



Bridgeport Alumni Association 2025 Newsletter

A “Bridge” to the Future

The Bridgeport Exempted Village School District received \$13,834,879.00 as part of the Appalachian Community Innovation Centers Program for the construction of a multipurpose facility on the school campus. The program provided more than \$88 million in funding to help nearly a dozen Appalachian school districts improve public health and enhance workforce development in their areas. The goal of the program is to create full-service centers for public education, community health services, and career development in Appalachia Ohio. 100% of the project will be done thru the grant funding. No district money will be used for this project.

The new structure will be called “The Bridge” because it will connect students, the school, and the community. It will house college classes, a daycare, firefighter and EMT training, medical and dental health care, a silver sneakers exercise area, and classes on many subjects, including science, technology, engineering, arts and math. The Bridge will help students earn high school credentials that will land them good-paying jobs right after graduation.

A series of three meetings were held in January 2025, to present to the community the future plans for “The Bridge”. The purpose of the meetings was to collaborate with parents and community members on workforce credentialing programs that the district would like to develop based on need or desire to advance a personal skill set. The presentations by the board and Administration were well received by those in attendance at the 3 meetings, and the attendees shared a lot of good ideas with the board for use of the Bridge.

SHP interdisciplinary design group was chosen as architects for the structure. SHP Interdisciplinary Design Group was the company that renovated Perkins Field in 2021. Beaver Constructors Inc, from Canton, Ohio was chosen as construction manager. The structure will be 28,500 square feet, and will be a 2 story building. Plans are for construction to start in summer of 2025, with the goal to have the facility up and running by the start of the 2026 school year for students and adults alike. The Alumni Association plans to hold Alumni weekend events at the facility in the near future so when our Alumni come home for the weekend, they are truly “home”.

New Banners as you enter Perkins Field.



1974 10 - 0 football team, Bulldogs all time rushing leaders honored at halftime of the alumni football game.



During halftime of the game vs Matthews, the 1974 Bulldogs Football Team, were honored, celebrating the 50th anniversary of their undefeated season!

Also, celebrated were Bridgeport's All-Time Rushing Leaders - Chris Smelley Class of 2011 and Bryan Widmor, Class of 1997. Bryan was inducted as the first member of the 2025 Bridgeport Hall of Fame class, with his high school coach Rick Goodrich presenting him with his HOF Plaque.

Photo From Left: Ron Baker, Michael Picetti, Chad Roskovich, Bryan Widmor, Ron Woods, & Rick Goodrich.

Alumni dedicate popcorn stand in honor of Bill Pahl, Harry Grimm and Ted Ehni



On October 11th, 2024 the Alumni Association formally dedicated the popcorn stand in honor and memory of Bill Pahl, Harry Grimm '60 and Ted Ehni '51-!

For over 2 decades, these 3 gentlemen provided Bridgeport Fans with the "Best popcorn in the Valley" - aka Bill, Harry, & Ted's Famous Bulldog popcorn.

Members of their families were in attendance to accept a plaque and a copy of the drawing by alumnus Brianna Wells '16. We thank them for coming and for their blessing to recognize these great men for their tireless dedication to Bridgeport.

Cheerleaders bring home 1st place at OVAC Championships.

The Bulldog Cheerleaders won top honors at the OVAC match on February 1 & made history with their first win at that level.

Bridgeport's eight cheerleaders competed against cheer teams from six other schools across the Ohio Valley and won the Small School Non-Tumbling Division at WesBanco Arena in Wheeling. The Bridgeport team won by 15 points!

An assembly was held at the school on February 4, to honor the Bulldog Cheerleaders. With only one Senior, the bulk of the cheerleaders will be returning to the field next school year, and will be back to defend their title.

Congratulations to these young ladies for this great achievement!



BHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2025

Annual Banquet and Membership

Annual Dues

_____ Dues @ \$10.00 \$ _____

Name _____

Donations

Maiden Name _____

_____ BHS Scholarship Fund \$ _____

Address _____

_____ BHS Alumni Fund \$ _____

City _____

Reservations

State _____ Zip _____

_____ Banquet Reservations @ \$35.00 \$ _____

Phone _____ Class Year _____

_____ Banquet Reservations Class Of 1975 @ \$10.00 \$ _____

_____ Check here if change of address.

_____ Banquet Reservations Class Of 2025 \$ _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

Even if your dinner is free....you must still make a reservation.

