



# BIRMINGHAM

A WALKABLE CITY

AROUND TOWN E-NEWSLETTER ● JUNE 2026



## Stay Connected

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Sign up for customized messaging at [bhamgov.org/enews](https://bhamgov.org/enews).

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### ENGAGE WITH US

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### SOCIAL MEDIA

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## IN THIS ISSUE

[THE COMMUNITY HOUSE](#)

[PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS](#)

[IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERTS](#)

[NEW BUSINESSES](#)

## CITY OFFICES

City Hall, located at 151 Martin Street, is open Monday through Friday from 8a.m.-5p.m. The entrances on Martin, Pierce, and on the south side of the building are open to the public Monday through Friday from 8a.m. – 5p.m., along with the barrier-free entrance behind the building. The Henrietta entrance is closed to the public.

### MEETINGS

City Commission and other city boards meet in person, and most have a virtual option (see meeting agendas for Zoom information). For meetings that occur after hours, visitors may access City Hall through the Police Department lobby entrance on Pierce Street. Watch many city meetings on the local cable access channel and by web streaming on the [city's Vimeo channel](#).

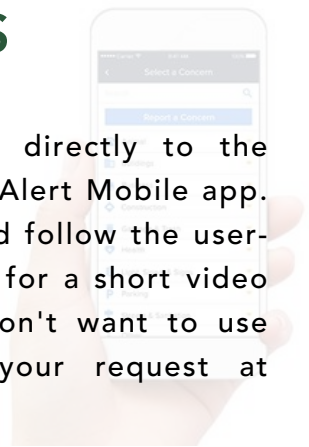
### CONTACT US

Visit [bhamgov.org/contacts](http://bhamgov.org/contacts) to view a list of department contact numbers.



## SUBMIT CONCERNS WITH GOVALERT

Submit non-emergency concerns directly to the City of Birmingham using the GovAlert Mobile app. Simply download the free app and follow the user-friendly prompts. [Follow this link](#) for a short video with step-by-step instructions. Don't want to use the app? That's OK! Submit your request at [bhamgov.org/citizenrequests](http://bhamgov.org/citizenrequests).



## CITY OFFICES CLOSED FRIDAY, JUNE 19

In observance of Juneteenth, city offices will be closed on Friday, June 19. As always, the police and fire departments will be on duty to ensure the safety of our community. There is no refuse collection delay due to the holiday; please set out refuse on your regular collection day.



## CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Looking for the inside scoop at City Hall? Download the [City Manager's Report](#) prepared for the City Commission each month. Birmingham City Manager Jana Ecker provides the latest updates from city departments and a sneak peek at upcoming events, staffing changes, developments and more.

## PROMISING FUTURE FOR THE COMMUNITY HOUSE

The City of Birmingham's offer to purchase The Community House building and land at 380 Bates Street for five million two hundred thousand (\$5,200,000.00), subject to approval by the United States Bankruptcy Court, was accepted by The Community House Association on May 17, 2026.

The City is pleased to announce it is buying the property on behalf of a charitable foundation that is being established for the ownership and operation of The Community House – the City of Birmingham Community House Foundation. The foundation is being created with the City as the sole member, ensuring the building will always belong to the City and its residents for the sole purpose of preserving The Community House as a community center for all residents, honoring the founders' intent, and protecting public access to civic, social and philanthropic programming. The purchase is intended to settle litigation between the City and The Community House.

After the purchase agreement is approved and the transaction is finalized, the City of Birmingham Community House Foundation will manage The Community House in accordance with its mission. This includes plans to continue the early childcare center, banquet services and additional programming to support lasting community benefits for all Birmingham residents. The City will be the stewards of the building, assuring the deed restrictions are followed and will continue in perpetuity. Learn more at [bhamgov.org/tch](http://bhamgov.org/tch).



# BIRMINGHAM COMMUNITY HOUSE FOUNDATION

## APPLICATIONS DUE BY NOON, JUNE 17, 2026

At the regular meeting of Monday, June 22, 2026, the Birmingham City Commission intends to appoint the following positions to the City of Birmingham Community House Foundation:

- Three regular members to serve four year terms to expire June 17, 2030
- Three regular members to serve three year terms to expire June 18, 2029
- Three regular members to serve two year terms to expire June 19, 2028

Interested persons may follow [this link](#) to submit an application. Applications must be submitted to the City Clerk's office on or before noon on Wednesday, June 17, 2026.



These documents will appear in the public agenda for the regular meeting at which time the City Commission may make nominations and vote on appointments.

### Duties

The purpose of the City of Birmingham Community House Foundation Board of Directors is to govern and oversee the ownership, maintenance, and improvement of the Community House and to provide social, philanthropic, and civic activities for the residents of Birmingham. The Board of Directors is responsible for mission stewardship, strategic planning and leadership, financial oversight, fundraising and resource development, and act as ambassadors in the community building connections with stakeholders, funders and other potential allies.

### Criteria/Qualifications

Members shall include two City Commissioners, and seven at large members who are stakeholders in Birmingham and, insofar as possible, represent a broad cross section of the community with specific education or experience in finance, fundraising, philanthropy, business and/or the legal profession.

### Date Applications Due

June 17, 2026 by noon

### Date of Interview

June 22, 2026

## 2026 BIRMINGHAM RESIDENT PRIORITY STUDY

Help Birmingham with an important resident priority study to ensure your tax dollars are being invested in priorities that matter most to you. Visit [CobaltCommunityResearch.org/BIRMINGHAM](https://CobaltCommunityResearch.org/BIRMINGHAM) by June 15, 2026 to complete the evaluation and enter "Birmingham" for the study ID.

Your responses will help shape policies and priorities for Birmingham now and in the future. The short evaluation takes fewer than 10 minutes to complete. If there are questions not applicable to you or your household, select "Don't Know" and then complete the rest of the evaluation.

The City of Birmingham and Cobalt Community Research are working together on this evaluation to ensure your responses are shared anonymously with the City and to provide outside analysis. Cobalt is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization created to help governmental and nonprofit organizations measure, benchmark, and manage their efforts through high-quality, affordable research. Learn more at [Cobalt360.org](https://Cobalt360.org).

