

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

MAY 2017



COMMUNICATION IS KEY ...

In a joint effort with the City of Bridgman, Lake Township, Bridgman Public Library and Bridgman Public Schools, we are **EXCITED** to release this community newsletter.

Beautiful days are here again! It promises to be another active season as more businesses are arriving to serve residents and visitors alike.

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE



Superintendent
Shane M. Peters

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

staff, let me start by congratulating the **Class of 2017**. These 80 graduates of Bridgman High School have

TOWNSHIP NEWS

FROM THE DESK OF CLERK GLORIA PAYNE



Gloria Payne,
Clerk

It's nice to see the flowers blooming and the trees budding. I love Spring!

The Township is busy with Park activities, readying the cemeteries, and keeping everything looking in ship shape.

LIBRARY NEWS

FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR



Director
Gretchen Evans

Summer is here! And we are ready for it at the library. Did you know that summer is the busiest time of year for us? It is and mostly because of the Summer Reading Program, sponsored by the Friends of Bridgman Public Library. This year the program theme is Build a

CITY NEWS

FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City Manager
Juan Ganum

As this issue of the Buzz reaches your mailbox the Bridgman community welcomes the unofficial start of summer on Memorial Day. It promises to be another active season as more businesses are arriving to serve residents and visitors alike. The activity will be most pronounced along Lake Street, with the coming

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COMMUNITY BUZZ

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BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Bridgman Board of Education

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SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE - Continued from COVER.

had an outstanding four years filled with numerous academic, athletic and artistic accomplishments.

We are all proud of each and every one of you and your achievements and wish you nothing but the best in your future endeavors.

RETIREMENTS: As this school year draws to a close, we also have to say goodbye to four staff members who have decided to retire from Bridgman Public Schools:

Pam Carlson

BHS Art, 15 years

Sarah Deckert

BES 1st Grade, 23 years

Becky Hoehn

BES 4th Grade, 13 years

Rich Schwadron

Bus Driver, 6 years

Although we hate to say goodbye, we know they will embark upon another exciting chapter of their lives. Thank you for your service to Bridgman Public Schools and the students that you have served.

We are excited to offer our **3RD ANNUAL SUMMER CAMP PROGRAMS**. This

year we are offering over 18 different athletic and extra-curricular activities for students.

JOB OPENINGS - Are you a stay-at-home parent looking for a little cash or perhaps you are retired and interested in a few hours of work to get out of the house? Bridgman Public Schools has several positions that might just be for you, working with our students in the transportation, food service, and custodial departments. Take a look at our website at bridgmanschools.com for further information or contact the Office of the Superintendent.

As we approach the end to yet another outstanding school year, I can tell you that we have an incredible school district with amazing and talented students and staff along with supportive parents and community members. Bridgman Public Schools continues to provide the best educational experience in Berrien County.

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

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

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





BUILDING BRIDGMAN

Bridgman Public Schools and the City of Bridgman are excited to be collaborating this summer to host a sand-tacular weekend event called Building Bridgman.

Participate and Support F.C. Reed Middle School's STEM Lab Renovations

Building Bridgman will allow the community to pledge support for F.C. Reed Middle School's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) Lab renovations.

The funding goal is within reach . . .

The funding goal is within reach, and this unique FUNdraising campaign will allow the school to implement the lab during the 2017-18 school year.

The ***Building Bridgman*** event will take place at Bridgman's wonderful Weko Beach from **July 21-23, 2017** and is open to locals and tourists of all ages.

The idea for this Build-A-Thon pledge fundraiser was born after meeting local sand artist, Janet Schrader, also known as the Sand Pirate. She has participated in pledge style sand competitions in the past with great success. The three day event will provide loads of sand inspired fun and will support a great cause, our students! Everyone loves to come together on the beach, so what better way than to provide a family fun weekend with a little competition and creativity!?

Friday, July 21

Corporate Team Building

The fun begins Friday, July 21 with a *Corporate Team Building* event utilizing large forms to create oversized masterpieces. Corporate teams will compete for the coveted *Best of the Beach and Golden Shovel* awards.

Saturday, July 22

Saturday in the Sand

Saturday in the Sand (July 22) will continue with a **sand sculpture competition and family fun day** at Weko Beach from 10 A.M. -3 P.M. The competition is open to any individual or team (youth groups, sports teams, businesses, alumni, etc.) willing to pledge support for the Build-A-Thon. For family fun, there will be entertainment, food, and games. Plus, the people's choice votes will determine the *2017 Building Bridgman Award* winners.

Sunday, July 23

Sand Pirate, Janet Schrader

Entertainment will continue at Weko Beach on Sunday, July 23 with the Sand Pirate from 1:00 P.M. - 4:00 P.M. Janet will help families with a unique family build that teaches sand sculpting techniques and then puts those skills to work building one giant sculpture in an attempt to **build the largest sand sculpture on Lake Michigan.**

Get Registered Today!

Take a moment to discover all the fun in store by visiting www.buildingbridgman.org. **Registration is required for all three events.** Tickets to build with Janet for the Corporate Team Building (Friday) and the Family Build (Sunday) may be purchased online. Contact the Building Bridgman team to learn more, become a sponsor, or volunteer for the event.

Contact:

Friends_of_rms@bridgmanschools.com or Jamie@buildingbridgman.org





This 5K race will take place through beautiful downtown Bridgman, winding through Stelter Farms, around the high school, and through Water Tower Place. Those completing the 10K will take a detour and continue south on Gast Road and through the scenic Lake Township Park. Medals will be given to the top three runners of each male and female age group. Walkers do not receive medals.

