



MIDWINTER BULLETIN

Friday, March 13th, 2026 Bay View, Michigan



From the President by Walt Byers

with learning, friendship, worship, music, recreation, and the many traditions that make Bay View such a special place.

Even in the quiet months of winter, there is a wonderful sense of anticipation for the season ahead at Bay View. Planning is well underway, and the Board is encouraged by the energy, ideas, and dedication we see across our staff, volunteers, and community. We are looking forward to another summer filled

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this winter’s **Virtual Town Hall**. It was heartening to see so many members of the Bay View community participate and share questions. Your engagement helps guide our work and the Board is grateful for the community connection, especially in the winter.

I would also like to extend heartfelt thanks to **Dianne Boyd** for her faithful service as **Board Secretary**. Dianne has brought care, wisdom, and dedication to this role, and we are grateful for the time and energy she has given to Bay View. While she is stepping down as Secretary, she will continue to serve the remainder of her term as a **Trustee**. As Dianne reaches her term limit on the Board, there will be **one open Trustee** position in the upcoming August 1 election.

We are pleased to welcome **Kirsten Lowell** as our new **Board Secretary**, and we look forward to her continued leadership and service as she completes Dianne’s role until the August election.

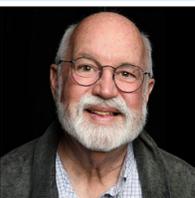
If you are interested in learning more about Board service or would like to be considered for the open Trustee position, please reach out to **me** by email wbyers@BayViewAssociation.org. Bay View has always been sustained by members of the community who are willing to share their time, talents, and care for this place we all cherish.

On behalf of the Board, thank you for the many ways you support Bay View. We look forward to continued opportunities to learn and grow together. We are grateful to be part of a community that values connection, conversation, and shared purpose, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for a wonderful season ahead.

S N E A K P E E K O F 2 0 2 6



H.W. BRANDS



GREGORY BOYLE, S.J.

- June 14: Opening Vesper “FREE For All”
- June 15: Recreation Programming begins
- June 29-July 3: Theme Week: Happy Birthday America!
- July 2: Pops Concert (Straight No Chaser)
- July 6-10: American Experience Week: Prof. H.W. Brands has written thirty books, many are bestsellers. *The First American* and *Traitor to His Class* were finalists for the Pulitzer Prize.
- July 10-11: *The Music Man* musical
- July 14: Bridges: Crossing Cultural Divides: Dr. Erica Komisar, *What Boys and Young Men Need to Thrive*
- July 18: Pops Concert (Boogie Wonder Band)
- July 19-23: Fr. Gregory Boyle, founder of Homeboy Industries and author of *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*
- July 23-24: *Don Giovanni* opera
- July 24-26: *Willy Wonka* Youth Theater Production
- July 30: The Big Read: Sam Kean, *Dinner with King Tut*
- August 7: American Spirituals concert

From the Executive Director, Megan DeWindt



This winter, many of you joined us for our Virtual Town Hall—our first winter season virtual opportunity to share updates and hear directly from the Bay View community. Thank you to everyone who participated and to those who completed the follow-up survey. Your thoughtful questions and feedback help guide our work and ensure we remain responsive to the needs of the community we serve. Creating opportunities like this is an important part of my commitment to open communication, transparency, and accountability as we work together to carry Bay View's mission forward into its next 150 years.

The conversation reinforced an important theme: our Strategic Plan is not just a document—it is already shaping our priorities and actions for 2026.



One area of focus is stewardship of our beautiful waterfront. This year, thanks to Giving Tuesday generosity, we will be adding additional heavy-duty trash and recycling stations at the beach and exploring the use of a mechanical beach-cleaning process to help maintain the shoreline. We are also creating a new leadership position, **Waterfront Operations Manager**, with the goal of strengthening operations and staffing the beach during an extended season. And if you know someone who would love spending their summer helping care for Bay View's waterfront, the position is still open—[we welcome applications](#).

Safety is another priority we have heard clearly from the community. In response to feedback about bicycle safety, we will be partnering with Munson Healthcare, our 2026 season sponsor, to introduce new efforts aimed at improving safety and awareness for everyone who shares our roads and paths.

Creating a safe environment is something we all shape. The way we move through our community—whether walking, biking, or driving—models behavior for others, especially for children. When we slow down, follow posted guidelines, wear helmets, park bikes in racks, and remain attentive; we help set the tone for a culture of care and responsibility across Bay View. **How might you model these habits this summer and help reinforce a culture of safety for everyone?**

We also plan to introduce volunteer crossing guards at key intersections during busy travel times for youth recreation programs. If you would consider helping with a shift or two, we

would be grateful for your support. These shifts will be posted on our [volunteer website](#). Safety is truly a shared responsibility, and it is one more way we live out the strong sense of community that makes Bay View so special—looking out for one another and working together to ensure everyone feels safe and welcome.

Behind the scenes, we are also implementing new technology that will improve the experience for our members and guests. Bay View is transitioning to **NetSuite** and **MemberPlex**, modern systems that will streamline operations and enhance communication and services for the community, assisted by our Implementation Advisory Committee. We look forward to sharing more information about these upgrades and when you can expect to see the rollout.

Volunteer opportunities continue to grow as well. This season we are excited to launch a new **Garden Club**, and you can read more about that opportunity elsewhere in this issue. I hope you also will save the date for the **Volunteer Round Up (June 23, 9 a.m.)** where you can learn about all the volunteer opportunities available to you.

As we look ahead to Bay View's **151st season**, I do so with deep gratitude and genuine excitement. Having grown up in Bay View, I find it especially meaningful to now bring that lifetime of experience into helping shape the summer season and the strategic vision guiding its future. I look forward to building on the traditions that have defined Bay View for generations while continuing to strengthen the programs, community, and mission that make this place so special.

From the Education Director, Lori Bolone



What a summer ahead! I want to share a few highlights from our upcoming programming that I think speak to the best of what

Bay View has always been about: curiosity, community, and conversations that matter.

Before the season is fully underway, I hope you will join me for a **Meet and Greet Reception on June 11 at 10 a.m. in Evelyn Hall**. I look forward to meeting many of you in person, hearing your ideas, and beginning this work together in the spirit of community that makes Bay View so special.

