



Bridgeton BANNER

www.bridgetonmo.com

March / April 2012

Your Elected Officials

Mayor:

Conrad W. Bowers – 739-7666
or 209-0222

Municipal Judge:

Joseph Larrew

Ward 1:

Pamela Tanner – 739-7297
Bob Saettele – 291-1131

Ward 2:

Robert Benben – 291-5841
Linda Eaker – 291-3880

Ward 3:

Ferd Fetsch – 291-3021
Christine Waitman – 291-4978

Ward 4:

Barbara Abram – 739-1050
Joni Norris – 291-8041

City Hall – 739-7500

Community Center

739-5599



Mayor Bowers

From the Desk of Mayor Bowers:

During the last quarter of each calendar year the administration and elected officials work to establish the budget for the following year. This budget becomes the basic plan for all expenditures for the year. The City of Bridgeton is in good financial shape and the 2012 budget will permit continued progress in many areas. Total estimated revenues for all funds for the year are in excess of nineteen million (\$19,599,000). During the final quarter of 2011 we experienced positive trends in sales tax receipts with a 14% increase over the same period last year. Again this year, there are **no City of Bridgeton tax increases**. Residential real estate taxes will remain as they have since 1984. Additionally Bridgeton residents will again enjoy the benefit of a zero City personal property tax rate.

The 2012 budget includes a 3% cost of living increase for all full time city employees as well as money for merit increases. City employees demonstrated outstanding efforts during the 2011 tornado recovery efforts and City Officials are pleased to be able to provide the salary increases. The budget contains over four million dollars (\$4,000,000) for continuation of road reconstruction projects that began years ago with Old St. Charles Road. More recently the City has reconstructed Taussig and Smiley Roads. In 2011 Bridgeton completed the Locke Avenue project and in cooperation with Maryland Heights, the reconstruction of Parkwood Lane. Plans for 2012 include the reconstruction of Banks Road, Melody Lane, and the Raymond/Taplin project. Also the City will begin Phase 1 and initiate Phase 2 of the

Fee Fee Road project. The City plans to replace the Gist Road Bridge, which has been designated by the State in need of repair. Bridgeton has applied for and been successful in obtaining grants for the Fee Fee and Gist Road Bridge projects.

As indicated in the previous newsletter the City will construct a new Central Garage during 2012. The City Council voted at the January 18, 2012 meeting to finance this facility over 15 years using certificates of participation. Because of the excellent financial rating (Moody's Aa-3) the City will be able to obtain a very favorable interest rate for the bonds associated with this project. The bonds will be retired using the funds that we will start receiving in 2013 as a result of the retiring of the Home Depot TIF.

An important part of this budget and all past budgets is to make sure there is a sufficient amount of money available to handle unforeseen situations. This procedure served our City well as we recovered from the 2011 Good Friday Tornado. This Rainy Day fund allowed Bridgeton to react immediately and begin the recovery process. Fortunately, FEMA has agreed to reimburse Bridgeton for expenditures associated with the tornado cleanup.

Important planned events during 2012 not only include the opening of a new Central City Garage but the opening of new retail businesses including the WAL-MART SUPER CENTER. Additional information on the new businesses will be provided in future issues of the Banner.

Copies of the Budget are available at the Bridgeton Trails branch of the St. Louis County Library at 3455 McKelvey Road. Please feel free to contact any of your elected officials if you have questions.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE APRIL 3rd

Ward 1:	Judy Pickett Scott Zimmer	3734 Midview 11454 Ann Mar
Ward 2:	Linda Eaker*	3255 Autumn View Pointe Dr.
Ward 3:	Randall Hein Bob Totterer	4127 Scotch 11843 Majella
Ward 4:	Barbara Abram*	11772 Archerton

*Denotes incumbent.

One Year Anniversary of the Good Friday Tornado

The Bridgeton Special Events Commission is hosting a "Bridgeton Survives Bridgeton Thrives" celebration commemorating the one year anniversary of the 2011 Good Friday tornado. This is a family event and will take place at the Bridgeton Government Center lobby Sunday afternoon, April 22, 2012 from 2:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. There will be a slide show of "Then and Now" photos, refreshments, a few neighbors sharing their stories, and door prizes. Let's join as a community to



celebrate that Bridgeton not only survived the tornado but our city continues to thrive.