If you have questions, please contact Melissa Fairbairn at (248) 530-1807. Thank you for your time and insight.



# VOTE FOR FAVORITE "I VOTED" STICKERS

The designs are in and it's time to cast your vote in Birmingham's first "I voted" sticker contest!



Twenty-five creative designs were submitted by Birmingham residents. Visit [bhamgov.org/stickercontest](http://bhamgov.org/stickercontest) to view the designs and vote for your favorites through June 15. Winning designs will be featured on stickers given to Birmingham voters during the August and November 2026 elections. Good luck to our artists!





**BIRMINGHAM**  
A WALKABLE CITY

**GET  
INVOLVED**

# JOIN A CITY BOARD

The city is looking for individuals who want to give back to their community by serving on a board or committee. This is your opportunity to make recommendations that shape the city's future! Select a board that fits your skills at [bhamgov.org/boardopportunities](https://bhamgov.org/boardopportunities) or click on a board listed below to learn more.



## CURRENT OPENINGS

- ✓ [Board of Housing Appeals](#)
- ✓ [Greenwood Cemetery Advisory Bd](#)
- ✓ [Parks and Recreation Board](#)
- ✓ [Advisory Parking Committee](#)
- ✓ [Board of Ethics](#)
- ✓ [Birmingham Area Cable Board](#)
- ✓ [Museum Board](#)

**LEARN MORE** 

See current openings

**[bhamgov.org/boardopportunities](https://bhamgov.org/boardopportunities)**

See all boards & commissions and apply online

**[bhamgov.org/boards](https://bhamgov.org/boards)**



The United States of America will celebrate the 250th anniversary of its founding next month on July 4, 2026. During this special year, communities are highlighting the local history that gives them character within the bigger picture of the American story.

Birmingham is hosting special activities with a local history twist—including a new exhibit at the Birmingham Museum—as we celebrate the people and history behind our parks, our downtown, our neighborhoods, our civic heritage, and what gives Birmingham its unique sense of place. Special events and activities are listed at [bhamgov.org/250years](http://bhamgov.org/250years).



## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM



### THEY CHANGED BIRMINGHAM:

Warren Duane (W.D.) Clizbe (1858-1926): Bringing Birmingham into the 20<sup>th</sup> century (ready or not)



In 1899, W.D. Clizbe was described by his embittered fellow school board member George Mitchell (co-owner and editor of *The Birmingham Eccentric*) as “a natural born disturber...instead of being a servant of the people and considering ‘a public office a public trust,’ considers himself THE ONLY BOSS.”[1] Among other things, the two had disagreed on who should teach and how money should be spent. The ensuing power struggle played itself out on the village school board in the 1890s and made it impossible to conduct school board business when Mitchell refused to attend meetings (resulting in lack of a quorum) in protest of Clizbe’s leadership. What is the backstory?

Warren Duane (W.D.) Clizbe had come to Birmingham in 1880 to teach at the Hill School, a large building that housed all grades with state-of-the-art classrooms and top-notch faculty. There he met and fell in love with local teacher Nellie Richardson, whom he married shortly after. Clizbe fell in love with Birmingham, too, and became its school superintendent in 1881 with modern and progressive ideas to improve school operation and educational standards. Clizbe left his position with Birmingham schools in 1883 for positions in Lapeer and Ionia, but returned to Birmingham and to public “disturbing” ten years later as America approached the turn of the century. W.D. Clizbe’s self-appointed life mission became reshaping Birmingham from a slow-paced agricultural town to a progressive and beautiful community that could boast the best schools, a library and modern infrastructure. And a determined W.D. Clizbe was going to make it happen, no matter what.

For forty years, the towering figure of W.D. Clizbe could be seen all over the village of Birmingham manifesting his vision of a better Birmingham. He was active in church projects and local fraternal societies such as the Knights of Pythias and the Masonic order, and served as president of the village commission over several election cycles. He continued to work for the improvement of the schools and village, often personally cleaning up refuse on abandoned lots that had been used as dumps. He advocated street cleaning, sidewalk paving and village beautification, even selling 500 maple trees at a discount for residents to plant in Birmingham. Martha Baldwin had an ally in Clizbe, who helped the library association squeeze funds from the tight-fisted village commission to build the first library in 1893. Clizbe was passionate about Birmingham and made it his business to drag, push or chide the sleepy village of some 1200 people into the progressive 20<sup>th</sup> century for what he saw as the public good. He was very popular with a majority of the public, but his strong personality and unwillingness to compromise could create fierce opposition too. For instance, in 1915, a fellow village trustee resigned in a huff because he disliked Clizbe’s overpowering influence on the rest of the trustees.

<sup>1</sup> *Birmingham Eccentric*, 7 July 1899, 5.

## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM (continued)

Clizbe's most controversial impact on Birmingham came at a turning point in the evolution of public works in America. By 1921 the village had grown in population and the so had the strain on the 19<sup>th</sup> c infrastructure. For many years, the village had suffered from annual water shortages due to its dependence on ground wells that became inadequate to supply the village's needs, and new wells were unable to keep up with demand. As with other public matters, village president Clizbe championed the construction of a long term solution – a 300,000 gal. steel water tank to provide a reliable and safe water supply. Voters did not want to pay more tax to pay for it and the bond issue failed, but Clizbe was determined to get the tank. Using a special legal maneuver, he and fellow village officials characterized the situation as a public emergency and ordered the tank to be installed anyway. Clizbe signed the contract and indebted the village before he left office in 1922. This forced the community to revisit the bond issue to pay the contract. It was ultimately successful in 1924 in part because people realized Clizbe had been right and the tank was a public necessity.

With what could be described as keen foresight, Clizbe's last official act before leaving office in 1922 was to introduce a Birmingham ordinance to regulate the planting and trimming of trees and shrubbery. This was well before the concept of municipal planning came into prominence, and like his other village-wide public efforts, was not universally embraced. Even though progressive ideas like this one might meet with resistance, Clizbe may have inadvertently prepared the community for the concept of modern urban planning, as Birmingham was among the first Michigan municipalities to form a planning board and develop a comprehensive plan just a few years later in 1929.