Online Registration:

snapregistration.com/bridgman5k

REGISTRATION COSTS:

\$25/runner for pre-registration

\$30/runner for registration on race day

(Shirts are not guaranteed)

\$20/runner if three or more family members are pre-registered

Online early registration closes on Tuesday, June 27th at 7:00 P.M.

CHECK-IN & DAY OF REGISTRATION:

Starting at 7:00 A.M. in the big tent at the southeast corner of Lake St. and Church St.

START TIME: 8:00 A.M.

Race PARKING: Immanuel Lutheran Church's parking lot at 9650 Church St.

An Epic Race Timing Event—Using cutting edge bib chip timing technology

F.C. Reed Middle School



John Truesdell
MS Principal

At F.C. Reed Middle School, we are dedicated to educating the whole child.

While core academic subjects such as Math, Science, Social Studies, and ELA play a critical role in our plan to prepare students for the rigor of Bridgman High School, our staff is also committed to providing a well rounded education that fosters the development of creativity, exploration, and communication skills. This is why our students have the opportunity to take Band, Physical Education, Art, Music, Choir, Robotics, and Technology (soon to be STEM!) courses during their four year journey at the middle school.

I'm proud to report that our elective "Encore" classes have been immensely successful this year and continue to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of our students.

For example, the **RMS Band program**, led by Cliff Reppart, had a noteworthy festival season. Mr. Reppart led our 7th and 8th grade Band to the regional festival competition, where the band earned its highest "level one" rating in over a decade. This allowed our middle school musicians to go on and compete at the

state wide festival in Paw Paw, MI on April 26, 2017. It's my understanding that this is the first time the 7th and 8th grade RMS Band has qualified and competed at this highly competitive level in over 15 years!

The **RMS PE Department** has also been busy preparing students for summer. Living in a beach community, it is critical that we ensure that our children are comfortable and confident near the water. This is why I am proud to announce that RMS 5th and 6th grade students have completed 10 swim lessons, while 7th and 8th grade students have completed five swim lessons at the BPS Aquatic Center.

Despite our small student population, the **RMS Art program** also continues to be well represented within the community. For instance, RMS student artwork was on display at both the elementary and middle school community art exhibits that were hosted at the Box Factory in St. Joseph, MI. Two of our students, Garrett Mangold and Lilly Werelius, were recognized for their artistic achievements at these events. Congrats to both!

In the upcoming weeks, Bridgman residents should keep an eye out for student artwork that will be on display around downtown. RMS 7th grade paintings will be featured at local businesses during the **Art Around**

Continued NEXT PAGE.

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





FRIEND Bridgman Public Schools on FACEBOOK.

Bridgman Public Schools

John Truesdell, MS Principal ... Continued

Town program, which is a part of the Bridgman Days celebration.

Our **Music and Choir programs** have also had a successful year. Thanks to the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence, Mrs. Ammerman successfully implemented a new ukulele curriculum into our 5th and 6th grade Music classes. Because of this, younger students were able to strum along to the classic tune "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" while the 7th and 8th grade Choir sang the lyrics to the song at the Sing into Spring concert on May 23. The collaborative effort resulted in a very memorable performance.

Bridgman Public Schools continues to strive to be a leader in the field of **STEM education** too. The **RMS Robotics program** will be upgrading its focus from *FIRST Lego Robotics* to *First Tech Robotics* during the

upcoming school year. This will better prepare students for high school level coding and engineering.

In addition, thanks to the community's support, we are on pace to complete the renovations of the **RMS STEM Lab** by mid summer. We look forward to hosting a series of community open houses this fall to educate stakeholders on how the new STEM program will benefit our students.

Remember, together, we can challenge our students to succeed!

These examples are just a few samples of the wide variety of enrichment opportunities that BPS students have access to at F.C. Reed Middle School. As we look ahead to the 2017-2018 school year, we continue to prioritize educating the whole child at RMS.

As we look ahead to the 2017-2018 school year, we continue to prioritize educating the whole child at F.C. Reed Middle School.



Bridgman Summer Enrichment Camps

We are pleased to announce that Bridgman Public Schools is once again conducting Summer Enrichment Camps. This is a great opportunity for our students to learn new things and have fun. The camps are also open to non-residents.

Please visit our website at www.bridgmanschools.com for more information.

Deadline for registration is June 1, 2017.



BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

Bridgman Public Schools



FRIEND Bridgman Public Schools on FACEBOOK.

The Bridgman Aquatic Center offers a variety of activities for adults and children.

We have an arthritis class three days a week, a deep water aerobics and shallow water aerobics five mornings a week, along with an evening shallow water aerobics class Monday and Wednesday. Adult lap swim times are available throughout the day, seven days a week. Please visit bridgmanschools.com and click on the Aquatic Center tab.

Family Recreation Swim

If you are looking for a fun activity to do with your family on a rainy day, bring your entire family to a **Family Recreation** swim. We offer a Family Recreation swim from 1:00-2:00 P.M. seven days a week, beginning June 12. Please see our website for fee schedule.

Sea Bee Swim Club

Our **Sea Bee Swim Club** will begin practice June 12. Sea Bees is a competitive age group swim team for children ranging in age from 6 through high school. We participate in the SWMSL league and also compete in USA sanctioned swim meets. Visit the Aquatic Center website for the practice and schedule. Please contact the Aquatic Center with any questions at 269-466-0236 or email jbeem2323@yahoo.com.