Also this event will provide the occasion for those who have not had the opportunity to visit City Hall to tour the new facility.

Hopefully, there will be on display an architect's rendering of the new City Garage that will be constructed in 2012.

Beautification of Bridgeton

With the anticipation of warmer weather, the Beautification Commission would like to remind residents of the program rewarding those whose yards reflect the best of the seasons. April and May bring the eagerly anticipated spring blooms, June, July, August showcase vibrant summer colors, and September and October display the shades of fall.

The Commission will be making selections seasonally and welcome nominations from the public. Please call Angela Wright (739-5599) at the Community Center or contact any Beautification Commission member.



JULY 4, 2012 CELEBRATION IS LESS THAN FOUR MONTHS AWAY!

The Bridgeton Special Events Commission is in the process of preparing and organizing Bridgeton's Annual July 4th Parade. "Music of America" is the theme and we are inviting citizens, businesses and friends of Bridgeton to participate. We are asking our participants to use their imagination to capture different styles, genres, and movements of music. Now is the time to begin working on creative entries. Enter a float, marching musical, precision group, classic car, or just dress up and participate in this tribute to music.

The parade begins Wednesday, July 4, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. There is no entry fee and additional forms are available at the Community Center. The deadline for entries is Friday, June 15th.

Evening activities will be held at the Bridgeton Athletic Complex beginning at 6 p.m. The evening will include clowns, a band, food, and a spectacular fireworks display at dusk.

CITY CLERK'S REPORT OF RECENT COUNCIL ACTIONS

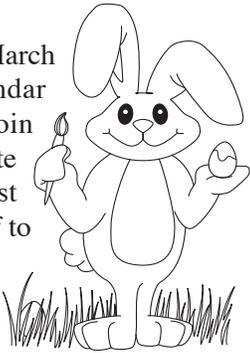
Appointed Gilmore & Bell, P.C. to serve as Special Tax Counsel in connection with the issuance of Certificates of Participation, the proceeds of which will be used to finance a new Public Works Garage Facility

Amending Section 130.060 of the Code of Ordinances relating to User Fees for Parks and Recreation Programs

Upcoming Events

Breakfast with the Easter Bunny

Mark Saturday, March 31 on the calendar and come join everyone's favorite bunny for breakfast before he hops off to deliver eggs on Easter. This event is for children ages 2 and older (Children ages 2 and under are free, but please register all family members!) Crafts, a petting zoo and other fun entertainment will be provided along with a hearty catered breakfast. Bring your camera for photos of your child with the Easter Bunny. Resident fee is \$6 per person. Non-resident fee is \$8 per person. Registration ends Monday, March 26 or when full.



Easter 'Beg' Hunt

Just like the egg hunt, only for your furry children! On Sunday, April 1 at 2 p.m. at the BMAC Soccer Field dogs will be allowed to "find" as many treats as possible in the hunt area. Dogs must remain on leashes at all times. Don't forget to bring a basket to put your treats in...and make it cute! Special prizes will be awarded for the best decorated basket. After the hunt ends, each dog will receive a doggie bag to take home. The Easter Bunny will be available for photos with your pet. All ages are welcome, but pets must have a responsible adult present. Owners assume all responsibility for their dog's behavior. Dogs must be current on all vaccinations. Resident fee is \$9 and Non-resident fee



is \$11. BEG hunt registration ends Wednesday, March 28 or when full. Pre-registration is required.

Easter Egg Hunt

This event is restricted to Bridgeton residents with ID cards only! Hop on down to BMAC and join the Easter Bunny at Bridgeton's annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 7 at 10 a.m. at the Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex. Kids who are Bridgeton residents ages 3 to 8 can hunt for hundreds of eggs full of candy and prizes. The Easter Bunny and Mrs. Bunny will be available for pictures after the hunt. No registration is required. Admission is free. All children must have a valid Parks and Recreation ID card or be with a parent/grandparent with a valid Parks and Recreation ID card. For more information call 739-5599.



