

BRIDGEVIEWS

 Bridgeview-il.gov  VillageofBridgeviewIL

Highlighting Community News & Events

June 2025 - Volume 34, No. 6



VILLAGE OF BRIDGEVIEW
MAYOR

Steven M. Landek

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Patricia A. Higginson
Kalid Baste
Norma J. Pinion
Michael J. Piceck
Laura Cardenas
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
Questions?
info@villageofbridgeview.com
Emergency: 911



America 250
BRIDGEVIEW
SEMI-QUINCENTENNIAL
CELEBRATION
JULY 2ND TO JULY 5TH

CARNIVAL RIDES | DELICIOUS FOOD | LIVE MUSIC
SEATGEEK STADIUM - 7000 S. HARLEM AVE. BRIDGEVIEW, IL

OPEN JULY 2ND TO JULY 5TH
THURS & FRI: 3PM
SAT & SUN: 12PM

FREE TO ENTER
RIDE TICKETS ON SALE
AT THE GATE
SINGLE DAY: \$40
MEGA PASS: \$75

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ **FREE LIVE MUSIC PERFORMANCES** ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

THURSDAY JULY 2 ND ALTERNATIVE 80'S/90'S	FRIDAY JULY 3 RD COUNTRY	SATURDAY JULY 4 TH CLASSIC ROCK	SUNDAY JULY 5 TH LATIN NIGHT
 SAINT ASTRO 7PM	 WILDFIRE 6PM - 8PM	 JOKER'S RIVAL 8PM - 10PM	 SALSA PROJECT 3PM
 MAXT OUT 8:30PM			 SANTANA VISIONS 5PM

 **SeatGeek STADIUM**



Presort Std
US Postage
PAID
Bridgeview IL
Permit 318

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



BRIDGEVIEW POLICE OFFICERS HIT THE ROOFTOP FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS



Trustee Patricia Higginson (2nd from right) joins Bridgeview police officers and volunteers for Cop On a Rooftop 2026

Village Trustees Patricia Higginson and Laura Cardenas joined Bridgeview police officers and volunteers collecting donations for the Special Olympics outside of the Dunkin’ Donuts at 79th St. & Roberts Rd. the morning of Friday,

May 15th. Bridgeview supports this annual statewide “Cop On a Rooftop” effort every year, with officers placing squad cars with flashing lights outside the business to attract attention, waving cars into the parking lot, and casting a



Bridgeview Police Commander David Case takes a bite out of a giant donut on the Dunkin’ roof!

fishing line with a giant inflatable donut attached from the rooftop of the Dunkin’ building. This year, the Bridgeview team raised \$6,275! “Bridgeview always participates in the Cop On a Rooftop fundraiser because it’s a great community en-

deavor,” explained Trustee Higginson. “We’ll continue to support the Illinois Special Olympics for years to come!”

★ ★ ★ ★ American Flags Installed Along 71st Street!



American flags line the south side of 71st Street.

In honor of America’s 250th Anniversary, American flags have been installed along 71st Street which adjoins Bridgeview’s SeatGeek Stadium. The flags extend vertically, showing the fullness of the stars and stripes to all local traffic. “As we always do in Bridgeview, we honor the Memorial Day holiday,” explained Bridgeview Mayor Steven Landek. “This year, we also celebrate the 250th Anniversary of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence. This special semiquincentennial—marked by our 2026 Bridgeview Vehicle Sticker—falls on the 4th of July and will be further celebrated by a 4th of July Festival at Bridgeview’s stadium!” For more details on the 4th of July Celebration see page 8!



American flags line the north side of 71st Street. 50% of Hometown Hero Banners and multiple flags were damaged during the EF2 tornado and storms.

ELECTRONIC WASTE PICKUP INFORMATION



The Village of Bridgeview Community Services and Public Works Departments handle collecting all electronic waste (e-waste) for disposal. Call the Village Hall at 708-594-2525 to coordinate the pickup from your home, and somebody will be there within 24 hours to pick it up. Acceptable e-waste items include personal computers, keyboards, printers, televisions, VCRs, DVD players, CD players, laser disc players, CB and two-way radios, telephones and cell phones, paper shredders, laptops, monitors, computer mice, radios, DVDs and CDs, video games, answering and fax machines, scanners, adding machines, and microwave

ovens. No hazardous waste, light bulbs, or glass is accepted. Put only residentially generated items. No business electronic waste is allowed. Delete personal information from hard drives. Please call the Village Hall front desk at 708-594-2525 for more information. Note: Electronic waste (e-waste) pickup is provided by the Village of Bridgeview. To schedule a pickup please contact the Village customer service office at 708-594-2525 ext. 3. Once you have scheduled your pickup you may place the e-waste out on the curb. Please do not put e-waste out without a scheduled pickup, as the e-waste will not be taken.

