



**NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017**

# BRIDGETON BANNER



## HELEN MCNAMEE

It is with great pleasure and deep gratitude that we announce the inclusion of a new 11 passenger van known as "Helen's Wheels" to our Senior Transportation Program.

The late Helen McNamee, a lifelong Bridgeton resident and dear friend to so many in our community and specifically our Older Adult Services Division, donated the funds through her prudent estate planning that made it possible for the city of Bridgeton to purchase the vehicle.

Helen was always actively participating in many of the senior programs enjoying a variety of trips, social clubs and volunteer activities. In later years

she remained active in the community by riding the senior van which allowed her the opportunity to maintain her independence while continuing her volunteer and social activities.

We are so grateful to Helen McNamee for remembering us so generously and for her faithful support of our mission.

## NOMINATING PETITIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR OFFICE OF COUNCILPERSON (ONE IN EACH WARD) FOR THE APRIL 3, 2018 ELECTION

Nominating petitions are available in the City Clerk's office, Bridgeton City Hall, 12355 Natural Bridge Road, for the office of Councilperson in the City of Bridgeton, one to be elected from each ward for a two-year term. Petitions for City Council must be signed by no less than 50 registered voters in their respective Wards in the City of Bridgeton

**FILING FOR OFFICE OPENS 8:30 A.M. TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018, AND CLOSSES AT 5:00 P.M. MONDAY, JANUARY 22, 2018. PETITIONS ARE TO BE FILED IN THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE DURING REGULAR BUSINESS HOURS AT CITY HALL.**



## NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night out was held on Tuesday October 3rd and was once again a tremendous success. Bridgeton Police officers visited several neighborhood celebrations. We thank all the residents that participated in the event and those who showed support in partnering to address crime prevention. A special National Night Out event was held at the Bridgeton Recreation Center for those residents that did not have a neighborhood celebration to attend. Bridgeton Police Officers and members of the Pattonville Fire Protection District cooked hotdogs and provided chips and water. We want to welcome Pastor Aeneas Williams and the Members of Spirit Church to the community, who stopped by the event.

[WWW.BRIDGETONMO.COM](http://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



## FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR BRIGGS

## CITY REPORTS PROGRESS IN MEETING PENSION OBLIGATIONS

Bridgeton city officials continue to improve the financial condition of the pension program covering most of the city's employees. "This fiscal year (January 1 to December 31, 2017), the administration and council increased the amount allocated for the employee pension to \$1.4 million and then added \$125,000 bringing the total \$1.525 million pledged to the pension fund," said Mayor Terry Briggs. "This, in addition to a very robust investment return, is helping our pension fund maintain a healthy balance."

It was more than one year ago that the Missouri State Auditor's office issued an audit of Bridgeton's city employees' defined benefit pension plan raising concerns about the unfunded liability of the fund and several procedural checks and balances. "While still underfunded, the pension fund balance is in much

better shape at the end of 2017 than it was several years ago," said Mayor Briggs.

The main problem with the underfunding of the plan stemmed from the financial recession that struck in 2008 and lasted for several years. The pension lost a third of invested value and has been struggling to catch up.

Along with the financial issues, the auditor's report also questioned the city's oversight of how the fund was managed. Mayor Briggs created a separate city Pension Commission composed of residents, and city employees either drawing a pension or entitled to receive one in the future. "The Pension Commission holds regular meetings at which discussions are held regarding how the funds are invested, the balances existing and updates on the number of retirees," said Briggs. "Regular minutes are kept at each meeting; an issue the auditor raised about past pension decisions."

The Commission makes recommendations for the City Council to act upon. One upcoming issue before the Commission will be the development and implementation of a Pension Investment Plan, something also called for in the audit.

Meanwhile, the city's defined benefit pension plan continues to flourish in the rising stock market. "Just

this last quarter, the pension fund gained \$760,000 from investments," said Briggs. The balance at the end of September was \$27,940,440.

