



## Village of Bellevue May 2009 E-mail Newsletter

### Village of Bellevue Governmental Meetings:

Village Council: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 7:00 p.m.  
Bellevue Village Hall  
Tuesday, May 26, 2009 7:00 p.m.  
Bellevue Village Hall



Bellevue Joint Planning Commission: Tuesday, May 19, 2009 7:00 p.m.  
Bellevue Township Hall

### Holidays:

The Village of Bellevue offices will be closed on the following days in May:

Memorial Day

Monday, May 25, 2009



### Council Meeting Synopsis:

**April 14, 2009:** The council was given an update on the economic development project located along the north village limits. The project is still alive. Lee Beam was also present to discuss his role as a liaison on the project as well as his relationship with the Village going into the future.



Christy Summers, Beckett & Raeder, attended the meeting to discuss their proposal in helping the Village create a Downtown Development Authority and Downtown Development Plan. She briefly discussed the process of creating the organization and then showed examples of plans that Beckett & Raeder have created. Following the presentation there was a time for questions by the council and the guests in the audience.

The council also passed a resolution for the Village to submit an application to the State of Michigan for grant funding that would assist in maintenance and repair work to the two bridges that are the Village's responsibility. This application would be for the 2012 fiscal year funding. While there is no guarantee that we will receive funding we are making every effort to locate alternative sources to assist in the cost of maintaining our current infrastructure.

**April 15, 2009:** A synopsis of the joint meeting between the Bellevue Community School Board, Bellevue Township Board, and Bellevue Village Council written by Jani Hart is included at the end of this newsletter.

**April 28, 2009:** The council had a full agenda at their regular meeting. The economic development effort was discussed. The Village plans on entering into an agreement with Lee Beam to assist us in making this project a reality as well as assisting us in other economic development efforts.

The formation of a Downtown Development Authority was also talked about. The council plans on moving forward with this effort but is working to receive some clarification.

There was also information shared with the council about Bellevue Community Pride Day, scheduled for Friday, May 1, and the Bellevue Community Spring Clean Up, scheduled for Saturday, May 2.

### **Memorial Day Parade:**

American Legion Post 280, our local post, and the Township of Bellevue sponsor an annual Memorial Day Parade. Memorial Day this year is on Monday, May 26. The parade will begin at 10:00 a.m. and travels along Main St. south from Love Rd. to Jackson St., then turns west on Jackson St. to West St. The parade then turns north on West St. to the entrance of Riverside Cemetery where the parade will terminate, and a wreath laying ceremony will take place.



Along the route, there is a wreath placed at the base of the village flagpole and a wreath dropped in the Battle Creek River at the N. Main St. Bridge. The parade features local Boy Scout, Girl Scout, and Cub Scout groups, along with various veterans groups, and military units, Police, and Fire units.

If your group is interested in participating in the parade, please contact Mark Loser (American Legion Post 280 Service Officer and Parade Coordinator) @ (269) 317-3461.

### **Picnic in the Park**

The Bellevue Church of Christ hosts an annual "Picnic in the Park" on Memorial Day following the parade and service at the cemetery. This picnic will be in Washington Park. For more information please phone 269-763-2028.

### **Bellevue Farmer's Market:**

The farmer's market will be returning to Bellevue in 2009. The Village of Bellevue is working with the Battle Creek Farmer's Market Association to again have a local farmer's market. This is the same association that has run the farmer's market the previous two years.

The market will once again be held on Thursday's at Washington Park. Its hours of operation will be from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Opening day for the market will be June 4<sup>th</sup>. It will run every Thursday through October 29<sup>th</sup>.

The farmer's market was brought to the community because of feedback received during the master planning process. We have received many positive comments from the community. It is our hope to see the market continue to grow. Local vendors are encouraged to participate. I also encourage the community members to visit the market. It is an excellent community event and a place to meet neighbors and old friends.



Qualified vendors who wish to become part of the market should contact Brigette Leach, 269-746-4648.

### **Compost Site:**

The Bellevue Compost Site is for Village of Bellevue Residents only.



The Village's compost site is experiencing a lot of use this spring, as expected. We are glad that Village residents find the site useful. Currently keys are available at Village Hall to be signed out. There is a limited supply of these keys and they are on a first come first served basis. Signing these keys out comes with certain rules and responsibilities. Breaking these regulations will be treated as a violation of the Bellevue Code of Ordinances Chapter 37- Compost Site. Violators will be issued a municipal civil infraction, which currently carries fines starting at \$100.00 for the first offense.

The compost site is signed regarding the placement of material. We ask that you read carefully these signs and place the material you are dropping off in the correct areas. Leaves and grass clippings go in one area. Brush needs to be separated out and placed in a second area. Brush also needs to be placed carefully, ensuring it faces one way and is not in a tangled pile. This rule was created to allow the public works department to spend a reasonable amount of time maintaining the site.

We are asked often about the compost and wood chips that are at the site. The compost and wood chips are on a first come first served basis. We encourage community residents to take advantage of the material. There is no charge for the compost material or wood chips so take as much as you would like. The pea stone is not available. This material is used in our street projects and is meant for use by Village of Bellevue and Eaton County Road Commission employees only.

