

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

DECEMBER 2019



Back row, left to right: Coach Spencer Carr, Grace Fenech, Mikaela Owen, Summer Fast, Nina Babcock, Sophia Bomar
Front row, left to right: Karsyn Stewart, Jane Kaspar, Alexa Ackerman, Arie Hackett

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION

In a joint effort with the City of Bridgman, Lake Township, Bridgman Public Library, the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber & Growth Alliance, and Bridgman Public Schools, we present this community newsletter.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION



SCHOOL NEWS

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Superintendent
Shane M. Peters

The Bridgman Board of Education and the Office of the Superintendent extend Best Wishes to you

for a Great 2020!

Bridgman Public Schools continues to produce academically strong students; competitive athletic programs; and a quality performing, visual and applied arts curriculum.

READ MORE PG 2

TOWNSHIP NEWS

FROM THE SUPERVISOR



Supervisor
John Gast

Well the early dose of cold and snow reminds us of what could lie ahead this winter.

Reminding everyone to drive safe and slow down.

At Lake Charter Township Park, we recently installed the off-season parking off of Gast Road. There will be a gated access to the Park and allow

READ MORE PG 13

LIBRARY NEWS

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Director
Dennis Kreps

I am pleased to join the Bridgman community as your library director. I have worked in a variety of library settings over the years; I am grateful to be serving a community who values its library and considers it an important community institution.

Today's library must be

READ MORE PG 17

CITY NEWS

FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City Manager
Juan Ganum

As we leave behind 2019, which marked Bridgman's 70th anniversary as an incorporated city, and enter 2020, we make a leap forward to strengthen our essential infrastructure. A thorough assessment of the water and sewer system requires us to take action to ensure the proper operation of both systems over the next 20 years.

READ MORE PG 16

BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Bridgman Board of Education

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Vice-President

Lisa Kiewel

Secretary

JoAnn DeMeulenaere

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Brad Owen

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Brad Reitz

Trustee

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Trustee

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

Here are just a few of the highlights so far this year:

- The Class of 2020 had the highest SAT scores across Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties.
- The Girls Cross Country team captured the MHSAA Division 4 State Championship.
- The Spirit of Bridgman Marching Band had a successful marching season capturing several first place finishes and numerous other awards.
- The Middle School students have demonstrated strong attendance so far this year - a 96.5% daily average attendance rate.
- F.C. Reed Middle School continues to develop community partnerships with various business and community groups.
- 25% of F.C. Reed Middle School students participate in a zero hour activity and/or intervention and 70% of the Middle School teachers either lead one or more before/lunch/after school clubs, programs or activities.
- WIN (What I Need) program, which is a "Response to Intervention" program at BES, continues to make great strides in programming that assists our struggling learners.
- Congratulations to the BES PTO for raising over \$22,000 in their annual Fun Run.
- The BES LEGO League team competed in the State Lego League competition in December.

National School Board Recognition Month

January is National School Board Recognition Month - a time to salute the work of our school board members and to celebrate public education. Thank you to **Eric Ramso, Lisa Kiewel, JoAnn DeMeulenaere, Brad Reitz, Brad Owen, Tishia Roberts, and Pam Oselka**, who dedicate countless personal hours to ensure the needs of our community are met by our public schools. Our board members are just ordinary Bridgman residents you would see when you are out and about, that take their time and energy to serve our schools and community.

Strategic Planning

Bridgman Public Schools has recently gone through a Strategic Planning process with the Michigan Association of School Boards. The Bridgman Public Schools Board of Education approved the Strategic Plan at its December 16, 2019 meeting. Check out the new Strategic Plan on the district website at www.bridgmanschools.com. Copies of the District Strategic Plan are also available in the Superintendent's Office.

Thank you to all the students, staff, administrators and community members who participated in the Strategic Planning process.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.

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



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED ...

District Calendar

Reminder that in the next two years, school starts before Labor Day. The first day for students will be August 31, 2020. The 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school calendars are now available on the district website.

Safety and Security

Safety and Security of students and staff continues to be of the utmost importance to our building and district administrators, the Board of Education and myself. At Bridgman Public Schools, we want to reassure you that many safety and security measures are in place to protect your children and staff. We have recently updated our Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and continue to work with our local, county, state and federal law enforcement partners to keep everyone safe. This is a good time for all of our students and parents to talk about "school threats" and to know that Bridgman Public Schools will take each one of these situations seriously. Students who violate the Student Code of Conduct will be dealt with to the fullest extent of the appropriate Bridgman Public Schools Board of Education policies and will be referred to the criminal justice system, if applicable. I would encourage you and your student to report any safety, security or threat information to school personnel or law enforcement immediately.

Inclement Weather

It is the time of year when we have inclement weather, causing two-hour delays and closings.

In the event of a two-hour delay, buses will pick up students at their regular bus stop two hours after their normal, scheduled time. For example, if a student normally gets picked up by the bus at 6:45 a.m., pick-up will be at 8:45 a.m. on days when the district has a two-hour delay.

Likewise, school will start two hours after the normal start time. Bridgman High School students will begin classes at 9:55 a.m., F.C. Reed Middle School students will begin classes at 10:00 a.m., and Bridgman Elementary students will begin classes at 9:45 a.m. If the start of school is delayed, breakfast (limited options) and lunch will be served. Dismissal time will remain the same.

Safety remains the primary focus when the determination is made to close school or delay the start of school by two hours. From time to time, it may be predicted that at two-hour delay will allow roads to be cleared or fog to lift. If the weather has not cleared after the two-hour delay, school will be

cancelled for the day and that decision will be broadcast via local media and the automated calling system. We will try to make a decision as early as possible to allow parents time to make alternate arrangements.

The automatic calling system is linked to the school's computer so it is vital that all demographic information particularly new phone numbers be reported to the school office immediately.

Annual Audit

A recent annual audit of the District finances resulted in a clean opinion being issued by our auditors, Kruggel and Lawton. For fiscal year ending, June 30, 2019, the District added \$337,565 to its General fund balance. This resulted in a General Fund balance of \$2,276,090, which represents a healthy 18.46% of annual expenditures.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you have a concern or would like additional information about what is happening in the Bridgman Public Schools.

The strength of our community is our schools and the strength of our schools is our community. GO BEES!

Shane M. Peters, Superintendent

Bridgman Public Schools Daily Schedule

	BES	RMS	BHS
Full Day Schedule	7:45 am - 2:50 pm	8:00 am - 3:05 pm	7:55 am - 3:00 pm
Half Day Schedule	7:45 am - 11:10 am	8:00 am - 11:25 am	7:55 am - 11:20 am
2hr Delay Schedule	9:45 am - 2:50 pm	10:00 am - 3:05 pm	9:55 am - 3:00 pm



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Nurturing Minds While Growing a Garden

By: Lori Graves, BES Principal



Lori Graves, BES Principal

Bridgman Elementary School hosts a Garden Club of over 50 students.

