



The conversational candy hearts associated with Valentine's Day were originally created as medical lozenges in 1847! They also came in larger shapes and designs, allowing for longer messages. The current design was "perfected" in 1902.

FEBRUARY 2026 | ED2026-176

# THE JOURNAL



## 2026 Municipal Election

Bridgeville's next election will be held on **Saturday, March 7, 2026**.

This election will be for four (4) Commission seats:

**District 2** – Currently, Tom Moran

**District 3** – Currently, John Tomeski

**District 4** – Currently, Robert Dutton

**District 5** – Currently, Darrynn Harris

### Deadline for Candidate Filing:

**February 6, 2026**

### Absentee Ballots:

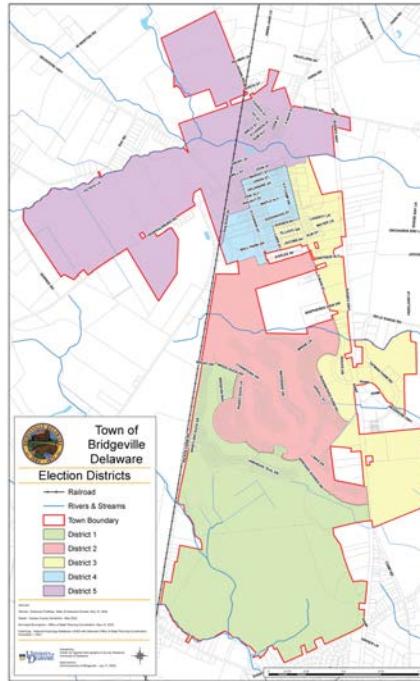
Available by **February 17, 2026**

### Deadline for Voter Registration:

**February 25, 2026**

\*\*Larger District maps are available at Town Hall and on our website at [Bridgeville.delaware.gov](http://Bridgeville.delaware.gov).

The Bridgeville Municipal Election will be at the Bridgeville Public Library, 600 S. Cannon Street, between the hours of 12:00 PM and 7:00 PM. The Bridgeville Commissioners have established five Election Voting Districts for Municipal Elections. This year, residents of Districts 2, 3, 4, and 5 will each vote for a candidate from their district to represent them on the Commission. Districts 2, 3, and 5 are for full two-year terms. District 4 is for a one-year term. Please note that the Town underwent Redistricting in 2022, and the districts were changed. If you are uncertain of your district, a voting district map is available for review at Bridgeville Town Hall and online at [Bridgeville.delaware.gov](http://Bridgeville.delaware.gov).



The Town is currently soliciting candidates in Districts 2, 3, 4, and 5 for the 2026 Municipal Election. The following qualifications apply to all candidates: (1) U.S. Citizen at least 21 years of age on or before the Election date; (2) Bridgeville Resident and Registered Voter in the State of Delaware for at least one year immediately preceding the Election date; (3) Registered Voter in the State of Delaware; (4) Lives within the Election Voting District they wish to represent; (5) Not convicted of a Felony. Prospective candidates must file a written letter of intent with the Commission President or Secretary, along with other filing requirements, by 4:00 PM on February 6, 2026. Questions may be directed to the Bridgeville Town Hall at (302) 337-7135 or [townofbridgeville@gmail.com](mailto:townofbridgeville@gmail.com).

All required flyers, forms, and additional information can also be found at [Bridgeville.delaware.gov](http://Bridgeville.delaware.gov) under "Info" and "Elections."

Every U.S. citizen at least eighteen years of age and who has resided in Bridgeville for at least thirty days shall have one vote in their voting district during the election, provided they have registered in the State of Delaware. No person registered after February 25, 2026, shall be allowed to vote in the 2026 Municipal Election.

## Important Dates

**February 16** – Town Hall Closed – Presidents' Day

**February 17** – Planning and Zoning Meeting  
**6 PM** – Bridgeville Public Library

**February 23** – Commission Meeting  
**6 PM** – Bridgeville Public Library

**February 25** – Water Bills Due – Disconnects for Non-Payment on February 27 (90 Days)

**March 7** – Commission Election (Check for changes/updates after February 6)

Virtual Meeting Links and supporting documentation are always posted with each meeting agenda.



