

# BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ

SEPTEMBER 2021



## COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION

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

We hope you have enjoyed the beautiful courtyard in Bridgman.

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS IN COMMUNICATION



### SCHOOL NEWS

#### FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Superintendent  
Shane M. Peters

Dear Bridgman Families and Friends: **THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL IS MONDAY, AUGUST 30, 2021!**

Welcome to the 2021-2022 School Year! We are excited to start the new school year "in-person" in spite of the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic. We look forward to seeing all our students and staff.

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### TOWNSHIP NEWS

#### FROM THE SUPERVISOR



Supervisor  
John Gast

Hello! The summer seems different as we get away from wearing masks and travel is picking up for family

vacations. The summer produce farm markets are in full swing with berries and vegetables. Many are taking advantage of the fresh items available. The pickles this year have been great! I for one, have enjoyed the pickling

READ MORE PG 9

### LIBRARY NEWS

#### FROM THE DIRECTOR



Director  
Dennis Kreps

To everything there is a season ...  
*The Byrds*

Hang on, help is on its way ...  
*Little River Band*

The beginning of fall marks transitions with which we are familiar - returning to school chief among them. Over the course of the spring and summer, we have been so pleased

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### CITY NEWS

#### FROM THE CITY MANAGER



City Manager  
Juan Ganum

Just before publication of this Buzz edition, the City of Bridgman and its surrounds were hit with of

one of the most severe rain events in recent memory. During the early morning hours of August 10 our water plant recorded 6.3 inches of rainfall, a staggering total, which was compounded by a peak rate

READ MORE PG 13

# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## BRIDGMAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

**President**  
Eric Ramso

**Vice-President**  
JoAnn DeMeulenaere

**Secretary**  
Tishia Roberts

**Treasurer**  
Brad Owen

**Trustee**  
Wayne Hall

**Trustee**  
Nancy Hawley

**Trustee**  
Tom LaVanway



### SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

During the summer, we hired quality people to join our Bridgman Public School family. We are proud to introduce the following employees:

#### **Bridgman Elementary School**

Monica Denney      BES School Counselor  
Caitlyn Lustila      BES Music

#### **Bridgman High School**

Danielle Carr      BHS Social Studies  
Daniel Schuchardt      BHS Science

#### **Food Service**

Amanda Demski      Mary Dolan  
Elaine Harte      Katie Lange

#### **Administration**

Joseph Tepe      Business Office Assistant  
Shannon Woerdehoff      District Social Worker

#### **Bridgman's Emergency Summer Feeding**

**Program Update:** The Emergency Feeding and Summer Feeding program continues to be a success. This summer we served 2,529 kids, 35,406 meals. We give a BIG SHOUT OUT to Peggy Ferguson, Food Service Director and her entire team of food service staff for preparing and packaging the weekly food distribution.

**Summer Projects:** We have kept busy with planning and preparing to ensure everything is ready for the start of school on Monday, August 30, 2021. Projects included: floor tile replacement in all three (3) school cafeterias, BHS gym floor refurbishing, BES boiler replacement, new district-wide telephone system, RMS roof repairs, and other routine summer maintenance projects.

**Return to Learn Plan:** The District RTL (Return to Learn) plan is located on our district website. Please take the time to review these documents, which were developed to try to answer any ques-

tions you might have as you prepare your student to return to school.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Bridgman Public Schools family, there are still several openings available. Visit our website at [www.bridgmanschools.com](http://www.bridgmanschools.com) and click on Department, Human Resources tab to apply:

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 for a small school district for ALL students. This is all possible because we truly live in a community that believes in public education and cares for their teachers and children. I once again want to thank our entire community for your continued support and encouragement of myself and of Bridgman Public Schools through this pandemic. It is truly my pleasure to work with such an outstanding community.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have a concern or would like additional information regarding Bridgman Public Schools.

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

STAY SAFE! STAY HEALTHY! GO BEES!  
*Shane M. Peters, Superintendent*

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





# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## FREE MEALS ALL YEAR!

The USDA has approved free breakfast and lunch to all students for the 21/22 school year! The middle and high school will be offering a limited amount of ala carte snack options available for purchase. Students must have funds in their account to purchase these items.

If you feel your household income would qualify for free or reduced breakfast and lunch, it is important to apply. Why apply if the meals are already free? You can benefit by receiving extra discounts; below are just a few:

- Free or reduced price internet and low-price computers through Comcast.
- Low-cost internet through AT&T.
- Athletic fees discounted
- Testing fees waived

These numbers also benefit the school district. The Michigan Department of Education uses these numbers for funding and grant opportunities.

Bridgman Public Schools serves healthy breakfasts and lunches in all of our schools. Studies have shown that students who have a healthy breakfast each day do better on tests and have less behavior issues. It can also help keep their weight in check.

Breakfast kick-starts the body's metabolism; when the metabolism gets moving, the body starts to burn calories. Have your student start out the day with a healthy breakfast that is free!

## THE AQUATIC CENTER IS OPEN!!

The pool has slowly reopened. We are almost back to a normal schedule featuring: morning classes, swim lessons, community diving and lap swim. For details on hours, schedules, class descriptions, daily and membership rates please visit: [BridgmanPool.com](http://BridgmanPool.com)

### Deep Water Aerobics

Offered Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 7:30 A.M.

### Shallow Water Aerobics

Offered Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:30 A.M.

### Arthritis Class

Offered Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 9:30 A.M.

**GlideFit** - a revolutionary new Aquatic Based Stability Training for all ages and abilities  
Offered Tuesday, Thursday at 7:30 A.M.

### Swim Lessons

The next session of lessons will begin on Monday September 13 with registration starting on Tuesday September 7. These lessons are FREE to children who live in Lake Township, the City of Bridgman or are a Student of Choice at Bridgman Schools.

### Sea Bees Swim Club

The fall/winter season will begin on Monday September 20 and run until the end of February with practices daily during the week. Sign up online starting September 1.

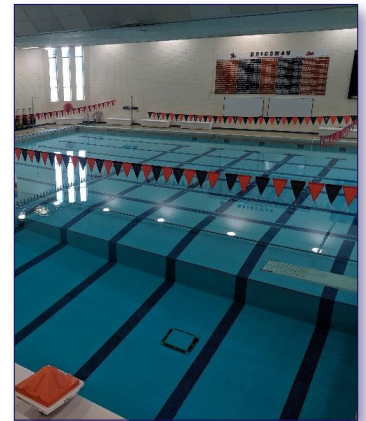
### Community Diving

The fall session, held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7-8pm, will begin on Monday September 13th, check the website for a downloadable brochure with registration details.

### Girls Co-Op Swimming & Diving

The Girls 2021 Bridgman Co-Op swim and dive team started practice on Monday August 9th and will have home meets starting at 6pm:  
8/24 - Portage Northern  
8/31 - Portage Central  
9/21 - Battle Creek Lakeview  
9/28 - Kalamazoo Loy Norrix - SENIOR NIGHT!