The club advisors are Melissa Payne, elementary special education teacher, Gail Holman, local farmer and Bridgman Public Schools Food Service Director, Peggy Ferguson. Melissa and Gail are the owners/operators of Come and See Farms located in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Their background in farming and animal care prompted the creation of the Garden Club.

You will discover more about their passion for the farm and its connection to the Garden Club in the interview below with Gail Holman and Melissa Payne.

How did the idea form to start Come and See Farm?

Melissa's family land was mostly sitting idle. We wanted to start a small farm and replenish the soil. Since we were both mostly new to growing in regenerative ways, we took a *Permaculture Design Course*. The principles are "Care for People, Care for the Earth and Share the Abundance." We decided to teach and share what we were learning. Simultaneously, Melissa was, and is, deeply

concerned by her Special Education students defeated attitude when it comes to academic learning. We invited them along on our journey of learning and discovery about regenerating our little spot of earth. It makes sense.

Care for People - "Opening Eyes to New Beginnings" lifts up discouraged students and others needing a different perspective. Regenerating attitudes towards life success by...

Care for the Earth - Putting life back into the soil with mulch and compost and our best intentions for regenerating old farm land.

Sharing the Abundance - "Opening Eyes to New Beginnings" by sharing our new knowledge. Sharing what we learn.

What does the farm look like?

We are an eight-acre educational farm that operates on Permaculture principles, described above. Just like the land, we are constantly evolving in the programs we offer and provide. We have quite a few animals for a small farm; six goats, a steer, a donkey, a pig, a flock of chickens and a few ducks. The animals' purpose is to allow children and others to meet their meat and to provide nourishment to our soil.

We offer summer day camps and field trips. The focus of these activities is to teach children to care for the earth. We are working closely with Bridgman School District and specifically the food

service, to teach students about growing food, nutrition and caring for the earth.

We do this by offering a Garden Club at the elementary and middle school. These groups are creating gardens at both schools that will eventually be growing food that will be offered in the cafeterias.

What's the mission and vision for Come and See Farm?

Mission - To offer hands-on farming and gardening opportunities to children and others, adhering to permaculture principles to achieve resiliency for people and the land.

Vision - To open eyes and the land to new beginnings

How did the Garden Club at BES come to be? What is your goal of the Garden Club?

We were waiting to hear from the universe about the next step for the farm. Melissa and I had attended a fabulous conference at Cornell sponsored by the National Horticultural Society, the National Children and Youth Garden Symposium in the summer of 2018.

When we returned home we heard through the school grapevine that Peggy

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.

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





BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Nurturing Minds While Growing a Garden

Ferguson was wanting to plant a garden to supplement the food in the cafeteria. During that summer, we met with Peggy and several members of the PTO.

The interest has been phenomenal. This collaboration has brought our enthusiasm for the Come and See Farm mission to life. We love working with Peggy Ferguson.

Our goal of the garden club is to provide a time and space for students to learn to care for each other, care for the earth, and to share what they learn and grow with others. We want them to be able to dig in the soil, plant things, watch them grow, and find success and joy in the outcome.

How do you connect Come and See Farm to the Garden Clubs?

We usually have the students out to the farm on a Saturday during the school year to visit with the animals and do some farm gardening. Our biggest physical connection is our summer enrichment day camps. These camps have given us an opportunity to provide intensive age appropriate outside fun and learning. Our Farm Chore camp and Fort Building and Whittling were really popular last summer.

Where do you see the farm in five years?

We would both like to host more activities during the school year for students who are struggling behaviorally in the square classroom setting. We would like our site to be used by groups or schools for small retreats and meetings. We would like to have a small staff to assist with our children programming.

If you had unlimited funds, what would be your dream to have or do to the farm?

A small staff to assist with children programming. Be a fully functioning small farmstead operating on permaculture principles able to produce most of what we need to eat and sustain our family and in turn being able to educate and assist others in the same endeavor.

What has been the most rewarding thing about the farm and Garden Club?

By far, above anything else, the enthusiasm of the students for the activity and program of Garden Club.



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

F.C. REED MIDDLE SCHOOL

From the Principal ...



John Truesdell
Middle School Principal

The mission of F.C. Reed Middle School is to help ALL students acquire the social, emotional, and academic skills needed to excel in high school and reach their fullest potential.

As we begin the second semester of the 2019 - 2020 school year, I am excited to report that the middle school has had a safe, collaborative, and successful start to the 2019 - 2020 school year.

As a community, one of our responsibilities is to remove barriers that prevent our children from developing in a safe, stable environment. After a building wide conversation, one major change to our middle school environment has been the removal of personal cell phone devices from the instructional day.

Under the new RMS cell phone policy, students are now required to power off devices and store them in the locker throughout the day, including unstructured times such as lunch. After one semester, I'm excited to announce that this new policy has had a transformative impact at the middle school. With the removal of cell phones, technology related behavior issues have decreased and student perception survey data indicates learners feel more focused and secure at RMS. Further, students are learning to develop new social skills during unstructured time. For example, in the past students would often eat lunch in the cafeteria and stare at devices in isolation. This year, RMS learners are now engaging in extended conversations with peers, sitting in groups more often,

and playing card games and board games to pass the time.

Another point of pride has been the tremendous community support that has been evident during the first two marking periods of the school year. In October, over 400 students and parents attended a *Trunk or Treat* event that was organized by the BPS School Counseling Department and hosted at the middle school as part of our celebration of Red Ribbon Week.

Over 15 community groups, businesses, student organizations, and local municipalities sponsored vehicles by decorating trunks to promote healthy lifestyles and decisions.

Further, during a November viewing of the documentary *Screenagers*, over 100 parents/guardians attended the event in the BHS P.A.C. and began a district wide conversation about the advantages and challenges of raising teenagers in a world of screens and technology. It is essential that our community continues to partner with the school to ensure students have the social and emotional skills that are necessary for learning to take place. Thank you to all who attended and supported these first two community events!

With the rapid development of technology, it is becoming more and more critical to facilitate learning opportunities that integrate social, emotional, and academic lessons into one comprehensive task. F.C. Reed Middle School teachers prioritize this interdisciplinary approach to skill building and we continue to witness the fruits of their labor.

For example, on November 16, the F.C. Reed Middle School BeeBots robotics

Scan the QR barcode to watch a highlight video from the 2019 BPS Trunk or Treat event!



SCAN ME



The F.C. Reed Middle School BeeBots robotics team competed in the Lancer-Bot-Mania FLL regional competition at Lakeshore High School.

team competed in the Lancer-Bot-Mania FLL regional competition at Lakeshore High School. The team took home the gold in the Community Research Project category. Working in collaboration with the City of Bridgman Parks Department, the team researched and envisioned a robot that would reward citizens who collected trash and debris on Weko Beach during the winter months. The team then built a functional prototype that dispensed gift certificates to local businesses when individuals deposited trash in the device. Congrats to Coach Foxworthy and the entire BeeBots team on a successful season!

