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Visit us online: www.cityofpleasantridge.org or www.facebook.com/PleasantRidgeMI for information, updates and much more!



state of the city

By Kurt Metzger, Pleasant Ridge Mayor



The 2018 State of the City is my fifth as Mayor of Pleasant Ridge. It is amazing how quickly time passes when you are having fun. Perhaps it is the fact that time passes more quickly as one ages, but I like to attribute it to the fact that I work with a wonderful city staff, am supported by a great Commission, and serve 2,500 engaged residents.

Infrastructure

With Ridge, Indiana, and Bermuda being rebuilt this past summer, all our streets are now finished and in great shape.

Our Community Center improvement project continued this fall and winter with the overhaul of the Big Room. With the outdoor patio project completed in 2017, we now have fresh, modern indoor and outdoor gathering space for residents and users of the building. If you haven't been up to the Community Center to witness the still in-progress transformation, you really need to see it. The update is quite amazing and will feature a new garage door opening to the patio. This will be a very popular event and gathering space, and please join me in thanking the Foundation for their leadership and financial partnership that helped move these projects forward.

We continue to make Woodward streetscape improvements. Next spring MDOT will be making improvements at the Oakland Park/Woodward intersection to make the pedestrian crossing across Woodward safer and more inviting.

Pleasant Ridge is home to about 2,400 total street and park trees. Our popular tree planting program continued in 2018, with over 100 trees planted, including the replanting of trees on Kensington, Elm Park Blvd, Ridge, and Indiana. We will be planting trees on Woodward Heights and Oakland Park this coming spring. Residents who live on other streets can get a new street tree through

our cooperative tree planting program (information about the program is included in this Ridger).

Finally, we improved our digital infrastructure with a new website which launched this past year. I hope you will agree that it is a major improvement.

Events

It seems that each year brings new attendance records at all our traditional events, and this year was no exception. An increasing number of families with children are finding Pleasant Ridge the place to be because of our recreational and event programming.

Our senior programming continues to thrive. The day trip program continues to be a big hit with exciting adventures in Detroit highlighted by visits to several cultural venues and sampling some of the newest restaurants. Book early for future trips because they always sell out! Senior Bingo continues to be a winner, with record numbers enjoying the last event of the year that featured a terrific Thanksgiving Dinner with all trimmings. Well over 300 people attended each of the Ice Cream Social, Halloween Hayride, and Christmas Tree Lighting events and close to 150 residents got to see the newly refurbished "Big Room" at the Community Center as they shared Breakfast with Santa in early December.

We have many events put on by our wonderful volunteer groups – the Home and Garden Tour (Historical Commission); the Spring Brunch (PR Woman's Club); lectures, wreath and table decorations workshops, and more (PR Garden Club); and the annual Spring Auction and party (PR Foundation). While the PR Woman's Club was unable to have their Lasagna Dinner this past November due to Big Room construction, they will be sponsoring a Trivia Night fundraiser in January.

Our pool and summer programs also continue to thrive. Pool attendance in 2018 exceeded 23,500 visitors, breaking the previous record of 23,441 in 2012. Our Swim Team had 145 registered

participants and our summer camp registration was 107, with an average of 70 children attending every day. And, while I am not sure that records were reached, the Pleasant Ridge Synchro Show was terrific!

The Recreation Commission deserves our thanks for their diligent work on our recently adopted 5-year Recreation Plan. This plan is based on resident input gathered through online surveys and an in-person input exercise at the Ice Cream Social, and it will guide the city's recreation spending over the coming years.

In addition to the groups mentioned above, I want to acknowledge all the other volunteers who serve the city through membership on the Planning Commission/DDA, the Board of Review, the Library Board, and as Election inspectors. We would not be Pleasant Ridge without all of you.

Personnel

I will finish by acknowledging all those who come to work each day and make Pleasant Ridge the special place that it is. We said goodbye to part-time Officer Julie Reid, who found a full-time position in the Village of Franklin, and we welcomed a new full-time officer, Jeremy Watters. We continue to update our police equipment and have taken delivery of a new Chevrolet Tahoe. In 2019 we will be purchasing body cameras for our police. The overwhelming support of the police pension millage in 2017 (81 percent Yes) has put us on path to eliminate our pension fund shortfall and provides budget certainty that allows us to continue to invest in our police department.