In March of 1926, Clizbe was hospitalized in Detroit for a surgical procedure. At the time, an issue was coming before Birmingham voters to annex several parcels of land on the perimeter of the village to enlarge Birmingham's boundaries. Clizbe was an adamant supporter of the proposal and voted by absentee ballot from his bed. He died shortly afterward and didn't see the outcome, but his vote was made public after the election approved the measure, apparently out of respect for his unwavering belief in building a better Birmingham and to demonstrate that even at his death, he was right.

W.D. Clizbe's funeral drew hundreds of people from all over Michigan and was described as the largest funeral gathering ever seen in Birmingham. Although he had his detractors, Rev. W.C. McKnight said he was "a splendid type of man" who "did many kindnesses for other people." In his obituary *The Eccentric* also said of him, "[h]e was a man of many angles. He did much – perhaps more than any other citizen – to build Birmingham" and reported that his final words were "save Birmingham's trees" [from commercial development].[1]

[1] *Birmingham Eccentric*, 9 Apr 1926, 1, 2.



W.D. and Nellie Richardson Clizbe with grandchildren Jim and Peggy Allen, children of Harry and Marion Clizbe Allen.



Trout Pond at the Clizbe Estate," c1900, now the pond behind the Allen House. (Birmingham Museum)

## NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM (continued)

W.D. Clizbe changed Birmingham by:

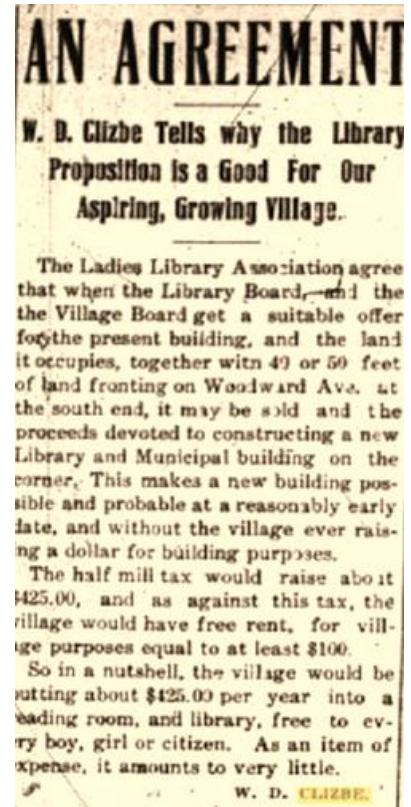
- Instituting better school record keeping and modernizing the course of study in Birmingham schools
- Becoming an important ally of Martha Baldwin in her efforts to pressure the village trustees to provide funding to build the first public library in Birmingham
- Beautifying the town through personally cleaning up refuse, planting trees, and advocating for proper sidewalks and maintaining clean and clear of manure and trash
- Forcing the community to accept the public necessity of a water tank after going against public opinion and the defeat of a bond issue by signing a contract to build it anyway
- Anticipating the long term importance of village-wide planning and beautification through ordinance utilization
- His lifelong passion of making Birmingham better, whether it was picking up trash or picking fights with those he felt opposed modern, progressive community improvements



Clizbe portrait, 1893



Birmingham High School photo with notation, "Prof. W.D. Clizbe," c1883 (Birmingham Museum)



Birmingham Eccentric notice by Clizbe backing the funding of a public library, a lifelong goal of Martha Baldwin's. (Eccentric, 8 Mar 1907)

# BIRMINGHAM GREEN

## BY NICHOLAS J. DUPUIS, PLANNING DIRECTOR

### BIRMINGHAM GREEN: FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING PILOT PROGRAM

No seriously...we really do want to get this food waste composting project off the ground to provide that extra option for Birmingham residents who want to take that next step to reducing their impact on the environment. At this point, the [Environmental Sustainability Committee](#) is considering a pilot program that would introduce eight food waste composting bins at strategic areas in the City – four on the west side and four on the east side.

In starting a pilot program, Birmingham would align with its neighbors of Royal Oak, Southfield, Ferndale and many other communities in Southeast Michigan in providing such a service to its residents. We hope to get the pilot program launched in summer 2026 – keep an eye out for updates by signing up for [Birmingham Communications](#), or email Planning Director Nick Dupuis at [ndupuis@bhamgov.org](mailto:ndupuis@bhamgov.org).





# BIRMINGHAM

## ZONING ORDINANCE UPDATE

Birmingham is undertaking a major update of the Zoning Ordinance with the intent to make the document clearer, more predictable, user-friendly, and aligned with the Birmingham Plan 2040 Master Plan and current planning practices. The new Zoning Ordinance will include zoning and subdivision regulations that promote sustainable development and equitable growth, protect community character, encourage economic development, and support housing and environmental goals.

This project cannot be successful without input from Birmingham residents, business owners and visitors. Community members are encouraged to get involved in the project and provide feedback on their vision for future development and redevelopment in the community. To ensure the city is able to engage as many people as possible, a project webpage has been created at [bhamgov.org/zoningordinanceupdate](https://bhamgov.org/zoningordinanceupdate). The city will host a series of outreach events and meetings throughout the process.

Keep an eye on the project webpage and the city's social media channels for more information coming soon!



# RESIDENTS ELIGIBLE FOR RAINSMART REBATES

## 2026 RAINSMART REBATE PROGRAM ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

If your 2026 landscape plans include a new native tree, a rain garden or a rain barrel, Oakland County's [RainSmart Rebates](#) could help you pay for it! Birmingham residents can apply for rebates of up to \$2,000 per property for creating rain gardens, installing rain barrels and planting native trees through the program, an initiative of the [Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's Office](#).

Funds are distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Rebate funds may not be applied to projects completed in the past, and will be allocated to new installation projects until all of the allotted money is spent. Learn more about the process, [check your eligibility](#) and apply at [OakGov.com/RainSmart](#).

In 2024, Birmingham residents received \$3,172 in RainSmart Rebates for projects like these. More importantly, these 21 successful projects increased Birmingham's stormwater storage capacity by 23,310 gallons annually. New this year, all Birmingham residents may apply for a RainSmart Rebate for the implementation of green stormwater infrastructure. Act soon to take advantage of this program in 2026; last year's rebate funds were quickly allocated!

