



THE CURRENT

Bridgewater's Monthly Newsletter

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November 1

2026 Shelter Reservations Open; Ice Rink tickets and party reservations available

November 2

Large Item Pickup Begins

November 3

Election Day; Office Open

November 10, 7:00 pm

Town Council Meeting

November 21, 9-11 am

Coffee with a Cop at Bridgewater Foods
Please note the change in date from Activities Calendar.

November 26

Town Office, Sipe Center, & Recycle Center Closed; Gen Park Ice Rink Opening Day

November 27

Town Office & Recycle Center Closed

November 29, 6:30 pm

Tree Lighting at Gen Park
Winter WonderLane Opens



A view of the nearly completed Wellness Quarter at night.

Wellness Quarter to Open By Year's End

As we go to print, Bridgewater's newest recreational facility is in its last phase of construction and should be completed around November 6. We anticipate opening by year's end and have a number of events planned for its first few months.

What Is Wellness Quarter?

The Wellness Quarter is a place for the community to come together, stay active, and connect with others. Including the Doug Will Tennis Center, this 35,000-square-foot facility features two tennis courts and two multipurpose courts in addition to an elevated track and meeting room. The multipurpose courts can also be configured as two basketball courts, two volleyball courts, or six pickleball courts.

Players can enjoy a pick-up game during open gym times on the basketball courts. With scoreboards

provided by the Bridgewater Rotary Club, teams can play organized games and tournaments as well.

The gym also includes an elevated track with two lanes, so runners and walkers can get their exercise in year-round. Roughly 13-14 laps make up a mile, depending on the lane. Due to its elevation, the track can be used while games are played on the courts below.

In the upstairs meeting room, families can enjoy parent-toddler play time,

DWTC? WQ? What's What?

The Doug Will Tennis Center ("DWTC") is the longstanding indoor tennis facility. (The DWTC, by the way, has received a new roof, better drainage, insulation, a new HVAC system, and fresh lighting.) Wellness Quarter ("WQ") is the overall facility, and the DWTC is a big part of it.

Continued on next page

Pictured (L to R):

1. Entrance
2. Main gym
3. Walking track



adults can participate in cardio classes or gather for board games and conversation, and comfortable tables and social spaces provide opportunities to meet and connect.

The attached Tennis Center has been renovated with full insulation, an HVAC system, and new lighting, creating a better playing experience. Players can reserve courts during regular hours of operation.

Why Wellness Quarter?

The idea for Wellness Quarter arose from several requests made by different groups in town. Many residents wanted an indoor space to get some exercise when the weather is cold and icy or hot and humid. Others shared the need for more places to gather for pickup games and for teams to practice. Still others felt that the fire company would benefit from having public restrooms available during its lawn party. Patrons of the Tennis Center requested improvements to the existing building to bring it up-to-date and to increase the number of courts available for the

growing sport of pickleball. At a town-hall meeting in 2023 about the project, the idea of a space for toddler time was proposed by residents. Wellness Quarter was designed to respond to all of these needs in our community.

We also saw Wellness Quarter as an opportunity to support our local businesses. Through occasional tournaments, trade shows, and other events, the facility can draw more visitors into town. This increased traffic could benefit our restaurants and stores, increase visibility of services and other businesses, and raise Bridgewater's profile for prospective businesses.

This desire to benefit businesses also shapes what Wellness Quarter does *not* offer. Thus it will not offer services which directly compete with local businesses. For instance, we will not have workout equipment because a local business already offers it.

Wellness Quarter is, however, more than just a recreational facility or a boost for commerce. Most fundamentally, it is a place where the community can gather and people can get to know their neighbors.

What to Expect at Wellness Quarter?

We don't yet have an opening date scheduled but expect to open by year's end. Wellness Quarter will be open daily 6:00 am – 9:00 pm Monday through Saturday and 12:00 noon – 9:00 pm on Sundays. The facility will be free to use for B-Rec members—don't forget to get your free B-Rec card at the Town Office—but there may be nominal fees for certain activities like exercise classes. There will be a fee for day passes for those without a B-Rec. Wellness Quarter will be a cashless facility, so the fee will need to be paid by card.

We will have a fairly regular weekly schedule of open gym times for basketball, volleyball, and track use. We plan to post the weekly schedule, especially noting any changes, on the Buzz on Sundays. Tennis courts and pickleball courts will be available by reservation on Community Pass. The multisport courts in the gym and the meeting room will also be available for reservation in advance at an hourly rate. We will limit gym and meeting room reservations as needed to ensure that the facilities are primarily available for public use.

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Wellness Quarter by the Numbers...

363. The construction contract allows a 360-day construction period. As of now, we're expecting completion on November 6, which will be Day 363. After the horrible, terrible, hopefully-never-to-be repeated winter weather, the contractor has done a phenomenal job of keeping this project on schedule. We are grateful.

0. We should have no overruns above the contract cost of \$6.7 million. If you have ever built a house, you know how much discipline was involved in keeping costs down. For example, for just a *little* more, we could have had that extra spongy floor which surely would have allowed a 66-year-old, 5'10" Town Manager to dunk a basketball. Tempting, right?

\$5.9M. Our borrowing was projected at \$6.7 million, but, because we have continued to save even as the project proceeds, we think the final loan amount will be more like \$5.9 million. The loan has a 28-year amortization period, but, if our successors stay the course, it will be paid off early—without any tax increases.



