

BRIDGEVIEWS



**VILLAGE OF BRIDGEVIEW
MAYOR**

Steven M. Landek

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Patricia A. Higginson
Kalid Baste
Norma J. Pinion
Michael J. Pticek
Claudette Struzik
Gary D. Lewis**

**VILLAGE CLERK
John Altar**

**VILLAGE CUSTOMER
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 Firefighters Promoted to Engineers

At the Village Board meeting on February 5th, 2025, Bridgeview Firefighters Joseph Maly and Ryan Slaughter were officially sworn in as Engineers. Both Engineers were raised in Bridgeview and have rigorously served their hometown for nearly 10 years. They have demonstrated their dedication to our community, their capabilities as firefighters, and their readiness for more responsibility as Engineers.

Trustee Patricia Higginson commented on the importance of promoting trusted Bridgeview firefighters who know our community. "Our Bridgeview Fire Department is so successful because we continue to promote local firefighters who know our community and lead responsibly. Caring for the wellbeing of our Village and its residents is crucial. Maintaining a well-staffed Department is necessary for our long-term emergency preparedness and safety."



From left to right, Trustees Claudette Struzik & Gary Lewis, Engineer Joseph Maly, Trustees Kalid Baste, Patricia Higginson, & Michael Pticek, Engineer Ryan Slaughter, Clerk John Altar, and Trustee Norma Pinion.

The Village of Bridgeview Board of Trustees wishes Engineer Maly and

Engineer Slaughter well and looks forward to seeing them continue to serve Bridgeview with honor.

Bridgeview Bond Rating Upgraded Again!

Mayor Steven Landek recently announced that the Village of Bridgeview's bond rating was upgraded by FitchRatings after another successful fiscal year. The Village ended the 2024 budget year with a surplus, highlighting that Bridgeview is on the right track to maintain and improve upon a sound financial position. "As always, it's great news to share with the residents and taxpayers that our expenses were less than revenues. 2024 marks the 7th year in a row that we have concluded our fiscal year with either a break-even balance or a cash surplus," said Mayor Landek. "As a result of good fiscal management, our bond rating has been upgraded, further improving our financial position."

Preliminary reports for 2024 show that monthly bills, pension payments, and bond payments are all paid up-to-date and on time, with nothing late or due. All projects for municipal upgrades, from water line replacement, water tank upgrades, fencing, vehicle purchases, and our street

program continue to be budgeted for and can be paid for without borrowing any money.

The pandemic that began at the very end of 2019 was tough on our state and our community, but our monetary resiliency stood strong. We made significant changes to prepare for the next economic downturn after the recession of 2008 without having to do any borrowing, and this helped us weather the storm. The most important feature of our financial plan has been the creation of our "rainy day fund." Over the



Mayor Steven Landek

past 8 years we have tightened expenses and made the hard choices to cut the budget. That means we live within our means and use cash to pay our bills.

This tough stance has produced great results, and the "rainy day fund" of several million dollars is now generating investment income for our community. Mayor Landek also stated, "Bridgeview remains firmly on the path to maintaining a strong financial position in 2025. Looking forward to 2030, in the next 5 years a large portion of debt will be paid while holding the line on property taxes and delivering the great service Bridgeview is known for!"

FREE 55+ SENIOR

Lucky Luncheon

**MARCH 6TH
11:30AM**

BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER
7902 SOUTH OKETO AVE.
BRIDGEVIEW IL

LIMITED SEATING - 255 seats available! RESERVE YOUR SPACE NOW!

To RSVP • call: 708.594.2525 Ext 3 • Email: info@villageofbridgeview.com
• or scan the QR code to register online




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US Postage
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Village of Bridgeview
7500 South Oketo Avenue
Bridgeview, IL 60455
Email: info@villageofbridgeview.com
Facebook.com/VillageofBridgeviewIL



New Radios Coming to Police Department

The Village of Bridgeview Board of Trustees approved the purchase of 21 new radios for the Police Department at the February 5th meeting, ensuring that the Department remains fully equipped for proper communication. The radios cost about \$191,000

and were paid for by a grant from Cook County Emergency Management. These radios are important for maintaining secure channels for officers to communicate with each other as well as their superiors during emergencies, routine work, and special events,

such as when securing our neighborhoods and handling calls during music festivals. The radios are digital and encrypted so that non-law enforcement people are unable to overhear or monitor the radio traffic, and they will ensure that the Village of Bridgeview

Police Department is able to communicate with any assisting agency or agencies that do not share their radio band/frequency, a useful ability when dealing with large events that require assistance from other law enforcement agencies. The Board also

approved the hiring of Part-Time Police Officer Margaret Gutierrez, a recently retired officer of the Chicago Police Department with about 30 years of experience. Investing in the public safety of the Village of Bridgeview remains a top priority.



