

# BELLERIVE ACRES NEWSLETTER

City of Bellerive, Missouri 63121

August 2017

No. 2017.3

[www.BelleriveAcresMO.gov](http://www.BelleriveAcresMO.gov)

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## NORMANDY POLICE

**Emergency—911      Dispatch—314-427-8000**

Administrative Offices—385-3300, press "1"

Tips Line—385-3300 extension 3099

[www.cityofnormandy.gov](http://www.cityofnormandy.gov)

(City website has links to the Police Department)

Normandy Police Department Facebook & Twitter Pages

Bellerive Court Night – Second Monday, Normandy City  
Hall

### From the Mayor

*By Ann Knapp, Mayor*

Cell- 314-607-2762

[aknapp1@yahoo.com](mailto:aknapp1@yahoo.com)



Hello Neighbors!

Happy August, and what a big relief from the intense heat wave in July! Besides making us miserable, unfortunately the heat had an adverse effect on our new trees! The trees were planted in early June along with sprinklers and drips. Unfortunately when the heat wave hit, some of the new trees had not rooted. Chesterfield Valley Nursery informed us that this is a normal problem. When a heat wave strikes if the plants have not fully rooted all the water in the world will not save them, it will just evaporate.

The trees will be replaced this Fall with a 100 percent warranty! Chesterfield Valley commended us for our due diligence handling this sad situation. Between Rainworks and our rep from the Valley, someone was there every day. I have requested to keep the trees as is until the Fall planting. We remulched last week to save anything we can. Thank you for your concerns and

patience! Also thank you to Rainworks and Chesterfield Valley Nursery for helping us solve this problem!!



## PLEASE LET US KNOW...



**... if you want to receive each future newsletter ONLINE ONLY, not as a paper copy.**

- Sent to your email address;
- See at [www.BelleriveAcresMO.gov](http://www.BelleriveAcresMO.gov);
- Online version is in color.

Black-and-white printed newsletters will still be delivered to you, unless you choose online only.

Send your preference to Nancy Hartman, Editor, at [nancyhartman2@charter.net](mailto:nancyhartman2@charter.net) or call or text to 314-440-4442.



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**From the City Administrator's Desk**

*By Matt Lauer, City Administrator*  
Cell: 314-954-4170  
[colmatt131@aol.com](mailto:colmatt131@aol.com)

**Dumpsters Here for Resident Use FREE  
Through  
September**



The city of Bellerive Acres was awarded a grant from the Community Development Program. Four large dumpsters are available to residents. They will be accessible at our maintenance shed on Saturdays until the end of September.\*

The dumpsters are for large items that are not appropriate for the general trash service or if you are cleaning out a basement or garage and have a large quantity of trash.

Some items cannot be placed in the dumpster. The following is a list of items that may NOT be thrown in the dumpster: batteries, tires and large household appliances.

Please take advantage of this opportunity and clean up some rooms that have been bothering you for a while!

\*If there are some special circumstances where you cannot arrange for dumping on Saturday, please feel free to contact me: 314-954-4170.

To all the gardeners out there: we have quite a few **large boulders available free** at the maintenance shed. Of course, you will have to move them yourself.



**Bellerive Acres Road  
Rebuilding Report**

*By Don Morice, Resident*



The 60 year-old roads in Bellerive Acres are worn out and need to be totally rebuilt. Some of the evidence for this is the poor storm drainage, flooding yards, and poor curb system. We want to keep the existing storm sewer system. If we can, we will save money and time by not having to involve MSD.

To date, the city council has approved and allocated funding for only a street survey, which is in process of being completed now. The survey work is done to determine current conditions and allow for the design of the road profile, as well as the quantities of work and materials to be listed for contractors who may want to submit bids to do the actual road rebuilding work.

Surveyors have been measuring the current elevations of the road, sewers, driveways, and adjoining yards. Next, they will make exploratory soil borings in approximately 20 locations in the current road system to determine the subsurface conditions. This information is needed to develop design and construction specifications.

We have met with Ameren UE to have them design the layout of a new electric dusk-to-dawn lighting system.

Many decisions remain to be made for the design, including the following:

Road width: 20, 22, or 24 feet wide;

Curbs: rolled or vertical curbs;

Driving surface: asphalt or concrete;

New streetlights: what type of design;

Number of work phases: depending on amount of money the council wants to spend initially;

Traffic control and parking while construction is in progress;

New driveway approaches;

Seed or sod in yards where they are disturbed;

Landscape replacement where disturbed.

**CITIZEN INPUT WILL BE SOLICITED FOR THESE DECISIONS. WATCH FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING TOWN HALL MEETING(S).**



## **Auto Theft and Vehicle Break-Ins**

*By the Men and Women of the Normandy Police  
Department & Chief Frank A Mininni*

As we approach our colder months we wanted to share some tips on auto theft and vehicle break-ins. While vehicle break-ins can occur anytime, auto theft, at least in this area, seems to be seasonal. The majority of stolen cars occurs when the temperature drops and cars are left unattended to warm up. Please take a minute to refresh yourselves on these tips and help eliminate this preventable crime.

