



October 2025

Volume 30 Number 2



BridgeFest BroadCast!

Hello Bridgeville!

As we embrace the final days of September and look forward to the crisp autumn air settling over our town, we're excited for the vibrant fall season ahead. We hope you've enjoyed a summer filled with sunshine and cherished memories. With the season shifting, we invite you to join us for some wonderful community events.

Mark your calendars for our Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on Saturday, October 18th, a heartfelt evening to celebrate the incredible volunteers who are the heartbeat of Bridgeville—your dedication and selflessness transform our ideas into reality, creating lasting memories, and we cannot thank you enough for your time, energy, and love for our community.

Every Wednesday at 10:00 AM, Ted's Art Class offers a creative outlet for all skill levels, whether you're a seasoned artist or just curious to try something new.

Additionally, in Southern Trinity County starting in October, the free countywide Community Chipping Program, a collaboration between the Watershed Research and Training Center and the Trinity County Resource Conservation District, will provide fuels crews to chip piles of hazardous brush in southern Trinity communities, helping to reduce wildfire risk and make our area more resilient. Landowners are encouraged to prepare piles of woody debris for chipping into usable mulch and can sign up at firesafetrinity.org or by calling the Watershed Center at 530-628-4206.

Let's come together to make this autumn in Bridgeville unforgettable.

Warm regards,
Brandon Benavidez

We're still buzzing from a fantastic BridgeFest 2025! A massive THANK YOU to everyone who made this year's event such a success. We truly couldn't have done it without the incredible support of our dedicated volunteers, generous sponsors and donors, talented musicians, and enthusiastic attendees. Every single one of you helped make this festival come alive!

While we just wrapped up our 2025 meeting, we're already shifting our focus to BridgeFest 2026 (30th Anniversary of BridgeFest).

We're looking to build a stellar volunteer crew to help tackle the prep work and ensure everything runs smoothly both before and during the event. This is a great chance to contribute your skills and be a key part of shaping next year's festival.

Interested in joining the planning crew? We'd love to hear from you! Please reach out to the Bridgeville Community Center:

- Phone: (707) 777-1775
- Email: phibbs.bcc@gmail.com

Alicia Phibbs
BridgeFest Coordinator



Ship Ahoy on the Madaket

The seniors took a 3 hour cruise on the Madaket. Didn't find Gilligan's Island, but saw birds & wildlife.

Humboldt County Bookmobile



Read A
Book
They Deliver



Bridgeville School	10:30 - 12:00
Dinsmore (next to Laundromat)	12:45 - 2:15

The Bookmobile comes to Bridgeville and Dinsmore the second Tuesday.

Bookmobile: (707) 267-9933



HWY 36 Traffic Report

To get current traffic reports check:
<https://roads.dot.ca.gov/> or call
Caltrans 1 (800) 427-7623

Route 36 remains open to one-way traffic near Grizzly Creek Redwoods State Park. Travelers should expect delays of up to 30 minutes weekdays from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please use caution when passing through the active slide zone. After 5 p.m. & weekends, motorists can expect up to 10-minute delays. Please drive carefully at all times. *Slow Down.*

Who are the members of the Bridgeville Community Center Board of Directors?

Joyce Church, Rachel Benavidez, Brooke Entsminger, Lauri King, Gabby Wotherspoon

Bridgeville Community Center Mission Statement

"The Bridgeville Community Center is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all our community members. We are committed to bringing people of all ages together to encourage good health, self-esteem, creativity, and personal development."

Bridgeville Community Newsletter

Published monthly by the Bridgeville Community Center

Attila Gyenis—Editor

Bridgeville Community Center

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ARTIST STATEMENT

This spring, I wandered into the Bridgeville Community Center to check out Ted's oil painting class. It had been over 20 years since I last took an art class in high school and I had no experience with oils, so I really didn't know what to expect.

I'm so glad I tried something new! And I'd like to encourage anyone who is interested to come give it a try.

Not only does Ted provide excellent instruction and quality supplies (canvas, paints, brushes, solvent, etc.) but your work area is already prepped for you when you arrive and you can store your painting at the community center to dry between classes. You get to choose your own project and work at your own pace.

I'm currently working on my second oil painting! When I began, my intent was to learn a new craft. Now, I'm finding I enjoy the group just as much as the art. Everyone is incredibly supportive and we all have a lot of fun discovering our individual artistic styles. It's been a great way for me to meet people and become more involved in my community.

