

# BELLE PLAINE TOWN NEWS AND EVENTS

## Dual garbage system proposed

### Bartz: Pick it up or drop it off

Belle Plaine residents could have their garbage and recyclables picked up or could drop them off at the Transfer Station on Cloverleaf Lake Road under a plan being considered by the Town Board.

Chairman Alvin Bartz invited residents to attend the town's annual meeting on Tuesday, April 8, to discuss the plan. The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Community Center on Highway 22.

Bartz said Wittenberg Disposal has submitted a bid of \$9.50 a month per household. The company would provide two 95-gallon containers per household for garbage and mixed recyclables, then would pick them up weekly at each house. Tax money would pay for the garbage service.

The Transfer Station would remain open at times to be determined for those who prefer to drop off their trash, he said.

Cost of the garbage pickup would be about the same that the town has been pay-

ing, Bartz said. The 2007 budget included \$38,000 for garbage, \$38,000 for recycling, \$20,000 to \$22,000 for wages and \$8,000 in the recycling account, he said. That comes out to about \$130 per household (about 750 homes), compared to about \$138 per household under the bid.

But Bartz pointed out that, with the cost of gas at \$3 or more a gallon, most residents would save money. He estimated it cost him \$132 to make 40 round trips to the Transfer Station in a year. Some residents drive up to 15 miles round trip.

"We have about 700 cars a day on Saturday vs. one truck pick up," he said.

The town's employees at the Transfer Station would keep their jobs, he said, probably shifting hours to other tasks.

Town residents would miss the "social" aspect of Saturdays at the recycling center, he acknowledged. Some lake residents are concerned about the containers standing out by the road all week after they leave for home.

### Charges set for recycling TVs, microwaves

Dropping off an old TV, computer or microwave at the Recycling and Collection Center now will cost residents between \$5 and \$15 for each item.

The Belle Plaine Town Board has set a fee schedule for electronics that must be recycled. Previously, the town paid the recycling fee that the Shawano Landfill charges for those items, but the number of items has grown in the past few months.

Here is the fee schedule, collected by

"Bear" and his co-workers at the Recycling Center on Cloverleaf Lake Road:

- \* Computer monitor, \$10 each
- \* Computer processor, \$10 each
- \* TVs (19-inch or less), \$10 each
- \* TVs (20-inch or bigger), \$15
- \* Microwave ovens, \$10 each
- \* Miscellaneous items, \$5 each,

including VCRs, DVD players, CD players, laser printers, inkjet printers, small copiers, fax machines and AM/FM radios

### Town officials

- Alvin Bartz**, chairman
- Harold Polzin**, supervisor
- Robert Tomashek**, supervisor
- Kristine Vomastic**, clerk
- Kay Kristof**, treasurer

**Dennis Hoffman**, constable

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### Town office

Belle Plaine Community Center

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Clintonville, WI 54929

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## B.P. Notebook

**Spring Election:** A Shawano County Board seat and several area school board seats will be on the ballot for the Wisconsin spring election Tuesday, April 1.

Sandy Polzin is unopposed for the County Board seat representing the Cloverleaf Lakes area of Shawano County. She is the incumbent.

In the Shawano School District, incumbent Jim Heinz is unopposed for the Area 1 seat representing portions of the towns of Belle Plaine, Waukechon, Navarino and Pella.

The Clintonville School District has two seats up for election. Ben Huber and Chuck Manske are running for an open seat, while incumbent Tom Neely is seeking re-election to the other.

Polls are open at the Belle Plaine Community Center from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

**Subdivisions:** A moratorium has been placed on new subdivisions in the town by the Town Board. Chairman Alvin Bartz said the moratorium will be in place until a new comprehensive plan is developed, probably by the end of 2008.

**Gibson Island:** A parking area along Cloverleaf Lake Road has been cleared so

that residents can access the walking trails on Gibson Island in Cloverleaf Lakes. Deep snow has delayed construction of a boardwalk that will link the landward lot with the isthmus to the island. That construction is expected to be completed this spring, although the timing of the nesting season of the bald eagles nearby will be a factor.

**Dog licenses:** Dog owners will pay an additional \$2 to license their dogs later this year. Neutered dogs will cost \$5, instead of \$3, and unneutered dogs will cost \$10 instead of \$8, according to Constable Dennis Hoffman. Checks should be made out to the town, rather than the county. Dog licenses are collected along with taxes beginning in December.

**Stieg property:** Planning is under way for a park to be developed on the Stieg property that the town purchased about four years ago. The property fronts on Round Lake and County Highway Y. The East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission is working on the plan, which would probably include a picnic area, shelter and some parking for cars and boat trailers from the town's boat launch across the road.



