

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

MAY 2022



Bob Clark of Lake Township

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION

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

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION

SCHOOL NEWS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Superintendent
Shane M. Peters

On behalf of the Bridgman Public Schools Board of Education and the Bridgman

Public Schools staff, let me start by congratulating the Class of 2022. These 69 graduates of Bridgman High School have had an outstanding and unique

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TOWNSHIP NEWS *Supervisor, John Gast*



'HE WAS LARGER THAN LIFE'

Longtime public servant John Gast dies at 68

A good person who made a lot of friends. A mentor.

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LIBRARY NEWS FROM THE DIRECTOR



Director
Dennis Kreps

"Spring into Summer"

This was the theme of our recent Storytelling series;

it is also an apt title for the Library's contribution of this issue of the Buzz; its contents provide a bridge from our Spring activities and encompass our Summer Reading Program

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CITY NEWS FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City Manager
Juan Ganum

The last traces of winter are behind us and the active summer season is fast

approaching. Can you feel the enthusiasm and energy building in Bridgman! There's an unmistakable change in the air after two long years under a shroud

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BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from COVER ...

four years filled with numerous academic, athletic, and artistic accomplishments. We are all proud of each and every one of you and your persistence, resiliency, and achievements. We wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors.

Our Bridgman Public Schools staff also needs to be recognized for their dedication and hard work.

Our entire staff goes above and beyond daily in their work with students and parents and provides the best educational experience in Berrien County. Thank You!

As the year closes, we say goodbye to **Mary Duehlmeyer** (Bridgman Elementary teacher), **Sam Waalkes** (Bridgman High School teacher), **Cheri Hartzler** (Bridgman High School teacher) and **Janet Hinckley** (District Speech Pathologist).

After 17 years of teaching, Mrs. Duehlmeyer has decided to retire from Bridgman Public Schools. Mrs. Hartzler, Mrs. Hinckley and Mr. Waalkes (6 years, 4 years and 3+ years respectively) have decided to pursue other professional opportunities. Although we hate to say goodbye, we know all four of them will embark upon another exciting chapter of their lives. Thank you for your service to Bridgman Public Schools and the students that you have served.

The district is undertaking two major construction/renovation projects this spring/summer.

The first project is the renovation of the district tennis courts. The work on the tennis courts will begin in late April and should be completed in August in time for the boy's tennis season. While under construction, the tennis courts will not be available this spring/summer. **The second project** is the renovation of the Bridgman Elementary playground. This is a cooperative project between the District and the Bridgman Elementary PTO. The work at the playground is expected to begin in July and will be completed before the start of the 2022-2023 school year.

The District will have two proposals on the August 2, 2022 ballot. Both of these proposals are renewals of current millages.

Renewal of the Recreational Millage – this millage provides funds to operate the Aquatics Center and a system of public recreation and playgrounds.

Renewal of the Sinking Fund – this millage provides funds to support “school improvements, technology improvements and the repair of school buildings.”

If you would like additional information on either of these proposals, please contact the Superintendent's Office.



Are you a stay-at-home parent looking for a little cash or perhaps you are retired and interested in a few hours of work to get out of the house?

Bridgman Public Schools has several positions in the transportation, food service, and custodial departments, working with our students, that might be just right for you. Take a look at our website at www.bridgmanschools.com for further information or contact the Office of the Superintendent.

As we approach the end to yet another fantastic school year at all of our buildings, I can tell you that we continue to have an incredible school district with amazing and talented students and staff along with supportive parents and community members. We have much to be proud of for such a small school district! This is all made possible because of our community support and care for public education.

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

“The strength of our community is our schools and the strength of our schools is our community.”

Shane Peters, Superintendent



Spring is a busy time at the aquatic ‘hive’ of Southwest Michigan!

Youth Swim Lessons, Deep & Shallow Water Aerobics, Adult Learn to Swim Classes and many more great offerings in the warm, clean waters of the Bridgman Aquatic Center pool.

Aqua Zumba – NEW CLASS!

Held Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30 – 9:15 a.m., Aqua Zumba is a new, high energy dance class held in the shallow end. This

class is perfect for those looking to make a splash by adding a low-impact, high-energy aquatic exercise to their fitness routine. Aqua Zumba blends the Zumba philosophy with water resistance for a full body workout. Benefits? There is less impact on your joints during an Aqua Zumba® class so you can really let loose. Water creates natural resistance, which means every step is more challenging and helps tone your muscles.

Family Recreation Swim

Jump off the diving board! Race Dad to the other end! Shoot baskets with your BFF! Saturday – 1-3 p.m. AND Sunday – 1-2 p.m. *Any patrons under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. A swim test will be required for anyone wanting to swim in the deep end.*

Bridgman Elementary Swim Lessons

The BAC welcomes the students of BES starting on Monday April 25th for annual swim lessons, water safety and fun in the pool! As such, the BAC will close Monday – Wednesday at 11 a.m. starting April 25th, 2022; Thursday and Friday the BAC will continue to close at 1 p.m.

For a downloadable schedule, class details and much more please visit:

BridgmanPool.com

GET BAC ALERTS!!

To get text (or email) alerts from the BAC whenever a class is cancelled or any program changes, please visit:

<https://www.remind.com/join/hdhc6kd>

BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Gerald Heath
High School Principal

FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

This edition of the Bridgman Buzz finds Bridgman High School (BHS) crossing the finish line on a very successful third marking period. 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 months of the 2021-22 school year, students will continue to work to make great strides in their education.

Accomplishments

Our **DECA** state competition was a great success. We broke our previous record for international qualifiers! In 2020 we had 17 qualifiers, but this year we have 25 international qualifiers and 6 alternates. They will be competing in Atlanta, Georgia April 22-27.

International Qualifiers:

Kaylee Shuler, Maura Killips, Elizabeth King, Hailey Cote, Brianna Hobson, and Olivia Tomlin – Merit Award Program

Annika Hawley, Angelina Kietzer, & Jane Kaspar – Community Awareness Project

Payton Payne & Abbie King – Innovation Plan

Kylie Ott & Haylee Kanous – Innovation Plan

Tanner Peters & Trevor Mulick – Start-up Business Plan

Anne Scott & Lily Barker – Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event

Brady Roberts & Aiden Ackerman – Integrated Marketing Campaign-Product

Travis Locke – Financial Consulting

Marissa Feole & Abby Mitchell – Business Law & Ethics Role Play

Clark Smith, Joe Teed & Alec MacMartin – Leadership & Teamwork Event and attending the Ignite Academy

International Alternates:

Tess Spessard – Integrated Marketing Campaign-Event

Ava Starbuck – Principles of Hospitality & Tourism

Nathan Blied – Entrepreneurship

Sophia Fenech – Hotel & Lodging Management

Max Babcock – Human Resources Management

Landon Mulick – Sports & Entertainment Marketing

The **BHS Band** performed on Wednesday, March 9, at Paw Paw High School and earned a very high Division I rating including all “A” s from the judges! Due to the pandemic, this was the first time the band was able to perform an in-person band festival in two years.

We are pleased to announce **Sophia Bomar** was selected as a winner of the National Merit American Electric Power Scholarship. Congratulations Sophia!

The **BHS Drama Department** put on an excellent performance of “Once Upon a Mattress - Youth Edition.” The spring musical was their first performance in two years.

Club Activities

Key Club launched a student-led initiative creating a cart for the women's commons bathroom with free feminine hygiene products. This project seeks to fight the stigma and embarrassment that many female students face in not having the necessary feminine products needed while at school. The cart has been stocked thanks to the PE/Health department and generous donations from Bridgman staff and BHS alumni. Key Club



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is grateful for the positive response from both the students and staff. Key Club members are responsible for stocking the cart each week. Feminine products and financial support are appreciated, if anyone is interested in contributing to the effort.

The **National Honor Society** has been busy the past few months with tutoring in Pass Lab, making and delivering cards to Woodland Terrace residents and staff, and were very excited to once again be able to host their Burrito Night Fundraiser with the help of Mrs. Ferguson and her wonderful staff. The residents at Woodland Terrace were very appreciative of the personalized cards and even wrote some thank you notes in return. NHS also hosted the Berrien County Blanket Brigade at the high school in March, where members made blankets for hospice patients.

The **Interact Club** continues to participate in a monthly food distribution project with Lakeshore High School Interact Club at the United Methodist Church in Stevensville. Interact also collaborated with county Interact Clubs at the Luminary Festival in St. Joseph. They helped set up/take down luminary bags. In February, they offered a Valentine

Candy Gram sale to raise funds for the Club. They are currently working on implementing a mentoring activity with Mrs. Ales for her students at the Bridgman Elementary School.

During the week of March 14 - 18, the **SADD Club** hung purple ribbons around the school. The ribbons were hung to raise awareness for dating violence as part of their healthy relationships campaign. On Tuesday, March 1, they asked everyone to wear purple to raise awareness. They also sold friendship bracelets throughout the week to collect donations for a local women's shelter.

GSA celebrated the Great Kindness Challenge the week of January 24 -28 focusing on kind acts throughout the building as well as at RMS and BES. This was a collaboration with GSA, Key Club, SADD and Interact. During the week, they raised funds to support Harbor Country Mission.