As we continue through the winter months and look to spring, the RMS staff is committed to working as a team to provide the resources and opportunities that are needed to develop resilient and collaborative learners who are prepared to reach their fullest potential at Bridgman High School. Please do not hesitate to contact me at jtruesdell@bridgmanschools.com or by calling 269-466-0230 to learn more about the middle school or take a tour.

GO BEES!

John Truesdell, RMS Principal

BRIDGMAN HIGH SCHOOL

From the Principal ...



Gerald Heath
High School Principal

As the snow falls and we prepare for cooler temperatures, we come to the end of an excellent first semester for the 2019-2020 school year; a season where our choir and band hosted beautiful performances at their annual winter concerts and the fall athletic season ended with a volleyball conference championship. Additionally, both the boys and girls cross country teams qualified for the MHSAA State Finals with the girls bringing home the **Division 4 State Championship!** This is the first state title since 1987 and the first female state title in school history. Congratulations on a job well done! We are very proud of all of our students!

College and Career Month

Keri Haskins, Bridgman High School Counselor, organized a fun and exciting college and career month in October that included mascot Mondays, door decorating, college visits, lunch games, and more! During this time, Mrs. Haskins also hosted a college informational session and provided an overview of the FAFSA (financial aid) process. Our seniors have been busy with 98 percent of the class applying to over 61 different colleges. We have students interested in community colleges, four-year universities, apprenticeships, and trade schools. Students had the opportunity to visit

Lake Michigan College and Grand Valley State University to experience what it would be like to attend a two-year college or four-year university. In November, ninth-graders attended the Berrien County Career Pathway Day to network with local businesses and receive information on possible career paths.

The Spirit of Bridgman Marching Band

The marching band, under the direction of Cliff Reppart, offered a wonderful performance this fall called "Into the Darkness." The band earned a Division I rating at Marching Band Festival and finished 1st in three out of four competitions. During the season, the band won several awards including Best Marching, Best Music, Best Percussion, and Best Color Guard. At the Lakeshore competition, the group finished with the highest final score in over 20 years! Well done!

Whirlpool Innovation Challenge

On November 11, Bridgman students combined forces to compete in the Whirlpool Innovation Challenge at their Riverview Drive Campus. Four schools, consisting of 29 groups, sent teams to compete including St. Joseph, Lakeshore, Lake Michigan Catholic, and Bridgman. Only 11 of the 29 teams advanced to the final round of competition, and four of those teams were from Bridgman!

The challenge included student research, surveys (obtaining consumer insights), analyzing survey data, designing

(through drawings or CAD), working through product development and financing, and presenting their ideas to a panel of judges from The Whirlpool Corporation.

National Honor Society

National Honor Society hosted a school-wide assembly on November 11 to honor local veterans. During November, members collected items for the annual Stuff-A-Truck food drive. During the week of December 9 - 13, NHS sponsored "hat week" to raise money for cystic fibrosis.

SADD Club

SADD Club recently sponsored the annual Red Ribbon Week. This year's national theme was "Send A Message, Stay Drug-Free". During the week, students participated in dress-up days and red ribbons were on display throughout the building. Club members also hosted a donut sale to raise money for Bridgman Cares. The SADD Club is currently busy working on an anti-bullying campaign.

Key Club

The student-led Key Club Week raised money for the Humane Society of Southwest Michigan. Donuts were sold two mornings during the week and a "minute to win it" donation collection was held at lunch. The fundraising total came in at \$157.91. A supply drive was also held for the Humane Society with cleaning supplies making up the bulk of the donations.

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BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FROM THE HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL CONTINUED ...

Interact

Interact helped serve our veterans at The American Legion Post 331 on Saturday, November 9. They helped set up for the event, serve, visit with the veterans and helped to clean up afterward. They collaborated with Lake Michigan Catholic to assemble and set out luminaries on November 22 in downtown St. Joseph. They also took the time to visit the elementary school on November 25 - 26 to encourage reading and share crafts with PreSchool - 1st Grades.

Work-Based Learning

For a work-based learning experience, the Bridgman Accounting class traveled to Chicago on November 5 to the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. There was a speaker from the bank, a question and answer session, and a short video. The group also went to the Money Museum and the Museum of Science and Industry.

On November 8, 27 Chemistry I students visited Ferris State for their Elastomer Career Day. It started in the National Elastomer Building where students were introduced to various heads of the university talking about preparations for college. After general information, the Elastomer staff talked specifically about their program. Virtually every graduate is currently employed in their degree program. After introductions, students broke into groups where current plastics and rubber students escorted them to different parts of the building to see what it meant to be an elastomer student. Students saw them working with robots, computer programs, 3-D printing, and various measuring and production machines. Three of our former Bridgman students who are now in the program helped with the tour, and two of Mr. Antel's former Lowell students were also tour guides.

Athletic & Community Recreation

Director's Message

Bees Nation ... Happy New Year 2020!



Ken Schmaltz
Athletic Director

We have chimed in together with another rendition of Auld Lang Syne, said goodbye to a historic and successful 2019 and excitedly look forward to what 2020 has in store for Bridgman Athletics and Bridgman Public Schools.

A few highlights from 2019:

- Bridgman Girls Cross Country team are MHSAA Division 4 State Champions...congratulations Ladies!
- Bees Girls Cross Country win the school's first Regional championship
- Bees Boys Cross Country place 2nd overall in MHSAA Regional...qualify for State Finals
- Karsyn Stewart and Arie Hackett were both All-State performers this past season in cross country
- Bees Volleyball are BCS Conference Red Division Champions ... the school's first conference title in 19 years!
- Bees Football is back!... complete 8-1 campaign in first season of 8-Player Football

- Kaitlin Essig, Mikaela Owen and Karysn Stewart All-State in Girls Track & Field
- Jayden Pribyl is All-State in Boys Track & Field
- Mikaela Owen is MHSAA Division 4 State Champion in the 100M and 200M; State Runner-up in Long Jump and 400M
- Mikaela Owen is named the WSJM Berrien County Female Athlete of the Year
- Bees Softball wins BCS Conference Red Division

Our return from Christmas Break finds us approaching the midst of the 2019-20 school year and, it is very rewarding and satisfying in seeing our Bees student-athletes mature in the classroom, in the athletic setting and as young adults as they progress through high school. It is my sincere hope in that our Bees student-athletes are able to say that athletics and life lessons learned through being a part of a team played an integral part in their high school experiences.

Bridgman High School Athletics provides an opportunity to learn invaluable life lessons in preparation for young adults' future endeavors.

