



# Belleville

Great. Big. Small Town.™

## A Letter from Mayor Patty Gregory

Happy New Year, everyone. I hope that your holidays were filled with peace and love.



Edith Lovejoy Pierce once wrote: "We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called *Opportunity* and its first chapter is New Year's Day."

I am so proud of the accomplishments of all our hard-working municipal employees. They filled the pages of 2023 with an extraordinary list of projects, initiatives, and activities. far too many to list here. For a more comprehensive look at our past year, please click this link: [2023 Happenings](#)

But I am also excited by how we will fill the pages of 2024.

Opportunity will define 2024! We will continue to explore opportunities for economic growth and new housing. We will seize the opportunity to complete much needed infrastructure projects. And we will take the opportunity to provide the same high quality city services for all our residents.

Thank you all so much for the opportunity to serve as your Mayor. I hope that you all fill the pages of your book this year with joy and prosperity.



## Economic Development, Planning and Zoning Department News

Barry I. Matherly, President and CEO of Hickey Global presented the final draft of the Economic Development Strategic Plan to the Economic Development and Annexation Committee on

December 6, 2023. Barry shared this picture and the following story that brought home the care and diligence of one of our Belleville Businesses:

*“My son-in-law is in the Army. We always say, we go to see my daughter and him, although now we go to see my new granddaughter. This is the real reason we are spending six times more time in travelling far to visit them, than we used to. This Fall I thought it would help them, due to being under stress as new parents, for me to mow the yard. I went into his shed to get the lawnmower, and these boots were the first thing I saw on the shelf. A pair of Belleville Boots, from the Belleville Boot Company! I thought this was interesting. Their tag line is, “The Belleville Difference”. I felt that was very appropriate, at least in my son-in-law’s life. I asked him about it, as he works in nuclear, chemical, and biological warfare. There are specialty boots made for every military field out there. It was nice to see a connection to Belleville, even from so far away. The effects from Belleville, not only from Belleville companies, but from the Belleville people make a difference, not only in this community but even in communities far away.”*

**Barry I. Matherly, CEcD, FM, HLM**  
 President & CEO, Hickey Global



# WINTER ART CONTEST

2023/24

Belleville Parks & Recreation

IN COORDINATION WITH

Want to help?

ART SUPPLY DONATIONS TOWARDS THE GRAND PRIZES CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE BELLEVILLE PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE ENTRYWAY LOCATED AT 510 W. MAIN ST., MON-FRI FROM 8AM-4:30PM!

Age Groups & Prizes

K - 2nd grades*	\$50
3rd - 6th grades*	\$50
7th - 8th grades*	\$75
9th - 12th grades*	\$125

\*One cash prize winner per grade. In addition, 4 grand prizes will be raffled off from all participant entries. Grand prizes will consist of donated art supplies.

THEME IDEAS:

- LET IT SNOW
- SNOWMEN
- HOLIDAY FUN
- SNOW DAYS
- WINTER VILLAGE

- ARTWORK MUST BE WINTER THEMED
- ARTWORK MUST BE ORIGINAL, HANDMADE, & AGE APPROPRIATE
- ALL ENTRIES MUST INCLUDE NAME, PHONE NUMBER, & GRADE
- SUBMISSIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE BELLEVILLE PARKS & RECREATION OFFICE, 510 W. MAIN ST., BY **MONDAY, JANUARY 8, 2024.**
- WINNERS WILL BE SELECTED ON JAN. 10
- WINNERS WILL BE DISPLAYED AT CITY HALL FROM JAN. 12, 2024 - JAN. 26, 2024

WWW.BELLEVILLE.NET/CURRENTACTIVITIES

510 WEST MAIN STREET    HOURS: M-F, 8:00AM-4:30PM

(618) 233-1416    PARKSNREC@BELLEVILLE.NET

BELLEVILLE PARKS & RECREATION'S

# Daddy Daughter DANCE

**FEBRUARY 10, 2024**

*Spend a special night with your little princess! Put your dancin' shoes on and enjoy a delicious dinner, dessert, and dance contest, while making memories to last a lifetime! Each daughter will receive a goody bag too!*