Finally, I send my sincere thanks for another wonderful year to Jim Breuckman, Amy Drealan, Scott Pietrzak, Evan Davis, Shawnie Stamper, Tim Schultz and all the staff at the pool and community center who make it easy for me and my fellow commissioners to do our jobs. You are the best!



2019

MASTER COMPOSTER TRAINING PROGRAM

Sponsored by SOCWA,
Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority
Royal Oak, Michigan



Classes start Monday, March 11, 2019

10:30 a.m. – Noon

Learn basic skills of composting and mulching –
Including class discussions and hands-on demonstrations.

\$40 fee includes text book, 200 page Master Composter notebook, and name badge – awarded upon completion of the course requirements.

For further information: www.socwa.org (healthy lawns and gardens) or LFDean2@gmail.com



Street Tree Purchase Program

Residents who want a street tree planted in front of their house may participate in a cooperative purchase program with the City. The cost to the resident is \$125, or about 1/3 of the total cost to purchase and plant a tree. The City will cover the rest.

Residents who participate in the cooperative purchase program will have a tree planted according to the City's adopted Street Tree Planting Manual, which can be accessed at: www.cityofpleasantridge.org/lsvr_document_cat/public-works/. Tree species are identified for each street in the manual.

The deadline to participate in this program is Thurs., February 7.

In order to be included in the order, residents must have payment to City Hall by that date. The trees will be planted in the spring, usually in April. Contact City Hall at 248-541-2901 with any questions about participating in this program.

Effective Technology Integration Strategy

By Lauren Villaluz,
FPS Tech Integration Specialist

It is no secret that our students love tech. However, when it comes to finding the right technology to support student learning, the process may surprise you. Rather than leading with a device-driven mentality focused on Chromebooks or iPads, our educators integrate technology by focusing on content and instructional approaches appropriate for their students and letting those be the drivers behind the technology that they choose to utilize in their classroom.

Ferndale High School staff looked a bit puzzled when halfway through a "technology" professional learning session, they found themselves building

with Strawbees –plastic construction connectors that allow you to build prototypes of anything you can imagine using regular drinking straws. The inevitable question hanging in the air was, "What does this have to do with technology?"

Although we often think of technology as something shiny and new like a Chromebook or the latest iPhone, it is important to remember that technology is really any tool or material that has been developed to help us solve a problem or achieve a specific end result. Pencils and paper, whiteboards and markers, and even manipulatives like Strawbees are examples of technology, though perhaps not quite as flashy.

Building a lesson with effective technology integration is like crafting the perfect recipe of content, instruction, and technology tools. And, the results can be seen in so many diverse and exciting forms in Ferndale Public Schools.

- A high school science class is utilizing Cubelet robots to apply an understanding of modularity and computational thinking while collecting data through sensors for further study.
- Kindergarten students are building prototypes of an animal shelter using Strawbees and 3D pens.
- TCEC students are taking virtual field trips around the world using VR (virtual reality) headsets.

As these new tools are developed and access to them expands, they bring novel and exciting approaches to education. The possibilities are only limited by our collective imagination. With the additional support of our community and organizations like the Ferndale Education Association, teachers at Ferndale Schools are able to innovate and engage with students on a whole new level.



This story is from the Fall 2018 issue of Local, the Community Education Magazine.
READ ABOUT 2018 TECH GRANTS FUNDED THROUGH A COMMUNITY BOND »
FerndaleSchools.org/magazine/techgrants



2019 Book Sale

Nothing takes the chill out of the air like a good book. Pick some up at the **Friends of Huntington Woods Library's Used Book Sale!**

Sat., Feb. 2, 2019, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Books, and more are available for \$1 or less. Funds raised provide funding for the Library's programs and purchases throughout the year.

Location: Huntington Woods Library, Lower Level, 26415 Scotia Rd. Huntington Woods, MI 48070 Info: **248.543.9720**.

2019 Jr. Garden Club Meetings

Feb. 12 & Apr. 30 at 3:45 p.m.