By using vegetation, soils and natural processes to capture and slow rainwater or snowmelt as it moves across the landscape, green stormwater infrastructure allows water to percolate through the soil and utilizes plant roots to filter out contaminants. In addition, instead of letting the water flow into storm drains, these techniques filter and temporarily store the water to reduce the amount of stormwater from entering the drainage district's underground pipes that handle both sewage and stormwater.



PLANT A RAIN GARDEN  
INSTALL A RAIN BARREL  
GROW A NATIVE TREE



# PARKS AND RECREATION NEWS

## NEW PLAYGROUNDS, IMPROVEMENTS UNDERWAY AT SIX PARKS

It's an exciting time to be a public [parks](#) fan in Birmingham, with improvement projects in six parks underway at various stages this summer, thanks to a [parks and recreation bond](#) approved by 70 percent of voters in 2020.

[St. James and Kenning\\_parks](#): Refined designs for improvements to both parks will be presented at a June 2 [Parks and Recreation Board](#) (PRB) meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the [Department of Public Services](#) (DPS) conference room at 851 S. Eton. See the meeting [agenda](#) and [materials](#) here, and join the meeting in person or [virtually on Zoom](#).



[Poppleton Park](#): Installation of Poppleton Park's new all-abilities playground is scheduled to begin this month. Weather permitting, the parks division looks forward to a ribbon cutting ceremony this summer after all improvements, including accessible parking and pathways are complete. Learn more about the project at [bhamgov.org/poppleton](http://bhamgov.org/poppleton).

[Booth Park](#): Now that the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) has approved plans and bid specifications associated with an additional \$400,000 DNR grant received for the [Booth Park entry plaza and trail improvement project](#), the parks division will receive construction proposals on June 10. Construction is anticipated to start in August, pending City Commission approval and award of the work in mid-July.

[Pembroke Park](#): The City Commission approved plans for a beautiful [new playground](#) at Pembroke Park in March. Equipment has been ordered and construction should begin late this summer or early in the fall, depending on the weather.

[Crestview Park](#): The public input process for Crestview Park's new playground kicks off at the July 7 PRB meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the



DPS conference room at 851 S. Eton Street. Meet the project's designers and share your feedback about design concepts at the meeting, and watch for more information in upcoming issues of [Around Town](#), on our [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts and the [PRB webpage](#). Sign up to receive emailed news about parks and rec projects at [bhamgov.org/enews](http://bhamgov.org/enews).

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES NEWS



### SPRING TREE PLANTING!

Birmingham Department of Public Services crews and contractors are hard at work planting more than 220 trees across town in the city's annual spring tree planting project. City arborists are supervising to ensure trees are installed using proper planting techniques and the placements are uniform with tree manual standards. Homes receiving a new tree get door hangers that outline proper watering requirements and other maintenance information to help ensure a sustainable growing environment for the newly planted trees.

Learn more about tree care and the city's forestry program at [bhamgov.org/forestry](http://bhamgov.org/forestry).

### SNAPPING TURTLE NESTS ON LINDEN PARK TRAIL



A snapping turtle chose the Linden Trail wood chips as its nesting ground in late May! Please steer clear of the taped-off nesting area, located between the trail's Shirley Road entrance and the stone Water Resources Commission building, until the eggs hatch in approximately 100 days.

In the meantime, some interesting facts about this snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), a native Michigan species:

- Females sometimes travel up to half a mile to find the perfect sunny spot to establish a nest.
- To throw off predators, snapping turtles sometimes dig several holes to create a false nest that throws off predators (behind her in the image at right).
- Each turtle lays between 30 to 50 eggs and leaves the nest once all eggs have been laid.

# TRANSFORM OUR PARKS DONATE NOW



Looking for a way to volunteer your time to improve a city park? Interested in sponsoring the popular In The Park Summer Concert Series? Seeking to memorialize a loved one? Consider a donation of time or funds to Birmingham Parks and Recreation!

It's easier than ever with the city's new streamlined community donation platform. Learn more and donate online at [bhamgov.org/donate](https://bhamgov.org/donate) today!

**[BHAMGOV.ORG/DONATE](https://bhamgov.org/donate)**

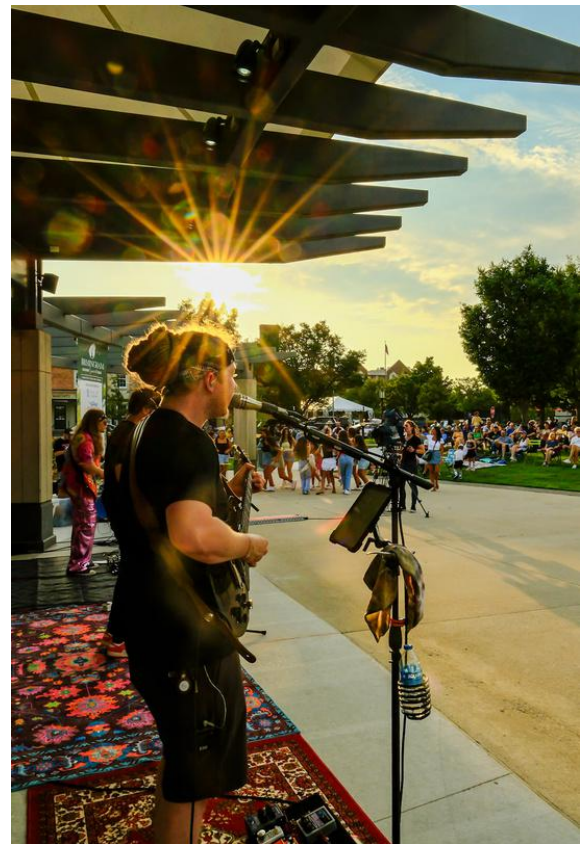
# PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

## 2026 IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERTS KICK OFF JUNE 12!

Birmingham's [In the Park summer concert series](#) is the place to be on warm Wednesday evenings through the end of August! Grab a blanket or chairs and your dancing shoes and join us in [Shain Park](#) for free, fun, family-friendly outdoor entertainment in a beautiful, vibrant setting!

