



# BELLE PLAINE

## NEWS & EVENTS

Fall 2022



### CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE *By Alvin Bartz*

**W**e had another successful year at the fair. We had a lot of help from area people as well as the F.F.A, alumni and the Pella fire and EMS. The profits are shared among these groups. We support the small and large animal auctions, send kids to various youth activities. In the past we built a greenhouse at the high school. This year we gave \$1000.00 toward the new horse barn to be built at the fairgrounds, that came from tip money. We did 4000 burgers, 39 Nesco's of chili, and a lot of grilled cheese. Is it worth it? A lot of long-time fair people still gather to visit with their neighbors and friends and for many rural people the fair is their vacation time.

Inflation has hurt the town in the amount of road work we can do. Things like salaries, ambulance subsidies, tipping fees at the landfill have increased double digit. The cost of diesel fuel and

gas affect almost everything we do. Some how we need to be able to keep our highway budget up so that we don't keep falling behind on road maintenance.

We will be replacing a fire truck in 23-24, the cost is expected to be \$700,000.00 divided among the five members of our fire group. The truck we bought in 2000 will be replaced in the next cycle five or six years from now.

Dick and Sally have done a good job keeping our parks and roadways in good shape. We will probably make one more cut since the weeds on the shoulders seem to really grow good this year.

Be careful during harvest season especially equipment making left turns off the roadways. There have been quite a few bears roaming the area, some quite large. So, we need to be on the lookout especially at night when driving.



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# MESSAGES FROM THE TOWN OF BELLE PLAINE

## CLERK'S MESSAGE *by Kristine Vomastic*

It is hard to believe it is time to start fall clean up already. Putting things away and reflecting on the fun summer days with grandkids and family makes me realize how fast time goes by.

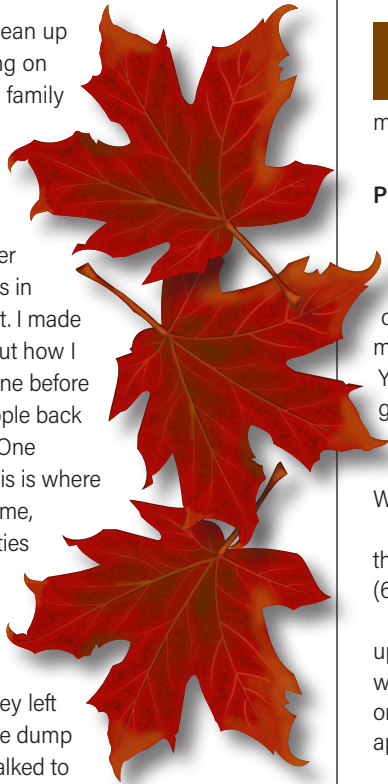
I have been the Town Clerk for 15 years now. After completing the Leadership Shawano County Class I heard that our previous Clerk was not going to run for another term. At that time, we had to attend the caucus in January and be nominated to get on the ballot. I made it through that first step. I started thinking about how I could get my name out to people in Belle Plaine before the spring election. I did not know a lot of people back then and felt I should do some campaigning. One Saturday after leaving the dump I thought; "this is where I should come to meet people!" Back at that time, the dump was one of the biggest social activities on Saturday's and the best place to see a lot of people. I decided if I would make some chocolate chip cookies and take them to Bear, would he say it is ok for me to me stand by the exit gate and talk to people as they left the dump? I was hoping he would say yes. The dump was Bears domain, everyone knew him and talked to him. He knew so much about what was going on in the town and had the respect of a lot of town residents. He was fine with my campaign efforts and was really happy with getting cookies. I can still picture him leaning over the dumpster talking to people and enjoying the cookies. I had enough votes from that election to become Clerk. Outgoing Clerk Harriet McCaughly gave me the key to the town office and said "here are the keys to the town, do you have any questions?" "I did not even know what to ask or where to start."

Fast forward fifteen years to today. Times have really changed since then and the amount of work has increased dramatically. Over twenty-five-time sensitive reports or surveys are due each year, some are on a quarterly basis. Elections have become very intense. We use the Wisvote computer system where all the information for each election is entered and stored. It starts from the time absentee ballots are sent out and recorded when they are returned. Poll books must be reconciled and every person that voted is entered into the system for each election. The biggest thing is it must match with what our election workers recorded from our machines on election night. There is a considerable amount of training required for the election workers due to laws changing frequently. Our town is truly fortunate to have the great election team that we have.

