



RIDGER

NEWS & EVENTS • CITY OF PLEASANT RIDGE, MICHIGAN • JUL.-SEP., 2018



2018 Summer Camp Program. Photo courtesy Regan Castle, Camp Director

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



Notes from City Hall

Helpful information to keep in mind throughout the summer months

Grass and Noxious Weeds

The City has an ordinance requiring regular lawn and planting bed maintenance between the months of April and October. Please contact the Building Department if you see a lot becoming overgrown so that we may notify the owner or take corrective action, if necessary.

Solicitors in your neighborhood

With the summer months and nicer weather, we may encounter more people circulating in the neighborhoods wanting to promote businesses and charities. It's important to clarify exactly what is and is not permitted in your neighborhood.

Anyone who knocks on your door must be a representative of a charitable organization. No commercial or for-profit company is allowed to solicit door-to-door in residential areas. Secondly, any charitable organization must have a permit to solicit. The permits are issued by the City Clerk's Office and are approved by the Police Chief. If someone comes to your house, ask to see their permit. If they do not have one, you can call the police. If you wish to keep people from your door, you can get a "No Soliciting" sticker from your local hardware store. As always, if you notice anything out of the ordinary, please call the police department.

Building Permits: Why and When?

Building permits are required to help protect your investment and your safety. The Michigan Residential Code requires permits when "any owner or authorized agent...intends to construct, enlarge, alter, repair, move or change the occupancy of a building or structure..." This includes driveway, approach and service walk replacement. It further requires permits when an owner or agent intends to "erect, install, enlarge, alter, repair, remove, convert or replace any electrical, gas, mechanical or plumbing system..." The Code specifically states that the permit for the work must be obtained before the work begins. It is always best to call the Building Department for clarification of permit requirements.

Homeowners often fear that once a permit is filed their tax base will increase. Sometimes that is true, but not always. Adding on a room will increase the value of your home, but refurbishing a bathroom may not. Adding a pool will increase your home's value, while adding an in-line heater may not. Yet, all these activities require permits for one main reason: Homeowner Protection.

Beware the contractor who suggests that you take out the permit to "save money." Permit costs are the same regardless of the applicant. It is to your benefit to

require that the contractor be responsible for the work provided and that required inspections be adhered to assure code compliance. Only when inspections have been made and approved should payment be made.

Builder Beware

Scam artists thrive on people who fail to conduct due diligence before entering into a contract. These unscrupulous individuals not only cause homeowners great emotional and financial distress, they put honest contractors out of business, often giving all contractors a bad rap. It's a scenario that need not happen, if homeowners take the necessary steps:

Seek bids from no less than three contractors who have a solid history in the community.

Request a copy of the contractor's Builder's or Maintenance and Alteration Contractor's License.

The Michigan Occupational Code requires that contractors be licensed to provide labor or materials for any contract in excess of \$600. Remember, the M&A Contractor is only licensed to perform the services listed on the license. While we require registration of all contractors each calendar year, which includes proof of licensure, we do not check for complaints registered with the state.

Before you sign a contract, verify that the license is active and that there are no past or pending complaints. Call 517-241-9288 or check www.michigan.gov/builders.

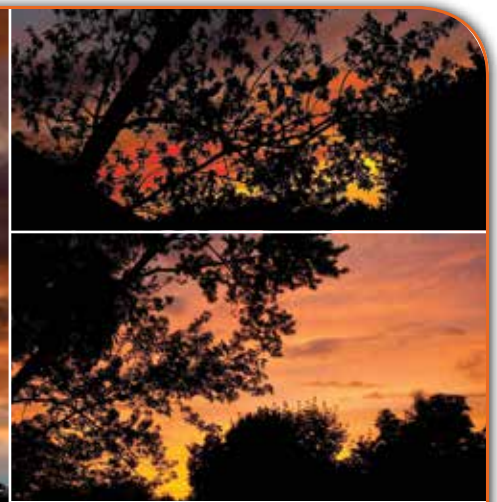
Insist that the contractor obtain a building permit. The need for a permit can be verified by calling the Building Department at 248-541-2901.

