

PARKS & RECREATION PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

JULY/AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Tour de Belleville-Family Bike Ride-Friday, July 12 – Register NOW!

Concerts on Mondays at Public Square - FREE (thru July)

Concerts on Thursdays at Bellevue Park – FREE (thru July)

REGISTRATION FOR FALL LEAGUES & LESSONS:

- Men's & Co-Rec Fall Softball (Citizens Park – 14 & up)
- Women's & Co-Rec Volleyball (ages 14 & up)
- Girl's Volleyball - (5th & 6th Grade)
- ASA H.S. Softball - (Freshman-Senior)
- Boy's Basketball – (5th & 6th Grade)
- Outdoor Little Kickers – (Soccer, ages 3-5)
- Junior Spikers Camp – (3rd & 4th Grade)

NICHOLS COMMUNITY CENTER

PROGRAM REGISTRATION:

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED/LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Early Childhood/Youth:

Camp Quackers (K-6th Grade) June-August (10 weeks available)

Kiddie Camp (ages 3-5) June-July (6 weeks available)

Karate Class (PreK & K, 1st-4th Grade)

Little Movers & Shakers (ages 6-18 months)

Tiny Tots & Tumbling (ages 2-4)

Kids in Action (ages 3-5)

Mini Sports Clinic (ages 4-6)

(Indoor: Baseball, Basketball, Soccer & Tennis)

Parent's Night Out - Monthly (ages 3-8) – August 16 & 30

Silly Scientists (ages 4-7)

Art & Drawing (ages 8-12)

Kindermusik Programs (ages TBD)

Nerf Wars (ages 8-12)

Volleyball: Girl's 5th & 6th Grade (Fall)

Adult:

Zumba Fitness & Toning (ages 18 & up)

Adult Trips (ages 18 & up)

Senior:

Senior Aerobics (ages 55 & up)

55 & Over Club (ages 55 & up)

SUMMER CAMPS

KIDDIE CAMP June 10 – July 18

A summer program for children 3 to 5 years of age. Child must be potty

CONTACT PARKS AND RECREATION AT (618) 233-1416 OR WWW.BELLEVILLEPARKSANDREC.COM

THANK YOU CITIZENS PARK COMMITTEE

Visit Citizens Park, located at 341 Citizens Park Dr., to see the wonderful addition to the park's upper field. The Citizens Park Committee used profits derived from years of concession sales during games of scheduled leagues to design and construct two concrete block dugouts for the field. This major improvement exceeded their anticipated budgeted amount and totaled \$43,000. These new dugouts will benefit many softball leagues for future generations. The City of Belleville and the Parks & Recreation Department sincerely thank the committee for their extremely generous contribution. This action demonstrates the importance of partnerships of organizations working together to continuously improve our park system in the City.



trained. The cost of this Camp is only \$45 per week. Held Monday – Thursday from 9:30am to 1:30pm at the Nichols Community Center. We focus on cultivating your child's learning, enhancing character, instilling social skills, creating friendships, and discovering new interests.

CAMP QUACKERS June 3 – August 9

Grades K – 6, 9am - 3pm, Mon. - Fri.

Our Summer Day Camp program began its 26th Annual season on June 3rd. The camp is held at Stone Lodge in Bellevue Park. The cost is \$85 per week. We also provide pre-camp and post-camp child care for an additional \$20 per week. The weekly fee is the same for any length of time this service is needed between the hours of 7am - 9am or 3pm - 6pm

ALPHABET ACADEMY / (Ages 3-5)

Held at the Nichols Community Center, this 9 month program provides a socially rich environment that caters to the needs of children. We strive to promote independence and everyday skills that will help to enhance the future of these young growing minds.

We focus on the individual needs of your child and create the opportunity to cultivate their learning, enhance character, instill social skills, form friendships and discover new interests.

Requirements: Children must be 3 or 4 years of age on or before September 1st, 2013. All children must be potty trained. The Belleville Parks and Recreation Department's Alphabet Academy accepts CHASI and offers Military discounts.

Age: 3 year olds

Dates: September 3, 2013 to May 22, 2014

Day: Tuesday(s) and Thursday(s)

Time: 9:00am to 1:00pm

Cost: \$40.00 Registration fee

\$100.00 (per month)

Age: 4 year olds

Dates: September 4, 2013 to May 23, 2014

Day: Monday(s), Wednesday(s) and Friday(s)

Time: 9:15am to 12:30pm

Cost: \$40.00 Registration fee

\$110.00 (per month)

Call (618) 277-9785 today to set an appointment to view the Nichols Community Center and meet the friendly staff, or email alphabetacademy@hotmail.com for more information.