We're kicking off this summer with one of our most beloved traditions: **Theme Week**. This year's theme, **"Happy 250th America!"** runs **June 29th through July 3rd** and covers everything from the origins of football and the DNA of democracy to Benedict Arnold, a forgotten founding hero, and the spy ring that helped save



the Revolution. It's a full week of programming the whole family can enjoy together, and with the nation's semi-quincentennial as our backdrop, it promises to be especially memorable.

The following week brings **American Experience, July 6–10 at 10 a.m. daily**, featuring distinguished historian H. W. Brands. A prolific scholar and two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist, Brands will guide us through key moments in American history and the ideas that have shaped the nation's role in the world. You can read more about this year's American Experience program in a special expanded article on Page 12 of this Midwinter Bulletin.

Closer to home and just as important is our Bridges lecture, **"What Boys and Young Men Need to Thrive."** Psychoanalyst and author Erika Komisar draws on decades of experience working with children and families to explore the developmental needs of boys and young men today and how families, schools, and communities can support their well-being and growth. If you are a parent, grandparent, teacher, or simply someone who cares for the younger generation, you will enjoy this lecture on **Tuesday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m.**

We close out our highlights with a visit from bestselling author Sam Kean to Hall Auditorium for an engaging exploration of the ancient world inspired by his book ***Dinner with King Tut***. Through vivid storytelling, Kean brings the past to life by exploring what people ate, built, invented, and celebrated, revealing the everyday humanity of ancient cultures. Drawing on the field of experimental

archaeology, Kean shows how scientists recreate ancient tools, foods, and technologies to better understand how people once lived. His stories highlight the creativity and ingenuity of societies across the globe, from ingenious food preparation methods to engineering feats that still shape our world today. Rather than focusing only on kings and monuments, *Dinner with King Tut* uncovers the surprising ways ancient lives can feel remarkably familiar. **You do not need to read the book to enjoy the event.** Simply show up curious, and that's enough. Mark your calendar for **Thursday, July 30, at 7:30 p.m.** for an evening of storytelling and discovery you won't want to miss.

We are all in for a wonderful summer, and I am truly looking forward to serving this community and learning alongside you.



From the Performing Arts Director, Chris Ludwa

Bay View is putting the finishing touches on a 2026 season that's shaping up to be a real showstopper. Whether you're a longtime subscriber or a first-time attendee, there's plenty to keep you in tune this summer.

Most notably, **The Music Man** returns to the stage for the first time in over 20 years! I'm particularly excited about the nostalgic journey into **The Music Man**, as it was the first show I did when coming to Bay View years ago. It was this show,

and its cast in particular that laid the foundations for my ability to serve this community, and for that I am so grateful. I know it will be a happy journey down memory lane for all of us. Casting will be announced on social media once



conservatory auditions are finalized, so stay tuned.

On the concert front, **Straight No Chaser** takes the stage on **July 2nd** for what is sure to be a sell-out performance. No instruments, no problem. These guys are the whole band. Preseason tickets are strongly encouraged before the music stops. Get yours [here!](#) A few additional artist announcements are still in the pipeline as schedules come together.

Youth Theatre brings the sweet, golden-ticket magic of **Willy Wonka** to life under producer Theresa Harrington and director Noah Suarez, a Bay View alum stepping up to the podium. Longtime director Katie Winters is stepping back this year to spend time with her new baby. A standing ovation for her growing family is very much in order.

Rounding out the season are three instrumental ensembles, a roster of returning pianist favorites, and guest artists performing Sunday and Wednesday nights alongside new faculty candidates auditioning for several open positions. In other words, the band is almost all back together.

The best way to make the most of it all? [Pre-Season Vesper Packages:](#)

flexible, affordable, and the closest thing to a backstage pass for the full season. We'll see you in the front row.

Box Office Info

Located outside of
Voorhies Hall

Mon.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-noon

Hall Auditorium Box Office
Weds. & Sun. nights,
and one hour before
performances

Box Office: 231.348.9551



**From the
Recreation
Director,
Amy Liddicoat
Seamster**

Looking Ahead to Summer on Campus

As we look ahead to another Bay View summer, our Recreation team is excited to welcome everyone back —along with new faces ready to jump in and become part of our community. From the waterfront to the courts and our youth programs, Recreation remains one of the places where friendships form and summer memories are made.

Boathouse & Waterfront

One of our greatest joys each season is seeing the boathouse come back to life. Sailing, kayaking, and paddleboarding offer wonderful ways for all ages to enjoy Little Traverse Bay, and we're looking forward to a full and active waterfront. Sailing lessons are especially popular and tend to fill quickly, so families are encouraged to plan early as summer schedules come together.

A few important reminders help keep everyone safe and ensure a positive experience for all:

Flotation devices are not permitted in the lake or the pool. *US Coast Guard–approved life jackets may be used only in the shallow end of the pool and only with adult supervision.*

This policy supports swimmer safety, ensures clear visibility for lifeguards, and meets insurance and safety requirements. Thank you for helping us maintain a safe and enjoyable waterfront for everyone.

Boat storage and locker payments may be made in the Wade Administration Office beginning **May 1**. Once Assembly Season begins on June 15, payments can also be made directly at the boathouse. If you no longer use a kayak or Sunfish stored in the boathouse, we kindly ask that it be removed. This small step makes a big difference in keeping shared spaces organized and accessible.

Racquet Sports

CourtReserve was a tremendous success last summer, and we're pleased to share that it will return again this season. The system has improved access, reduced confusion, and created a smoother experience for all court users.

Dates to mark on your calendar include:

- **Firecracker Open** - June 27
- **Junior Tennis Tournament** – July 11
- **Dave Berles Men's Tennis Tournament** – July 18
- **Dick Crossland Memorial Pickleball Tournament** – July 24

These events are just a few highlights in what promises to be another lively racquet sports season.

Tot Lot, Fawns, and Boys' & Girls' Club

Our youth programs continue to be a cornerstone of Bay View's summer experience, and we are grateful for the families and volunteers who support them.