We invite the Community of Bridgman to join us in celebrating our student-athletes throughout 2020 by attending and visiting with us at our upcoming athletic events.

Up-to-date schedules can always be viewed at www.bridgmanathletics.com





AQUATIC CENTER & COMMUNITY WEIGHT ROOM

DID YOU KNOW?

If you are a Senior (62+) and a RESIDENT of Bridgman or Lake Township all of our offerings are FREE – classes, lap swim, weight room and more!

DID YOU KNOW?

If your child (or children) live in the City of Bridgman, Lake Township or are a School of Choice student at Bridgman Public Schools our swim lessons are FREE!

Family Recreation Swim

If you are looking for a fun activity to do with your family, come to a Family Recreation swim! We offer a family rec swim on Tuesday and Thursday evening from 7:30-9:00 pm and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00-2:00 pm. Please see our website for fee schedule as well as closings due to swim meets.

Community Diving

Lessons are taught by Elaina Paulson, Diving Coach for Bridgman High School Co-Op teams. The diving lessons are open to divers of all ages and all levels. Students will learn basic and advanced techniques while improving existing

skills. Please see the website for class session dates or contact the diving Coach Paulson at 10ejpaul@gmail.com.

Community Swim Lessons

Bridgman Aquatic Center offers Community Swim Lessons at regular intervals throughout the year. Our website contains information regarding the levels for each of the classes we offer. The session dates are listed below along with date of registration. Our community swim lessons are FREE for children living in the City of Bridgman, Lake Township, or children who attend Bridgman Public Schools as a School of Choice student. To register your child for community lessons, visit BridgmanPool.com and click on the Registration link. February 10 – March 25 (7 weeks) Registration link online: Monday February 3rd

Community Weight Room

Bridgman High School has a state of the art weight room, located in the balcony of the gym. The CWR is open seven days a week with hours in both the morning and evening. We offer a “Punch Card” for the weight room which is available for \$20/30 visits or the fee is \$1 per visit. If you purchase an Aquatic Center Membership, use of the weight room is included. Hours are listed on the website and the Community Weight Room is CLOSED during all home basketball games.

For more information on these and other programs including the latest pool updates, closures and schedules, visit our website at BridgmanPool.com Like us on Facebook too!



GREAT GIFT IDEA!

Bridgman High School is selling yearbooks dating back to 1958! First come, first serve. All sales are final.

More information: bridgmanschools.com





Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence From the Chairman



This Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence (BFEE) update is offered as we enter the new year of 2020!

Allan Barker,
BFEE Chairman

I am proud of the Bridgman Public School Faculty and Administration

for their commitment in submitting creative educational grant requests for our funding. Four grant requests recently received BFEE funding approval and four additional grants requests are pending approval! Beginning with a creative grant request and ending with a fully funded educational opportunity is what our community can expect through the collaboration of the Bridgman Public Schools and BFEE!

As I have said before, the Foundation trustees are volunteers from the community who experience a sense of fulfillment by enhancing the energy of learning displayed by Bridgman Public School students and their teachers. Please consider joining our Foundation as a trustee and bring your special talents to bear in making educational opportunities open to all Bridgman Public School students! If interested, communicate your interest through our website at: <http://www.bridgmanfoundation.org> under the volunteer tab.

I'm pleased to share the following stories of how the Bridgman Public Schools and BFEE collaborates to make a difference for students through funded grants.

RMS Social Studies/ELA Integration

Michelle Foxworthy requested funding of books to enrich the social studies curriculum. The goal is to help deepen students' knowledge of social studies concepts as well as increasing their reading levels by giving students more access to both nonfiction and historical fiction books. This will also support the School Improvement reading goal for the 2019/2020 school year. Books will be assigned to read and then discussed in book club format.

HS String Art Constructions/Advanced Geometry

Amanda Veldman requested funding of a String Art Project for freshmen in Advanced Geometry. Part of the Common Core State Standards for Geometry requires students to complete geometric constructions using a variety of methods. Students will practice these Geometry Standards using paper and colored pencils first and then progress to applying their knowledge to string art on wood planks. This project will enhance the students' understanding of Geometry and allow them to apply learned content in a creative way that will be

motivating, challenging, and memorable. Furthermore, it will allow them to meet State standards in a creative and dynamic way.

RMS Kagan Activities

Kelly Wells requested funding of the Kagan book entitled "What's This Got to Do with Anything?" by Jim Craigan & Chris Ward, and Kagan's Higher Level Thinking cards for Social Studies and Science. The goal is to create a secure learning environment and increase student engagement and cooperation. She would like to incorporate more brain-friendly activities by using this book and incorporate the Higher Level Thinking cards into content areas as well. These types of activities help develop and nurture trust with peers which, in turn, allows students to feel secure when engaging in academic discussion. The Higher Level Thinking cards will allow students to think critically and creatively.

HS/RMS Harmony Director

Cliff Reppart requested funding of a specialized keyboard called the Harmony Director. It's a tool to teach specifics about tuning, intonation and harmony. It's not a keyboard intended to be played as an instrument, but to demonstrate and teach advanced intonation. The manufacturer cites that the "Harmony Director is a revolutionary tuning device for teaching intonation by comparative learning. Unlike traditional tuners that

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Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence

correct one pitch at a time, the HD-200 teaches student to tune the notes within actual chords, helping improve intonation, harmony and overall sound. It features three preset temperaments with 10 instrument voices including piano for accompaniment. New figure sliders control note attack, brilliance and release. The built-in metronome is programmable and a tap-temp feature lets you set tempos.” The Harmony Director will help to teach intonation in a way that is currently impossible. It will take the band to the next level.

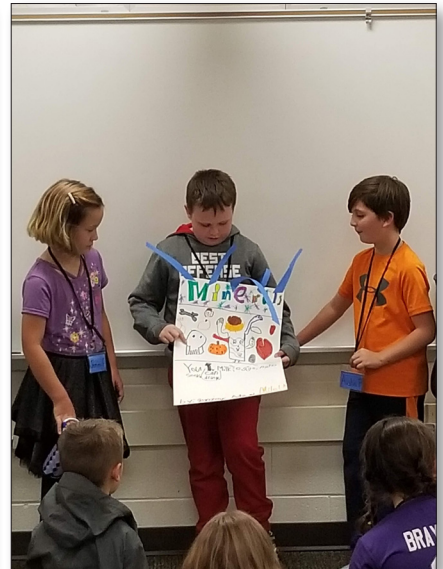
In my previous update I communicated a teaser about our familiar February auction/dance/great food celebration being held to “enjoy the season.” Let me add a little more clarity to the teaser.

SAVE THE DATE FOR A POLAR PARTY ON FEBRUARY 8, 2020!!!!

Are you dreading another polar vortex?

We’re ready to celebrate winter with a Polar Party in downtown Bridgman! Our Polar Party will feature family fun, food, local wineries and breweries and live music with Mark Ficks. **Activities for all ages!** More information will be coming soon.