The Class of 2022

As the last few weeks of school fly by, our seniors begin to prepare for the next step in their lives. This is the first graduating class that I have had the privilege of working with throughout their entire high school

career. I am so proud of how they have grown over the last four years and confident that they will flourish in their future endeavors. The future plans of this class represent great diversity, as many are off to college or trade school, most are 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 5 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
Bridgman High School Principal





BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



John Truesdell
Middle School Principal

Dear Community Members,

I hope there is NO snow on the ground by the time this Buzz publication finds you. As spring approaches, the F.C. Reed Middle School faculty is excited about the social, emotional, and academic growth that our students are demonstrating on a daily basis. Each day is a step closer to preparing our learners for Bridgman High School and beyond! We will especially miss our current eighth graders, who are soon to be promoted to Bridgman High School and become the Class of 2026 at the Grade 8 Honors Night Program on June 8, 2022.

Beyond traditional academics, I am also proud of the staff's efforts to engage our students with the community to promote the arts.

Throughout the winter months all 233 RMS students worked under the direction of Erin Korson, the RMS art teacher, to research and design illustrations depicting local wildlife that is native to Berrien County. RMS students created well over 200 renditions of local fauna and then invited a panel of judges from the City of Bridgman, Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce and Growth Alliance, Corridor Improvement Authority, Planning Commission, and local businesses to review and select 52 finalists.

This public gallery, known as "Wildlife of Berrien County" is now on display throughout Lake Street on the City's light post banners. As the weather improves, I invite you to take a stroll down Lake Street to check out one of the largest collections and most unique displays of public school student art in Southwest Michigan. Don't be afraid to support a local business while you're downtown checking out the student artwork!

Living in a beach community, Bridgman Public Schools also has a responsibility to ensure that our students are safe once they leave our classrooms on June 9, 2022. I'm thrilled to report that RMS was able to partner with the Bridgman

Aquatic Center to provide free water safety and swim lessons to ALL students during the winter of 2021 - 2022. This will ensure that our community's children are safe and water aware when visiting Weko Beach, Warren Dunes, or wherever their summer adventures take them. I'd like to give a special shout out to the BPS bus drivers that drove a seemingly endless number of routes during the winter weather to shuttle our swimmers and enable these lessons to occur.

While we are proud of our accomplishments during the 2021 - 2022 school year, the District recognizes that to move forward, it is critical to continue to look for new and innovative opportunities to develop our youth into responsible learners, critical thinkers, community contributors, quality producers, and effective life managers.

I am excited to announce that Bridgman Public Schools will be partnering with the Boys & Girls Club of Southwest Michigan to develop new K - 8 summer (2022) and after-school program services (2022 - 2023) in the months ahead.





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In order to develop a program proposal that will meet the needs of our stakeholders, the Club leadership will be conducting several listening sessions this spring to collect community input and meet with students, parents, staff, and local stakeholders. If you would like to learn more about the Club, connect with the leadership of the new Bridgman chapter of Boys & Girls Club, or support their efforts financially, please don't hesitate to email me at jtruesdell@bridgman-schools.com and I can point you in the right direction.

By the time you are reading this, it is crazy to think that there will just be a handful of weeks left in the 2021 - 2022 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.

All members of the Bridgman Public School community continue to step up and demonstrate why this is such a special place to raise and educate the next generation of Bridgman Bees.

**Your partner in education,
John Truesdell, RMS Principal**



REGISTER AT: [RUNSIGNUP.COM/BRIDGMAN5K10K](https://runsignup.com/bridgman5k10k)

BRIDGMAN

5K RUN/WALK - 10K RUN

2022



JOIN BRIDGMAN CROSS COUNTRY AND TRACK & FIELD FOR THE 27TH ANNUAL BRIDGMAN 5K RUN/WALK, 10K RUN, AND 1.1 MILE FUN RUN ON SATURDAY, JULY 9. RACING BEGINS AT 8:00 WITH THE 1.1 MILE FUN RUN, FOLLOWED BY THE 5K RUN/WALK AND 10K RUN AT 8:30. ALL RACES WILL BEGIN AND END AT THE CORNER OF LAKE AND CHURCH STREET AND WIND THROUGH THE STREETS AND PARKS OF THE BRIDGMAN AREA.

THIS YEAR, ALL PARTICIPANTS WHO REGISTER BEFORE JUNE 20 WILL BE GIVEN THE OPTION OF SELECTING BETWEEN A COTTON SOFTSTYLE T-SHIRT OR UPGRADING TO A TECH T-SHIRT FOR \$5.

REGISTRATION:

5K RUN/WALK AND 10K RUN

\$25 : THROUGH JUNE 20 (T-SHIRT GUARANTEED)

\$30 : JUNE 21 THROUGH JULY 10 (T-SHIRT IS NOT GUARANTEED)

CUSTOM BEE MEDALS TO THE TOP 3 FINISHERS IN EACH AGE GROUP IN THE 5K RUN, 5K WALK, AND 10K RUN

1.1 MILE KIDS FUN RUN

\$5: ALL PARTICIPANTS

MEDALS TO ALL YOUTH FINISHERS OF THE KIDS 1.1 MILE MILE FUN RUN

FUN RUN IS GEARED TOWARDS ELEMENTARY AGED RUNNERS WHO ARE NOT READY FOR A FULL 5K RACE, BUT ALL ARE WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE

REGISTER AT: [RUNSIGNUP.COM/BRIDGMAN5K10K](https://runsignup.com/bridgman5k10k)

SATURDAY, JULY 9TH

7:30 - PACKET PICK-UP & LATE REGISTRATION

8:00 - 1.1 MILE FUN RUN

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

FOR RACE UPDATES, FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK: @BRIDGMAN5K10K





BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Lori Graves
Elementary Principal

Giving for the Heart at Bridgman Elementary School

Justin Hahaj, physical education teacher at Bridgman Elementary School, remembers participating in the "Jump Rope for Heart" fundraiser when he attended BES in the late 80s. At the time it was organized by former physical education teacher, Cindy Allen. The event started out raising \$1,000 to \$3,000 dollars for the American Heart Association. Kids would bring in change and cash to the school, and anyone who donated would have their names put into a hat to hopefully be drawn to win a prize.

When Justin took over in 2013, he changed the event to "Hoops for Heart," which is geared towards basketball.

He organized a kick-off event with the heart association. The regional coordinator would come in, dress him up in ridiculous costumes and kick off the event in a school wide assembly. This would get the kids extra fired up!

Back then the students would collect donations in envelopes at home for a couple weeks before they turned them in. They would earn thank you gifts for their efforts from the Heart Association based on the amount they raised. Bridgman Elementary would collect around \$5,000-\$8,000 most years.

When COVID hit, Justin made the decision to use the new Heart Association App and required all donations to be made online. He said this was the best decision! Parents get the information to register. They then link their Heart Association account with social media to collect donations. With this change, families are able to reach more people and collect more donations online. In 2019, Bridgman Elementary school donated \$9,000, in 2020 BES donated \$10,000, 2021 BES collected \$12,000, and in 2022 BES donated an amazing \$18,250!

While donations are being collected, students can earn Heart Heroes. These are little figurines that can be clipped to back packs or collected. Mr. Hahaj makes these prizes a big deal and announces each student who earned any before the start of each physical education class. The whole class cheers when a student receives them. It's fun and the student's love the Heart Heroes!

The Heart Association also gives the school US Games gift certificates. The amount of the gift certificates is based on the amount of money raised. The certificates are used to purchase PE equipment from US Games. This year BES was given \$1900 in US Games gift certificates. The students get to use this equipment throughout their time at BES.

Classroom teachers also benefit from this fundraiser. If half of their class sign up online for the event, they earn a \$25 Amazon gift card from the Heart Association. Teachers use this money for their classrooms.

To celebrate the Hoops for Heart event, Mr. Hahaj would invite the girls and boys high school basketball players to BES to run basketball sta-



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Justin Hahaj dressed as a chicken for the Hoops for Heart fundraiser kick-off.

many physical active minutes a person should have each day (60 minutes), the dangers of tobacco, how to be a kind leader, to choose water over sugary drinks and to eat vegetables and fruits. Hopefully, the event helps students make healthy life choices as they grow.

According to Amy Hobley, the Regional Vice President of Youth Marketing for the American Heart Association, “Mr. Hahaj and the students of Bridgman Elementary have prioritized physical activity for the past five years by participating in the American Heart Association’s Kids Heart Challenge program. Studies have shown that kids who are regularly active feel better, have improved mental health, build self-esteem, and have decreased conditions such as anxiety and depression.

tions with each class. COVID ended that activity for the time being and now the students have a week of basketball drills and games to celebrate.

Mr. Hahaj continues the fundraiser because it is very important and impactful. Heart disease is among the leading causes of death in the United States. Most people have been affected by heart disease one way or another. Ultimately, teaching students to live a healthier lifestyle is Justin’s goal. Lessons include how

This year students and families from Bridgman raised over \$18,250 to support the mission of the American Heart Association- to create a world of longer, healthier lives.

During the program, 223 students registered and took a heart healthy challenge and a record 21 students completed all 10 steps to Finn’s Mission including learning the warning signs of a stroke and hands only CPR!”

Mr. Hahaj is proudest of the hard work and generosity the Bridgman community has put towards the Heart Association fundraiser. The students, parents, teachers, and school secretaries all help to make this fundraiser do so well.

Last year our tiny school raised the second most amount of money in the entire state of Michigan. Justin bets this year we did the same. Since Justin started doing the Hoops for Heart fundraiser in 2014, our community has donated over \$100,000. Thank you Bridgman!

**Lori Graves
Bridgman Elementary Principal**



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Ken Schmaltz
Athletic Director

Bees Nation ... Welcome to the 2022 Spring Sports Season!