Meets at the PR Community Center

Register online or email Shawnie:
ssstamper@cityofpleasantridge.org



2019 Daddy-Daughter Dance

Feb. 8, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. \$5 per person.

Register by 2/1/19. Price includes corsage, snacks, and dancing the night away!

Ridge Resale: 5 Years of Giving Back

We have been able to raise approx. \$4,000+ annually for the PR Foundation and other organizations, such as Ferndale High School and Ferncare, thanks to YOUR donations! We save our choicest donations to be featured in the Silent Auction portion of the Pleasant Ridge Foundation's Annual Gala & Auction. Please consider donating today!

To donate during the "off-season" please contact either Jodi McGuire at 248.398.6404 or Sharon Barrett 248.548.6097. We'll see you in May!

**Celebrating
5 Years!**



The Friends of the Huntington Woods Public Library is proud to announce two \$1,000 scholarships to eligible seniors who volunteer with us. The application form and volunteer information is available online!

DEADLINE: THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2019

Mail your application to: Friends of the Huntington Woods Library Scholarship Committee, 26415 Scotia Rd., Huntington Woods, MI 48070

Application Requirements

- Volunteer with the Friends in 2018 or 2019
- Be a high school senior with a 3.0 or higher GPA
- Submit a completed application with essay and documents by the deadline
- Be accepted as a full-time student to a college or university for Fall, 2019

See application for complete details



DOWNLOAD APPLICATION ONLINE: huntingtonwoodslibrary.org (see scholarship page under Friends tab)

QUESTIONS? CONTACT US! • Jenn Faber - greengirl@gmail.com

• Martha Spear - martha.spear@berkleyschools.org 248.837.8112



JOIN the Pleasant Ridge Club



About the Club: Founded in 1911, the Pleasant Ridge Club functions as a community social organization geared to bringing friends, neighbors, and residents together for quarterly events that include dining, socializing and dancing. The Club's objective is to foster a wholesome community spirit, promote neighborly goodwill and stimulate interest in civic and social activities.

Recent Events include:

- Drunks of Antiquity Tour of historic Detroit bars
- Wine and six-course dinner pairing at a Hamtramck Pop-up
- Appetizers & DJ at Olive's Bloombox
- Various themed parties at Residents' homes: Euchre, Martinis & Moonshine, Murder Mystery, Garden Party

Membership: If you are interested in joining the Pleasant Ridge Club, please contact Mark Kueber at markkueber@gmail.com. Annual membership fees are \$15 for a single, \$30 for a couple. Member dues allow for member benefits such as reduced ticket prices and entry to members-only functions.

Upcoming Events:

Save the date for our winter event on Jan. 12, 2019 at the new Vinoteca in Birmingham!

Seeking Board Members: Want to get involved and help plan our events? The Pleasant Ridge Club board needs YOU! We are looking for fun, enthusiastic board members to help us plan and execute our quarterly events to keep this fabulous PR tradition alive! **For more information, please contact Mark Kueber at markkueber@gmail.com.**

Check out our Facebook page for more info!

Pleasant Ridge Foundation Offers Scholarships

Each year the Pleasant Ridge Foundation awards several \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors, based on community service as well as academics and participation in extracurricular activities. All high school seniors (public or private school) who reside in the Ferndale School District may apply.

Applications are available online at: www.pleasantridgefoundation.org. **Applications are due March 30, 2019.** Email Karen King at: kingbaum@aol.com for more information.

PR Woman's Club college scholarships available

The **Pleasant Ridge Woman's Club** is once again offering college scholarships to graduating seniors of the Class of 2019.

Scholarships are available to students residing in the Ferndale School District, for public or private schools. **Applications are available after Jan. 15, 2019 — visit www.cityofpleasantridge.org for an application or pick one up at Ferndale High School.**

Deadline date for application — March 1, 2019.

Non-FHS students may return them to Kathi Snow, 35 Oakland Park. Contact Kathy Cavazos @ 248.762.1041 or kcavazos@wowway.com with any questions.

The PR Woman's Club purpose is providing recognition and scholarships to our students. Please check us out!

