

City of Bellefontaine Neighbors

Bellefontaine News

January 2020

9641 Bellefontaine Road

(314) 867-0076

St. Louis County, MO 63137

From The Office Of The Mayor.....



Tommie Pierson Sr.

Greetings Residents,

First, I would like to start by welcoming our new residents to Bellefontaine Neighbors. We are happy to have you here. I look forward to meeting you. Our Board Meetings are held at City Hall every 1st and 3rd Thursday of

the month at 7:30 p.m.

As I've stated before, I look forward, along with your help, to make our city a better place to live, work and play. In our quest to make this city a shining star in North County, we have attended functions and forums over the past few months in an effort to gain valuable knowledge. I learned a lot at "The Missouri Municipal League Conference, the Urban Land Institute Focus St. Louis Conference and the Monthly Metro Mayors Meetings. "

My goal is to increase the tax base in Bellefontaine Neighbors. I want to make this city an economic mecca for North County. We will move toward developing our purpose as we pursue increased economic development. We are working to provide greater opportunity for shared prosperity and job growth across the economic development spectrum from entrepreneurs to large employers.

Over the past few months, many new employees joined the Bellefontaine Team. All vacant positions have been filled with the exception of Parks and Rec Director and City Collector which we are working diligently to fill. As always, we have our citizens in mind in everything we do. Therefore, we encourage you to respect each other's rights and property. There are rules of the road and we are pleading with you, our citizens, to abide by them. The purpose is that we do not run over our children, our mothers and fathers, or each other. We have seniors in our city who deserve our respect. When you see something, please say something.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO YOU AND BE SAFE!

THANK YOU!

HAND IN HAND, TOGETHER WE CAN!

Upcoming City Events 2020

- Closing date for election filing, January 21, at 5:00 p.m., BFN City Hall
- Black History Program, February 8, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., BFN Rec. Center
- Hoop Madness, March 14
- City-wide Clean-up, April 25. 9:00 a.m., BFN Rec. Center
- Bike Rodeo, May 9

For ward specific events, please contact your alderperson

City Hall Holidays

- New Years Day, Wednesday, January 1
- Martin Luther King Jr., Day, Monday, January 20
- President's Day, Monday, February 17
- Good Friday, April 10
- Memorial Day, Monday, May 25

City Officials



**Tommie Pierson Sr.,
Mayor**
314-869-8251
tpierson@cityofbn.com
Term of Office: 2023



**Fran Stevens,
City Clerk**
314-867-0076
fstevens@cityofbn.com
Term of Office: 2023

Board of Aldermen



Barbara West
314-867-9347
bwest@cityofbn.com
Term of Office: 2022

Ward
1



Rev. Dinah Tatman
847-238-2220
dtatman@cityofbn.com
*Term of Office: 2020



Samuel Simril
314-308-2163
ssimril@cityofbn.com
*Term of Office: 2020

Ward
2



Theresa Reed
314-388-5780
treed@cityofbn.com
Term of Office: 2022



Vacant
*Term of Office: 2020

Ward
3



Jim Christian
314-341-8417
jchristian@cityofbn.com
Term of Office: 2022



Alease Dailes
314-403-0888
adailes@cityofbn.com
*Term of Office: 2020

Ward
4



Miranda Avant-Elliott, Ed.D
President of BOA
314-690-1797
Mavant-elliott@cityofbn.com
Term of Office: 2022

City of Bellefontaine Neighbors Meetings

Board of Aldermen- 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 7:30 p.m. Pre-Meetings are at 6:30 p.m.

Town Hall Meeting- September 19, 7:30 p.m. at BN Recreation Center

Municipal Court- 2nd Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m. and 4th Wednesdays, 1 p.m.

Commissions and Meeting Times	Chair	Alderman Representative
Planning and Zoning Commission- 2nd Monday, 7 p.m.	Michael Wiese	Alease Dailes
Public Safety Commission- 4th Thursday, 6:30 p.m.	John Koester	Rev. Dinah Tatman
Youth Commission- 3rd Monday, 7:30 p.m.	Alicia Smith	Dr. Miranda Avant-Elliott
Image and Beautification Board- 2nd Tuesday, 7 p.m.	Jennie Stewart	N/A
Parks and Recreation Board- 3rd Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.	Vacant	N/A
Board of Adjustment- Upon Request	John DuHadway	N/A
Human Relations Commission- Upon Request	Yolanda Poe	N/A

All meetings are open to the public and are held at the City of BN City Hall except the Parks & Recreation committee, which is held at the BN Recreation Center.