On behalf of the professionals who make up our athletic administration, staff and coaches, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many families, friends, Bees alums, and the Community of Bridgman for their support of our student athletes.

Our spring athletic program consists of seven various programs with a total of 11 teams and approximately 194 Bridgman students electing to participate.

These numerous choices provide the opportunity for our students to be exposed to the valuable life lessons of teamwork, self-discipline, courage, and fortitude that can be used in their futures. The experiences gained in the athletic arena can teach us how to win with grace and handle

Spring Sports Coaching Staff

<i>Boys Track & Field</i>	<i>Spencer Carr</i>
<i>Girls Track & Field</i>	<i>John Carr</i>
<i>Varsity Baseball</i>	<i>Justin Hahaj</i>
<i>Asst. Varsity Baseball</i>	<i>Al Ottusch</i>
<i>Asst. Varsity Baseball</i>	<i>Matt Mabry</i>
<i>JV Baseball</i>	<i>Todd Evans</i>
<i>Varsity Softball</i>	<i>Elaine Starbuck</i>
<i>Asst. Varsity Softball</i>	<i>Becky Jager</i>
<i>Asst. Varsity Softball</i>	<i>Chuck Tate</i>
<i>Varsity Girls Tennis</i>	<i>Priscilla Brinker</i>
<i>Varsity Girls Soccer</i>	<i>Nick Foxworthy</i>
<i>Varsity Golf</i>	<i>Jeff Knowlton</i>
<i>RMS Boys Track</i>	<i>Ty Suida</i>
<i>RMS Girls Track</i>	<i>Emma Cramer</i>
<i>RMS Girls Soccer</i>	<i>Collin Kruzel</i>

defeat with dignity while the learning that takes place in athletics – we believe – compliments our student athletes learning in the classroom while preparing them for life after Bridgman High School.

The conduct of our coaches, athletes and spectators in regard to sportsmanship and fair play are expectations that we expect to maintain, so we ask for your continued support of these standards as you interact with opposing teams, coaches, fans and contest officials.

We invite the Community of Bridgman to join us in celebrating our

student-athletes throughout the final stretch of the 2021-22 school year by attending and visiting with us at our upcoming athletic events. I look forward to another spring sports season that contributes to our rich tradition of athletics here at Bridgman High School.

**Ken Schmaltz
Athletic & Community Recreation
Director – Bridgman High School**





BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



MHSAA Officials Program

Not a week goes by where we do not run across a well-written article/piece regarding the shortage of interscholastic athletic officials across our country – this is not just a problem in Southwest Michigan! Currently, there are areas across our state being forced to cancel, postpone and reschedule games due to not having officials available to work athletic events.

As the Recruitment & Mentorship Director of the local Fruit Belt Officials Association, I would highly welcome any of you to entertain the notion in registering to become a MHSAA athletic official. Please feel free to either contact me directly at kschmaltz@bridgmanschools.com or simply just text MHSAAref to 77948 to get yourself registered and to receive a gift certificate.

Conducted polls and surveys of athletic officials, time and again, have indicated the #1 reason officials are leaving the profession is largely due to the treatment and verbal abuse from patrons and spectators at athletic events. Help is wanted and needed! My plea to our Bees Nation parents and spectators is to please keep comments to yourself, maintain perspective, and enjoy watching your sons and daughters compete this spring while allowing the officials to officiate and, in turn, showcase the welcoming environment that Bridgman truly is.

Go Bees!



Bridgmanathletics.com is a one-stop website for Bees Athletics.

You may choose to set up your own account by simply completing the orange box title “Fan Account Login”. Once logged in, you will see three tabs:

- My Account Information
- My Favorites/Alerts – This is where you manage your alerts.
- My Content – You now have the ability to provide content for our website by uploading photos.

We look forward to using our new website to improve communication with you and highlight our student-athletes. Please be sure to check the site for future updates!

The Athletic department is using Final Forms to help manage the registration process for both BHS and RMS athletes. Please register at: bridgman-mi.finalforms.com and follow the prompts to create your account, your student’s account, and sign forms. Students must also sign in with their gobeego email to electronically sign forms. Please contact the High School Office with any questions, 465-6848.



BRIDGMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

From the Chairman



Al Barker,
BFEF Chairman

We welcomed the new year in our January article and now we welcome the last quarter of the school year! Between fundraising and funds being

spent, the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence is keeping very busy this Spring.

Links for Education Golf Outing

We are excited to announce our tenth annual Links for Education Golf Outing is on track for another year to be sold out within a single week of its announcement. This exceptional fundraiser will be held at the exclusive Lost Dunes golf club on May 16.

Although the golf outing will be sold out, BFEF is still accepting sponsors to support the ongoing educational needs of the district. Sponsorship packages are available from \$250 to \$10,000. We invite businesses and individuals to gain exposure as outstanding members of the community

and supporters of Bridgman Public Schools by sponsoring this premier event. To learn more about becoming a sponsor, please visit <https://www.bridgmanfoundation.org/golf-at-lost-dunes>.

The Links for Education golf outing is our biggest fundraiser of the year.

With its success, we have been able to provide grants for art, music, STEM, history, special education, and more. In fact, we are pleased to announce the approval of four new grant requests this quarter, spanning all three school buildings. Here is the wonderful collaboration happening between Bridgman Public Schools and the Foundation to help students and educators this Spring:

Social-Emotional Learning Library at Bridgman Elementary School

Collaboration at its best! Two teachers, a social worker and counselor all worked together to request funding to add a new section to the school library dedicated to social-emotional learning. Educators will be able to

check out books and resources to supplement lessons and facilitate the development of students' social-emotional learning, such as self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision making, relationship skills and more.

Congratulations to Jillian Klunder, Madison Singer, Shannon Woerdehoff and Monica Denney for receiving this \$2,600 grant for Bridgman Elementary School!

Science of Reading Materials at Bridgman Elementary School

When a student struggles with literacy skills, it impacts their entire education. Kindergarten teacher, **Angela Ales**, requested materials to be used in the instruction of foundational literacy skills. This systematic approach to reading instruction incorporates multi-sensory instructional techniques.

Congratulations to Mrs. Ales for receiving this \$600 grant to teach reading to all students.



**Bridgman Foundation
for Educational Excellence**
"Opening Doors to the Future"





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BRIDGMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

From the Chairman

First Chapter Friday Classroom Library at F.C. Reed Middle School

The best way to get students interested in books is to expose them to different genres with a diverse population of characters and authors. This is the goal of teachers **Amy Knowlton** and **Michelle Foxworthy**, who requested four copies of 40 different books to read to their students. They will read one chapter of each book every Friday during the school year and students may check out the books to continue reading if interested.

Congratulations to Mrs. Knowlton and Mrs. Foxworthy on receiving this \$1,360 grant to spark an interest in reading at F.C. Reed Middle School!

DECA International Career Development Conference for Bridgman High School

Bridgman High School has some awesome students who are competing at the DECA International Con-

ference this year to showcase their understanding of marketing, finance, hospitality and management. This year, a record number of 25 students, along with six alternates, advanced from state to the international competition. They have worked very hard with CTE instructor and DECA advisor, **Laura McGee**, to make it this far. And we are proud to support this effort with a \$2,000 grant to assist with travel and registration costs for these students.

Congratulations to Mrs. McGee and her DECA students for receiving this grant and best of luck at DECA International!

On behalf of the trustees and volunteers with the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence, I'd like to thank ALL of the educators at Bridgman Public Schools. You have shown a level of commitment, compassion, and energy that is unsurpassed in any other district.

Our students and community can be proud of the Bridgman Public School educational experience, and how the district cares about our students, our future contributors to society!

Al Barker
BFEE Chairman

Excellence in public education is essential to the economic and social well-being of any community. The Foundation is dedicated to provide enhanced learning opportunities for our students, staff, and community. We strive to recognize innovation, foster excellence, and make a positive impact on the future of our community through education.

The Foundation is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of community volunteers committed to excellence in education.





'HE WAS LARGER THAN LIFE'

By JULIE SWIDA, HP Staff Writer

Longtime public servant John Gast dies at 68



John Gast

BRIDGMAN – A good person who made a lot of friends. A mentor. A great public servant.

Those were among the tributes that poured in Thursday for Lake Township

Supervisor John Gast, who died Wednesday at the age of 68. Friends and colleagues said he had been seriously ill and had been in the hospital for the past month.

"When John walked into a room, he was larger than life," said Lake Township Clerk Gloria Payne. "Within three minutes, he had the whole room laughing with one of his spectacular stories. He was a good person who made a lot of friends."

Payne has been township clerk for 25 years and had served the last 20 with Gast.

Gast was a lifelong Lake Township resident and a longtime public servant. He was appointed township supervisor in 2002, and elected in 2004.

As a Bridgman High School and Lake Michigan College graduate, he previously served with the Berrien County Sheriff's Department and the Baroda-Lake Township Police Department – first as a

patrolman, and ultimately as chief.

With his wife, Cindy, Gast shared three sons: Owen, Duncan and Cooper.

His civic involvement had included the Lions Club, Bridgman Public School board and the Sons of the American Legion.

Baroda-Lake Township Police Chief Shawn Martin said Gast, police chief at the time, offered him a patrolman position in 2000, sent him to the police academy, and hired him full-time in 2001. "He was such a good mentor. I wouldn't be in this position without the opportunity he offered me," Martin said. "He taught me the ropes, sent me to trainings and classes and made sure I was doing the right things. He wanted you to succeed in your job."

Martin said Gast was always a calming force.