**To get text alerts from the BAC whenever a class is cancelled, the school has a snow day (and the pool is closed), and any program changes, please visit: <https://www.remind.com/join/hdhc6kd>**



Bridgman Aquatic Center





# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## BRIDGMAN ELEMENTARY WILL TRAVEL AROUND THE WORLD IN 180 DAYS



Lori Graves, BES Principal

**Around the World in Eighty Days**  
*Around the World in Eighty Days* is a classic adventure novel by French writer Jules Verne. It was first published in 1872. In the story, Phileas Fogg of London, and his newly employed French valet Passepartout, attempt to go

around the world in 80 days. Their travels allow them to learn and have many experiences.

**Bridgman Elementary is excited to be traveling around the world in “180 days” during the 2021-22 school year. The “180 days” refers to the number of school days that students are in attendance.**

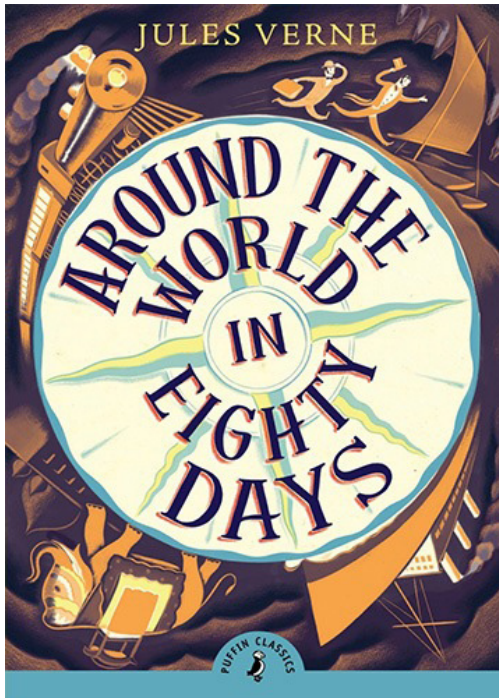
In order to travel around the world, each grade level will select a continent to highlight. The continents will serve as themes for teaching history, geography, science, literature, cultures and customs. Classrooms will share what they have learned throughout the school year. Themed activities are also being planned by the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

### **New Staff Member**

Bridgman Elementary School is pleased to welcome one new staff member to our team. Caitlyn Lustila will be the new music teacher. Caitlyn graduated from Berrien Springs

High School and Grand Valley State University. She has spent 12 years teaching music. Caitlyn lives in Bridgman with her husband and son. Her vision for the music program at Bridgman Elementary is to make music a class that is fun, inviting, and a

place where students feel safe to explore different types of music. Caitlyn wants her class to be the part of the day that students look forward to. Her goal for 2021-22 is to get to know each student and learn about their musical talents.



### **Blessings in a Backpack**

In an effort to meet the needs of our students, Bridgman Elementary School is proud to again partner with the *Blessings in a Backpack* program. *Blessings in a Backpack* mobilizes communities, individuals and resources to provide food on the weekends for school children across America who might otherwise go hungry. Currently, over 40 students are provided with food

to take home each weekend.

**If you are interested in assisting with this cause, please contact Lori Graves at [lgraves@bridgmanschools.com](mailto:lgraves@bridgmanschools.com).**

Please look for events, celebrations and announcements on our Facebook page: Bridgman Elementary School.

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





# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## WELCOME BACK BEES NATION!



Ken Schmaltz  
Athletic Director

**As the sun sets on yet another summer, I would like to welcome all of our faculty, staff, coaches, parents and, especially, the students, back to campus for what is sure to be another successful school year here at Bridgman High School in 2021-22.**

At Bridgman, we strive to be part of a team comprised of family members, educators, and community partners to assist our young people in achieving their goals while growing into healthy, happy and productive young adults.

The sights and sounds of a new academic year are all around us and I am excited to welcome everyone to, what is sure to be, another successful year at Bridgman High School. In fact, we in the athletic department are well underway as each of our fall sports teams have already competed in early-season competition.

We are excited to announce that the Bridgman Athletic Department is once again partnering with *FinalForms*, an online forms and data management service allowing you to complete and sign athletic participation forms for your students. The most exciting news is that *FinalForms* saves data from season-to-season and year-to-year – meaning you will never need to enter the same information twice! *FinalForms* also prepopulates information wherever possible, for each of your students, saving you time.

You may review your data at any time to verify it is current – you will be required to sign your forms once per year and again after any update. We are asking that ALL parents of athletes use *FinalForms*. Please register at: [bridgman-mi.finalforms.com](http://bridgman-mi.finalforms.com) and follow the prompts to create your account, create your students and to sign your forms. Thank you for your assistance in stream-

lining our athletic paperwork processes at Bridgman High School.

We strive for our student-athletes to demonstrate pride in themselves as students, as athletes, and as members of the Bridgman community. Through participation in Bridgman Athletics, our student-athletes will represent themselves and their families, their teammates and coaches, but most of all, they will be considered representatives of Bridgman High School.

Bees Nation has tremendous student-athletes all striving to become greater on and off the field. We invite everyone to join us in celebrating our student-athletes throughout the year by joining us at our athletic events.

### BE SURE TO FOLLOW THE BEES!

Twitter // @BridgmanSports  
Facebook // [facebook.com/BridgmanAthletics](https://facebook.com/BridgmanAthletics)  
Website // [www.bridgmanathletics.com](http://www.bridgmanathletics.com)

### GO BEES!

**Ken Schmaltz**  
*Athletic Director – Bridgman High School*



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



# F.C. REED MIDDLE SCHOOL

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...



John Truesdell  
Middle School Principal

**Welcome to the 2021 - 2022 school year! I hope everyone had a safe and relaxing summer that was full of memorable experiences.**

The mission of F.C. Reed Middle School is to help

all students acquire the social, emotional, and academic skills that are needed to excel in high school and reach their fullest potential. As a result, the RMS staff have been busy over the summer months, working to upgrade our middle school facilities, participating in numerous professional learning opportunities, and developing strategies to ensure the middle school experience continues to be diverse, equitable, and inclusive.

**One of our most significant facility upgrades during the summer was the renovation of the RMS cafeteria.** The renovation project completely replaced the old, aging floors, brightening the space and improving the durability of the surfaces. As we return to eating in the cafeteria in all grade levels (5-8), this project will help ensure that students have a positive, safe, and healthy environment to fuel their bodies and minds while they socialize with their peers. I'm also excited to announce that the RMS STEM Lab continues to offer cutting edge technology to our learners. Thanks to a recent grant from the Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence, the lab now features a Glowforge 3D Laser Cutter. This new resource joins our expanding workshop of 3D printers, CNC machines, robots, and other STEM related tools/resources, ensuring that F.C. Reed Middle School

students will leave our building with an innovative, maker mindset. Finally, I would like to thank our custodial staff for their endless efforts to return our building layout to "normal". This took a tremendous amount of effort behind the scenes and I cannot say enough about our crew's efforts to ensure the building is clean and organized for the return of students and staff.

**RMS teachers also invested heavily in professional learning during the summer months.**

During the 2021 - 2022 school year, multiple teachers completed rigorous professional development programs linking cooperative learning to social emotional growth. These staff members will now coach their peers and provide collaborative feedback to other educators on staff as the year progresses. The RMS School Counselor also attended the *American School Counselor Association* national conference, securing new certifications as a *College Admissions Specialist* and *Career Development Specialist*. Several teachers have spent their free time reading literature about how the stressors associated with the pandemic have impacted adolescents' brains, and are discussing how they can adjust instructional practices to address these challenges. These efforts continue to illustrate how the RMS faculty members are lead learners and dedicated to prioritizing *Whole Child* education that nurtures our students' social, emotional, and academic development.

