



BRIDGEVIEWS



VILLAGE OF BRIDGEVIEW

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SERVICE HOURS

Mon: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tue: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Wed: 8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Thu: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Fri: 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sat: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Sun: CLOSED

Open 56 hours a week
to serve you better!

7500 South Oketo Ave.
Bridgeview, IL 60455
Village Services: (708) 594-2525
Emergency: 911

Bridgeview Infrastructure Investments Continue!

Over the past few years, Bridgeview has invested millions of dollars into improving the infrastructure of the Village. These investments have included resurfacing, repainting, and updating water tanks, repaving roads, replacing curbs, and replacing sewer lines. The latest step designed to continually improve Bridgeview is a sidewalk-leveling program approved by the Village Board of Trustees in 2023.

Trustee Gary Lewis, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, reports that Bridgeview is trying a new solution for uneven sidewalks. Previously, the only solution was replacement, but with rising costs for material and labor, new ideas need to be utilized to more efficiently produce results from our tax dollars.

It all starts with finding the right sidewalk squares—ones that can be releveled. Then comes marking them, drilling holes, and, finally, injecting mortar into those holes in order to raise the lower end of the square. When done correctly the process will produce a perfectly level



(Left) Public Works employee John Kramarsky reviews the sidewalk-leveling process with (Right) Trustee Gary Lewis.

sidewalk! It may not sound like much, but the results Bridgeview has seen are truly remarkable. Sections of sidewalks that would have been torn out and re-poured have been saved by the new method. The cost to level is a fraction of the tear out and re-pour solution and is defi-

nately a win for our community. Recently, 80th Place from the tracks extending West to Roberts road was completed, and the reviews were all positive.

As Trustee Lewis points out, “this method can’t fix all sidewalk problems. The squares need to be unlevel

but unbroken, and they must become level with adjacent squares when completed.” Despite this, the results have been great and affordable. “Another street or two will be done before the cold weather sets in, and then we will determine the plan for 2024,” concluded Trustee Lewis.

Hydrant Flushing in Bridgeview

Our Water Plant Operator, William Green, reports that the 2023 hydrant project is complete. The project entailed flushing fire hydrants north of 79th Street between October 25th and

November 15th to ensure that the hydrants were properly operable. This routine maintenance involves removing sediments from the water lines so that hydrants maintain the prop-

er water flow and pressure required for emergency situations. Hydrant flushings will continue in other areas of Bridgeview in 2024. The Village of Bridgeview stays true to its com-


mitment to fully serving residents by ensuring that keeping Bridgeview’s water system safe and reaffirming Bridgeview’s emergency preparedness are always top priorities.



Water flows from Bridgeview fire hydrant.

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Village of Bridgeview
7500 South Oketo Avenue
Bridgeview, IL 60455
Email: info@villageofbridgeview.com
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Bridgeview police officers exit a S.W.A.T. vehicle owned by the 5th S.W.A.T. district and approach the house.

POLICE & FIRE SEIZE OPPORTUNITY!

What could have been considered a routine demolition for an abandoned property in Bridgeview turned into an invaluable opportunity for the Bridgeview Police and Fire Departments. On Friday, November 10th the Bridgeview Police Department and Bridgeview Fire Department held a joint training operation at a Bridgeview home scheduled to be demolished near 74th Street and Harlem Avenue. The operation was a direct result of Mayor Landek approaching Bridgeview Police Chief Mancha and Fire Chief Grzadziel with an opportunity to utilize the building for training before its scheduled demolition date. Recognizing the importance of training in real world settings, both Chief Mancha and Chief Grzadziel immediately accepted the opportunity and began planning with their training staff.

The culmination of their planning would result in the joint training operation on Friday, November 10th when a team of Bridgeview Police officers and Firefighters would be executing a search warrant on a property where the team could expect to encounter drugs, a cache of weapons, and multiple suspects. In executing the search warrant, the complex challenges the team faced were immediately realized as they began searching the cluttered, barricade-ridden home and confronted non-armed and armed suspects. The simulation would further spiral into a hostage situation, leaving the team to tackle a whole new set of difficult decisions.