**GUEST APPREARANCES BY:**  
 CINDERELLA & Ice Queen

**Cost:** \$20 per person  
**Time:** Doors Open at 5:00pm. Event Ends at 8:30pm  
**Location:** The Arena Gymnasium at The Campus, 2300 West Main Street

-  ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE PRE-REGISTERED
-  NO WALK-INS PERMITTED
-  NO REFUNDS

**WAYS TO REGISTER**

**ONLINE:** [WWW.BELLEVILLE.NET/CURRENTACTIVITIES](http://WWW.BELLEVILLE.NET/CURRENTACTIVITIES)  
**WALK IN:** BELLEVILLE PARKS & REC OFFICE  
 510 W. MAIN ST., BELLEVILLE, IL 62220  
 MON-FRI, 8AM-4:30PM  
**CALL IN:** (618) 233-1416

REGISTRATION DEADLINE OR UNTIL PROGRAM IS FULL:  
 FEBRUARY 1, 2024

*Dance the night away.....*




# 2024 LITTLE DRIBBLERS

**BELLEVILLE PARKS & RECREATION'S** WINTER SESSION

*Learn to dribble, pass, play defense, and shoot! Teams will practice fundamentals, then play games. All players receive a shirt too!*

**AGES:** 4 - 6 years old  
**DAYS:** Saturdays  
**DATES:** Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10, 17  
**COST:** \$60 per player  
**TWO SESSIONS TO PICK FROM:**  
 10:00am or 11:00am  
**LOCATION:** Belleville Arena, Rec Gym 2, 2300 W. Main St.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**  
**JAN. 12th**

**TO REGISTER:** [TEAMSIDELINE.COM/BELLEVILLE](http://TEAMSIDELINE.COM/BELLEVILLE) ~ 618-233-1416





**Belleville Parks & Recreation's**

# 3X3 BASKETBALL

❄️ **8-GAME SEASON** ❄️ **WINTER SESSION** ❄️

3 X 3 BASKETBALL IS AWESOME FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT! SPACE TO TRY NEW MOVES AND PRACTICE NEW SKILLS. WORK ON DEFENSIVE FOOTWORK AND AGILITY. IMPROVE PASSING, DRIBBLING, SHOOTING, CUTTING, SPACING, REBOUNDING, AND DEFENSE.

<b>2ND - 3RD GRADE DIVISION</b>	<b>4TH - 6TH GRADE DIVISION</b>	<i>Game times will be determined at the formation of teams by age groups. Schedules will be available after teams are formed.</i>
BEGINS: FEB. 5	BEGINS: FEB. 6	
GAMES: MON. 6/ OR WED. TIMES: 6:00, 7:00, OR 8:00PM	GAMES: TUE. 6/ OR THUR. TIMES: 6:00, 7:00, OR 8:00PM	
PRACTICES: THUR. (starts Feb. 1) TIMES: 5:30, 6:30, OR 7:30PM	PRACTICES: WED. (starts Jan. 31) TIMES: 5:30, 6:30, OR 7:30PM	

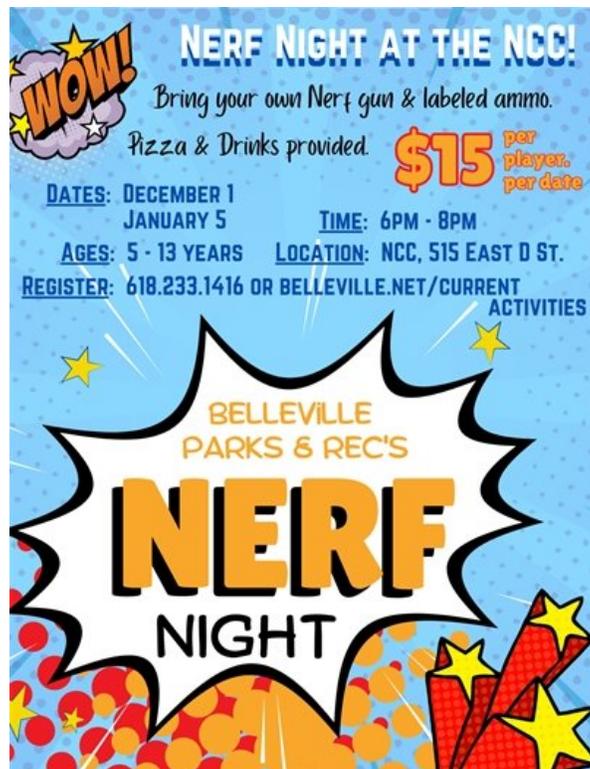
GAMES & PRACTICES WILL BE AT THE **BELLEVILLE ARENA, GYM 3**  
2300 W. MAIN ST., BELLEVILLE

