



JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016

BRIDGETON BANNER

BRIDGETON RANKS IN THE TOP TEN PLACES TO OPERATE A BUSINESS

The City of Bridgeton, Missouri has been recognized by a national consumer/finance website as one of the top ten places in the state of Missouri to start a business. NerdWallet, a personal finance site for consumers, conducted a study of 117 places in the state in 2015 with populations of 5,000 and found Bridgeton has "a stable business environment encouraging aspiring entrepreneurs to make the city their new business's home."

"This study is just a confirmation of what we have said for a long time in Bridgeton, it is a great place in which to locate and do business," said Bridgeton Mayor Terry Briggs. "With its location at the intersection of two of the busiest interstate highways in the state, close proximity to the airport and an educated and well-trained citizenry, the city is ideally situated for many types of industries and businesses."

NerdWallet examined 117 cities in Missouri on a variety of factors including:

- Average revenue of businesses
- Percentage of businesses with paid employees
- Businesses per 100 resident population
- Median annual income
- Median monthly housing costs
- The unemployment rate in the areas analyzed

Bridgeton currently is home to 1,577 businesses and has more than 11,660 residents, giving it a healthy ratio of over 10 businesses per 100 residents. These businesses have an average revenue of \$4,692,060, an impressive number according to NerdWallet.

Bridgeton ranked ninth in the survey. Other local cities ranked in the top ten were Clayton and Sunset Hills.

PROPOSITION B ON THE APRIL BALLOT IN BRIDGETON

The city of Bridgeton is presenting to voters on the April ballot Proposition B. The measure would allow the city to continue collecting a sales and use tax on vehicles, boats and trailers purchased in another state by a resident of the city. A simple majority is all that is needed to pass the measure.

Proposition B only affects you if you buy a new vehicle, boat or trailer and the purchase is made in another state. Therefore, the impact is pretty small.

So why put the issue on the ballot? Several years ago, a court decision repealed the right of Missouri public bodies (cities) to levy a sales tax on vehicles purchased by Missouri residents in another state, such as Illinois. This caused a great deal of concern to Missouri automobile dealers who felt they would lose business to neighboring states. So, the Missouri legislature, attempting to correct this problem,

passed a law reinstating this tax for public bodies, but only until such time at the public body asked voters to retain it. Cities, like Bridgeton, were given until November 2016 to present and pass the tax by voters or risk losing it.

What is at stake? The last estimate the city of Bridgeton obtained about this tax showed it raised approximately \$95,000 per year. The amount may be more or could be less. It all depends upon how many residents buy new cars and whether or not the purchase is made in another state. Bridgeton is being joined by many other communities in St. Louis County who are asking their residents to also retain the tax.

Watch for Proposition B on the upcoming April ballot.



WWW.BRIDGETONMO.COM

Elected Officials

Mayor:

Terry W. Briggs
373-3811

Municipal Judge:

Joseph Larrew

Ward 1:

Scott Zimmer
575-7474

Bob Saettele
291-1131

Ward 2:

Jerry Grimmer
739-7491

Linda Eaker
291-3880

Ward 3:

Ferd Fetsch
291-3021

Randy Hein
298-1700

Ward 4:

Barbara Abram
739-1050

Joni Norris
291-8041

City Hall
739-7500

Community Center
739-5599

VISIT YOUR NEW RECREATION CENTER!

The new Recreation Center is now open. Please plan to visit this new facility. Following is information on memberships that you will need to know. Please check the city website for membership fees and additional information.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS

The Bridgeton Recreation Center offers a variety of membership options for residents of Bridgeton, non-residents, and we now offer corporate memberships for those who work in the City of Bridgeton! You choose the level of membership that best meets your needs and budget! Membership fees can be found on the Bridgeton website. **Please note:** Each membership category requires all parties to be present at the time of application.

WHAT DOES THE CENTER MEMBERSHIP INCLUDE?

Membership includes use of the indoor aquatic facility, gymnasium, walking track, and fitness center. Please note the availability of the gymnasium and pool are subject to change depending on scheduled activities. Members are eligible for reduced rates on classes, activities and services offered at the center; invited to participate in special, no-cost promotions (i.e. Bring a friend to class, new program introductions, etc.); and to receive reduced rates at the Bridgeton Crossing Family Aquatic Park through our Membership Plus+ Program.

FAQ'S FOR BRIDGETON RESIDENTS:

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS FOR USING THE NEW FACILITY?

Residents will need to purchase a membership or value card or pay

a daily rate to use the majority of the Recreation Center. We still offer the \$10 Resident ID (free for resident seniors 60+), but it does not include access to the lower level of the Recreation Center.

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE RESIDENT ID?

