

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

AUGUST 2017



COMMUNICATION IS KEY ...

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.

You can trust that we are working together to make Bridgman the best place to live, work, and raise your family.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION

As residents of the Greater Bridgman area, we should be proud of the example set forth by all the community partners involved who are working together for this one common cause -- better communication with our constituents. We hope you are pleased with the results.

SCHOOL NEWS

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Greetings from Bridgman Public Schools!

The summer of 2017 in Southwest Michigan

was another beautiful season and there have been so many fun activities taking place.

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TOWNSHIP NEWS

FROM THE SUPERVISOR



Supervisor
John Gast

The Township had no major utility construction projects this summer. Our Capital Improvement plan

has some water main improvements for next year. The topic of discussion has been Red Arrow Highway from the City of Bridgman's

CONTINUED PG 13

LIBRARY NEWS

FROM THE DIRECTOR



Director
Gretchen Evans

Last year the library celebrated its 50th anniversary. Looking back over our history, what is most notable is

how much we've grown: new buildings, a bigger collection, a larger staff, the addition of computers, and even a community garden. Now as we look to the future, we wonder what's next.

CONTINUED PG 15

CITY NEWS

FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City Manager
Juan Ganum

The City of Bridgman continues its push forward as it develops a new Master Plan to guide the future growth and

development of the community. Essentially a road map for making land use decisions, a Master Plan provides direction to current and future planning commissioners and city council members whose

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COMMUNITY BUZZ

BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Bridgman Board of Education

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

The 2017-2018 school year is fast approaching and with this comes beautiful fall colors and shorter daylight hours. The Bridgman Public School's staff is ready and looks forward to another exciting start to the school year.

This summer, not unlike any other, has been spent with personnel changes, projects, and planning/preparing for the upcoming school year.

- Bridgman Public Schools would like to thank **Mrs. Deb Shermak** for her twenty-three and a half (23 ½) years of service as a paraprofessional at Bridgman Elementary. We wish her all the best in her retirement.
- Bridgman Public Schools would like to welcome eight new staff members to our district:
 - Ms. Taliyah Bowden**
- *Bridgman High School Visual Arts*
 - Mr. Spencer Carr**
- *BHS and RMS Special Education*
 - Mrs. Kelley Fast**
- *F.C. Reed Middle School Counselor*
 - Mr. AJ Glowacki**
- *F.C. Reed Middle School 6th & 7th Grade ELA*
 - Ms. Heather Ponegalek**
- *Bridgman Elementary First Grade*
 - Mrs. Jillian Klunder**
- *Bridgman Elementary Second Grade*
 - Mrs. LaSondra Noe**
- *Bridgman Elementary Third Grade*
 - Mrs. Kristin Sullivan**
- *Bridgman Elementary Paraprofessional*
- This summer we were able to provide fourteen (14) **Summer Enrichment** and **Sports**

camps and served over 244 students, and thanks to an Early Literacy grant, thirty-three (33) students participated in a two-week **Summer Reading Program** at Bridgman Elementary School.

- The **Summer Feeding program** was a huge success this year! We served breakfast and lunch at *Immanuel Lutheran Day Care* and averaged 30 kids for breakfast and 30-35 for lunch daily. Other lunch sites included *Warren Dunes Village* where we averaged 25 kids a day; the *Bridgman Public Library* on Mondays and Thursdays where we delivered 30 lunches. The *Bridgman Elementary* site did a spectacular job. We averaged 100 kids a day at the elementary. On July 19, we had a record number of 175 kids and 14 adults! We would like to thank *ArtFx* for making our yard signs, which promoted these free meals.
- This school year we will be implementing a new **PK-12 English Language Arts (ELA) Curriculum** in all of our buildings and grade levels. Our staff has worked diligently over the summer preparing for this new curriculum.
- The **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Lab** will be complete before the school year starts. Mrs. deBest (RMS teacher) spent a week in Colorado this summer training on how to operate and facilitate the STEM lab. The first week of August several of our middle school staff were given an introduction to the STEM lab operations.

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





BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Bridgman Public Schools offers: high academic standards, fantastic extracurricular activities and numerous opportunities in a small school district for ALL students.

- One of our focal points this school year is to continue implementing **Early Literacy** strategies at Bridgman Elementary and begin preparing for the 3rd grade reading law, which takes effect during the 2018-2019 school year. For more information on the 3rd grade reading law, please contact Mrs. Lori Graves at (269) 466-0241 or you may find more information about the law at: https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/3rd_Grade_Reading_Law_FAQ-June_2017_573055_7.pdf
- Another focal point this school year will be to increase student engagement by utilizing cooperative learning structures. Cooperative learning is a researched based approach to teaching that has been proven to have a significant positive impact on student achievement, school culture, social growth, and the development of critical thinking skills. In addition, empirical evidence shows that cooperative learning reduces student discipline problems.

To facilitate this process, Bridgman Public Schools will be partnering with **KAGAN Publishing & Professional Development**, an elite nationally recognized research based program that coaches teachers on the practices that are necessary to successfully implement cooperative

learning activities in their classroom. All of the district's teachers will participate in seven days of KAGAN training throughout the school year. For more information on KAGAN please visit their website at: <https://www.kaganonline.com>.

The District is beginning the fourth year of the five-year District's Strategic Plan. Four strategic goals were established by the Board of Education along with district administration with input from various community stakeholders.

GOAL 1

Create and Preserve Financial Resources to Support Long Term District Financial Stability

GOAL 2

Provide Diverse Learning Opportunities through Curriculum, Programs, and Schedules

GOAL 3

Expand Student Knowledge and Accessibility of Technology

GOAL 4

Cultivate Strong District/Community Roles, Relations, and Partnerships

Each goal has several strategies that our staff has been working on for the

past four years. These goals and strategies will enhance our district and continue to produce high quality students.

I would encourage you to visit our website (www.bridgmanschools.com) to review the strategies and the progress that has been made on fulfilling these goals.

Bridgman Public Schools continues to have an excellent reputation throughout the State of Michigan for having high academic standards, fantastic extracurricular activities and numerous opportunities in a small school district for ALL students. This is all possible because we truly live in a community that believes in education and supports it's children. I once again want to thank entire community for their continued support of Bridgman Public Schools.