Tot Lot Wish List

- Bubbles
- Play dough
- Glue sticks
- Construction paper

Fawns Wish List

- Paper towel or toilet paper rolls
- Egg Cartons
- Pipe cleaners
- Halloween-themed decorations

Wish list donations may be dropped off at the **Tot Lot or Fawn House during Assembly season**. Items may be new or recycled, where appropriate.

Boys' & Girls' Club Daily Routine

- Early Birds in the Craft House & Free Play: **9:30 a.m.**
- Flag: **10:00 a.m.**

Important Dates

- **Recreation Registration opens:** April 1
- **First day of Tot Lot, Fawns & Club:** June 15
- **Registration cutoff for Tot Lot & Fawns:** 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to the start of the program week, allowing staff to plan for every camper to have a great experience
- **Picture Day:**
 - Boys' & Girls' Club – June 29
 - Tot Lot & Fawns – June 30
- **First Sam Spadye Hot Dog Roast:** June 15
- **Ernie Gray Olympics:** July 17
- **Meals of Hope:** July 24

Something New This Summer

Registered families will receive a new program overview outlining daily routines and including a helpful summer packing list. This communication is designed to provide clarity, set expectations, and help families feel prepared for a great season. This will also be available on our [website](#).

Join Our Team

Leader applications were emailed on **March 1**, with an application deadline of **April 12**. We are seeking Leaders-in-Training who are **15 years or older** or who have **completed ninth grade**.

For questions, volunteering opportunities, or additional information, please contact us at rec@bayviewassociation.org. We're grateful for the community support that makes Bay View Recreation such a meaningful part of summer life, where there is "Fun and Recreation For All." "The grounds crew understood the assignment: making sure we



are fully equipped to tow members back to shore!"

From the Worship Director, Jason Byassee



A friend of mine got a significant new position recently. I wrote to congratulate her. "This is your fault, you know," she teased. Ha ha, yes.

"No, really. You told me I could do this sort of work nearly a decade ago. Now I am. Thank you." Honestly, I'd forgotten I'd encouraged her, but it didn't surprise me. She's a natural and dedicated leader, one I knew I'd follow, and so others would too.

I'm just struck by the power of that comment a decade ago. And thankful I didn't (equally unwittingly!) discourage her. Something said and forgotten that shaped another life years on, and so will go on shaping other lives in perpetuity. Our words have power in others' lives, in our own lives. Would that we would steward them only for good. And that the Lord would forgive us when we inevitably fall short.

Sort of an overly-serious first word of admonition from me, your new chaplain, to you, my new community of faith. It won't surprise you to learn that I, as a Christian preacher, think words have power. Beware the person who would claim otherwise. But Christians have even more reason to believe in the power of words. Our God creates the universe through nothing more than a word: "Let there be." God raises Jesus and promises to raise the rest of us, and the rest of creation, with nothing more than a word. In

fact, we think of Jesus as the very Word of God, capital “W”—the only word God ever speaks is Jesus. It is eternally trustworthy, unending, never decreasing, and death-defeating.

So that’s a rather high view of the weightiness of words.

So let’s go a bit more mundane. Most youth pastors know this illustration: give the kids a tube of toothpaste. Let them squeeze that thing till there’s toothpaste everywhere. Then ask them to put it back in. What? You can’t do that. Toothpaste tubes only go one way. Same with our words. Once they’re out, we can’t take them back. We can, of course, apologize, and if we’re going to be in relationship with other word-speaking humans we’ll find ourselves doing that often. But words have a sort of stubborn there-ness. They can’t be unsaid.

Someone wise said the best superpower that leaders have is the ability to say to someone else, ICNU: “I see in you . . .”. Most of us can’t see our strengths or challenges clearly by ourselves. It takes others, a community, to note and curate our gifts. And then the courage to name them to one another.

I’m so glad to get to be a part of this community, starting this summer. I keep hearing stories of folks’ lives changed through their time at Bay View. I imagine not a little of that community of goodwill comes through the wise use of words to one another, custom-fit to bring about love. I know it’s not easy. Someone said that Jesus commands us to love both neighbors and enemies because they’re usually the same people! Once again, a scripture can help

us here: “a gentle word turns away wrath” (Prov. 15:1).

See you this summer. Until then, and ever after, may our words be for nothing other than love.

Rev. Dr. Jason Byassee will preach on **June 7th at 10:45 a.m. in Hall Auditorium**, and you are warmly invited to meet him at a **welcome reception at 12 p.m., immediately following the service.**

From the Director of Donor Relations & Communications, Michelle Hansen



We are delighted to announce the return of Lila Bolden to our Communications and Marketing team as our **Seasonal Communications**

and Marketing Assistant for the summer of 2026. Lila’s energy, enthusiasm, and passion are matched only by her organizational prowess and positive attitude. Her presence injects fun into our office and we are thrilled to have her back. Many of you will remember her as the creative force behind the Town Crier and our social media. In addition to the Town Crier and social media, this summer Lila will strengthen our communications through a focus group. Please join us in welcoming Lila back to our community.



Chautauqua Learning Lab

by Bay View Staff

This March, nine Chautauqua organizations from across the country gathered at Chautauqua Wawasee in Syracuse, Indiana, for the annual Chautauqua Learning Lab—a time to share ideas, learn from one another, and strengthen the work of the Chautauqua movement.

Bay View was represented by Michelle Hansen, who attended on behalf of our staff team. Michelle presented on Bay View’s programming, marketing, and fundraising efforts, and colleagues were especially impressed by the scope and rhythm of Bay View’s weekly schedule.

Additional sessions throughout the Learning Lab explored topics such as *How to Dialogue in Community*, *Collaboration and Teamwork*, *Top 10 Ways to Build Community* and the History of Camp Meetings and the Chautauqua Movement. The conversations were thoughtful, full of practical suggestions, and inspiring for everyone involved. Everyone left energized to enrich their Chautauqua organizations.

The Learning Lab itself is organized through a partnership between Bay View, Lakeside Chautauqua, and the host community—an effort that we are proud to say continues to position Bay View as a leader within the broader Chautauqua network.

Next year's 2027 Chautauqua Learning Lab will take place March 9–12 at Boulder Chautauqua, and we look forward to continuing to learn, share, and grow together.