**The Pleasant Ridge Woman's Club
presents an evening of fun to benefit
the PRWC Scholarship Fund**



**Friday
Jan. 11**

**PR Rec Center
7 p.m. check in
7:30 p.m. GAME ON!**

**Get some friends together to
make up your ultimate team!**

- \$15 per person
- Max 10 people per table
- PR Residents
& non-residents welcome

Teams encouraged to bring their own beverages & snacks

**Fast paced fun!
"Basket of Joy" Raffle!
Prizes & Surprises!**

Not familiar with My Trivia Live?
Visit www.MyTriviaLive.com & click on "Hints & Rules"

To reserve a spot for your team, contact
Lynda at 313.525.3154 or L48124@aol.com
Space is limited!

for more info call the rec department 248-541-2902 **email** recreation@cityofpleasantridge.org



50+ Club events & info

2019 Monthly Movies

Jan. 17 (A Star is Born) • Feb. 21 • Mar. 21

Come on out to the Community Center, the popcorn & movie are FREE the third Thursday of each month!

Movie begins at 12:15 p.m. & 6:15 p.m. Seating begins 15 minutes before each show time. (same movie will be shown)

FREE Computer Workshop

2-Hour seminar & book signing!

January 24, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Author and instructor Mike Wilson will use his "senior friendly" HELP! Book to help PR 50+ Club members understand computer features, the Internet, Windows 10 software and so much more. Don't miss this helpful demo – register early to get a seat!

Faygo Book Event

January 24, 7 p.m. *The Faygo Book*

is the story of Detroit's beloved soda pop and how it has remained the last bottler standing in "pop alley" thanks to its pioneering techniques, rambunctious rainbow of flavors, and a fiercely loyal community. Author Joe Grimm carefully measures out the ingredients for a successful beverage company that has forged a bond with a city and its residents for more than a century in spite of dicey economic times in a boom-and-bust town. These stories and facts will tickle the taste buds and memories of Detroiters and Faygo lovers everywhere.



St. Patrick's Day Bingo/Dinner

March 7, 6 p.m. Corned beef and cabbage dinner included. Reserve your spot now – space is limited to the first 40 to register.

Community Blood Drive

March 21, 1 – 7 p.m. Give blood. Help save lives! To schedule an appointment, visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code pleasantridge or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Call 248-541-2902, ext. 0 to register or learn more about events and trips! All events at the PR Community Center unless otherwise noted.

50+ Club Day Trips

Detroit Institute of Arts Curator Lecture with Nancy Barr



DATE: Thu, Jan. 10, 12 -3:30 p.m. FREE trip

Thursdays at the Museum Series

Join us for a lecture by Nancy Barr on her exhibition *Lost & Found: Photographs from the DIA's Collection*. This collection is a fascinating look at rediscovered photographs (referred to as "found" photography) rescued from attics, resale shops, online sources and the Detroit Institute of Arts' archives.

<https://www.dia.org/events/lost-found-photographs-dia%E2%80%99s-collection>

Jan. 16: FBI—*The Kwame Files* Presented by the Detroit FBI & Lunch at The BLOCK

Feb. 7: Detroit Masonic Temple tour & Lunch. 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Cost: \$20 includes tour & trans. Lunch cost is on your own.

Feb. 27: Little Caesars Arena Tour 9:30 a.m. -2 p.m. Cost: \$20, includes tour & transportation. Tour will cover history of the development, viewing of the locker rooms and suites. Lunch at Kid Rock's Made in Detroit. Lunch cost is on your own.

Mar. 5: The Siren Hotel tour, lunch and finish up the date with a drink at The Candy Bar.

Mar. 20: MYSTERY TRIP! Watch for more clues to come!

May: Murals in the Market. Details to come!



The Candy Bar



Youth Sports 2019

Youth Co-Ed Spring Soccer

U6 Spring Soccer (DOB 1/1/14-12/31/15) \$50

U8 Spring Soccer (DOB 1/1/12-12/31/13) \$60

NEW! U10 Spring Soccer

(DOB 1/1/10-12/31/11) \$70

Registration deadline: 3/1/2019

Practice begins 3/18. Games begin 3/30, last game is 5/11. Non-residents, add \$10 to fee.

Soccer registration fee includes jersey and socks. We will try to accommodate coach and player requests, but no guarantees will be made.