As always, don't hesitate to contact me if you have a concern or would like additional information about what is happening within 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 HIGH SCHOOL

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Sam Stine, Principal

Welcome back students, parents, and stakeholders to 2017-2018 school year.

Our first day of school is on Tuesday, September 5, and before you know it, district bussing will drop off students and the parking lot will be full. It is an honor and privilege to serve the students, families, and stakeholders of Bridgman.

The BPS summer programming has just finished the last session of courses. The *Spirit of Bridgman Marching Band* just completed another successful band camp despite the unpredictable weather. Special thanks to Mr. Reppart, Band Boosters, and parents for all of their assistance organizing



Bridgman Bees get prepared for the season.

the week of events. Additionally, our fall sports season has begun with the football team two-a-day practices on Monday, August 7 and the rest of our competitive teams' seasons opening on Wednesday, August 9.

During the summer break, our custodial and maintenance team dedicated countless hours to deep cleaning, completing minor building repairs, and painting throughout the facility. All of this work occurred, while summer camps and teacher professional development took place in the building. Thank you to all of the team for their dedication to our students and teaching staff.

The English Language Arts department completed initial training for the newly adopted and Board of Education approved curriculum. We are excited that our BPS students will be using the same materials in grades 7-12. The *myPerspectives* curriculum material was selected after an extensive search by our English staff: Mrs. Conklin, Mrs.

Countess, and Mrs. Harding. Thank you for going above and beyond! The BHS Social Studies department is offering an additional Advanced Placement Government course to sophomores this year as well. All of these new curriculum developments continue to

align with our district vision statement of "Together, challenging our children to succeed."

NEW STAFF AT BHS

Taliyah Bowden accepted the Art teaching position in early June. Ms. Bowden graduated from Spring Arbor University in 2015 with a Bachelor's Degree in Visual Arts Education. Ms. Bowden completed her student teaching at BHS under the supervision of Pam Carlson.

Spencer Carr recently joined our Special Education department. Spencer received his Bachelor's Degree from Aquinas College in 2005. He also earned a Master's Degree in Educational Technology from Western Michigan University in 2015. Mr. Carr has been a Special Education teacher with Hartford Public Schools for the last 11 years. He will also be teaching at Reed Middle School throughout the school year.

GREAT INFORMATION

The beginning of every academic year is always a busy time. For UP-TO-DATE information, please view our website at www.bridgmanschools.com, then click on the "high school" link. Once on the BHS page, please refer to the helpful links on the left side. This site features our daily announcements, a calendar for the school and athletics, significant student information, and our twitter feed.

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FRIEND Bridgman Public Schools on FACEBOOK.

BRIDGMAN AQUATIC CENTER

The Bridgman Aquatic Center offers a variety of activities for both children and adults. We have several different options to accommodate busy schedules. Deep water aerobics and shallow water aerobics meet Monday through Friday mornings. We also offer an evening shallow water aerobics class Monday and Wednesday. Arthritis Class is available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings. We have adult lap swim times throughout the day, seven days a week. To access our schedule, please visit bridgman-schools.com and click on the Aquatic Center tab. All closings are listed on the website and signs are posted in the locker rooms and at the entrance to the Aquatic Center.

Family Recreation Swim: If you are looking for a fun activity to do with your family on a rainy day, bring your family to a Family Recreation swim. We offer a family recreation swim on Tuesday and Thursday evening from 7:00-8:00 P.M. and Saturday and Sunday from 1:00-2:00 P.M. Please see our website for fee schedule as well as closings due to swim meets.

Sea Bee Swim Club: Our Sea Bee Swim Club will begin practice October 16. Sea Bees is a competitive age group swim team for children ranging in age from 6 through high school. They participate in the SWMSL league and also compete in USA sanctioned swim meets. Practice times, fees, and meet schedule is posted online under the quick links. Please email Ryan Bicker at rbicker@protonmail.com or contact the

Aquatic Center with any questions at 269-466-0236.

Community Diving Lessons: We offer Community Diving Lessons. The diving lessons are open to divers of all ages and all levels. They will learn basic and advanced techniques while improving existing skills. Please see the website for class session dates or contact the diving coach Elaina Paulson at 10ejpaul@gmail.com.

Community Swim Lessons: Bridgman Aquatic Center offers Community Swim Lessons. Our website contains information regarding the levels for each of the classes we offer. The session dates are listed on this page along with the 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. If your child is a Non-Resident, the fee is \$36.00/session. Each of our sessions consists of 12 lessons. To register your child for community lessons, you may come register in person or by phone. If you are registering by phone, please do not leave a message. Please continue to call until you speak to someone to give them your child's information. If you have questions regarding our lessons or levels that your child should enroll in, please contact the Aquatic Center at (269) 466-0236.

Evening Community Swim Lesson Schedule: Evening Session Classes are held Monday and Wednesday Evening

at 6:30 P.M. and 7:00 P.M. Classes held at 6:30 P.M.: Aqua-Tot, Aqua-Tot 2, Level 1, and Level 2. Classes held at 7:00 P.M.: Level 3, Level 4, and Pre-Team.

Sept. 18-Oct. 25

Register: Sept. 11, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Nov. 6th-Dec. 13

Register: Oct. 30, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Community Weight Room: The Aquatic Center also offers access to our state of the art Community Weight Room, which is located in the balcony of the gym at Bridgman High School. We offer a "Punch Card" for the weight room. The punch card 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. Community Weight Room hours are listed below and also on the Aquatic Center Website. Community Weight Room is CLOSED during all home basketball games.

Community Weight Room Hours

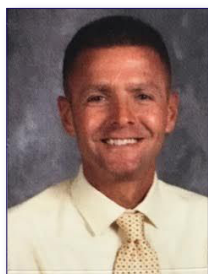
Monday – Friday, 5:45 am – 7:30 am
Monday – Thursday, 5:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

For more information on these and other programs including the latest pool updates, closures and schedules, visit our website at bridgmanschools.com and click on the Aquatic Center tab or call the Aquatic Center at 269-466-0236.



BRIDGMAN ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ATHLETIC DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE



Ken Schmaltz
Athletic Director

In a professional public school career, that has come full circle after having served in various administrative roles in two other districts, I can attest that Bridgman Public Schools is a first-class school

system with an incredibly respected administration, highly-reputable teachers, and extremely energetic coaches in place who are enthusiastic about athletics and even more passionate and proud of its' academics.

