MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

Matthew Baumgarten

Hey Berkley community,

This past month has taught me you never really know where a good idea will come from.

Whether it's from a staff training session like Courageous Communications, or a song written in 1990 (which was, I kid you not, 31 years ago). This was the case with the song "Ice Ice Baby" by Vanilla Ice. I'll be the first to admit that when I go looking for guidance on leadership, Vanilla Ice is not on my reading list but I came across the “Vanilla Ice Cubes of Wisdom” recently and learned I was too quick to give up on the rapper turned home renovation contractor turned Dancing with the Stars contestant. I've included a picture of the Cubes of Wisdom and I hope you'll agree these are the same things that we want for our organization, as well as, our community.

These include working as a team, taking action and responsibility, high standards, emotional maturity, and most importantly, family first.

Have a great month.
STRAIGHT FROM THE CLERK’S OFFICE

Petition Packets Available

Petition packets for those interested in running for local office are available at the City Clerk’s Office by appointment. During the Tuesday, November 2, 2021 election, residents will elect one mayor to serve a two-year term and three councilmembers to serve four-year terms.

Questions? Email clerk@berkleymich.net or call 248-658-3310.

FINANCE UPDATE

Online Payment Option Coming Next Month!

The Finance and Treasurer Offices are continuing to work on the introduction of an online payment platform called Point & Pay. Please continue to watch the website for more information on how this platform works. We plan to unveil the program in April 2021.

2021 City Budget Workshops
Our budget workshops will be held in March and April. Viewing options in Zoom will be posted closer to the workshop dates.

Learn more at www.berkleymich.org/treasury.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Master Plan Update
As part of our Master Plan community engagement strategy, members of the Planning Commission, Master Plan Steering Committee, and Downtown Development Authority (DDA) recorded videos that ask specific questions related to housing and the commercial corridors. We hope residents and community members will watch the videos, take the short surveys, and attend the virtual Open House on March 25, 2021, at 7:00 PM.

Learn more at www.berkleymich.org/masterplan.
We are happy to announce that the Berkley Historical Museum has been given a large collection of small children's books. These were extremely popular from the 1940s to the 1960s. Several publishers had these sets available and generations of children and parents gladly paid 25 cents for them.

Today these are highly wanted by collectors. When the Berkley Historical Museum reopens (we hope soon!) they will be on display. We want to thank Edie and Roger Watson for this generous gift!
The office for the Department of Public Works remains closed to the public. DPW is still available via phone at 248-658-3490 during standard work hours (7 AM - 3:30 PM) or email at publicworks@berkleymich.net. All DPW team members are working.

Chipper Service Reminder
The branch chipper service runs once a month starting the 3rd Monday of each month. Please note the chipper service will only accept branches over 4’ in length and over 2” in diameter.

Smaller branches must be placed in yard waste bags/cans for FREE weekly pickup on garbage day. Residents can sign up using the online request form here: bit.ly/BerkleyChipper or they continue to contact the DPW if the chipper service is needed at 248-658-3490.

Building a Better Berkley
Construction season is vastly approaching. As a reminder, residents can see the latest projects on our website on the following page: www.berkleymich.org/construction.

Need a New Trash Bin?
96-gallon trash toters are available for purchase for $60 each. These are wheeled cans with attached lids that are dumped mechanically by the City refuse hauler. Please contact the DPW for more details.

- Please Note: There are no changes to the garbage and recycling pick-up for the month of March. They will occur on regularly scheduled days.

Questions?
Please refer to the City website at www.berkleymich.org/dpw or call the Berkley DPW at 248-658-3490.
March into Downtown Berkley
Receive $20 in Downtown Berkley Bucks for every $40 spent at select downtown businesses!

How does this promotion work?
1. From March 15 to April 2 shop or dine at select downtown businesses.
2. Submit receipts and your mailing address to marketing@downtownberkley.com by April 3 to receive your Downtown Berkley Bucks.
3. Spend your Downtown Berkley Bucks at participating businesses by May 14.

Residents can learn more about this event at www.downtownberkley.com/march-into-berkley.

Ladies Night Out: Take Me Out to Berkley

Similar to our 2020 Ladies Night Out events, this ‘Take Me Out To Berkley’ Ladies Night will look the same and that’s designed with intention. We want to make sure everyone stays as safe as possible. Given the fact that COVID-19 is still present, some event details may change.

Residents can learn more about this event and the social distancing FAQs, head to www.downtownberkley.com/ladies-night-take-me-out-to-berkley.
Berkley Public Library Curbside Pickup & Delivery Service

The library building remains closed to the public. However, curbside pickup and delivery in Berkley are available on the following days:

- Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM

To schedule a pickup or delivery, call the library at 248-658-3440.

Dive Into Our Digital Resources at Home!