Bridgman Aquatic Center

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. Summer Community Diving begins June 5. Please see the website for class session dates or contact the Aquatic Center for more information at 269-466-0236 or email 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 below along with the date for registration. Our community swim lessons are FREE for children living in the City of Bridgman, Lake Township, or School of Choice. 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 Lessons

Monday & Wednesday 6:30/7:00 P.M.

June 12 – July 19

Register: June 5, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

Morning Community Swim Lessons

Monday - Thursday 10:30/11:00 A.M.

June 12 – June 29

Register: June 5, 6:30-7:30 P.M.

July 10 – July 27

Register: July 3, 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 Hours

Expanded Summer Hours Begin June 12

Mon. – Fri. 5:45 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.

Mon. – Thurs. 5:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

Sat. & Sun. 11:30 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Sunday 7:00 P.M. – 9:00 P.M.

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

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COMMUNITY BUZZ

Lake Charter Township



GLORIA PAYNE - CONTINUED FROM COVER.

Voters will be stepping up to new equipment that is scheduled to be rolled out for the Governor's 2018 election. Berrien County has selected *Dominion Voting* as their equipment of choice. Resolutions are going before city and township boards for approval. *The Help America Vote Act* still has funds left over and will pay a portion of the new equipment. The equipment will also include equipment for *Americans with Disabilities*.

Coming soon, Lake Charter Township will be using *Pontem* as their cemetery software. I am in the process of having both *Graceland Cemetery* and *Greenwood Cemetery* "online" so anyone can search to find their loved ones in either of these cemeteries. Stay tuned.

Wishing all of you a healthy, warm, and fun Spring/Summer.

Lake Charter Township Water Department



Happy Spring to all!

As you know, Spring and Summer season is upon us. This is a friendly reminder that crews will be out flushing hydrants, checking valves throughout the system, and working near roadways. Please drive cautiously when out and about. Again, thank you for your efforts.

To all teachers/students:

I would like to let you know that we offer tours at the water plant. 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 contact us at 269-465-3850.

Water is an important resource.

Here are some interesting facts about water:

- In a 100-year period, a water molecule spends 98 years in the ocean, 20 months as ice, about two weeks in lakes and rivers, and less than a week in the atmosphere.
- Groundwater can take a human lifetime just to traverse a mile.
- Water regulates the earth's temperature.
- Frozen water is 9% lighter than water, which is why ice floats on water.

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,
Mark Panzegrav
Water System Superintendent

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



Lake Charter Township Treasurer Report

From the Treasurer

The 2017 summer tax bills will be sent out in early July and are due without interest or penalty charges on or before September 14th, 2017. Please remember that tax bills must be received at our office by the due dates to avoid additional charges, postmarks are not accepted for payment purposes. Taxes may be paid at the office, mailed, paid online (see below) or left in our drop box just west of the Township office (blue depository box).

Online Payment System

We are starting an exciting new form of payment for both water/sewer payments and taxes. It is called E check and is created in our online payment system and can be accessed via the website.

- Go to the home page and click on the button in the lower left side for on-line payments.
- Select Electronic Check for the type of payment from the drop-down box and proceed by entering your banks routing and transit numbers and submit payment.
- Cost is \$3.00 per check for any amount and will be credited to your payment nearly immediately!
- This option has the ease and speed of electronic payments without the big expense! (*An online payment using a credit transaction will cost 3% of the payment for taxes and can be very expensive for larger tax payments.*)
- No postage or taking a chance of interest or late fees waiting for mail to arrive.

We believe this will be a great benefit to our residents and is just another way we are trying to make it easy to submit payments. We continue to offer automatic payments for water and sewer. This type of payment method has no charge associated with it. Visit our website at www.lake-township.org for more information.



Lake Township Park News

We are completing our final phase of paving this summer and are making plans for the **disc golf course** renovations. The new course will have concrete tee pads, new signage, online maps, and a great new design. Eight of the new holes will be on the new property the Township purchased last summer adjacent to the existing park. The new property has a sand ridge running through it, mature woods, and a pond/wetlands area. We plan to create some **nature trails** in the woods in the future. The renovated disc golf course will be one of the nicest courses in our area and a draw from many neighboring communities. Disc golf is a rapidly growing sport and the LTP

course is enjoyed by hundreds of disc golfers each year. There will be opportunities for hole sponsor signs to help defray the costs. We are also looking for volunteers to assist in the course development. Please contact Bob Clark at the Township office (269-465-6601) if you are interested in helping.

The **baseball, softball and soccer leagues** are all enjoying great seasons at the park. The pavilions are really filling up with reservations for reunions, graduation parties, and many other events. Contact the Township office for availability and rental information.

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 on line water/sewer/tax 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.



The Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce and Growth Alliance



Lake to Grapes is the surf lapping Lake Michigan, Taps at Twilight, setting sun on sparkling water ... it is endless sun on miles of grapes, blueberries, hops; cruising through Lake Township, Baroda, Berrien Springs ... it's wineries & breweries; downtown boutiques; afternoon ice creams, and live music.

Come join us and experience our Lake to Grapes, a place where businesses welcome you and where business is welcome.

That's how we describe the Lake to Grapes Region – how would YOU describe it?



The Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce and Growth Alliance (CGA) is a 501c3 organization that was created when the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber of Commerce and the Bridgman-Lake Township Economic Growth Alliance merged in 2014.