Great things are in place at Bridgman Public Schools. I consider myself blessed as I begin my third year leading the athletic department at my alma-mater – a school and community that is very near and dear to my heart – while having the opportunity to be an energetic impact, as well as a positive role model, for the youth and future of Bridgman.

We're loyal to you Bridgman High! Go Bees!

Ken Schmaltz – Athletic Director
Ph: (269) 466-0227
kschmaltz@bridgmanschools.com

2016-17 – A YEAR IN REVIEW

MHSAA State Champion

Congratulations to Brian Patrick – State Champion 1600M Run 4:11.5 (New D3 State Meet Record) & State Champion 800M Run 1:53.8 (New D3 State Meet Record)

Congratulations to Erin Berni, Kaitlin Kunde, Kennedy Jones and Celleste Golland – MIHA Class C Equestrian State Champions

BCS Conference Champions

Bees Girls Cross Country won its second straight conference championship and 3rd overall in school history.

MHSAA District Champions

Bees Volleyball capped off its first season with *Coach Jim Ragosta* in claiming a second straight Class C District Volleyball Championship last November.

MHSAA State Finals Qualifiers

Boys Cross Country – *Brian Patrick, Kole Hanke, Brandon Owen*
Girls Cross Country – *Kaitlin Essig*
Boys Tennis – *Nick Boyd*
Boys Track – *Brian Patrick, Kole Hanke, Drew Down, Jady Pribyl*
Girls Track – *Kaitlin Essig, Mikaela Owen*

All-State Athletes

Boys Cross Country – *Brian Patrick* (3rd Straight year), *Kole Hanke*
Boys Track – *Brian Patrick* (3rd Straight year)
Girls Track – *Kaitlin Essig, Mikaela Owen*

Coaching Accolades

Mike Miller, Bees Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, inducted to the Basketball Coaches Association of Michigan Hall of Fame last October

New Coaching Hires 2016-17

RMS Football – *Robert Howard*
7th Grade Girls Basketball – *Brad Yauchstetter*
Boys Swimming – *Janet Beemer*
RMS Track – *Robert Howard*
RMS Track – *Steve Veldman*
Asst. Varsity Track – *Cheri Markham*
JV Baseball – *Todd Evans*
JV Softball – *Dave Loraff*

New Coaching Hires 2017-18

Cross Country – *Kurt Hanke*
Varsity Girls Basketball – *Kim Lundin*
7th Grade Volleyball – *Keri Haskins*
8th Grade Volleyball – *Amy Goff*

MHSAA Tournaments hosted by

Bridgman High School in 2017-18
Fall Sports Season – Class C Girls Volleyball District Tournament
Winter Sports Season – Class C Girls Basketball Regional Tournament

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BRIDGMAN ATHLETIC DEPARTMENT

ATHLETIC TICKETS

Bridgman High School is a voluntary member of the *Michigan High School Athletic Association* (MHSAA) and typically charges a \$5 admission for its home athletic events. Reed Middle School prices are \$3 – adults; \$2 – students. Senior Citizens are warmly welcomed and admitted free of charge – we kindly ask individuals to pick up Senior Citizen cards at the Bridgman High School office ahead of time.

Student-only, pre-sale tickets can be purchased for all home and BCS Conference road contests for \$2 in their respective school office (must be used for date of purchase).

BRIDGMANATHLETICS.COM

Be in the know with the most up-to-date schedules, transportation times, directions to opposing schools/facilities, updates and changes at our athletic website. Create an account and sign-up to follow as few or as many teams as you like to receive immediate text and email alerts.

FAMILY BARGAIN CARDS

Once again in 2017-18, Bridgman Public Schools will be selling its *Family Bargain Cards* that include 20 admissions to any home Bridgman athletic event (non-MHSAA tournament) for the price of \$30 (equaling \$1.50 per event).

The cards have no expiration and carry over from each sports season as well as each school year. Purchases can be made in the high school office. A small number of cards will be available for sale at home athletic events as well.

In a Hurry? Want to Avoid Ticket Lines? Purchase Your Bridgman Athletic Event Tickets Ahead of Time Online at GOFAN®.

For the first time in 2017-18, the Bridgman Athletic Department is offering Bees Nation the opportunity to purchase BHS athletic event tickets online at GOFAN®. The Bridgman Go-Fan page is at <http://gofan.com/BridgmanBees>. Once logged in, select the event you would like to attend. Tired of standing in ticket lines? Running late from work and don't want to miss kickoff or tipoff? This can be a perfect solution to purchasing athletic event tickets. After purchase, your ticket can be displayed on your mobile device and shown at the gate for admission (sorry, this will not work for Family Bargain Cards).

BCS ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Bridgman High School is entering its fourth year as a charter member of the BCS Athletic Conference. Divisions in our league can vary sport to sport.

Below is your “cheat sheet” for what divisions our Bees compete in per sport for 2017-18:

BCS Conference (all schools)

Cross Country
Boys Tennis
Competitive Cheer
Girls Soccer
Girls Tennis

BCS White Division

(Brandywine, LMC, New Buffalo, River Valley)
Football

BCS Red Division

(Berrien Springs, Brandywine, Buchanan, Comstock, Parchment)
Boys Soccer
Volleyball
Boys Basketball
Girls Basketball
Baseball
Softball

BCS White Division

(Howardsville Christian, LMC, New Buffalo, River Valley)
Boys Golf



BRIDGMAN ELEMENTARY

BRIDGMAN ELEMENTARY WELCOMES NEW STAFF

Heather Ponegalek joins Bridgman Elementary as a first grade teacher. Heather grew up in Bridgman and has lived here her entire life. She attended Bridgman Public Schools and graduated in 2004. Heather obtained her elementary teaching degree from Western Michigan University and her Masters in Reading and Literacy from Marygrove College. She previously taught first grade in Berrien Springs for the last nine years.

Heather enjoys traveling the country visiting national parks. Her goal is to visit all 50 states. So far she has been to 33 and loved seeing what beauty our country holds. Heather is very excited to come back to her home town and be a bee again.

Jillian Klunder will be teaching second grade at Bridgman Elementary. Jillian is from Plymouth, Michigan. She graduated from Hope College in 2015 with a Bachelors of Arts degree in elementary and special education. She has endorsements in both learning disabilities and emotional impairments. She as previously taught in the Holland Christian School district as a resource room teacher servicing students with autism, cognitive impairments, learning disabilities, and behavioral needs.

