MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER
Matthew Baumgarten

Wishing you a Safe and Happy Holiday Season, Berkley.

Gratitude. Somehow you can never have enough and or give enough to others.

December marks the end of the calendar year so it naturally becomes a time to reflect upon the things we are grateful for which is a positive, cathartic exercise for many.

Unfortunately, we've collectively found ourselves in a period of history where we have also had to confront various forms of loss as well. Many of us have lost loved ones and many more have lost a feeling of security, control, and optimism as we look around at the state of the world. Around 51 years ago, Canadian singer-songwriter and painter, Joni Mitchell sang the words, “You don’t know what you got ‘til it’s gone” in her hit song Big Yellow Taxi. She was right. Gratitude compels us to focus not on what has gone but, rather, on what we still have. For us lucky 15,000 residents, it's Berkley, and there is still plenty of good in our little corner of the world.

This year we have seen caring neighbors create, distribute, and display signs across the City so that those fighting cancer, Covid, and unjust detainment know they do not fight alone. We saw a network of little food pantries formalized into an actual non-profit to help those in need. We celebrated as one of our own competed on the world's stage during the Olympics. All those public affirmations matched by little, personal victories along the way as well. 2021, like the year that preceded it, wasn't all bad all time but it sure tried hard.

So I hope you can spend the last month of the year plucking pleasant memories out of the previous eleven. Gratitude gives way to hope and hope gives way to excitement as we set our sights on the possibilities of 2022.
MerriMonth in Downtown Berkley
Join our merry downtown elves for a month full of merriment!

MERRY FAIRIES SCAVENGER HUNT* - November 27 to December 31
*In partnership with the Berkley Area Chamber of Commerce
Using the ActionBound Scavenger Hunt App on SmartPhones, follow clues to visit the festively refreshed Fairy Doors throughout Downtown Berkley. Those who complete the hunt will win fun prizes. The Merry Fairies hope to see you!

MERRY AND BRIGHT SHOPPING NIGHTS - December 2, 9, 16, and 23 (5 to 9 pm)
Downtown retailers will stay open late to give you a magical holiday shopping experience. Live musical performances, gift wrapping stations to raise funds for local charities, our Merry Elves surprising shoppers with gifts on the street, and much more.

DIA MURAL CELEBRATION* - December 4 (4 to 5:30 pm)
*Before the Holiday Lights Parade
Warm up on both Griffith and Robina at stations along Twelve Mile, plus a party to welcome our new DIA downtown mural on Robina. Then enjoy the beloved annual parade tradition, followed by Santa Claus making his famous Berkley stop. We’re honored to be one of the parade sponsors again this year.

FAMILY FUN SHOPPING TROLLEY - December 11 (11 am to 6 pm)
A holiday shopping experience the whole family can enjoy! Our complimentary downtown shopping trolley will run along Coolidge & Twelve Mile, many stores will have kid-friendly activities, our Merry Elves will surprise children with free prizes, & more fun!

FESTIVE DOWNTOWN STOREFRONTS ALL MONTH LONG!
Just as your Downtown Development Authority did for our BOO!KLEY Nights series, we’ll work with our dynamic downtown building owners to transform storefronts for the holiday season.

Visit www.downtownberkley.com for more information, and make sure to follow Downtown Berkley on Facebook and Instagram for updates.
Berkley Huntington Woods City Guide
Residents should receive the annual Berkley Huntington Woods City Guide on their doorstep this month! This yearly publication highlights the businesses in Berkley and surrounding communities. It is a great guide to see all that Berkley has to offer. This publication is produced by Ferndale Friends in partnership with the Berkley Chamber, and we are proud to offer this guide year after year.

Explore Gift Certificates
If you still have an Explore Gift Certificate that you received as a gift in past years, you can still redeem them. While we no longer sell them, local stores still accept them – they are valid five years from date of purchase.

2021 Best of Berkley Awards
In October, we presented the 2021 Best of Berkley Awards at the Annual State of the Cities. These awards are given to Chamber members who exemplify leadership, have a passion for the Berkley Area, go out of their way to support local businesses, and are committed to making our community shine.

We are pleased to announce that businessperson of the year is Robyn Coden of Sum Girls Boutique and Business of the year is VITRINE.

To watch the State of the Cities and Best of Berkley Awards, visit https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PeQHKjNVvWo.

Holiday Merriment and Shopping Local
We’re excited that the Holiday Lights Parade (brought to you by the Holiday Lights Parade Committee), will be back this year! And, we are a proud sponsor of Santa’s sleigh. The parade starts at 5:30 pm at Bacon and 12 Mile. Make sure to wave hi to the Chamber’s Best of Berkley honorees who will be in it! The parade ends at City Hall for the Tree Lighting Ceremony (brought to you by the Berkley Junior Women’s Club).