As the 2021 - 2022 school year begins, the F.C. Reed Middle School faculty is energized by the Bridg-

man Public Schools Board of Education's recent Resolution on *Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)*. We recognize that not all students originate from the same background and that these differences are a resource, not a burden. Additionally, the RMS faculty is aligned in the belief that it is a human and civil right for all students to have learning environments that are safe, supportive, inclusive, and equitable. Consequently, the middle school staff plans to direct time and resources to improving mental health services, strengthening relationships between all stakeholders in the educational process, and increasing awareness of our own unconscious instructional biases to better support our diverse student population. We are thrilled to welcome Shannon Woerdehoff, the new BPS Social Worker, to our district to aid these efforts and are committed to this school improvement process.

**As a community, Bridgman Public Schools feels strongly that it is our collective responsibility to prepare and support students for lifelong learning.** As the 2021 - 2022 school year continues, F.C. Reed Middle School looks forward to continuing to improve our policies, practices, and services to meet the needs of our students and empower all members of our learning community.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at any time at [jtruesdell@bridgman-schools.com](mailto:jtruesdell@bridgman-schools.com) if you have any questions about the middle school or would like to learn more about F.C. Reed Middle School.

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





# BRIDGMAN HIGH SCHOOL

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL ...



Gerald Heath  
High School Principal

**Our first day of school is Monday, August 30. I am excited to start the new school year, and hope you are too!**

### High School Over the Summer

The high school has been full of activity over the

past few months. The *Spirit of Bridgman Marching Band* was able to return to *Tower Hill Camp* to complete another fun-filled band camp. Special thanks to Mr. Reppart, Band Boosters and parents for all of their assistance organizing the week's events. We were able to successfully complete four, no-cost academic summer programs. These programs included credit recovery, learning extension, SAT prep and college essay writing. Meals and transportation were provided to participating students as part of the programming. The fall sports season has begun with the 8-man football, cross country, boys soccer, volleyball, girls swimming/diving and boys tennis practices, which started on Monday, August 9.

During the summer break, our custodial and maintenance team dedicated countless hours to deep cleaning, completing minor building repairs and preparing the building for face-to-face instruction. Over the summer, the tile floor was replaced and the walls were painted in the cafeteria. The outfield fence was replaced and some sod work was done on the baseball field. The gymnasium floor saw a face

lift as it was sanded and refinished. Thank you to all of the team members who made this work possible and for their dedication to our students and teaching staff during this busy time in the building.

We are excited to announce that we will be offering two new courses this coming school year! Mr. Zapor will be teaching a College Art Appreciation course. Students who successfully complete this course will earn college credit for both Art 101 and Art 102 through Lake Michigan College. Mrs. Maxwell will be teaching an AP Computer Science course. Students who take this course will have the opportunity to take the Advanced Placement test to earn college credit.

### Retirements

Please join me in extending best wishes to three Bridgman High School (BHS) staff members who retired last school year: Laurie Hehl retired last December after serving several years as a high school paraprofessional; last March, Cary Heinz and Tim Antel announced that they would be retiring at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. Mr. Antel spent the last five years of his career as a teacher in our Science department. Mr. Heinz devoted over 30 years teaching in the Social Studies department at BHS. We know that you will all join us in wishing them well as they start the next chapter in their lives.

### Welcome New Staff

Last spring, Danielle Carr accepted the high school Social Studies teaching position. Mrs. Carr received her Bachelor of Secondary Education, cum laude, from Western Michigan University. Over the last 11 years,

Danielle has taught at Lawton Community Schools where she served as department and school improvement chair.

Around the same time, Daniel Schuchardt accepted the high school Science teaching position. Mr. Schuchardt received his Bachelor of Science Education from Michigan State University in 2009. In 2015, he received his Master of Science with an emphasis in Physical Science from the same institution. Over the last 11 years, Dan has taught at Dowagiac Community Schools where he served as department and PLC technology chair.

Last winter, we hired Debra Schmid as a high school paraprofessional. Ms. Schmid received her Bachelor of Science from Western Michigan University. She recently retired from Lake Michigan Catholic where she served as a teacher and guidance counselor for many years. Deb also spent some time at the Berrien County Health Department in the role of Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator.

### Get the Latest Information

The beginning of every academic year is always a busy time. For up-to-date information, please view our website at [bridgmanschools.com](http://bridgmanschools.com). Once on the BHS page, please refer to the helpful links on the left side. The site features our daily announcements, a calendar for school and athletics events, student information, and our Twitter feed.

Please feel free to reach out to me at any time by calling (269) 465-6848 or email me at [gheath@bridgmanschools.com](mailto:gheath@bridgmanschools.com).





# BRIDGMAN FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FROM THE CHAIRMAN



**This Bridgman Foundation for Educational Excellence (BFEF) update is offered as we enter a new school year!**

Al Barker,  
BFEF Chairman

I hope your summertime memories carry you forward

with excitement for the upcoming months with friends and families.

The BFEF Trustees have prepared for the upcoming school year by approving the BFEF project budget that is ready to welcome grant requests from our School District faculty and administrative staff. As a Community, we take pride in our students of Bridgman Public Schools. Please take the time to encourage the Bridgman Public School faculty and administrative staff as they return to the front lines, with the task of making a difference for our children by providing an outstanding educational experience.

The question on the table for the Foundation; how do we collaborate with the School District to contribute to their work in delivering an educa-

tional experience? As a Foundation we joined the Michigan Education Foundation to improve our knowledge and skills. As background, the Michigan Education Foundation (MEF) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization built by and for people passionate about quality public K-12 education in Michigan. Its mission is to be a catalyst for the creation and growth of local education foundations in communities across our State.

### **Through enhancing our knowledge of other Foundations we have identified the need to have a grant writer.**

The Foundation is missing the opportunity to compete for available grant funds. We would welcome an individual to lead this effort on behalf of BFEF. If you have a passion for grant writing, we want you to be part of the Foundation! Please communicate your interest under the volunteer tab at: [www.bridgmanfoundation.org](http://www.bridgmanfoundation.org)

Beyond the grant writer need, the Foundation is always recruiting new Trustees and friends of the Foundation. Our Trustees commit to sharing their expertise through service with

monthly board meetings. If your time is limited but you would still like to contribute, we also welcome you as a friend of the Foundation to help during events or serve on a committee. As a friend, your service is guided by your desire and ability to help out. Whether your interest lies in being our grant writer, helping us to establish our alumni association, being a Trustee, or a friend of the Foundation, we welcome your help! It's an excellent way to serve the students of Bridgman Public Schools. Please communicate your interest under the volunteer tab at: [www.bridgmanfoundation.org](http://www.bridgmanfoundation.org)

**I close with a teaser. BFEF is buzzing with excitement! We are rolling out a fun contest for students in grades 6-12 this fall. Winners will receive Amazon gift cards, valued up to \$100! Parents and students please watch for more information coming in October.**



**BRIDGMAN FOUNDATION  
FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE**  
*"Opening Doors to the Future"*







## LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### **SUPERVISOR - JOHN GAST CONTINUED FROM COVER ...**

season and using a family recipe for sun pickles.