Sincerely,

Village of Bellevue

**Bellevue Community School Board, Bellevue Township, and Village of Bellevue Joint Meeting:**

Written by Jani Hart

New Bellevue Stadium to be named in Honor of Doc Frankenstein

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, Bellevue Community Schools hosted an annual joint meeting with the Village & Township of Bellevue. The meeting's agenda was set to allow all three entities to report to one another and the community. This year, each entity had full reports highlighting great progress and prospects for the Bellevue Community.

The Village of Bellevue reported first. They invited Eric Schoen from ACD to discuss a potential wireless broadband option that could offer a broadband option for Bellevue's rural areas. Bellevue Village Manager, Travis Brininstool explained that there are two broadband choices within the Village; however, there are no high speed choices outside the village limits. ACD recently implemented their broadband option in Springfield offering service for \$10 / month and 2 free hours a day to Springfield students. Such a program can take advantage of federal stimulus money allocated for rural communities and require only small in kind community matches. Scott Belt, the Superintendent for BCS commented on the outstanding opportunity that this technology presents to area students. Brininstool also gave an update regarding a future Alltel / Verizon cell tower that is planned to be erected on the village water tower. He explained that the agreement, that promises both revenue for the community along with better cell coverage for Alltel / Verizon customers is still on Verizon's to do list. The two companies' recent merger that occurred just after the village entered into a signed agreement may be attributed to the delay. The proposed multi-use development of the 75 acre Anglemyer farm located just to the East of the High School property was also discussed. This development has the potential of bringing more tax revenue, jobs, and students to the community. The village council has also been interviewing downtown development consulting firms to assist them in creating a downtown development authority. This step will support

local businesses, allocating tax revenue to directly benefit the Downtown. It will also help with requirements to receive additional granting & funding that the developers are relying on for the feasibility of their proposal.

Brininstool ended his report by introducing Lisa Redmer, Bellevue High's language arts teacher, to report on a joint project that the school, village, community, downtown and its businesses are all looking forward to, "Bellevue Pride Day." The event is scheduled for May 1<sup>st</sup>. Local businesses have been asked to come up with spring cleanup & maintenance projects that students may offer assistance with free of charge. Over 50 kids have signed up for this first year and Bellevue Hardware has donated gloves to protect these generous helping hands. "The children get so much from the community," explained Redmer, "and this is our way to have the kids give back." This first year event will occur the day before the more established "Community Clean Up Day"

May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 8am-12pm, the community will hold its annual "Community Clean Up Day." This program funded in part by a grant is an excellent resource for recycling that simultaneously benefits various community groups. "It is not uncommon for Bellevue Youth Wrestling to collect between \$800 to \$1,000 from scrap metal contributions," said Brininstool. This year, the collection site has moved from the Middle School to the village composting site next to the Keehne Environmental Center.

Sam Schroder, Bellevue Township's new clerk announced the 3 additional newly appointed officers; Sharon Coltson as treasurer, and Tim Coltson and Don Chase both as new trustees, lead by their patriarch, Bernard Otto, Superintendent. With their new hours, Monday, Tuesday, & Thursday, from 9:30am-12:00pm the township will be more accessible to better serve the community. Look to see the recently purchased F5 50 First Responder unit proudly displayed at this summer's annual car show.

Tim Reed, Bellevue's school board president started the presentation for the school with a reminder of the May 5<sup>th</sup> election. He then presented school board member, Linda Bailey with a certified board member award & award of merit from the Michigan Association of School Boards. Linda has put in several classroom hours in addition to her hours of service and office as a school board member to obtain this honor.

Next Scott Belt, superintendent of BCS, presented a very exciting power point presentation on the 23.4 mill bond renewal. He reviewed the investment and outlined the additional enhancement the facilities are receiving. Pointing out to both the elementary and high school plans, he explained how both facilities are actually 2 buildings in one with common areas. This layout still supports the age appropriate separation that the district has historically maintained. A rendering of the elementary's new educational courtyard that will include an amphitheater was amongst the highlighted common spaces. Belt attributed good timing for the

project that will ultimately provide Bellevue students and the entire community with improved state of the art facilities. And the good news he announced is that the project is on schedule and the staff and students will be in this fall.

To conclude this year's joint meeting, Reed then asked Dr. Frankenstein to stand up with him in front of all those present at the meeting. With a puzzled look on his face, Doc complied, while Reed announced the school board's resolution to name the new football field The Waldo E. Frankenstein Field. Doc was shocked and almost speechless in response of the community's gesture to honor him. Everyone stood up and applauded. It was a very moving moment in Bellevue's history, honoring a man "that has done so many great things for Bellevue, for our Schools, and for our students so much for the community," Reed later elaborates. "Doc, has been at so many football games through the years, and has helped so many kids right on the side lines, it just seemed so fitting to name our great new field after one of our greatest community members."

A ceremony will be held to dedicate the new "Waldo E. Frankenstein Field" on August 28<sup>th</sup> at Bellevue's first home football game for the 09 season against Litchfield. The entire afternoon is planned for a huge community celebration starting with the home cross country meet followed by a community picnic.