Come join us on Wednesdays from 10am to 12pm for light-hearted creativity and community! All experience levels are welcome. Just bring yourself and \$10 to help Ted cover the costs of supplies. He has a seat waiting for you!

The entire class would like to thank Ted for his time and vision for bringing us together and the Bridgeville Community Center for supporting the effort.

Sincerely,
Celena Mock



Better Food for Better Living

[Click GetCalFresh.org](http://ClickGetCalFresh.org)
to apply online

REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

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Comments and corrections are always welcome. Management is not responsible for any errors, omissions, or other editorial mis-statements, intentional or otherwise. The views expressed by the authors do not necessarily reflect the Bridgeville Community Center or its staff. If you have any other concerns, please submit them in triplicate.

School News



In the September 2024 Blazer News, I expressed Bridgeville's good fortune in hiring an in-person Resource Teacher. And fortunate we were. Courtney Slider did a great job of getting the Resource program back on track, up to date, and organized. Unfortunately for us, Courtney opted to change her career. We are in the unenviable but not desperate position of engaging online Resource Teacher support. It's an option that more and more schools, and many in Humboldt County, are employing. And employment and the new paradigm or reality that Bridgeville School and our entire community is faced with is what I really want to talk about.

Resource Teacher, employment, and new reality all harken back to a geological event that occurred around seven mo1990's and have lived in the community for the last 25 years. We've always been beyond rural, more like remote and people living in town have always thought of Bridgeville as way out there, in more ways than one, and rightfully so. We can't just "run" to the store for something we don't have. We have to stock up, plan our trips to town, be aware of the elements and be ready for almost anything. That reality has changed dramatically since earth, rock, and trees came down, and came down, and came down at the bluffs. And winter is just around the corner. We all found out what remote is really like, Redwood House, Kneeland, or Alderpoint/Garberville. Those access alternatives were a wakeup call.

For Bridgeville School it's more than just making it more difficult to get to town or, more importantly, for town to get to us. It's had a profound impact on employment and staffing. We lost a Resource Teacher, a part-time support teacher, and a classroom aide either directly or indirectly due to the tenuous road situation between here and the coast. That was compounded when we developed the need for an additional classroom aide and a bus driver. We decided to expand our search for prospective employees by advertising locally, within the community. The response has been strong and positive. We have hired one very capable new classroom aide and a Wellness Coach and have encouraging prospects for another aide, and a bus driver. All of the new hires and prospects live on this side of the slide. And that's our new reality. The school and the community must rely, now more than ever, on the resources we have On This Side of the Slide.

John Blakely
Superintendent



BCC Commodities/Food Pantry

Friday, October 17

Bridgeville BCC

10am - 4pm

Dinsmore Airport

9am - 11am

Blocksburg Town Hall

1:30pm - 3:30pm

Call BCC at 707 777-1775 for more information.



October Community Calendar Weekly

- **Art Class with Ted** - Wednesdays, 10am
- **BCC Board Meeting** - Thursday, October 2, 3:30
- **BVFD Meeting** - Tuesday, October 7
- **Community Potluck Lunch**, Thursday, October 9, 11:30
- **BES Board Meeting** - Thursday, October 9, 5:30pm
- **STAR Dinner & Bingo** - Friday, October 10, 5pm,
- **BVFD Training** - Saturday, October 11
- **Bookmobile**, Tuesday, October 14, 10:30-12
- **Pantry Day** - Friday, October 17
- **Volunteer Appreciation Dinner**, Saturday, October 18
- **Women's Gathering** - Sunday, October 19, 1pm - 4pm
- **Bridgeville School Halloween Carnival** - Saturday, October 25th, 6-8pm

Healthy Spirits

By Lauri Rose, RN BSN HNB-BC

October delivers a soft carpet of fallen leaves, reminding us that all things come to an end. We try to minimize the scariness of endings with sweet treats and skeletons mimicking life. It doesn't always work.

Perhaps you believe that when you die you'll go to another life wearing the same body you currently inhabit, or you believe the body disintegrates but the soul travels to heaven, or to another life in a different body. Perhaps you believe the end is, The End. All we know for certain is that sooner or later (hopefully later), we all leave this mortal coil behind. And, lack of solid evidence pointing otherwise, we can be pretty sure that the personality we think of as 'me', who enjoys well-baked pies, and a quiet moment on the porch will, for all intents and purposes, be gone. Totally annihilated, Gone with a capital G.