There have been a couple of roads worked on in the township by the road department. Also, an upgrade of a water main on Thornton Drive is coming to an end. That project will clear up an existing maintenance issue.

We have welcomed a new employee, Randy Mottl, who is the Grounds and Maintenance Supervisor. Randy will work and oversee the building and grounds maintenance of the Township.

There was some baseball and softball summer league activity at the Township Park utilizing our many playing fields. Also, Disc Golf continues to become more popular. Restaurants are reopening to full capacity and the patrons are sometimes met with waits for service and food. Most restaurants are working to get staff to full strengths to better provide service.

*Enjoy the rest of summer!  
Kind Regards,  
John Gast*

### **FROM THE DESK OF CLERK, GLORIA A. PAYNE**



Gloria Payne, Clerk

#### **Electronic Recycling Mark Your Calendars!**

A post card reminder will be sent to each Lake Township resident as the day grows near.

#### **ATTENTION LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS!**

We are having an Electronic Recycling Event, together with a Shredding Event on **Saturday, October 9, 2021 from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon.**

It will be held at 3240 Shawnee Road (old fire station/ambulance building), Bridgman, Michigan.

*Green Earth* is our vendor for electronic recycling. Anything with a cord will be accepted. A refrigerator will need to be tagged that it's freon has been removed. Bring your old cell phones, laptops, computers, monitors, stereo, telephones or gaming devices. Hard drives will be taken out of the computers and destroyed.

#### **Shredding**

*Shredit* is our vendor for shredding your old documents. The documents are pulverized. If you plan on more than 10 banker boxes you need to let us know.

#### **Large Trash**

October 9, 2021 and October 16, 2021 have been set for large trash. You must come to Lake Charter Township Hall offices, 3220 Shawnee Road, Bridgman, Michigan, and obtain a voucher for either, NOT BOTH of those days. The times are 8:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon.

Questions? Call Lake Charter Township Hall at (269) 465-6601.





## LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### FROM THE DESK OF BOB CLARK, TREASURER



Bob Clark, Treasurer

The 2021 summer tax bills have been sent out. Please contact our office if you have not received your bill. Summer taxes are due September 14th by 5:00 P.M. to avoid penalties. The payment must

be received at our office by then, so be sure to leave ample mailing time if paying by mail (postmarks are not accepted). We have had more taxpayers using our E check payment option, credit card payments, and utilizing the online system to obtain tax and assessment information. The online payment system has been upgraded and is easy to use. Please visit our website at [www.lake-township.org](http://www.lake-township.org) for more information about these payment options and information. Please contact our office if you have any questions about your bill, assessment, or other information.

#### Lake Township Park News

The park has had a very busy year so far. Baseball and softball both had regular seasons again. Soccer intends to also have a season this fall. The pavilions have been rented most weekends for graduations, reunions, and other gatherings. Renters have enjoyed the new sinks in the north and south pavilions. This year the school, library, churches and other community groups used the facilities more than prior years. It appears everyone is more interested in getting outside and enjoying the wonderful park. Contact our office if you'd like to rent one or visit our website for avail-

ability. We accept 2022 reservations beginning September 1. Disc golf has been busy and had a tournament in June with around 70 players both Saturday and Sunday! They came from all over the Midwest. In addition to the sink installations; the softball fencing project was completed this spring, repairs were made to the concrete in one of the dugouts, electric service in one of the concession areas was updated, and we continue to work on the pony field, which should be available for play next spring. Exercise equipment installation is also planned for later this year. We are excited to announce a non-motorized trail from the high school to the park is in the planning stages. This will give students and everyone in the Bridgman area safe access to the park! Our goal is to have this ready for use in 2022.

#### Chamber & Economic Development News

The CGA regrettably has had to cancel yet another *Makers Trail Festival* planned for this fall. This is due to a variety of reasons. We are hopeful we can return to having this festival at the normal time of June 11 next year. The CGA is working on a variety of other projects to help the local businesses through this difficult time. The Regional Chamber is happy to announce the Lakeshore Chamber has affiliated with them much like Bridgman did a few years back. The Regional Chamber remains active advocating for local business. Cornerstone continues to market the old Leco property and we are hopeful we will have news on development of that site sometime soon.

#### Trail News

Besides our local trail project to the park, Berrien County and the SW Michigan Planning Commission are busy with many other trail plans throughout the County. The *Friends of Berrien County Trails* has coordinated fund raising for a countywide trail master plan. This plan will coordinate a trail vision throughout the area. A portion of this trail plan will involve Lake Township with a trail along Red Arrow Highway. Covid has taught us how important our parks and recreation are to us. A trail system is important to good health, safety, quality of life and has significant economic impact to the area. The State of Michigan has allocated significant funding to parks, trails and recreation.

#### National Night Out

Lake Township held their first *National Night Out* in early August. It was well attended and enjoyed by all. The event included games for the kids, police, fire and medic demonstrations, water games, a jaws of life demonstration by the fire department, hot dogs and food, and a great time out at Lake Township Park. We intend to hold this each year so mark your calendars for the first Tuesday of August in 2022 and join the fun. Thanks to Supervisor Gast, Chief Martin and Chief Heyn for coordinating the event. Thanks also to all the police, fire and medic personnel who attended and others who volunteered to make it a great time for all. A special thanks to all our public service staff who have worked through this difficult time and all you do for us throughout the year!





# LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

## LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP WATER SYSTEM

### HELLO TO EVERYONE.

In my last article, I had mentioned the amount of fresh water on the earth (3%) and how much of that is available for use (1/3). As you can see, this is a tiny percentage and reminds us of how important it is to protect our resource of Lake Michigan. With that said, I would like to expand on what Lake Charter Township Water System's role is in this process. We will start with our water source, which is Lake Michigan. Michigan's regulating agency is EGLE (Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy). They request that each water system have a Source Water Protection Program or, in our case, a SWIPP, which stands for Surface Water Intake Protection Plan. We are currently working on an updated plan that Michigan Rural Water is conducting. This plan reviews the entire watershed that encompasses miles in every direction and its impact on the source. This considers the tributaries that eventually flow into Lake Michigan, contaminated sites, abandoned underground storage tanks, land use and its effects, and ways contaminants can enter the water source. It brings an awareness of the overall impact of what might affect water quality and what the water system may need to treat.

The other system to ensure drinking water quality is the regulatory

side, which requires regular monitoring of the source water and finished water quality. We conduct numerous sampling events daily to meet regulations and compliance, and both are analyzed either by a private lab and/or at the Lake Charter Township Plant lab. We have been enrolled in non-regulatory studies to determine source water impacts such as algal blooms and PFAS chemicals. We also have continuous monitoring equipment in the treatment process.

Another system in place is distribution system monitoring. We regularly conduct bacteriological sampling and chlorine residual testing as required by Michigan EGLE. We have a lead & copper sampling program that monitors qualified sites. This ensures another level of quality and compliance.