Jillian was recently married to Alex Klunder, high school math teacher at Lakeshore. She is anxious to dive fully into the Bridgman community. Jillian loves to bake cupcakes, crafting DIY projects, going on adventures, reading and coaching volleyball.

LaSondra Noe joins Bridgman Elementary as a third grade teacher. LaSondra is a Coloma High School graduate and currently lives in Benton Township with her husband and three year old son. LaSondra received a Bachelor's degree in elementary education from Western Michigan University. She received her Master's degree from Benedictine University in reading and literacy. LaSondra has previously taught at Benton Harbor Charter and River School.

Kristen Sullivan joins the Title 1 staff as a paraprofessional. Kristen lives in Bridgman with her four children. Kristen received her Bachelor's degree in philosophy from Calvin College. She has worked as a counselor, social worker and case worker for children in foster care. Kristen enjoys playing the violin, reading and spending time at the beach.

ATTENTION: BACK TO SCHOOL INFORMATION

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2017

8:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M.

Back to School Packets for ALL elementary grades available for pickup (by student or legal parent/guardian or relative) in BES Office. Packet includes teacher assignment.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2017

6:30-7:30 P.M.

Progressive 5's, Kindergarten & 1st Grades only – Back to School Ice Cream Social – in student's classroom. Meet your teacher, bring school supplies to classroom, verify transportation, see your friends & have an icy treat!

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30, 2017

6:30-7:30 P.M.

Grades 2, 3, 4 only – Back to School Ice Cream Social – in student's classroom. Meet your teacher, bring school supplies to classroom, verify transportation, see your friends and have an icy treat!

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FRIEND Bridgman Public Schools on FACEBOOK.

REED MIDDLE SCHOOL



John Truesdell
Middle School Principal

Welcome to the 2017 - 2018 school year!

A little over a year ago, Bridgman Public Schools first introduced the concept of the **RMS STEM Lab** to community members in the September 2016

edition of the Bridgman Buzz.

I'm excited to report that through the collaborative efforts of Bridgman Public Schools, the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence (BFEE), the City of Bridgman, and the Friends of RMS, the STEM Lab renovation is now complete!

All BPS students in grades 5 - 8 are currently busy researching and applying science, technology, engineering, and mathematics concepts through project based learning modules that are offered in the middle school's new STEM course.

Projects in the STEM Lab are designed to utilize an expansive library of curriculum that engages students while fostering creativity, innovation, teamwork, and a love for learning.

To facilitate this process, the lab is equipped with collaborative workstations, state of the art computers, a 3D printer, numerous manipulative learning kits, and a full video production studio. In total, the STEM renovation project represents an investment of over \$330,000.

Obviously that is a very, very large number! However, it's been incredible to witness the community come together to raise funds to help make the undertaking possible. This grassroots support has been evident throughout the summer. For example, on July 8 the BFEE partnered with *Haymarket Brewery & Taproom* to organize the first annual *Auto & Ales Car Show*. The event featured a huge collection of unique vehicles and was a great success. Moreover, from July 21 - 23 the *Friends of RMS, Bridgman Public Schools, and the City of Bridgman* partnered to host *Building Bridgman*, a three day sand sculpting competition on the shores of Weko Beach. The weekend not only helped raise money for STEM education, but also provided countless "sand"tastic memories for the hundreds of participants who attended the competition.

What makes Bridgman Public Schools such a special place for students is that all stakeholders in our community embrace the district's vision that together, we can challenge students to succeed.

Building Bridgman raised over \$5,000 to support STEM education. Private donors and local companies have contributed tens of thousands of dollars to the lab. The *Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence* has now raised over \$156,000 for the STEM Lab project, and will continue to raise money to help pay for the project throughout the school year! This generosity is humbling and on behalf of the staff and students at RMS, I would like to thank all of our academic boosters for their

support. Your contributions, small or large, have enabled us to expedite the construction of the STEM Lab and have it ready for students at the start of the 2017-18 school year.

If you are curious about the RMS STEM Lab or would like to make a financial donation to support our initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me at jttruesdell@bridgmanschools.com. I am happy to provide community members with tours of our new facilities upon request!

Your partner in education,
John Truesdell, RMS Principal

NEW EMPLOYEES F.C. REED MIDDLE SCHOOL

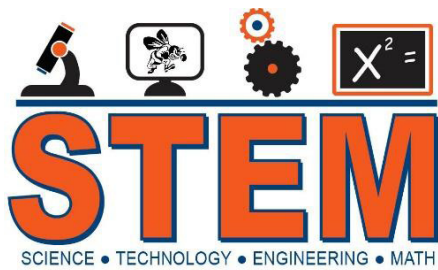
Kelley Fast is the new School Counselor at RMS. Mrs. Fast is a 1999 graduate of Wheaton College with a B.A. in English Literature and a minor in Spanish. She also earned a Master's Degree in School Counseling from Northeastern Illinois University in 2004. Mrs. Fast has middle school teaching experience in the state of Indiana, was a Title One Paraprofessional with Bridgman Public Schools from 2014-2015, and was the Elementary School Counselor at Hollywood Elementary in Lakeshore Public Schools from 2015-2017.

Spencer Carr is a new Special Education teacher at RMS and BHS. Mr. Carr is a 2005 graduate of Aquinas College with a B.A. focused on Learning Disabilities. He also earned a Master's Degree in Educational Technology from Western Michigan University in 2012. Mr. Carr taught special education in Hartford Public Schools from 2006-2017.



Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence

The Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence has been busy!



The main emphasis, to help raise funds for the **STEM Lab**, will be ready for middle school students at the start of the 2017-2018 school year. The Foundation has committed \$ 91,000 toward the project from fund raising events. The Foundation also raised an additional \$ 65,000 from grants, business, and individual donations.

We are blessed to have many giving businesses and individuals in our community. We are not done! We have a goal to raise much more to help install several options for the lab and fund the commitments of the Foundation for this project. This will be a great addition to the school and for the students in our district. Thank you to everyone who helped with this tremendous project.

Other events included another very successful **Now and Forever Silent Auction** in February. This event has become the premier event in Bridgman during the winter and is enjoyed by many. We had record attendance

and net income from the event. We are looking forward to continuing this event this coming year. Check the website for this year's theme and further information.