4. Doug Will Tennis Center
5. Meeting Room
6. Scoreboard donated by Rotary Club

While we believe that we have a good plan for how Wellness Quarter will operate, we will inevitably learn what works well and what doesn't as we open. We will note what activities and events are important to you. So all of these plans are subject to change, but we will keep you updated on the Buzz.

What Programs and Events Are Planned?

When the facility is ready for use, we will hold an **Open House** for residents to come explore what Wellness Quarter has to offer and even pick up some exclusive swag. Look for more details to be announced in the Buzz.

In the first few weeks, we will begin holding **Zumba** classes on Mondays at 6:30 pm in the meeting room. Zumba is a high-energy, dance-inspired fitness class that combines upbeat music, easy-to-follow moves, and a fun atmosphere. The cost will be \$5 per class for B-Rec card holders. We will announce a start date on the Buzz.

We will also hold **Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention** classes on Tuesdays at 9:00 am beginning February 2. This 16-week program is designed for adults 60+ and those living with movement challenges such as arthritis or fibromyalgia. The classes will help them build muscles, improve balance, and loosen stiff joints. This will be offered at no cost through a partnership with the Valley Program for Aging Services. Registration is available online at bridgewater.town/taichi.

Our **Inaugural Pickleball Classic** on January 16 will bring together players of all levels to compete and have fun. The Cracked Pillar is sponsoring the post-game awards festivities. You can find more details and register at bridgewater.town/pickleball_classic.

BikeWell, scheduled for March 20, will bring local bike shops, cycling organizations, and our police officers together under one roof at Wellness Quarter. This event will promote bike safety while bringing riders, families,

and the broader community together to learn about and enjoy cycling.

The Wellness Quarter will offer something for everyone and provide a welcoming space where neighbors can gather, have fun, and build community.

This Month at Sipe Center

Movies Coming Soon...

Paw Patrol 3: The Dino Movie (11/5 - 11/8)
Tom & Jerry: Forbidden Compass (11/12 - 11/15)
Heart of the Beast (11/19 - 11/22)

Free Christmas Movies Start 11/27 - 11/29 with Elf!

Admission is free. Tickets are available on the day of the showing.

See www.sipecenter.com/movies for showtimes and tickets!

Live Performances

Vocal Steel

Voices in the Valley A Cappella Series
Saturday, November 7, 7:30 pm
Tickets \$20
Pittsburgh's best contemporary a cappella group



Frosty: A Musical Adventure presented by The Barter Players

Friday, November 13, 7:30 pm
Tickets \$25 adults/\$15 kids

Don't miss the holiday musical!

Visit www.sipecenter.com/liveperformances for tickets!

Sipe Center Box Office
Open Thursday – Sunday
3:00 – 8:00 pm
(540) 908-4208
www.sipecenter.com



Now Hiring! Interested in joining the Parks and Recreation team? We are looking for part-time team members for Wellness Quarter, Sipe Center, and the Ice Rink. Learn more and apply at bridgewater.town/employment.

**Local
Postal Customer**

Project Status Updates

Gen Oak Connector, Phase II

The Town anticipates bidding the project in December.

Fountainhead Subdivision

Bids for Phase I (stormwater improvements) due November 6. For Phase II (water & sewer improvements), the Town has been awarded an \$833k CDBG grant for construction.

Wellness Quarter

Almost done! Gym floor installation is just about complete. Follow the Buzz for updates on Opening Day!

For more information and a full description of these projects, visit bridgewater.town/projects.

Election Day

Election Day is November 3. The Bridgewater ballot includes three Town races: mayor, three Council seats, and one Council seat to fill a vacancy. Contact the Rockingham County Registrar with any questions.

Ice Rink to Open on Thanksgiving Day

Generations Park Ice Skating Rink

Opening Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 26, 4:00 pm

The Ice Rink will be open daily through the winter. Reserve your 90-minute session on the ice in advance as walk-up tickets are limited. Skating and skate rentals are free for residents with a B-Rec! For non-cardholders, skating sessions are \$7, and skate rentals are \$4. For operating hours, details, and reservations, visit bridgewater.town/skating.



Look out for Icy the Elf at the Ice Rink from Thanksgiving through December 23!

Holidays the Bridgewater Way

Generations Park Tree Lighting

Sunday, November 29, 6:30 pm

Gather around the tree to enjoy holiday music, ginger snaps, and hot cider. Spend the evening on the ice or at one of our fire tables with neighbors as we kick off the holiday season!

Winter WonderLane

Opening Sunday, November 29, 6:30 pm

Open Nightly 5:00-9:00pm

Our holiday light display returns to Oakdale Park at the time of the Tree Lighting and remains open nightly through the month of December. On

December 5 following the parade, Winter WonderLane will be open to walkers and bicyclists only (no cars or e-bikes permitted) until 7:30 pm. Walk to Oakdale or park at the library to experience the display on foot!

Bridgewater Christmas Parade

sponsored by Dynamic Aviation

Saturday, December 5, 4:30 pm

Registration for parade participants is online at www.dynamicaviation.com/parade through 11/25 and in person at Dynamic Aviation the week of 11/30-12/4. Direct all of your questions to engagement@dynamicaviation.com.