From left to right, Clerk John Altar and Trustee Patricia Higginson review the joint training goals with Fire Lieutenant Jason Yerkovich and Police Sergeant Daniel Matuszak.

While the simulation provided valuable training on decision-making and teamwork for the officers on site, the main focus of the training was communication. Clear communication between the unified command as well as the teams on site is critical for putting into play the roles and responsibilities each individual Police Officer and Firefighter has during hostile incidents. "This training has better prepared us to function together to accomplish the same end result, saving lives. Identifying our strengths and weaknesses in these types of scenarios works to improve our focus in future collaborative training and streamline our evolving operational guidelines," explained Fire Chief Grzadziel.

While the Bridgeview Police and Fire Department regularly hold training sessions within their department, inter-departmental training is a challenge. Sites that can host and accommodate scenarios where police and fire departments can be involved are difficult to come by.

"We are always working to improve our public safety model, and any training opportunity that can bring the Fire Department and Police Department together to operate as a single unit is invaluable to Bridgeview as a whole," offered police Chief Mancha.

Mayor Steven Landek, Clerk John Altar, and Trustees Patricia Higginson and Kalid Baste observed the training in order to better understand the on-site needs to support future joint training efforts between the Fire and Police Departments. "Bridgeview has been fortunate to not have been subjected to the level of violence seen in this scenario, but it is important our Police Officers and Firefighters are ready to handle it," said Trustee Higginson. After going through the operation, the departments debriefed and discussed how to improve their responses. The hours-long training left the Police and Fire Departments better prepared to serve the residents of Bridgeview.

Make a Donation This Holiday Season!

Bridgeview's Village Hall is serving as a drop-off location for coats as well as food and toys this holiday season. With wintery weather knocking on our doors, it's more important than ever to get clothing made for the elements into the hands of those in need.

The local Freemasons are running a coat drive to help address this issue, and anyone interested in donating a coat should drop one off at Village Hall. Similarly, families are in need of non-perish-

able foods along with toys for children during the upcoming holidays. The Bridgeview Chamber of Commerce is running a food and toy drive to help feed local families and provide their children with a little extra joy during what should be a wonderful time of year.

Please bring unopened, non-perishable food items and new toys for donation to Village Hall. Let's work together to care for our community members this winter!



Trustee Claudette Struzik places a new toy in the Toy Drive bin near the front desk at Village Hall.



Clerk John Altar provides a coat for the Coat Drive bin at the entrance to Village Hall.

Keep Streets Open During Snowfall!

It won't be long before we get hit with more snow, but when we do you can count on your Public Works Department to be ready for the call. Village trucks, plows, salt spreaders, snow blowers, and shovels are ready to go.

In order for the Village to efficiently clean the roads, please don't park on the village streets when the forecast for snow exceeds 1 inch of snow. That simple rule means NO Parking a car or truck on the street when snow is on the way. Don't fall asleep until you place all of your cars in your driveway. Cars on the street means the big



Bridgeview Public Works plows the streets after snowfall.

plows can't plow snow and drop salt as planned. There are many miles of streets to plow, and every delay means your neighbors on other streets have to wait a little longer.

Help Public Works

keep our roads snow free and move your cars off the road for the big plows. A snow free road is a safer road for you and for our Village police, fire, and emergency crews.

Yard Waste Pickup Done for Season

The last 2023 yard waste pickup date for the Village of Bridgeview is Monday, November 27th. Leaves and other acceptable yard waste must be placed in the blue toter labeled "yard waste" and/or brown paper bags. No plastic bags filled with yard waste will be accepted. The village chip-



per service operates year round and will continue

chipping branches placed out on the curb throughout the winter when weather permits. If you have any questions please call the Village of Bridgeview Customer Service Office at (708) 594-2525 extension 3. Yard waste pickup will start again on Monday, April 1st, 2024.



From left to right, Bridgeview Commander David Case, Officer Mondragon, and Trustees Patricia Higginson and Michael Pticek at the Village Hall board meeting.

Bridgeview Adds Part-Time Police Officer to its Ranks

On Wednesday November 15th the Village of Bridgeview Board of Trustees approved the hiring of part-time police officer Janet Mondragon. Mondragon previously worked as a police officer for

the City of Chicago and currently works as an officer for the village of Robbins. She brings over a decade of experience and looks forward to serving Bridgeview to the best of her ability.