We are also required to conduct cross-connection inspections on all customers to determine that there are no situations or connections that can impact the safety and quality of the distribution system. We have performed inspections on commercial sites since the water treatment plant and system inception, and MI EGLE is now enforcing this to be conducted on residential sites. Residential cross-connection inspections will begin in 2022 and be conducted over a multi-year period until all sites are inspected. These will be conducted by



a company specializing in cross-connection inspections, and you will be notified before this takes place.

Cross-connection inspections are required under MI legislation. This is another level of protection to ensure that everyone connected to the water system does not impact someone else. I strongly encourage everyone to access our website at [lakechartertownshipwater.org](http://lakechartertownshipwater.org) and watch a video that we have posted showing how easy system contamination can happen if not adequately protected. There is also a link under the video with a presentation on why backflow preventers must be tested regularly. As you can see, there are multiple levels of monitoring and oversight to ensure that your drinking water is adequately protected. If you ever have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me, and hopefully, we will be able to resume tours of our facility soon.

**Jeff Burkhard**  
**Superintendent – Lake Township**  
**Water System**  
269-465-3850  
[jburkhardtwater@lake-township.org](mailto:jburkhardtwater@lake-township.org)





## LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

### **FIREFIIGHTERS WANTED!**

Have you ever thought about a way to supplement your income, help people in their greatest times of need, and build comradery with others? We've got the answer- join the Lake Township Fire Department! We are in need of some responsible people looking to make a difference in others lives. Contact Chief Heyn at 269-465-6351 for more information.



### **BUILDING/ZONING DEPARTMENT**

Although I have been employed by this community as the Zoning Administrator/Building Official for only a few months I have been extremely busy. The elected Township Officials believe the Township and surrounding areas have great possibilities for future growth, and that we need to be prepared for that growth. They have asked the Planning Commission and me to help them focus in on what might be the best future plan for this community. Below is just a small list of current important projects the Planning Commission and I are working on to meet the Township Official's requests.

#### **Updating our Master Plan.**

Without this tool, development and progress can be severely limited. The Master Plan is the guide that helps developers as well as the Planning Commission and Township Board make decisions based on solid community input.

#### **Updating our Ordinances.**

Improper or restrictive ordinances designed originally to control unwanted elements can also create unintended consequences that will not allow growth in the direction the community may benefit from. And even though they may have been effective in the past, if the ordinances are not reviewed and updated, they may not function properly in the future.

#### **The Property Maintenance Code.**

Property deterioration, through a complaint driven process, can be addressed and improved. Unlike a ridged ordinance the code allows flexibility when it comes to issues of blight, rubbish and abandoned or disabled automobiles. It can give the code official the ability to negotiate or if needed, take further action.

#### **Additional Programs.**

The Township and the City have been seeking continuity between them to keep progress and growth on a similar pattern. Right now, the Township, City, our surrounding municipalities, and Berrien County are working on the Red Arrow corridor. Hopefully future development in those areas will reflect what this community has interest in as a desired look and need.

I hope this glimpse into the current agenda of the Township programs assures you that this government is not idle. I am encouraging you to respond when your elected officials and planning commission ask for your help in defining your future. Come to the meetings, send a letter, send an email, be on a board or committee, just participate.

*Thank you,  
Rich Kubsch, Building Administrator*

*Our taxes and utility rates are some of the lowest in Southwestern Michigan.*





# CITY OF BRIDGMAN

CITY MANAGER - JUAN GANUM  
CONTINUED FROM COVER ...

of nearly 16 inches of rain per hour. Bridgman was effectively the epicenter of a fierce storm, leaving our community reeling for several days.

The storm knocked out power in most of Bridgman for two days, resulting in the widespread deployment of generators. A significant number of homes and other structures were flooded, particularly in lower levels, and one home was damaged beyond repair. At the time of this writing teams from the Berrien County Equalization Department and American Red Cross of Berrien County are canvassing the area to conduct damage assessments.

The Hidden Creek/Donna Drive/Vista Drive neighborhood was among the most heavily impacted by floodwaters. Roadways were entirely covered and many yards were completely submerged, as shown in this image taken on the morning of August 10th.

Though the majority of the floodwaters receded within a few days, the ruin and damage they left behind has impacted our residents in lasting ways, through the loss of personal belongings and cherished heirlooms. While the economic toll of a flood can be tremendous, perhaps the greater toll stems from the emotions of finding one's safety and comfort at home threatened so suddenly.

In response to the flood, the City requested activation of Berrien County's Emergency Operations Center. The EOC was instrumental in coordinating a response, opening cooling centers during the power outage and connecting City staff with resources such as the United Way of Southwest Michigan to organize recruitment of volunteers to assist with debris removal.

**In local government we hope to never be placed in a situation that demands an emergency response, but I am pleased to share that should the need arise, Bridgman's residents and businesses can be assured that a dedicated team of specialists stands at the ready.**



The Hidden Creek/Donna Drive/Vista Drive neighborhood was among the most heavily impacted by floodwaters.





# CITY OF BRIDGMAN



## **SPRING CLEAN-UP SCHEDULE CHANGE**

### **Spring Clean-Up Schedule has changed.**

August 30 has been added for Bag & Brush pick-up.

**Beginning August 30, the Bag and Brush pick-up will BOTH BE PICKED UP ON MONDAYS.**

Also note that pick-ups will be every two weeks for the duration of the fall clean-up schedule.

The 2021 Fall schedule is included in this Community Buzz.



## **ASSESSING DEPARTMENT**

### **Principal Residence Exemption -**

Summer tax bills were issued in early July. It is important to review your bill and look at the top right corner to verify that your Principal Residence Exemption (Homestead) percentage is correct. If you find that it is incorrect, please contact the assessing office so that we can correct the error and/or have you complete the required Principal Residence Exemption Application so that in future years it will be correct.

The Principal Residence Exemption reduces your property taxes by approximately 15% over those properties that do not qualify for this exemption. Please contact the assessing department if you have any questions on the requirements for this exemption or the application process.

The State Tax Commission requires assessors to annually inspect a percentage of properties in each class. This summer and fall you may see me in your neighborhood reviewing properties and updating photos of property improvements. I am look-

ing for changes to the property and verifying that my property information is updated and accurate. I will be wearing City of Bridgman identification tags while performing these property reviews. If I stop at your house I will knock on the front door and/or leave a tag so that you know I was there. These inspections are necessary to maintain current and accurate property data. This data, combined with sales studies, are used to develop fair and accurate assessed values.

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

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

**- John Baumann, Assessor**





**2021 FALL CLEAN-UP  
SCHEDULE**

**NOTE:  
BAGGED LEAF & BRUSH WILL BE  
PICKED UP ON THE SAME DAY**

**Bagged Leaves & Brush Pick-up** 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. Please limit to yard cleanup.

City workers will spend no more than 15 minutes at each property. If you have a large quantity of brush, arrangements can be made for you to haul the brush to the city composting site. Commercial tree removal/trimmings will not be picked up and should be disposed of by the tree service hired. Last day for the season will be November 22nd. Service will resume April 2022

**Leaf & brush burning within the city is prohibited**

**Curb-side Leaf Pickup** is indicated in **ORANGE** on the calendar. The leaf vacuum will begin on Mondays on the east side of the city and complete one pass per week through the city. Leaves must be raked to the roadside/curb. **To prevent leaves clogging the storm drains DO NOT rake leaves into roadways.**

**Christmas Tree Pick Up** – January 5 and 12, 2022 (weather permitting)

**Large Trash Pick Up – September 15 & 22.** Items not accepted include those larger than a refrigerator, tires, and construction material. Refrigerators and air conditioners must have the freon removed with a tag attached indicating as such. A complete list of accepted items is available on the city’s website and at City Hall.