The Clerk is the secretary for the town with many other responsibilities. Sending out monthly invoices, cutting the checks for our bills each month, minutes and agendas for monthly meetings, cleaning the town hall, taking care of scheduling for the hall and shelter, issuing liquor licenses and permits, website maintenance and town newsletters are just some of the other things I do. It is extremely rewarding, and most people are very appreciative. Thank you to them.

Just a reminder the November 8, 2022, election is fast approaching, the election runs from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm. I hope to see all of you that day.

Take care and have a great autumn!



## TOPICS FROM THE TREASURER *by Colleen Weishoff*

It is hard to believe that a year has gone by already! Last September I took over the vacant treasurer position and dove headfirst into my first tax season. I learned so much that first year and am certain there is much more to come. I am looking forward to it.

### ESTIMATED TIMELINES FOR 2022 REAL ESTATE/PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES

**Mid October 2022** – lottery changes for the 2022 real estate taxes need to be turned in to the Shawano County Treasurer's office. This includes any new lottery credits that may be claimed for the 2022 tax year. To claim you must be the property owner as of 1/1/2022 and the property must be your primary residence. You can only have one primary residence. You cannot claim the lottery credit on business property, rental units, land, garages, or other properties that are not your primary residence. You must be a Wisconsin resident to claim this credit.

If you are no longer entitled to the lottery credit you must complete a Wisconsin Lottery and Gaming Credit Removal Request Form.

Any questions on the Lottery and Gaming Credits should be directed to the County Treasurer's office or the Wisconsin Department of Revenue at (608)-266-9457, (608)-266-0772 or via email at [lgs@wisconsin.gov](mailto:lgs@wisconsin.gov).

**Mid to Late November 2022** – all pertinent tax information will be updated by the town (levy amounts & special assessments). The county will then process a first run of the taxes. We will verify the tax information on the first run, submit any necessary changes and once complete will approve for printing of the final tax bills.

**Early December 2022** – Tax statements will be printed, stuffed, and mailed to all property owners. We will once again include the tax collection letter with town and county information, garbage collection calendar and dog license forms. Please read the tax collection letter closely. The letter provides important information regarding payment of taxes. For the past couple of years, we have not had in-person tax payment collection at the town hall. I am currently planning to have a couple of in person tax collection sessions at the town hall this year. Please refer to the tax collection letter for confirmation of in-person tax collection and the dates/times in-person collection will take place.

**Mid December 2022 – End of January 2023** – tax collections accepted for full tax payment amounts or first half installment payments by the town treasurer. Tax payments after January will need to be paid to the Shawano County Treasurer's office. All tax payments collected must be made by check. We do not accept cash payment for real estate or personal property taxes. If you wish to receive a tax payment receipt, you must provide a self-addressed stamped envelope for the receipt.

### DOG LICENSES

We will be picking up new 2023 dog licenses tags in early December 2022. All dogs in the Town of Belle Plaine must be licensed and have **proof of vaccination**.

174.05(1)(1) Requirement. Except as provided in s. 174.054, the owner of a dog more than 5 months of age on January 1 of any year, or 5 months of age within the license year, shall annually, or on or before the date the dog becomes 5 months of age, pay the dog license tax, and obtain a license.

Dog licenses must be purchased prior to April 1, 2023, or they will be considered delinquent, and a late fee will be charged after that date. Remember to write out a separate check for dog licenses. Do not combine with real estate or personal property tax payment amounts.

If you no longer have your dog, please contact the treasurer to update the town's records. You may leave a voice mail message at (715)-524-2690 or (715)-853-8912, send a text to (715)-853-8912 or email [cweishofftreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:cweishofftreasurer@gmail.com).

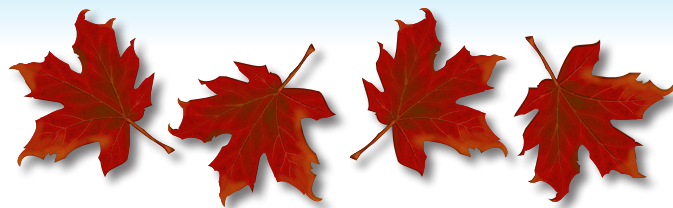
## COMPOST SITE

CLOSING NOVEMBER 12, 2022

TAKE HWY 22 TO  
RIVER BANK ROAD  
TO RANGE LINE ROAD  
OPEN 8:30 AM TO 2 PM



ELECTION  
REMINDER  
NOVEMBER 8, 2022



## BELLE PLAINE OFFICIALS

Alvin Bartz, Chairman  
Wade Wisnepske Supervisor #1  
Cory Retzlaff, Supervisor #2  
Kristine Vomastic, Clerk  
Colleen Weishoff, Treasurer



### CLERK'S HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday 9 AM to 3 PM  
Saturday 8:30 AM to 11:00 AM  
2nd Monday of the Month  
5 PM to 7 PM  
Or by appointment.

### REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETINGS:

2nd Monday of each month, 7 PM

### COMMITTEES:

Planning, Zoning,  
Gibson Island Stewardship

POPULATION ESTIMATE: 1785



Belle Plaine  
Community  
Center  
N3002 St.  
Hwy 22  
Clintonville,  
WI 54929  
715 524 2690

## VACCINE CLINIC

Vaccine Clinic Every other Tuesday  
at the Belle Plaine Community Center.  
Call 715-526-8183 for more details  
and to set up an appointment



## REFLECTIONS *by Cory Retzlaff*

**W**hen we are asked to write an article for the town newsletter, I sometimes struggle with what to write.

Fall, for me, is a beautiful time of year. Fall colors, crops harvested and getting ready for winter. It also makes me think of somber things like, where were you on September 11, 2001? Every year, like every year since that day I stop and pause and take stock and give thanks for us. So many lost their lives that day. That is part of the reason I am a volunteer fire fighter and first responder, to give thanks and help. I ask all people who read my article to stop and think where you were and how you can help the world around us. There is so much fighting and bickering in our town and in this world. I hope we can all find ways to get along.

Have a happy fall and blessed holiday season.

Yours truly,

Cory Retzlaff Supervisor#2

*Please do not put plastic bags  
in the recycling.*



## BELLE PLAINE SPORTSMANS CLUB NEWS



### LEARN TO FISH: JUNE 2022

- Stocked pond with over 300 trout
- 80 kids plus their family members in attendance
- 75+ fish caught, largest 17 ½ inches, plus many frogs and tadpoles!

### HORSESHOE BEAN BAG TOURNAMENT

- Will be held at Jesse's Break Away, Sunday September 18, 2022

### 19TH ANNUAL CLOVERFEST RUN/WALK AT RUSTIC'S

- 3.5 miles around the Cloverleaf lakes
- Kids and Adult brackets, prizes, pet friendly
- Food provided, refreshments available
- Raffle items and DJ
- <https://runsignup.com>
- Thanks to our many sponsors for their donations!

## SUPERVISOR NUMBER 1 *By Wade Wisniefske*

**S**o as time flies by, the days are getting shorter, and the nights are getting cooler!

I would like to thank the people who have started using roadside pickup as an option for garbage and recycling. I also want to thank people for not putting plastic bags in the recycling dumpster. The landfill rejected our recycling on one occasion due to the plastic bags. Plastic bags can cause issues with our sorting equipment. We need to make every effort to keep costs down, especially since costs are rising due to fuel costs and labor shortages. Excess refuse and recycling expenses deplete the funds we have available for our road budget.

The town of Belle Plaine has amended our fencing ordinance, it is posted on our website for you to review.

Sometimes we forget how blessed we are to live in such a beautiful area with family, friends, and neighbors. Please be thankful and respectful to one another.

God bless us one and all.



# 2023 IS A YEAR TO GROW!

## FROM THE TEAM AT CLOVERLEAF LAKES FIREWORKS INC.

**W**e are already looking ahead for a great year in 2023. Our community tradition is strong, and we are proud of the rich history of yearly celebrations on these beautiful lakes. The stories and memories that have been created in the many years past with your families and friends are a blessing to be cherished! Our team is excited to get to work for 2023 and we hope to keep building upon your community event.

We continue to value the many local neighbors and family's that are a huge part of supporting this community event. We will be working to learn more about your fun family stories and the impact that these Cloverleaf Lakes traditions have made in your summertime fun. Keep tabs on this topic on our website and Facebook page as we reminisce with some of our community members and hopefully inspire others to share in this passion of celebration.

We have completed a new website this year and welcome you to visit us at [www.cloverleafakesfireworks.com](http://www.cloverleafakesfireworks.com). This newly consolidated area lists all our latest information regarding our progress and goals. We are excited about this new tool to help share more information about this great community tradition.