How Did Your Alderperson Vote?

Bill #	Date	Description	West (W1)	Tatman (W1)	Reed (W2)	Simril (W2)	Jordan (W3)	Christian (W3)	Dalles (W4)	Avant-Elliott (W4)	Pass or Fail	Ord. #
2549	7/18/2019	An ordinance establishing a new position and compensation for finance director (Avant-Elliott)		Y	Y	-	N	N	Y	Y	Fail	-
2550	8/1/2019	An ordinance authorizing and directing the Mayor to execute and enter into an agreement with the Rejis Commission for computer and information technology support services (Avant-Elliott)		Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2548
2552	8/15/2019	An ordinance authorizing the acquisition and installation of a boiler and related equipment (Jordan)		A	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	N	Pass	2549
2553	9/26/2019	An ordinance establishing the annual rate of ad valorem tax levied for the year 2019 for debt service and general municipal purposes on all real and personal property in the city of Bellefontaine Neighbors, MO (Avant-Elliott)	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	Pass	2550
2554	10/3/2019	An ordinance amending Sections 23-18 of the city code by permitting the BOA to all certain obstructions in or on streets and sidewalks for traffic calming and control purposes (Tatman)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2551
2555	10/3/2019	An ordinance amending Sections 23-19 of the city code by requiring any person or entity to obtain a permit before using any public street or sidewalk for a community event (Tatman)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2552
2556	10/3/2019	Amendment Sections 2-300 of the city code by requiring, to the extent feasible, that membership on the public safety committee reflect equal representation from each ward in the city (Tatman)	Y	Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2553
2559	11/7/2019	MSD Easement At 1180 Chambers Road (Tatman)		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2554
2560	11/7/2019	Correcting And Renumbering Previously Passed Ordinances (Reed)		Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2555
2558.1	11/21/2019	Adjusting the compensation schedule for Parks and Rec Director (Avant-Elliott)		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2556
2561	11/21/2019	Authorizing A User Agreement with St. Louis County - Emergency Communication Commission (Jordan)		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	2557

Y = Yes, N = No, A = Abstain, Blank = Absent, R = Resigned, - = Not Appointed Yet

Resolution #	Date	Description										
2019-2	8/1/2019	Ethics Resolution (Jordan)		Y	Y	-	Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	
2019-3	11/21/2019	St. Louis County Library Board (Reed)		Y	Y		Y	Y	Y	Y	Pass	

All meetings, records and votes are open to the public; except that any meeting may be closed to discuss legal actions and advice, leasing and purchase of real estate, personnel matters, and other matters as outlined in Ord. No. 1572, § 1, 8-19-04 Sec. 1-21. The City Clerk, Fran Stevens is the official keeper of records. For more information about city government, ordinances or meetings, call Fran at 867-0076. Copies of ordinances are available for a moderate fee.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Message from the Chief of Police



Colonel Jeremy Ihler
Chief of Police

The police department have been very productive in terms of community policing. With the help of our community members and elected officials, we have had the opportunity to increase our positive engagement with the public. This increase is due to events such as the Hearts Behind the Badges event (August 17th), the Town Hall meeting (September 19th), National Night Out (October 1st), and Backstoppers BBQ (October 5th). We also celebrated the life of Sergeant Peggy Vassallo, who was killed in the line-of-duty, on August 24th with a memorial bench dedication in front of City Hall. Community policing remains the cornerstone of confidence building and crime reduction. The community and the police will continue to work together in partnership to preserve peace in order to maintain the quality of life that is indicative

of the Bellefontaine Neighbors community.



Leaving Your Vehicle Running Unattended

We would like to remind drivers to never leave their vehicle unattended with the engine running and keys in the ignition. It only leaves your car at risk to be stolen by thieves. Vehicles left running outside homes, in front of convenience stores and at gas pumps present an easy target for car thieves. Always take your keys with you and secure your vehicle, even for a short trip into the store. When the weather gets colder, drivers may want to leave their vehicle running to warm up the engine, but should never leave it unattended while doing so.

A significant number of cars stolen have keys left in the car. Follow these safety tips to prevent vehicle related crimes: 1) lock your car doors, 2) DO NOT leave your car unattended warming up or cooling down, 3) DO NOT leave valuables in view, and 4) remove the valet key from the vehicle (if applicable). By following these tips, you reduce the opportunities for thieves to take advantage of you and reduce crime in the process.