Mayor Briggs reiterated a pledge made at the time the state audit was released; all eligible employees will receive their full pension benefits when they retire from the City of Bridgeton.

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## NO CITY PROPERTY TAX INCREASE IN 2018

In what has become a long-standing tradition, the City of Bridgeton will not be raising the property taxes in the city. The 16-cent property tax on residential properties has not been changed in 41 years. And, the city will once again not be collecting a city personal property tax. The assessed value of residential property in the city is estimated at \$108 million, up 6.2% from 2016 values.

The tax rate for Bridgeton businesses also will not change, remaining at 24.6 cents for every \$100 of assessed valuation. Commercial property values rose 3.2% in 2017 to \$264 million.

"This is all very good news for Bridgeton residents and businesses alike," said Mayor Terry Briggs. "Everyone hopes their property remains at or above the previous year and since the city is not increasing the tax rate, the impact upon the pocketbook is minimal."

## PET LICENSES DUE

Pet licenses for 2018 will be available for purchase at City Hall BEGINNING January 2nd. Proof of rabies inoculation is required. The fee is \$2.00.

Please remember - Dogs and cats may not be allowed to run at large. They must be licensed annually and must be immunized against rabies. Call the Animal Control Office at 739-7557 about questions or problems concerning animals.

## BERRY HILL GOLF COURSE

The golf course will be open until December 22nd and then closed for the winter until March 1st.

## LANDSCAPING AWARDS

The Beautification Commission awarded the late summer/early fall landscaping awards for 2017. The winners received a certificate of recognition from the City of Bridgeton and a \$25 gift certificate from Braneky Hardware.

### The winners were:

Mr. & Mrs. John Collins  
#2 DePaul Hills Ct.

Ms. Janalee Heaton  
12122 McKelvey Place Dr.

Chipotle Mexican Grill  
was also recognized by  
the commission for their  
outstanding appearance  
of their premises.

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Chenault  
11711 Beaverton

Mr. Ernestine Zegar  
11715 Beaverton

Mr. & Mrs. Frederick  
Sansone  
3602 Harmann Estates Dr.

Mr. & Mrs. Bob Totterer  
11843 Majella

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Wittich  
11838 Majella

Mr. & Mrs. Donald  
Greenlee  
3948 Laux

## VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Carol Steinbach was named the Volunteer of the Year of 2017. Carol has served on the Special Events Commission for 10 years. After her term of six years and serving as Chairman she served as an auxiliary member. In 2017 she was appointed as a full member and as Chairman again. The Special Events Commission coordinates the Independence Day parade. This is an enormous task and Carol has handled it well during her tenure on the Commission.

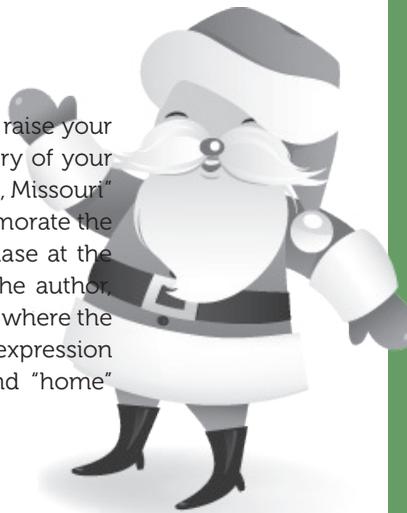


The following businesses made donations for attendance prizes at the dinner: Applebee's, Massa's and Schnucks.

Have you ever thought about getting more involved in your City? There are 13 active Boards and Commissions that serve in advisory capacities to the City Council. Here is the current listing: Beautification, Board of Adjustment, Design and Review, Finance, Historical, Housing Board of Appeals, Parks and Recreation Board, Pension, Personnel, Planning and Zoning, Police, Senior Citizens, Special Events, and Street Commission. If you are interested in serving the City please contact your City Council representative or the Mayor's office.

## CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEA

Have you lived in Bridgeton your entire life? Did you raise your children in Bridgeton? Have you ever read the history of your City? "Home Place - A Celebration of Life in Bridgeton, Missouri" was written by Jane Mobley, Ph.D. in 1993 to commemorate the bi-centennial of Bridgeton and is available for purchase at the Reception Desk at City Hall for \$20. As stated by the author, "Bridgeton is the America most of us wish for, a place where the democratic process makes sense, a city parade is an expression of real pride, people know each other's names, and "home" means more than real estate."



## UPCOMING EVENTS...

### CANDLELIGHT TOURS OF THE PAYNE-GENTRY HOUSE

The Historical Commission and Society will provide a nostalgic glimpse at Christmas past. The house will feature a Victorian Christmas tree, decorated with antique ornaments and surrounded by toys. Many other collectibles and original furnishings are also on display. Candlelight tours will be given and refreshments will be available.

**Saturday and Sunday, December 2 and 3\* from 4-8 p.m. \$3 for adults, \$2 for seniors, \$1 for children (4-15)**

\*In case of inclement weather, the event will be rescheduled for Saturday and Sunday, December 9 and 10.

### COOKIES AND COCOA WITH CLAUS

Join Santa for a new twist on an old favorite! Instead of breakfast, Santa is joining us for an early evening social hour. We'll serve cookies, and hot cocoa and give you a chance to visit Santa and take a family photo. A craft project for the kids will be provided.

Make your plans for **Sunday, December 3 from 4-5 p.m.** The cost for Residents/BRC Members is \$6 and Non-residents is \$8. Cost is per child; all ages must register; please **pre-register by Monday, Nov. 27.**

### BRIDGETON BEAUTIFICATION CHRISTMAS LIGHTING TOUR

The Bridgeton Beautification Commission will conduct their annual Christmas home and business light judging tour on **Sunday, December 10th starting at 5 p.m.** NOTE: if the weather is not favorable, we will schedule for a better day the same week on into the next week (make sure your display is ready this entire time). The commission will select ten winners based on quality of display, attractiveness and overall appearance. The winners will receive a commemorative Christmas ornament and a sign placed in their front yards showing receipt of this special recognition. **Please call Angela Wright at 739-5599 if you wish to nominate a friend or neighbor for the final judging.** If the resident has previously received an award during the past three years, they are ineligible for 2017.



# BRIDGETON BANNER

CITY OF BRIDGETON

12355 Natural Bridge Rd.  
Bridgeton, MO 63044

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
St. Louis, MO  
Permit No. 1062

## SNOW! SNOW! SNOW!

As we enter the winter season, please be reminded of the regulations concerning parking of cars on the street during snow periods. Please assist the City in keeping your streets drivable during and after snow storms by obeying these regulations and recognizing the snow routes.

During a snowfall and for twelve hours thereafter, parking is prohibited on both sides of streets designated as snow routes. Any vehicle parked on these streets may be towed by the Police Department at the owner's expense. During the same period, parking on all other city streets is prohibited on the odd numbered side (north or west side). In addition, parking is prohibited on all courts and cul-de-sacs.

### SNOW ROUTES:

Avery Lane	Cypress Road	Lockport Drive	Smiley Road
Benedetta Drive	Fee Fee Road	Majella Drive	Spanish Village Drive
Blake Drive	(from south city limits	Mark Twain Lane	St. Charles Rock Road
Boenker Lane	to Carmel Ct.)	(Between Harmann Estates	Taussig Avenue
Bonfils Drive	Foerster Road	Drive & St. Charles Rock	Taylor Avenue
(from Natural Bridge to	Gallatin Lane	Road)	Terry Avenue
Woodford Way)	Gist Road	McKelvey Road	Tideland Drive
Brampton Drive	Haas Avenue	Missouri Bottom Road	Welland Avenue
Bristolhall Drive	Harmann Estates Drive	Natural Bridge Road	Whitehall Manor Drive
Burgess Avenue	Harmony Lane	Old St. Charles Road	Woodford Way
Celburne Drive	Lindbergh Boulevard	Raymond Avenue	