New this year before the July 1 and Aug. 5 concerts: an exciting Kids Zone from 4 to 6 p.m. with high-energy fun featuring bounce houses, interactive activities, games and a few surprises.

The annual Birmingham Bloomfield Community Coalition Youth Action Board's Teen Summer Concert kicks off the series with talented local teens and the Hood Band on Friday, June 12 at 7 p.m. Following this event, concerts happen weekly on Wednesdays at 7 p.m., starting with the Birmingham Concert Band's patriotic tunes for America's 250<sup>th</sup> on June 17, and Raputa J. Geils Tribute Band on June 24. See the June and July schedule on the next page, and full season at [bhamgov.org/concerts](http://bhamgov.org/concerts).



Thank you to our generous In The Park Summer Concert Series sponsors for helping us make this beloved summer tradition possible, especially our star-level sponsors Crain Homes and the Original Pancake House. Additional sponsors include fan-level sponsors Move As A Human and Serling & Abramson P.C.

If inclement weather threatens, event status updates will be posted on [bhamgov.org/concerts](http://bhamgov.org/concerts), the city's [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts, and the concert hotline at (248) 530-1650.



## SUMMER SKATING LESSONS START JUNE 15

Online enrollment for session 5 of Birmingham's popular Learn to Skate program is underway, with [classes](#) starting the week of June 15 and ending Aug. 17 at the [Birmingham Ice Sports Arena](#), 2300 E. Lincoln.

Classes are offered for children and adults at all skill levels at various times of the day once a week on Mondays or Wednesdays. Skate rental is available for \$3. Find a class that suits you and enroll [here!](#)

# PARKS & RECREATION NEWS

## 2026 IN THE PARK SUMMER CONCERT SCHEDULE

### *June and July Concerts*

Friday, June 12

BBC YAB's Teen Summer Concert  
featuring the Hood Band & local teens

Wednesday, June 17

Birmingham Concert Band (wind ensemble)

Wednesday, June 24

Raputa (J Geils tribute band)

Wednesday, July 1\*

Rebecca Cameron (country)

\*Kids zone 4-6 p.m. (preconcert fun)

Wednesday, July 8

Billy Mack & the Juke Joint Johnnies  
(vintage rock & roll, swing/lounge)

Wednesday, July 15

9D Proof Detroit (alternative rock)

Wednesday, July 22

The Detroit Retro Society (Motown, soul  
& funk)

Wednesday, July 29

LL7 Latin Jazz (jazz with vocals)

All concerts begin at 7 p.m. in Shain Park. See full schedule through Aug. 26 [here](#).



# NEWS FROM THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

## BIRMINGHAM HOMETOWN PARADE RETURNS MAY 17!



Thank you to all who marched in, volunteered during or simply enjoyed the [Celebrate Birmingham Hometown Parade and party](#) on May 17! A cherished tradition for more than 40 years, the parade this year featured more than 30 groups marching and a similar number hosting activities in the Shain Park afterparty.

The parade included a pack of motorcycles, larger-than-life vehicles and talented members of community organizations. In the park, attendees could test their skills in board breaking, birdhouse making, and even come face to face with a dinosaur...skull! Event goers also enjoyed miraculous balloon twisting, magical face painting and yummy refreshments, with fun for all ages.

The event was a wonderful success and a beautiful day full of memories for the community made possible by many marvelous workers, selfless volunteers and generous sponsors. Thank you to everyone that helped make this spectacular event come to life, especially our presenting sponsors Bank of Ann Arbor and Bloom Pediatrics!

Mark your calendars for the return of the parade on May 16, 2027!



# NEWS FROM THE CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

## AUG. 4 STATE PRIMARY ELECTION NEWS

Birmingham has two elections this year: a state primary on Aug. 4 and a general election on Nov. 3. Cast your vote in one of three ways:

- **ABSENTEE VOTING:** Absent voter (AV) ballots for the Aug. 4 primary will be mailed in late June to voters on the permanent mail ballot list and to those who requested one. Still need one? Request yours at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) or [elections@bhamgov.org](mailto:elections@bhamgov.org), or in person at the clerk's office. AV ballots will be available by mail until July 31 at 5 p.m. or in person at the clerk's office until Monday, Aug. 3 at 4 p.m. Return your voted ballot by mail or to a secure drop box at city hall or the Adams Street fire station. The clerk's office must receive your ballot by 8 p.m. on Aug. 4.
- **EARLY VOTING:** Saturday, July 25 through Sunday, Aug. 2 at the Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Lone Pine, Bloomfield Township, 48302, or Waterford Oaks Activity Center, 2800 Watkins Lake Road, 48328. Daily hours and additional details at [bhamgov.org/earlyvoting](https://bhamgov.org/earlyvoting).
- **IN PERSON ON ELECTION DAY, AUG. 4:** Polling places are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Find yours at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) or at [bhamgov.org/voting](https://bhamgov.org/voting) location.

**REGISTER TO VOTE:** Register to vote or update your address online at [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) or by mail through July 20 to vote, or in person at the clerk's office now through 8 p.m. on Election Day. For more information, see [mi.gov/voterregistration](https://mi.gov/voterregistration).

### QUESTIONS?

Your friendly clerk's office staff is eager to answer your questions! Reach them at: [elections@bhamgov.org](mailto:elections@bhamgov.org), (248) 530-1880, or at the clerk's counter on the first floor of 151 Martin Street, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday; Saturday, Aug. 1 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Election Day, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

For 24/7 service, visit [mi.gov/vote](https://mi.gov/vote) to register to vote, request a ballot, see a sample ballot and so much more.