The CGA exists primarily to provide economic and community development and chamber administration to our members in the Lake to Grapes region. Some of our focus areas include small business assistance and wayfinding in all its forms, including signage, virtual mapping, and public transportation.

We have a 12 member board that meets monthly to review the economic climate in Bridgman and Lake Township, strategize on opportunities to create jobs and investment, and manage the activities of the organization. We are funded in part by membership dues, with the City of Bridgman and Lake Charter Township being far-and-away our largest funders, as well as our two flagship signature events, the Lake Michigan Shore Wine Festival (June 17th) and the Weko Beach Brewers

Festival (October 14th). In addition to these two fundraisers, we also put on Holiday Village, provide some marketing assist for Celebrate Bridgman, and partner with the City on the Queens' Breakfast that kicks off Blossomtime Tour week for the Queen's and their courts. We also put out a Business and Visitors Guide to showcase all the wonderful businesses and the fun things to do in our area.

Over the last few years, we have been working to raise awareness and support for the CGA and welcome participation and feedback from all stakeholders within the communities we serve.

Folks who are interested in learning more about what we do and how to become more involved can check out our communications at facebook.com/bridgmanarea and at lake2grapes.com.

We are very proud to be part of such a wonderful community, rich with assets and strong with talent and heart and we look forward to sharing news about the CGA with all of you on a regular basis.

We are very proud to be part of such a wonderful community, rich with assets and strong with talent and heart.





GRETCHEN EVANS CONTINUED

Better World. Registration begins the week of June 12. I hope you and your family will sign up. Participating in the **Summer Reading Program** gives kids something to do during the long summer months. See a full schedule of fun activities for kids and teens later in this newsletter. The Summer Reading Program also keeps kids reading while they're on vacation from school with incentives like free books and prizes. As any teacher will tell you, kids' reading skills suffer if they don't read over the summer. You can keep them on track with the Summer Reading Program. Another way to encourage your kids to read is to join the adult program. Nothing will inspire your kids more than reading with you or seeing you read. So this summer, I hope you will make the Summer Reading Program a family activity.

Check out a Kindle

The library has Kindles available for check out. If you are going on a trip, Kindles are a great way to take a lot of books with you without weighing down your luggage. Or if you have never tried an e-reader, check one out and try one without a commitment. Our Kindles have over 1000 titles loaded on them, so you are bound to find something you like.

Knit N Yarn

Thank you to the Heart of Cook for their generous donation to support Knit N Yarn group projects.

This group does these projects because of a desire to give someone 'knitted love'. The group welcomes anyone who does needle crafts of any kind. It doesn't matter your level of expertise, beginner or master or no experience at all, the members would be happy to welcome you. So come join the gals for some knitting or crocheting and fun. Knit N' Yarn meets every Monday and Thursday from 1 to 3 P.M. and the third Tuesday of each month at 6 P.M. Donations of full or partial skeins of yarn are always welcome.

Meet with us at 6 P.M.

Jun. 20	Jul. 18
Aug. 15	Sept. 19
Nov. 21	Dec. 19

AND ... every Monday & Thursday @ 1-3 P.M.

Native Plants Presentation and Sale Wednesday, May 31 1-3 P.M.

Berrien Conservation District is sponsoring a native plant presentation and sale at the Bridgman Public Library. Vern Stephens, of Design by Nature will speak in the library's Community Room.

Following the presentation pre-orders can be picked up and the sale will be open to the public until 6 P.M.

Order forms at the front desk and are due by May 23.

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

Did you know that summer is the busiest time of year for the Bridgman Public Library?





Adult Programs at the Library

SCANNING YOUR OLD PHOTOS AT THE LIBRARY

Tuesday, June 6 at 9:30 A.M.

Do you or someone you know have a box of old photos lying around at home? Learn how to use library equipment to make a digital copy of your photos, so you have a back-up and a way to easily share photos with family and friends.

FOLLOW THE BARN QUILT TRAIL

Wednesday, June 7 at 6:30 P.M.

Discover the world of Barn Quilts, large pieces of wood painted with quilt blocks. Suzi Parron, author of, "*Barn Quilts and the American Trail Movement*" and "*Following the Barn Quilt Trail*" will speak at the library. Suzi's presentation features over one hundred photographs of barn quilts, along with the stories of the individuals who painted them. This entertaining and informative program is free. Books will be available for sale and signing.

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:

June – *The Oregon Trail* – Rinker Buck.

July – *Mennonite in a Little Black Dress* – Rhoda Janzen.

August – *The Martian* – Andy Weir.

September – *Seabiscuit* – Laura Hillenbrand.

2017 GREAT AMERICAN ECLIPSE

Wednesday, June 14 at 6:30 P.M.

Get ready for the solar eclipse on August 21, 2017, with Richard Bell, President of the *Kalamazoo Astronomical Society*. Richard's presentation will cover the basics of a solar eclipse and how to view it safely. Eclipse shades will be available for purchase.

ADULT SUMMER READING PROGRAM - BUILD A BETTER WORLD & LIBRARY CATALOG

June 19- July 29

Why should kids have all the fun? Join the Adult Summer Reading Program and help us build a better library catalog with reviews written by you. To participate in the program, sign up at the front desk and review the books you read. For every review you submit, you will be entered into a drawing for a Kindle or a *Tapestry Brewing Company* gift certificate.