Important 2026 Dates

by Jen Cronk

**Red signifies dates regarding voting*

Friday, April 24, 2026: Cottagers can open their cottages for the season.

Friday, May 1, 2026: Members can begin applying for absentee ballots.

Friday, May 22, 2026: Board of Trustees first regular meeting in the Child Board Room and via Zoom at 8:30 a.m.

Friday, June 12, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting (Membership & Lease Transfer approvals) at 8:30 a.m. in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Sunday, June 14, 2026: Start of the 151st Assembly Season.

Monday, June 15, 2026: First day of Recreation Programming.

Friday, June 26, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting/Communion at 8:00 a.m. in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Friday, June 26, 2026: Last day to submit By-Law amendment proposals and trustee candidate nominations (must be submitted by 5:00 p.m.).

Friday, July 3, 2026: Absentee ballot applications must be postmarked by this date in order for an absentee ballot to be issued.

Friday, July 3, 2026: Notice of candidates and proposed By-Law amendments posted at the Post Office, the Wade Administration Building and electronically.

Friday, July 3, 2026: Board of Trustees meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Child Board Room and via Zoom (Membership & Lease Transfer approvals). ***Voting time qualification: new Leaseholding members must be approved no later than this meeting in order to vote.*

Monday, July 6, 2026: Candidate & By-Law Forum in Voorhies at 8:30 a.m.

Saturday, July 11, 2026: Town Hall Meeting in Voorhies at 8:30 a.m.

Monday, July 13, 2026: Electronic voting begins. Paper ballot voting in office begins.

Friday, July 24, 2026: Board of Trustees meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Wednesday, July 29, 2026: Deadline for in-person applications for members voting

by absentee ballot in the business office by 5:00 p.m.

Friday, July 31, 2026: Electronic voting ends at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday, August 1, 2026: Annual Meeting at 9:00 a.m. in Hall Auditorium. Voting by paper ballot ends at 12 noon. Election of Officers at 4:00 p.m.

Friday, August 7, 2026: Last day of Recreation Programming.

Friday, August 7, 2026: Board of Trustees meeting at 8:30 a.m. (Membership & Lease Transfer approvals) in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Sunday, August 9, 2026: Last day of the 151st Assembly Season.

Friday, August 21, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Friday, September 11, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting at 8:30 a.m. (Membership & Lease Transfer approvals) in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Friday, September 25, 2026: Last Regular In-Person Board of Trustees Meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Child Board Room and via Zoom.

Monday, October 12, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. EST.

Monday, November 2, 2026: Last day cottagers can be in their cottage. Closing day of Bay View.

Monday, December 14, 2026: Board of Trustees Meeting via Zoom at 6:30 p.m. EST.

Calling all Volunteers!

by Annie Montagne



Howdy, Bay View!
It's time to mark
your calendar:

**Volunteer Round
Up
June 23rd
9-11:00 a.m.
The Green**

Bay View doesn't shine by accident-it shines because of YOU. From caring for our community gardens to supporting the traditions and events that bring us together, volunteers are the heart and soul of our community.

What is the Round Up About?

This will be a fun event to learn about the committees and projects that keep Bay View vibrant, meet the friendly faces who are already pitching in and **discover volunteer opportunities that match your interests and schedule.** Whether you have a few hours a week, a month or the season **there is a place for you!**

Why Volunteer?

Volunteering is a meaningful way to connect with Bay View neighbors, build new friendships, and help shape the place we all call "home". Community doesn't just happen, we build it together, and when we work side by side, the experience is not only productive, but it is enjoyable.

If you've ever thought, I really want to volunteer-this is your chance!

Let's round up the energy, the ideas and our Bay View spirit-and make this summer our best one yet!

In Memory....

The love and sympathy of our Bay View Community is extended to the families of those who passed since our last Midwinter Bulletin (March 14, 2025)

Jeanne Andriot
Julia Ann Hall
Mary Sue Hansen
Jack J. Howell
Ada J. Kidd
Noranette Irene Lear
John P. Moran
Susan A. Noble
Gerald W. Rees
John P. Russell
James C. Shrader
Rev. Douglas Robert Trebilcock
Andrew F. Valenti
Steve Watson

2026 New Members

The Membership and Member Engagement Committees are proud to welcome the following new members to Bay View:

Bonnie McAlpin
Lauren Loise Low
Mike Woodward
Hannah Naltner
Christine Estereicher
Jean Abbott
Linda Berson
Marlene Hegland
Allison Olmsted
John Ohashi
John Beck
Sarah Martin
Leslie Stoel
Douglas Anderson
Laurie Anderson
Christopher Smith
Robert Zoba
Amy Miller
Robert Holmes
Melissa Moran
Molly Richardville
Elizabeth (Dibby) Smith
Christie Curie (Zoba)
Leah Debes
Charles Granger
Susan Lyman
Claire Camill Straty
Alfredo Zarate
Mistelle Carroll

Stacy Ragland
Timothy Bondy
Lizette Bondy
Ashley Nummer Ladner
Roberta Fisher
Ashley Pensinger-Sok

Treasurer's Report by Martha Blandford, Treasurer

I am pleased to report that Bay View remains in a strong financial position as we begin 2026. Our independent financial audit, conducted by Plante Moran for the third consecutive year, was completed **on schedule and within budget.** This year's audit again yielded a clean opinion—no exceptions—reflecting our ongoing commitment to sound financial management and transparency. The 2025 auditor's report is available on the member side of the website.

We commend the Audit Committee, Finance Committee, Finance Director, and the finance team for their commitment to consistently achieving positive outcomes. The Investment Advisory Committee's guidance and the expertise of our professional investment consultants (Mercer) have also contributed significantly to our strong investment portfolio, delivering measurable value to our reserves.

A major project this year is the software conversion to **NetSuite + MemberPlex** which began on January 12th. This new platform will replace seven separate systems, creating efficiencies and a more user-friendly experience for the community. The first phase of this conversion is the finance system which is in process. We are configuring the system with Bay View's best practices in mind, building processes that enhance

both operational efficiency and financial oversight. This conversion will take time, and we will continue to provide updates, so you know when to expect it to be fully implemented.