"He would say funny things all the time. You would wonder, 'Is that true, or is he just trying to make me laugh?' He would try to put humor into things to calm people," Martin recalled. "He's going to be greatly missed by all the people who loved him."

Dedication to service

Gast was respected by supervisors in surrounding communities.

New Buffalo Township Supervisor Michelle Heit said when she took that seat five years ago, "He was the

first person I reached out to for advice and counsel."

She said he was a wonderful friend to her.

"I will miss him very much," she said. "He was a great storyteller, usually a lot of fishing stories, or stories about police work."

Chikaming Township Supervisor David Bunte said Gast was a mentor to him.

"He dedicated most of his life to public service. He was a great friend with a great sense of humor. It's a sad day for our communities. He knew and touched a lot of people," Bunte said.

Lincoln Township Supervisor Dick Stauffer said he met Gast as a fellow supervisor in 2004. "I always addressed him as Supervisor Gast because I always respected his thoughts on township government and his management of the township," Stauffer said. "I will miss him very much."

He said the two had a long-running joke. Lake Township has a healthy budget, due in large part because of tax revenue from the Cook Nuclear Plant.

"I would always ask him if we (Lincoln Township) could borrow \$2 million at zero percent interest, forever. Of course, the answer was always, 'no'" Stauffer said.

John Gast was laid to rest in Graceland Cemetery on March 16, 2022.



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

You can find helpful information on our website including: building forms, permits, zoning forms, zoning maps and so much more!

Visit us at: lake-township.org



Building/Zoning Department

Well, we had a terrible start to spring here at the township hall with the loss of John Gast as our patriarch for our township family and he is very much missed. Through the loss, and then the uncertainty of who will be the new leader, we still have to operate as usual. Below is my attempt to keep you, the public, informed of the activities of the Township Planning Commission.

We are now fully into the Master Plan update with the Planning Commission. Expect to receive a post card in the mail soon asking for your help through an online survey. Please take some time to fill that survey in so we can accurately build a strong Master Plan that represents and works well for the community.

The Planning Commission has started in on the sign chapter of the zoning ordinance. We discovered last year that the sign chapter of the zoning ordinance had dated information within it, potentially causing issues in the interpretation of certain signs. Again, as I have said before, if the ordinances are not reviewed and updated, they may not function properly in the future. We should be completing that update sometime this summer.

We welcomed a new member to the Planning Commission, Jordan Klint. Jordan has been active in the community as a builder, landlord and property owner. We are excited to have an additional person interested in the future

of Lake Township and is willing to serve the community in this way. Welcome, Jordan.

Over the past few years, the interest in having a personal swimming pool has increased considerably. The remainder of this article is not about the Planning Commission but devoted to basic swimming pool safety.

A note about swimming pools. With the onset of nice weather, we are back to pool season. Please take some time to look at your swimming pool with this thought, is the pool or yard your pool is located in safe? Is the guarding or fencing high enough, strong enough, or a type that young children could not climb over? Is there a gate? Is the latch on the gate the right type and located within the pool area at the proper heights? Does the gate open out and have a self-closer? Are the doors of the house part of the pool yard, if so, are there alarms on those doors? If for any reason you are unsure or have additional questions about swimming pool basic safety requirements, please call and ask. (269 612-8156)

**Thank you and have a safe summer,
Rich Kubsch
Building Administrator**





LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

From the Desk of Bob Clark, Treasurer



Bob Clark, Treasurer

Lake Township Treasurer

It is with a heavy heart writing my first buzz article without John Gast at my side.

His presence will live on in Lake Township through his many years of service and accomplishments. We miss him.

Tax payment tips to avoid penalties.

Every tax season we have situations that require a penalty to be paid due to late payments. Here are a few tips to avoid unnecessary penalties:

- **Allow sufficient mail time for the payment to be received at our office.** Post marks are not accepted for payments! Mail delivery times vary significantly from time to time and area so don't cut it too tight!
- **When paying by check make sure it is written out correctly, dated and signed.** The bank will not accept checks when the numerical part and

written part do not match. Also, it is a good idea to pay early enough for corrections to be made before the due date if a new check is needed.

- **Pay exactly the amount due.** We do accept partial payments on taxes, but if paying the entire amount, verify the payment equals the amount due. Please do not pay extra, as it can not be applied to future bills and the refunding process takes time.
- **Review your tax bill and assessment notices when they are received, even if you don't intend to pay them until closer to the due date.** Errors or corrections will then have plenty of time to be made prior to the due date.
- **Utilize our drop boxes if it is difficult to pay during office hours.** The drop boxes located both at the road and by the front door are secure and checked daily.
- **Utilize our E check payment option if running short of time.** Go to our website at www.lake-township.org for more information. The payment is secure and posted immediately for the payment. The processing cost is \$3.00 for payments less than \$10,000 and \$3.00 more above that amount. The processing fee is much less than the penalty!

Lake Township Park News

The park opened April 1st and has been very busy! The spring softball, baseball and soccer leagues are in full swing. The Township is proud to host these leagues at the park and combined have around 360 youth participating! Pavilions are rented for most summer weekends for parties, reunions, and gatherings. Disc golf is also busy with the Sand Ridge Disc Golf league playing weekly, an amateur tournament in June, a pro tournament in September and plans for a youth tournament as well. The course is very popular for all ages and highly regarded. We are happy to announce the Pony field for baseball is back into commission after several years of renovations. It still will need further work but is greatly improved over its condition previously.

Other improvements planned this year are the installation of an exercise area and renovation of the concession buildings including sidewalks for greater accessibility. The results of the Recreation Plan show this park is very well used and popular. The Township Board and Park Committee are happy so many people make use of and enjoy this treasure!





LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

From the Desk of Bob Clark, Treasurer

Chamber & Economic Development News

Mark your calendars for June 11th! The 3rd Annual Makers Trail Festival is planned at Weko Beach from 1-9 PM.

There will be many local breweries, wineries and distilleries serving up your favorite beverages. There will also be four local bands playing your favorite hits and several food trucks on hand serving delicious barbecue and other food. Combine this with beautiful Weko Beach and it is a great day! Tickets are available online at www.swmichigan.org/festival, at Harding's Friendly Market in Bridgman or at the gate. Advance tickets are only \$ 10 and the price at the door is \$20 so order early and come join in the fun!

The CGA Annual meeting will be held at Lake Township Park, Lake Pavilion on May 12th from 5:00- 7:00. RSVP to sspoonholtz@smchamber.com or 269-932-4040 by May 9th if you would like to attend and see what's going on with your local Chamber.

Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber is doing great. Last year they had a record number of new members join, have held over 100 events last year, launched a new podcast advertising program, are launching a new improved website and continue to support the businesses they serve in our community. Check them out at www.smrchamber.com

Trail News

If you haven't heard, the Township is planning to develop a non-motorized trail from the high school to the park. The Township has applied for a grant and approved matching funds to pay for the trail. The plan is to connect to the sidewalk that ends at the school property. This not only provides a much safer way to get to the park if walking or biking, it connects the entire Bridgman community to the park.

With safety, health and fitness being such major concerns these days, this will be a wonderful addition to our area.

We are hopeful the funding will come through and engineering can begin later this year. The plan is to obtain bids and complete the trail in the summer or fall of 2023. The trail will be called The John W. Gast Memorial Trail in honor of John and all he has done for Lake Township and our community.

Trails are such an important part of growing communities and attracting new residents and visitors alike.

Plans continue in Berrien County for a larger trail network to include connectivity to Warren Dunes State Park, Bridgman, South County (part has already been developed), and eventually to St Joseph, Benton Harbor, Niles, Buchanan, and Berrien Springs.

The ultimate goal is to provide non-motorized access across Michigan to many destinations. A trail master plan is in the works for Berrien County and expected to be completed yet this year.





LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

FROM THE DESK OF GLORIA A. PAYNE, Lake Charter Township Clerk



Gloria Payne, Clerk

All registered voters in Lake Charter Township will be receiving a new Voter ID card.

Due to redistricting, changes have been made

in the numbering of the Congressional District, State Senate and State Representative District, as well as the County of Berrien.

The Voter ID card will indicate all the changes. These cards will be mailed out as soon as the State of Michigan Bureau of Elections has completed the changes in the Qualified Voter File (QVF) and our Township elections staff has verified all changes.

We are required by law to mail voter cards out to all voters who are listed as active, verify and challenged in the Qualified Voter File. Please reference: MCL 168.499(3)

This may mean that you will receive a voter id card for someone that was at one time registered to vote at the address, but no longer resides at said address. The most common reason this happens is because voters either: moved and did not change their address on their MI driver's license or they have moved out of state and did not inform the SOS or their local clerk.

While we understand this appears redundant in nature, please remember we are required by law to send out ID Cards. Only a Clerk, by law, is authorized to cancel a voter's registration under the following circumstances:

- The voter directs the cancellation of his or her registration record in a written, signed communication.
- The clerk receives or obtains information that the voter has died. Sources: QVF inbox notification; county clerk; death notices published in newspaper; personal firsthand knowledge.
- The clerk receives notice that the voter has registered to vote in another jurisdiction through another election official or through a QVF inbox notification.
- The voter verifies his or her residency in a different jurisdiction for voting purposes on a confirmation notice sent to the voter on "reliable information" that the voter has moved to a different jurisdiction.
- The voter's registration is challenged and it is revealed through questions directed to the voter in the polls on Election Day that he or she is not qualified to vote in the jurisdiction.