CALL JULIE BEFORE YOU DIG!

Planting, building, adding, or fixing anything outdoors? Know what’s below. Get your underground utility lines marked before you start digging. It’s a FREE service that could save you time, costly utility repairs, and even your life. The danger of hitting a gas line, electricity line, water line, etc. is real. Neither you nor your neighbors will want to lose a critical service due to an avoidable mistake. Online or over the phone, JULIE’s request system is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Follow the steps below before digging.

1. Premark your dig area with white paint, stakes, or flags.
2. Submit a request online or call 811. The law requires you contact JULIE at least two business days before you plan to start digging!
3. After you receive email confirmation from JULIE, local utility company members locate and mark underground utility lines with colored paint and flags.
4. Respect the markings and don’t remove them until digging is finished.
5. Dig carefully and use hand tools when digging within 18 inches of a marked underground line. Contact JULIE and your utility company if you may have struck a line.

Visit www.illinoisicall.com for more information.



BRIDGEVIEW’S HAMPTON INN HOLDS AUTISM AWARENESS FUNDRAISER!



Janete Gutierrez serves tacos to attendees.

Hampton staff embrace pie-smashing fun to fundraise!



On April 24th, the Hampton Inn & Suites of Bridgeview, neighbor of SeatGeek Stadium, held its Annual Autism Awareness Fundraiser in support of Autism Acceptance Month to promote acceptance, understanding, and inclusion of people with autism. The event successfully raised \$1,434 to support children and adults pursuing educational growth and independence. Funds raised from the event will go toward sponsorships for individuals working to earn their GED or receive tutoring services.

Hampton Inn staff and other attendees bought tons of freshly made tantalizing tacos at \$3 each a long with fluffy \$5 whip cream pies to smash into the smiling faces of Hampton volunteers. Local hospitality leader Janete Gutierrez took on the role of “Taquero” for the day, serving guests and contributing to the vibrant atmosphere. Janete originally launched the fundraiser as a small, creative pie-throwing event that generated modest, double-digit donations. The initiative has grown into a powerful annual effort, now consistently raising over \$1,000 for the cause. Janete also collaborated with the SeatGeek Stadium music festival Summer Smash to raffle off free tickets to encourage donations in support of the great cause.

“The event not only raises funds but also strengthens community connections and awareness surrounding autism,” explained Gutierrez.

The Village of Bridgeview commends the Hampton Inn for their fund-raising efforts in honorof Autism Acceptance Month.

Bridgeview - Our History in America



Anna Hartman and son Herbert on Roberts Road in 1922

As our great country reaches its 250th birthday and everyone celebrates the birth of our country, let’s take a look back at the history of the Village of Bridgeview. Originally home to Native Americans in the 1830s, settlers started putting up the earliest of homes around Archer Avenue, then a Native American trail. Most of the small population were German corn farmers, with corn farming remaining the top economic drive until the roaring 20s. Where, in the height of a great economic boom, real estate developers invested into the land and put up new homes, expanding bridgeview from a farm town to a true neighborhood outside of Chicago.

As the roaring 20’s abruptly ended and a Great Depression hit the country, production in bridgeview declined, but the spirit of its residents were still going strong. In 1938, the Bridgeview Community club was founded, becoming a center of local activities which empowered the community. As the country fought through the Depression and the post war era was starting, the people of Bridgeview decided to incorporate itself as a village with only 500 residents. After the incorporation, the attraction of Bridgeview became undeniable as by 1960, only 13 years after it was incorporated, the population went from 500 residents to 7,334! The growth only continued as by the 1980’s, with its close proximity to Chicago and Midway Airport, Bridgeview became a major trucking hub.

