

# BELDING BUGLE

Spring, 2018

## Special Events:

- April 27 - Arbor Day seedling giveaway from noon to 2 p.m. at the depot
- May 5 & 6 - Spring into the Past from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Museum
- May 19 - Household Hazardous Waste Collection - please see article on Page 3 for details
- May 19 - **Save the Date!** Library 100th Anniversary Celebration and Mural Dedication. Details available soon!
- June 11 - August 27 "Music in the Park" on Mondays from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at East Riverside Park. A concert will not be held on July 2. Join us for free popcorn and the chance to win a door prize each week!

## Belding Museum

Open the 1st Sunday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

## Children's Museum

April and May - Open the 1st Sunday and Wednesday of each month from 1-4 p.m.

June - Open the 1st Sunday from 1-4 p.m., and every Wednesday from 1-4 p.m.

## From the Office of the City Manager

It's hard to believe that 6 months has passed since I was appointed Interim City Manager. In December the Council made it more permanent by removing the "interim" from the title. As the saying goes, "time flies when you're having fun".

Many of you know that this is not my first stint as your city manager. I served in this position first from 1985 to 1990. Since then I've worked in Lansing for the Michigan Municipal League and then the County Road Association, although my wife Janet and I chose to live here. I am very happy to be back working for the City of Belding.

There is a lot of work to be done. We have completed in-depth studies of our storm and sanitary sewers as well as the water system that resulted in the development of Capital Im-

provement Plans for the water and sanitary sewer systems. This will put us on a tract to begin identifying improvements to be done as funding becomes available. The next step is to do the same for our streets and that will begin this spring.

A lot of work has been done to develop a recreation plan to help guide us to improve our parks and recreational opportunities. The Silk City Trail will be expanding this summer to include a pathway from Main Street to the Fred Meijer Trail along the mural wall and the river. The Friends of the Fred Meijer Trail will also be doing some improvements on their trail from Belding to Greenville and Belding to Lowell. Kayakers and canoeists will see the addition of a handicap launch at the East Riverside Park and Jack-

son Landing in Greenville as a result of the grant both cities were awarded.

The city will be celebrating two special events on May 19<sup>th</sup>, the dedication of the mural of the wall near the library and the 100th anniversary of the library, including the completion of a mural in the library.

I believe in an open door policy and work hard to make myself very accessible. You can stop by city hall, call me at 794-1900 extension 216, email me at [jnie-mela@ci.belding.mi.us](mailto:jnie-mela@ci.belding.mi.us) or call/text my cell number at 1-517-256-7943 (probably quickest).

I look forward to working on all of the challenges that are a part of managing the City of Belding.

## Code Enforcement

Ordinance stipulates that there are to be no more than two dogs and two cats per residence without a special permit. Keep dogs and cats confined to their yard.

Animals walked in the city park areas must be on a leash and waste must be collected and disposed of.

Garbage and trash in bags or receptacles may not be put to the curb earlier than 24 hours before pick up day. Emptied con-

tainers MUST NOT remain at the curb and MUST be removed within 24 hours of pickup.

Grass can be no longer than 10 inches, and leaves must be raked.

No unlicensed or inoperable vehicles are allowed within the city limits, unless stored within a four sided enclosed building. The storage of building materials outside of an enclosed building is prohib-

ited without a building permit.

Any chemical containers (oil, gas, coolant, etc.) must be disposed of in an environmentally safe manner. Outside storage of these chemicals is a violation of City Ordinance.

Zoning permits are required but not limited to the following: fences, signs, accessory buildings, pool and decks. Applications are available at: [www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us)

## Belding Fire Department

### Bon Fire Permits

Please contact the Fire Dept. at 794-1900, Ext. 212 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. for the annual Bon Fire permit. Please speak with the on-duty firefighter at the fire station to renew an existing permit. Brushfires or the burning of yard wastes is strictly prohibited within the city limits.

### Severe Weather

The City's weather warning sirens will be tested on the 1st Saturday of every month at 12 p.m. starting in April and continuing throughout the severe weather season.

The National Weather Service will issue a tornado watch when conditions are right for the formation of a tornado. This is the time to begin preparations. The weather siren will be sounded when a tornado warning has been issued for our area. A tornado warning means a tornado has been sighted and that persons should immediately take cover.

### House Numbers

City of Belding ordinance requires visible house numbers at or near the front entrance of all residences and businesses within the city limits. Visible house numbers are critical to emergency service per-

sonnel when trying to locate the origin of an emergency call.