### Town clerk's hours:

5-7 p.m. Monday and Wednesday;  
9-11 a.m. Saturday or by appointment

### Regular Town Board meetings:

Second Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

### Committees:

Planning, Zoning, Gibson Island Stewardship

### What permits are required:

Building, liquor license, operator's license, zoning, and oak wilt

### How to get permits:

Contact town clerk or the town chairman. In some cases, Shawano County also issues special permits.

### Population estimate:

1,910



An exceptionally snowy winter prompted Kerry Scherer to take desperate measures to get rid of the snow piled in front of her Kerry's Lakeside Hair Salon, putting it up for sale. Of course, other Belle Plaine residents have snow surpluses of their own.

## Belle Plaine has a happy birthday party

Belle Plaine town residents celebrated on Feb. 23 like it was 1858.

A Heritage Day event at the Comfort Inn and Suites celebrated the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the town.

Nearly 300 people attended a luncheon sponsored by the Cloverleaf Lakes Protective Association, then viewed historical displays and visited with storytellers who talked about the town's history, including churches, schools, early settlers, agriculture, forestry and the lakes.

"One hundred and fifty years isn't that old," Town Chairman Alvin Bartz said, pointing out former Treasurer Ken Rosenow served in office for one-third of that time.

"Agriculture was a way of life" for much of the town's history, he said, and now that agriculture is tied into the global economy.

"My grandpa lived with us (on the family's century farm) and his entertainment was visiting with the neighbors," Bartz said. "Their neighbors were important to them. Threshing crews would help each other and weddings were a big event, going on for two or three days."

Bob Tomashek talked about being a great-grandson of Tom Allender, the first settler in Belle Plaine, who poled up the Em-



**Town Chairman Alvin Bartz, right, blows out the candles on the birthday cake as Pastor John Smith holds the cake and Supervisor Bob Tomashek watches.**

barrass River in 1850 and settled along the river.

As president of the Cloverleaf Lakes association, Tomashek said that group "got things rolling" and the Heritage Day will kick off a year-long educational program, Adventures in Lake Living, for lake residents and anyone interested in knowing more about the lake environment.

The town was officially formed in 1858, separated from the town of Matteson, by order of the Shawano County Board.

## Historical display to highlight Maple Lane Car Show

The town plans another celebration as part of the annual Car Show at Maple Lane Health Care Center in July and the Historical Society will feature the town's history at the Shawano County Fair in late August.

The Car Show is scheduled for Saturday, July 19. Registration for participating antique and collectible car owners starts at 9:30 a.m., with events starting at 12:30 p.m.

This will be the sixth annual car show, with the 2007 show attracting about 175 cars and more than 2,000 people.

Proceeds from the event are used to benefit the residents of Maple Lane. Purchases over the years have included a big screen television, a large aquarium and outdoor patio furniture.

The Shawano County Historical Society will feature Belle Plaine's history through photos and displays at the Shawano County Fair, held the week before Labor Day.

More than 400 copies of the book "Treasures in Time," celebrating the town's history, have been sold. It is still available.



## Belle Plaine Calendar

**April 1:** Spring election, Belle Plaine Community Center, 7 a.m.-8 p.m.

**April 8:** Town of Belle Plaine annual meeting, 7:30 p.m.

**April 14:** Town Board, 7:30 p.m.

**May 12:** Town Board, 7:30 p.m.

**June 9:** Town Board, 7:30 p.m.

**July 14:** Town Board, 7:30 p.m.

**July 19:** Car Show, Maple Lane Health Care Center, 12:30 p.m.

**July 31:** Second half of taxes due.

## Did you know?

Sen. Barack Obama was the leading vote-getter in the presidential primary in Belle Plaine. He received 158 votes to 125 for Sen. Hillary Clinton in the Democratic primary. Sen. John McCain got 91 votes and Gov. Mike Huckabee 67 on the Republican side.

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

## **From Alvin Bartz** **Town chairman's corner**

Maybe by the time this newsletter comes out, we will see some grass. The cost of snow removal will be about double the cost of the last several years — \$15,000 in January and \$17,000 in February.

We will be installing new address numbers under the county program. New signs that need to be put up will be the new flag style so we don't need to replace them in a few months. Shawano County will pay a portion of the cost.

Comprehensive planning is moving along, hopefully being fully completed in 2008. I would like to thank our committee for its effort on a very time-consuming project. There will be a public hearing on the plan before it is adopted.

As emergency vehicles get larger we need to be



sure our driveways are accessible if your home cannot be reached from the road. A minimum of 12 by 12 feet vertical and horizontal clearance is required for most vehicles. For the ladder truck, even more space is required. Also, tree branches that extend into the roadway cause problems for the lights on the school buses and other vehicles.

We had a great turnout at the town's 150th anniversary celebration at the Comfort Inn. The people in charge did an excellent job. Join us for another piece of "birthday cake" at the Maple Lane Car Show in July.