Ask for references and call them! Ask questions relating to the quality of work, timeliness of installation and overall responsiveness.

Unbundled Brush Pick-Up

Larger branches, 1" to 4" in diameter, will be collected by the City on the third Tuesday of each month. Branches 1" to 4" in diameter and between 4 feet and 10 feet in length must be placed at resident's curb with butt ends facing the direction vehicles travel. Branches larger than 4" in diameter will not be picked up by the City.

FIREWOOD AND LOGS WILL NOT BE COLLECTED. If a contractor or homeowner cuts down a tree, they must make arrangements to remove the debris from the property.



A summer sunset glows over Pleasant Ridge.
Photos courtesy of Tom Trueter.

TAX BILL INFORMATION

Tax bills will be mailed the beginning of July and are due July 31, 2018. If you are responsible for the payment, rather than a mortgage company, and have not received your bill by July 16, please contact City Hall for a copy of the bill.

The City of Pleasant Ridge allows the summer bills to be paid one of two ways. You may pay your bill in one lump sum or you may pay in eight installments. Payment must be made in full or the first installment payment must be paid by July 31, 2018.

If you wish to take advantage of the installment option, the simplest way to accomplish this is to pay one-eighth of the bill for each installment. You will be receiving payment coupons that reflect each payment amount, which must be returned with your payment. The date each payment is due is as follows:

1. July 31, 2018
2. August 31, 2018
3. September 30, 2018
4. October 31, 2018
5. November 30, 2018
6. December 31, 2018
7. January 31, 2019
8. February 28, 2019

Interest penalties on any late payment are charged at a rate of 1% per month retroactive to July 31. On the payment plan, the penalty is tested against the total payments made, so if the cumulative eight payments are not at the expected total for the payments made at the test date, an interest penalty will be assessed.

PLEASE NOTE: If payment is postmarked on the due date, it is deemed as paid on the due date. However, if the City Hall drop box is used, the payment must be

received prior to midnight. If it is received after that time, it is considered late and an interest penalty will be assessed.

Checks are accepted as conditional payment and if they are returned unpaid by your financial institution, the payment is deemed unpaid and an interest penalty will be assessed. In addition to this penalty, an administrative fee of \$30.00 will be charged for the returned check. Checks and credit card payments are accepted in person and online through the City's website.

If you have any questions, please contact City Hall.

The 2018 Election dates are as follows:

Tuesday, August 7, 2018 - Primary Election –
Close of Registration for the August Election is
Monday, July 9, 2018.

Tuesday, November 6, 2018 - General Election –
Close of Registration for the November Election
is Monday, October 9, 2018.

Qualified persons who are unable to vote in person may apply for an Absentee Ballot by contacting the City Clerks Office at (248) 541-2901.

The polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. All Pleasant Ridge residents vote at the Pleasant Ridge Community Center. Election inspectors will be available to answer any questions you may have on Election Day.

Questions about any of the above items? Please contact City Hall at 248-541-2901.



Rootin' Tootin' Rodeo Synchro Show

Wed., Aug. 15, 7 p.m.

Tickets available at the door: \$5 per person, \$20 per family. Please note pool closes at 6 p.m. that day. NEW this year: parent & child routine!

Pool Hours

Jul. 1 – Aug. 10:
Mon.–Fri.: 1–8 p.m.,
Sat.–Sun.: 12–8 p.m.

Aug. 11 – Sep. 3:
12 – 8 p.m. daily
unless otherwise noted
Shallow end: Mon.–Fri.,
11:15 a.m.–12:45 p.m.
(ends Jul. 27)

Special events
7/9: PR Pool Closes at
3:30 p.m. for home swim
meet (residents can swim at HW
pool with picture ID).
7/18: Adult Swim Meet,
7:30 p.m.
7/25: Pool open 1 – 5 p.m.
(Ice Cream Social
6 – 8 p.m.)
8/15: Synchro Show, 7 p.m.