# ORDINANCE REMINDERS

## SPRINGTIME DOG WALKING REMINDERS

As you and your furry friend get outdoors for springtime fun, please consider the following pet safety ordinances:

- All dogs must be on a chain or leash of 6 feet or less and under reasonable control of a person at all times. This also applies in Birmingham parks except the [Lincoln Hills Dog Park](#) (see below).
- Owners cannot allow animals to deposit fecal matter in any place other than the premises where the animal is harbored or kept, unless it is immediately collected and removed. Please remember dog waste should be collected with a bag and disposed of in your garbage container, not your yard waste bin.
- No person shall harbor or keep any dog which, by loud or frequent or habitual barking, yelping or howling, causes a serious annoyance to the neighborhood, or to people passing on the street.
- Pet licenses for puppies and kittens four months old and older and are available in three durations: one year for \$15; two years for \$20 and three years for \$25. Pet licenses expire with the expiration of your pet's rabies vaccination, and can be purchased [online](#), by mail or in person at the [clerk's office](#). You'll need to provide a photo or copy of your proof of residency, your pet's valid rabies certificate and a check (if not paying online).

Birmingham's [dog park](#), located at the southeast edge of Lincoln Hills Golf Course, offers a secure place for dogs to play off leash. Dogs must be [licensed](#) and have a current rabies vaccination. Park users may apply and pay an annual fee for a key fob (\$50 for residents; \$200 for non-residents). Temporary one-week passes are available for visitors and those who want to try the park before purchasing an annual pass. Learn more at [bhamgov.org/dogpark](#).

For more information about Birmingham's dog ordinances, visit [bhamgov.org/petregulation](#).



## ORDINANCE REMINDERS



### KEEP GRASS AND WEEDS BELOW EIGHT INCHES

Please remember that grass and weeds must be kept below eight inches high to ensure our city continues to look well-maintained. Poison ivy, ragweed or any other poisonous, noxious or unhealthy growths are prohibited.

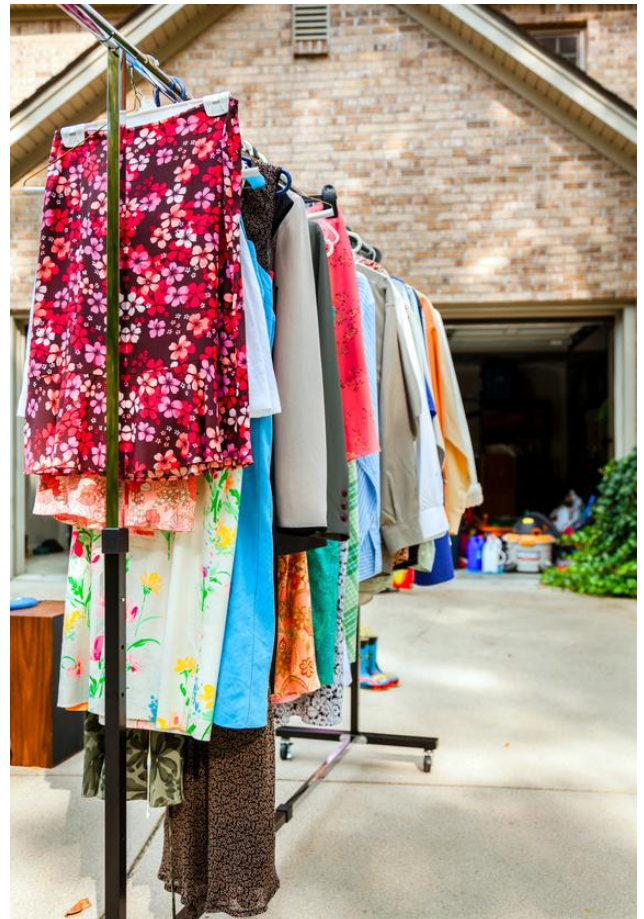
Those violating the ordinance will have their lawn mowed and be required to pay for the service. Access the entire Grass and Noxious Weed ordinance (Sec. 118-66) at [bhamgov.org/grassandweeds](http://bhamgov.org/grassandweeds).

For more information, call the Department of Public Services at (248) 530-1700.

## GARAGE SALE REMINDERS

As garage sale season begins, a few reminders:

- Residents do not need a license to hold a garage or yard sale!
- Sales can last no more than three consecutive days
- No more than two sales are permitted at the same residence in any 12-month period.
- Signs cannot be posted on any public right-of-way, which includes street signs and telephone poles. Police will remove any signs in violation.
- Sales conducted by professional auctioneers or on-site household liquidation specialists require an auction/estate sale license from the City Clerk's Office. For more information, contact them at (248) 530-1880 or [clerksoffice@bhamgov.org](mailto:clerksoffice@bhamgov.org). Happy selling!



## NEWS FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

### BEFORE YOU CELEBRATE: FIREWORKS RULES, SAFETY TIPS AND HOURS

Fireworks can be a fun and memorable way to celebrate, but they also pose serious risks. According to the National Fire Protection Association, fireworks are responsible for more than 19,500 fires and 11,500 emergency room visits each year in the United States. In recent years, the Birmingham Fire Department has responded to an increasing number of structure fires and property damage incidents caused by fireworks—particularly airborne types such as bottle rockets and floating lanterns.



Residents are encouraged to enjoy professional fireworks displays, either locally or on television, rather than hosting their own. This Independence Day, keep these safety tips in mind:

- Unmanned free-floating devices, such as sky lanterns, are prohibited at all times.
- Explosive noisemaking fireworks can cause serious injuries and create disturbances due to loud noise, flames and smoke.
- It is unlawful to ignite, discharge, or use consumer fireworks on public property, school grounds, church property or another person's property without explicit permission. Violations may result in a civil fine of up to \$1,000.

While the City of Birmingham restricts fireworks use on most days, Michigan state law requires fireworks be permitted during specific dates and times:

- December 31 (11:00 a.m.) through January 1 (1:00 a.m.)
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day
- June 29 – July 4, from 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m.
- July 5, from 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m., if it falls on a Friday or Saturday
- 11:00 a.m. – 11:45 p.m. on the Saturday and Sunday before Labor Day

By following these laws and prioritizing safety, we can all help prevent accidents and ensure celebrations remain enjoyable for everyone. For more information, visit [bhamgov.org/fireworks](http://bhamgov.org/fireworks).