The **ONE BAY VIEW BILL** continues to be warmly received by members. Cottagers value having all fees in one place, enjoying the convenience of predictable payments and the clarity it provides for planning their season. By making finances simpler and more transparent, it helps families focus on enjoying Bay View rather than worrying about multiple bills, while also supporting smooth operations for the Association behind the scenes.

Our **Cap-X Plan** continues to support ongoing improvements to Bay View's historic buildings and campus infrastructure, preserving our unique character for future generations. In 2025, the Board approved our first detailed capital plan and funding forecast. This plan will be reviewed and updated on an annual basis with input from staff and relevant committees.

As part of our ongoing financial stewardship, we will continue to provide quarterly financial reports to the Finance Committee and the Board. These reports are included in board packets and available on the member website for review.

Finally, a **heartfelt thank you to our Audit and Finance Committee volunteers**—the lifeblood of our organization—whose dedication and time make these successes possible.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to Bay

View. If you have questions, please reach me directly at m.blandford@bayviewassociation.org.

Looking Ahead Together: The CAP-X Plan

by Matt Gawenda, Finance Director



Fiscal Year 2026 marks an important milestone for Bay View: the first year we are operating under a refined CAP-X

Plan (Capital Expenditures). This long-range plan reflects a more proactive and transparent approach to caring for the shared infrastructure that supports life on campus—from roads and utilities to the waterfront and other common assets. Rooted in Bay View's 151-year tradition of stewardship, the CAP-X Plan allows us to look ahead, plan thoughtfully, and invest steadily in the systems we all rely on, rather than reacting to needs as they arise.

CAP-X brings clarity and structure to decisions that unfold over decades. By combining engineering assessments, historical data, and financial modeling, it helps Bay View anticipate major capital needs before they become urgent. This approach spreads costs responsibly over time, protecting both the character of our historic campus and the Association's financial health.

Importantly, CAP-X is a living plan. It is reviewed regularly by staff, treasurer, Board of Trustees, and key committees, updated as projects are completed, and

refined as conditions change. This ensures Bay View remains resilient, accountable, and prepared for the future.

What This Means for Members

For members, the CAP-X Plan translates into fewer surprises and more confidence in how Bay View is maintained:

- **Planned, not reactive:** Major projects are identified and prioritized in advance, reducing the risk of emergency repairs or sudden assessments.
- **Fair across generations:** Costs are shared responsibly, so today's members aren't deferring them to future ones, keeping Bay View accessible for the next generations.
- **Transparent and accountable:** Members gain clear visibility into how and why capital dollars are spent.

In short, CAP-X protects what makes Bay View special while ensuring our home remains financially strong and well cared for.

Preparing for the Next 20 Years

Over the next two decades, the CAP-X Plan positions Bay View to address three major realities:

1. **Aging Infrastructure**
Roads, water, wastewater, and other utilities will require reinvestment as they reach the end of their useful lives. CAP-X ensures these projects are planned, prioritized, and funded in an orderly manner.
2. **Waterfront and Shared Assets**
The waterfront and other communal spaces will need ongoing care to remain safe, functional, and true to Bay View's historic character.
3. **Long-Term Financial Sustainability**

Rising construction costs, regulatory requirements, and environmental considerations make long-range planning essential. CAP-X provides a foundation for stability and supports Bay View's Strategic Plan.

At its heart, **the CAP-X Plan is stewardship**—of our campus, our resources, and our community. By planning ahead today, Bay View honors its past while confidently preparing for generations to come.

Woman's Council

Woman's Council is delighted to share our plans for 2026.

Woman's Council / Morning Council OPENING LUNCHEON
Thursday, June 18th – 12 p.m.
 New Location
Bay View Country Club

Bay View's own Elizabeth Nelson will share an exciting program "Bay View's History and You!" Tickets are \$35 and the menu includes chicken salad and bumpy cake. Check-in starts at 11:30 a.m.

Ticketing options:

- 1) Online purchase early April at <https://bayview.asapconnected.com>.
- 2) Beginning May 1st, mail a check made out to Woman's Council to Marilyn Perrin at P.O. Box 1017, Bay View, MI 49770.
- 3) Bring a check to Marilyn's cottage beginning June 1st.

Reservation deadline is 8 a.m., Friday June 12th, or when the event is sold out. Questions? Please contact Marilyn Perrin at marilynperin@yahoo.com.

Woman's Council/ Performing Arts Joint Event "Bon Appétit" – An Opera Showcasing Julia Child Saturday, June 27th – Two Shows - Times to Be Determined

Join us for a comic culinary opera extravaganza showcasing America's beloved Julia Child. "Bon Appétit" by Lee Hoiby is sure to be a season favorite. Watch the Town Crier for details! Remember, as Julia said, "With enough butter, anything is good!"

TUESDAY PROGRAMS - 1:30 p.m. Tea and Snacks Follow All Programs

June 23rd – "As American As" – Celebrate the 250th Birth of our Country. Wear Red, White and Blue. Make a beautiful 4th of July craft.

June 30th - "Getting to Know Our Music Students" – Meet some Students and enjoy beautiful music.

July 7th – "From the Diary – 85 Years Ago" – Sue Child's father survived the bombing of Pearl Harbor. Join us as Sue shares his diary.

July 14th – The Woman's Council Bazaar returns! Shop for Treasures, Trinkets and Baked Goods. Don't miss Cooper's Creations and a Silent Auction.

July 21st – Lavender Hill Farms owner, Erin Mansfield, will share some of the magic of this beautiful gem.

July 28th - "A Conversation with Dr. Risa Renae Harman" – We'll visit with Risa about her unforgettable tenure at Bay View and other chapters of her remarkable career.

August 4th – End of season "Carry-In-Luncheon" - **noon**. Bring your own place-setting and a

salad or dessert to share. We'll install new Officers and wish one another "Fair Winds and Following Seas" until 2027.

There are five beautiful single rooms available to rent to women. The 2 full bathrooms are being renovated. Reach out to Kathy Duquette at kathyduquette67@gmail.com for information and reservations.

Planning an event? - Patti van der Have (pj@willemjames.com) can answer questions and take reservations for renting the Woman's Council Building.