How to Safeguard Your Property

Defending Your Property

Our great nation conceived in liberty and dedicated to justice for all protects property rights. Property is the foundation of every right we have, including the right to be free. Every right

claim, after all, is a claim to something — either a defensive claim to keep what one is holding or an offensive claim to something someone else is holding. However, what is our right when we use physical force to defend our property from those who wish to take it? The answer to this can only be explained in general terms because if physical force is used, the judicial system ultimately decides as to whether the application of physical force was reasonable given the circumstances present at the time when physical force is used. The public is held accountable for their actions similar to that of the police when using physical force against others. The public and police are allowed to use force when faced with the imminent threat of physical injury and/or death. It is highly recommended that people call the police immediately instead of taking matters into their own hands when their property is at risk of being taken from them. The police are equipped and receive training to handle these matters and the police do not want people to put themselves in harms way while defending their property.

facebook 

**Follow the Police
Department on Facebook!**

For the latest information affecting our community. <https://www.facebook.com/BellefontaineNeighborsPD/>

Crime: Data, Reporting, and Reducing

As it concerns crime within the City, we have experienced an overall average decrease of -15% in crime when collectively considering homicide, rape, robbery, assault, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. (Figure 1.) As for crimes against persons, we have experienced incremental increase in homicide, rape, and assault. As for crimes against property, we have experienced significant decreases in robbery, burglary, and larceny. We are still experiencing problems with motor vehicle theft (35% increase) – many of which occur to people leaving their vehicles running, unlocked, and unattended.

Policing starts with you – the community. You are the heart of the policing mission and we require your involvement to increase the safety and security of our community. If you observe suspicious activity, a crime about to occur, or a crime in progress please call the police immediately so that the police department can investigate these matters quickly to prevent and stop crime. For non-emergency situations, call police dispatch at **(314) 889-2341 or (636) 529-8210**.

For emergency situations, dial 911. Any resident who would like to host a Neighborhood Watch meeting in their area to discuss crime and other policing related matters and initiatives, please contact the police department office during normal business hours, between 8:00 am and 5:00 pm, to make arrangements. The police department will have a police officer available to attend your meeting and we will help you with marketing your neighborhood meeting.

Figure 1.

Crime Type	Jan. – Sept.		Percentage Change
	2018	2019	
Homicide	2	3	33%
Rape	1	2	50%
Robbery	16	13	-19%
Assault	116	115	1%
Burglary	129	84	-35%
Larceny	169	125	-28%
Motor Vehicle Theft	41	63	35%
	474	405	-15%

Police Chaplain Contacts

Glen Connoley, gconnoley@cityofbn.com
 Nathan Ruback, nruback@cityofbn.com
 Tommie Harsley, tharsley@cityofbn.com
 Greg Warnusz, gwarnusz@cityofbn.com
 Dwayne Elliott, drelliott@cityofbn.com

Property Inventory and Security

Residential Inventory & Security Education Handbook



Bellefontaine Neighbors Police Department
 9641 Bellefontaine Road
 Bellefontaine Neighbors, MO 63137
 (314) 867-0080

Crime prevention starts with information sharing between the police and the community to create and maintain a safe environment. The Residential Inventory and Security Education Handbook is a guide that helps the people of our community to protect their property from invaders, opportunists, and other who wish to take inappropriate advantage of circumstances that deprive those of their hard-

earned assets. This guide discusses a variety of home security aspects. Upon reading it, you will become familiar with how key control, lighting, landscaping, door hinges and locks, window security, and alarm systems can deter the opportunity for crime to occur. The guide also discusses safe practices, such as using automatic timers, using visible house numbers, and programming emergency telephone numbers into your phones for quick and easy retrieval for use. Lastly, the guide stresses the importance of marking and recording your property to make it easily identifiable during police investigations and reduce the time it takes to recover your property should it be stolen. A copy of the Residential Inventory and Security Education Handbook is available on the police department's section of the City's website.

Job Openings



The Bellefontaine Neighbors Police Department is seeking highly motivated individuals for the position of police officer. The minimum starting salary for applicants that are Missouri Department of Public Safety Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Certified with no previous law enforcement experience is \$50,000.00 and may be ad-

justed depending on qualifications. Salary is accompanied by an employee fringe benefits package, which includes health and dental insurance, paid holidays and vacation, tuition reimbursement for eligible areas of study, a defined pension plan (LAGERS), and a defined contribution 457 plan with a limited employer matching 401a plan. Please refer to the City's website for Police Officer Job Opportunities for a complete description of the job requirements, the application, and hiring process. The Bellefontaine Neighbors Police Department is an equal opportunity and diversity employer who gives preference to those who live in our community to serve on our team.