# BIRMINGHAM FARMERS MARKET

660 N. OLD WOODWARD AVENUE  
SUNDAYS 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.

The Birmingham Farmers Market is open every Sunday through October 25 from 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Join us on June 14 for the annual Strawberry Jam-Boree and a free Second Sunday yoga class with Community Yoga Studio. Learn more and register at [downtownbirmingham.com/farmersmarket](https://downtownbirmingham.com/farmersmarket).

For more information and a schedule of all special market events, visit [downtownbirmingham.com/farmersmarket](https://downtownbirmingham.com/farmersmarket), like us on [Facebook](#), and follow us on [Instagram](#).

See you at the market!





# SAVE THE DATE!

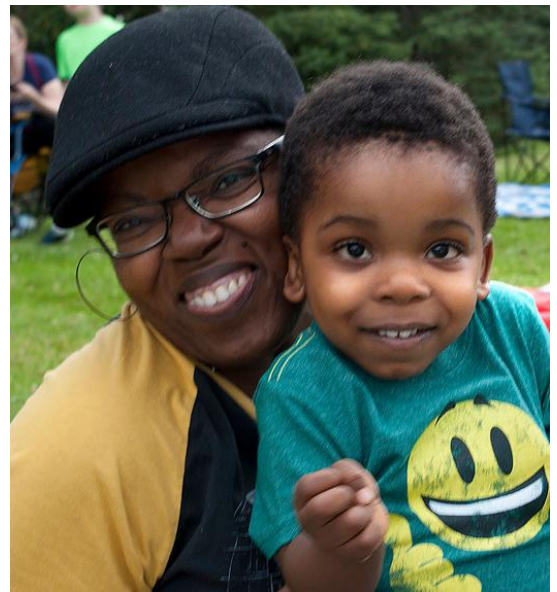
**OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHTS BEGIN JUNE 5**

It's show time! Join us at Booth Park on select Friday nights this summer for free, family-friendly movie nights. Pre-show entertainment begins at 6:30 p.m., and the movie begins at 7:30 p.m.

## DATES AND FEATURE PRESENTATIONS:

- June 5 : Smurfs (2025)
- July 10: Tangled
- August 7: The Bad Guys
- September 4: Lilo & Stitch (2002)

In the event of inclement weather, Movie Nights will be held the following evening (Saturday). For more information on Movie Nights, visit [downtownbirmingham.com/events](https://www.downtownbirmingham.com/events).



As always, parking is convenient and free for the first two hours in all five municipal garages downtown. For more information, visit [www.downtownbirmingham.com](https://www.downtownbirmingham.com), follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) and subscribe to [Birmingham Shopping District enews](#).



# WELCOME, NEW BUSINESSES

## Vuori

100 SOUTH OLD WOODWARD AVENUE

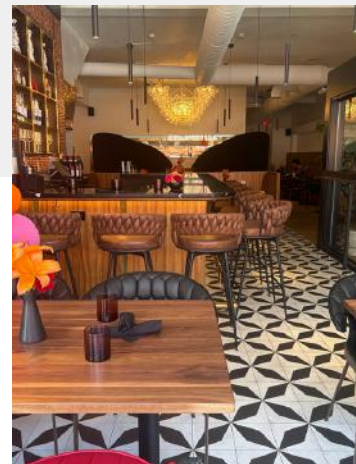
Vuori is an athletic and lifestyle brand known for ultra-soft, comfortable apparel that seamlessly blends performance wear with everyday style. Visit the location and [website](#) to learn more.



## Besos

239 NORTH OLD WOODWARD AVENUE

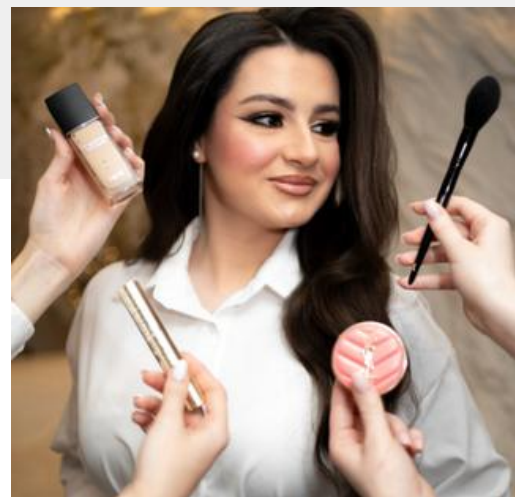
Besos is a locally sourced, whole-food restaurant featuring standout dishes like crab cakes and a BLT chopped salad, plus a full-service bar to complement your meal. Visit their [website](#) to learn more.



## Studio 33' Blossom

730 NORTH OLD WOODWARD AVENUE

Studio 33' Blossom specializes in European manicures and pedicures, spray tans, makeup, lashes, and brow services and more. Visit their [website](#) to learn more.



*Photo courtesy of Studio 33' Blossom's website.*



# BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

## JUNE NEWS FROM THE BALDWIN PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us in June for a ton of fun! Find information on events for people of all ages at [baldwinlib.org/calendar](https://baldwinlib.org/calendar).

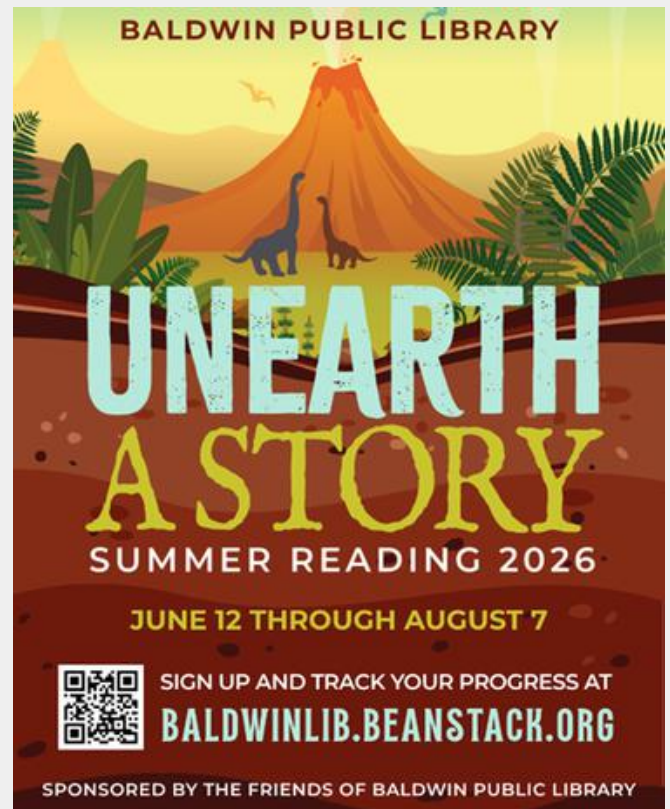
### Try our new electronic resources!