If no response is received, the voter does not participate in an election, and the voter does not engage in another voting or voter registration transaction by the second November General federal election following the notice, the voter's registration is canceled without further notice. Until the time the registration is canceled by one of the means above, we are, by law, required to send any notice of voting location/district changes to all active, verify and challenged voters.

Lake Charter Township will be conducting two elections in the year 2022

Tuesday, August 2, 2022 and Tuesday, November 8, 2022

Partisan offices are to be voted for in Berrien County, Lake Charter Township as follows:

- Governor and Lieutenant Governor
- Secretary of State
- Attorney General
- United States Senate (all Districts)
- State Representative in Congress (all Districts)
- State Board of Education (2 Seats)
- University of Michigan Regents (2 seats) Michigan State
- University Trustees (2 Seats) Wayne State University Governors
- (2) Seats Justice of the Supreme Court
- Judge of Court of Appeals
- Judge of Circuit Court
- Judge of District Court
- Judge of Probate Court
- Lake Charter Township Supervisor
- Specified School District Positions (November)





LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Things to be aware of when voting:

Check to see if you are registered at:
www.michigan.gov/sos

If you are not registered, download and fill out the Voter Registration Form at:
www.lake-township.org
Clerk's Tab

If you wish to be placed on the Absent Voter list download and fill out the form at:
www.lake-township.org
Clerk's Tab

Polls will be open for in person voting from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., 3220 Shawnee Road, Bridgman, Michigan

Contact me if you have questions, Gloria A. Payne, Lake Charter Township Clerk 269-465-6601 Ext.111 or at gpayne@lake-township.org

Lake Charter Township Water System

Hello to Everyone.

It is nice to see that winter has faded away, and we can look forward to warmer and more comfortable weather. You may notice our personnel flushing fire hydrants and conducting other system maintenance with the warmer weather. Should you ever see an activity that seems out of the ordinary, please reach out to us with your concerns.

I want to make everyone aware that our "2021 Water Quality Report", also known as the "Consumer Confidence Report," is available for viewing on our Lake Charter Township Water System website. You can go directly to this report at <https://lakecharter-townshipwater.org/ccr1>. This report is published annually to inform our water customers about water quality testing results and educational information. Should you have any questions regarding the report or want to request a printed copy, contact me through the information provided.

Also, during the months of May, July, and September, our residential exterior cross-connection inspections will begin. This has been mandated by

EGLE (Michigan Department of Environment Great Lakes and Energy) for several years. We have conducted cross-connection inspections for our commercial customers for years, and it is now being enforced for residential customers. We have contracted this service through Hydro Corp., and they will contact those that are being performed this year. They will be performing approximately 800 exterior residential inspections for 2022. Once the inspection is completed and if there are no issues found, another inspection should not have to happen for 20 years. If a cross-connection is found, it will have to be corrected. Some examples of potential cross-connections are outside hose bibbs (faucets), lawn irrigation systems, and pool filling systems. The person conducting the inspection will leave you with information either through a door hanger or in person. We have a video and other information on our website, www.lakechartertownshipwater.org, under the resources tab that can help you better understand how a cross-connection can impact the water system and what it is. You can also access Hydro Corp's website for information. Below is a link to a video explaining cross-connections from their website. Should you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact us.

<https://vimeo.com/178475888/f35b0a7e14>

If you ever have any questions, concerns, comments, or if you have a small group that would like a tour, please be sure to reach out to me.

I will leave you with one final thought: could you imagine a day without water and how it impacts our daily lives? Enjoy your Lake Charter Township water.

Jeff Burkhard
Superintendent - Lake Township Water System
269-465-3850
jburkhardltwater@lake-township.org



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

CITY MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Continued from COVER ...

of pandemic-wrought gloom. A sense that we have turned the corner and are looking forward rather than peering over our shoulders is prevailing. From my perspective, the Bridgman community has good cause to be optimistic.

Business activity within Bridgman is increasing.

We are fielding more calls from folks who are interested in Bridgman as a potential location for a business or are looking to expand their existing business. The building formerly occupied by Eric's Bridgman Café is now home to an expanded **Roche-fort's the Next Generation**, which had served delicious food on Lake Street near Red Arrow for a number of years. At the time of this writing, the former Rochefort's location is being transformed into **Molly's Beach Walk Café**, adding to our restaurant mix. Nearby, **Emma's Hearth and Market** has added a beer and wine license to pair with its unique menu. **Lake Street Eats** has also returned under new ownership after a brief hiatus. These new offerings complement a wide array of tasty choices from Bridgman's existing food scene at **China Café**,

Haymarket Brewery & Taproom, Lydia's Down Home Cooking, Pizza Hut, Roma's Pizza, Scoops Ice Cream, Small Town Grounds, Subway, Lazy Ballerina Winery and Tapistry. That is quite a list for a City of just under 2200 people! Of course, we also have **D'Agostino's Navajo Bar & Grille and Mikey's Drive In** within Lake Township as well.

The food scene will be enhanced this summer with the return of the popular food truck by **Taqueria Don Chepe** on Tuesdays from 4 to 7 pm. The truck will be parked adjacent to the courtyard in downtown Bridgman, in the heart of the social district. As a reminder, the social district is an area where alcoholic beverages, which have been purchased from license holders, can be consumed outdoors on public property. For more details, including a map of the boundaries, please visit: <http://www.bridgman.org/283/Bridgman-Social-District>. Efforts to make the seating area more attractive and introduce programming, such as live music, are also underway.

This year will also mark the return of **Bridgman's Open-Air Market**. Well over 100 vendors have registered to participate throughout the season, which begins on Sunday, May 22 from 9 am to 3 pm, next to **United Federal Credit Union**. UFCU has generously partnered with the market to create custom tote bags this season, so please be sure to visit, pick up a tote and support the vendors. The market runs on Sundays through mid-October.

New programming at Toth Park is also being discussed.

A small group of engaged residents has proposed the introduction of "movies in the park" at Toth. Discussions are being held with the City's Parks and Recreation Department and Bridgman Public Library to bring these family-friendly events to the park on a periodic basis. Stay tuned for more information by visiting the City's website or checking the community sign.





CITY OF BRIDGMAN

Community Beautification Projects

The City will also continue to seek ways of beautifying our community, such as the addition of more flowers and landscaping, new concepts for banners (we are very proud of our partnership with **F.C. Reed Middle School** and its talented group of students), or fresh opportunities for public art. In keeping with our mission and in the spirit of community engagement and citizen collaboration, our doors will always be open for people to lend their thoughts and ideas to shape Bridgman as a safe and relaxed place to call home.

Juan Ganum
City Manager

Summertime is quickly approaching so we encourage residents to get their 2022 seasonal park pass for Weko Beach.

Seasonal park passes are available for purchase at Bridgman City Hall. Residents of Bridgman and Lake Township may purchase a seasonal park pass by presenting their vehicle registration. Senior citizens 65 years and older who live in or own property in the City or Township will receive one free pass, per household. Park passes are valid from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day weekend.

The City of Bridgman will be implementing a new parking system this summer. Multiple parking kiosk machines will be located throughout the parking lot, which can be utilized to pay for parking on a daily basis or, for non-resident seasonal passes. Residents who obtain seasonal passes can bypass the kiosks by bringing their vehicle registration to City Hall, where their license plate number will be recorded. Plate numbers are added to a database, which validates that the vehicle has been registered for the season.

Once a vehicle is registered, park patrons may go to Weko Beach and find a parking space - there will be no need to utilize a parking kiosk machine. An officer on duty will survey the parking lot and validate each license plate. If the plate is not registered as a season pass holder or purchased as a daily parking pass from the kiosk machine, a citation will be issued by the City of Bridgman Police Department. Please note that the kiosk machine only accepts credit cards.

The City of Bridgman is seeking seasonal help for Weko Beach & Campground.

A desirable applicant is friendly, punctual, reliable, a team player, enjoys being outdoors, and of course – enjoys working with the public. Starting pay is \$13.00/per hour. The full job description and how to apply is available online at Bridgman.org or by emailing the Parks & Recreation Director, Sara Ball at: sball@bridgman.org.

We look forward to seeing you this summer!



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

ELECTION 2022 INFORMATION

This year four (4) city council seats will be available at the November 8, 2022 General Election.

Those seeking to serve the City of Bridgman for a four-year term should visit the clerk's office at City Hall to obtain a nominating petition packet. Important information for candidates:

FILING NOMINATING PETITION INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

For the November 8, 2022 General Election

- Make sure that you read the back of the petition form to properly fill out and make sure that every signature counts.
- Complete the heading of the petition before circulating it.
- Per the City Charter – the petition shall be signed by not less than twenty (20) nor more than fifty (50) qualified electors of the City.
- A person cannot sign a petition on behalf of another person, sign a petition more than once, or sign more petitions for the same

office than there are persons to be elected in the office.

- All signatures submitted on a qualifying petition must have been collected within a 180-day period immediately preceding the date of filing; signatures which are dated more than 180 days prior to the date of filing are invalid.
- All candidates must submit an Affidavit of Identity form to the City Clerk.
- All candidates must file a Statement of Organization Form to the County Clerk within 10 days of filing their nominating petition forms.
- Return petitions to City Hall no later than 4:00 p.m. on July 26, 2022.

The Primary Election will be held on Tuesday, August 2, 2022.

The last day to register to vote in any manner other than in-person with the local clerk is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, July 18, 2022. If you would like to register to vote or see where you are currently registered, you can visit www.michigan.gov/sos. You can also register to vote at the clerk's office at Bridgman City Hall, 9765 Maple St.