**ONLY \$80 PER PLAYER**

REGISTRATION & SCHEDULES: [teamsideline.com/belleville](https://teamsideline.com/belleville)  
Players can request to play with friends (limit 3.)

**REGISTER INFO:**  
Belleville Parks & Rec Office: 618.233.1416  
510 W. Main St., Belleville

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:**  
JAN. 16, 2024

**NERF NIGHT AT THE NCC!**

Bring your own Nerf gun & labeled ammo.

Pizza & Drinks provided. **\$15** per player, per date

**DATES:** DECEMBER 1  
JANUARY 5      **TIME:** 6PM - 8PM

**AGES:** 5 - 13 YEARS      **LOCATION:** NCC, 515 EAST D ST.

**REGISTER:** 618.233.1416 OR [BELLEVILLE.NET/CURRENT ACTIVITIES](https://belleville.net/current-activities)

**BELLEVILLE PARKS & REC'S**

# NERF NIGHT

**Belleville Parks & Recreation's**  
**YOUTH BASEBALL LEAGUES**

Ages 5 - 12th grade



YOUTH LITTLE LEAGUES	F.O.P. T-BALL	F.O.P. ROBOT	OPTIMIST
<b>BIRTHDAY</b> (as of Sept. 1, 2023)	TYPICALLY PRE-K THRU 1ST GRADES 5 TO 7 YEARS OLD (9/1/16 - 12/31/18)	TYPICALLY 2ND & 3RD GRADES 7 TO 9 YEARS OLD (9/1/14 - 8/31/16)	TYPICALLY 4TH & 5TH GRADES 9 TO 11 YEARS OLD (9/1/12 - 8/31/14)
<b>GAME SITE</b>	PLEASANT HILL 601 N. 6th St. - BELLEVILLE	PLEASANT HILL 601 N. 6th St. - BELLEVILLE	SOUTHSIDE PARK 600 S. 6th St. - BELLEVILLE
<b>GAME DAYS</b>	MON & WED	TUES & THURS	TUES & FRI
<b>GAME TIMES</b>	6PM OR 7:15PM	6PM OR 7:30PM	6PM OR 8PM
REGISTRATION FEES: EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT (JANUARY): \$75.00 REGULAR REGISTRATION (FEBRUARY & MARCH): \$85.00 REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 12, 2024 NO LATE REGISTRATION PERMITTED. NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 12, 2024.			

MERBL TRAVEL LEAGUES	B.I.G. JUNIORS	B.I.G. HIGH SCHOOL
<b>BIRTHDAY</b> (as of Sept. 1, 2023)	TYPICALLY 6TH, 7TH, 8TH GRADES 11 TO 14 YEARS OLD (8/1/09 - 8/31/12)	HIGH SCHOOL AGE GRADES 9 - 12 (FRESHMAN-SENIOR)
<b>GAME SITE</b>	CENTRAL JR. HIGH, (1811 Central, South St., Belleville) TROY, O'FALLON	BELLEVILLE, TROY, O'FALLON, COLLINSVILLE
<b>GAME DAYS</b>	MON - SAT	SUN - SAT
<b>GAME TIMES</b>	TBA	TBA
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 25, 2024		REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 12, 2024
REGISTRATION FEES: EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT (JANUARY): \$90.00 REGULAR REGISTRATION (FEBRUARY & MARCH): \$100.00 NO LATE REGISTRATION PERMITTED. NO REFUNDS AFTER APRIL 12, 2024.		