Paramedics practice delivering a baby with the guidance of an instructor.

Bridgeview Hosts Training for EMT's and Paramedics!

On Wednesday, November 15th Christ Hospital set up hands-on skill stations in Bridgeview's Village Hall to train paramedics and EMT's of surrounding municipalities under the Christ Hospital EMS system. The yearly training serves teams from municipalities including but not limited to Bridgeview, Bedford Park, Burbank, Chicago Ridge, Oak Lawn, and Summit. It included a station for trauma airway management, CPR, stroke treatment, administration verification, and delivering babies. Lessons and experiences like these enable first responders

to sharpen their skills and stay on top of advancements in medical care and emergency services.

Per Illinois State Law, every Paramedic is required to complete 100 hours of continuing education every 4 years. EMT's are required to complete 60-80 hours of continuing education, depending on their certification level, every 4 years. The Village of Bridgeview is proud to host these trainings for emergency service teams in the area and looks forward to supporting these teams again in the future.

Residents Get Help with Property Taxes

Bridgeview partnered with Township of Lyons Assessor's Office

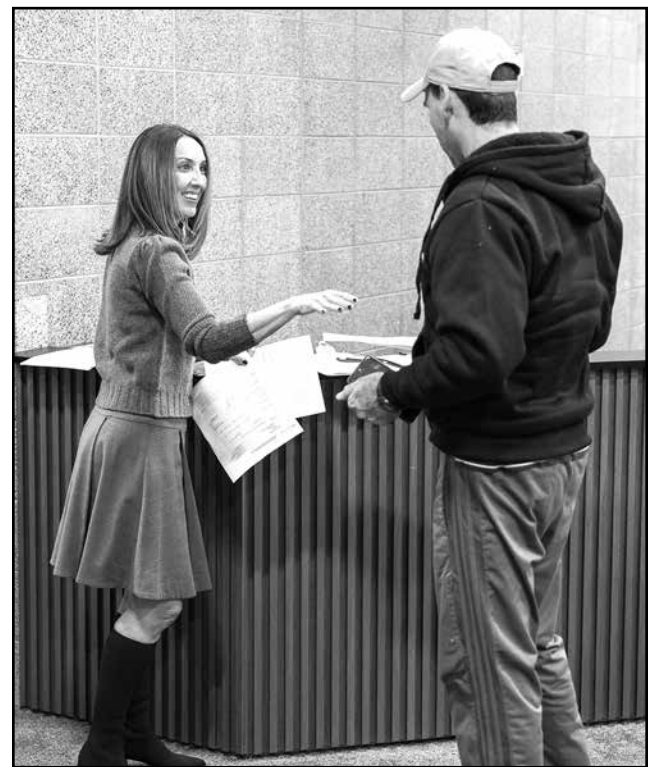
The rising cost of property taxes is directly linked to the value of your home as determined by the Cook County Assessor's Office. To help ensure that Bridgeview residents are able to receive fair assessments, the Village of Bridgeview partnered with the Township of Lyons Assessor, Patrick Hynes, Assessor's Office staff members, and the Township of Lyons Clerk, Elyse Hoffenberg, to provide taxpayer services and information about the Cook County Assessor's 2023 Home Value Reassessment on Tuesday, November 7th at the Bridgeview Village Hall.

Assessor Hynes explained that the Cook County Assessor's Office reassesses the property values of homes in the county every three years, and that the Township of Lyons Assessor's Office can submit appeals to Cook County on behalf of residents who believe their property was improperly evaluated.

Residents that attended the event filled out paperwork to submit their appeals, and Assessor Hynes assured everyone that he would work diligently to provide property tax relief for all concerned residents. "My office returned 2.5 million dol-



Assessor Hynes assists residents with specific questions regarding their property tax appeal.



Township of Lyons Clerk Elyse Hoffenberg collects residents' documents for their property tax appeals.

lars to taxpayers last year, and we expect to return about 3 million dollars this year."