**POOL CLOSES
SEP. 3, 2018**

SWIM LESSONS

The City of Pleasant Ridge offers one-week swim lessons for both residents and non residents. The lesson structure follows the American Red Cross Levels 1–7. Sign up at the Community Center or the Pool. Lessons are one-week sessions, Mon.–Thu. with make up on Fri. **COST: Residents: \$35, Non-residents: \$60.**

SESSION 3: JULY 9–12

Sign up begins 6/25
11:15 a.m.
Level 1,2,3,4
11:45 a.m.
Level 1,2,3,4, 5–7

SESSION 4: JULY 16–19

Sign up begins 7/9
11:15 a.m.
Level 1,2,3,4, Parent/Tot
11:45 a.m.
Level 1,2,3,4, 5–7

Adult Water Aerobics Classes Instructor: Victoria Dickinson (AEA Certified)

Jump right into our aqua classes and build cardiovascular fitness and strength. Just like swimming, our water aerobics classes are easy on your joints, yet challenging enough to help you reach new levels of fitness. Because of their low-impact format, water aerobics classes are suitable for every age and fitness level, from beginning exercisers through elite athletes. Participants may bring and use their own water shoes and gloves. Please also bring your own pool noodles (2) to class. Drop-in fee \$10 per class.

Water aerobics sessions: register for one, two, or three days

Session I: Jun. 19–Jul. 17
Tue. or Thu. 12 – 1 p.m. \$50R/\$55NR
Tue. & Thu. 12 – 1 p.m. \$100R/\$105NR

Saturday Morning Classes: 10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Jun. 17–Jul. 15, Jul. 22 – Aug. 19 \$50R/\$55NR

Session II: Jul. 24–Aug. 23
Tue. or Thu. 12 – 1 p.m. \$50R/\$55NR
Tue. & Thu. 12 – 1 p.m. \$100R/\$105NR

Fee classifications: R = resident, NR = non-resident



Looking forward to Fall Youth Soccer

U6 Fall Soccer: (DOB 1/1/12-12/31/13) \$50

U8 Fall Soccer: (DOB 1/1/10-12/31/11) \$60

Practices begin end of August, games begin early Sep. All teams are co-ed. Non-residents, add \$10 to fee. Soccer registration fee includes jersey (for new fall players only). We will try to accommodate coach requests, but no guarantees will be made. Contact the PR Rec Dept. for more details.

We are looking for volunteer coaches!



50+ Club

Movie of the Month Series Resumes on Sept. 20!

Movies will show the 3rd Thurs. of the Month, 12:15 & 6 p.m. showtimes. Movie titles TBA.

BINGO! Sep. 27, 6 - 8 p.m.

Mystery Trip & Dining Experience: Sep. 25. Details to be announced.

Please remember to RSVP for ALL 50+ Club activities & trips at 248-541-2902, ext. 0.

Flu Shot Clinic

Oct. 4, 1-5 p.m., PR Community Center

Walgreens will be on site providing flu shots, as well as blood pressure checks. There will also be FREE demonstrations of our offered Fitness Class to keep your blood pumping! Claddagh Chiropractic will be on site to offer information on their services & as well as providing FREE postural screening and chair massages. Oakland County Health Division will have a representative on site for questions & program information.

**Vaccines are subject to availability. State, age, and health related restrictions may apply. Most insurance coverage is accepted, including Medicare Part B, Blue Cross, HAP & AARP. Check with your insurance company for coverage details.*



Musically-minded

how music education is improving student learning

Every Ferndale Schools student is a musician. Even our earliest learners can be heard singing and dancing down the hallways of the Early Childhood Center and Lower Elementary School, both in play and through music education integration into our brain-based academic models. Traditional music education begins in 5th grade Band & Orchestra, where 70-80% of students choose to learn an instrument. With the transition to the Ferndale Middle & High School campus, there are bands of every kind available to these developing artists.