The golf outing at Lost Dunes was another great event. We saw record numbers of players and donations from the event. The weather cooperated once again, and a great time was had by all. The combination of a world class golf course and raising money for the Foundation has been a hit! Thank you to all who participated. We are looking forward to seeing you back again next spring. If you haven't participated in this awesome outing, you need to! Next year's dates are to be announced at the beginning of next year.

We added a new event by helping to sponsor a car show at Haymarket Brewery. Teaming up with Haymarket and the City of Bridgman (part of Bridgman Days Celebration), turned out to be a great combination. We had a great turn-out of 65 vintage cars. It was very well attended. People attending enjoyed viewing the incredible cars, Haymarket's great food and wood fired pizza, and a cold beverage. We intend to make this an annual tradition. Haymarket made a generous donation to the Foundation toward the STEM project. Thanks to all who attended and helped make this event a huge success.

Besides the STEM project, the Foundation continues to offer grants to teachers in the district for educational needs not covered in the normal budget. The Foundation purchased ukuleles for the music department, audio books for RMS students, and helped fund student trips for DECA among other things. These grants make a big difference in educational opportunities in the schools. **Generous donations make the impossible possible!**

There are many ways to give. Attend the wonderful events offered by the Foundation, buy a brick for donor recognition by the football field, make automatic monthly donations, or a one-time donation. Please visit the website at www.bridgmanfoundation.org for details and more information about the Foundation and the great things it does for our schools and youth of the community.



Car show at Haymarket Brewery.



The Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce & Growth Alliance

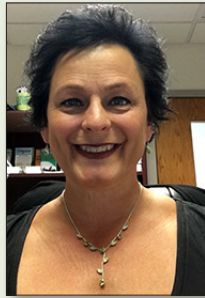


The CGA launched the Supertour 360 to provide virtual access to visitors who can literally cruise from Weko Beach to Lake Charter Township and from the Cook Plant to Warren Dunes, using their devices to explore by clicking, touching, and tapping their way throughout the region, discovering notable stops along the way.

The more businesses that participate, the more compelling the story of the Greater Bridgman Area becomes, creating a strong sense of place for virtual visitors and encouraging actual visits to the region.



SUPERTOUR 360



Director Calli Berg

In the last Community Buzz, we shared our focus on wayfinding.

The University of Michigan defines wayfinding as spatial problem solving ... knowing where you are in a building or an environment, knowing where your desired location is, and knowing how to get there from your present location.

Many years ago, the Bridgman-Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance (predecessor to the CGA) took on wayfinding as a community development tool, creating a unified sign design and placing markers, signs, and kiosks throughout the entire Lake to Grapes region.

That program was so well-received that the CGA launched the Supertour 360 to provide virtual access to visitors who can literally cruise from Weko Beach to Lake Charter Township and from the Cook Plant to Warren Dunes, using their devices to explore by clicking, touching, and tapping their way throughout the region, discovering notable stops along the way. The Supertour resides on our website and functions as a foundational map that shows how we are related to the lake, our beaches, the agricultural bounty, and all the businesses nestled within this beautiful backdrop.

CGA members have the option of advertising their own business or organization on this map, giving users the opportunity to zoom down to a street-level view and browse inside their locations and to follow a link to more information on the business.

The more businesses that participate, the more compelling the story of the Greater Bridgman Area becomes, creating a strong sense of place for virtual visitors and encouraging actual visits to the region. The Supertour is a virtual version of our successful Business and Visitors Guide, except instead of working to put books into people's hands, we are working to put the virtual map onto people's devices. It becomes a great opportunity for a business to answer countless questions that a potential customer might have, such as "where are you located," "can you handle a party our size," "what kinds of products do you carry," and "how do you make that?" And the more tours there are on the map, the more we can cross-market as a community.

Interested businesses and organizations can click on the Supertour 360 link from our website lake2grapes.com to fill out an application and get started, or can call the CGA office: (269) 465-4430 for more information.





LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

From the desk of the Lake Charter Township Clerk Has it really been ten years?

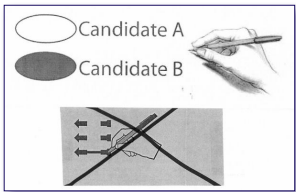
Time flies so quickly, only the youngsters think it takes *forever* for something to happen. I am reporting that it has been ten years since our election equipment was updated. As you may or may not remember, we started out with punch cards, then went to the *Accu-vote*, followed by the *Optech Insight*. The order has been placed and the new machines are on their way to all Berrien County



Gloria Payne
Township Clerk

Clerks by the end of August 2017. Please note, there is still "Help America Vote Act" monies that will help pay for the new equipment. Ordering in a bulk manner for the whole county helps defray cost as well.

The next time you come to vote you will be casting your ballot on the *ImageCast Precinct Optical Scan Tabulator*.



The only change you will need to make instead of connecting the arrows, we will be going back to filling in the oval.

the elections. It's all about being careful not to disenfranchise the voter. Lake Charter Township has excellent election workers, we strive to make casting your ballot an awesome experience. Call me if you have questions: (269) 465-6601 ext. 11.

From Lake Charter Township Water Department

MARK PANZEGRAU RETIRES

Hello to all!

Hope everyone is enjoying summer. By the time you read this, I will have retired. I want to thank everyone for their support and contributions. I leave the water system in expert hands, and all endeavors to move forward are in place. If at any time you have questions, please feel free to call the treatment plant. Thank you for the pleasure and opportunity to serve.

Mark Panzegräu

Reminder: Crews Working

As a friendly reminder, our crews will be flushing hydrants and checking valves throughout the system, and will be working near the roadways. Please drive cautiously when out and about. Thank you for your cooperation.

To all teachers/students:

The Water Plant offers tours.

We can give information on how we treat our source water supply (Lake Michigan). We can also talk about career opportunities in the water industry. In the near future, there will be an increasing demand for licensed water treatment and distribution operators. You can con-

tact us at (269) 465-3850 for more information.

Water is an important natural resource.

There is an Environmental Impact:

Water bottles are made from virgin petroleum, a fossil fuel, and fossil fuels are burned in order to fill and distribute the bottles. Some water bottles need to be shipped internationally.