Become a Bridgeview Firefighter!

Bridgeview is currently hiring new firefighters to help serve our community. This important position is necessary to keep our families, homes, schools, businesses, and more safe from fires and other hazards. Every Bridgeview

firefighter is also a trained paramedic, enabling them to perform lifesaving first aid when required. Keeping our Fire Department properly staffed ensures they can respond as quickly as possible to any situation, so don't hesitate to

apply to be a Bridgeview Firefighter if you'd like to serve your community. Visit this link to view Bridgeview's ApplyToServe job application and fill it out on your computer: <https://bit.ly/VOB-Fire>. (mobile devices will not work)



Seniors Compete in Cross Harlem Classic!



A player winds up for the swing as he attempts to pick up a spare.



Delicious desserts made the friendly event even sweeter.

Nearly 40 seniors came together from Bridgeview, Stickney Township, and Palos Park to compete for their respective Wii bowling teams at the 2025 Cross Harlem Classic. The Bridgeview Park District and Louis Viverito Senior Center (Burbank, Stickney Township) teams have a kind rivalry after years of hosting each other annually for the relaxed Cross Harlem Classic since 2013, and they decided to increase the size of their event by inviting new competitors, Peace Village (Palos Park), to the biggest senior Wii bowling tournament they've ever put on.

and pizzas ordered from the Slice Factory on 79th St. near Harlem. The smiling faces of seniors of all ages and abilities as they swung their arms showed just how important the fun social event is for all involved. Not only did players get to see their usual friends, but they made new connections with locals they otherwise wouldn't have met.

After a couple of hours of eating, laughing, and virtual bowling, players received gift bags and congratulated each other on an afternoon of fun filled with strikes, spares, and occasional gutter balls. The Bridgeview Park District will host the competition next year, keeping the spirit and comradery of the Cross Harlem Classic alive.



The Bridgeview Park District team smiles before the competition.

Join the Lions Club of Bridgeview

The Bridgeview Lions Club is one of the oldest civic organizations in the community. Over the years, the Lions Club has performed numerous acts of goodwill and charity for those in need. What does the Lions Club do? They sponsor sight programs, vision screenings, eye health education, health programs for diabetes prevention, youth volunteer opportunities, environmental programs, and hunger relief missions. That is quite a list! Bridgeview is proud to boast of a strong and active

Lions Club. Why not join them and help your community? Lions President Margie Bonnar Strzemp is always looking for participants who care about serving their community and others. The Lions Club is an international organization dedicated to serving with uncommon kindness, putting the needs of our neighbors, our communities and our world first. For information about the Bridgeview Lions Club contact the Club President at mjstrzemp@aol.com.



Bridgeview Lions remove invasive plants at the Shooting Star Prairie.

Area Locals Learn Youth Mental Health First Aid

The Mental Health Commission of Lyons Township, NAMI Metro Suburban, and Grief Connection Space brought the skills-based Youth Mental Health First Aid training course from the National Council for Mental Wellbeing to the Bridgeview Public Library on Friday, January 31st. The blended online and in-person training was free for anyone who wished to attend to learn how to better support youth mental health, and lunch was provided during the hours-long course. The eight participants completed about two hours of online pre-work to introduce them to the basics before coming to the in-person portion of the class for elaboration on the concepts with trained instructors, group activities, and videos. The wide range of participants, who came

from Bridgeview, Burbank, Summit, Justice, Elmwood Park, and Elgin, dove into the steps of the non-linear ALGEE action plan (Assess, Listen Non-Judgmentally, Give Resources, Encourage Professional Support, Encourage Self-Care) for addressing youth mental health crises and problems, learned the signs and symptoms of mental health problems youth might experience, learned how to respond to a person experiencing a drug overdose, and practiced life-saving skills. The instructors came from the Mental Health Commission of Lyons Township and Pillars Community Health and answered questions from the participants to ensure they felt confident in providing Youth Mental Health First Aid as certified YMHF First Aiders by the end of the class.