We encourage you to visit our website (www.berkleymich.org/elibrary) to access our digital resources from home. You will need your library card number as well as your PIN. Your PIN is typically 1234 or the last four digits of your phone number.

Need to Connect to the Internet?
The library's WiFi is available 24/7 outside our building. You should be able to connect from the parking lot or around the perimeter of the building.

Need a Library Card?
Head over to www.berkleymich.org/librarycard to fill out an application and we will get you registered for a card!

Need something printed?
Send your print job to libraryprinter@berkleymich.net and we'll get it printed for you and notify you when it's available.

New Resource Alert!

WIFI Hotspots Available
We are delighted to announce that we have 3 wifi hotspots available to loan! These little devices will get you connected to the internet from home or on the road.

Give us a call at 248-658-3440 to check one out or place one on hold.
MARCH PROGRAMS

• Requires Registration at http://berkleylib.evanced.info/signup/calendar or 248-658-3440.

ADULT PROGRAMS

An Introduction to Mindfulness Meditation●
Wednesday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m.
Zoom—Registration required.

Most people tend to live their lives with a wandering mind, worried or consumed by past or future events. This introduction to meditation tries to open up a world of the present moment, the most important time of our lives.

We will start with a short introduction followed by a 30 minute guided, sitting meditation, then close the session with questions, answers, and interesting experiences. Session led by Greg Sherburn.

Afternoon Book Club●
Tuesday, March 9 at 12:30 p.m.
Zoom—Registration required.

This month’s selection is Becoming by Michelle Obama.

This title is available for curbside pickup or Berkley delivery and through Libby.

TEEN PROGRAMS

Weather Take-Home Kit ●
Tuesday, March 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Get ready for the changing season with a bag of weather-inspired activities to do at home.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Weekly Take-Home Activities
Mondays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Stop by each week for a new activity to try at home. Activities will vary but may include a science experiment, a craft, a game, or other activity ideas. As supplies last. No registration is required.

Weekly Online Storytime
Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m.

Join us for a story and a craft! We will stream on the Library’s Facebook page at the scheduled time, and the video will stay up for 1-2 days. Craft supplies can be picked up during our curbside hours beginning Wednesdays at 10 am, as supplies last.

BPL Zoom Book Club●
Saturday, March 20 at 2:00 p.m.

By popular demand, we will be reading The Lightning Thief, written by Rick Riordan.

You can find this book on Overdrive and Hoopla, or you can request a print copy for curbside pickup by visiting our online catalog (www.berkleymich.org/catalog) or giving us a call (248-658-3440). We will meet on Zoom, and you must register to receive the meeting link.

Weather Take-Home Kit ●
Tuesday, March 23 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Get ready for the changing season with a bag of weather-inspired activities to do at home.
Upcoming Events

**Spring Fling Outdoor Dance**
- **Date:** Tuesday, March 30 (rainout date: March 31)
- **Location:** Community Center Parking Lot
- **Sessions:** 3:30-4:30 pm, 5:00-6:00 pm, 6:30-7:30 pm
- **Price:** FREE
  - Registration will be limited for each session. Adults and children need to register.
  - Registration opens Monday, March 1, 2021.
  - Masks MUST be worn during the event.
  - Light packaged refreshments will be served.

Visit [www.berkley.maxgalaxy.net](http://www.berkley.maxgalaxy.net) for registration.

**Shamrock Hunt**
Hunt for shamrocks throughout our parks. More details will be available soon on our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/BerkleyParksandRec](http://www.facebook.com/BerkleyParksandRec).

**Sharing the Love with Our Berkley Seniors!**
We would like to say thank you to everyone who created a Valentine’s Day card for our Senior community in Berkley. We were able to send 216 cards to the Oxford Park Towers and deliver many to individual homes throughout the City.

We received phone calls from Seniors who wanted to express how thankful they were and that it made their day! #BerkleyStrong
Due to COVID-19 and the local State of Emergency, all governing and advisory boards & commission meetings will be virtual. Additionally, the advisory boards & commissions have moved to a bi-monthly schedule. Governing boards will continue with a monthly schedule.

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

MARCH 01:
- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

MARCH 02:
- 7:00 PM - Planning Commission Work Session Meeting

MARCH 08:
- 7:00 PM - Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
- 7:00 PM - Tree Board Meeting

MARCH 09:
- 7:00 PM - Historical Committee Meeting

MARCH 10:
- 8:30 AM - Downtown Development Authority (DDA) Meeting

MARCH 15:
- 4:00 PM - Public Safety Pension Board Meeting
- 7:00 PM - City Council Meeting

MARCH 16:
- 7:00 PM - Master Plan Steering Committee Meeting

MARCH 18:
- 6:30 PM - Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting

MARCH 23:
- 7:00 PM - Planning Commission Meeting