Our team membership is growing for the 2023 season! We would like to welcome Billie Rice, Bob McCoy, & Harmony Rice as our newest members in our growing team. If you have a passion for the Cloverleaf Lakes and have an interest in joining our team, please check out the membership section of our website. Our team meets monthly in addition to our annual meeting in July. We are looking for motivated volunteers to contribute ideas and execute tasks that will continue this tradition of providing your free professional fireworks show for all the families that live, work, & vacation here.

To kick off our 2023 season, we will be starting our fall apparel sale in October. We have been seeking feedback of some of your favorite items in the past and our team has used that information to craft this next sale!

You will also be excited to see some new looks in this sale! Check out our website for ordering information. This is a terrific way to continue showing your pride of the Cloverleaf Lakes community and these items also make great gift ideas.

With the goal of growing this year, we are seeking to upgrade some of our equipment to continue producing this high caliber show. With this need for some maintenance & improvements, we would like to offer you some specific ways to contribute. We will be looking to upgrade the following items,

- (3) Steel Tubes used for our special effects Fireball shots
- (7) Racks with 6-inch Mortar Tubes
- (2) Racks with 3-inch Mortar Tubes

We are also looking for (3) floating pontoon boats! No need for seats or motors. If you have a used solid pontoon with deck, and you would like to see that boat live a new life as a part of this fun lake tradition, please let us know! Or if you would like to make a monetary contribution to one of these specific areas, please reach out to us at the contact area of our website! Your contribution could be applied directly for this need. This could make a great holiday gift for that hard to buy person! Consider leaving a legacy or honorarium in someone's name that lasts in perpetuity.

Keep up on our 2023 progress on the rocket located across from the boat landing on county road Y. We are seeking donations and support to grow this tradition. Please consider donating or advertising today. We have many advertisement opportunities available. If you are a local business looking to support this event, please reach out to our advertising team. Follow our contact link on our website and we will expedite any answers to your questions.

Thank you to all the local community members for your continued support for this great celebration!

**DONATIONS CAN BE MAILED DIRECT TO:**  
**CLOVERLEAF LAKES FIREWORKS INC., P.O. BOX 275, EMBARRASS, WI 54933**



*"Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks 2023"*



*"Cloverleaf Lakes Fireworks Inc."*



*"cloverleafakesfireworks"*



# SUPER NEWS –

## TOWN OF BELLE PLAINE

### POPLUATION INCREASED BY ONE!!

*Congratulations to the happy family!!!*

Zander James Retzlaff  
Born 9/22/2022 8 lbs 3 oz, 20 inches  
Proud parents: Cory & Kris Retzlaff



*Pumpkin Layered Magic Cake*  
(a Betty Crocker recipe)

#### CAKE LAYER

- 1 box Super Moist yellow cake mix
- 1 cup water
- 1/2 cup vegetable oil
- 3 eggs

#### PUMPKIN LAYER

- 1 (15oz) can pumpkin
- 1 cup packed brown sugar
- 1 cup half-and-half
- 3 eggs
- 2 tsp. pumpkin pie spice
- 1/2 tsp. salt

#### TOPPING

- 1 (8 oz) package cream cheese
- 3/4 cup powdered sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 2 cups heavy whipping cream
- Pumpkin pie spice

Heat oven to 350 degrees. Spray bottom only of 13 x 9-inch pan with cooking spray.

In a large bowl, beat Cake Layer ingredients with electric mixer on low speed until moistened. Scrape bowl, beat 2 additional minutes on medium speed. Spread into pan.

In a separate large bowl, mix Pumpkin Layer ingredients with whisk until smooth. Carefully spoon pumpkin mixture over cake batter in pan.

Bake 48 – 53 minutes or until cake is set when touched lightly in center. Cool 30 minutes. Refrigerate at least 4 hours to chill.

In a large bowl, beat cream cheese, powdered sugar, vanilla and 1/8 t. salt until smooth. Add whipping cream, beat until smooth and stiff peaks form. Spread over chilled cake. Sprinkle lightly with pumpkin pie spice. Store covered in refrigerator.