### Smoke Detectors

City of Belding ordinance requires working smoke detectors in all existing residential occupancies, which include all one and two-family dwellings and apartment houses. Detectors must be located on the wall or ceiling in each room used for sleeping purposes, on the wall or ceiling outside of each separate sleeping area, and one on each floor of the dwelling unit. Installation information may be obtained by contacting the Fire Dept. Check regularly and change batteries.

## Belding Police Department

The Belding Police Department would like to remind you that Spring is a time for an increase in pedestrian traffic. Slowing down will allow you to react to the pedestrian stepping off the curb or from behind a parked car; or the ball thrown into the street being chased by a child. Please use the sidewalks when provided...it's the law! Each person riding a bicycle on a roadway has all the rights, and is subject to all duties, the same as a person driving a motor vehicle.

Park hours are 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. Bathrooms are open daily from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. from late spring through September, weather permitting. Bathrooms that are damaged or littered beyond regular use

will be locked and not reopened until they are cleaned or repaired on regular business days. The department will again have an officer on bicycle in the parks. If you observe illegal or unacceptable activity anywhere in the city, contact the police department immediately!

Vehicles that are parked on curbed streets must park with the right wheels to the curb. Parking between sidewalk and curb and in front yards is prohibited.

If you are going to be away on vacation, please make arrangements to stop the mail and newspaper. Make your home look lived in with the use of light timers. Have trusted friends and neighbors watch the house and help it look lived in by picking

up weekly newspapers and flyers left at the door. For the extended stay have someone mow the lawn. Contact the police department and request a vacation check on your home. The form is available on the website - [www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us)

No person shall roller skate, ride a bicycle or skateboard on any public bench, table, planter wall, retaining wall or any other device or structure which is not intended for pedestrian or vehicular traffic, or to jump or step on or off such devices or structures in the process of roller skating or riding a skateboard. Skating or riding on private property without permission is prohibited. Roller skating and riding while attached to vehicles is prohibited.

## Dial-A-Ride

Spring is here and summer heat is around the corner! Beat the heat by riding the air conditioned Dial-A-Ride bus to your next destination!

Fare rates are as follows:

|                |        |                  |
|----------------|--------|------------------|
| Student (4-17) | \$2.00 | (\$20.00 ticket) |
| Adult (18-61)  | \$2.50 | (\$25.00 ticket) |
| Seniors (62+)  | \$1.25 | (\$12.50 ticket) |

Disabled \$1.25 (\$12.50 ticket)

Tickets are available at the Depot. Buy a ticket (10 rides) and get the 11th ride FREE by presenting your full ticket to the driver!

Information about our transportation service is available at 616-794-3278 week

days between the hours of 6:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Our "Job Access" route to Ionia leaves at 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. from Belding. You may also visit the city website - [www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us) or find us on Facebook for more information. Brochures are available at the Pere Marquette Depot, 100 Depot St.

## Belding Housing Commission

Happy Spring to all in the community from the Belding Housing Commission!

Information about income-based rental units for Taft or Hilltop Court, Belhaven I, II or Woodhaven is available through the

administrative office Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, as follows:

Phone 794-1740 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Window hours are 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The administrative office is located at 41 Belhaven Avenue. Belding Housing Commission is a federally-regulated, Equal Housing Opportunity agency.

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The collection will be held on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 8 a.m. to noon at 408 W. State, the old hospital lot on M-44 in Belding.

Household Hazardous Waste includes: gasoline, motor oil, auto batteries, anti-freeze, cleaners, windshield wiperfluid, car wax, brake fluid, transmission fluid, auto paint, mercury switches, oil-based paint, varnish, stain, paint thinner, paint stripper, caulk, adhesives, fluorescent light bulbs,

insecticide and insect repellent, weed killer, rat/mouse poison, pet spray/dip, flea collars, mothballs, disinfectant, wood preservative, fly traps, chlorine/bromine tablets, shock treatments, water balancers, household cleaners, furniture polish and wax, oven cleaner, ammonia, drain opener, tub and tile cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, scouring powders, upholstery/carpet cleaners, fever thermometers, spot and stain removers, bleach, dyes, dry

cleaning solvents and hobby supplies. If you are not sure, contact the Ionia Conservation District at 616-527-2620, Ext. 101.