The Resident ID will get you resident rates on daily facility use and punch cards, resident rate on room rentals, park pavilion rentals, and classes and programs. It will still get you the resident rate at Berry Hill Golf Course and Bridgeton Crossing Family Aquatic Park and Maryland Heights Aquaport. It will also allow you access to the indoor track and the game room in the Recreation Center.

SO, DO I STILL NEED A RESIDENT ID?

It depends on your planned use of the Recreation Center. If you are purchasing a membership, you will not also need to purchase a Resident ID. Your membership card will serve as your new Resident ID. If you do not want to purchase a membership, but still plan to take classes, use the Recreation Center occasionally, or visit the outdoor pool, golf course, or Aquaport, you will want to purchase the basic Resident ID.

I WANT TO WORK OUT AT THE RECREATION CENTER, BUT I DON'T WANT TO PAY THE ANNUAL FEE IN A LUMP SUM. WHAT ARE MY OTHER PAYMENT OPTIONS?

You can set up a monthly bank draft, which breaks the annual fee down to a small payment that is withdrawn from your bank account each month. You can also purchase a value card, which gives you a limited number of visits, or pay a daily rate to enter and just pay as you go. With several different payment options, you can pay based on what you plan to use, and how often you plan to visit.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIP:

Two (2) adults age of twenty-four (24) years and older, and their dependent children, who are permanent residents. Dependents between the ages of eighteen (18) and twenty-three (23) must show proof of residency. Dependents under the age of 18 must reside at the address listed for that child under any public school, private school or home school registration.

Adult: 16-59 years of age

Youth: 4-15 years of age

Senior: 60 and older

SENIOR COUPLE: A couple, only one of which must be 60 years of age or older, both residing in the same household. Only available for Bridgeton resident couples.

ONE+ONE: Membership for two adults, regardless of age, residing in the same household and not operating as a single financial or economic unit (i.e. roommates in an apartment building or house).

- This type of membership is only available for Bridgeton resident members.
- Both parties must be present at the time they are applying for membership. Each must provide their own proof of residency in accordance with department requirements.

SILVER SNEAKERS: Membership is obtained by providing proof of a Silver Sneakers membership through Healthways, Inc.

CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP:

Employees of all businesses located in the City of Bridgeton are eligible for discounted membership rates. The employee is required to show a current payroll stub (not older than 60 days) with the Bridgeton business address on it, along with a current photo id.

GOLF COURSE OPENING

Berry Hill Golf Course is scheduled to reopen on MARCH 1ST.

UPCOMING EVENTS...

SWEETHEART BALL



Girls from ages 5 – 12 can bring their favorite adult male (dad, stepdad, grandpa, uncle, older brother, etc.) for a magical night of fun on Friday, February 5th from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.! The evening will include dinner, dancing and lots of special memories. A picture of your sweetheart and her favorite guy will be taken to help them remember the evening! Registra-

tion for this program will be taken when the new recreation center opens in late January. Resident fee is \$32 per couple. Non-resident fee is \$38 per couple. The cost for an additional girl is \$15 each.

ETIQUETTE FOR BEGINNERS

The Etiquette Factory with Mrs. Patterson presents Etiquette for Beginners (ages 4-8): Life Lessons taught through story, song and play. Each week of the 4-week class will cover a different topic: the vocabulary of etiquette, saying hello, kindness, and sharing. Age appropriate activities will be used to convey each message; for example, come hear about Earl, the alligator that learns the importance of a proper introduction. Please pre-register by February 16. Lessons will be held on Tuesday, February 23-March 15 from 6:15-7:45 p.m. **Resident fee is \$36; Non-resident fee is \$41.**

ETIQUETTE STORYTIME

Join us each month to hear stories on a different topic. An adult should participate with children in this program at a 2:1 ratio. Please pre-register by the Friday before each program. This program is for children ages 3-5 and will be held on Mondays from 9-9:45 a.m. on February 15, March 14, April 4, and May 2. Resident fee is \$7 per session; Non-resident fee is \$9 per session.

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT WORKSHOP

For ages 15+. This is a great way to get your teen started on his or her summer job search--join Bridgeton Parks and Recreation staff to learn more about summer employment opportunities within the department. Find out what positions are available, and what the qualifications and requirements for each position are. Staff will also give tips on what constitutes a great job application, and how to wow a potential employer in an interview. This workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 9th from 6:30-7:30 p.m.. The workshop is FREE – but you must pre-register by February 5. Registration for this program will be taken as soon as the new Recreation Center opens.

LIFEGUARD TRAINING

Pre-requisites:

- Must swim 300 yards continuously using these strokes in the following order: 100 yards front crawl, 100 yards of breaststroke and 100 yards of either front crawl or breaststroke or a combination of both. All 300 yards must be completed using rhythmic breathing with your face in the water and a stabilizing, propellant kick.