Please join us! Safe travels returning home to Bay View.



Education Committee

The Education Committee is delighted to welcome our new Director of Education, Lori Bolone. We look forward to working closely with the vast amount of talent & wisdom within our group to continue to offer exceptional educational programming to the Bay View community.

After getting better acquainted, our focus during our first few meetings is to establish the foundation needed to curate a meaningful season of programs

as we implement those scheduled for 2026. We will welcome Monte Smith to present the findings from The Pulse Survey and the Long-Range Plan as they pertain to education. Both will be discussed, so their guidance can inform future program decisions.

Michelle Hansen will join us to offer ideas regarding the promotion of the many classes and events scheduled this year. We hope to brainstorm with her to ensure that all are well attended.

The newly formed Hospitality sub-committee will provide additional support as we entertain our guest speakers and ensure they enjoy their visit and leave with a deeper understanding of our beloved Bay View.

Our goal this year, is also to strengthen feedback loops, to allow all to be heard following our events to inform future selections.

We look forward to a wonderful season and hope you will be joining us frequently to participate in a cooking class, to view a Monday Night Movie, or try an art class, attend the Friday Forum, participate in Theme Week as we celebrate our country's 250th Anniversary, participate in American Experience, dance and create art with your little ones, open your book and join the Big Read or come to hear one of our featured speakers. All has been offered with you in mind!

We look forward to seeing you and yours, very soon!

Woods & Tree Advisory Committee

In 2025, the Woods & Tree Advisory Committee stayed focused on caring for Bay View's

trails and canopy. Trail maintenance and invasive species control remain our core work, and we continued coordinating closely with the Russell Hall team to keep paths safe, clear, and enjoyable.

We also expanded that partnership by consulting more regularly on broader grounds stewardship—how day-to-day maintenance choices can support long-term tree health, visitor experience, and Bay View's distinctive sense of place.

As the season wrapped up, the committee recommended a new sesquicentennial tree planting for Sunset Park, placed to add shade for future generations while protecting the bay views that make this park so special. The tree selected was a Tulip Tree—an iconic native that matures into a tall, stately shade tree and produces showy, pollinator-friendly blooms.

At the same time, we advanced the Board's directive to add plantings along the edge of the waterfront parking area. This will create clearer separation from the highway and make it more apparent that this is a private area for members and guests. The ornamental tree chosen was Serviceberry, a standout small tree with four-season interest—spring flowers, summer berries, vivid fall color, and graceful winter structure—that also supports birds and pollinators. In upcoming seasons, we'll fill in between the trees with complementary shrubs to further enhance the safety and beauty of our waterfront.

Worship Committee

Bay View is welcoming a new Worship Director, Jason Byassee, this season! We are so grateful for and confident in the efforts of Pastor Hilary, and we look forward to what this new chapter brings.

This will be a year of revisioning and pivoting as we work to support the redefined goals identified in discussion with Pastor Jason. We intend to continue many of the ministry-support roles in which we have participated in recent years, including Big Sunday Coffee Hour, Flower Ministry, and [Muffin Ministry](#). At the same time, we will be intentionally leaving margin for the planning and implementation of new opportunities as we identify how to best assist Pastor Jason in accomplishing his vision to meet the spiritual needs of our Bay View community.

Regarding Porch Chats, we have decided not to hold them officially this year. However, we warmly welcome those of you who have enjoyed participating to continue doing so organically this season.

We also encourage you to share your feedback and suggestions as we consider the needs and desires of our Bay View community. We are excited to use this time to reflect on what has been successful and where there are opportunities to grow.

BV Library

by Lisa Thompson, Bay View Librarian

Bay View Library is back for another season with expanded hours, running Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Library Committee Volunteers will staff the front desk during

extended hours, and Sophia Drinkall returns as Circulation Desk Assistant.

To kick off the season, the library is hosting a **“Bling Thing” on June 17th!** Bring a book and we’ll supply the gems and glue for a fun bedazzling event. It’s a great excuse to come see what BVL has to offer.

A few things to keep in mind this summer: library fines of \$0.10 per day will be enforced. With only three months of operation, books turn over quickly, so prompt returns help ensure everyone gets a chance to enjoy them.

On the financial side, last year’s Big Book Sale was a great success, and proceeds will go toward new books for the 2026 season. Used books in the Reading Room are also available anytime for a small suggested donation, and both book and financial donations are always appreciated.

This year also brings some exciting improvements. After a busy season of tutors, mini-lectures, and the C.S. Lewis group making great use of the Reading Room, the Library is turning its attention to the upstairs Children’s area, with plans for better organization and signage to make it more accessible for young readers.

Board of Assessors Update

by Board of Assessors

As we instituted last year, in early May you will receive from the Board of Assessors your annual Notice of Assessment. As you know, this document details the market value of your leasehold. **It is not your 2026 tax bill** but

rather it articulates the market value on which your 2026 taxes will be calculated.

Should you have questions about your market value, the Board of Assessors, along with Assessment Advisor Ed Vander Vries, will be available to discuss in May and June. Should you disagree with the value on your Notice of Assessment, you can appeal it directly at the annual Board of Review session on **Friday, June 26**. Appeals can be made in writing or in person. As always, our goal in distributing our single tax bill from Bear Creek Township is to follow the Summer Resort Act of 1889 which requires that the apportionment of taxes be “fair and equitable.”

Explore the Evolution of American Foreign Policy with the American Experience!

by the American Experience Committee

The 2026 American Experience lectures (**July 6-10, 10 a.m. daily**) will examine the history of American foreign policy and the figures who have shaped it. This year’s speaker, Professor H. W. Brands, is a distinguished American historian who holds the Jack S. Blanton Sr. Chair in History at the University of Texas at Austin. He has authored more than thirty books on U.S. history, including the Pulitzer Prize finalists *The First American* and *Traitor to His Class*. One of his lectures will be drawn from his 2024 volume titled *America First*, which focusses on Roosevelt vs. Lindberg in the shaping of U.S. foreign policy in the 1930s. The other American Experience lectures will cover over two centuries of U.S foreign policy,

exploring how the past continues to inform contemporary debates over the United States’ role on the global stage—and why American actions abroad have lasting consequences at home. Those wishing to get a headstart on his lectures can check out his podcast, “A User’s Guide to History”. You can also pre-order his latest book, a life of George Washington titled *American Patriarch*, slated for May 2026 publication.