Elected Officials

MAYOR

Mark W. Eckert
233-6518 x1239 (office)

TREASURER

Dean Hardt
233-6518 x1240 (office)

CITY CLERK

Dallas B. Cook
233-6518 x1227 (office)

WARD 1

Michael Heisler
277-3304
Ken Kinsella
234-0825

WARD 2

Melinda Hult
235-1520
Janet Schmidt
416-3533

WARD 3

A. 'Gabby' Rujawitz
235-5077
Kent Randle
239-9227

WARD 4

Johnnie Anthony
825-0660
Jim Davidson
398-1781

WARD 5

Phillip Silsby
257-1524
Joseph W. Hayden
234-8956

WARD 6

Paul Seibert
233-3917
Bob White
558-7030

WARD 7

Trent Galetti
773-742-5865

WARD 8

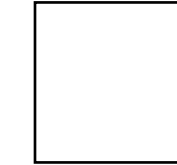
James Musgrove
233-3967
Joe Orlet
394-0661

AT LARGE

Lillian Schneider
234-7569



CITY OF BELLEVILLE
101 S. Illinois St.
Belleville, IL 62220



Belleville

I · L · L · I · N · O · I · S

A Community of Character

*Information
you can use*



Community of Character

Words of the Month

July - Citizenship

August - Caring

September – Respect

DOWNTOWN EVENTS

Old Town Market

Saturdays

May 4 – November 18

7:30am - Noon

Tour de Belleville

July 12, 8:30pm

Car Cruise

July 13, Aug. 10, Sept. 14

6 – 9pm

Diva Nights

July 18, Aug. 15, Sept. 19

5 – 8pm

Children's Home & Aid 5K Run/Walk

Aug. 10, 7:30am

Bicycle Belleville Competitive Cycling

Aug. 18, 8am – 5pm

Labor Day Parade

Sept. 2, 10am

September 11 Memorial

2nd Annual 5K Run/Walk

Sept. 8, 9:11am

Oktoberfest

Sept. 20 & 21,

11am – 11pm

Oktoberfest Car Show

Sept. 21, 8am – 6pm

CITY HALL CLOSED

Thurs., July 4

Mon., Sept. 2

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It's hard to believe I am writing a message for the July, August, and September newsletter.

I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Patty Gregory and her outstanding committee for a truly fabulous Art on the Square Event. The Art Show continues to grow and foster each year with over 100 artists from around the world. This past show marked our 12th annual Art on the Square, following the 2012 show which was named the #2 Art Show in the Nation.

The city's 200th Anniversary Committee continues to work hard. As residents, please watch for many ways to get involved and make this historic year special to all of us.

The city was recently awarded an Open Space Land Acquisition and Development (O.S.L.A.D.) Grant for Southside Park for \$335,000. This grant will help us make significant improvements to this downtown park located at 6th and Monroe Streets.



Mark W. Eckert

Also, don't forget the 4th Annual Back Pack to School event coming in August at Belleville West High School. The event is hosted by the Greater Belleville Chamber's Education Committee. Each year students and their families from Belleville schools are invited to attend. For more information, call the Chamber at 233-2015.

The City of Belleville is widely known for its Volunteer Spirit and commitment to serve and give back to the community. This year Belleville is proud to be a part of the Big Day of Serving. On Thursday, July 11, a total of 1600 high school students from throughout the region will be volunteering to work on several community service projects throughout our city.

Great things are happening in Belleville, thanks to the many citizens, businesses and organizations that continue to show outstanding character.

NEW WEBSITE UNDER CONSTRUCTION

We are excited to announce that a brand new website for the City of Belleville is currently under construction. We are working diligently to bring you a new, easy-to-use site that will put useful information at your fingertips and help

to keep you better informed. The new site is being designed to enhance community engagement and communication.

Visit www.belleville.net for updates on the new website Go Live date!

ELECTRIC AGGREGATION VS. INDIVIDUAL CONTRACTS

Residents have reported that electricity marketers have begun door-to-door and telephone campaigns in Belleville. Our residents should be aware that the electric aggregation program sponsored by the City of Belleville has a rate of 3.909 cents per kilowatt-hour. This rate is lower than residents will pay under the terms of individual contracts currently being offered by door-to-door solicitors or telemarketers. In the City of Belleville's aggregation program, residents are not required to sign a contract at all, and will not be called nor visited by a salesperson.