In closing, I wanted to share some action photos of our Elementary School Garden Club doing what they do BEST! Thanks to Melissa Payne, Bridgman Elementary School Special Education teacher for sharing these Garden Club moments.



{ The strength of our community is our schools and the strength of our schools is our community. }



Bridgman Foundation
for Educational Excellence

Your donations provide opportunity for all Bridgman students to experience and learn things they may never be able to otherwise.

Since the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence is driven by a group of volunteers, ALL of your contributions provide enhancements for education and are tax deductible. We appreciate your financial support but we could also use your personal help.

If you are interested in serving, please email us at info@bridgman-foundation.org



THE BRIDGMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

PRESENTS AN EVENING WITH

*"Baby
It's You"*

*"Goodnite,
Sweetheart,
Goodnite"*

The Spaniels

ALSO PERFORMING

THE BRIDGMAN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

DIRECTED BY JENNIFER AMMERMAN



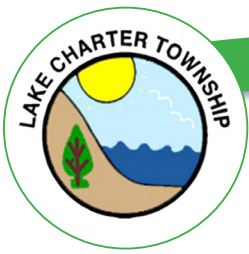
Billy Shelton, Leader
Bass Vocalist of the Spaniels

**Bridgman High School
Performing Arts Center
Saturday, March 28
7:00 pm**

Adults: \$15 Students: \$10

Tickets available at the high school office,
online at www.bridgmanfoundation.org, or
at the door the night of the concert

All proceeds benefit the students of the Bridgman Public School District



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

SUPERVISOR - JOHN GAST CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

foot traffic year-round.

The Board of Trustees spent the better part of November, along with Department Heads, to develop the 2020 budget. The budget includes capital improvements to the water and sewer system.

Lake Township Hall will see interior improvements to the kitchen area, which is in need of new ceiling tile, better lighting, and focusing on an area that sustained water damage.

Lake Charter Township is working with *Cornerstone Alliance* to market the property owned by *Leco* on Lemon Creek and Gast Road. There has been some interest shown by developers. We are looking forward to working together to find a company that is a good fit for the community and that will bring employment opportunities.

The Lake Charter Township's financial consultant is working on reviewing the current water and sewer rates, looking to make any increase that might be necessary manageable.

Take notice: the street lights in Lake Charter Township have been upgraded to L.E.D. bulbs, which allow more light and use less energy.

Any questions you might have, you can call me at 269-465-6601.

John Gast, Supervisor



From the Desk of Gloria A. Payne, Clerk



Gloria Payne, Clerk

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 is the Presidential Primary. It is designated as a "closed primary," just as it was in 2012 and 2016.

Michigan Election Law, requires voters wishing to participate in the March 10, 2020

election to choose a Democratic, Republican, or no-Presidential Primary (local issues only, when applicable) ballot when voting absentee or at the polls on Election Day.

Therefore, those choosing to vote absentee, the absent voter application form, that will be sent to you, will have you selecting Democratic, Republican, or no-Presidential Primary. You must select a box, or the form will be returned to you, causing delay.

Please note, that while you, the voter, must select a specific party ballot, there is no political party registration in Michigan's voter registration system. It is not necessary to declare a specific party.

The following is the Presidential Primary Listing:

Democratic Party

Michael Bennet
Joe Biden
Michael Bloomberg
Cory Booker
Pete Buttigieg
Julian Castro
John Delaney
Tulsi Gabbard
Amy Klobuchar
Deval Patrick
Bernie Sanders
Tom Steyer
Elizabeth Warren
Marianne Williamson
Andrew Yang

Republican Party

Donald J. Trump
Joe Walsh
Bill Weld

As time marches on, this list, most likely, will have additional candidates. See you at the polls!



{ Did you know the street lights in Charter Township have been upgraded to L.E.D bulbs? }



LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

From the Desk of Bob Clark, Treasurer



Bob Clark, Treasurer

The 2019 winter tax bills are out and due February 14th to avoid interest and penalties.

Please remember postmarks are not accepted for payments so please allow plenty of time for delivery when mailing. We now have electronic options available if you are running late. Also, the drop box located just west of the Township Hall is a good way to make payments after hours. Just note, they must be in the box by 5:00 on the 14th to avoid penalties. Tax payments for the summer and winter bills can be paid at the Township until March 2nd. After that payments must go to the Berrien County Treasurers office in St Joseph.

I am working with our payment processor to upgrade to a great new mobile friendly app for making utility and tax payments. It will be similar to other apps where you can store card numbers, add payments or items to a cart, and set-up reoccurring payments! The app will show payments due and history of payments. We are very excited about this new app and will have more information about it when it is ready to release!

The assessment information online has been upgraded to include more information including assessor cards, floor plans, assessment value histories, homestead exemption information and more! Check it out on our website at: www.lake-township.org.

Lake Charter Township Water System

Another summer/fall has faded away and here we are getting ready to experience the colder snowy weather.

With this cold weather approaching, I always like to remind our customers to keep in mind that if your water meter is in an area that is prone to freezing, it is your responsibility to keep it from freezing. The water meters were installed inside residences in the earlier years of the building of the water system. Now they are installed in meter pits out at the property line, so this is not so much of an issue. Also please do not allow snow to be plowed up to a fire hydrant located by your residence as this will hinder accessibility.

Earlier this year we started to install remote radio readers on the water meters, and this is to be an ongoing project until we have completed this system wide. You may notice one of our personnel working on the remote reader on your residence or at the meter pit. This will give us the capability to read the meters quicker and more efficiently and be able to retrieve valuable information for usage/leak detection. We completed four major valve replacements projects this fall and will continue in 2020 to upgrade more valves to improve reliability.

Due to the recent changes in the *Lead & Copper* regulations, you may receive a questionnaire from us asking for information regarding the age of your residence and the type of plumbing that you have in your residence. We are required to verify and add this information to our database. If your home was built prior to 1988 and your plumbing consists of soldered copper, you could be asked to participate in our current lead and copper sampling program. If this is something you may be interested in, please let me know or if you want more information. Our current *Lead and Copper* sampling program was established in 1992 and since the Flint *Lead and Copper* issues, the regulations have become more stringent. We do not have any lead water mains or service lines in the Lake Township Water System, so the focus is more on internal plumbing. Since our sampling program has been in place, we have not had any issues with either lead or copper.

If you have any questions, please feel free to give me a call. Again, I also encourage tours of our facility if you ever wondered how water is treated. Enjoy the holidays and stay safe.