The Assessor went on to say that the Township of Lyons Assessor's Office advocates for taxpayers and is happy to assist any resident of

the Township of Lyons that wishes to file an appeal in the hopes of reducing next year's property tax bill. Office staff members proceeded to answer specific property tax questions from attendees throughout the night.



Township of Lyons Assessor Patrick Hynes informs full crowd of Bridgeview residents of the Assessor's Office's tax services.

Over 5,000 served in 30 Days at SeatGeek Stadium "Senior Only" DMV!

The Village of Bridgeview has been providing the Illinois Secretary of State's Office with a venue serving as a temporary "Senior Only" driver's license services walk-in center since the beginning of October, 2023. Seniors utilizing this "Senior Only" walk-in center operating in a portion of SeatGeek Stadium do not need appointments, and the facility provides standard DMV services, such as renewing Driver's Li-

censes, conducting driving tests, and providing Real IDs.

The walk-in center at the Stadium serves about 250 Illinoisans a day and about 5,000 a month, meaning that about 15,000 Chicagoland community members will have been served by the time that the walk-in center at the Stadium moves out on December 29th.

Bridgeview Mayor Steven Landek shared his thoughts on the successful

program. "I'm grateful that the Village of Bridgeview has been able to serve the residents of so many Chicagoland communities over the past few months. The goal was to make life easier for seniors in need of driver's license services, and it's been great to see the huge success of the program at Bridgeview's Stadium."

The "Senior Only" walk-in center will be leaving SeatGeek Stadium on December 29th as the Secretary of State's

Office explores a permanent space for the facility. The DMV services will be moving due to the Stadium's core tenants, the Chicago Red Stars, the Chicago Hounds, and the Chicago Fire, ramping up their pre-season activity. The Village of Bridgeview Trustees and Mayor Landek appreciate the opportunity to better serve Bridgeview residents and the residents of surrounding municipalities.



Illinois Secretary of State's Office employees hard at work serving seniors at SeatGeek Stadium.

Bridgeview Hosts Lacrosse Midwest Elite Top 80

US Lax Events once again held its Midwest Elite Top 80 Showcase and its Midwest Elite Top 80 Invitational at the Bridgeview Sports Fields and the Bridgeview Sports Dome on Saturday, November 11th and Sunday, November 12th respectively.

The Showcase gives high school lacrosse players a chance to train with

over 40 Midwestern college coaches during 1.5 hours of training drills leading up to three guaranteed 45 minute games and the chance to be selected for a fourth all-star game. The coaches come from lacrosse programs ranging from D1 to D3 to NAIA and MCLA, giving players a chance to learn about a variety of schools and competitive

lacrosse levels.

The Showcase is followed up the next day by the Invitational, the Fall lacrosse recruiting staple of the Midwest that features 20 competing teams. The four turf fields outside SeatGeek Stadium are right next to each other, creating an intimate recruiting environment for attending college coaches scouting for

top talent.

SeatGeek Stadium, the Bridgeview Sports Fields, and the Bridgeview Sports Dome together have produced a regional and national location for a variety of competitive sporting events, highlighting a bright future for Bridgeview's investment in sports and entertainment as a sustainable source of revenue.



LAX Events returns to host tournament play in the Bridgeview Sports Dome.



Competitor runs off with the ball after a face-off.

BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER

COME JOIN US FOR OUR GINGERBREAD
THEMED EVENT IN THE SPIRIT OF THE
HOLIDAYS!



Run Run as fast as you can to register
for this event!

This gingerbread themed event is sure
to sugarcoat your afternoon.

ALL AGES!

DECEMBER 10TH 3:00P.M.
BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT
8100 S. BELOIT AVE BRIDGEVIEW IL 60455

\$12 PER PERSON
2 AND UNDER FREE

Register online or in person!

BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT
8100 S. BELOIT AVE

708-594-1818 | @BVPARK Find us on 
www.bridgeviewparkdistrict.com

REGISTER HERE/ SCAN
CODE FOR EASY
REGISTRATION





BRIDGEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY

ADDRESS: 7840 WEST 79TH STREET BRIDGEVIEW, IL 60455
PHONE: (708) 458-2880
WEBSITE: BRIDGEVIEWLIBRARY.ORG

LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ALICE VILIMEK - BETTY MARTINEZ - MARWAN ALSAFADI
NICK LAMNATOS - RANDY CARBEN - ALICE PORFIRIO
ANNA ZIAJA-CASTILLO

LIBRARY HOURS: Mon. 10 a.m.—6 p.m. • Tues. 12 p.m.—8 p.m.
Wed. 10 a.m.—6 p.m. • Thurs. 12 p.m.—8 p.m.
Fri. 10 a.m.—6 p.m. • Sat. 10 a.m.—6 p.m. • Closed Sunday



Friday, December 29th at 11am—Noon Years Eve Party: Come and celebrate the New Year together at the Library! This program is perfect for those of us who might not be awake for the beginning of 2024. We'll dance to some music, create a simple noise maker craft, and celebrate the "NOON" year at 12pm with a Balloon drop! **AGES 2 to 5 years only—MAX 15**

WHERE WE COME FROM Winter Reading Challenge

**Pre-Registration on BEANSTACK begins
Monday, December 26th**



AGES Kindergarten to 8th grade

Get a BINGO—WIN a prize!

BEANSTACK RAFFLE

When playing Beanstack Bingo, you can earn raffle tickets to enter into the raffle of your choice.

Raffle winners will be drawn Monday, January 29th.

Challenge runs January 1st to January 27th, 2024

IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

Saturday, December 2nd at 1pm, 2pm & 3pm—Holiday Escape Room: OH NO! The Grinch stole all the presents from the Bridgeview Library staff! Can you come help us find the presents and save Christmas? 3 time slots, 3 groups with 6 kids each. AGES 8 to 12 years only (3rd to 6th grade) **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED!!** Pre-regis-

tration begins Monday, November 27th. Call (708) 458-2880 ext. 106.

Tuesday, December 5th at 6:30PM—PJ Story Time and Bedtime Buddy Sleepover: Wear your favorite pajamas and bring your special bedtime buddy to this fun story time! Your bedtime buddy can spend the night at the library,

and you will receive a photo showing what they did after hours! AGES 3 to 5 years (before kindergarten) MAX 15.

Monday, December 11th at 4pm—Balloon Powered Car: Rev those engines! This build challenge will have you making a car that's powered by a balloon, and then you'll get to race it

against your friends! AGES 5 to 12 years (K-6th graded) MAX 20

Saturday, December 16th 11am to 2pm—Drop in Holiday Craft: Make a cute craft that you can use to decorate your own home or give as a gift! AGES 3 to 12 years

Residents Reap Benefits of Public Services Fair

More than 250 community members attended the November 3rd Bridgeview Public Services Fair hosted in partnership by the Village of Bridgeview, Pathlights, and JourneyCare Hospice. The fair provided free services to all who attended to help meet community needs and support public health. Free services offered included hearing and vision screenings provided by the Lions Club, glucose measuring, blood pressure measuring, massages, and flu shots.

These services are valuable parts of preventive care and personal health management. For example, retinal imaging is a diagnostic test that creates high-quality digital images of the inner, back surface of your eye that allows for the diagnosis of many eye conditions, such as diabetes-related retinopathy, glaucoma, and macular degeneration; and flu shots reduce the risk of flu-associated hospitalization. The variety of services, all offered at no cost, made the Bridgeview Public Services Fair an impactful community health event.

Representatives of over 30 groups also provided information about resources, including Illinois Secretary of State Driver Services, Citizens Utility Board information, public transportation services, IL Department of Aging resources, Village of Bridgeview services, healthcare and aging information.

Local businesses, community organizations, and Illinois governments departments came together to provide this public services fair. Plenty of residents showed up over the course of the three-hour event to utilize the free services and learn about meeting their healthcare needs now and in the future. The Village of Bridgeview is committed to meeting the needs of its community, promoting public health, and serving its residents through events such as the public services fair. The Village appreciates the work of everyone who made the event possible and thanks residents for attending.



Pathlights Team gathers for a photo after a successful public service fair.