As a palliative care nurse I've seen a lot of people die. Those who are restless and afraid of letting go seem to be those who have the most undone things in life. Either things they wish they had done, or things they still want to have happen. What makes us cling to life, and keeps our current life at arm's length, is unfinished stuff.

Some things we can do. Some things we just need to let go of. I always wanted children, but when I passed a year without a menses, I had to let that dream go. It didn't matter how much I wanted to bear a child, nor how much I grieved, it wasn't going to happen – full stop. Holding on didn't make me happier, it only hurt me. Yes, one grieves lost dreams, but if you want to fully inhabit the life you are living, you have to let go of missed and waylaid opportunities. Or, if they are doable, get them done! I won't die regretting I've never touched a tiger (their fur is surprisingly rough). And, I'm actively reaching out to family so I won't regret not spending more time with them.

To create a full happy life, and an easier death, leave the past in the past and look to the future. Refine your bucket list down to what will make you feel cheated if you die with those things undone. Some of those things might be really hard, like leaving a relationship that isn't nourishing you. Or, staying in one, but living your own truth and integrity inside of it. Some of the work will be about letting go of old dreams, expectations and habits. But, hey, who wants to die pissed-off because 65 years ago someone cheated you, even if they were your own sister.

Learn to live in a way that you can start each day saying, "I am fully cooked. I could die today and that would be ok."

Let go and live! Happy All Hallows Eve and Dio de los Muertos.

Forgive Often, Practice Gratitude, Work Hard

★ S.T.A.R. ★



FALL DINNER & BINGO Fundraiser

Oct. 10, 2025

Dinner - 5:00pm – 6:00pm

BINGO 6:00 - 7:30pm

Mad River Community Hall, Van Duzen Rd. Mad River

★ DINNER ★

Pulled Pork or Pulled Chicken Sandwiches
Beans, Salads, Desserts, Beverages
\$15 Adults – Kids 10 and under \$5

★ BINGO ★

Guaranteed 10 BINGO games with
Assorted Prizes including ½ the pot!

\$1/card

&

a special

★ Gift Basket Raffle ★



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NESS**

'Happiness is when what
you think, what you say,
and what you do are in
harmony' ~ Gandhi

Community Pot Luck Lunch And Get Together

Usually the second Thursday of the month.

Thursday, October 9, 2025, 11:30

Women's Gathering

A Women's Gathering
Sunday, October 19, 1 - 4pm



"Dear MFP" (*Master Food Preserver*)

By Dottie Simmons



Overachievers

Here it is, October, and the garden still doesn't know when to quit. While many of us have been canning, freezing and dehydrating like mad, there are a couple overachievers who don't lend themselves to preservation as well as others. I'm thinking of cherry tomatoes and zucchini.

While both of these can be dehydrated or canned, we like them best fresh, so I thought I'd share a couple tasty recipes we use often that help use them up.

Sungold Tomato Pasta –(Sungold are best, but you can use any cherry tomatoes) serves 8 from our granddaughter's host family in Italy.

Olive oil, 1 pound of cherry tomatoes, at least 2 cloves of garlic, 1 pound spaghetti, bucatini, linguine or other long pasta, salt and pepper, Parsley for garnish, Parmesan Cheese as desired.

- Prepare a large pot of salted water for the pasta. While it is heating, halve cherry tomatoes and coarsely chop garlic.
- In a tall-sided pan place 2 Tbsp olive oil and the garlic and heat until the garlic is fragrant. Add the tomatoes to the pan and cook 15 minutes, stirring occasionally. Meanwhile, cook 1 pound spaghetti or linguine or other long pasta in the water until almost done.
- Salt and pepper the tomato sauce to taste.
- Drain pasta, then add to sauce and cook an additional 2 minutes.
- Serve topped with grated Parmesan cheese and fresh parsley.

Disappearing Zucchini – serves 8. Originally from Barbara Kingsolver's book "Animal, Vegetable, Miracle"

Cook 1 pound orzo pasta or have 4 cups cooked rice. Olive oil; 1 large white or yellow onion, chopped; 2 or more cloves garlic, minced; 3 large zucchini, grated; 2 tsp. fresh thyme (1 tsp dried); 1 tsp. chopped fresh oregano (1/2 tsp dried); 1/4 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, salt and pepper.

- In large skillet heat 3 Tbsp. olive oil over med. high heat. Add onion, minced garlic. Add grated zucchini. Sauté until golden. Add thyme and oregano, mix in and remove pan from heat.
- Toss the rice or pasta and zucchini mixture together in large bowl adding the Parmesan cheese, then salt and pepper to taste. Serve hot or chilled.