According to *Food & Water Watch*, the plastic in these bottles needs up to 47 million gallons of oil per year to produce. According to the *Container Recycling Institute*, less than 20% of bottles are recycled, and bottled water produces up to 1.5 million tons of plastic waste each year.

Cost: Costs vary depending on the state and brand, but bottled water can cost 1000 times more than tap water. Most municipal water costs less than 1 cent per gallon, while a bottle of water typically costs over \$1 for 20 ounces.

Again, we are very fortunate to have Lake Michigan as our source supply.

If you have questions, please contact us at (269) 465-3850.

Thank you,
Water Treatment Staff

**{ We are very fortunate to have
Lake Michigan as our source supply. }**





LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

Lake Township Treasurer Report

Summer tax bills are due September 14 by 5:00 P.M. to avoid late penalties and interest. We are happy to offer online payments now. Tax bills can either be paid online with a credit transaction for a 3% charge based on the payment amount or an E check that has a \$3.00 flat fee charge for payments up to \$10,000. These are both fast and secure ways to make tax payments. More information is available at the Township office or on our website at www.lake-township.org. Of course we still accept checks or cash and have the drop box available at the west end of the building for after hour payments (blue depository box). Please remember that tax bills must be received at our office by due dates to avoid additional charges, postmarks are not accepted for payment purposes.

We are still receiving requests to sign up for automatic water/ sewer bill payments. Join the hundreds of others who are using this convenient, free system to make payments. All you have to do is complete an authorization form, provide a voided check and we do the rest. You receive a bill as normal that indicates you are set up on automatic payments and the payment is deducted from your account on the due date (or next business day if it falls on the weekend or a holiday). Forms are available at the office or on our website. No more worries about getting it here on time or forgetting when you are out of town. There is a lot of information about current bills, history and water usage also on the site. Tax information can also be accessed through that site. Visit our website at www.lake-township.org for more information.

Visit the Website

If you haven't visited the Lake Charter Township website lately, come visit! We are seeing big increases in use as residents and others use it to get information on activities, make online water/sewer payments, access forms, get answers about services, obtain information about taxes or utilities, cemetery, building code and many other areas. The address is: www.lake-township.org.

SUPERVISOR - JOHN GAST CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

limits south to New Buffalo. Those who travel that section know that it is in dire need of repair. Many concepts have been discussed. 1.) Resurface and reducing the four lanes to three with a center turn lane, non-motorized shoulder. 2.) Resurface the four lanes as is. 3.) Resurface the four lanes with paved shoulders. 4.) Resurface making five lanes with a center turn lane.

Nothing has been determined as far as financing the project as a whole or in assessments. The township position is option 3 or 4, and let's get started on the project. Red Arrow Highway is a primary road in our township.

Lake Township Park News

We have had many wonderful comments about the park and how nice the newly sealed pavement looks. The final phase of paving is scheduled to be completed in August. We are moving forward with the disc golf renovations, and hope to have the new course open this fall. It will include new signage, concrete tee pads, a new design to remove holes that conflict with other activities, and relocation of eight holes in the beautiful woods purchased by the Township last year. The existing course is used by many, but the renovated course will really be special. We are looking forward to another season of soccer and baseball at the park.

Please come and enjoy this jewel in our backyard!



*Enjoy the Lake Township Park --
the hidden jewel in our backyard.*





PROGRAMS AT THE LIBRARY

Adult Programs

SECOND WEDNESDAY BOOK CLUB

2nd Wednesday of the month 6:00 P.M.

Join our friendly and interactive reading group lead by Rick Fuller. Books are available for checkout one month before the meeting. New members are always welcome.

Upcoming selections include:

September- "Seabiscuit" by Laura Hillenbrand

October- "Wild" by Cheryl Strayed

November- "The Good Girl" by Mary Kubica

December- "Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close" by Jonathan Foer

TRANSFERRING

THE FAMILY COTTAGE

Tuesday, September 5 at 6:30 P.M.

Learn about the different ways (trust, LLC, or will) to transfer your family cottage to your kids and grandkids.

THE INS AND OUTS OF WORM COMPOSTING

Saturday, September 16 at 10:30 A.M.

Learn how to turn organic matter into fertilizer, for your garden and houseplants, with the help of worms.

TECHNOLOGY CLASS- PRIVACY & SECURITY

Wednesday, September 20 at 6:30 P.M.

Learn about basic privacy and security for the internet and your cell phone. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

LEND-LEASE, THE REAL "RUSSIAN COLLUSION"

Wednesday, September 27 at 6:30 P.M.

Join Bridgman-born journalist, Mark Anderson, as he recalls FDR's Soviet "aid" program.

FRIENDS HARVEST MOON COUNTRY DANCE

Saturday, October 7, 7 P.M. at Weko Beach House

Come to the Harvest Moon Country Dance sponsored by The Friends of the Bridgman Public Library. Listen to foot-stomping music provided by Johnny Jackson & Company who will play favorite, classic country songs. You won't want to miss this great evening of music, dancing, fun, and refreshments. See you at the Weko Beach House from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on October 7, 2017. Tickets are \$10 per person and will be available for purchase at the library. All proceeds will be used in support of the Bridgman Public Library.

DEMENTIA LAW

Tuesday, October 10, 6:30 P.M.

A dementia diagnosis can raise important legal and financial issues. Learn what families can do to plan for the future.

BASIC COMPUTER CLASS

Tuesdays, November 7, 14, 21, 28 at 9:30 A.M.

Janna and Ted will guide you through very basic computer skills. Logging in and out, printing, searching, and saving files will be covered. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

HOLIDAY CRAFT

Tuesday, December 5 at 6 P.M.

Just in time for your holiday decorating, Deb and Denise will lead you step-by-step through the creation of a painted wood sign. All materials will be supplied. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

YOGA

Thursdays at 6:00 P.M.

Cheryl Meadors, certified yoga instructor, leads a class at the library every Thursday. The class is suitable for beginning or intermediate yoga students. Just bring a yoga mat, some water, and a \$10 participation fee. 50% of the proceeds benefit the Bridgman Public Library.

WANTED: GOOD DOG

The library is looking for dogs who have earned their **Good Citizenship Certification** to participate in a read-to-a-dog program. If you know a good dog, who could sit quietly while a child reads to him, please call the library at: (269) 465-3663.



