

The Bridge

Connecting with our residents

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City of Belle Plaine

August • 2019

Message from the Mayor: Hometown Pride

Christopher G. Meyer – Mayor

We have just had our 61st annual community celebration come to a conclusion - our one and only Bar-B-Q Days! Even though there were a few rain showers and extreme heat that proved to be somewhat of a scheduling issue with a few events, the rest of the weekend was wonderful. While I was working in the park and watched many of the events, it was amazing to see all of the community support. Community pride is evident with all of the various civic, Veteran, and school groups who have their own food stands in the park. This shows huge support by the residents, parents, and friends who give their time to work and coordinate each of these operations.

As we all know, this event is coordinated and managed by the Belle Plaine Festival and Events Committee so here is a huge shout out to their staff and the members for making this one of the best hometown celebrations in the State. Their continued support of this event as well, as the money it generates for the participating groups continue to provide funding to make many things happen within the community.

Many class reunions and family reunions happen during B-B-Q Days. This is a great time for former residents and friends to reconnect and come home for the weekend. The other great part about this weekend was the opportunity for us to showcase our City. With American flags flying, flowers planted, and clean streets, the downtown looked great! I would like to recognize the Public Works staff for all of their hard work and dedication to get all of the projects and work completed for this event. Many things happen on the City level behind the scenes to make this celebration not only an enjoyable family event, but also one that has visitors' safety top of mind. Much planning is necessary by City Staff, the Police Department, and the Fire Department to ensure these safe environments - so thank you to all of them as well.

With American flags flying, flowers planted, and clean streets, the downtown looked great!

Another recent event that is a testament to community support and community pride was the City sponsored Community Conversations where guided tours were given of the new Belle Plaine Aquatic Center. It was amazing to see residents of all ages take a first hand look at what will be one of the most treasured community assets. Many of the people I visited with that evening were residents that donated their time and money towards the construction of the original swimming pool that had served our community for over 50 years. Even though many of them will probably never use the new facility, just hearing their excitement for the younger generation and how important it is to have this type of community amenity was great to hear. I would also like to recognize the 2019 Aquatic Center staff, lifeguards, and manager. Most of their summer was spent working with the Public Works department on parks and projects around the City.

Earlier this summer we had the opportunity to host the Scott County Commissioners and the Scott County Administrator for a bus tour around town. It was a great opportunity for the Belle Plaine City Council to interact with representatives of the County regarding important issues that affect Belle Plaine and adjoining Townships. It also gave us the chance to showcase highlights of our City since many of these individuals are not very familiar with the area. Overall, I am happy to say that our communication and our working relationship with the Scott County Board and Scott County Administration has never been stronger. This will continue to pay dividends into the future.

So, for all of you that have volunteered and have worked to make our favorite home town a better place to live and call home – Thank you from all of the City Council and City Staff!

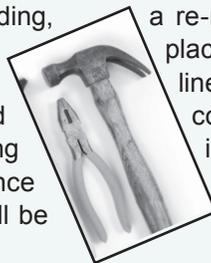
Get out and enjoy the final summer months, and discover all the wonderful places and things to do around Belle Plaine!

OVER-THE-COUNTER BUILDING PERMITS

Simply stated, over-the-counter permits are permits for residential projects that do not require a plan review. They include things such as the replacement of roofs, siding, furnaces, air conditioners, water heaters, water softeners, and the installation of fireplaces and lawn irrigation systems. Generally, all that is required for these types of permits is the completed building permit application and payment of the permit fee. Once they have been received at City Hall, the permit will be issued to you.

In most cases, the fee for an over-the-counter permit is \$51.00. The permit fee covers one inspection that is usually

done after the work has been completed. Sometimes the inspection is done at the half-way point, for example when a re-roof or re-side project is half-way completed. A fire place installation may have up to three inspections; a gas line inspection, a rough-in inspection (before things are covered up), and a final inspection when the fireplace is completely installed. Inspections are scheduled at least 24 hours in advance by calling 952-873-5553. Permits applications are available at City Hall or can be downloaded at www.belleplainmn.com/permits-licenses-forms.



Citizen Spotlight

Cooper Steinborn, age 11 attended Community Conversations at the Aquatic Center on Wednesday, July 10. Cooper's favorite part of the night was touring the new facilities. Cooper likes all the new amenities in the pool and stated "I can't wait to try the new waterslides!" Cooper is active in summer activities at the Belle Plaine Library and his favorite park is Union Square Park. When asked to describe Belle Plaine Cooper says, "It's a great place to live!"



Union Square Park
201 South Eagle St.
Belle Plaine Public Library
125 West Main Street
belleplainemn.com/library-events

Thank you to Cooper and his family for coming out to Community Conversations at the Aquatic Center.

Pam Cates, a Belle Plaine resident for 30 years attended the Community Conversations Aquatic Center Tours on July 10. Pam enjoyed seeing the hard work the men and women have accomplished. Pam felt her concerns regarding parking were heard by Staff and Council. Pam and her husband chose Belle Plaine to raise their family due to its small town feel and affordable housing. Pam wanted her children in a smaller school district with smaller class size. Pam believes this atmosphere has helped her children excel in the activities they have pursued. Pam has been an active community member participating in FCCLA (Family, Career, Community Leaders of America), Art Department, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, t-ball, Swimming Lessons and Early Childhood programs. Pam also attended school board meetings and work sessions to stay current on the districts happenings. When asked to describe Belle Plaine in one sentence Pam states Belle Plaine is "A nice place to call home."



Thank you Pam for attending Community Conversations.

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Tuesday, August 6

Heritage Square Park • 500 East Orchard Street
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

FREE EVENT
Bounce House • Face Painting
Water Games • Food • Give-A-Ways
Belle Plaine Royalty • Bike Helmets

National Night Out, is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) celebrated throughout the nation. The Belle Plaine Police Department will be hosting its own community event in celebration of this campaign. The department's goal is to heighten safety and crime prevention awareness; to support locally-based businesses, groups and organizations; and to strengthen relationships among community members and between the community and local police department.

The event is FREE, so bring your whole family and invite all your friends! Bike helmets will be handed out to the first 120 kids who have their bike inspected! There will be police vehicles on display, along with the Belle Plaine Fire Department, Ridgeview Ambulance and a special appearance from North Memorial Air Care Helicopter.

Join us for

Community Conversations

at National Night Out

August 6 • 5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

500 Orchard Street East

*There may be a quorum of the Belle Plaine City Council present.



August 2019 Government Calendar

- 5 Design Committee Canceled
- City Council 6:30 p.m.
- 6 Community Conversations/National Night Out
..... 5:00 p.m.
- 8 Public Works 9:00 a.m.
- 12 EDA 5:00 p.m.
- Planning Commission 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Public Safety 4:30 p.m.
- 19 Park Board 5:00 p.m.
- City Council 6:30 p.m.

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