**IT DON'T TAKE A  
VERY BIG PERSON TO  
CARRY A GRUDGE.**

**THINK ABOUT IT.....  
"hookt on fonicks  
werkt for me."**

**Remember  
silence is  
sometimes  
the best  
answer.**

**Meanness don't jes'  
happen overnight.**

**Forgive  
your  
enemies.  
It messes  
up their  
heads.**

**WORDS THAT SOAK INTO  
YOUR EARS ARE WHISPERED...  
NOT YELLED**

**Live a good, honorable life.  
Then when you get older  
and think back, you'll enjoy  
it a second time.**

**EVERY PATH HAS  
A FEW PUDDLES.**

**When you  
wallow with  
pigs expect to  
get dirty.**

**THE BEST SERMONS  
ARE LIVED, NOT  
PREACHED.**

**DON'T  
JUDGE  
FOLKS  
BY THEIR  
RELATIVES.**

**You cannot unsay  
a cruel word.**

**DO NOT  
CORNER  
SOMETHING  
THAT YOU  
KNOW IS  
MEANER  
THAN YOU.**

**ALWAYS DRINK  
UPSTREAM FROM THE  
HERD.**

**Good judgment comes from  
experience, and a lotta that  
comes from bad judgment.**

**Most of the  
stuff people  
worry about  
ain't never  
gonna happen  
anyway.**

**If you find  
yourself  
in a hole,  
the-first  
thing to  
do is stop  
diggin'.**

### **AN OLD FARMER'S ADVICE**

**Your fences need to be horse-high,  
pig tight and bull-strong.**

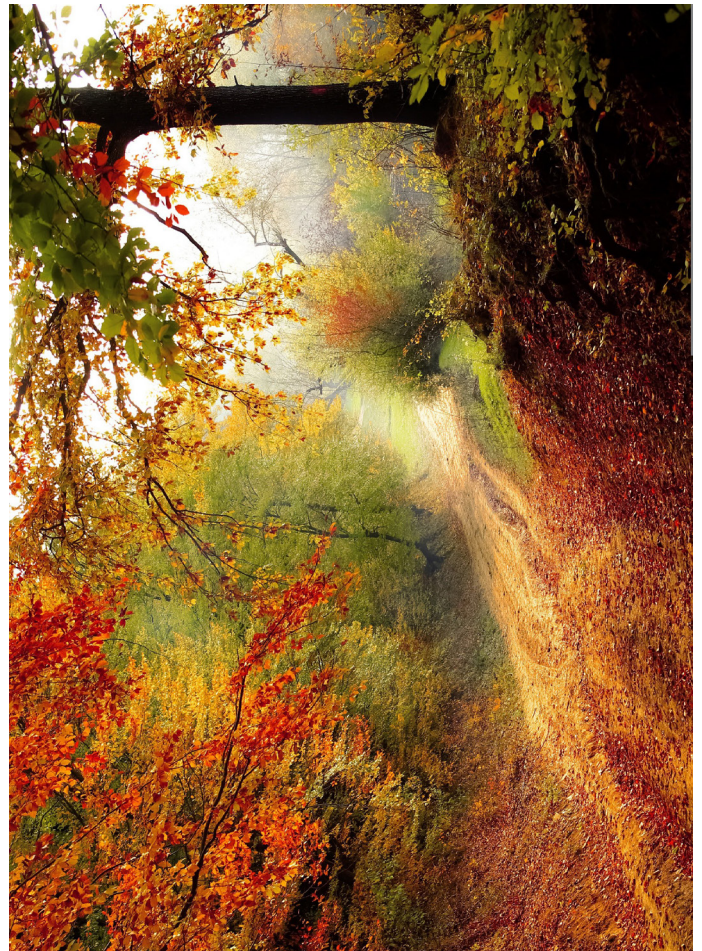
**LIFE IS SIMPLER WHEN YOU  
PLOW AROUND THE STUMP.**

**A bumble bee is considerably faster  
than a John Deere tractor.**



Belle Plaine Community Center  
N3002 St. Hwy. 22  
Clintonville, WI 54929

Presorted  
Standard  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Shawano, WI  
Permit No. 135



**W**olf River Lutheran High School's Student Council plans events throughout the school year for the student body. The first big event is homecoming week. The student council also plans different service events, including Christmas for the students, National Lutheran Schools Week, and a lock-in for 6 - 8 grade students. This year's Student Council members are Joshua Lange (Fr), Makyla Gambsky (Jr), Brad Kazynski (Trea), Shayla Kroenke (So), Adam Smith (Pres.), Corina Ramirez (Sec), Luke Hammond (VP), and Mr. Jonathan Berkesch (Advisor).