Residents in our community are often confused by the actions of marketers, who typically present savings compared to the Ameren Illinois rates. Our community's electric contract price is already lower than Ameren's rates. Further, our program's rates do not have variable, hidden

or "pass through" charges. Residents should be certain to review all contract terms, ask about additional charges, and not feel pressured to take action right away. If you are in a new residential electric account, or uncertain if you are enrolled in the community aggregation program, please contact our supplier, Homefield Energy. Be sure to read the article regarding door to door solicitation on page 4 of this newsletter.

Homefield Energy

<http://www.homefieldenergy.com/Customers/Pages/CommunitiesWeServe.aspx>

866-694-1262

CustCare@homefieldenergy.com



CONTACT INFORMATION**Switchboard**
233-6810**Cemetery**
257-3330**City Clerk**
233-6518 x 1210**Community Development**
233-6518 x 2280**Economic Development, Planning & Zoning**
233-6518 x 1250**Engineering**
233-6518 x 4272**Finance**
233-6518 x 1235**Fire**
234-2236 non-emergency**Health, Housing & Building**
233-6817**Human Resources**
233-6518 x 2280**Library Downtown**
234-0441
West Branch
233-4366**Maintenance of City Buildings**
277-4965**Marketing**
233-6518 x1245**Mayor**
233-6518 x 1239**Parks & Recreation**
233-1416
Nichols Community Center
277-9785**Police**
234-1212 non-emergency**Sanitation**
233-6816**Street**
239-3454**Treasurer**
233-6518 x 1240**Wastewater or Sewer**
233-7146**8TH ANNUAL TOUR DE BELLEVILLE – FRIDAY, JULY 12**

This year's Tour de Belleville bicycle ride will be held on Friday, July 12, with a Gilligan's Island theme; "a 3 HOUR TOUR". All participants stranded on the island from the shipped wrecked SS Minnow can enjoy pre-event music by Social Remedy from 6:30-8:30pm. The castaway ride led by the Skipper begins at 8:30pm (new start time) with a choice of a 5 or 15 mile route. All of the festivities, which will include the crew members... The Professor,



Mary Ann, Ginger, Mr. & Mrs. Howell and Gilligan...will be held at Union United Methodist Church in the rear parking lot.

Proceeds of \$110, 276 from the past seven years of the Tour de Belleville have been used to increase safety and maintain equipment and amenities for the City's bike trails.

Register at www.tourdebelleville.com or www.bellevilleparksandrec.com.

The cost, which includes a shirt and a water bottle, is \$16 per person through July 11. On July 12, the cost is \$25 per person. For additional details call the Parks and Recreation Department at (618) 233-1416.

CITY RECEIVES \$335,000 FOR PARK RENOVATION

Belleville will receive \$335,000 to renovate South Side Park at 6th and Monroe Streets, including a new playground, an ADA accessible fishing pier with solar lighting, softball field reconstruction, bench swings, picnic tables, a restroom, parking lot improvements, and an extension of the bike trail around the lake.

The grant funds are available through Governor Pat

Quinn's \$15.3 million investment in local park projects across Illinois through the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development program (OSLAD), a program designed to expand recreation and open space in communities. The South Side project is one of only 45 projects that qualified for the grant funds.

TIF & YOUR TAX BILL

Some Belleville property owners may notice an item on their tax bill listed as TIF. TIF stands for Tax Increment Financing. It is a tool that communities can use to help revitalize an area and eliminate "blighting" factors that exist in the district as a whole. One of the biggest misconceptions about TIF is that it is an additional tax but it is not. It is all in the distribution of the taxes you pay.

Because of the way TIF is listed on a tax bill, it is easy to understand why it appears that TIF is the cause for any increase. However, the best way to determine the cause of any increase in your tax bill is to use the previous year's bill and compare the items listed on the bill such as "Net Taxable Value", the overall tax rate or whether the "Senior Freeze" or any other exemptions have been removed. The overall tax bill is determined by multiplying the net taxable value by the tax rate. If the net taxable value of the property is higher than previous years, then the tax bill will most likely be higher as well. Due to the redistribution of a portion of your taxes into a special fund, it may appear that TIF increases your taxes. However, if the TIF were not present, the same amount would still be on your tax bill but would be distributed to the other line items on your bill instead of going into the TIF fund. Removing the TIF would not reduce your taxes.

When a TIF district is created, whatever property tax is collected and distributed to the various taxing

bodies is called the "base value". Over the 23 year life of the TIF district, any taxes collected above that base value, whether by the value of your property going up or by increased multipliers, etc. goes into a TIF fund, which is administered by the City. The TIF fund can be used for a myriad of things such as infrastructure improvements (roads, sewers, etc.), police and fire protection, incentives, parks projects and much more.