**Jeff Burkhard
Superintendent**

jburkhardtwater@lake-township.org
Lake Charter Township Water System

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LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

**TREASURER - BOB CLARK
CONTINUED ...**

Electronic Payments and E-check

Electronic and automatic payments continue to grow every year. The new E check system is being used by more residents all the time. An electronic payment can be made from your checking account for a \$ 3.00 fee. Payments are fast, secure and are significantly less than paying penalties! If you are pushing the due date, use this great new feature to make sure the funds arrive on time. Automatic payments for utility bills are free and make paying easy! Contact me for more information on the electronic payment options.

Lake Township Park News

The park has officially closed the end of October but the fun isn't over! The Township installed a new "off season" parking lot just north of the old gate. This allows you to use the park all year even when the main gates are locked. Our disc golf and walking friends can enjoy the park all year now when mother nature provides a nice day. We will be developing some cross-country ski trails through the park (snow permitting). We are planning a cross country ski race at the park as part of the Polar Party festivities in Bridgman February 8th. Park opens fully April 1st. We are taking reservations for pavilion rentals for the 2020 season. We will be looking forward to spring and several projects planned to make the park even more enjoyable. Look for updates in the Buzz spring edition.



California School Cemetery Lake Charter Township (Berrien County)



James Jasper

In early spring of 2019, the Township Board of Trustees was approached by Boy Scout James Jasper #264.

In the past, the Township has collaborated with Boy Scouts who were working on Eagle Scout Projects.

James addressed the board about an Eagle Scout Project. He proposed to re-construct a flagpole at our *California School Cemetery* in Lake Charter Township Bridgman Michigan.

This cemetery was a closed cemetery and has historical grave sites of Civil War Veterans. Most of the

head stones are unreadable due to age and deterioration of the lime stone type stones.

In 2018, a spring storm had knocked over the flagpole at the cemetery, which was not much more than a residential type pole. James came with a proposal for the project, which listed material to be used and the foundation to be prepared to support the new commercial type pole. Also, a plaque dedicated to commemorating the Civil War Veterans buried there was placed at the base of the flag pole. The Board of Trustees approved the project and James put it into motion.

James oversaw the project as well as doing labor at the site. The pole was erected on schedule and under budget. He scheduled the dedication of the Flag pole to be held on November 9, close to the actual celebration of Veterans Day of November 11.

In addition, James arranged for the Legion members to administer military rites, firing of rifles, presenting of flag and taps played at event.

State Senator Kim LaSata brought a flag, which was flown over the capital, to be the first flag to fly on the pole. County Administrator William Wolf, Township Board members, and approximately 30 people were in attendance.



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

CITY MANAGER - JUAN GANUM CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

At a recent meeting the Bridgman City Council met the challenge of addressing the issue head on by unanimously voting to establish water and sewer rates that will place both systems on sound financial footing well into the future.

The following is a statement from your City Council:

As we see up and down the Lake Michigan shoreline, virtually every community is faced with water and sewer rate increases. After extended discussions over the past several months, circumstances have required this same difficult decision to be made by your Bridgman City Council. At the City Council meeting of December 2, 2019, we voted – unanimously – to raise our Bridgman city water and sewerage rates. We feel you deserve to know the facts requiring this decision.

First, the good news. Our water and sewer systems are in relatively good shape. We emphasize – good shape. City engineers have identified a few locations in need of repair or updating over the next few years to correct ground water leakage and/or damaged pipes. All-in-all, nothing major is listed in the maintenance plan. Yet these repairs will amount to just under two million dollars – a very low figure when compared to what our neighboring communities will be paying to maintain and repair their systems. So in comparison, we are in

very good shape – yet it will be about a two million dollar cost to us in Bridgman over the next 20 years.

To continue the relatively good news, our monthly water rates will increase by \$3.25 per month for 93% of our residents. This flat rate increase will ensure that our capital needs are met over the next 20 years, and items such as pumps, pipes and the water tower remain at an appropriate level required to continue providing good quality drinking water.

With regard to the sewer system, we are faced with a different set of issues – in brief, the condition of the sewer system infrastructure and our internal financing.

We will begin with the internal financing. For many years our General Fund has supported our Sewer Fund. In other words, we have not collected enough in sewer rates to cover the costs of running the system. If this continues, ultimately the General Fund will run out of money, which cannot be allowed to happen for several reasons, primarily by state law. Our Sewer Fund already owes our General Fund in excess of a million dollars. Your Council debated several options including “forgiving” portions, or all, of this debt owed from one fund to another. Ultimately the difference in “forgiveness plans” amounted to only a couple dollars a month. We opted to accept a no forgiveness plan and over the next

12 years to “balance the books” between the Sewer Fund and the General Fund. This option makes up for many years of subsidized sewer rates in our City.

However, the major factor driving a sewer rate increase is the system itself. As you may know, Bridgman is one of five communities comprising the Galien River Sanitary District (GRSD). Our wastewater is pumped through a network of pipes to the treatment facility in New Buffalo Township. Our sewer system in Bridgman, and the regional system of which we are a member, require major upgrades and maintenance. You may have seen the recent replacement of a lift station along Baldwin Road near the railroad tracks. This type of major work is due all along the entire GRSD system. We must share in these repair and upgrade costs along with the other communities served by the GRSD. These capital improvement costs will amount to tens of millions of dollars over the next twenty years. They begin now.

With those considerations, we have no choice but to address our long-delayed sewer rate increases. An average expectation will be around \$25 per month sewer rate increase. Water and sewer together, around \$25-\$30 per month, or \$75-\$90 per three-month billing cycle.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

CITY MANAGER - JUAN GANUM CONTINUED ...

Please understand, this has not been an easy discussion over the past months, nor has this been an easy decision for the City Council. We have searched for alternatives. We found no viable options. To put this in perspective, virtually all of our neighboring communities are facing similar decisions. Every community situation is different, but we find ourselves in the middle of the pack. Some communities have more indebtedness, some less. Some will have higher rate increases over time, some slightly less. In the end, we are all facing similar issues.

These rate increases will become effective March 15, 2020, and will show up in the second calendar quarter water bills next Spring.

These have been difficult discussions and decisions; some may even say painful. However, in both the short-term and long-term interests of Bridgman, we have made the tough – and the right – choices. You deserve to know the facts and the reasoning behind our decisions. We are doing our best to represent our City and our residents.

Bridgman City Council



Bridgman Police Department

9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, Michigan 49106

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

Daniel J. Unruh, Sr.

Chief of Police

We would like to remind everyone that there is no parking allowed on city streets from 2 a.m. - 6 a.m. from November 1 until April 1. There are signs posted at each entrance to the city limits advising motorists of this ordinance. Residents can contact the police department and request a parking pass if overnight guests are expected. Weather conditions may be considered by the officers and dictate the issuance of parking passes.

Motorists are urged to obey all traffic laws. Here are a few of the ones most violated: disobeying/rolling through stop signs, speeding, passing vehicles on the right, improper lane use, school bus passing. Remember, vehicles should slow down and prepare to stop when the yellow flashing lights are on and **MUST** stop when flashing red lights are activated on school buses.