{ Remember -- November 1 is the last day for fall clean-up of community garden plots. }



Teen Programs

SHADOW SPIRIT'S MOCK PARANORMAL INVESTIGATION

Friday, October 13 at 7 P.M.

Participate in a mock investigation at the library and learn about the state of the art equipment and techniques that Shadow Spirit's ghost hunting team uses on real paranormal investigations. For ages 12-18. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

TEEN STORY CONTEST

**Open to Bridgman School Students
Grades 9-12**

The Teen Story Contest returns for its second year. This year's theme, My Friend, honors our co-sponsor, the Friends of Bridgman Public Library. Stories can be written in any genre or use any setting, but they must contain the theme of friendship. Entries should be 1000-2000 words and submitted by November 30. Something new this year - entrants will be able to take advantage of a private review session to hone their work. The last day to request a review is November 17. 1st place - \$300, 2nd place -- \$200, 3rd place -- \$100. Prizes provided by the Friends of Bridgman Public Library.

LIBRARY NEWS - CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

To answer that question, the library has begun a strategic planning process. We are working with a well-respected consultant. Our goal in undertaking strategic planning is to ensure that what the library is doing matches what the community wants and needs. The first step in the process is to gather information from the community. Can you help? Later in this newsletter, there is a survey. Please take a few minutes to fill it out and return it to the library. Drop it off, mail it, or put it in our drop box. It's also possible to complete the survey online at our website. Even if you don't use the library, we want to know what you think.

We need everyone's help to prepare for the next 50 years!

Youth Programs

NATURE HIKE

**Saturday, September 23 at 1 P.M.
at Jens Jensen Nature Preserve**

Join Casey Struecker from Chikaming Open Lands on a fun and easy guided hike through the preserve. Explore the forest and see how animals and plants get ready for the winter. Fun for the whole family! Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

HALLOWEEN PARTY

Wednesday, October 25 at 6:30 P.M.

Come to the Bridgman Public Library for a family friendly, 'spooktacular' event! Enjoy games, activities, and treats. Costumes are encouraged but not mandatory.

SLEEPY HOLLOW

**Saturday, October 28 at 1:30 P.M.
at Bridgman Performing Arts Center**

Join us for a theatrical performance of the Legend of Sleepy Hollow by Great-Works Theatre Company on Saturday, October 28 at 1:30 P.M. at the Bridgman Performing Arts Center. This goofy and spooky show is fun for all ages. Free tickets will be available at the library and for students at Bridgman Public Schools.

KEN'S BALLOONS

Saturday, November 11 at 1 P.M.

Ken will take you through the twists and turns of making balloon art. Follow his step-by-step process to make a couple of balloon animals. For grades 2nd-6th. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

HOLIDAY HIJINKS

Saturday, December 30 at 1 P.M.

Help Edmund the Elf unlock the chest that contains Santa's hat in this escape room scenario. You and your teammates will need to solve a series of puzzles to gain clues that will unveil the passcode to the chest. For grades 2nd-6th. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk.

EARLY LITERACY CLASSES WITH MISS TAMI

Baby and Me (ages 0-2)

- Monday 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)

- Tuesday at 10:30 A.M.

Library Board

Randy Hill - President

Lane Kuypers - Vice President

Carol Siewert - Secretary

Dorothea Crocker - Treasurer

Ken Huff - Trustee

Sue Janoskey - Trustee

Nancy John - Trustee

Aaron Noll - Trustee

John Wilk - Trustee



YOU CAN HELP PLAN THE LIBRARY'S FUTURE!

Your help is needed to develop a new strategic plan for the Bridgman Public Library. Whether or not you use the Library, we encourage you to fill out the following short survey. Your responses will help greatly in planning the future of Library services and programs. The survey is being conducted by the independent *Library Strategies Consulting Group*.

By Mail, By Delivery, or By Web:

Please mail or return the survey to the Library (4460 Lake Street, Bridgman, MI 49106) by Friday, September 15, 2017. There is also a link on the Library's website - www.bridgmanlibrary.com - to take the survey online if you prefer. Thank you for taking the time to assist your Library!

About how often do you visit the Bridgman Public Library?

- Weekly or more often
- About once a month
- 2-6 times a year
- Rarely
- Never

If you rarely or never use the Bridgman Public Library or Library resources, why not?

Please check all that apply - and skip the question if you are a regular user.

- The Library is too far away
- I find what I need online
- Library hours are not convenient
- I prefer to buy my own books or other materials
- The Library doesn't have the materials I need
- The Library staff are not helpful
- I am physically unable to do so
- I don't have a Library card
- Other (please specify):

In the last two years, for what reasons have you visited the Bridgman Public Library, or used its online resources?

Please check all that apply. If you have not visited, select "None of the above."

- Check out hard copy books, films, music or other materials
- Download books, audio books, or other materials
- Read magazines or newspapers
- Read or study
- Get help from a librarian
- Use computers or access the Internet/WiFi
- Attend a program or event
- Attend a meeting or use a private room
- None of the above
- Other (please specify):

How do you hear about programs or events at the Library?

Please check all that apply.

- Newspaper
- Radio
- At the Library
- The Library's newsletter, Beyond the Stacks
- The Library's website
- The Library's Facebook page
- From a friend or family member
- The Community Buzz newsletter
- Other (please specify):

How do you hear about other community events that you attend?

Please check all that apply.

- Newspaper
- Radio
- From a friend or family member
- On a website
- Through Facebook, Twitter or other social media

- The Community Buzz newsletter
- Through the schools
- Through a church or other organization I belong to
- Other (please specify):

How could your satisfaction with Bridgman Public Library services be improved?

What is your age group?

- 10 - 19 years old
- 20 - 29
- 30 - 39
- 40 - 49
- 50 - 59
- 60 - 69
- 70 or over

Are there children age 17 or younger living in your household?

Yes No

Please add any additional comments that you feel would help plan the future of the Bridgman Public Library:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey. Your perspectives are important to us, and we greatly appreciate your responses and comments. THANKS AGAIN!



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

SEPTEMBER




					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

OCTOBER

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				

NOVEMBER

			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		

	BRUSH PICKUP
	BAGGED LEAF PICKUP
	CURBSIDE LEAF PICKUP

2017 FALL CLEAN-UP SCHEDULE

Bagged leaves are 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. Residents have the option of raking their leaves to the curb, where they will be picked-up by city workers using the city's leaf vacuum.