We hope you enjoy these as much as we do.

Questions about food preservation? Contact us via:

bridgevillenews@yahoo.com



BRIDGEVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

I would like to thank all the people that stopped to help put out the wildland fire that started near the 22 mile marker on Highway 36 last month. All the fire resources in our area were suppressing a structure fire that spread into the wildland about an hour before near the 32 mile mark. Fire agencies were spread very thin and the response time was higher to the new fire. With hand tools and fire extinguishers, a group of about seven or more people stopped and kept the fire from spreading. We were fortunate that there was no wind to push the flames further than it spread. When fire resources showed up they had a small mop up to do. The source of the fire was unknown but it appeared to have started in the ditch by the roadside, looked like a hot coal may have been the cause.

With training, time spent behind the wheel and the control panel, we have a new engineer on the Department. Thank you, firefighter Racheal Benavidez, for putting the time and effort into all that it takes to drive and operate our fire trucks. She will have a special endorsement on her driver's license to operate heavy air-brake vehicles with only her "C" license.

The Bridgeville Fire Protection District is very large, the largest district in Humboldt County. We welcome those that would like to help out by joining this fire department. Consider helping your community by being part of a group that really makes a difference. We meet at the fire barn in Bridgeville on the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm. If you have any questions about our department or the district board then please call 707-599-8048, and I would be happy to help. Thank you for your time.

Chief Scott Katzdorn

Please spay and neuter your pets. Need help getting your cat fixed? Call 442-SPAY



Art Exhibit Invitation

An exhibition of paintings by Dona Blakely will be on display at the Morris Graves Museum of Art, 636 F Street, Eureka.

The show will run from October 11th to November 23rd.

The opening will be November 1st, 6-9 during Arts Alive!

The community is invited!

ARE WE CRAZY OR WHAT? (BACK TO THE LAND in our 70's and beyond)

Unwanted Intruders

Standing on the front porch, we look out over our wild land of prairie fields, waterway willows and oak woodlands. These key native plants give us beauty and protection. But the plants we call Intruders are able to attack, destroy and overcome. So we call them our "unwants" or "weeds".

Unwanted One. To start with, back in 2010 or so, we came onto the land seeing oak (*quercus*) and some planted trees such as walnut and cypress, with a few small Douglas firs (*pseudotsuga*) thrown in. Now, those little firs, without fire or grazing, have become an unwanted (weed?), thickly growing among the oak to use the oak's valuable water, becoming so tall and dense that they shade our solar panels and block our views.

Weed Two. Among the beautiful willow and alongside some trees poison oak (*toxicodendron*) has sprouted wings and flown wherever it can land. The leaves are beautiful, the fall color extraordinary but human allergic reaction of welts and itching is by far the scariest thing on the land.

Weed Three. In the fields, among disturbed soils and buildings, Teasel (*dipsacus*) are tall spiky plants. They are valuable bird food, but multiply into forests of barbed stalks that are difficult to control. It's either Teasel or garden, take your pick.

Unwanted Four. A very favorite of ours Was the lamb's ear (*stachys*). The beautiful grey furry leaves and sweet purple flowers can get away from you as its roots travel to explode the plant in other areas. Now Kate walks around and pours killing white vinegar on any vagrant lamb's ear she sees.

Weed Five. Our evilest vegetable garden Intruder is the pigweed (*amaranthus*), whose roots dig deep and body hard to cut so it can take over huge areas of a garden. It took 2 years to get rid of a 10X20' area's pigweed...

Weed Six. This one can hurt bare feet so watch out. It's the prickly sow thistle (*sonchus*) that grows among our vegetables or flowers, waiting to attack us. In the spring Kate goes around with her shovel and digs out these thorned beasts.

Weed Seven. Among the flowers in our cabin flower garden, a vine of leaves weave in and out of any plant it comes upon. Easy to cut, but hard to pull the roots out, is Bindweed (*convolvulus*)....a species of morning glory that likes to choke things.

8. Not Quite Weeds. The lemon balm (*mellisa*) can take over any space. The tall mullein (*verbascum*) lends stature to a garden but breeds a lot.

Gardeners and land live'ers have their own special "weed" Intruders; we call ours botanical antagonists.