Youth Co-Ed Spring Baseball

T-Ball (age 5-6): \$50

Coach Pitch (age 7-8): \$60

Pony (ages 9-10): \$70

Minor (ages 11-12): \$70

Major league (ages 13/14): \$80

Non-residents, add \$10 to fee.



Resident registration deadline: March 1, 2019.

Practices begin in early May. Games begin week of 6/3.

Please register for your division using player's age as of 8/1/19.

Girls U12 Fast-Pitch Softball

Call Ferndale at 248.544.6767 for more details.

activity news & notes

Kids Fitness and Nutrition Class

This weekly one-hour class will include fun fitness activities in which kids will learn about different muscle groups and why they are important for physical fitness; they will also prepare a healthy snack while they learn about nutrition.

Ages 6-10, Max. 10, Min. 6 children, \$70 per student, Includes food. Starts Jan. 14, 2019 — Wednesdays 4-5 p.m. Instructor: Ann Quinn, ACE Certified, Questions: indyany@aol.com

2019 Summer Staff Hiring

We're looking for Lifeguards, Head Lifeguards, Camp Counselors for summer 2019. **Application deadline: March 8, 2019.** Contact PR Rec for details!

PR Piranhas Swim Team 2019 Info

Practices start: May 6 at Ferndale High. Parent Info meeting: May 1, 2019, Welcome Dinner: May 23, 2019.
www.pleasantridgepiranhas.com



Youth Soccer Refs Needed

Must be 16 & older. Call Shelby Simpson or Ferndale Parks and Recreation at 248-544-6767, ext 502

It's Time for Adult Volleyball

Deadline Mar. 1. \$250 per team. Games begin mid-May, end mid-July.

wellness: a healthy and happy 2019

Yoga with Michele O'Brien, RYT

Yoga for All: Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.

6 classes: \$66 • 12 classes: \$122

Cardio • Strength • Flexibility

with Melanie Sevald. Incorporating the components of fitness, cardio, strength and flexibility, this class will get you moving to raise your heart rate and improve cardiovascular fitness. Please bring hand weights and a mat for floor work

Mon., Wed., Fri. 9 - 10 a.m.

Winter 1: (8 weeks) Jan. 7-Mar. 1

Winter 2: (7 weeks) Mar. 4-Apr. 17

Break April 22 - April 26

1 day: \$70, 2 days: \$105, 3 days: \$140

Drop-in: \$10 (to Melanie)

Vinyasa Yoga with Dawn New-Echlin

This class will be a slow-flow alignment-based vinyasa class. We will incorporate meditation and pranayama (breath work) training, breaking down

postures and offering alternatives and adjustments for those at different places in their practice. This class is meant for those physically able and would like a more approachable introduction to yoga.

Classes begin Jan. 10 for 8 weeks

Thursdays at 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. \$80 or \$12 / drop-in

Sit & Get Fit with Victoria Dickinson

Wed. & Fri., 9-10 a.m., \$20 for a 10-visit punch card

Pilates with Pam Kampf **Mon., 9 a.m. & 7 p.m.; Tue. 5 p.m.**

Have You Tried BritFit?

Pleasant Ridge & Ferndale's neighborhood bootcamp! Led by expert trainer (and British import) Steve Cook, the daily fitness classes are fun, high-energy and accessible to all fitness levels. Weekday classes (except Sundays) at Renaissance Vineyard Church. Monthly memberships start at \$79 and the first class is FREE for all PR residents. For more info: www.britfit-fitness.com or email smcook70@gmail.com.



Open 5 a.m.- midnight • 7 days a week, including weekends and holidays!

Stop at the front desk during open hours to get your key fob. You must be a PR resident and at least 16 years of age. Don't forget a picture ID to get fob during business hours.

It's EASY to register online for sports teams and activities:

Visit www.cityofpleasantridge.org and click on the RECREATION menu, select "Register Online"



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23925 WOODWARD AVE.
PLEASANT RIDGE, MI 48069

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A New Year in Pleasant Ridge

Happy 2019! We look forward to offering many fun events and activities to inspire your family this year. Take a **day trip** to go somewhere new, make health a priority at the **Wellness Center**, or participate in a scholarship **fundraiser** to make a difference. *There's so much to do this year!*