Participants learn and discuss how to support youth mental health.



Piles of trash strewn on a lawn will not be picked up on garbage day. One bulk item placed on the curb is allowed.

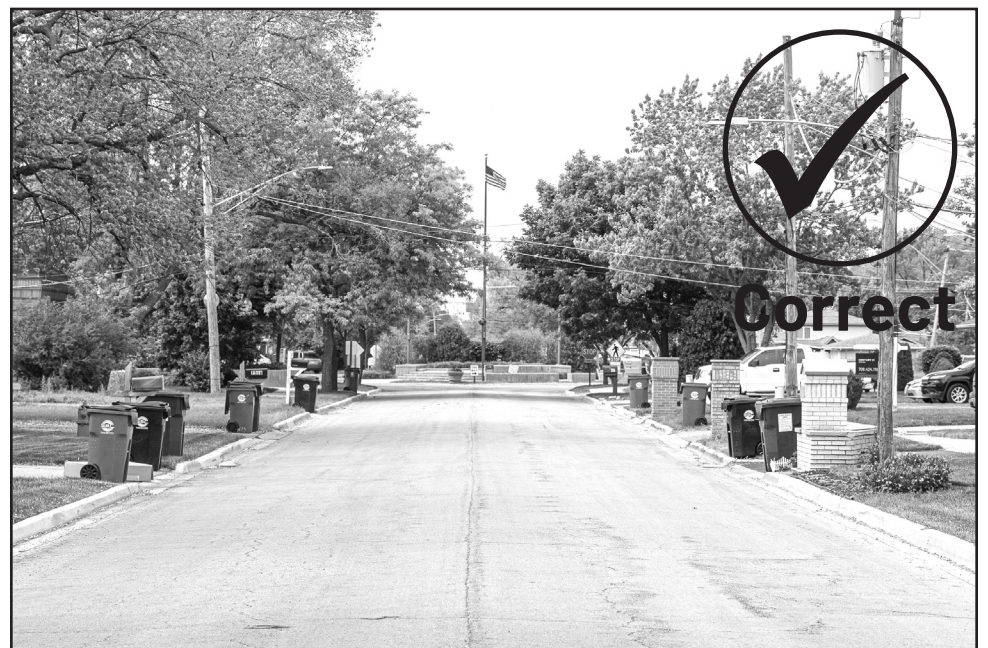
Keep Your Cans on the Curb

Here's a list of things to keep in mind when garbage day approaches:

- Garbage pickup is every Monday morning except when certain holidays impact the collection.
- Garbage cans should be placed neatly on the curb the night before pickup day to ensure that the collection process is quick and easy.
- Garbage cans placed in the street can make the job of the garbage collectors

and street sweepers more difficult.

- To ensure that you don't miss garbage collection on Monday morning, please place cans out on the curb Sunday night.
- Only one bulk item may be placed on the curb for a given garbage day. The holidays scheduled to impact garbage collection are available to view on the Bridgeview website.



Garbage cans are lined up neatly on the curb for garbage day.



2025 Waste Pickup Holidays

The following Holidays will delay waste pickup by 1 day.

Memorial Day - Monday, May 26
Pickup Date - Tuesday, May 27

Labor Day - Monday, September 1
Pickup Date - Tuesday, September 2



2025 SCHEDULES

Chicago Hounds Rugby



Sun. Feb. 23 1:00pm CST Week 2		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. March 2 1:00pm CST Week 3		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sat. March 15 12:00pm CST Week 5		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. April 13 1:00pm CST Week 9		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. May 4 3:00pm CST Week 12		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Mon. May 19 7:00pm CST Week 14		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sat. May 31 6:00pm CST Week 16		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Wed. June 4 7:00pm CST Week 17		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	

Chicago Stars FC



Sun. March 23 2:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. March 30 3:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sat. April 26 6:30pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sat. May 10 11:50am CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sat. May 24 6:30pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Fri. August 1 7:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. August 10 1:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Fri. August 22 7:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. September 14 2:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. October 5 3:00pm CST		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	
Sun. November 2 (Time TBA)		SeatGeek Stadium, Bridgeview	