If you have any questions, please contact Allyson Holm, City Clerk at 269.465.5144 or email: aholm@bridgman.org.

**Visit
BRIDGMAN.ORG**

Our website was built to serve our community. Check it out for information on services, government, community, business development, and so much more!



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

NEW VOTER ID CARDS

In November 2018, Michigan voters amended the Constitution of Michigan with Proposal 18-2 or the "Voters Not Politicians" ballot proposal, a constitutional amendment to "establish a commission of citizens with exclusive authority to adopt district boundaries for the Michigan Senate, Michigan House of Representatives and U.S. Congress, every 10 years." Now, the Constitution empowers an independent commission of citizens to draw district lines for the Michigan Legislature and Michigan's members of Congress for the 2022 election and beyond.

All registered voters in the City of Bridgman will be receiving a new Voter ID card indicating all changes. These cards will be mailed out as soon as the State of Michigan Bureau of Elections has completed the changes in the Qualified Voter File (QVF) and our city elections staff has verified all changes.

We are required by law to mail voter cards out to all voters who are listed as active, to be verified, and challenged in the Qualified Voter File.

This may mean that you may receive a voter id card for someone that was at one time registered to vote at your address, but no longer resides there. The most common reason this happens is because voters either moved and did not change their address on their Michigan driver's license or they have moved out of state and did not inform the Secretary of State or their local clerk.

Please note that by law, a clerk is only authorized to cancel a voter's registration under the following circumstances:

- The voter directs the cancellation of his or her registration record in a written, signed communication.
- The clerk receives or obtains information that the voter has died. Sources: QVF inbox notification; county clerk; death notices published in newspaper; personal firsthand knowledge.
- The clerk receives notice that the voter has registered to vote in another jurisdiction through another election official or through a QVF inbox notification.

- The voter verifies his or her residency in a different jurisdiction for voting purposes on a confirmation notice sent to the voter on "reliable information" that the voter has moved to a different jurisdiction.
- The voter's registration is challenged, and it is revealed through questions directed to the voter in the polls on Election Day that he or she is not qualified to vote in the jurisdiction.

If no response is received, the voter does not participate in an election, and the voter does not engage in another voting or voter registration transaction by the second November general federal election following the notice, the voter's registration is canceled without further notice. Until the time the registration is canceled by one of the means above, by law, we are required to send any notice of voting location/district changes to all active, to be verified and challenged voters.

If you have any questions, please contact Allyson Holm, City Clerk at aholm@bridgman.org or 269-465-5144.





CITY OF BRIDGMAN



Bridgman Police Department

9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, Michigan 49106

Phone: 269-465-3880 Fax: 269-465-3701

Daniel J. Unruh, Sr., Chief of Police

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.

Meet your Bridgman Police Officers



Chief Dan Unruh

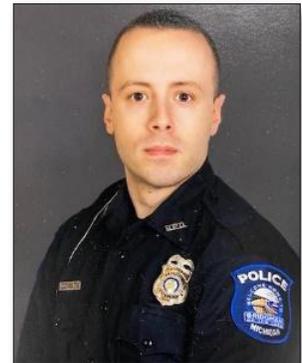
It has been a privilege and a pleasure serving the city of Bridgman and its residents since being hired as Police Chief in 2013. I began my career in law enforcement 45 years ago, shortly following graduation from Coloma High School in 1977. I strongly believe in a community policing approach and feel that we have built a strong relationship with the community and surrounding areas as a department.

We have developed a truly dedicated team in Bridgman, whose hard work and professionalism during some difficult times has made me proud.



Sergeant Tom LaVanway

Tom was hired as a police officer here in 2014 after working for Benton Harbor Department of Public Safety for 15 years. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in July of 2015 and serves as second in command of the police department. Tom is our evidence technician and property room supervisor, field training officer and performs a lot of the department's community service functions.



Officer Cody Nihil

Cody was hired as a temporary officer in 2014 and sworn in as a full-time police officer in 2015 after working for the Decatur Police. He served our country in the Army National Guard, earned several awards and commendations, and was deployed to Afghanistan for more than a year. Cody is the department's range officer and taser instructor, among other assignments.





CITY OF BRIDGMAN



Officer Jonathon Foster

Jonathon was initially hired on a part-time basis in 2014 and then promoted to full-time police officer in 2016. He served in the Army National Guard for approximately 6 years and oversees the department's equipment maintenance along with other assigned duties.



Officer Jeremy Pagel

Jeremy was recently hired in January after working for the Berrien Springs-Oronoko Twp. Police Department. He has a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and is looking forward to a long career with our department.

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 PRE (principal residence exemption – commonly known as a 'homestead exemption') 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 so they can be corrected.

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 my property information 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. It is this data, combined with the sales studies that are used to develop fair and accurate assessed values.

The Assessing Department has property record cards on file for every parcel in the city. You are always welcome and encouraged to come in and review your property record card(s).

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact the assessing department by phone at 269-465-5144 x104, by email at assessor@bridgman.org or visit the City of Bridgman website.





2022 Spring Cleanup Schedule

Please Note:

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

APRIL

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JULY

					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

- BAGGED LEAF & BRUSH PICKUP
- LARGE TRASH PICKUP
- HOLIDAY

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.



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

Yard waste practices impact water quality

Simple practices such as grasscycling can help protect local water resources.

The Great Lakes and its tributaries are the largest fresh water source in the world. Increasingly, there are challenges to the quality of this important resource. Individuals don't have much direct impact on some of these challenges, such as invasive species, but there is one area that individuals can address that directly impacts water quality.

Yard waste makes up 20% of the waste stream annually – and can top 50% of waste collected during summer and fall. This much yard waste, if handled incorrectly, can have significant negative impacts on our local water resources. Homeowners are recognizing the advantages of handling yard waste at the sources – at their own homes – to save money but also reduce possible water pollution.

Grasscycling and composting are two techniques homeowners can use to reduce waste disposal and possible water contamination as well as save time, money and energy while returning valuable nutrients back into their lawns and gardens.

Grasscycling means leaving the grass clippings on the lawn. There are many benefits to grass-cycling including:

- Grass clippings are mostly water and nitrogen. They decompose into the grass quickly and return nutrients to the lawn which will result in a greener, healthier lawn.
- Chemicals, such as pesticides, herbicides and insecticides, stay on the lawn to do the intended job.
- Grasscycling saves money by reducing gas consumption, lawn bags and fertilizer. By returning clippings to the lawn regularly, you can reduce fertilizer use by one application per season.
- Grasscycling does not require the use of lawn bags because the clippings are not being picked up. With no clippings to bag, less frequent stopping and starting of the lawn-mower saves gas and mowing time and reduces air pollution.
- Grasscycling must be done correctly to eliminate water pollution. Clippings should be directed back to the lawn. This is especially important when using a side discharge mower. If clippings are left on driveways, sidewalks or other impervious surfaces, they can end up in surface water or drains. These clips will add nutrients to surface water and increase the growth of algae and other aquatic plants that can deplete oxygen in surface waters.

All mower types can be used successfully for grasscycling. To prevent clumps or discharge onto impervious surfaces when using a side discharge mower, mow toward the center of the lawn toward the discharged clippings

to re-cut and distribute over the lawn. This will prevent “windrows” from forming on the lawn. Most rear bag mowers have a flap that covers the discharge shoot when the bag is removed. This allows the clippings to drop right down onto the grass. Mulching mowers pull the clips up into the mower so they can be re-cut into smaller pieces before depositing them on the lawn. Any clippings that blow from under the mower onto sidewalks or driveways should be swept or blown back onto the lawn.

When you can't leave the clippings on the lawn, collect it for use as mulch. Use clippings in a thin (0.5-inch to 1-inch) layer around annual and perennial plantings. Remove all weeds before applying mulch. Grass clippings also can be mixed with shredded leaves and spread around plants.

This article was published by Michigan State University Extension. For more information, visit <https://extension.msu.edu>. To have a digest of information delivered straight to your email inbox, visit <https://extension.msu.edu/newsletters>.

Fertilizing

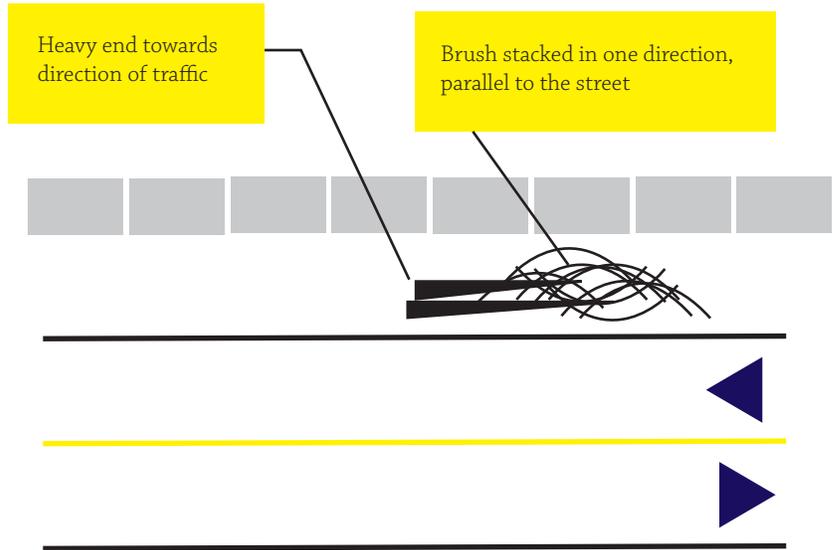
If you choose to fertilize, perform a soil test to ensure that over fertilizing is not occurring. Contact Michigan State University Extensions for assistance with soil testing. Michigan law now bans the use of fertilizer with Phosphorus for residential and commercial turf. Also, never use fertilizer near water bodies such as streams or county drains - stay at least 20 feet away to keep the nutrient load out of our water supply.