BEACH STOP WATER SAFETY PROGRAM

Tuesday, June 20 at 6:30 P.M. at Weko Beach House

Presented by the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, this hands-on interactive program teaches parents, children, and people of all ages how to be safe in and around the lake. Topics include small boat safety, riptides, hypothermia, and water rescue. The program uses props and a 12-foot aluminum boat. No registration required.

COMPOSTING - GARDENERS' BLACK GOLD

Saturday, June 24 at 10 A.M.

Nancy Carpenter from the *Berrien County Conservation District* and Kris Martin from the *SW Michigan Planning Commission* will demon-

strate ways to re-purpose yard waste through composting. Learn how to get started with composting no matter what size your property is.

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 Library.

FRIENDS BOOK AND BAKE SALE

July 6-9

Come to the *Friends of the Bridgman Public Library's Annual Used Book and Bake Sale* at the library during Bridgman Days. The Book and Bake Sale will be held Friday, July 7, 10 A.M. - 4 P.M., and Saturday, July 8, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. An early bird sale for the Book Sale will be held on Thursday, July 6, 5 P.M. - 7:30 P.M., admission is \$3 or free to members of the Friends.

MODERN ENGLISH FROM THE PRINTING PRESS TO THE INTERNET

July 18, at 6:30 P.M.

Learn how the English language changed when it was carried to the Americas and how technologies like the printing press and the Internet have transformed our language. Presented by our favorite vacationing professor, Scott Nokes, Ph.D. from Troy University.

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BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



FRIEND the Bridgman
Library on FACEBOOK.



Adult Programs

THE CHANGING GREAT LAKE SHORELINE

Wednesday, July 19, 6:30 P.M.

@ Weko Beach House

Join Gaye Blind, Natural Resource Specialist from *Prism Science & Technology*, for a discussion on water levels in the Great Lakes and the relationship between a changing climate and the effects on our beaches, our homes, our fisheries, and our lifestyles. Understand why erosion is important to beach replenishment, and how our efforts to stop erosion to protect our homes are hindering the process.

DIABETES PATH WORKSHOP

**Wednesdays, July 19 – August 23
at 10:00 A.M. – 12:30 P.M.**

Diabetes, Personal Action Towards Health (PATH), is a six-week workshop conducted in 2 ½ hour sessions. This program is designed to help people learn the techniques and strategies they need for the day-to-day management of diabetes. Adults with diabetes, pre-diabetes or caregivers and family members of someone with diabetes are encouraged to attend. Registration is required.

TRAVEL TALK - GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

Tuesday, August 15 at 6:30 P.M.

Mike Kinney and Susan Johnston will share their experiences about vacationing in the Galapagos Islands. Mike and Susan have lots of interesting photos and stories to tell.

Youth Programs

BUILD A BETTER WORLD SUMMER READING PROGRAM

June 19 - July 29 Youth & Teens

SUMMER READING SIGN-UP STARTS JUNE 12

Sign up for the Library's Summer Reading Program. This year's theme is "Build a Better World." Come "Build a Better World" through reading and participating in library activities. Ages 2-18.

BUILD A BETTER WAGON FLOAT CONTEST

Registration starts June 12

This year in keeping with the summer reading theme of "Build a Better World" you will have an opportunity to build a float using a wagon, (stroller, buggy, etc.) and walk in the Bridgman Days Parade on July 8. Awards will be presented at the Bridgman High School parking lot before the parade at 10:15 A.M. Sign up is open June 12 – July 7. All ages welcome.

MOVIE MONDAYS

**Mondays, June 19th – July 27
at 1 P.M.**

Join us for movies every Monday in the Community Room. Lunch will be served at 12:30 P.M.

June 19 – The Lorax

June 26 – Zootopia

July 3 – The BFG

July 10 – Pete's Dragon

July 17 – Trolls

July 24 – Inside Out

July 31 – Beauty and the Beast

August 7 – Sing

August 14 – Monster Inc.

August 21 – The Lego Movie

August 28 – Goosebumps

MAGICIAN JOHN DUDLEY

Thursday, June 22 at 11 A.M.

Come and enjoy this fun, interactive magic show by John Dudley. He will teach you the importance of reading through the use of magic. Ages 12 and under. No registration is necessary.

SAND PIRATE

Thursday, June 29 at 11 A.M.

Join the Sand Pirate at Weko Beach to learn how to build a fantastic sandcastle. Be prepared to be in the sun and to get sandy. Ages 8-12.

CURIOUS KIDS UNDER THE BIG TOP

Thursday, July 6th at 1 P.M.

Explore and have fun with Curious Kids under the tent in downtown Bridgman. Ages 12 and under.

SIDEWALK CHALK

Friday, July 7 at 1 P.M.

Help decorate the library sidewalk to celebrate Bridgman Days! We'll bring the chalk. You bring your creativity! Ages 12 and under.

PARADE: WAGON FLOATS

Saturday, July 8 at 10 A.M.

Meet at the Bridgman High School parking lot with your wagon floats. Before the parade begins, we will give out awards and ribbons so you can show them off during the parade!

SARETT NATURE CENTER

Thursday, July 13 at 11 A.M.

This live animal show will discuss local animals and their habitats. Join us and

Continued NEXT PAGE.



Youth Programs Continued ...

learn how you can help preserve their homes. Ages 12 and under.

STARLAB

Thursday, July 20 at 11 A.M. and 11:30 A.M.

Explore the sky from the comfort and security of the Bridgman Public Library in a portable inflatable planetarium. One show will be at 11 A.M. and another at 11:30 A.M. Space is limited, so please register at the front desk. Ages 12 and under.