### **The Auto Theft Basics:**

The MOST important thing YOU can do is CALL THE POLICE to report a CRIME or any SUSPICIOUS activity. You have to be the eyes of your neighborhood. And remember you can always remain a pair of anonymous eyes!

In the United States, a vehicle is stolen every 21 seconds. Stolen cars, vans, trucks, and motorcycles cost victims time and money — and increase everyone's insurance premiums. They're also used to commit other crimes. Don't be a victim of this serious crime.

### **The Basic Prevention Policy:**

Never leave your car running or the keys in the ignition when you're away from it, even for "just a minute."

Always roll up the windows and lock the car, even if it's in front of your home.

Never leave valuables in plain view, even if your car is locked. Put them in the trunk or at least out of sight.

Remove portable electronic devices such as smart phones and GPS navigation systems, including suction cup or bean bag type mounts. (Even the visible appearance of a suction cup ring on the glass windshield can be an enticement to a thief to break in and look for the GPS system.)

Park in busy, well-lighted areas.

Carry the registration and insurance card with you. Don't leave personal identification documents or credit cards in your vehicle.

When you pay to park in a lot or garage, leave just the ignition or valet key with the attendant. Make sure no personal information is attached. Do the same when you take your car for repairs.

### **Add Extra Protection:**

Install a mechanical locking device — commonly called clubs, collars, or j-bars — that lock to the steering wheel, column, or brake to prevent the wheel from being turned more than a few degrees. Use it!

Investigate security systems if you live in a high-theft area or drive an automobile that's an attractive target for thieves. You may get a discount on your auto insurance.

### **What About Carjacking?**

Carjacking - stealing a car by force - has captured headlines in the last few years. Statistically, your chances of being a carjacking victim are very slim, and preventive actions can reduce the risk even more.

Etch the vehicle identification number (VIN) on the windows, doors, fenders, and trunk lid. This helps discourage professional thieves who have to either remove or replace etched parts before selling the car. Copy the VIN and your tag number on a card and keep it in a safe place. If your vehicle is stolen, the police need this information.

Approach your car with the key in hand before getting in. Look around and inside before getting in. When driving, keep your car doors locked and windows rolled up at all times.

Be especially alert at intersections, gas stations, ATM's, shopping malls, convenience and grocery stores — all are windows of opportunity for carjackers.

Park in well-lighted areas with good visibility, close to walkways, stores, and people.

If the carjacker has a weapon, give up the car with no questions asked; your life is worth more than a car.

### **Car Break-ins**

Tips on how to avoid car break-ins:

Do not leave valuables in plain view: (GPS devices, lap tops, PDA's, cell phones, MP3's, wallets, purses).

Do not leave windows or sunroof open.

Do not leave doors unlocked.

Do not leave keys in the vehicle.

Do not leave the garage door opener in plain view.

Do not leave out items with personal information.

Do not move valuable items to the trunk while in public view.

Slow Down and use common sense before you leave your car.





## **Honeysuckle At Risk in Bird Sanctuary (YES!)**

*By Nancy Hartman, CoChair  
314-440-4442*

*nancyhartman2 @charter.net*

*(Of course, the honeysuckle is at risk...of being eliminated...just as we've been planning!)*

In previous newsletters, the dangers posed by invasive bush honeysuckle and other non-native plant species to the survival of our 22-acre bird sanctuary have been explained. Now the work of eradicating these menaces is getting closer.

At its first meeting in June, the Bird Sanctuary Committee reached consensus on several points:

1. Change the honeysuckle treatment schedule from the originally proposed FOUR sprayings (fall 2017, spring 2018, fall 2018, spring 2019) of 5.5 acres each, to TWO sprayings (fall 2017, fall 2018) of 11 acres each;
2. Two committee volunteers—Linda Paunicka and Nancy Hartman—will begin to contact residents whose property adjoins the bird sanctuary about the work in the bird sanctuary, as well as removing invasive plants from their yards;
3. Invite UMSL to partner with Bellerive to remove honeysuckle from the UMSL-Bellerive border.

In July the city council gave verbal approval to the idea of treating the bird sanctuary's first 11 acres this fall. We are preparing to sign a contract with Native Landscape Solutions.

UMSL's Chancellor Tom George got the ball rolling for the university to join with Bellerive to participate in a joint honeysuckle removal event this fall, perhaps in October.

**NEIGHBORS, PLEASE WATCH FOR FURTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS ON UPCOMING HONEYSUCKLE EVENTS!**

**IN ADDITION, IF YOUR BACKYARD ADJOINS THE BIRD SANCTUARY OR UMSL, PLEASE BE AWARE THAT LINDA OR NANCY MAY CONTACT YOU TO TALK ABOUT WHAT'S HAPPENING (AND ASK FOR YOUR COOPERATION).**

For more information or to volunteer your time on any aspect of this project, contact Nancy.

Thanks to Everyone!





**STUDENTS—**

**Q: WANT TO LOOK BETTER ON YOUR RESUMÉ? SCHOOL APPLICATIONS?**

**A: VOLUNTEER TO HELP PUBLISH THIS NEWSLETTER!**

Available tasks include interviewing, writing articles, formatting, and more!

Contact the editor if you're interested.

(P.S. You don't have to be a student to volunteer.)