Lyn Javier and Kate McCay
TwoCrones Ranch, Larabee Valley

Community Facts & Faces

A slice of our Community life in Information and Photos
Send your photos and info to bridgenvillanews@yahoo.com

"STAR"



Southern Trinity Area Rescue

Our Local Emergency Rescue Service, serving
Southern Trinity and Southeast Humboldt

STAR was established in 1977 because there were no emergency or medical services out here. A group of community members got a grant from the state and initiated getting themselves trained so there would be someone to help when people needed it. They started by putting supplies in different places in the community and using their own vehicles until funds and training could be acquired to get an ambulance. STAR is still non-profit and partially volunteer, it's responders were 100% volunteer until 2017. STAR trains EMT and first responders in house.

Below are photos of some of the Volunteers.



Erica Wheeler (EMT—4 years) and
Melony Higgins (EMT—10 years)



Jim Tinklelenberg
(Paramedic—33 years)



Attila Gyenis
(EMT—20 years)



Dottie Simmons
(Dispatcher—35 years)

EMERGENCY — Call 911

Humboldt Sheriff (707)445-7251

CalFire Humboldt (707) 725-4413

CalTrans Service (707) 441-5655

CHP Dispatch (707) 268-2000

Thank You

THANK YOU SPONSORS for making the newsletter possible.

Bridgeville Community Center is a Federal non-profit organization. Please consider donating to support the newsletter and the community center.

To be a sponsor for this newsletter, please send a contribution of \$25 or more to BCC, or through our website via paypal:

Bridgeville Community Newsletter
P. O. Box 3, Bridgeville, CA 95526

For Information, contact BCC at (707) 777-1775



**THE CENTRAL
OFFICE**



326 I Street Eureka, CA 95501
707-444-3044

The Mad Group - Invites you to join us!!

When: Sundays @ 2:00 - 3 pm

Where: Lars Lane off Van Duzen Rd
(new meeting place)



ART Class with TED

Wednesdays at 10 am



Community member Randy Krahn bought a few pails of apples to the BCC. Brandon and Shannon added the apples to the September commodities.

The previous month we had another community member bring in a nice selection of bread that were distributed in August. Thank you community members.

Bridgeville Trading Post

Volunteer Firefighters Wanted- The Bridgeville, Mad River, and Ruth Volunteer Fire Departments are looking for volunteers. The house they save may be yours or your neighbors. Contact them directly to sign up. Bridgeville Fire: 707-599-8048, Mad River Fire: 707-574-6536



BRIDGEVILLE SCHOOL HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

Saturday, OCTOBER 25, 2025
6:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

ONCE AGAIN WE NEED YOUR HELP TO
MAKE OUR CARNIVAL A SUCCESS. PLEASE
FILL OUT THE BOTTOM OF THIS FORM IF
YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP.

- ☐ Yes, I will help run a booth
☐ Yes, I will bake something for the cake walk
☐ Yes, I will help clean up

____ Student's name

____ Parent's signature



Mad River Community Breakfast

Van Duzen Rd, Mad River
8am -11am, First Sunday



Bridgeville Community Newsletter
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If you wish to be added or re-
 moved from the Newsletter
 mailing list, please contact the
 BCC.

Boo !

October 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Don't start Smoking. Save money and save your health. Call 1 (800) NO BUTTS			1 Art Class ↓	2 BCC Board meeting 3:30	3	4
5	6 ○	7 Fire Board meeting 6pm	8	9 Community Potluck, 11:30 BES Board Meeting 5:30	10 STAR Dinner at Mad River Hall & BINGO	11 Fire Dept training
12	13 Fire District Meeting	14 Bookmobile	15	16	17 USDA Pantry: - BCC 10am-4pm - Dinsmore Airport, 9:00 am-11 - Blocksburg 1:30	18
19 Women's Gathering	20	21	22	23	24	25  Bridgeville School Halloween Carnival
26	27	28	29	30	31  HALLOWEEN	 Skip the Bottle, Save a Life

WEEKLY: Tuesday - Friday 9am - 4pm

Mondays: BCC CLOSED

Art with Ted - Wednesdays 10am

BCC Board Meeting first Thursday of the month.

**Visit our website to see newsletter in color
 back to 2009 (click on newsletter tab) -
www.BridgevilleCommunityCenter.org**

HOW TO CONTACT US

You can call us at 707-777-1775. Email us at BridgevilleCommunityCenter@gmail.com

Or come to our office located on Kneeland Rd at the Bridgeville School.

Visit us on facebook - Bridgeville Community Center
 Or come to the Community Pot Luck lunch.