With the slogan, “A Well Balanced Community”, the village has only been on an upward incline as populations and businesses grow. With the most recent and biggest edition being the construction of SeatGeek Stadium, which opened 20 years ago in 2006. Once again changing the identity of the Village and launching another boom period. Transforming Bridgeview into an economic hub, full of life, community, and an identity unique to Bridgeview. With a population of over 16,000 residents, the village continues to grow and looks forward to many more years of memories and success.



130,000+ Fill SeatGeek Stadium for Summer Smash!

Bridgeview’s SeatGeek Stadium once again hosted the three-day Lyrical Lemonade Summer Smash music festival, shattering attendance records with an estimated 130,000 total attendees! Enjoyers of hip hop, rap, and electronic dance music (EDM) turned out to see major artists Chief Keef, Lil Uzi Vert, Skrillex, Playboi Carti, and more along with newcomer North West who made her on-stage debut at twelve years old—the youngest performer in Summer Smash history.

The record-breaking festival kicked off with around 50,000 concertgoers on Friday, packing the sports fields and Stadium. Food vendors, including local staple Portillo’s, lined the grounds to feed the hungry crowds of energetic fans who just couldn’t get enough of the delicious Lyrical Lemonade between head-banging sets. With full stomachs, fans filled Lenny’s Tent Stage for the first-ever performance of North West, daughter of Kanye West. The action didn’t stop there. The Drill King Chief Keef drew tens of thousands of people to the Lyrical Lemonade Stage just as he did in 2024 for when he returned to play in Chicagoland for the first time in over a decade.

Festival activations kept festivalgoers engaged, with Red Bull’s DJ tent providing an air-conditioned, laser-filled dance experience. Hit Nickelodeon TV franchise Avatar served free boba tea at the Avatar Aang: The

Last Airbender Avatar truck, building excitement for the upcoming live action movie in delicious fashion. Portillo’s kept the fun going with a free Plinko-like game that gave players a chance to win free beef sandwich gift cards, Portillo’s sunglasses, lanyards, and other merch.

Summer Smash offered a fresh new take for Chicagoland locals with a day dedicated to EDM-oriented artists, headlined by the internationally acclaimed Skrillex. The J-pop music group pinponpanpon flew in all the way from Tokyo, Japan to star in the Saturday lineup and dazzle crowds with their unique outfits and sound.

The combination of interesting festival activations and a fantastic performing lineup proved incredible for fans throughout the three-day weekend. With record attendance in 2026 and a strong history of festivals at SeatGeek Stadium, Summer Smash has announced they will once again return to Bridgeview in 2027. The tremendous economic impact of the festival is felt throughout the southwest suburbs, and another successful event ensures Bridgeview’s stadium remains a hub for entertainment and sports in the region. We appreciate the support of Bridgeview residents, local partners, and fans for making Summer Smash 2026 the biggest independent hip hop music festival in the Midwest and the world!





CHICAGO HOUNDS FINISH UNDEFEATED, WIN MLR CHAMPIONSHIP!!!



Hound center Tavite Lopeti takes down California Legion's number 14 in the rain!



Hound lock Nathan den Hoedt catches a lineout, keeping possession from Old Glory!



Hound flyhalf Chris Hilsenbeck winds up for his conversion kick!

The incredible Chicago Hounds finished their 2026 season UNDEFEATED in Major League Rugby (MLR). Winning ALL TEN regular season games, the Hounds proved to be an unstoppable offensive force and an impenetrable defensive fortress. No other team in the league came close to catching our rugged rugby players, establishing the Hounds as the undisputed leader of the pack. SeatGeek Stadium hosted thousands of passionate fans for every game, and the crowds only grew as the hype around the Hounds built with every victory.

Because of their record-breaking performance, the Hounds earned the right to host the

MLR Semifinal against Old Glory DC on Monday, June 15th at Bridgeview's Stadium. Our home team handily defeated Old Glory 59-22, proving once again that no team compares to Chicago while providing a spectacular show for the roaring fans. Coming off their dominant victory, the Herculean Hounds prepared for their biggest challenge yet—winning the Major League Rugby Championship. Carrying the momentum from their historic run, the Chicago Hounds poured their blood, sweat, and tears into the intense battle against the California Legion. Fighting ferociously every minute, the Hounds ran, tackled, and jumped their way through the game. De-

spite the best efforts of the Legion, they proved no match for our heroes. The Chicago Hounds pierced the Legion defense repeatedly, scoring try after try with conversion kicks piling on the points. As the rain lightened, the score stood at 35-17 in favor of the good guys.