Local Community News

RIVERVIEW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NEWS

Provided by: Jennifer Swatek, Firefighter/paramedic

RFPD would like to welcome six new members to our family, eight since the beginning of the year! A huge thanks to Cpt. Klee for his diligent work on obtaining the SAFER Grant (Staffing for Adequate Fire & Emergency Response Grants), we have received \$1.6 million to pay the salaries of our 6 new members. This allows us to fully staff our trucks, which in turn allows us to serve our community better!

SAFETY TIPS

RFPD would like to remind you to pull over and stop for emergency vehicles running with lights and sirens! Not only is it the law, but our hope is to not create another emergency on our way to one!

Please do not heat your homes with your stoves and/or ovens. We understand you may feel like you do not have another option, but there are some out there for you.

Heat Up St. Louis - <https://heatupstlouis.org/>

Spire - <https://www.spireenergy.com/assistance>

Father Bob's Outreach -
<https://fatherbobsoutreach.com/>

MO Dept. of Social Services - <https://dss.mo.gov/fsd/energy-assistance/index.htm>

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 21, 2020, O'Fallon, MO, RFPD Community Outreach is hosting a Rock'n'Roll Bingo to raise money for our organization. The funds we raise will help the Outreach Committee help those in need within our community. For more information, follow us on Facebook, or contact: jswtek@riverviewfpd.com.

Director Meetings

1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Tuesday of every month at 5:00 p.m., unless otherwise posted

Location: 9933 Diamond Drive

RIVERVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGHLIGHTS

Provided by: Anthony Kiekow, Communications Director

Accreditation: Last school year, the Missouri State Board of Education declined to vote on whether to grant the RGSD full accreditation status. The decision came on the heels of the district scoring in the full accreditation status range for four consecutive years on the Annual Performance Report (APR). For two of those years, the district needed the help of hold harmless points to meet the threshold. Hold harmless points are additional points the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education allowed districts to use toward the APR. The most recent APR format put a focus on growth rather than points, scores or status range. While RGSD showed slight decreases in some test scores, the district showed growth in some key areas. A common misconception related to accreditation is that the district or the district's Special Administrative Board determines accreditation status. The State Board makes the decision. The district hopes for gain full accreditation in the future. The state typically makes accreditation classifications in December of each year. In the meantime, administrators, teachers and students will continue to do the work resulted in RGSD earning provisional accreditation status in 2017.

Graduation Rate & ACT: The 2019 graduation rate was 83.5%. Up 4.5% from the previous year. Additionally, according to the 2019 APR, the district recorded a slight increase in ACT scores.

Prop R Projects: Paid \$3 million in debt, installed rooftop unit HVAC systems at multiple schools, floor replacements at schools, a band room renovation and several parking lot revamps. Additional projects are in the planning stages.

Jobs: RGSD is hiring substitute teachers. Subs can make up to \$105 per day.

Board of Education Meetings

All meetings of the Special Administrative Board will be held on the second & fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Boardroom at Central Office, 1370 Northumberland Dr., St. Louis, MO 63137 unless otherwise noted.

2019 Image and Beautification Clean-Up



Thank you to the Image and Beautification Committee for coordinating a successful clean-up on September 28, 2019. An additional thanks to Influence Church, Moses Dickson Lodge 187, and Williams Scott Military Lodge 182, community members, and some of alderpersons and BFN staff for their participation and donations of materials.

The Image and Beautification Commission meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at City Hall. The meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. The commission consists of volunteers who assist in enhancing the image and beauty in the city.

Along with upkeep of any community gardens and flowerbeds, the commission and its volunteers pick up litter along our major roads twice a year. The commission also selects the homes each year for the Summer Beautification and Holiday Decorations awards.



The Commission has also created an Adopt-a-Street program for our community streets. Please visit www.cityofbn.com or call City Hall at 314-867-0076 for more information on how to adopt in your neighborhood.

The next citywide clean-up will be held on Saturday, April 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. Please meet up at the BN Rec Center to volunteer. Trash bags, gloves and safety vests will be provided.

REMINDERS: Trash Bins should be stored behind the front wall of your property. Trash containers shouldn't be placed at curb no earlier than 5pm on your trash day and removed by 5 pm on the day after collection. All yard waste should be placed in the yard waste container provided by Waste Management including tree branches and shrubs. Grass should be no taller than 8 inches in height.