- Minimum age of 15

- Must swim 20 yards using a front crawl or breaststroke, surface dive to a minimum depth of 7 feet, retrieve a 10lb object, return to the surface, and swim back to the starting point with the object within one minute and forty seconds. While returning to the starting point, you must hold the 10lb object with both hands and keep your face above the water.

IMPORTANT: Skills testing for all sections will be held the Friday before your first class from 5-9pm

Training is held on Saturdays and Sundays. **Session schedule is as follows:**

- **S1** February 19, 20, 21, 27, 28 – 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.
- **S2** March 4, 5, 6, 12, 13 – 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

The cost for Residents is \$160; Non-residents is \$180.

MINECRAFT KIDZ NIGHT OUT

A Bricks 4 Kidz Night Out is a high-energy evening full of LEGO entertainment for kids ages 6 – 12 on Saturday, February 20th from 5-8 p.m.! The theme of the night is Minecraft. Join us as we craft key elements from the game with LEGO bricks, build monsters, and play games. Each child will take home a mini LEGO creeper. We'll also provide pizza and drinks. Children spend three hours supervised by our trained instructors.

Registration fee for Residents is \$34. Non-resident fee is \$38. Registration ends February 10; program may be cancelled if minimum enrollment of 14 is not met.

This program is offered in cooperation with and instructed by Bricks 4 Kidz; program is held at the Bridgeton Recreation Center. Find out more about Bricks 4 Kidz on their website: www.brick4kidz.com/stl

JULY 4, 2016 CELEBRATION PARADE

The Bridgeton Special Events Commission is already organizing Bridgeton's Annual July 4th 2016 parade and has decided on the theme Traveling the USA. We are looking for you to capture American travel topics, icons, items seen or experienced while traveling the good old USA (i.e., national monuments, concerts, states, sports teams, American cuisines, American history, amusement parks, inventions, charitable organizations, movies, etc.). Now is the time to begin thinking about creative entries. As always, we are inviting citizens, businesses, churches and friends of Bridgeton to participate. Entry forms will be available March 2016. Be sure to sign up early!



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CITY OF BRIDGETON

12355 Natural Bridge Rd.
Bridgeton, MO 63044

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BRIDGETON HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

Congratulations to all of the 2015 Winter Lighting Award winners! Thank you for your commitment to making Bridgeton brighter this holiday as well as a beautiful city in which to live. We would like to also thank everyone that took time out to call the Bridgeton Community Center to nominate his/her neighbor. We wish every Bridgeton Resident a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

The Bridgeton Beautification Commission conducted their annual Winter Lighting Contest Tour on Sunday, December 13th. Twelve winners were selected based on quality of display, attractiveness and overall appearance. Residents who received an award during the past three years were ineligible for consideration.

Each winner received an engraved commemorative Christmas ornament and a sign placed in their front yards to notify neighbors and passersby of this special recognition.

THE WINNERS:

Marvin, Vivian & Maurya Cockrell 11850 Melody Lane	Jack & Susan Duepner 11976 Beaverton
Bob, Alicia & Alexis O'Neal 3725 Red Hawk	Gerry & Gerrie Sundling 12022 Clichy Lane
Jason & Jackie Wood 11401 Nora Ct.	Bill & Mary Rosner & Family 12720 Spanish Village
Dennis, Cindy & Andrew O'Sullivan 11415 Nora Ct.	Kevin & Mary Carroll 3397 Tortosa
Dave & Pat Koenig 11708 Beaverton	The Bridgeton business recognized for their lighting was Kathy Bowden, State Farm Insurance at 12119 St. Charles Rock Road
David, Cheryl & Christopher Arnold 4186 Avery	
Jeremy & Rebekah Howard 11496 Double T	
Paul Farrar & Family 3754 Red Hawk	

TWO RECEIVE APWA WORKSHOP RECOGNITION



Picture: Left to Right – Vern Pape, John Callahan, Mayor Briggs, and Matt Elliott

Congratulations to Matt Elliott and John Callahan for completing the American Public Works Association's Winter Maintenance Supervisor Workshop. Both Matt and John hold the classification of Maintenance III, with a combined 26+ years of experience. As the City's Public Works Department prepares for the winter season, the training Matt and John received throughout this course will help our Street Department further improve the City's snow removal operations. The APWA course focused on topics such as: snow and ice control chemicals and materials, applying the right materials at the right time and right place, snow and ice control strategies and environmental impacts. The City of Bridgeton prides itself on safe and efficient snow removal for residents during the winter months. Training on the most up-to-date materials, products and new procedures allows our City to continue to provide superior snow and ice removal.