CROP Walk is June 27 by the CROP Walk organization committee

The 22nd Annual Little Traverse CROP Hunger Walk will take place **Saturday, June 27 at 9 a.m.** on the Bay View Campus, **starting and ending at Evelyn Hall**. Participants from Bay View and the surrounding communities walk together on 3- or 1-mile courses to raise awareness of, and seek to alleviate local and global food insecurity. Walkers make and collect donations that support the international aid agency Church World Service as well as Manna Food Project, which serves a three-county region around Bay View.

Please consider walking with us. All ages are welcome, so bring the whole family to this fun event which includes music and ice cream at the end. The one-mile course uses accessible street crossings and avoids stairs or steep hills, and we also welcome those who wish to rock on the porch of Evelyn Hall instead of walking. If you can’t make it on walk day, please consider giving a donation check (payable to “CWS/ CROP”) to someone who will be walking, or you may donate online at <https://crophungerwalk.org/petoskey>.

We welcome new volunteers to our organizing committee; contact Steve Vella (spvella1957@gmail.com) or Rob Scarrow (267-475-4645) for more information.

Growing Environmental Awareness in Bay View

by the Environmental Initiative Group

All over the USA many businesses, governmental and non-profit entities are taking steps to protect the nation's environment. Protecting land, water and air is a common concern although there is no national agreement on what to do, and in what order. The Bay View Association, with the support of the community, has taken impressive steps to enhance and protect our beautiful grounds. Here are some examples of recent steps that Bay View has accomplished to preserve and enhance our environment.

Water filling stations. By summer 2026 there will be five BV water fountain & bottle filling stations: on campus, the Waterfront, Wade Administration Building, Post Office, Boys' and Girls' Club and the Woods Tennis Courts. Impact: helps reduce plastic bottles and waste.

Reduced use of chemical-based fertilizers. Large swaths of BV land are grass and currently only Swift Field and the croquet courts are fertilized, twice each season. Impact: produces beautiful grass with less environmental impact.

Increased recycling options. For the 150th Jubilee multiple

recycling bins were available and staffed for ease of use. This coming summer our beach will sport new recycling options. Impact: this reduces waste in high traffic locations.

Installation of heat pumps and solar panels. Heat pumps are being employed now in four locations on our campus. Impact: reduce energy costs and eliminates older less reliable heating systems.

The purchase and installation of solar panels is currently being used at the Woods Tennis Courts. Impact: avoids installing expensive electrical system. Further use of solar panels obviously needs to be balanced with our Victorian-style buildings.

Purchase and implementation of large size community composting bins. Many community members have their own backyard composting and now, this summer there will be a compost bin installed in the back yard of Russell Hall for community use. A second one will be located at Crist Hall, but will be dedicated solely to serve Crist Hall. Impact: best practice for managing waste.

Buying energy efficient vehicles for staff and security use. These smaller size electric vehicles have zipped around the grounds for the past several years. In the future, Bay View can transition into an all electric vehicle fleet. Impact: saves on fuel costs while reducing polluting emissions.

These environmentally focused efforts reflect a growing interest in environmental stewardship within the Bay View community, with staff and leadership, including Executive Director

Megan DeWindt, supporting ongoing conversation and exploration of these ideas. The implementation, for the most part, has been handled by Jake Porath's hard-working staff at Russell Hall. Our Board of Trustees is also supporting a more environmentally aware approach. The recent Long Range Plan states that Bay View can "explore opportunities to enhance environmental stewardship on campus."

Of course none of these important steps could have happened without the growing environmental awareness of our Bay View community. In the summer of 2025, a group of our community gathered on a capacious porch for such a discussion. This resulted in forming an ad hoc group aptly named, the Environment Interest Group, acronym EIG. The EIG has developed a list of ideas for timely environmental protection efforts and best practices for our BV community. Look in the Town Crier this summer for more Environmental Initiative Group info, meetings and programs.



A Grateful Cup: Honoring Bill and Patti's High Tea on the Bay

For nearly two decades, Bill and Patti van der Have poured their hearts—and countless cups of tea—into Bay View. Through their beloved fundraiser, *High Tea on the Bay*, they welcomed friends, neighbors, and music lovers into a beautiful, shared experience that raised more than **\$210,000** for Bay View music scholarships and helped make musical dreams possible for young artists.

What began as a simple ritual they shared together grew into something extraordinary. After years of collecting teacups and teapots during their travels, Bill and Patti hosted a tea for 40 friends to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. The gathering was so special they were encouraged to do it again—this time with a purpose. *High Tea on the Bay* was born.

Over the years, the event blossomed to welcome more than 200 guests, featuring student and faculty performances, exquisite high-tea fare, and tables set with lovingly curated collections. Behind the scenes, Bill, Patti, and many volunteers handled every detail—from transporting hundreds of cups and linens to washing every piece afterward. It was truly a labor of love.

“This wasn’t just a fundraiser—it was an act of love for our students,” shared Chris Ludwa, Artistic Director of the Bay View Music Festival. Executive Director Megan DeWindt added, “Bill and Patti remind us what community looks like at its best.”

Though Bill and Patti wished to continue this tradition, changes in logistics and increasing costs mean the event is no longer a viable fundraiser and unfortunately, *High Tea on the Bay has officially concluded*. While we didn’t know last year would be the final gathering, we are deeply grateful for the 18 years Bill and Patti devoted to this remarkable tradition.

As we turn this page, we invite our community to honor their legacy through philanthropy by making a gift to the [Scholarship Endowment Fund](#)

Together, we can carry forward their spirit of generosity—supporting students, strengthening our music program, and ensuring opportunity for young musicians for generations to come.

With heartfelt thanks, we celebrate Bill and Patti—and the countless lives they’ve touched, one cup at a time. We invite you to save the date for a **Thank You Reception for them on June 28th after Assembly Worship in Evelyn Hall.**



Join Our Cast!