CITY OF BRIDGMAN

BRUSH COLLECTION POLICY

Brush Collection Basic Requirements

- Collection days are the first and third Monday of each month, beginning in early April and continuing to mid-October.
- Brush must be placed within the tree lawn (area between the sidewalk and street) no later than 7:00 A.M. on collection days.
- Brush may not be larger than 6 inches in diameter.
- Brush must be stacked in one direction, parallel to the street (this makes it quicker to feed the chipper so crews can reach more houses on collection days)
- The heaviest/densest part of the brush should be oriented towards the direction of traffic flow (this makes it easier and safer for larger limbs to be chipped).
- The program is limited to brush and limbs.
- There is a limit of 15 minutes of staff time per household.



Prohibitions and Limitations

Brush:

1. May not be placed within an alley or upon a street.
2. May not include loose leaves, stumps, vines, grass clippings, ornamental grass, flowers, sod, plants, roots or root balls.
3. May not include trash, nails, building materials, dirt or rocks.
4. May not be tied with string, twine, wire or any other material.
5. May not be left by a commercial tree removal or trimming contractor.

The City's brush collection program is for the sole use of the residents of Bridgman and not intended to be a tree removal program. It is the responsibility of a property owner (or his or her contractor) to remove dead, dying or unwanted trees from their property. Property owners may dispose of their trees at the City's brush dump from Monday through Thursday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Arrangements may be made by calling City Hall at 269.465.5144.

If brush materials do not meet these guidelines they may be tagged with a postcard, which will indicate the problem. If a resident or property owner makes the proper corrections their brush will be collected during the next regularly scheduled pickup day.

Exceptions to the collection schedule are possible due to holiday schedules and weather conditions.



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

Water Quality Tips for the Spring



Everyone needs to do their part to protect our streams, rivers, inland lakes, and Lake Michigan! We depend on these water resources for our drinking water and for recreation such as swimming, boating, and fishing.

How do pollutants enter the water?

In urban areas, storm drains are a main source of pollutants, draining virtually everything from lawns, streets, and parking lots directly into local streams, rivers, and lakes.

Most storm drains do not treat or filter pollutants. Common pollutants include fertilizers, pesticides, grass clippings, leaves, oil, grease, toxic chemicals, sediment, and pet waste.

Simple Steps to Protect our Water

Properly dispose of household hazardous waste. Never dump items such as motor oil, fuel products,

cleaners, paints, pharmaceuticals, and pesticides on the ground or down the drain. They can contaminate groundwater and surface water. Check with your county for hazardous waste collection dates.

- Limit fertilizer use. During watering or rainstorms, unnecessary fertilizer applied to lawns wash into storm drains, which empty directly into local waterways. Get a soil test at an MSU Extension Office to see what amenities your lawn needs. It is the law to use no-phosphorus fertilizer!
- Maintain your septic system. If you have a septic system, have it inspected and serviced every 3-5 years to insure it is working properly.
- Close abandoned wells. Close any abandoned wells on your property. They can act as direct conduits for contamination of groundwater.
- Only rain in the storm drain. Rainwater and snowmelt is the only thing that should wash down our storm drains. Things

like grass clippings, leaves, motor oil, and fertilizer are considered an illicit discharge and will pollute our water.

Call the Pollution Emergency Alerting System (PEAS) to report any pollution affecting air, land, water, wetlands or public drinking water supplies at 1-800-292-4706.

Plant native trees and shrubs around your home to mitigate runoff. You can purchase them from your local conservation district in Berrien County: www.berriencd.org, Cass County: <https://cassccd.org/> and Van Buren County: <https://vanburencd.org/>.

For more information on what you can do to help improve water quality visit www.letskeepitblue.org.



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Library Board

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Hours

Monday - Thursday: 10-8

Friday: 10-5

Saturday: 10-4

Sunday: Closed

Director - Dennis Kreps

CONTINUED from cover ...

activities. This issue contains a wide range of programs and activities, which will --

- Inspire contemplation and reflection
- Provide experiential opportunities for all ages
- Provide a mix of pop-culture-inspired and cross-cultural activities
- Offer intergenerational activities
- Offer opportunities to engage important historical and social topics

In addition, this Buzz issue reflects both new, and familiar activities:

- We will continue to offer early literacy programs throughout the summer
- We are hosting summer-themed movies on Mondays throughout the summer
- BPL is now the first satellite donation drop site for the First Tee program of Benton Harbor
- We will be offering more in-person programs and activities

This year's Summer Reading Program theme is Oceans of Possibilities; many programs and activities will reflect that theme:

- Summer Reading challenges
- Take & Make projects
- Special programs and activities for all ages

In the meantime --

- Look for promotional giveaways for new library card sign-ups
- We are adding more WIFI hotspots to the collection
- Visit us at the Bridgman Open-Air Market

Please remember -- we want to hear from you!

- Sign up for our email news list from the Library website
- 'Like' and 'Follow' us through our Facebook and Instagram sites

We look forward to seeing you indoors and outdoors, at the Library and out in the community. We sincerely thank you, our communities, for your ongoing support and continued participation and engagement of our programs and services.

**Sincerely,
Dennis Kreps, Director**

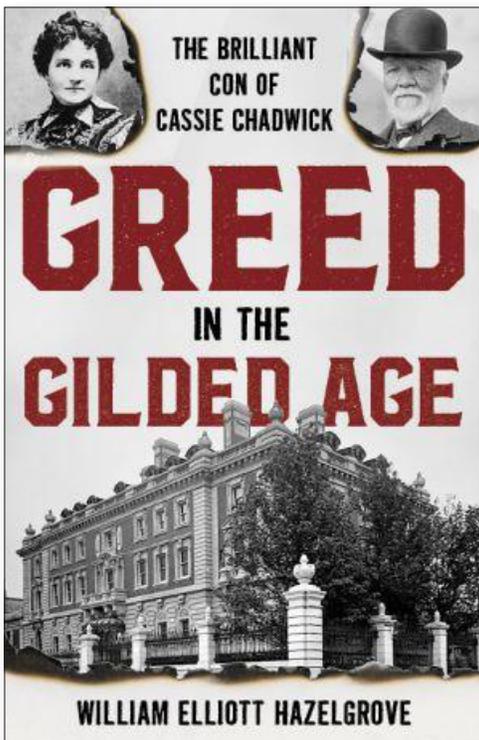


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ADULT PROGRAMS

GREED IN THE GILDED AGE

*Presented by author,
William Hazelgrove*



May 24, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

This Gatsby-like tale includes mystery, money, sex, and scandal. ‘Millionaire’ was a new term in America and Cassie Chadwick was front page news. Using these newspaper articles, Hazelgrove tells the story of one of the greatest cons in American history.

THE GROUNDBREAKING: AN AMERICAN CITY AND ITS SEARCH FOR JUSTICE

Presented by author, Scott Ellsworth

June 7, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Over the course of 24 hours in the spring of 1921, Tulsa’s infamous *Black Wall Street* was wiped off the map—and erased from the history books. This long-suppressed story of the Tulsa race massacre unearths the lost history of how the massacre was covered up and of the courageous individuals who fought to keep the story alive.

ADULT SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

June 13 – July 23

Sign up and complete the challenge by reading five books (printed and/or audio) checked out from the library to receive a BPL water bottle.

WRITING FOR BLISS WORKSHOP

Presented by author, Diana Raab, PhD.

June 28, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

This workshop includes a seven-step plan for telling your story and trans-

forming your life. By experimenting with different forms of storytelling, such as prose and poetry, you will be led down a path of self-discovery.

SUMMER SALADS

Presented by Mary Spencer

July 12, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Tune in as Culinary Instructor Mary Spencer teaches us how to make some delicious summer salads. Recipes will be provided to participants.

LOST ON THE LAKES

Presented by Bob Myers

August 2, 6:00 p.m.

In-person at the library

Bob Myers from the Historical Society of Michigan will talk about a selection of ships that sank off the Berrien County coast during the 19th and early 20th centuries. These ships fell victim to storms, fire, overloading, and collisions. Some of these wreck sites are popular places for exploration by sport divers, but others remain unknown.

DIY (DO-IT-YOURSELF) OBITUARIES

Presented by Larken Bradley

August 30, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

Don’t leave it to chance what is written about you after you depart this

**Visit
BRIDGMANLIBRARY.COM**

BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

earth. Write your own obituary and pen a lively send-off! Larken Bradley offers an upbeat approach to a grave undertaking.

ONGOING ADULT PROGRAMS

KNIT N YARN

**Every Monday, 1:00 p.m. &
3rd Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. - May 17,
June 21, July 19, August 16**

The Knit N Yarn group recently celebrated its 15-year anniversary – here’s to many more years, ladies! The past few months we have worked on knitting sweaters for baby goats. Please join us to learn to knit or crochet, share your latest project, or get help with a yarning problem.



ZOOM YOGA

Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.

This FREE virtual yoga class is suitable for beginning to intermediate students and is led by certified Yin Yoga instructor, Cheryl Meadors.

2ND WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP

5:30 p.m.