Recently, we've added access to several new online resources including O'Reilly for tech instruction and Peterson's for Career Prep. HeritageHub has the premier collection of U.S. obituaries and death notices for in-depth genealogical research from 1704 – today, and The Life in America Collection allows patrons to explore America's past and present through a wider, more diverse lens. All of these, plus many more, are available to access anytime at [baldwinlib.org/databases](https://baldwinlib.org/databases).

\*Please note that a Baldwin Public Library card number may be required to access some resources from outside the building.

### Unearth a Story - Summer Reading 2026

Join us June 12 for the official kickoff to Summer Reading 2026, from 3-5 p.m. Can't make it June 12? Register anytime until August 7, and track your progress as you go. Full details are at [baldwinlib.org/summer-reading](https://baldwinlib.org/summer-reading).



Baldwin Public Library is located at 300 W. Merrill Street in Birmingham. For more information visit [www.baldwinlib.org](https://www.baldwinlib.org) or call (248) 647-1700. The library will be closed on Friday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth.



**DSO Principal Harpist, Alyssa Katahara Performing at Next!  
Tuesday, June 16, 2026 at 6 p.m.**

Come to Next for a beautiful evening of harp music by award-winning, accomplished harpist Alyssa Katahara. Alyssa joined the Detroit Symphony Orchestra as Principal Harp in 2024 and will be joined by award winning renowned DSO cellist Jeremy Crosmer for this special event. [Please follow this link to register.](#)



**New! Pickleball Clinics**

**Beginner: On-going Mondays from 5 - 6 pm  
Intermediate - Advanced: Ongoing Mondays  
from 6 - 7 p.m.**

Interested in learning how to play one of the fastest-growing and most popular sports around? Or maybe you'd like to hone your skills a bit? Tom Wehner, Pickleball Professional, will be holding two clinics every Monday night for up to 8 people per clinic – Beginner and Intermediate/Advanced. [Please follow this link to register.](#)



**Monarchs - A Dwindling Species**

**Tuesday, June 23, 2026 at 1 p.m.**

**Debbie Jackson, Monarch Watch Conservation Specialist**

Have you noticed how hard it is to find a monarch nowadays? Their population is about 10% of what it used to be and like the canary in the coal mine, it's an indication of the perils our ecosystem is facing. Come learn how you can help this lovely creature without investing a lot of money or time. Join us as Debbie Jackson returns to Next and shares her 50+ years of knowledge about this beautiful species and hear how you can get involved to help boost their dwindling population.

[Please follow this link to register.](#)



Next proudly serves the growing 50-plus population in our community. Next is located at 2121 Midvale Street in Birmingham. Contact Next at (248) 203-5270, visit [www.BirminghamNext.org](http://www.BirminghamNext.org) or [like Next on Facebook](#).





# CITY COMMISSION GOALS

**ENGAGED AND CONNECTED COMMUNITY** → Birmingham is a community that is connected to one another and engaged in the decision making process

- Bridge the divide that Woodward Avenue creates in the City and transform the Woodward environment
- Offer City services and amenities that enrich the lives of residents of all ages
- Encourage robust resident engagement with their government and community
- Increase connectivity between the Rouge River trail system, downtown, and the neighborhoods

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY** → The City of Birmingham positions itself for a changing future by instituting policies and practices that protect the natural environment and reduce extreme weather impacts on the community

- Create a sustainability board to review projects, investigate funding opportunities, and offer public education opportunities
- Maintain and upgrade infrastructure to prepare for future climate conditions
- Modernize City facilities for energy efficiency and sustainability

**EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE SERVICES** → Birmingham will address the needs of the community in a timely and respectful manner

- Incorporate new technologies to improve service delivery for residents including digitization of public records and museum materials
- Build and retain an effective and professional staff who serve the community
- Create community risk reduction policies and programs that emphasize citywide increased safety and security

# Connect With Us

## DIRECT EMAIL, NOTIFICATIONS, FORMS AND PUBLIC SAFETY ALERTS

- [City Communications](#)
- [Constant Contact](#) — Subscribe to receive emails about topics of interest.
- [Agendas & Minutes e-Notify](#) — Receive an email or text when agendas and minutes have been posted.
- [Nixle Public Alert System](#) — Alerts from the police & fire departments
- [City Forms & Payments](#)
- [Crime map](#)

## SOCIAL MEDIA

### Facebook

- [City of Birmingham](#)
- [Birmingham Police Department](#)
- [Birmingham Fire Department](#)
- [The Birmingham Museum](#)
- [Birmingham Shopping District](#)
- [Birmingham Farmers Market](#)

### Instagram

- [City of Birmingham](#)
- [Birmingham Police Department](#)
- [The Birmingham Museum](#)
- [Birmingham Shopping District](#)
- [Birmingham Farmers Market](#)

### X (formerly Twitter)

- [Birmingham Police Department](#)
- [Birmingham Shopping District](#)

### Nextdoor

[City of Birmingham Nextdoor Page](#)





# BIRMINGHAM

## Contact Us

Birmingham City Hall.....	248.530.1800
Birmingham Museum.....	248.530.1682
Birmingham Shopping District.....	248.530.1200
Building Department.....	248.530.1850
City Clerk.....	248.530.1880
City Manager.....	248.530.1808
Communications.....	248.530.1812
Dept. of Public Services.....	248.530.1700
Engineering.....	248.530.1840
Finance.....	248.530.1820
Fire Department.....	248.530.1901
Human Resources.....	248.530.1810
Planning Department.....	248.530.1850
Police Department.....	248.530.1870
Treasurer's Office.....	248.530.1890