CUP STACKING WITH MR. JIM

Thursday, July 27 at 11 A.M.

Mr. Jim will teach a hands-on program that builds your coordination, concentration, perseverance, and teamwork. Ages 12 and under.

EVENING STORY HOUR

Wednesday, June 7 – August 30 at 6:30 P.M.

This summer we are excited to offer family story hour every Wednesday night at 6:30 P.M. We will meet at the Bridgman Public Library Story House for stories, songs, and activities.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Garden Plots Available



Plots are still available in the Community Garden. Call the library for more information.

GARDEN CLUB

Tuesday, June 20 – August 15 at 1 P.M.

Learn about organic gardening through hands-on participation. At the end of the season, we will be trying some recipes using the veggies grown in our garden! Register at the front desk.

WELCOME BACK TO HOGWARTS

Saturday, August 26 at 12:00 P.M.

Come to a Hogwarts Start-of-the-Term Feast. Join us for pizza, magical snacks, and a documentary about Newt Scamander, noted textbook author. Learn about Scamander's adventures with fantastic beasts and where to find them. Please wear your Hogwarts uniform.

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.

Teen Programs

GALAXY SHOES

Wednesday, June 21 at 1 P.M.

This DIY activity will teach you a great way to refresh an old pair of canvas shoes. Bring a pair of canvas shoes, your creativity, and we will provide the rest!

MAFIA

Wednesday, June 28 at 1 P.M.

Mafia is a game that involves a lot of strategy and bluffing. The object of the game is to eliminate the mafia before they eliminate the entire town.

WALK TO WEKO

Wednesday, July 5 at 1 P.M.

Walk to Weko Beach from the library. During the walk, you will experience good company, fun conversation, and lovely nature.

ICE CREAM AND A MOVIE

Wednesday, July 12 at 1 P.M.

Build a towering ice cream sundae, watch a movie, socialize with friends, and enjoy relaxing inside.

WALK AT LAKE TOWNSHIP PARK

Wednesday, July 19 at 1 P.M.

Have you been sitting around all summer? Need something to do? Come and join us at Lake Township Park. We will meet at the park, walk the track and do various fun activities!

MEAL IN A JAR

Wednesday, July 26 at 1 P.M.

As college life draws near you will need cooking skills. Learn how to make a quick, easy and healthy-ish meal inside a mason jar.

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



FRIEND Weko Beach
Campground on FACEBOOK.

Composting The Gardeners “Black Gold”

Saturday, June 24, 2017

10 A.M. - Noon

Bridgman Public Library
4460 Lake Street

The City of Bridgman and the Bridgman Public Library would like to help property owners and gardeners develop useful strategies for yard clean up. Please join us at the library on Saturday, June 24 when Nancy Carpenter from the Berrien County Conservation District will demonstrate and explain the many ways you can re-purpose your yard clean up debris. From a small scale suitable for subdivisions to large scale “I’m going to plant an acre vegetable garden” or if you are just tired of bagging leaves and would like something easier, Nancy and her team will be able to help guide you through the process.

“Information is like compost; it does no good unless you spread it around.” -- Eliot Coleman

www.Bridgman.org

269.465.5144

www.Bridgmanlibrary.org

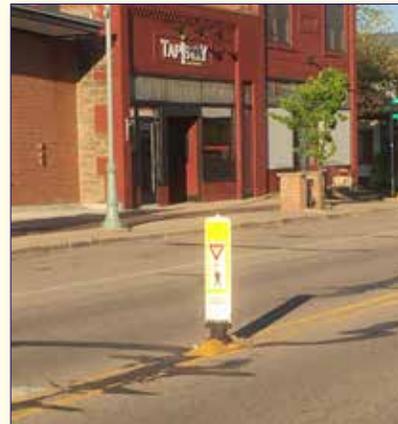
269.465.3663

CITY NEWS, JUAN GANUM - CONTINUED FROM COVER

openings of **Lazy Ballerina Winery’s** tasting room, **Hoof-to-Hanger’s** fiber mill and the continued development of the **Monogram Centre** on the corner of Red Arrow Highway. Early warmth in spring has already enticed people to stroll sidewalks and patronize a number of our businesses. It truly is wonderful to see so many folks enjoying all that Bridgman has to offer.

What’s with that crosswalk sign on Lake Street?

Many who have walked or driven through town have likely noticed the return of the traffic sign cautioning motorists to yield to pedestrians within crosswalks.



The sign, which was installed last summer, has generated a number of inquiries at city hall and has no doubt been the subject of conversation during early morning coffee klatches. As I have relayed to those who have inquired, the primary purpose of the sign has been

to slow traffic through that portion of Lake Street that has witnessed an increasing number of pedestrians. Though the sign is not placed directly adjacent to a crosswalk, Michigan law obliges motorists to yield to pedestrians within crosswalks. The sign’s placement between the crosswalks at Mathieu and Maple streets is by design, as semi-trucks, fire trucks and other large vehicles, which frequently

access Lake Street, would destroy a sign at the crosswalk when making wide turns.

Installing a sign between the crosswalks might seem counterintuitive, but our purpose is served by cautioning motorists that pedestrians are likely to cross within the vicinity. The sign

is one of many ongoing efforts by the City to create a safer, more inviting space for pedestrians.

Look for more changes this summer as the City continues to “experiment” with signage, paint, lighting and other elements.

Continued NEXT PAGE.

It truly is wonderful to see so many folks enjoying all that Bridgman has to offer.