REGISTER AT [WWW.TEAMSIDELINE.COM/BELLEVILLE](http://WWW.TEAMSIDELINE.COM/BELLEVILLE) - 618.233.1416 - 510 W. MAIN ST., BELLEVILLE

## Parks & Recreation

Take a peek at the Belleville Parks & Recreation Seasonal Activity Guide for more activities, programs, & special events being offered at this time.





[Pictured L-R] Deputy Chief Curt Lougeay, Engineer Meloan, Captain Owens, Battalion Chief Ellison, Assistant Chief Garnica, and Chief Stephanie Mills

## Fire Department News

This month we have promoted several members Jesse Garnica to Assistant Fire Chief, Joe Ellison to Battalion Chief, Josh Owens Captain, and Adam Meloan to Engineer. We have also hired two new Probationary Firefighters, Julian Blount, and Sean Hall who will begin their training with the Department on January 8<sup>th</sup>. These new hires will bring the department to maximum total staffing of 63 firefighters and officers.

Another incredible addition to the Department is our new Ladder Truck, which is going into service to protect the citizens beginning December 22. The new Ladder is a 2023 Emergency One 75-foot Aerial will replace a 2013 Ladder that will be placed in reserve status. The new Ladder will be designated Ladder 29 and is assigned to Engine House 2 in mid-town Belleville. Thank you to the Citizens and City Leaders for providing us with this brand new state of the art apparatus.



Belleville Fire Department's New Ladder Truck 29



## History of the Belleville Fire Department

### Part 1: From Bucket Brigades to Local Union 53

The fire protection of Belleville can be traced back to the founding of the city in 1814 with community bucket brigades to guard against the ravages of fire. At the time Belleville was little more than a village crossroads. At the cry of "Fire" citizens would gather and form a human chain passing buckets from a well or cistern to the fire, working feverishly to protect their homes and businesses for common welfare.

Thanks in large part to an influx of German immigrants to the area the town of Belleville began to grow. By the mid-nineteenth century Belleville saw tremendous growth as mining, rail transportation, and eventually industry sprang up. Brewing, brick making, and stove production were forces that drove Belleville to even more expansion.

By 1841 several influential citizens, Gustav Koerner, William McClintock, and Lyman Trumbull saw the need for a more reliable and organized fire fighting force. These citizens founded the first volunteer fire department, the Union Fire Company, at 14 South Jackson Street. Koerner himself purchased the city's first fire apparatus. Shortly following the Civil War, the department consisted of three volunteer companies: St. Clair Fire Company, located at North Illinois Street and East A Street; the Union Fire Company at 14 South Jackson Street; and the South Belleville Fire Company at the junction of South Charles Street and Freeburg Road. The town of West Belleville, located on the western side of Richland Creek, was independent of Belleville and had its own fire company. The West Belleville Fire Company was located at West "A" Street and North 12<sup>th</sup> Street. These

companies were equipped with money raised through subscriptions and fundraising. By the mid 1870's the city had also installed a network of 21 fire and police alarm boxes throughout the city.

Following the Civil War, due to huge expansion in population and business, the demands placed on the fire department increased. The volunteer department was being outpaced. In 1878 the City council voted to establish a paid fire department. With the dissolution of the volunteer system, the fire department consisted of Engine 1 and Hook and Ladder 1 on South Jackson, Engine 2 at East A and North Illinois and Engine 3 on North 12<sup>th</sup> Street.

By 1916 the city's full time career fire fighting force was in place. It consisted of Engines 1 and 2 and Hook and Ladder 1 protecting Belleville proper, the former West Belleville, the Rock Road (West Main Street to Signal Hill) and the Village of New Swansea to the north. That same year the city purchased the department's first motorized apparatus, beginning the modernization of the fleet. In 1918, the city's fire fighters unionized as Local 53 of the International Association of Fire Fighters, a founding local of the union.