Republic Services also will pick up your extra-large items for a fee. To schedule such a pickup, call Republic Services at (269) 465-3773.

**SEPTEMBER**

	30	31	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				

**BAGGED LEAF & BRUSH PICKUP**  
 **CURBSIDE LEAF PICKUP**  
 **LARGE TRASH PICKUP**





## CITY OF BRIDGMAN



### **BRIDGMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT**

9765 Maple Street, Bridgman, Michigan 49106

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

Daniel J. Unruh, Sr.

Chief of Police

Our police department is dispatched by the Berrien County Emergency Dispatch Center. Residents should call 269-983-7141 for police response to non-emergencies. 9-1-1 is to be called only in the event of an emergency.

Officers are normally patrolling the city but frequently check the phone messages at the police station if residents wish to leave non-emergency type messages or information at 269-465-3880.

**We always encourage our residents to call if you see or hear suspicious activity in your neighborhood. We need your eyes and ears!**

We also provide property checks of our resident's homes while out of town or on vacation. Feel free to contact our department so we can check your property while you're gone.

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

**ACCEPTED**

Prescription medications  
Over the counter meds

**NOT ACCEPTED**

Illegal drugs  
Needles/Syringes  
Lotions/Liquids  
Inhalers  
Aerosol cans  
Thermometers  
Hydrogen Peroxide

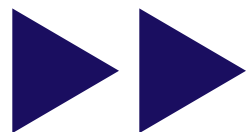
Please remember there is no parking allowed on city streets from 2 A.M. - 6 A.M. from November 1 until April 1. Signs are posted at each entrance to the city limits advising motorists of this ordinance. Residents can contact the police department and request a parking pass if overnight guests are expected. Weather conditions may be considered by the officers and dictate the issuance of parking passes.

We would like to thank the Lincoln Township Police Department for donating their speed measurement trailer they no longer needed. The trailer will be equipped with one of our two newly purchased radar units so we can move it to different areas of the city for vehicular speed control and enforcement.

*Chief Dan Unruh  
Bridgman Police Department*

**Visit  
BRIDGMAN.ORG**

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







# CITY OF BRIDGMAN

## REMEMBER TO RAKE 'EM RIGHT

As the nights become cooler we are reminded that leaves will be falling before we know it. The fall cleanup schedule is in this issue of the Community Buzz, and is available at City Hall and on the city's website -[www.bridgman.org](http://www.bridgman.org).

**Here are some important reminders and requirements about the program.**

Rake leaves curbside to the grassy area between the street and the sidewalk or to the curb. Never put leaf piles in the street. Leaves placed in the street will wash down storm drains where they can cause algae, clogging and water quality impacts. Leaves will also clog drain inlets and cause flooding.

Collections occur on Monday of each pickup week between 7 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. Have leaves at the curb by 7 A.M. the Monday of pickup. Collection will start on the east side of the city and work westerly. Crews will make one pass through the entire city.

Curbside collection will be weather dependent. If there is a significant snow fall, leaf collection will be delayed and/or suspended.

**The final brush chipping and curbside leaf bag collection will be November 22. Collection will resume in April 2022.**



Leaf piles do not kill grass, although they may cause it to temporarily discolor. To prevent grass from discoloring rake your leaves just prior to the scheduled pickup date.

After the loose leaf collection period ends, leaves are to be placed in biodegradable paper yard waste bags. The bags should weigh no more than 50 pounds each when filled and will be collected as part of the normal curbside-composting program in the spring. Residents may drop off leaf bags in the designated area behind the Street Department Garage located at 9825 Maple Street (blue building south of city hall) at any time of year. Residents are reminded that leaf piles mixed with grass trimmings, branches, brush or other non-leaf content will not be collected.

## SUMMER TAXES DUE SOON

2021 Summer taxes are due September 14, 2021. Beginning September 15, 2021 there will be penalty added to the total. Please call the city treasurer's office to obtain the correct payoff amount. If you have not received your taxes, please contact the office for a duplicate copy. Remember, the law does not forgive you for not having the bill. It is the taxpayer's responsibility to contact the office if you have failed to receive a bill.

Always double check your payment amount written on your check. Check to make sure that the amount being paid is the amount written on the check. We often receive checks with the figure transposed, amounts that do not match the written amount on the line. So please take a few extra moments to look over your check before mailing or bringing in your payment.

We have several ways to make your payment:

- By mail** – post marks not accepted
- Drop box** - inside and drive-up
- In person** – Monday-Thursday 8 A.M. to 4 P.M. or Friday 8 A.M. to 3 P.M.
- Online** at [www.bridgman.org](http://www.bridgman.org)

Winter taxes will be mailed out on December 1, 2021. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Treasurer Debbie Lambrix at 269.465.5144 or by email at [dlambrix@bridgman.org](mailto:dlambrix@bridgman.org).





# CITY OF BRIDGMAN



## CITY OF BRIDGMAN PARKS & RECREATION

*From the Director of Parks and Recreation, Sara Ball*

In recent months the Parks and Recreation Department has worked on enhancing several grants applications that were submitted to the state earlier this year. The City of Bridgman was awarded a Michigan Coastal Management Grant in the amount of \$75,000, which will be paired with a local match amount of \$75,000 from the City's parks fund. Parks funds are derived from daily passes to Weko Beach and campground fees. The total estimated cost of \$150,000 will allow for the completion of the Weko Beach Dune Restoration and Stabilization Project this autumn.

The project consists of restoration of critical dune habitat and protection of public infrastructure through the planting of native dune grass, installation of snow fencing, improvement of a public trail system and the installation of sheet pile to replace sections of the failing retaining wall along the western and northern base of the south dune. The new retaining wall will protect the public boardwalk.

During construction this September and October please be advised that the boardwalk will be closed to public access. If you take your four-legged furry friend for a walk, please remember to keep them leashed and follow the marked alternate path to access the dog beach at Warren Dunes State Park. You may learn more about the project and follow its progress on the City's website.

**Downed utility lines, power company blackouts, heavy snow falls or summer storms can all lead to power outages. Many people turn to a portable generator for a temporary solution without knowing the risks.**

- » Generators should be used in well ventilated locations outside away from all doors, windows and vent openings.
- » Never use a generator in an attached garage, even with the door open.
- » Place generators so that exhaust fumes can't enter the home through windows, doors or other openings in the building.
- » Make sure to install carbon monoxide (CO) alarms in your home. Follow manufacturer's instructions for correct placement and mounting height.
- » Turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. Never refuel a generator while it is hot.

### Just Remember...

When plugging in appliances, make sure they are plugged directly into the generator or a heavy duty outdoor-rated extension cord. The cords should be checked for cuts, tears and that the plug has all three prongs, especially a grounding pin.