COMMUNITY BUZZ



FRIEND Weko Beach
Campground on FACEBOOK.

CITY NEWS, JUAN GANUM - CONTINUED

Banners and a new initiative to honor our veterans

By the time this issue is distributed the City will have installed 52 new banners on the street lamps along Lake Street. Two banner styles will be displayed in alternating fashion – “Life on the Beach” banners and American flag banners.

The flag banners will remain displayed through Veteran’s Day, but the City wishes to replace the beach banners in late September under a new initiative to honor its veterans.

The City of Bridgman is asking residents to help celebrate local military heroes by nominating them to be featured on banners, which will be prominently displayed along Lake Street in October and November, showcasing the community’s appreciation of their tireless efforts on behalf of our country.

The banners will feature residents who have served our country, past and present. We will have an application process later in the summer and

charge a nominal fee to help defray the cost of the banners.



More information will be available at a later date on the City’s web page and at City Hall, so please check the site or inquire directly at (269)465-5144.

We are always interested in hearing from our citizens. The idea to honor our veterans was submitted to City Hall last year and we hope to make it a reality this year.

Thank you for staying engaged in Bridgman and contributing to your community’s enhancement and vitality!



BRIDGMAN!

July 5-9, 2017

Art Around Town

Bridgman Schools Students

WEDNESDAY, JULY 5

Walk to Weko-1 P.M.

Meet at the Library

THURSDAY, JULY 6

Curious Kids Show

1 P.M., Under the Big Top

Firemen’s Teen Dance

7 P.M.-11 P.M., Under the Big Top

FRIDAY, JULY 7

Book Sale 10 A.M.-4 P.M., Library

Sidewalk Chalk

1 P.M., Library

Firemen’s Dance

Over 21 Only! 7 P.M.-12:30 A.M.

Under the Big Top

SATURDAY, JULY 8

5K-10K Run/Walk

8 A.M., Start Time

Book Sale 10 A.M.-1 P.M., Library

Autos & Ales Car Show

10 A.M.-2 P.M. Haymarket

Parade 11 A.M.

Children’s Carnival

Downtown

Street Concerts

12 P.M.-4 P.M., Downtown

Sand Art Contest

2 P.M., Weko Beach

Firemen’s Dance

Over 21 Only! 7 P.M.-12:30 A.M.

Under the Big Top

SUNDAY, JULY 9

Free Weko Beach Concert

“The B-Side” 7 P.M.

Complimentary Sunset!

Bridgman, Michigan

www.bridgman.org

www.bridgmanlibrary.com





FRIEND the Bridgman Police Department on FACEBOOK.



Changes at Weko Beach

This summer a new culinary experience will be introduced within Bridgman – food trucks!

The rising popularity of food trucks across the country has given hungry folks more options than ever before. Look for a few different trucks to be parked next to the Weko Beach House throughout the summer season. The food trucks will be complemented by basic fare sold from the beach house. Items such as hot dogs, popcorn, ice cream, candy and drinks will be available.

Updating the City's Zoning Ordinance



Over the last 14 months, the City of Bridgman has been working with a committee comprised of business owners, citizens, elected and appointed officials, the school district, and Lake Township to update its zoning ordinance.

The reason for this update is to ensure that the City's growth and the built environment reflect the vision expressed in Bridgman's Master Plan. The zoning ordinance had not seen a comprehensive update in over 30 years, though the Master Plan was updated in 2014.

The **zoning ordinance** update resulted in a document that is user-friendly and rich with graph-

ics. You can find the new ordinance on the City's homepage: www.bridgman.org

The zoning ordinance places an emphasis on building

form. Building form regulates the placement, composition and activation of buildings, and also guides the design of street spaces and the public realm. The new ordinance simplifies the development process, reflecting Bridgman's commitment to a business-friendly community.

Some key changes include:

State Regulations: Updates bring the City into compliance with new rules and regulations within the Michigan Zoning Enabling Act and the Michigan Planning Act.

Signage: Updates to the regulations for signage make the new ordinance consistent with recent Supreme Court rulings about content neutrality.

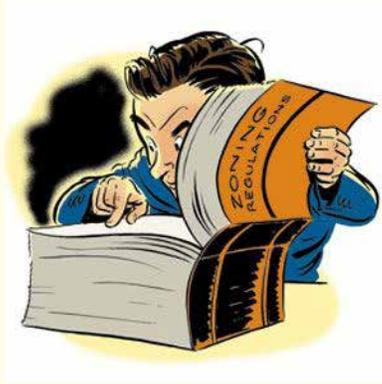
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FRIEND the Bridgman Police Department on FACEBOOK.

Updating the City's Zoning Ordinance ... Continued.



Beautification and Aesthetics: The new ordinance places an emphasis on the public realm and our community gateways. Standards are in place to enhance landscaping and green space along the Red Arrow Corridor.

Mixed Use and Walkability: The new ordinance places a focus on mixed use and walkability. By allowing for residential uses above commercial uses, we are offering more options for current and future residents to live and work in close proximity. The ordinance also introduces housing types such as townhomes and live/work within the Lake Street corridor.

Rentals: The new ordinance reduces the 6 month minimum time period for rentals to 2 months.

PUDs: The new ordinance eliminates the *Planned Unit Development District*, but retains its flexibility through the use of conditional rezoning, which results in more transparency and predictability within the public process.

Formatting: The new ordinance centralizes the procedures for rezoning, special land use, site plan review, and other processes into a single chapter, which results in a more user-friendly document. The ordinance is in color, and is navigable using tabs in digital formats.