## Groundhog Day

February 2, 2026, was Groundhog Day! If you believe in rodent-related weather forecasting, Phil saw his shadow and has officially predicted six more weeks of winter!

In the 140 years of predictions, there have now been 108 longer winters, and 22 early springs.

## Winter Weather Reminders

**Snow:** Snow/ice must be removed within twenty-four (24) hours of it ceasing to accumulate, according to Town Code. The owner or occupant of any building or lot abutting a public sidewalk is responsible for keeping it clear of snow/ice. Additionally, for your letter carrier to provide you with uninterrupted service, residents must clear the approach to their mailbox.

**Snow Plowing /Salting of Roads:** When the snow begins to fall, residents having access to their yards from an alleyway must park their vehicles there. If a driveway does not exist, all residents must move vehicles to the even-numbered (house numbers) side of the street. When the odd-numbered side of the street has been cleared of snow/ice, residents must move vehicles to the street's odd-numbered side.

**Please use ice melt on sidewalks instead of salt. If you are out of town for an extended period during the winter months, you must make arrangements for your sidewalks to be shoveled in your absence.**

## Open Seats Available! Planning and Zoning and Board of Adjustment

We currently have open seats on our Planning and Zoning Board, as well as our Board of Adjustment. Planning and Zoning members meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 6 PM, unless there are no applications to review. Board of Adjustment meetings are held only as needed and are usually scheduled during the day. Both boards serve three-year terms. This is a great opportunity to get involved in the workings of our community! If you are interested or have any questions regarding these positions, please contact Town Hall. Applicants may submit their letter of interest to the Town Manager.



## Local History - 250 Celebrations

2026 is the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the United States of America. As celebrations and events are being planned nationwide, we will be exploring our own history in that time frame, looking to our roots to discover what has made Bridgeville our home. This year also marks the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bridgeville Historical Society, and the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of RAPA, established downtown in 1926. We will be planning our own events throughout the year - so stay tuned. And if you have ideas, we'd love to hear them! In the meantime, we will be sharing tidbits of local history we find in our research, like the article here!



## Bridgeville Public Library

- Little Acorns Story Book Corner-Wednesdays @ 9 am with Ms. Hilary and songs, rhymes, finger plays, and bounces for you to use at home with your young one. No session on February 18.
- Bring Your Child to The Library Day-Join us for a whole day of fun on Saturday, February 7 anytime from 10 am-2 pm for "Take Your Child to the Library Day". Ms. Hilary will have story time @ 11 am, 12 pm, and 1 pm, crafts with Doodle Bug Crafting Club, games, food, and FREE gaming w/ Small Town Gaming Entertainment in the meeting room. The library isn't just for books! Stop in for a visit, enjoy the activities, get a free library card, meet your children's librarian, and explore all the wonders that your local library has to offer your family. [takeyourchildtothelibrary.org](http://takeyourchildtothelibrary.org).
- "Warm Winter Soups" event on Monday, February 9, from 6-8 pm. We will have soups, breads, and desserts. This is a FREE and open to the public event sponsored by the Friends of the Bridgeville Library.
- The Library Learners League Homeschool Group-Thursday, February 12 @ 2 pm for the "Swedish Trunk Program". Registration is required.
- Family Fun Night -Thursday, February 19 @ 6 pm. Registration is required.
- Mahogany Children's Book Festival-Saturday, February 21, from 10 am to 2 pm. Join us for the kickoff to Black Children's Book Week. There will be authors, a performance, books, merchandise, and food for purchase. Sponsored by the library, Cornerstone Community Center, and the DE Division of the Arts.
- The Doodle Bug Crafting Club-Saturday, February 21 @ 10 am during the Mahogany Book Festival. This program is for ages 2 and up and is a creative activity based on STEAM led by Miss LaKeciha. Registration is preferred.
- Drums Alive! With PACE Your Life on Monday, February 2 @ 2 pm.
- Read to the L.E.A.P. Dogs, Oliver and Penny, Tuesday, February 10 and February 24 @ 11 am.
- Health 2GO Mobile Unit will be in the parking lot on Tuesday, February 10, from 10 am until 3 pm.
- Friends Meeting- Monday, February 23 @ 10:30 am.
- BINGO with PACE Your Life on Tuesday, February 24 @ 3 pm.
- Brush Club-Wednesday, February 25 @ 2 pm. Registration preferred.
- Anime Club-Thursday, February 26 @ 4 pm.
- Mahjong-held on the second and fourth Fridays from 3-5 pm. Registration requested.
- Black History Month Celebration "Unity at the Line" -Partnership with Cornerstone Community Center on Saturday, February 28, from 10 am-2 pm.
- The library will be closed on Monday, February 16, for Presidents' Day.