Please make sure your vehicles are locked and all valuables have been removed or secured in a locked trunk while shopping. Thieves often target unlocked vehicles so don't make it easy for them. The same warning goes for resident's homes, garages and sheds as well. We encourage you to call if you see or hear suspicious activity in your neighborhood. We need your eyes and ears!

There is a safe medical disposal box at Bridgman City Hall where residents can discard expired medications if they wish. Please refer to the following guidelines when dropping off:

ACCEPTED Prescription medications Over the counter meds

NOT ACCEPTED Illegal drugs, Needles/Syringes, Lotions/Liquids, Inhalers, Aerosol cans, Thermometers, Hydrogen Peroxide

We also provide property checks of our residents' homes while they are out of town. Please contact us to arrange a property check before your next trip.

**Chief Dan Unruh
Bridgman Police Department**

Once again, it's that time of year when we begin receiving calls about citizens and snow removal businesses pushing snow across roadways. Please be advised that it is illegal to deposit snow across public roads or place snow that could block a driver's line of sight when traveling, entering or exiting a roadway. In addition to jeopardizing public safety, snow deposited on roadway shoulders can freeze solid and damage snowplows.

CITY OF BRIDGMAN

2020 City of Bridgman Trash & Recycling Pickup

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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February

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May

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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June

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July

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August

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30	31					

September

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October





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November

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December

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27	28	29	30	31		

-  Yellow is Trash and Recycle day
-  Blue is Trash pick-up day
-  Green is Trash & Bulk Pick up
-  Gold is a Holiday



For recycling information and helpful tips visit:
www.republicservices.com or www.recyclingsimplified.com

**** NOTE: SEPTEMBER 16TH IS TRASH, RECYCLE,
AND BULK TRASH DAY**

2019 Winter Taxes Available

The 2019 winter tax bills have been mailed out. If you haven't received your statement or would like a copy of your tax statement, please call City Hall at 465-5144 or email dlambrix@bridgman.org. As a friendly reminder 2019 winter taxes are due February 14, 2020. You may pay at City Hall, by mail or online at www.bridgman.org. Tax payments received after the deadline will be subject to late payment penalties regardless of the postmark date. Taxes are collected at City Hall until February 28, 2020. Beginning March 1, 2020 delinquent taxes will only be accepted at Berrien County Treasurer's office at 701 Main Street in St. Joseph.





CITY OF BRIDGMAN

New Education Opportunities from Bridgman Fire Department

In the Fall of 2018 the Bridgman Fire Department began offering CPR and first aid classes to the community. This spring we are pleased to introduce two new classes for the community! In addition to CPR and first aid classes your Bridgman Fire Department will also be offering fire extinguisher classes and babysitter courses.

Our fire extinguisher program is an hour-long class that features a short educational lecture on the proper use, storage and inspection of a fire extinguisher. It concludes with a live fire practice session with our new Bullex I.T.S fire extinguisher training prop. Students will be tasked with extinguishing a real fire using the skills and techniques they learned in class. Students that complete the course will receive a certificate of completion from the fire department. Please note that this class meets the requirements of OSHA 1910.157 (g) "portable fire extinguishers training and education."

Our new babysitter program is designed to give our community's youth the skills and knowledge to supervise children. This three-day class will cover topics that include CPR/AED and first aid, fire safety, as well as child care and risk management. Students will be involved in lecture and practical based activities as well as some group discussion activities. Students that complete this course will receive an American Heart Association CPR/AED and first aid certification, as well as a certificate of completion from the fire department.

If you are interested in taking any classes offered by the Bridgman Fire Department please visit our website www.bridgman.org/157/fire and click on the "Public Education Programs" link at the top to find class schedules, costs and to register.

If you are interested in CPR/AED, first aid, or fire extinguisher training for your business please email us at bridgmanfire@icloud.com

We hope you find these classes valuable in helping us create a fire safe community!



Election News

**There will be three (3) elections in 2020:
March 10, 2020 – Presidential Primary
August 4, 2020 – State Primary
November 3, 2020 – State General Election**

What is the Presidential Primary?

The Presidential Primary in March is designated as a "closed primary," just as it was in 2012 and 2016. Michigan Election Law requires voters wishing to participate in the March 10 election to choose a Democratic or Republican ballot when voting absentee or at the polls on Election Day. While the voter must select a specific party ballot, there is not political party registration in Michigan's voter registration system.

What is Prop 3?

Proposal 3 was a Constitutional Amendment that passed in November 2018 that made changes to election law in Michigan. The big changes that were made include the following:

- Providing voters the option to vote a straight-party ballot.
- Allowing citizens to register to vote by mail until 15 days before an election and up to 8:00 p.m. election day at their local clerk's office with proof of residency.
- Allows for all registered voters to vote absentee without needing to provide a reason.

This means that you can skip the line on Election Day and vote by mail without providing a reason. You can also request to be placed on the permanent absentee voter list to save a step in the future. You can contact Allyson Holm, City Clerk to request an absentee ballot, request to be placed on the permanent list, or if you have any questions about the process.

Feel free to stop by City Hall, 9765 Maple Street, call (269) 465-5144, or email aholm@bridgman.org.



2020 Spring Cleanup Schedule

APRIL

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MAY

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JUNE

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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JULY

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AUGUST

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

	BAGGED LEAF PICKUP
	BRUSHED PICKUP
	LARGE TRASH PICKUP

Bagged Leaf 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.

Leaf and brush burning within the city limits is prohibited.

Brush is indicated in **YELLOW** on the calendar. 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.

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 Berrien County has set the household hazardous waste collection dates for 2019. 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.

**BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY
HOURS**

Monday-Thursday: 10-8

Friday: 10-5

Saturday: 10-4

Sunday: Closed

BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

**DIRECTOR - DENNIS KREPS
CONTINUED FROM COVER ...**

resilient and innovative in order to be relevant and responsive to community needs and desires. Libraries are regularly faced with making choices about their collections, services, and spaces. Our library will stock the most recent Daniel Silva or Debbie Macomber novels, as well as provide online access to ACT and SAT practice tests and study guides. We continue to subscribe to print magazines, and you can also check out a wi-fi hotspot.

As we discern how the library can best serve the community, hearing from stakeholders is crucial. For example, the library's recently completed building renovation is a reflection of thoughtful planning and response to feedback received from the community.

This is certainly a time of change for the library. I think it is an exciting time: a time to explore creative use of the new library space, to seek new opportunities for collaboration and partnership, and finding new ways to connect community members with each other.

Dennis Kreps, Director

Library Board

Randy Hill – President

Vacant- Vice President

John Wilk - Secretary

Ken Huff – Treasure

Liz Bogue – Trustee

Susan Collins – Trustee

Dorothea Crocker – Trustee

Sue Janoskey – Trustee

Aaron Noll – Trustee

Adult Programs

SOCIAL WORK INTERN

Wednesdays, 4–8 p.m.