Snow Routes

The street department does an amazing job keeping our streets open during snow events. The City of BN has passed ordinances to ensure sufficient space for emergency vehicles to serve residents and snow removal equipment to easily maneuver and clean streets efficiently. Ordinance #2096 was passed in 2008 to deem the following streets no parking:

- Addison, 1000 block
- Akron, 1400-1500 block
- Avant, 1000 block
- Comet Drive, between Ashbrook and Dwight
- Dwight, 10151
- Hamlet Court
- Kelvin Drive, cul-de-sac only
- Kimball Court
- Laire, 1100-1200 block
- Larue Court
- Southworth Court
- Surf, 10232, 10236
- Green Acres Road from Bellefontaine Road, generally westward to the "Y" intersection at lot # 47, including Orchard Court, Orchard Lane, Willow Court and Willow Lane

Residents and visitors should keep in mind that everyone should be aware of parking restrictions, especially during snow or ice events. Please take notice of the ordinances below and always leave enough room in the street so a snowplow or emergency vehicle can get through. These ordinances were passed in 1964 and are still in effect today.

Sec. 17-152. Standing or parking close to curb.

Except as otherwise provided in sections 17-153 through 17-155, every vehicle stopped or parked upon a roadway where there are adjacent curbs shall be so stopped or parked with the right-hand wheels of such vehicle parallel to and within eighteen (18) inches of the right-hand curb.

Sec. 17-156. Parking not to obstruct traffic.

No person shall park any vehicle upon a street, other than an alley, in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than ten (10) feet of the width of the roadway for free movement of vehicular traffic.

Become a Census Worker

for the 2020 Census



The 2020 U.S. Census will be conducted via phone and online. Please utilize the nearest library if you do not have internet access or a cellphone with data. Failed attempts to collect information by phone or online will result in a visit from a Census worker.

Committee of members from all wards are needed in preparation for the 2020 U.S. Census. We need your help so OUR CITY will not lose any federal, state, and local tax dollars. Look for U.S. Census Invitation by mail between March 12–20. If you would like to join the U.S. Census committee contact Alderwoman Alease Dailes, Ward 4: (314) 403-0888 or your ward officials to help.

Bellefontaine Neighbors Welcomes Our New Treasurer



City Treasurer

Patrick Howard is an accomplished finance professional with over 13 years of experience and a proven track record of initiating process improvements to deliver corporate objectives and goal surpassing fiscal results. Patrick is currently the Head of the North America tax division and Tax Manager for Curium US LLC (formerly known as Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals). Prior to Patrick's current role, he was a Senior Tax Analyst at Anheuser Busch LLC, an Accountant for Boeing and a Senior Accountant at Charter Communications. Patrick is also the owner of an accounting firm, Esteemed Accounting Services LLC, where he provides tax planning and business consulting services.

Patrick, a native of St. Louis, grew up in Jennings, and holds a Bachelor's degree in Accounting from Chicago State University and a MBA from Webster University. Patrick is a notary public for St. Louis County, certified QBO ProAdvisor and an IRS registered tax preparer. He is married to his wife Rainie and they have two children – Patrick and Aniyah.

Welcome to New Staff

Whitney Smith, Administrative Asst.
Juanita Sykes, Asst. Court Clerk
Joseph Lancaster, Street Dept.

Notice of Election Filing For the City Of BN (alderpersons with an *asterisk on page 2 are up for election)

Please take notice the City of Bellefontaine Neighbors, Missouri, will conduct a municipal election on April 7, 2020, for the offices of one Alderman from each of the four (4) Wards for a term of four (4) years. Persons desiring to file as a candidate for the election to office to be elected at said election may file a Declaration of Candidacy at the office of the City Clerk at 9641 Bellefontaine Road, Bellefontaine Neighbors, Missouri. The opening date was Tuesday, December 17, 2019, at 8:00 a.m. and the closing date is on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. **Fran Stevens, City Clerk**

Now Accepting Applications

- Parks and Recreation Director
- City Collector
- Police Officer
- Part-time Recreation Workers (see website for specific positions)
- Various Commissions (Board of Adjustment, Image and Beautification, and Parks and Recreation)

For more information and to apply go to www.cityofbn.com

This publication was developed and edited by Ward 4 Alderwoman, Dr. Miranda Avant-Elliott with the collaboration from city officials, staff, and BN community