If the TIF district in which you own property were to expire tomorrow, you would still pay the same amount of property tax and the amount that was in the TIF line item on your tax bill would be distributed amongst the taxing bodies.

The goal of TIF is to raise the value of property by eliminating blight and spurring development. Belleville has done this by improving infrastructure throughout the city, attracting new business and assisting many existing businesses to grow. These improvements raise property values, create jobs and generate sales tax, all vital to our City operations and growth.

For more information on TIF, visit the Illinois Tax Increment Association's website at http://www.illinois-tif.com/about_TIF.asp. For more information about Belleville's TIF districts, please contact Eric Schauster, Economic Development Specialist/Grants Coordinator at (618) 233-6810, x1249 or eschauster@belleville.net.

LIBRARY RECEIVES GRANT

The Belleville Public Library has been awarded a Public Library Construction Grant from the State of Illinois. The Grant funds will be combined with funds previously secured by the library for a combined total in excess of \$900,000. The exterior façade of the main library will be completely restored, a new roof will be put on the building, the secondary entrance will be made ADA compliant, and new paint and carpeting will be added on the inside. New service desks will be built as well as a new multipurpose training room and new shelving. Construction is slated to start in August and take about 6 – 8 months to complete.

NOTICE OF CITY PROPERTY SALE

The City of Belleville will receive sealed bids for two residential properties:

Location of properties	Parcel Numbers	Zoned	Lot size (Approx)
515 S 17th St.	08-20.0-414-026	A-1 Single family	50 x 129
517 S 17th St.	08-20.0-414-025	A-1 Single family	50 x 129

Bids for the purchase of the above described properties are hereby invited and will be received by the City Clerk at 101 S. Illinois St., Belleville, IL 62220. Said proposals shall be addressed to:

City of Belleville
c/o City Clerk
101 S. Illinois St.
Belleville, IL 62220

and shall bear the legend "Proposal-Sale of Residential Properties" and the

DOG PARK UPDATE

We are currently working with Ameren Illinois and Illinois American Water Company for water and power needs in the City's soon-to-come dog park inside Rotary Park at 110 N. 6th St. We have received our agility dog

park equipment and are waiting on delivery of the gate hardware package and software and the drinking fountain. Watch for Grand Opening details at www.bellevilleparksandrec.com.

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Disasters can happen anywhere and at any time. By taking the time to create an emergency supplies kit, your family will be better prepared in the

event of a disaster. Pledge to Prepare and visit www.ready.gov for tips on emergency preparedness.

ORIGINAL WEST BELLEVILLE NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT**SEEKING APPROVAL FROM STATE**

A National Register Historic District, known as Original West Belleville, is being proposed to complement the existing Belleville National Register District on the south and north sides of East Main. The city also has three local historic districts, Oakland, Hexenbuckel and Old Belleville. The boundary lines of the proposed Original West Belleville National Register Historic District, drawn by historic consultants Lafser and Associates of St. Louis, are 16th Street on the west, West "C" on the north, the west side of Richland Creek and South 9th Street on the east and the Illinois Central Gulf Railroad tracks on the south. The area includes 742 properties; 616 of them contribute to the historic and architectural importance of the period 1835 to 1963.

National Register Historic District nomination does not involve "design review" of changes made to the exterior of properties. Design Review is applied only in Belleville's three local districts; Oakland, Hexenbuckel and Old Belleville.

Lafser and Associates reports Original West Belleville is "significantly intact" and retains "a strong sense of historic setting" for the period 1835 to 1963 due to the "well preserved concentration of middle and working class single family" homes, of which the "German Street House is the predominant type." German immigrants were drawn to West Belleville by the availability of coal mining jobs. West Belleville was a village from 1854 to 1882. The population totaled 2,720 at the time it was annexed to Belleville.

West Belleville coal miners formed the first national miners' union, the American Miners Association, at a St. Louis convention in 1861. The group met in West Belleville at Huff's Beer Garden on the south side of the 900 block of West Main Street, presently a city parking lot.

Additional information on national register designation is available by calling Jack LeChien, Historic Preservation Commission member, at (618) 235-6471 or visiting the Illinois Historic Preservation Agency at www.illinoishistory.gov/PS/history.gov. Select Preservations Services from the left menu. Select National Register Listing from the right menu.

DOOR TO DOOR SOLICITATION WARNING

If a solicitor comes to your door, ask to see their City of Belleville Solicitor ID Badge. This badge assures you that a background check has been done on the individual and that a Company Surety Bond is on file at City Hall.