Do you have questions? The Library's social work intern (Western Michigan University MSW program) is available every Wednesday 4-8 P.M. The intern can provide support and referral services for anyone in the community including educational opportunities, employment assistance, emergency services, family matters and other concerns. Walk-ins are accepted or an appointment can be scheduled by calling 269-683-8545 ext. 111.

KNIT N YARN

Every third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. (Jan. 21, Feb. 18, Mar. 17, April 21) and Every Monday and Thursday from 1 to 3 p.m.

Learn how to knit or crochet, share your latest project, get some help, and maybe tell a story or two. Join the fun! Thirteen years together and over 2000 items donated to charities.

KNOTS & POTS

Friday, February 28, 4–7 p.m.

Make a macramé plant hanger custom fit to an original ceramic pot of your choice. Free pots are provided by Noelle from *NHM Ceramics* and knots are provided by Carlee from *The Knotted Cat*. All levels of macramé experience are welcome. Registration is required and class size is limited to 14 adults. Please call 269-465-3663 to reserve your spot.

SECOND WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB

Second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Rick Fuller leads this reading group in a friendly and interactive discussion of selected books. Books are available for checkout one month before the meeting. New members are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

January

Educated, Tara Westover (Memoir)

February

The Prince of Tides, Pat Conroy (Novel)

March

The Woman Who Smashed Codes, Jason Gagone (History)

April

Lilac Girls, Martha Hall Kelly (Novel)

May

The Poisoned City, Anna Clark (Current Issue)

June

Votes for Women, Winifred Conkling (History)

"CRAZY EIGHTS" ADULT WINTER READING PROGRAM

Continues through Feb. 1, 2020

Read eight (8) books and record them on the library's entry form. Return the completed form to the library, win a prize, and be entered in a drawing to win a gift certificate to *Tapistry Brewing*.

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE.



BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

ADULT PROGRAMS CONTINUED ...

YIN YOGA

Thursday from 6:00-7:15 p.m.

Certified yoga instructor, Cheryl Meadors, leads this class at the library every Thursday beginning at 6:00 p.m. The class is suitable for beginning or intermediate yoga students. *Bring your yoga mat, some water, and a \$10 participation fee. 50% of the proceeds benefit the Bridgman Public Library.*

SAVING FOR RETIREMENT

Tuesday, March 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Learn about planning and saving for retirement at a presentation by Doug Wall, Financial Advisor from Edward Jones, as he discusses the different options and accounts available to you, how taxes work and effect retirement plans, and social security.

FANDOM FEST

Saturday, April 4, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Grand Upton Hall, Mendel Center @ Lake Michigan College

Free Admission

The fourth annual Fandom Fest is a library collaboration dedicated to bringing the fan convention experience to Southwest Michigan. Fans of all genres and ages are invited to a day of adventure and fun.

Guest speakers and panels · video and tabletop games · cosplay contests · mini-hobby activities

Vendors and food trucks will be on hand with a variety of merchandise and

Youth Programs

treats for sale! www.fanfestswwmi.com

EARLY LITERACY CLASSES WITH MISS TAMI

Baby and Me (ages 0-2)

Mondays at 10:45 a.m.

Toddler and Me (ages 3-5)

Tuesdays at 9:30 or 11:30 a.m.

Story Hour (ages 3-5)

Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.

POPOP LIBRARY

@ REED MIDDLE SCHOOL

First and third Tuesdays

Stop by at lunchtime and check out a Bridgman Public Library book right at school!

“PAWSITIVE” READING

Tuesdays, Jan. 14, Feb. 11, Mar.

10 from 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Elementary school-age children can read to Zuzu, a licensed therapy dog, for 15 minutes at the library. Parents may sign their children up to read between 3:30 – 4:30 by calling 269-465-3663.

JANUARY

WINTER READING BINGO

Continues through Feb. 1.

Can you get a reading bingo and earn a prize? For ages 2 and up.

ROBLOX/MINECRAFT MEETUP

Tuesday, Jan. 21, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Bring your handheld device to join the building competition. Talk with other gamers. Registration required. For 2nd grade and up.

FEBRUARY

COCOA & COLORING POWER HOUR

Tuesday, Feb. 11, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Take a breather at the library. Join us for cocoa and coloring. Relax while you color outside the lines and sip your drink. For grades 1-12.

MARCH

ROBLOX/MINECRAFT MEETUP

Tuesday, March 10, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

Bring your handheld device to join the building competition. Share ideas with other gamers. Registration required. For 2nd grade and up.

APRIL

MARSHMALLOW MAKERSPACE

Tuesday, April 21, 3:30-4:30 p.m.

In this STEAM activity, build bridges and more with marshmallows. For grades K-4. Registration required.

Teen Programs

Find more teen programs at www.bridgmanlibrary.com/teens.asp

TAB (TEEN ADVISORY BOARD)

Are you in grades 6-12?

Do you want to make a difference in the library and the community? Go ahead, boss us around. Join us at the Bridgman Public Library Feb. 4 and March 31st at 3:30.



Bridgman High School Yearbook Collection

Did you know the library maintains an extensive collection of Bridgman High School Yearbooks? In fact, we have issues going back as far as 1926 available for easy, on-site viewing. Sadly, that collection is not quite complete. Would anyone be able to assist in filling the gaps for missing yearbooks (1988 and 2013)?



ZuZu, Licensed Therapy Dog



We would love to invite you to come in and visit our newly renovated library. Come in and see all of the changes we have made over the last several months. We think you will like it!

Library of Things Collection

What's a Library of Things?

It's a collection of useful objects, not books, for patrons to check out. You can check out an Internet Hotspot, Launchpad tablets for kids, Chromebooks, metal detectors, record players, ukuleles, and a sewing machine. **Check back often because our collection will continue to grow.**

Community Garden at the Library

The 2020 gardening season will be here before we know it. Returning gardeners are encouraged to renew their plot(s) before March 1. New gardeners are welcome after March 1 to rent available plot(s). Cost for a 4 x 8 plot remains \$10.

Calendar of Events

Discover upcoming events at local businesses on the Community Calendar located on the Library home page (click the blue tab at the top of the page). Search by date or organization. Then...Tell your friends about it!



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
Bridgman, MI 49106
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

4460 Lake Street
Bridgman, MI 49106
bridgmanlibrary.com
269-465-3663
bpl@bridgmanlibrary.com

Lake Charter Township

3220 Shawnee, P.O. Box 818
Bridgman, MI 49106
lake-township.org
269-465-6601

City of Bridgman

9765 Maple Street
Bridgman, MI 49106
bridgman.org
269-465-5144

Greater Bridgman Area Chamber & Growth Alliance

P.O. Box 871
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269-465-4413