 **SEATGEEK STADIUM** 
ANNOUNCES THE RETURN OF



THE LYRICAL LEMONADE
SUMMER SMASH
PRESENTED BY SPKRBX

FRIDAY - JUNE 20

SATURDAY - JUNE 21

SUNDAY - JUNE 22





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

IN-HOUSE PROGRAMS

Wednesday, February 12th at 4pm—Dino story time: Do you love dinosaurs? Join us for a dino-mite story time learning how dinosaurs say I Love You, and we will learn to move like a dinosaur and do a craft. Ages 4 to 7 years MAX 15

Saturday, February 15th from 2pm to 3:30pm—Read to Rover: A special treat to encourage our young readers to read independently. Our furry canine friend will be here to listen to your child read a short story. Only one book per child, and child must be willing to read by themselves. Grades K to 2nd only. Stop in or call (708) 458-2880 to reserve a time slot 12 MAX (Late arrivals forfeit their time—no exceptions)

Thursday, February 20th at 6:30pm—Book Bingo: Come and play BINGO at the library, prizes awarded for winners and everyone who attends will receive a FREE book! Grades K-6th MAX 20

Saturday, February 22nd from 2pm to 4pm—Creation Station: Drop in anytime during the program's time to do a STEAM based activity. (Although this is a drop-in program—we can only accommodate 12 kids at a time—your child may have to wait until a spot is available. In order to finish an activity before the end of the program, no one will be admitted after 3:45pm) **While Supplies Last** Grades K-6th

Tuesday, February 25th at 6:30pm—Winter Science: Come in and do a variety of winter themed science experiments that are guaranteed to be SNOW COOL! Grades 3rd to 6th MAX 15

Thursday, March 6th at 4pm—Crazy Concoctions: What is the science behind Pop Rock candy? We'll find out and explore more crazy concoctions in this hands on science program. Grades K-2nd MAX 15

Saturday, March 8th from 2pm to 4pm—Drop -In Lego & Play doh: What's your favorite, Lego or Play doh? This program let's you choose both! Come and be creative at the Library. Children under the age of 5 must be supervised by a parent or caregiver. AGES 3 to 12 years

TEEN PROGRAMS

Monday, February 3rd at 4pm TEEN Connection & Glow in the Dark Paint: Join us as we gather ideas for upcoming TEEN Summer programs, while working on our own painting with glow in the dark paint on canvas. Grades 7th—12th

Monday, February 24th at 4pm—Teen Chill Out & Play: Grab your friends and come hang out at the library. We'll have a Nintendo switch set up to play, along with some board games, and Ping Pong! Snacks provided! Grades 7th—12th MAX 15

Saturday, March 1st at 2pm—Ramadan Storytime: Join us for a special children's program featuring a heartwarming Ramadan story and a fun craft activity. Learn about the traditions of this holiday while creating something meaningful to take home. K to 2nd grade only. MAX 20
 Pre-Registration will begin on Monday, February 24th at 10am until capacity is reached. Call (708) 458-2880 ext. 106

Chicago: The First Hollywood

Before the film industry moved West, it was firmly rooted in Chicago. Its key players included Charlie Chaplin, Gloria Swanson, "Broncho Billy" Anderson, and many more. Join film historian Dr. Annette Bochenek for a presentation about the film industry's early days in Chicago, as she discusses former silent film studios in Chicago, film stars who worked in Chicago, and the legacies of these studios and stars today. The program will include a multimedia presentation of photos, video clips, and captivating stories

Tuesday March 25th, 2025 6pm

Register by calling (708) 458-2880

WHODUNIT? MYSTERY BOOK CLUB PRESENTS:

STILL SEE YOU EVERYWHERE BY LISA GARDNER

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 27TH, 2025 6PM

Pick up Books ON/AFTER THURSDAY JANUARY 30TH, 2025

QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS? EMAIL ME @
 APIERCE@BRIDGEVIEWLIBRARY.ORG

Whodunit? Mystery Book Club presents:

Verity by Colleen Hoover

Pick up books on/after Thursday February 27th, 2025

Thursday March 27th, 2025 6pm

Questions? Suggestions? Email me @
 apierce@bridgeviewlibrary.org

Chicago Movie Tours presents:

St. Patrick's Day in the Fugitive

Tuesday March 24th, 2025 6pm

Register by calling
 (708) 458-2880

Learn why Chicago dyes its river green, how the movie The Fugitive took advantage of this event, and what impact the colorant may have on river wildlife.