## Street Light Reporting

Ever notice a street light out? Or maybe it's cycling on and off? Residents can report an issue at any time to Delmarva Power at [Delmarva.streetlightoutages.com](http://Delmarva.streetlightoutages.com). Doing so will provide you with a ticket with tracking information, including an update when the repair is completed. **We can also assist you with reporting these issues at Town Hall.** Call or email us, and provide the nearest property address or pole number. The pole number is usually two sets of five-digit numbers clearly marked with stickers, similar to address stickers, located on each pole.



## Contact Information

- **Town Hall:** P (302) 337-7135, F (302) 337-7817  
Open M-F 9AM - 4PM - For After Hours  
Emergencies Please Call the Police Department, (302) 337-8302  
Email: [townofbridgeville@gmail.com](mailto:townofbridgeville@gmail.com)  
Website: [bridgeville.delaware.gov](http://bridgeville.delaware.gov)
- **Fire, Ambulance, Police:** 911  
State Police, Troop 5: P (302) 337-1090
- **Sussex County:** P (302) 855-7700



- **Bridgeville Public Library:**  
P (302) 337-7401 ext. 101  
Email: [bridgeville.library@lib.de.us](mailto:bridgeville.library@lib.de.us)

## Bridgeville Agricultural and Mechanical Society

This article, from the Monday, February 14 edition of the Morning News from The Morning Herald out of Wilmington, 150 years ago! The Bridgeville Agricultural and Mechanical Society was planning its second annual fair in late September. Sound like any other events known in Bridgeville today?

The Society was established for a term of 20 years, on March 9, 1875, to promote agricultural and mechanical interests in the region. Commissioners were named as E.W. Layton, James Parvis, W.J. Coates, and John R. Whaley.

### DOWN THE STATE.

#### FROM OUR WEEKLY EXCHANGES.

The steamer *Law* from Charlestown is out for repairs.

Bishop Scott preached in the M. E. Church, at Millington, on Sunday last, both morning and night.

There has been an Adams Express office fixed at Lambson's station for the conveniences of folks at Galena and surrounding country.

The *Lewes Light* says that a man named Hall, from this city, is keeper of the fog house at the Breakwater now, having taken the position last week.

Mr. Clayton, the new proprietor of the National Hotel, has put the first billiard table ever set up in Middletown, in the former parlor of the hotel.

The Bridgeville Agricultural Society has decided to hold its second annual Fair, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 20th, 27th and 28th of September, 1876.

The following students took the first honors in the Conference Academy during the month of January: 100 is the highest mark given, 97 or over places a student in the first honor: D. B. Jones, 98.3; W. C. Cahill, 98.2; Sallie Q. Stevenson, 98.2; Lillie Register 97.9; O. S. Walton, 97.9; G. S. Virden, 97.8; Willard Saulsbury, 97.; Kate Waples, 97.4; Wilbert Layton, 97.4; E. N. Kirky, 97.4; Annie Pennywill, 97.46; Geo. D. Armstrong, 97.4; Geo. M. Jones, 97.3; J. Hope Caldwell, 97.2; W. F. Brown, 96; Cora Hoffeckor, 97. The attendance now at the Academy is larger than it has ever been.

## Business and Rental Licenses

All Business and Rental Property Licenses expired at the end of the calendar year (December 31, 2025). Applications are available online and at Town Hall. Renewals also require new/ updated forms to be submitted.

For Rental Property Licenses, rental inspections may be scheduled with First State Inspection Agency only after the application forms and payment are received at Town Hall. **All rental property inspections should be scheduled with First State Inspection Agency no later than February 28, 2026.**

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