Rick Fuller leads this group in-person at the library, or you may participate via Zoom from the comfort of your own home. Books can be checked out up to one month in advance of the meeting date.

May 11 *There Are No Children Here* - Alex Kotlowitz

June 8 *The World According to Fannie Davis* - Bridgett Davis

July 13 *George Washington’s Secret Six* - Brian Kilmeade

August 10 *The Far Traveler: Voyages of a Viking Woman* - Nancy Marie Brown

PROGRAMS FOR ALL AGES

STORYWALK® AT THE PRESERVES

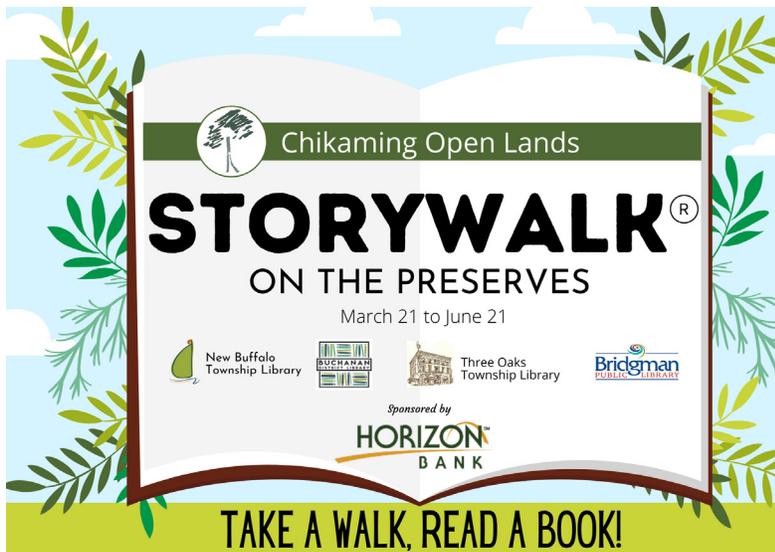
Now – June 21

Take a walk and read a book. Find family-friendly story books at four Chikaming Open Land Preserves, brought to you by your local libraries. Learn more at: chikamingopenlands.org.

JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

June 20, 10:30 a.m.

Commemorate Juneteenth at our outdoor flag ceremony. Sign up online starting May 20 to participate in the color guard, lead the Pledge, or read a poem.



HOW DOES THE STORYWALK® WORK?

A StoryWalk® is a way for people to enjoy reading and the outdoors at the same time! Book pages have been separately laminated and attached to stakes along the preserve path. As you walk down the train you are directed to the next page of the story!



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

YOUTH PROGRAMS

PERSONAL PIÑATA PROJECT

May 18, Part 1 of 2

May 25, Part 2 of 2

Drop in between

4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Part 1. Construct a tiny piñata for decoration or smashing. Part 2. Decorate your blank piñata. Will you make a pineapple, a lightbulb or something else? Grades 5 - 12.



OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES YOUTH SUMMER PROGRAMS

June 13 - July 23

Ages 2 - 18

Six weeks of reading and summertime fun! Keep your brain sharp and explore the ocean and all things water-related. Movie Mondays are back at a new time! Plus, in-person programs, take & make projects, and try out our new reading tracking app, ReadSquared! More details on the library website.

READING CHALLENGE

June 13 - July 23



Registration opens June 1 at bridgmanpl.readsquared.com or in the ReadSquared app. Track the number

of minutes read to earn prizes and entries into the grand prize drawings. Age 2 - Grade 12.

ROCK & ROLL BEACH PARTY

June 13, 1:00 p.m.

Kick off summer by rocking out to classic music with our live musician! Ages 3 - 11.

TEEN BOOK CLUB

Pick up your book: June 13 - 17

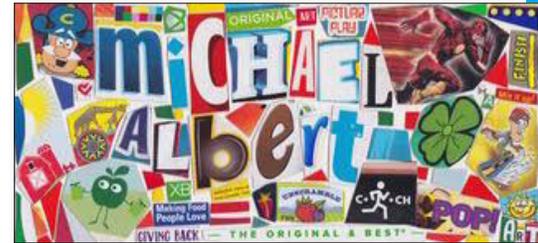
Book discussion: July 20, 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

You will have one month to read one of two titles. Then we'll get together for pizza and talk about the books. Grades 7 - 10.

SURVIVAL ISLAND ESCAPE ROOM

June 17, 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Sign up begins online June 1. Can you work together to survive and send a rescue message? Pick a convenient time slot for you and your friends. Grades 6 - 12.



MICHAEL ALBERT POP ART EXPERIENCE

June 24, 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Toth Street Park

Sign up begins online May 20. Meet collage artist Michael Albert and join us for a hands-on workshop where you can create your very own collage! Please bring an empty cereal box with you. Learn more at michaelalbert.com. Grades 3 - 12. Parents are welcome too.

BUBBLE DAY

June 30, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Plan to get wet at the intersection of science, water and fun! Meet in the library's south parking lot. Ages 4 - 10. Volunteers needed; 8th grade - adult.

LAND ART PHOTO CHALLENGE

July 1 - 9

Find a natural area like the beach or park; arrange natural materials (rocks, leaves, etc.) in patterns, circles, spirals or any way you choose; take some photos. Sign up online



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

and share your pictures for a prize!
Ages 11 - 18.

ENCANTO WATCH PARTY

July 6, 2:30 p.m.

Join the library for a musical afternoon as you sing and dance along with the movie. Costumes welcome. All ages.

CHALK THE WALK

July 8, 10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Decorate the sidewalks around the library. You bring the creativity - we'll provide the chalk. All ages.

CRICHTLOW ALLIGATOR SANCTUARY

July 14, 10:30 a.m.

Sign up begins online June 24. Meet live alligators and learn about their habits and habitat. Age 5 and up (no exceptions, per presenter).

MOVIE MONDAYS

All movies begin at 2:30 p.m.

June 20 - *Oceans* (Documentary, Rated G)

June 27 - *Princess Bride* (Rated PG)

July 11 - *Dolphin Tale* (Rated PG)

July 18 - *Sing 2* (Rated PG)

July 25 - *Surf's Up* (Rated PG)

August 1 - *In the Heights* (Rated PG-13)

August 8 - *Luca* (Rated PG)

August 15 - *The Mitchells vs. the Machines* (Rated PG)

TAKE & MAKE PROJECT KITS

June 27 - July 1

Flying Fish. Age 8 and up.

July 11 - 16

Sea Life Quilling Papercraft Project. Age 12 and up.

July 18 - 23

Shark Lady Suncatcher. Age 6 and up.

July 25 - 30

Fish Tangram. Ages 3 - 7.

ONGOING YOUTH PROGRAMS

EARLY LITERACY CLASSES

Every Tuesday thru July 26.

Classes will resume in September.

Toddler and Me (ages 2 - 5)

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

Story Hour (ages 2 - 5)

10:30 a.m.

LITTLE EXPLORERS

2nd & 4th Fridays, 10:00 a.m.

May 13 & 27, Jun 10 & 24, Jul 8 &

22, Aug 12 & 26

Fun, educational, hands-on learning.

Explore process-based art, sensory play, and STEAM activities as you rotate through different stations.

Ages 2 - 5.

PAWSITIVE READING

2nd Tuesday of the month

May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9

Elementary school children can practice their literacy skills by reading to Zuzu, the licensed therapy dog. Please call the library to reserve a 15-minute time slot.



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY



COLORS OF CANCER COMMUNITY ART PROJECT

July 7 - October 31

Join us as we create a visual representation of how cancer has impacted our community. The Colors of Cancer Wreath will be made with strips of cloth in colors that represent different types of cancer. Stop by and tie on a piece of cloth for yourself or someone else who has fought this disease. The completed wreath will be given to the Berrien County Cancer Service.

DISPLAY CASE

The library has plenty of openings for our display case for the year 2022. If you would like to showcase a hobby or collection, please contact Deb at 269-465-3663 or deb@bridgmanlibrary.com.



FIRST TEE DROP OFF SITE

Own golf clubs you never use? Drop them off at the library and we will donate them to the First Tee of Benton Harbor - a youth development program that enables kids to build character and leadership skills through the game of golf.



WIFI - FREE all day, every day

Access the internet inside the library, as well as outside on library grounds. Sign-on to: BPL Public Wi-Fi. No password required.

LIBRARY EMAIL NEWS

Stay in-the-know! Sign up to receive library emails on all of our upcoming programs and events. Go to bridgmanlibrary.com to register.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Can't remember when Story Hour begins? Need a Zoom link for the Book Group meeting?

Go to the library website and click the Community Calendar button at the top right of the homepage - you'll find all of our program details in one handy place!



9964 GAST ROAD, BRIDGMAN, MI 49106

bridgmanschools.com

Office: 269-465-5432

Fax: 269-466-0221

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



WEKO BEACH, PHOTO BY BOB CLARK

One community working together to serve you better.

Bridgman Public Schools

Central Administration
9964 Gast Road
Bridgman, MI 49106
bridgmanschools.com
Office: 269-465-5432
Fax: 269-466-0221

Bridgman High School

9964 Gast Road
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Office: 269-465-6848
Fax: 269-466-0355

F.C. Reed Middle School

10254 California Road
Bridgman, MI 49106
Office: 269-465-5410
Fax: 269-466-0393

Bridgman Elementary

3891 Lake Street
Bridgman, MI 49106
Office: 269-466-0241
Fax: 269-466-0248

Bridgman Public Library

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269-465-5144

Lake Charter Township

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lake-township.org
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