 7 P.M.

Motion graphics is the art of animated graphics and text. Learn the basics of this niche digital skill with local video and animation professional, Nicolás Rojas. Please bring a laptop with Adobe, if you have it. Grades 9 – 12.

PHOTO SCAVENGER HUNT

JUL 20, 11 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.

Hey teens, how well do you know your town? Join us for a walking scavenger hunt - taking pictures of items and locations around Bridgman. Each object is worth points and the team with the most points will win a mystery prize! Registration opens June 20. Grades 6 – 12.

GOOD TO KNOW

DISPLAY CASE

If you would like to showcase a hobby or collection in our display case, please contact Denise at 269-465-3663 or bridgmanill@bridgmanlibrary.com.

LIBRARY EMAIL NEWS

Stay in the know! Sign up to receive library emails on all of our upcoming programs and events. Register on the library website at bridgmanlibrary.com.



**Discover Michigan using your library card.
Check out a pass for one of Michigan's
premiere cultural attractions!**



MAKERS SPACE

CRICUT
3D PRINTER
ARTS & CRAFTS
SEWING

**MAKERS SPACE
OPEN HOURS:**
MONTHLY
1ST THURSDAYS
&
3RD WEDNESDAYS
5-7PM

9964 GAST ROAD, BRIDGMAN, MI 49106

bridgmanschools.com

Office: 269-465-5432

Fax: 269-466-0221

CITY OF BRIDGMAN 2023 SPRING CLEANUP SCHEDULE

Please Note:
Bagged Leaf & Brush will be
picked up on the same day

APRIL

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2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30							

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JUNE



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JULY

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30	31						

AUGUST

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27	28	29	30	31			

-  BAGGED LEAF & BRUSH PICKUP
-  LARGE TRASH PICKUP

Bagged Leaf & Brush Pick Up is indicated in **GREEN** on the calendar. The city requires the use of biodegradable paper leaf bags. City workers will not pick up leaf bags made from any other material. Please limit this to your yard cleanup. Commercial tree removal and/or trimmings will not be picked up. City workers will spend no more than 15 minutes at each property. If you have a large quantity of brush, arrangements can be made for you to haul the brush to the city composting site.

Leaf and brush burning within the city limits is prohibited.

Large Trash Pick Up is indicated in **PINK** on the calendar. Items not accepted include those larger than a refrigerator, tires and construction material. Refrigerators and air conditioners must have the freon removed with a tag attached indicating as such. A complete list of accepted items is available on the city's website and at City Hall. Republic Services also will pick up your extra-large items for a fee. To schedule such a pickup, call Republic Services at (269) 465-3773.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Details, including a schedule, are available on the county's web site. <http://www.berriencounty.org/564/Household-Hazardous-Waste-Collections>, or by calling the County Environmental Specialist at (269) 983-7111 ext. 8234.