If you must connect the generator to the house wiring to power appliances, have a qualified electrician install a properly rated transfer switch in accordance with the National Electrical Code® (NEC) and all applicable state and local electrical codes.

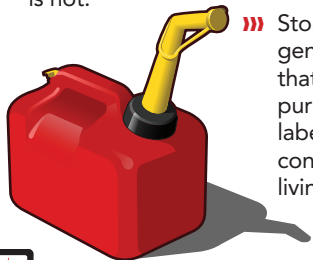
### FACT

- ! CO deaths associated with generators have spiked in recent years as generator sales have risen.

**Bridgman Fire Department**

(269) 465-3803

- » Store fuel for the generator in a container that is intended for the purpose and is correctly labeled as such. Store the containers outside of living areas.



Your Source for SAFETY Information

NFPA Public Education Division • 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169

[www.nfpa.org/education](http://www.nfpa.org/education)



# WHY ARE BUILDING PERMITS IMPORTANT?

The Building Department's mission is to provide exceptional, professional, and responsive construction services for residents, contractors, and developers in the City of Bridgman. These services protect and enhance the investment, safety, welfare, and resiliency of our community. Here are a few reasons why building permits are an important part of your projects:

1 Your permit allows city code officials to identify and address substandard work. These efforts result in enhanced health, safety, and welfare for building occupants and our community. By following code guidelines, your completed project will meet national safety standards.

2 Property insurers might deny claims for damages caused by work done without permits and inspections. The plan review process also helps reduce costly change orders by identifying design issues before work begins.

3 Your property is likely one of your biggest investments. Failure to obtain permits and inspections could jeopardize the value of your investment.

4 When property is sold, owners are required to disclose what improvements or repairs have been made. Unpermitted work is a liability and many financial institutions will not provide financing if work has not been permitted and inspected. Property insurers may also deny coverage.

5 City ordinance article 1.05(B) requires permits for work. Failure to get permits can result in a municipal civil infraction and work begun without a permit will result in increased permit fees later. In some instances, work completed without a permit may have to be removed to be inspected.

6 The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that Americans spend 90% of their time indoors, so ensuring safe buildings is a worthwhile goal. Effective building codes and the construction of more resilient buildings have proven to provide better outcomes when rigorously enforced by communities. Communities with better building code enforcement have shown to fare better during a natural disaster or catastrophe, cutting down on insured losses while providing better protection to properties, residents, and businesses. Building codes include modern building techniques that make buildings safer, thereby helping better protect where we work and live.



Make sure that you or your contractor has applied for and been issued a permit prior to any work starting. Your property is your investment . . . protect it.

Contact Brad Mattner at the City of Bridgman Building Department to learn more:

(269)465-5144 ext. 107 or visit us at [www.bridgman.org](http://www.bridgman.org)



# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

## LIBRARY BOARD

Ed Valauskas	President
Liz Bogue	Vice President
John Wilk	Secretary
Jim Kole	Treasurer
Susan Collins	Trustee
Dorothea Crocker	Trustee
Randy Hill	Trustee
Sue Janoskey	Trustee
Aaron Noll	Trustee
Dennis Kreps	Director



[Michiganactivitypass.info](http://Michiganactivitypass.info)



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

to welcome back families, begin offering in person gatherings and programs, and re-focus on our interior spaces, including the comfortable furniture!

While we find ourselves in a place of uncertainty about the future, this time we are starting from a more knowledgeable, informed place; we know we are adaptable, creative, and responsive.

As you will see from our calendar of events and activities, this quarter we will continue to offer a hybrid of in-person, virtual, and *take and make* style programs and activities. Please join us in whatever format you can!

**We also want to remind everyone about some things:**

**We have resumed our pre-pandemic public service hours:**

Monday-Thursday 10A.M.-8P.M.;  
Friday 10A.M.-5P.M.; Saturday  
10A.M.-4P.M.

**Our Library of Things collection is back in Circulation!**

Visit us and check out a sewing

machine, metal detector, ukulele, or record turntable.

**WiFi hotspots are available for circulation, and laptops are available for use anywhere on the library grounds.**

**The Community Room is available for library-sponsored meetings and programs.**

A network connected smart TV has been installed.

**Thanks to the generosity and dedication of the Heckathorn family, we again have golf balls available for sale!**

To ensure that we stay connected, sign up for our email list and look for our electronic communications, continue to consult our website and engage with us on our social media sites.

We continue to be inspired by the community's resilience, courage, and support. We are excited to see you in and around the library this fall and winter.

*Dennis Kreps, Director*

## HOURS

Monday-Thursday 10A.M.-8P.M.;  
Friday 10A.M.-5P.M.;  
Saturday 10A.M.-4P.M.



## BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Please find Zoom links and additional program information at [www.bridgmanlibrary.com](http://www.bridgmanlibrary.com)

### ADULT PROGRAMS

~ ONGOING PROGRAMS ~

#### KNIT N YARN

**Mondays 1:00 - 3:00 P.M. and 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 6:00 P.M. // Library Community Room**  
Reunited and it feels so good! The group has been meeting once a month at Toth Park during the summer. Everyone has been making items to donate to charities, which will be distributed around the holidays. Thank you to those who have donated yarn to the group, it helps a lot. Since August, we have returned to meeting regularly in the library community room. Updates will be on the library website and Facebook page.

#### ZOOM YOGA

**Thursdays, 5:30 P.M.**

~ Zoom Program

Join a virtual yoga class led by certified Yin Yoga instructor, Cheryl Meadors. Suitable for beginning to intermediate students.

#### SECOND WEDNESDAY BOOK GROUP

**5:00 P.M.**

~ In-Person and via Zoom

Join our monthly reading group led by Rick Fuller. You may participate in-person at the library or online via Zoom. Stop by to check out a copy of this month's selection.

**September 8**

*The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek*, by Kim Michele Richardson

**October 13**

*The Sun Does Shine*, by Anthony Ray Hinton

**November 10**

*Never Cry Wolf*, by Farley Mowat

**December 8**

*A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens

~ SPECIAL SCHEDULED EVENTS ~

#### IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK

Presented by: Bob Myers

**September 21, 6:00 P.M.**

~ Zoom Program

Every house or building has a great story to tell. In this presentation, you will learn how to uncover house histories, including who built them and when, their architectural styles, and the stories of the families who called them home. Bob Myers of The Historical Society of Michigan will share what you need to know.

#### ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTY MINUTES: THE RACE TO SAVE THE TITANIC

Presented by: William Hazelgrove

**October 12, 6:00 P.M.**

~ Zoom Program

One hundred and sixty minutes - that is all the time rescuers would have before the largest ship in the world slipped beneath the icy Atlantic.

We see the Titanic as a great tragedy, however, a third of the

passengers aboard survived. The only reason every man, woman, and child did not succumb to the cold depths is due to Jack Phillips and Harold McBride in an insulated telegraph room known as the Silent Room.

Listen to National Bestselling author William Hazelgrove describe how these two young Marconi operators tapped out CQD and SOS distress codes that would inaugurate the most extensive rescue operation in maritime history using the cutting-edge technology of the time - wireless.