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 PRESENTS:

LEPRECHAUN HUNT THE SEARCH IS ON!

Join us on the Luckiest day of the year and try your luck on our Leprechaun Treasure Hunt!

Find as many leprechauns as you can to win the Pot of gold! 1ST, 2ND and 3RD place to be awarded

RAIN OR SHINE EVENT
BRING YOUR OWN FLASH LIGHT
\$5 PER PERSON
REGISTER ONLINE OR IN PERSON

MONDAY
MARCH 17TH
7:00-8:00P.M.
COMMISSIONERS
PARK
BRIDGEVIEW IL

Come dressed in your best leprechaun attire to participate in our Leprechaun look alike contest! Prizes to be awarded!

SCAN ME



www.bridgeviewparkdistrict.com

708-594-1818



TREASURE MAP



2025 IMPORTANT DATES

- March 6th — Senior Lucky Luncheon
- March 15th — Repair Cafe
- March 20th — Veterans' Resource Fair
- April 7th — Yard Waste Collection Starts
- Saturday, April 26th — Spring Cleanup Day
- Monday, May 26th — Memorial Day
(Garbage Pickup on Tuesday) (Village Hall Closed)
- Thursday, July 3rd — Bridgeview Park District
Fireworks
- Friday, July 4th — Independence Day
(Village Hall Closed)
- Tuesday, August 5th — National Night Out
/Community Day
- Monday, September 1st — Labor Day
(Garbage Pickup on Tuesday) (Village Hall Closed)
- Saturday, October 4th — Fall Cleanup Day
- Friday, October 31st — Halloween
- Thursday, November 27th — Thanksgiving Holiday
(Village Hall Closed)
- Wednesday, December 24th — Christmas Eve
- Thursday, December 25th — Christmas Holiday
(Village Hall Closed)

2025 Treasure Days

- Sept. 6th and 7th — homes south of 87th street
- Sept. 13th and 14th — homes north of
87th street and west of tracks
- Sept. 20th and 21st — homes north of
87th street and east of tracks

Save the Date

THE LIONS CLUBS OF BRIDGEVIEW, ARGO-SUMMIT, & JUSTICE
INVITE YOU TO JOIN & CELEBRATE

SUPER SUNDAY

Teacher OF THE YEAR Business OF THE YEAR
Veteran OF THE YEAR

SUN | MARCH 9 | 12PM
BRIDGEVIEW COMMUNITY CENTER
7902 SOUTH OKETO AVENUE

SPRING VETERANS' RESOURCE FAIR

at the Bridgeview Community Center
7902 S. Oketo, Bridgeview
Thursday, March 20, 2025
10a.m.-2p.m.

Coordinated by:

Office of the Clerk:
Elyse Hoffenberg

Stop by and visit with the following resources:

Illinois Department of Veterans Affairs	Cook County Veterans Assistance Commission	Township of Lyons Mental Health Commission
Township of Lyons Clerk Elyse Hoffenberg & Assessor Pat Hynes	Dupage County Veterans Assistance Commission	BEDS Plus
DAV - Disabled American Veterans Organization	VA's Abraham Lincoln Cemetery	VA Office of Readiness & Employment
Illinois Joining Forces Support Group	Honor Flight for Veterans	Homehelpers
VA Vet Centers	Diveheart Foundation	...and other organizations dedicated to assisting veterans and their families

Questions? Call Chuck Bosko at 312-980-4512

REPAIR CAFE & ICASH VISIT! IN BRIDGEVIEW

Coordinated through the
Township of Lyons
Office of the Clerk:
Elyse Hoffenberg

**SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025
10AM-1PM**

- Repair Cafe is a monthly event that offers donuts, coffee and repair help provided by handy volunteers.
- Knife sharpening is offered this session with up to 5 blades sharpened per person.
- ICash is a program to find any unclaimed funds you are owed.

Repair Examples:

- Small Appliances
- Torn Clothing
- Lamps
- Loose Button

**PLACE:
BRIDGEVIEW VILLAGE HALL
7500 S OKETO AVE
BRIDGEVIEW**