BRIDGEPORT HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Reservation Deadline is June 14th

PO BOX 132

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

BRIDGEPORT, OHIO 43912

2025 Alumni Weekend Plans

The Bridgeport Alumni Association proudly announces its Alumni Weekend 2025 Plans, which will be held Friday and Saturday June 27 and 28. The events kick off Friday evening with the Alumni Social. The social will be held at the St. Clairsville Recreation Center from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. The event is open to all Bridgeport Alumni with pizza, pop, water & light snacks being served. A donation of \$5.00 is asked to help offset the evenings costs. All who donate will be eligible for door prizes. There will be a 50/50 Raffle, and a Chinese Auction. The event is **BYOB**.

The weekend concludes at the Alumni Banquet on Saturday, at Undo's West in St. Clairsville, Ohio. The class photos begin **promptly at 5:30 p.m.** Cost of photo's is \$10 each. To insure everyone goes home with their photo, we are asking for pre-payment. The dinner will be served at 6 p.m. Inductees into the **2025 Hall of Fame are Don Cash Jr. '75, Jeff Grandstaff '75, George Kryston '75, & Brian Schambach '75.** In order to insure a proper number for seating and dinner, reservations are required. Due to rising costs, we have had to make a small increase for banquet price. The cost for the banquet is **\$35.00 per person.** The Golden Anniversary Class receives a special discounted price of **\$10 for graduates of the class of 1975.** Guests / spouses of the 50 year class cost is **\$35.** Graduates of the class of 2025 will be admitted for free. If any Alumni have a specific seating request, (i.e. sit with a different class or a family member), please include a note with your return correspondence. The reservations deadline is **June 14.** Walk-ins or reservations received after the due date are subject to a \$5 surcharge. We will have a golf cart available at the banquet to take our guests from the parking lot to the front entrance at Undo's West. Golf cart will be available starting at approximately 5 p.m., and be on hand till all guests are back to their vehicles at the end of the banquet. Please support the Alumni Association with your membership renewal. Membership dues are **\$10.00** per year. We ask that you pay your dues as these funds allow continued operation of your Alumni Association. **Thank You.**

Class Reunions Info

Class of 1975 - The class will celebrate their reunion during Alumni Weekend. Friday the class will have a get together at Buffalo Wild Wings in St. Clairsville from 2 - 5. They will then celebrate at the Alumni social from 6 - 10. Saturday night Alumni dinner at Undo's West.

Sunday breakfast at Wilson Lodge at Oglebay at 10 a.m. Donation of \$50 when attending all events. Send to Debby (Weaver) Longwell P.O. box 124, Bridgeport, Ohio 43912, email dlongwell75@gmail.com, or Facebook Deborah Weaver Longwell. Can't wait to see everyone. Go Dogs!

Class of 1985 - Class of 1985 will hold their 40 year reunion June 27 & 28. Friday will be the all class casual reunion at the St. Clairsville Rec Center. Saturday night will be the annual Alumni Banquet which will be held at Undo's in St. Clairsville. Call or text Jay Meager at 740-310-0531 or Paula Cash Scherich at 740-359-6904.

RECIPIENT NAME
STREET ADDRESS
ADDRESS 2
CITY, ST ZIP CODE

Alumni Scholarships



Recipients of the 2024 Alumni Scholarships are from left: Katelyn Hunt '24, Brody Puskas '24, Alumni Board member Patrick McConnaughy '87, and AJ Gear '24.

Board of Directors

President

Andrea Ross Criswell '00

Secretary

Dory Bradley Lucas '72

Treasurer

Jeff Grandstaff '75

Board Of Trustees

Carol Stazenski Campbell '63

Sean Caruth '88

Don Cash '75

Dee Polomik Dulesky '84

Stanley Gallownia '88

Gordie Longshaw '65

Pat McConnaughy '87

Karrie Mellott Puskas '94

Daryl Young Totterdale '66

Beth Husted Tully '78

Bob Weaver '62

Carol Connelly Wilson '54

Bridgeport Boys Basketball team has the Cavs experience



Bridgeport's Boys Basketball team got the experience of a lifetime as they got to play a game at Quicken Loans Arena, home of the Cleveland Cavaliers. They were part of the Cavs Elite High School Hoops.

Game was played on December 21, 2024 against the River Pilots. The Dogs won the game 51-45! This was a great experience for the team and something they will all remember for a long time!

BULLDOGS