The success of the Ferndale Schools music programs are easy to hear as you wander the halls of Ferndale High School or scroll through a list of regional honors

bands and orchestras, or by viewing the Marching Band's nine state championship banners hanging in the band room. But the true achievement can only be measured by speaking with the students and alumni who passionately discuss the importance music has played in preparing them for the future.

Senior Jacob Keener was introduced to the viola in his 4th grade music class, and he sees the benefits clearly. "Music is all about patterns, and I think in a very pattern-based way. Much of my success in math and science is due to my ability to see patterns quickly and clearly, and then apply those patterns. This is very similar to how I play music." This skill accounts for Jacob's academic success, achieving a perfect ACT score—as a Freshman—and a perfect SAT score as a Junior. "I also think playing an instrument like the viola that usually plays harmony has made me tune in more to background events, such as listening to harmonies

when I listen to music or looking more closely at how mechanical objects work," —a talent he applies as a member of the Impi Warriors robotics team.

Jacob sees very clearly how learning music has benefited him now and in the future. "My experience in music has had a huge impact on my education. It has helped broaden my horizons, and experiences like participating in the Michigan Youth Arts Festival Honors Orchestra have given me a new outlook on art and life as a whole. Music has made me a much more well-rounded person." Early integration of music education benefits students profoundly, and not just in the classroom. And the same can be said of all our extracurricular activities. The skills they develop will benefit them throughout life and the shared experiences amongst their peers will continue to shape who they will become.

This article is featured in Local, our new Community Education magazine. To read more stories from Local, visit FerndaleSchools.org/LocalMag and watch your mailbox for the next issue this fall.





LET'S GO! 2018 Summer Travel Camp

Mon., Aug. 6: The Adventure Park, West Bloomfield

Tue., Aug. 7: U of M Athletics Tour

Wed., Aug. 8: Jump Island, Brighton

Thu., Aug. 9: Bowling & Ice Skating

*Field trips may change pending weather conditions and camp attendance

Mon., Aug. 6 thru Thu., Aug. 9, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Travel Camp • Ages 7-14 • One week only!

In this week-long unique camp experience, kids have the opportunity to go by bus on a new field trip every day! Kids will need a bag lunch unless otherwise stated. Providing spending money is up to you.

The cost is \$190 per camper, or \$50 per day option. Camp cost includes transportation and admission. Camper will need to bring a bag lunch and swim attire daily. Don't forget the sunscreen! (Residents only, max. 40 kids). To register, stop by the PR Community Center or call 248-541-2902, ext. 0 for more information!

The Best Vacation For Kids This Summer

Camp Oak Ventures

Let the kids explore the outdoors at Oakland County Parks' Adventure Day Camps.

Five fun-filled days (Monday-Friday)

AUG. 13-17

\$140/child. Registration includes T-shirt and tickets for all activities.

Ages 6-12 years

Transportation to and from county parks provided by camp staff and OCPD bus drivers

Camp begins: 7:55AM

Camp ends: 4:30PM

Camp Drop-off Site: Gillham Recreation Center
26325 Scotia, Huntington Woods, MI 48070

Camper's are required to bring a lunch, 2 snacks, refillable water bottle, sunscreen, socks, tennis shoes, bathing suit and towel to camp each day.

OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS
Great Parks for Great People
OaklandCountyParks.com

- ☒ Swim
- ☒ Hike
- ☒ Archery
- ☒ Climb a Rock Wall
- ☒ Soar on a Zip Line
- ☒ Run the inflatable obstacle course

For more information, visit OaklandCountyParks.com

To register call Pleasant Ridge Parks and Recreation 248-541-2902

CHALLENGER SPORTS™

British Soccer Camp Aug. 20 - 24

Challenger Sports' British Soccer Camp is the most popular soccer camp in the country based upon one of the most innovative approaches to coaching youth soccer in the US and Canada.

Half-Day Camp at Flynn Field

Ages 6-10

9 a.m. - 12 p.m., \$134

Ages 11-14

1 p.m. - 4 p.m., \$134

\$10 late fee for campers registering within 10 days of the camp start date.