Leaf and brush burning within the city limits is prohibited.

Curb-side leaf pick-up is indicated in **ORANGE** on the calendar. The leaf vacuum will begin on the east side of the city and complete one pass per week through the city. Leaves must be raked to the roadside/curb.

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

Please limit to yard clean-up. City workers will spend no more than 15 minutes at each property.

Christmas Tree Pick-up –

January 3 and 10, 2018 (weather permitting)

Large Trash Pick-up – October 4 and 11.

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 pick-up, call Republic Services at (269) 465-3773.

ONLINE PAYMENTS....

Are you out of stamps? Too busy to make it to City Hall? For your convenience, just visit www.bridgman.org to make a water/sewer or tax payment. We offer online payments with a small fee associated with the transaction. Simply click on the "Online Bill Pay" option on City's website and follow the prompts.

We also continue to offer automatic payments for water/sewer bills, forms are available on the "How Do I..." section of the City's website. Automatic payments are the best and most cost effective manner of ensuring that your bills are paid on time, every time. Always feel free to call (269) 465-5144 if you have any questions about the system.

From the Treasurer, Debbie Lambrix

PROPERTY TAXES DUE

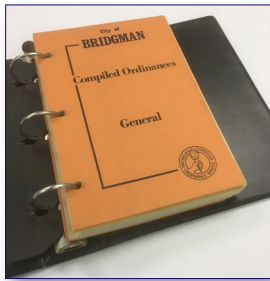
Just a friendly reminder that taxes are due September 14, 2017. You may pay in person, online, or by using our drop-box located within the vestibule at City Hall. Tax payments received after the deadline will be subject to late payment penalties. If you require a copy of your tax statement please call City Hall at (269) 465-5144 or email dlambrix@bridgman.org.

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



CITY OF BRIDGMAN

From the City Clerk, Allyson Holm
GENERAL ORDINANCES



The City recently finished a year-long process of updating its Zoning Ordinance and is now

in the process of updating Bridgman's Compiled General Ordinances, which was last conducted in 2000. Recodification is the process of revising and updating general ordinances. Recodification involves collecting and organizing all current legislation into a numbered and uniformly presented document that is easy to read and use. The City has contracted with *General Code, LLC* to conduct the work, which will take approximately 12-15 months to complete.

The process also includes an analysis of Bridgman's current ordinances and affords the City an opportunity to make revisions that may be needed. *General Code's eCode360* program provides users a choice of on-screen viewing options on any computer or mobile device. This program makes it easy and flexible to search, email, print, or share content. It is the City's aim to make our laws and regulations easy to access and search.

CITY NEWS, JUAN GANUM - CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

I LOVE BRIDGMAN BECAUSE...

I ALSO THINK BRIDGMAN NEEDS MORE OF THIS...

AND LESS OF THIS...

RESILIENT BRIDGMAN

A Master Planning and Public Outreach Effort that answers the question: What is next for the community of Bridgman?

job is to implement it. The plan is intended to be a "living" document that evolves with changing conditions and public sentiment.

Unlike previous plans, the effort now underway is focused on making Bridgman a more resilient community. Resilience is a measure of the sustained ability of a community to utilize available resources to respond to, withstand and recover from adverse situations. Communities that are resilient are able to learn from adversity and adapt quickly to change. Our aim is to make Bridgman resilient!

A successful process to develop an effective Master Plan hinges on the involvement of residents, business owners and property owners. To lead the City through the process the *Land Information Access Association (LIAA)*, a Traverse City-based nonprofit organization, is facilitating a series of

community meetings and other public input opportunities through December 2017. Our next open meeting will be held at the Weko Beach House on Tuesday, September 12 at 7:00 P.M.

I urge everyone to engage in the development of Bridgman's Master Plan so that the voice of the community is reflected within the goals and objectives outlined in the plan. Whether you attend a meeting, contact the City or LIAA directly, or participate in a "pop up" meeting at the beach, on the sidewalk or in a business, please be a Bridgman stakeholder and share your views.

For updated information about the process please visit the project website: <http://www.resilientmichigan.org/bridgman.asp>

Share your views on new projects and initiatives by using the Community Voice feature on the City's website.



COMMUNITY BUZZ



FRIEND Weko Beach
Campground on FACEBOOK.

CITY OF BRIDGMAN



Do not pour anything down the drain – it may flow directly to inland lakes, streams or Lake Michigan!

Polluted storm water run-off can harm plants, fish, animals, people, and it can even pollute our drinking water sources. Be sure to do your part to protect water quality.

Tips for storm water management on your property.

DID YOU KNOW:

Yard debris, including leaves and other organic plant material like shrubbery trimmings and grass clippings, are a significant source of storm water pollution. This debris can clog culverts, storm drains, and pipes, causing flooding. Debris can carry fertilizers and pesticides from your yard and deposit them in streams and ponds. Piles of leaves and grass clippings will overload a stream's ability to process leaf litter, causing nutrient pollution and oxygen depletion.

It is easy to do your part to protect our streams and the drainage systems leading to our waterways:

- When mowing do not blow grass clippings off your property into streets, streams and ponds. It doesn't just look bad – it's harmful to the environment.
- Do not pile leaves or other yard waste near streams or drainage channels where they can blow or wash into creeks. Take advantage of Bridgman's free curbside bagged leaf pickup and leaf vacuuming services.
- Recycle grass clippings and their nutrients on your lawn. Use a mulching lawnmower to recycle remaining leaves into your lawn in the fall.

Always remember "Only rain down the drain."



BOOKS AT THE BEACH

Beach goers have long sought our local sands as a place to relax and be carried away by a good book. To promote more reading in our community the City and library are partnering on a project to install a book kiosk on Weko Beach. The images of this kiosk in France, which inspired the concept, show a multi-sided structure with a poster that roughly translates into:

A season at the beach!

Take the books!

Lend them!

Bring them back or

Bring others!

For reading to always be a sharing!

Would a free book kiosk add to the enjoyment of Weko? The City and library wish to know what our residents think of the idea. Please call or email us with your opinions. You may also visit the City's website and use the Community Voice feature to submit your comments.



9964 Gast Road, Bridgman, MI 49106

bridgmanschools.com

Office: 269-465-5432

Fax: 269-466-0221

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



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.org
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
Bridgman, MI 49106
269-465-4413