The Solicitor Badges expire one year from the date they are issued. If you have any concerns regarding a solicitor, contact the Police Department at 234-1212. As always, use caution when opening your door to any strangers.

TREE & BENCH MEMORIAL PROGRAM

A memorial is a long-lasting opportunity to honor or remember a loved one. At the same time, it improves the beauty of the City's parks. Donors can choose from two types of memorials. A Bench Memorial includes the installation of a personalized park bench, plus a customizable granite plaque for the cost of \$800. A Tree

Memorial includes the planting of a mutually agreed upon decorative tree, plus a customizable granite plaque for the cost of \$325. For detailed information and regulations, contact the Parks & Recreation Department at 233-1416.

WASTEWATER TREATMENT LONG TERM CONTROL PLAN

The Federal Clean Water Act was signed into law in 1972. Many parts of this Act apply to the City of Belleville and it's responsibilities to comply with the goals of this Act. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) issues permits to publicly owned wastewater treatment plants (POTWS) that mandate compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act.

Belleville has accomplished many milestones in its efforts to comply with Federal and State environmental law since 1972. One of the most recent requirements is called a Long Term Control Plan (LTCP). The goal of this LTCP is to reduce and or eliminate the discharge of wastewater with storm water to public waterways. These discharges are called Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO's). If the sewer system receives excessive amounts of water from rain in areas that carry both sanitary sewage and rainwater, a CSO may occur. The LTCP will eliminate or significantly reduce any CSO.

The City submitted its LTCP to the IEPA in December 2007 and it was approved that same month. This LTCP outlined a schedule of construction and wastewater treatment projects that span a timeline from 2008 through 2023. At the present time, treatment plant improvements are 85 - 90% finished. Many elements of this plan, such as gravity relief sewers, lift stations, Portland Avenue improvements, and 9th Street and 'E' Street improvements, are 25 - 30% complete. This level of progress is exemplary considering this is the largest construction project the City of Belleville has undertaken for the sanitary sewer system since the early 1900's.

As the City rounds the bend towards its 200th year, the future of compliance with The Clean Water Act will always be challenging. This LTCP is one more step we have taken to stay in compliance with the Clean Water Act.

FREE SUMMER CONCERTS

Bring your lawn chairs to the Public Square (PS) on Mondays and to Bellevue Park (BP) on Thursdays for great music. The FREE concerts begin at 7 PM and feature a different area band each evening.
Mon., July 1 - A Step Beyond (PS)
Mon., July 8 - The Dale Willeford Band (PS)

Thur., July 11 - Alley Kats Band (BP)
Mon., July 15 - Ed & Friends (PS)
Thur., July 18 - Waterloo German Band (BP)
Mon., July 22 - Jim Chadderton & Special Addition (PS)
Thur., July 25 - Country Music Machine (BP)
Mon., July 29 - Tommy Tunes (PS)
Thur., Aug. 1 - A Step Beyond (BP)

SIGNAL HILL NAMED FIRST GET UP & GO NEIGHBORHOOD

Belleville's Signal Hill neighborhood was named the first Get Up & Go Neighborhood for their efforts toward healthy living in the community.

For more information about becoming a Get Up & Go Neighborhood contact the City's Community Development Department at 233-6518 x2280.

**NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:**

If you are planning a Neighborhood Watch meeting and would like City representation from the Police, Fire, or Health & Housing Department, please contact Peggy in the City's Human Resources Department/Belleville Neighborhood Partnership Program at peggyh@belleville.net or 233-6518, x2280

YARD WASTE SCHEDULE

Yard Waste Collection will be picked up during the 2nd full week of January and February during the winter. Weekly pick up of yard waste will run from the first full week of March through the 2nd Friday of December.
YARD WASTE COLLECTION IS WEATHER PERMITTING

GARBAGE

Trash cans up to 45 gallons in capacity must have handles and lids and weigh no more than 60 pounds when filled.

TRASH SCHEDULE

The Sanitation Department does not operate on the following holidays:
New Years Day
M.L. King Day
Presidents Day
Memorial Day
4th of July
Labor Day
Veterans Day
Thanksgiving Day
Christmas Day

IF YOUR PICK-UP DAY FALLS ON OR AFTER A HOLIDAY, YOUR PICK-UP FOR THAT WEEK WILL BE DELAYED BY ONE (1) DAY.

The City offers a large item pick up on a daily basis for a minimum fee of \$45. To arrange for a pick up, call the Sanitation Department at 233-6816.