**BELLEVILLE'S  
CHRISTMAS TREE  
RECYCLING**

*Belleville Parks & Rec will accept "live"  
Christmas trees from the City residents starting  
December 23, 2023 - January 31, 2024  
at the following locations:*

- *Laderman Park - 1105 Mascoutah Ave.,  
Belleville, IL*
- *Bellevue Park - 401 Bellevue Park Dr.,  
Belleville, IL*
- *North End Park - 1204 North Douglas,  
Belleville, IL*

*No bags, ornaments, lights, artificial trees,  
or yard waste. Must be RECYCLABLE  
material only!*

*Questions: 618.233.1416*

## Public Works Department News

Chester Moore and Kolby Hardesty have been recently hired as new Sanitation Drivers. Mack Harris and Tim Sanders have recently transferred to the Street Dept. We congratulate them on their new positions and look forward to many years of hard work and service from them.



### Sanitation Holidays

If you are serviced on or after one of the listed holidays, your pickup will be delayed one day. Please remember to have your trash, recycling, and yard waste out at the curb by 6:00 AM on your pickup day.

New Year’s Day	Monday, January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2024
Independence Day	Thursday, July 4 <sup>th</sup>
Labor Day	Monday, September 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Veterans Day	Monday, November 11 <sup>th</sup>
Thanksgiving	Thursday, November 21 <sup>st</sup>
Christmas Day	Wednesday, December 25 <sup>th</sup>
New Year’s Day	Wednesday, January 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2025



## SEASONAL SOLICITOR INTERACTIONS

Prevent solicitation at your front door by posting a "NO SOLICITING" sign.

If someone knocks on a resident's door; they must be wearing an authorized ID Badge. If they do not have one, contact the Police Non-Emergency Line at:

**(618) 234-1212**

A list of current approved solicitors can be found at [www.Belleville.net](http://www.Belleville.net) by typing "Approved Solicitors" in the search bar.

**AUTHORIZED BADGES**

2023	2024
 <p>CITY OF BELLEVILLE PERMIT PHOTO NAME VALID THRU APRIL 30, 2023</p>	 <p>City of Belleville PEDDLER SOLICITOR PERMIT PHOTO NAME Valid Thru 04/30/2024</p>

**Belleville AmeriCorps needs**  AmeriCorps

# SUMMER CAMP COUNSELORS!

**Receive a living allowance of \$3,900, an education award of \$1,459, and additional awards totaling \$1,500!**

**For more information:**  
call 618-235-2700, ext. 5711 or ext. 5713,  
or visit [swic.edu/ameriCorps](http://swic.edu/ameriCorps).