The Music Man has 4
ensemble positions
available!

EMAIL [CHRIS LUDWA](#) TO
APPLY



Bay View Historical Museum

by the Museum Committee

The Bay View Historical Museum is pleased to announce the exhibit for the 2026 season. Titled “Bay View Remembers our Country” it will celebrate America at 250 years. The exhibit will feature important historical events, people and visitors to Bay View. Music, songs and musicians, television memories and movies, and iconic brands and products will also be featured. It will be a special exhibit for all the family to enjoy.

The museum buildings and the museum cottage will be open from June 24th until August 9th.

Please see the weekly Town Crier for hours of operation and notices for special programs.

For additional information please contact Patti Higgins (810-280-5477) or Barb Turkel (269-908-1543).

Historic Awareness Committee’s Annual Program for 2026

by the Historic Awareness Committee

Bay View’s historic cottages are a treasured legacy — and a shared responsibility. Preserving the community’s character requires more than good intentions; it calls for a clear, fair, and legally sound approach to architectural review.

On **Monday July 13, 7:30 p.m., in Evelyn Hall**, James Reap, a preservation educator and consultant with the National Alliance of Preservation Commissions, will guide cottage owners through the principles that

make architectural review work for everyone. Drawing on decades of experience advising preservation communities nationwide, he will explore how Bay View’s review process can be structured to ensure legal defensibility, consistent treatment of property owners, and respectful neighbor-to-neighbor dialogue.

Mr. Reap is an attorney, and a professor emeritus in the University of Georgia’s College of Environment and Design. His experience in preservation includes service as Georgia’s first regional preservation planner and as Deputy Executive Director of the Northeast Georgia Area Planning and Development Commission. In 2016, he was appointed to the Cultural Property Advisory Committee, U.S. State Department, by President Obama. As a Fulbright Scholar, he taught law and heritage conservation at the Jordan University of Science and Technology, and as a visiting professor at the Orenburg Institute of the Moscow State Law Academy. He has served as Chair of the City of Decatur and the DeKalb County preservation commissions and as Vice Chair of the Athens, Georgia commission.

This presentation will highlight nationally recognized best practices for local review commissions, offering practical guidance that can be applied immediately. Every cottage owner has a stake in this conversation — come prepared to ask questions and leave with a clearer understanding of how thoughtful stewardship protects both individual properties and the community as a whole.

Love Bay View’s beautiful gardens? Join the Garden Club this summer to connect, share ideas, and help steward the spaces that make our campus bloom —no gardening experience required.



Meetings:

Tuesday, June 9 at 3 p.m.

Thursday, June 18 at 3 p.m.

Thursday, July 16 at 3 p.m.

Thursday, August 13 at 3 p.m.

(All Meetings will be held in Evelyn Hall)

HOURS:

POST OFFICE:

April 27 - May 29 & August 10 - October 30

Monday - Friday

11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

June 1 - August 7

Monday - Friday

11 a.m. - 3 p.m.

LIBRARY:

Monday - Friday

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

GATHERING POST:

June 15 - August 7

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m.- 3 p.m.

August 10-21

Monday - Friday

8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

THE SHIRT SHOPPE:

Monday - Friday

9:30 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Sam Spayde Hot Dog

Roast Hours

5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

STAFFING UPDATE

EDUCATION DIRECTOR



We are delighted to announce that Lori Bolone has been appointed as Bay View's new Education Director. A longtime Harbor Springs summer resident, Lori brings exceptional educational expertise and deep community ties to this role. Lori's connection to Northern Michigan began with childhood trips to Mackinac Island and has grown through years of family involvement in Bay View programs alongside her children—Charlie, Gracie, and Anna. Currently a school principal in Toledo, Ohio, her career includes roles as a high school English teacher, Reading Specialist, Instructional Coach, and Literacy Consultant. She has presented at state education conferences and collaborated on university research. Lori holds a B.A. in English and Communications and an M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Toledo. Her passion for education and longtime Bay View connection make her perfectly suited to lead our programming. Please join us in welcoming Lori!

DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP AND RELIGIOUS LIFE



We are pleased to welcome Rev. Dr. Jason Byassee as Bay View's new Director of Worship and Religious Life. Dr. Byassee currently serves as senior pastor of Timothy Eaton Memorial Church in Toronto and previously taught preaching at Vancouver School of Theology, where he held the Butler Chair in Homiletics and Biblical Hermeneutics. A contributing editor at Christian Century, he has authored several books on preaching, revitalization, and discipleship, and earned both his master's and Ph.D. from Duke University. A North Carolina native, he has served churches and taught across the U.S., Canada, and the U.K., including as a visiting fellow at St. John's College, Durham University. His interfaith leadership earned him an Award of Heroism from the Abraham Global Peace Initiative. He and his wife, Rev. Jaylynn Byassee, are ordained United Methodist elders committed to vibrant, collaborative ministry. They have three adult sons and a chocolate lab puppy named Maple. Things still break at their house.

RUN YOUR OWN BEACH BUSINESS THIS SUMMER!

Bay View is seeking an energetic, customer-focused individual to run our beachfront Snack Shack for the 8-week summer season. This is your chance to manage your own lakeside operation, serve our vibrant beach community, and work steps from the water.

Whether you're experienced or just starting out, we want to hear from you. Contact Megan DeWindt at ExecDirector@BayViewAssociation.org to learn more.

WE'RE HIRING!

Front Office Assistant

Boys' and Girls' Club Area Director

Tennis Director

Waterfront Operations Manager

Gathering Post Clerk

Grounds Crew

STAY IN TOUCH

 231.347.6225 1715 Encampment Avenue
BayViewAssociation.org PO Box 583
comm@bayviewassociation.org Petoskey, MI 49770

 @BayViewAssociation @BayViewMF
 @BayViewMichigan
 @BayViewMichigan @BayViewMusicFestival

BAY VIEW MISSION

To be an institution in which Christian values and traditions are central. To enrich the human experience for individuals and families within Bay View and the surrounding community through a seasonal program of religious, educational, cultural and recreational opportunities. To provide a Christian perspective in a changing world.*

**Such as love, faith, grace, hope, respect, hospitality, and service to others.*