To register, visit:
www.challenger.configio.com
and search for the PR sessions by ZIP code.



Special Events summer.....

Adult Swim Meet

Wed., Jul. 18, 7:30 p.m. (rain date 7/19)

This FUN event is for ADULTS ONLY! We will practice at 8 p.m. on July 10, 11 & 16. \$5 per person to register. Register by July 9 to receive an event shirt!

EVENTS INCLUDE:

100 FREE RELAY • 100 MEDLEY RELAY • WATER RELAY
CHEATER RELAY • PLUNGE • WET T-SHIRT RELAY
FLIP CUP RELAY • DECADE RELAY ...AND MANY MORE!
Once registration is complete, events may be added or eliminated based on number of participants. Call the PR Rec. Dept. at 248-541-2902, ext. 0 for more info.



The Kit House Hunters Thu., Aug. 9, 7 p.m. at the PR Community Center

Pleasant Ridge Historical Commission Speakers Series presents Andrew and Wendy Mutch, the Kit House Hunters. Discover how your home's original owners might have picked their home out of a catalog, and had all of its parts shipped to them! Do you have a kit house? The Kit House Hunters will tell you about the companies that made these homes, and what to look for to see if you might have a kit house.

The New Pewabic Tiles are In!

The Historical Commission has again purchased the very popular 4"x 4" green Mary Chase Stratton tile. \$40 per tile. Profits go toward the Historical Museum and other projects. Tiles available at the Museum, City Hall and at various events at the Community Center.

*We All Scream
for Ice Cream!*



Ice Cream Social Thu., Jul. 25, 6 - 8 p.m. at the PR Pool

Summer fun for the whole family! Cool off in the pool AND water slide, enjoy ice cream compliments of Oberweis, and enjoy balloons galore! Come on out!



Cost: \$79. Must be age 11 or older to attend. Transportation and admission included. Spending money is your responsibility. Minimum of 20 registered by 8/1.



Ridge Resale is in full swing! Donations accepted on each sale date.

Sat., Aug. 11: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Sat., Sep. 8: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Fundraiser for FernCare (50% of sale proceeds will go to FernCare)

Sat., Oct. 13: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. during hayride!

Proceeds go to the Pleasant Ridge Foundation to beautify our community and strengthen civic activities. ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE. **For questions or volunteer info: Sharon Barrett 248.548.6097 or Jodi McGuire 248.398.6404.**



CITY OF PLEASANT RIDGE
23925 WOODWARD AVE.
PLEASANT RIDGE, MI 48069

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TROY, MI
PERMIT NO. 156

summer fitness at the **WELLNESS CENTER**

Yoga with Michele O'Brien, RYT

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

(beginning 8/9, classes will start at 2 p.m.)

6 classes: \$66 • 12 classes: \$122

Hatha Yoga with Michele O'Brien, RYT

Thu., 5:30 p.m. • 6 classes: \$70 • 12 classes: \$140

Drop-in: \$15

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. We will use body weight and resistance tools to increase strength and combine yoga, stretching and relaxation techniques. Please bring hand weights and a mat for floor work.

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

Fall 1: (7 weeks) Sep. 5-Oct. 22 (Break Oct. 24-Nov. 2)

Fall 2: (7 weeks) Nov. 5-Dec. 21 (No class Nov. 11-23)

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

Drop-in: \$10 (to Melanie)

Pilates with Karen Haque

Small equipment (including the Pilates Circles and foam rollers) are used in this class to enhance, and help to connect the mind and the body experience during the exercises.

Sundays at 9 a.m., 6 weeks, \$72 or \$15 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.**

Introducing 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.

**TREADMILLS • STAIR CLIMBER • STATIONARY BIKES • ELLIPTICAL • FREE WEIGHTS
WEIGHT MACHINES • SMITH MACHINE • TOWEL SERVICE • FREE PUBLIC WI-FI**



RECYCLE The Ridger!