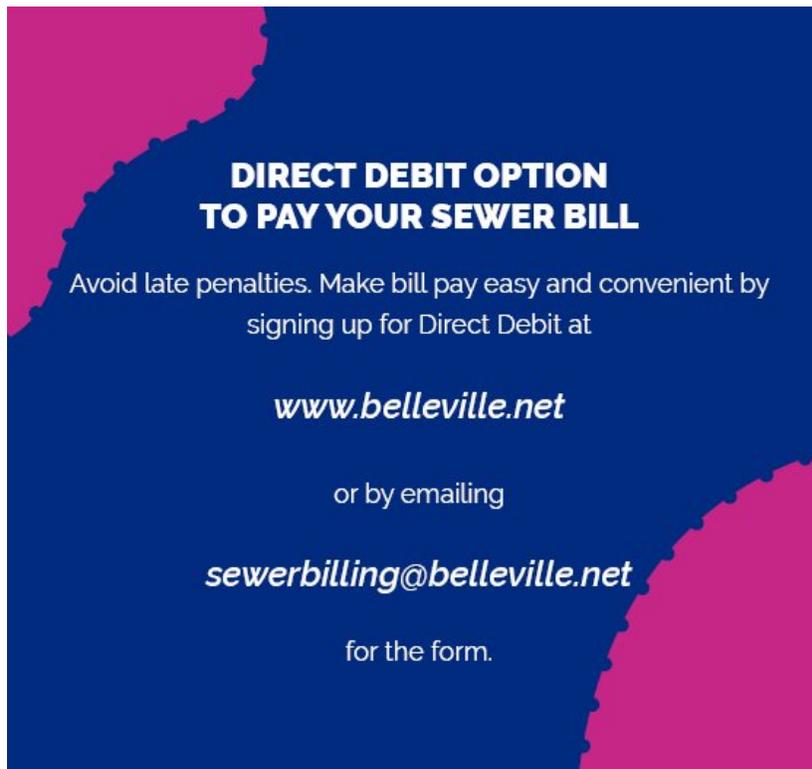
**QUALIFICATIONS:**

- 17 years of age to 80+
- Completed High School Diploma
- Enjoy working with children
- Available from May 23-July 31

**The application deadline is April 24.**



 [facebook.com/BellevilleAmeriCorps](https://facebook.com/BellevilleAmeriCorps)



**DIRECT DEBIT OPTION  
TO PAY YOUR SEWER BILL**

Avoid late penalties. Make bill pay easy and convenient by signing up for Direct Debit at

*[www.belleville.net](http://www.belleville.net)*

or by emailing

*[sewerbilling@belleville.net](mailto:sewerbilling@belleville.net)*

for the form.

## **Make paying your Sewer bill simple & easy, each and every month!**

The City of Belleville Sewer Department would like to remind you, that you can access our Direct Debit to pay your sewer bill, thus avoiding late fees. To set up direct debit for your bill, complete a Sewer & Trash ACH form. Fill out the form and return it to our Sewer department with a voided check. Our Sewer Department staff will set up your Direct debit from your account, and your bill will be automatically paid each and every month, direct from your checking account. It's that easy!

**ELECTED OFFICIALS**



**Mayor Patty Gregory**  
618-233-6518, x 1239

**City Clerk Jenny Meyer**  
618-233-6518, x 1227

**City Treasurer Sarah Biermann**  
618-233-6518, x 1241

**WARD 1**  
**Bryan Whitaker**  
618-971-8409  
**Lillian Schneider**  
618-207-7335

**WARD 2**  
**Carmen Duco**  
618-233-1569  
**Jamie Eros**  
314-649-0256

**WARD 3**  
**Kent Randle**  
618-239-9227  
**Scott Ferguson**  
618-610-5639

**WARD 4**  
**Johnnie Anthony**  
618-825-0660  
**Raffi Ovian**  
618-444-5171

**WARD 5**  
**Shelley Schaefer**  
618-660-6295  
**Ed Dintelman**  
618-972-5569

**WARD 6**  
**Dr. Mary Stiehl**  
618-606-1277  
**Chris Rothweiler**  
618-416-5568

**WARD 7**  
**Phil Elmore**  
618-363-0016  
**Dennis Weygandt**  
618-580-3054

**WARD 8**  
**Nora Sullivan**  
618-972-9185  
**Kara Osthoff**  
618-578-2488

**Call 618-233-6810 to talk to our operator.**

**DEPARTMENTS**

**Economic Dev.**, x 1250  
**Engineering**, x 4272  
**Finance**, x 1235  
**Human Resources**, x 2280  
**Info. Tech (IT)**, x 1730  
**PR & Comm**, x 1237  
**Sanitation**, x 4217  
**Police (Non-Emergency)**  
618-234-1212  
**Fire (Non-Emergency)**  
618-234-2236  
**General & Community Asst.**  
618-212-4379

**Health, Housing & Building**  
618-233-6817  
**Library (Main Branch)**  
618-234-0441  
**Library (West Branch)**  
618-233-4366  
**Parks & Recreation**  
618-233-1416  
**Nichols Center**  
618-277-9765  
**Public Works / Streets**  
618-239-3454  
**Sewer**  
618-233-7146

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101 S. Illinois Street, Belleville, Illinois 62220