Indoor Garage Sale

Have a ton of stuff you need to get rid of after spring cleaning? Want to have a garage sale, but don't have a garage? We've got your answer! We'll be hosting an indoor garage sale in our gymnasium on Saturday, April 21 from 8 a.m. until Noon. We'll promote the sale for you and provide you with three 8' tables and a space that's approximately 6'x 8'. Cost for the space is \$26 for residents and \$31 for non-residents. Please register in person at the community center; you will receive additional information at that time. Registration ends Monday, April 16 or when full.



Shop 'Til You Drop

Just in time for Mother's Day, come shop with our party-plan vendors without the commitment of a party—or book one while you're here. Join us at the Community Center on Sunday, April 29 from 2-5 p.m. Currently we have representatives registered from Scentsy, Tastefully Simple, Pampered Chef, Just Jewelry, PartyLite, Tupperware and thirty-one, with more to come! Are you a representative for a company like these? Purchase a table to sell your wares and expand your clientele! We'll provide advertising, an 8' table, two chairs and electricity. Booth space is approximately 8' x 6'. Admission is free for shoppers. Tables are \$25 for residents and \$30 for non-residents. Please call the Community Center for additional guidelines or more information.

RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINIC

The City of Bridgeton Rabies Immunization Clinic will be held Saturday, May 12th from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Pavilion behind the Bridgeton Community Center. For cats and dogs a three-year shot with immunization history is \$23.00, one-year shot with immunization history is \$15.00. An added requirement by St. Louis County is that all rabies tags MUST be purchased if the vaccine is given. The following prices include the cost for St. Louis County. A one-year rabies tag (spayed or neutered) is \$35; a three-year tag is \$48. A one-year rabies tag (not spayed or neutered) is \$35; a three-year tag is \$68. Bridgeton tags are \$2.00. They will offer the distemper vaccination for cats and dogs for \$15, a feline leukemia for \$15 and a Bordetella for \$15. All immunizations are CASH ONLY.

Calendar of Events

APRIL

- 3 **Election Day - City Hall Closed**
- 4 City Council.....7:00 p.m.
- 5 Municipal Court.....6:00 p.m.
- 9 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
- 10 Municipal Court.....6:00 p.m.
- 11 Housing Board of Appeals7:30 p.m.
Street Commission.....7:00 p.m.
- 12 Beautification Commission6:00 p.m.
- 16 Personnel Commission7:00 p.m.
Police Commission7:00 p.m.
- 17 Design and Review Board.....7:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board6:00 p.m.
- 18 Business Watch Meeting8:00 a.m.
City Council.....7:00 p.m.
- 19 Historical Commission6:00 p.m.
Municipal Court.....10:00 a.m.
- 23 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
Special Events Commission6:00 p.m.
- 24 Municipal Court.....6:00 p.m.
- 28 Senior Citizens Coordinating Committee 10:00 a.m.
Board of Adjustment7:00 p.m.

MAY

- 1 Design and Review Board.....7:00 p.m.
- 2 City Council.....7:00 p.m.
- 3 Municipal Court.....6:00 p.m.
- 8 Municipal Court.....6:00 a.m.
- 9 Ward 4 Meeting, Bridgeway School7:00 p.m.
Housing Board of Appeals7:30 p.m.
Street Commission.....7:00 p.m.
- 10 Beautification Commission6:00 p.m.
- 14 Planning and Zoning Commission7:00 p.m.
- 15 Design and Review Board.....7:00 p.m.
Parks and Recreation Board6:00 p.m.
- 16 Business Watch Meeting8:00 a.m.
City Council.....7:00 p.m.
- 17 Historical Commission6:00 p.m.
Municipal Court.....10:00 a.m.
- 21 Police Commission7:00 p.m.
Personnel Commission7:00 p.m.
- 23 Ward 3 Meeting – City Hall7:00 p.m.
- 24 Board of Adjustment7:00 p.m.
- 28 **MEMORIAL DAY – CITY HALL &
COMMUNITY CENTER CLOSED**

For information about your city, please refer to our website. The address is: www.bridgetonmo.com

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