Wastes not accepted: explosives, ammunition, latex paint, appliances, computers, tires, medications and needles, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, 20 lb. propane tanks ( 1 & 2 lb. cylinders are ok)

## Library Happenings

- Little Wiggles Story Time (birth-2)  
Mondays at 10 a.m.
- Preschool Pals Story Time (3-5 years)  
Wednesdays at 10 a.m.
- April 23 at 6 p.m. - Clean Home with  
Hannah Deurloo. Homemade,  
healthy products for your home.
- May 7 at 6 p.m. - Mighty Mac with Mike  
Fornes. Presentation of  
Michigan's majestic bridge
- May 19 - Library 100th Anniversary  
Celebration. Join us for a full  
day of festivities.
- June 5 from 2 - 4 p.m. - Perennial Plant  
Exchange. Bring a plant, take a  
plant at this fun exchange!
- June 9 from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Summer  
Reading Program with activities.

## Board Vacancies

Applications are being accepted for city boards and commissions. These volunteer positions are appointed by the City Council and offer an excellent opportunity to make a difference and serve our community.

**Board of Review** - meets in March, July and December, serving a one-year term  
**Downtown Development Authority** - Meets quarterly (February, May, August, November) on the 1st Wednesday at 4 p.m., serving a four-year term. Must be a resident or have an interest in property located in the downtown district.

**Historic District Commission** - Meets quarterly (January, April, July, October) on the 3rd Thursday at 6 p.m., serving a

three-year term  
**Zoning Board of Appeals** - Alternate Member, serving in the absence of a ZBA member - Meets as needed, three year term

A description of the focus of each board is available on city website - [www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us)  
An application is available on the city website - [www.belding.us](http://www.belding.us), at city hall - 120 S. Pleasant Street, or can be mailed to your residence.

Please contact Kareen Thomas at 794-1900, \*210 or [kthomas@ci.belding.mi.us](mailto:kthomas@ci.belding.mi.us) for additional information. Please submit applications by April 30 to the city clerk.



# CITY of BELDING

live. grow. naturally.

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Belding, MI  
Permit No. 77

120 S. Pleasant St.  
Belding, MI 48809

Phone: 616-794-1900, Ext. 210  
Fax: 616-794-0091  
E-mail: kthomas@ci.belding.mi.us

### City Hall Office Hours:

Monday through Thursday, 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

LOCAL POSTAL CUSTOMER

BELDING, MI 48809



## Music in the Park

### June 11 Belding Schools Music Program

Sponsor: Leppinks Food Center

### June 18 Flashback - Oldies

Sponsor: Johnson Feuerstein F.H.

### June 25 Larsen Brothers-Country Gospel

Sponsor: Mercantile Bank

### July 2 No show due to holiday

### July 9 The Adams Family - Folk Rock

Sponsor: Ernie & Kareen Thomas

### July 16 Peat in the Creal - Irish/Folk

Sponsor: Belding Chamber of Commerce

### July 23 Dusk - Light Rock

Sponsor: TBA

### July 30 Igniter - Classic Rock

Sponsor: Gus Macker

### August 6 The Roer Family - Variety

Sponsor: The Belding Family

### August 13 Ionia Community Band

Sponsor: Ron & Carla Gunderson

### August 20 Overtone - Classic Rock

Sponsor: Daniel R. Tift, D.D.S.

### August 27 Kari Ann & Lost Creek

Sponsor: TBA

Concerts are held from 7 - 8:30 p.m. at East Riverside Park.

## City Council Petitions

Petitions for the office of Council Person At-Large of the City of Belding will be available beginning June 28, 2018. Three (3) positions are to be filled at the November 6, 2018 election for a term of four (4) years.

Candidates must be 21 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a resident of the State of Michigan and a resident of the City of Belding for a period of one year prior to, and a registered elector on the last day for filing nominating petitions.

Filing deadline is 5 p.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2018 at the office of the City Clerk. Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Fire Hydrant Flushing

Hydrants will be flushed on April 8 - 11 from midnight to 7 a.m. If you experience discolored water, please flush the cold water faucet closest to the water meter until the water runs clear.

## Dept. Public Works

### Yard Waste/Leaves

There will be no loose leaf pick-up in the spring. Yard waste and leaves must be placed in biodegradable bags and will be picked up every Friday, beginning April 20, 2018. Bags must not exceed 35 pounds and cannot contain other materials, such as rocks, shingles, garbage, sticks or brush. Please place bags at the curb by Friday at 7 a.m., but no earlier than 6 p.m. on Thursday.

### Brush Pick-Up

April 23, May 21, June 25, July 23, August 27, September 24 and October 22

Please place brush at the street by 7 a.m. on the above dates, but no earlier than the 18th of the month. The total amount of brush and limbs per household shall not exceed 10 cubic yards per month.

To ensure pick-up, please locate brush in a clear area, away from any obstacles and overhead wires.