The Bridgman Planning Commission will conduct a public hearing on the proposed zoning ordinance in the near future and all are invited to attend. Please look for notices on the City's website and within the Harbor Country News.



Changes at the Beach House

Visitors to the beach house will be greeted to a beautiful new floor underfoot. The original wood flooring had reached a point which would have made it a poor investment to be refinished. Tongue and grooves had begun separating and once so much surface wood is removed the boards are susceptible to cracking and splitting. Although the new flooring is a synthetic material, its color variation and durability make it an excellent solution in a high traffic area that receives a great deal of sunlight. A special padding beneath the new floor has also helped to muffle sound, which tended to echo in the large room. **Come see how the new floor looks during your next visit to the beach house!**

Look for a few different trucks to be parked next to the Weko Beach House throughout the summer season.



BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



FRIEND Weko Beach
Campground on FACEBOOK.



WEKO BEACH Summer Concert Series

Concerts start at 7:00 P.M.
Free admission to park and concert

May 28

PastTime - 1950's & 1960's

June 11

Johnny Jackson & Company

1950's to Present Popular Music

June 25

Jackson Band - Rock-N-Roll

July 9

The B-Side - Country/Rock

July 23

Polar Bear Recon

1960's to Present Popular Music

August 6

Not So Acoustic - Acoustic Rock

August 20

Top Secret - Rock-N-Roll

September 3

BBL Unplugged

1960's to Present Popular Music

Celebrate Bridgman!

Summer is coming and what better time to join in the food, fun, sun and music for this year's Celebrate Bridgman! Festival being held July 3-9. This year's lineup includes many of your annual favorites along with some new additions!

As you walk around town, take a few minutes to admire the art work on display in many of the businesses. F.C. Reed Middle School seventh grade students, under the direction of Julie Bender, have again designed some captivating art that reminds them of Bridgman for this event. **Art Around Town** paintings will be on display throughout town until Sunday, July 23 when they will be taken to Weko Beach House for an Art Reception from 3-6 P.M.

The Bridgman Public Library will be offering many activities for children, including the **Curious Kids Show** on Thursday, July 6 under the "Big Top" and a **chalk art event** at the library Friday, July 7. Friends of the Library will have its ever popular **book sale** on Friday and Saturday at the library. Information on these and other events is available on the library website www.bridgmanlibrary.org

Celebrate Bridgman! takes off running on Saturday, July 9, with the Annual 5K Run/Walk. This year features the addition of a 10K run/walk, with participants traveling to Lake Township Park. Pre-registration is available on the Bridgman Public Schools website www.bridgmanschools.com or the City of Bridgman website www.bridgman.org

No event would be complete without a parade. This year the parade starts at 11 A.M. on Saturday and travels west on Lake Street from Gast Road. Floats, bands, motorcycles, fire trucks, police cars, popcorn, a stilt walker... the list is endless! If you or anyone you know might be interested in participating in the parade, forms are available on the City of Bridgman's website www.bridgman.org or at City Hall.

Berrien Community Church will be hosting a **Children's Carnival** starting at noon on Saturday. Good old fashioned games and yummy food are on the menu. The stilt walker will be on hand making balloon creatures!

As you walk around town take a few minutes to admire the art work on display in many of the businesses.



COMMUNITY BUZZ

BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

Haymarket Brewery will be hosting Bridgman's first "**Autos & Ales**" car show this year from 10 A.M. – 2 P.M. on Saturday. Located at 9301 Red Arrow Highway, Haymarket offers award winning beers and wood-fired pizzas in an inviting space that has been completely transformed from its previous use as a Michigan State Police post. Haymarket's wooded grounds will serve as the perfect backdrop for cars of all makes and vintages. Category winners not only get bragging rights but a very cool custom designed trophy.



Proceeds from the car show will be donated to the Bridgman Public Schools STEM Lab program.

Stop in, vote for your favorites, enjoy some food and beverages and support our school.

The Bridgman Blossomtime Queen Committee will again be hosting the **Sand Art Contest** at 2 P.M. at Weko Beach. This is a great way to enjoy some fun in the sun and practice your sand castle techniques.

Music will be filling the air with this year's newest addition "**Celebrate Bridgman Street Concerts.**" Enjoy the **Whateverly Brothers** in front of the Sandpiper from 12-2 and, just a few dance steps down the street in the Chase Bank parking lot from 12-4, the band line-up of **Jukin, Blue Shoes Jazz Band, The Strum Bums and ROXEGEN** will provide toe tapping entertainment. Details will be available at www.Bridgman.org and on the Greater Bridgman Area Chamber and Growth Alliance Facebook page.

Finally, you won't want to miss the annual **Firemen's Dance**. Hosted by Bridgman's dedicated Fire Department the dance is a great place to meet up with friends and classmates on Friday and Saturday night under the "Big Top." **Don't forget your ID!**

Berrien Bus will be available throughout the day on Saturday for those who need a ride to Weko Beach or the Autos & Ales Car Show.

So mark your calendars, join the fun and Celebrate Bridgman!



Haymarket Brewery will be hosting Bridgman's first "**Autos & Ales**" car show this year from 10 A.M. – 2 P.M. on Saturday, July 8.



The Firemen's Dance is a great place to meet up with friends and classmates on Friday & Saturday night under the "Big Top."



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 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 Public Library

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

Bridgman Public Schools

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

Bridgman Elementary

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

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