Children can meet Santa (please wear a mask), and carriage rides will be offered on Rosemont for a nominal fee.

We’d also like to remind you to shop local this holiday season. Our stores in Berkley have so many unique gift ideas, and your support means the world to them.
2021 Drive-By Santa Celebration & Holiday Lights Parade

The Berkley Holiday Lights Parade Committee, in partnership with the City, will be hosting a Drive-By Santa Parade celebration AND the Holiday Lights Parade this year!

DATE: Saturday, December 4, 2021

The Schedule of Activities are as follows:
Note: Times with some activities are subject to change. Please check this page frequently.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>TIME</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drive-By Santa Parade</td>
<td>11 AM - 4 PM</td>
<td>Berkley residential streets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Warming Shelter/S’mores Station</td>
<td>1 PM - 4 PM</td>
<td>N Griffith/12 Mile Rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Petting Zoo</td>
<td>1 PM - 4 PM</td>
<td>Between Clark's Ice Cream &amp; Odd Fellows</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(N Tyler/12 Mile Rd)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIA Mural Dedication</td>
<td>4 PM</td>
<td>N Robina/12 Mile Rd</td>
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<tr>
<td>Holiday Lights Parade</td>
<td>5:30 PM</td>
<td>12 Mile Rd (from Bacon to Coolidge Rd)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tree Lighting Ceremony</td>
<td>After Holiday Lights Parade ends</td>
<td>Berkley Gazebo (3338 Coolidge Hwy)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carriage Rides</td>
<td>After Holiday Lights Parade ends</td>
<td>Rosemont (from Coolidge to Mortenson Blvd)</td>
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Learn more at [www.berkleymich.org/HolidayLightsParade](http://www.berkleymich.org/HolidayLightsParade).

2021 Holiday Spirit Awards

The Berkley Beautification Advisory Committee (BAC) will be conducting their annual Holiday Spirit Awards.

Change for 2021: The BAC is encouraging neighborhood blocks to decorate their homes with some holiday cheer by **Friday, December 17, 2021**.

BAC will be going out that weekend to take photos of the blocks.

All blocks that participate will be included on a Holiday Map that will be shared with the community for all to enjoy.
Berkley’s New Holiday Ornament

The Berkley Historical Museum’s new Holiday Ornament is now available! Like last year’s, it features a wonderful drawing by local artist Cindy Pendleton.

This year’s memento has a festive drawing of the Berkley Theatre. Also still available are our two holiday coffee mugs.

The holiday gifts are $10.00 each and can be purchased at the Berkley Historical Museum and at the City Clerk’s Office during normal business hours.

To learn more, visit the museum page on the City’s website:
www.berkleymich.org/museum
BOARDS & COMMISSIONS DECEMBER MEETINGS

Advisory Boards & Commissions have moved to a bi-monthly schedule, and meet in person.

Governing boards will continue with a monthly schedule. 
Note: All governing boards meetings will be in person; however, the City of Berkley offers a hybrid option for residents to attend meetings virtually.

Visit our calendar page on the website for more details and to stay up-to-date with our boards & commissions.

DECEMBER 01:
● 7:00 PM - Citizen Engagement Advisory Committee Meeting - CANCELLED

DECEMBER 02:
● 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night

DECEMBER 04:
● 11:00 AM - Drive-by Santa Parade Celebration
● 4:00 PM - DIA Mural Celebration
● 5:30 PM - Holiday Lights Parade

DECEMBER 06:
● 7:00 PM - City Council

DECEMBER 08:
● 8:30 AM - DDA Meeting

DECEMBER 09:
● 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night
● 6:00 PM - Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

DECEMBER 11:
● 11:00 AM - Family Fun Shopping Trolley

DECEMBER 13:
● 7:00 PM - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting

DECEMBER 15:
● 5:30 PM - Tech Advisory Committee Meeting

DECEMBER 16:
● 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night
DECEMBER 20:
- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

DECEMBER 21:
- 8:30 AM - Planning Commission

DECEMBER 22:
- 6:30 PM - Beautification Advisory Committee Meeting

DECEMBER 23:
- 5:00 PM - Merry and Bright Shopping Night

DECEMBER 24:
- City Office Closed in Observance of Christmas*
  *Trash collection will NOT be delayed this week

DECEMBER 27:
- City Office Closed in Observance of Christmas*
  *Trash collection will NOT be delayed this week

DECEMBER 31:
- City Office Closed in Observance of New Year’s*
  *Trash collection will NOT be delayed this week

JANUARY 3:
- City Office Closed in Observance of New Year’s*
  *Trash collection will NOT be delayed this week