Ending 2026 with their BIGGEST victory to date, the Hounds fought and earned the Major League Championship title, elevating Chicagoland rugby like never before and garnering national spotlight. The Village of Bridgeview congratulates the Chicago Hounds on their astounding victory and looks forward to their continued success at Bridgeview's stadium!

SeatGeek STADIUM UPCOMING EVENTS

Fuel Fest
July 18th
1:00pm

DroneArt Show
July 24th & 25th
9:00pm

Chicago Fire FC
August 6th, 9th, & 13th

North Coast Music Festival
September 4th-6th

Scan the QR Code
For Tickets



FOUNDED 1970

BRIDGEVIEW PUBLIC LIBRARY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Alice Vilimek • Betty Martinez • Marwan Alsafadi • Nick Lamnatos
Alice Porfirio • Anna Ziaja-Castillo • Anthony Roeback



Clerk Altar shakes hands with newly sworn in Library Trustee Anthony Roeback

NEW LIBRARY TRUSTEE ROEBACK SWEARS IN

On May 11th at 7pm, the Bridgeview Public Library Board of Trustees met and appointed a new trustee to the Board. Library Trustee Anthony “Tony” Roeback, a Bridgeview firefighter who often teaches CPR classes, joins the Board as Library Trustee Randy Carben retires from public service. Village of Bridgeview Mayor Steven Landek, Village Trustees Patricia Higginson and Laura Cardenas, and community members gathered to welcome Trustee Roeback to his new position and witness his swearing-in ceremony conducted by Village Clerk John Altar.

“Library Trustee Roeback has already demonstrated his commitment to the public good as a stand-

up firefighter,” commented Mayor Landek. “It’s clear that he’s bringing his current passion for service to the library, and I applaud him for getting even more involved in his community.”

After being sworn in as the newest Board member, Trustee Roeback began his work as his fellow trustees went over budget details, upcoming projects, and more. The library is currently undergoing renovations, and a future project will include making sure new bookshelves are appropriately sized and easier to reach for patrons. The Village of Bridgeview welcomes Trustee Roeback and looks forward to his service at the Bridgeview Public Library.



Dive into thousands of audio picture books in 100+ languages this summer. Great for kids at home, at the library, or wherever your break takes you!

1. Download the **LOTE4Kids App** using the QR codes below.
2. Log in using your library card number.
3. Find a book in your language, and enjoy!



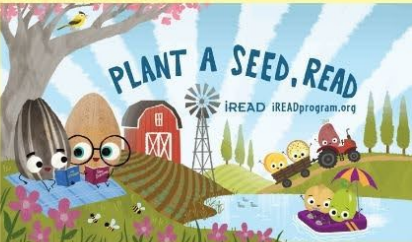
Download on the App Store



GET IT ON Google Play



LOTE4Kids.com



Beanstack Reading

How It works: Register an individual or family, choose a reading challenge, log your books or minutes and earn badges for prizes

Sign Up on the Bridgeview Public Library Website

Youth Services Summer Programs 2026

Teen Programs: June 15th-July 25th
Childrens Programs: June 15th-July 25th
Family Events: June 15th-July 25th
Full Calendar on the Bridgeview Public Library Website





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:

3RD
OF
JULY

INDEPENDENCE DAY
CELEBRATION



CELEBRATE THE 3RD OF JULY WITH A
SPECTACULAR FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT!

COME SEE THE
WORLD FAMOUS
OSCAR MAYER
WIENERMOBILE
HERE!

4-8 P.M.

COME CELEBRATE
250 YEARS
OF AMERICAN
INDEPENDENCE
WITH US!

★ EVENT LOCATION ★
COMMISSIONERS PARK
8100 S. BELOIT AVE
★ 708-594-1818 ★

★ FRIDAY
JULY 3RD
★ 2026 ★

GLOW STICKS
FOR SALE
CASH ONLY

★ FOOD TRUCKS



★ LIVE DJ



★ GAMES



★ FIREWORKS



FIREWORKS START AT
APPROX. 9:15 P.M.