8100 S. Beloit Ave. Bridgeview, IL 60455 | 708-594-1818 | Bridgeviewparkdistrict.com

BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Alan Kruse President, Ken Pannaralla Vice-President, Mariam Ahmad Treasurer, Justin Willis Secretary, James Cecott Commissioner

BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT GINGERBREAD DECORATING CONTEST! Use the best of your baking and artistic skills to create and decorate a gingerbread themed creation. Bring your completed creation to the Bridgeview Park District the week of December 3rd-9th during business hours. 1st, 2nd & 3rd places prizes will be awarded. 1st place... \$150 gift card, 2nd place... \$100 gift card, 3rd place... \$50 gift card. Judging will be on December 10th at the Bridgeview Park District Christmas event. Winner will be announced during the event. Register your creation at the front desk! FREE EVENT! 708-594-1818 | @BVPARK | www.bridgeviewparkdistrict.com

Bridgeview Park District LETTERS TO SANTA! HO HO HO. Hurry and get your letter into Santa so you can receive a letter back! Please be sure to include a return address! Deadline for letters is December 15th! Wave "Hi" to the Santa cam while dropping off your letter! Santa's mailbox is Located right in front of our EAST entrance doors 8100 S. Beloit ave Bridgeview IL 60455

BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT PRESENTS: CHRISTMAS WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST. DECORATE A WINDOW WITH THE ENTIRE FAMILY! WIND, SNOW, COLD OR RAIN WON'T INTERFERE WITH THE WINDOW DECORATING CONTEST. REGISTER YOUR CREATION AT THE BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT OR ONLINE! WE WILL JUDGE YOUR CREATION! THERE WILL BE A 1ST, 2ND, AND 3RD PLACE WINNER! REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED! YOU MUST BE REGISTERED BY DECEMBER 10TH. JUDGING IS THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 17-22ND. COST: FREE! ONLY BRIDGEVIEW RESIDENTS CAN PARTICIPATE! 8100 S BELOIT AVE BRIDGEVIEW IL 60455 708-594-1818 WWW.BRIDGEVIEWPARKDISTRICT.COM

Village Hall's Life-Saving Fire Sprinkler Display

If you walk through the main hallway of Bridgeview's Village Hall, you'll come across a red display of 21 fire sprinklers each with the location and date of the fire they helped extinguish. These sprinklers have put out flames everywhere from a senior living facility to a strip mall to a factory. Ending blazes before they begin throughout Bridgeview's residential, commercial, and industrial properties is the job of fire prevention technology, and these sprinklers have proven their effectiveness by saving Bridgeview lives and money. They may not look like much, but sprinklers have been safeguarding our businesses and residents alike from fires from 1997 through the present. The next time you eat a donut or drive past a factory in Bridgeview, think of the sprinklers that made your daily activities significantly safer and a lot less hot.



The life-saving sprinklers display in the foyer of Village Hall.

JOIN MAYOR LANDEK & YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS FORA **FREE**

Holiday Brunch OR Lunch



FEATURING THE

RAT PACK

Returns Spectacular



Scan QR Code
RSVP ONLINE

BRUNCH DETAILS

9:00AM - 11:30AM - DEC 14

HOLIDAY THEMED BRUNCH

SERVING CHEF

ENTERTAINMENT | PRIZES | FUN

DECEMBER

14

LUNCH DETAILS

1:00PM - 3:30PM - DEC 14

HOLIDAY THEMED LUNCH

SERVING CHEF

ENTERTAINMENT | PRIZES | FUN

BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER | 7902 S. OKETO AVE.

YOU CAN ONLY PICK ONE EVENT TO ATTEND, BRUNCH OR LUNCH

YOU MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS TO ATTEND. MAX CAPACITY PER EVENT IS 280 GUESTS.

TO MAKE RESESRVATIONS OR ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION: CALL (708) 594-2525 EXT. 1

REGISTER ONLINE VIA EMAIL: INFO@VILLAGEOFBRIDGEVIEW.COM OR SCAN QR CODE ABOVE FOR ONLINE FORM



Village of
BRIDGEVIEW

VILLAGE HALL HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

SATURDAY, DEC 23 - OPEN 9AM TO 1PM

MONDAY, DEC 25 - CLOSED

NEW YEAR HOLIDAY

SATURDAY, DEC 30 - OPEN 9AM TO 1PM

MONDAY, JAN 1 - CLOSED