#### CREATE A TINSEL GARLAND WREATH

**November 9, 6:00 P.M.**

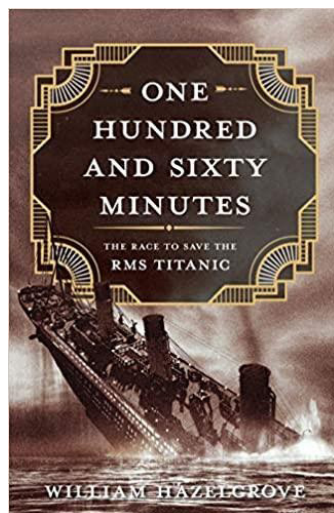
**Library Community Room**

Create a festive holiday wreath with the Library's Craft Duo. This is a FREE program for adults. Participation is limited. Sign up by contacting the library.

#### ADULT WINTER READING "THINK SPRING"

**December 20 - February 5**

Complete the challenge by reading five books (printed and/or audio) checked out from the library and earn your flower seed packet. Your name will also be entered in a drawing for a gift certificate to the Emma Hearsh & Market in downtown Bridgman.



# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

## YOUTH PROGRAMS

### EARLY LITERACY CLASSES WITH MISS TAMI

**Resumes September 14**

*Toddler and Me* (ages 3 – 5)

**Tuesdays, 9:30 A.M. and 11:30 A.M.**

*Story Hour* (ages 3 – 5)

**Tuesdays, 10:30 A.M.**

We will meet outside in the courtyard if it's dry and move indoors in inclement weather.

### PAWSITIVE READING

**Second Tuesday of the month**

**Sep 14, Oct 12, Nov 9, Dec 14**



Elementary school children can read to Zuzu, the licensed therapy dog. Parents may sign up for their child for a 15-minute time slot in between 3:30 P.M. – 4:30 P.M. by calling the library.

### MARSHMALLOW MAKERSPACE

**September 14, 4:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.**

Toth Park Pavilion

In this STEAM activity, build bridges, towers and more with marshmallows! Grades K – 4. Registration required.

### HALLOWEEN HIJINKS

**October 20 and 21, Noon–7:00 P.M.**

Drop-in at the library. Play games and solve puzzles for candy and prizes. Costumes optional. Up to age 10.

### NEON HAND PUPPET WORKSHOP

**November 6, 10:30 A.M.**

Meet Master Puppeteer, Jean Kuecher! Create hand puppets with colorful neon materials and perform an original puppet show in a black light stage. Ages 4 – 10. Sign up on the library website.

### PAPER LANTERN CRAFT

**December 1, 4:00 P.M. – 5:30 P.M.**

Drop-in at the library. Brighten up the darkest time of the year. Decorate your lantern shell with tissue paper and more! Ages 3 – 10.

### WINTER READING CHALLENGE

**December 20 – February 5**

Complete five challenges and win a book! Ages 2 – Grade 12.

## TEEN PROGRAMS

### TEEN OPEN HOUSE

**September 9, 3:30 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.**

Welcome back to the library! Stop in for fun and refreshments. Door prizes, too! Grades 5 – 12.

### TEEN ADVISORY BOARD (TAB) MEETING

**September 17, 4:00 P.M.**

Go ahead, boss us around! Are you in grades 6 – 12? Do you want to make a difference in the library and the community? Bring your best ideas! We'll meet at the library. Remote meeting options will be available as well. Sign up on the library website.

October, November and December events will be planned based on TAB suggestions.

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: HALLOWEEN HIJINKS

**October 20 & 21**

**After School – 7:30 P.M.**

Would you like to help younger children play Halloween games? Sign up on the library website. Ages 13 - 18.

### WINTER READING CHALLENGE

**December 20 – February 5**

Complete five challenges and win a book! Ages 2 – Grade 12.

## LIBRARY HOURS

**REGULAR HOURS HAVE RESUMED!**

Monday - Thursday: 10-8

Friday: 10-5

Saturday: 10-4

Sunday: Closed



# BRIDGMAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

## FANDOM FEST - "STEAMPUNK FANFARE"

**October 16, 11:00 A.M. – 7:00 P.M.**

*Grand Upton Hall, Mendel Center at Lake Michigan College  
Free Admission*

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

Activities range from guest speakers and panels, video and tabletop games, cosplay contests, and mini-hobby activities.

Check out [www.fanfestswmi.com](http://www.fanfestswmi.com) for more info.



## BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY-WIDE GARAGE SALE September 10 & 11

**The Annual Community-Wide Garage Sale, sponsored by The Friends of the Bridgman Public Library, will take place on September 10 and 11, 2021.**

Permits are on sale now at the library. Permits for residential sales are \$10 and permits for library parking lot sales are \$10 for Friday and \$15 for Friday and Saturday. Parking lot permits include one 6' table and two chairs and require that items be removed at the end of each day.

Garage Sale maps will be distributed in the library parking lot from 8:00 A.M. -10:00 A.M. on Friday and will be available inside the library for the duration of the sale. In order to be included on the map, permits must be purchased by 12:00 P.M. on Friday, September 3.

## LIBRARY COMMUNITY GARDEN

**The 2021 season officially closes November 1.**

Please remember to weed and clean your plot(s) before it closes. Thank you all for making the garden a continued success. We look forward to seeing you in the spring!

## LIBRARY CLOSINGS

**September 4 & 6 (Saturday & Monday)**

*Labor Day Weekend*

**November 24 (close at 2pm) & November 25**

*Thanksgiving Eve & Thanksgiving Day*


**December 24 & 25**

*Christmas Eve & Christmas Day*

**December 31 (close at 2pm)**

*New Year's Eve*





**FREE 24/7  
At Bridgman Public Library**  
Expanded Wi-Fi Coverage is available throughout the library grounds. Sign-on to: BPL Public Wi-Fi. No password needed.

9964 GAST ROAD, BRIDGMAN, MI 49106

bridgmanschools.com

Office: 269-465-5432

Fax: 269-466-0221

# BRIDGMAN COMMUNITY BUZZ



WEKO BEACH, PHOTO BY BOB CLARK

**ONE COMMUNITY WORKING TOGETHER TO SERVE YOU BETTER.**

## **Bridgman Public Schools**

Central Administration

9964 Gast Road

Bridgman, MI 49106

bridgmanschools.com

Office: 269-465-5432

Fax: 269-466-0221

## **Bridgman High School**

9964 Gast Road

Bridgman, MI 49106

Office: 269-465-6848

Fax: 269-466-0355

## **F.C. Reed Middle School**

10254 California Road

Bridgman, MI 49106

Office: 269-465-5410

Fax: 269-466-0393

## **Bridgman Elementary**

3891 Lake Street

Bridgman, MI 49106

Office: 269-466-0241

Fax: 269-466-0248

## **Bridgman Public Library**

4460 Lake Street

Bridgman, MI 49106

bridgmanlibrary.com

269-465-3663

bpl@bridgmanlibrary.com

## **City of Bridgman**

9765 Maple Street

Bridgman, MI 49106

bridgman.org

269-465-5144

## **Lake Charter Township**

3220 Shawnee, P.O. Box 818

Bridgman, MI 49106

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269-465-6601