RESILIENT VILLAGE OF BRIDGEVIEW RECOVERS FROM EF2 TORNADO



A Lyons Township Intern assists with residential storm damage cleanup in Bridgeview.



Two Red Cross employees bring supplies to the Bridgeview Community Center.

In an effort to provide relief to residents from the loss of power and uncomfortable heat the Bridgeview Community Center and Village Hall converted into cooling centers. The American Red Cross assisted in the relief efforts by providing meals and cleaning supplies to residents, and ComEd provided storm kits with flashlights and other vital supplies. Even the Lyons Township Summer Interns jumped into the fray by walking the streets and clearing out Bridgeview storm drains to ensure proper water flow and reduce flooding.

The community showed incredible bravery, teamwork, and strength in dealing with this crisis. When asked about the response, Bridgeview Fire Chief Keith Grzadziel praised the work of the hardworking firefighters. “I am extremely proud of my firefighters as they performed tirelessly and professionally in situations where we would normally have five to eight times the amount of personnel operating at these incidents.” This bravery was consistent throughout the entire village as within days the worst of the damage from the storm and EF2 tornado was cleaned up.

Mayor Landek and the Village of Bridgeview applaud the courage of all our first responders and residents who reacted with grace and comradery in response to the severe weather and its damages. “Our well-balanced community always comes together in times of need, and we remain Bridgeview strong!”

On June 11th, the Village of Bridgeview was hit by a major EF2 Tornado with confirmed winds between 70 to 85 miles per hour. The EF2 tornado, along with a major thunderstorm, severely damaged and cut power to houses, streets, schools, and businesses all throughout the Village. Neighborhoods were covered in debris, branches, and other remnants from the troubling weather. Despite uprooted trees crushing garages, falling debris damaging cars, and high winds puncturing roofs, not a single injury was reported due to the storm.

“I’m extremely relieved to hear that none of our residents were harmed during the intense weather,” said Bridgeview Mayor Steven Landek.

In the initial six hours of the storm rolling through, the Bridgeview Fire Department responded to over 41 emergency incidents. Public works was fully staffed and mobilized to help clear up the roads and other public access ways obstructed by debris. A tree service was called in to assist in the cleaning efforts, the Bridgeview chipper ran over 12 hours each day to break down fallen branches.



A tree lies uprooted next to Bridgeview Elementary.



A stop sign leans to the side near Wierzba Park as a massive branch lies next to it.

IMPORTANT DATES 2026

JULY-DECEMBER

THU-SUN, JULY 2-5
BRIDGEVIEW'S AMERICA 250 CELEBRATION

FRIDAY, JULY 3
BRIDGEVIEW PARK DISTRICT FIREWORKS

SATURDAY, JULY 4
INDEPENDENCE DAY (VILLAGE HALL CLOSED)

★ SECURE PARKING PASSES FOR EVENTS THIS WEEKEND! ★

FRI-SUN, SEP. 4-6
NORTH COAST MUSIC FESTIVAL (RESIDENTIAL GATES CLOSED)

MONDAY, SEP. 7
LABOR DAY (VH CLOSED)
GARBAGE PICKUP TUESDAY

SATURDAY, OCT. 3
FALL CLEANUP DAY

MONDAY, OCT. 12
COLUMBUS DAY/
INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY

SATURDAY, OCT. 31
HALLOWEEN

SUNDAY, NOV. 1
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS

TUESDAY, NOV. 3
GENERAL ELECTION DAY

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 11
VETERANS DAY

THURSDAY, NOV. 26
THANKSGIVING (VILLAGE HALL CLOSED)

THURSDAY, DEC. 24
CHRISTMAS EVE (MODIFIED HOURS)

FRIDAY, DEC. 25
CHRISTMAS (VILLAGE HALL CLOSED)

THURSDAY, DEC. 31
NEW YEAR'S EVE (MODIFIED HOURS)

2026 TREASURE DAYS



SEPT. 12 & 13
HOMES NORTH OF 87TH STREET & EAST OF TRACKS

SEPT. 19 & 20
HOMES SOUTH OF 87TH STREET

SEPT. 26 & 27
HOMES NORTH OF 87TH STREET & WEST OF TRACKS