



Happenings in Belleville 2014

1. Belleville celebrates its 200th anniversary as a City with numerous events including Octoberfest weekend celebration with concerts by The Beach Boys, Confederate Railroad, and Aaron Tippin; a gala celebration; 5k Run/Walk; Bicentennial Parade; and much more.
2. Missionary Ventures, LLC announces \$50,500,000 development to include a hotel/convention center, five restaurants, and convenience store at IL Rt. 15 and DeMazenod Dr.
3. Art on the Square is named #2 art show in the U.S. by Art Source Magazine.
4. City of Belleville completes updates to the City's Comprehensive Plan, "Imagine Belleville" and wins the prestigious Daniel Burnham Award for Outstanding Comprehensive Plan for Outstanding Comprehensive Plan from the Illinois Chapter of the American Planning Association.
5. Lindenwood University-Belleville completes the construction of a three-story men's dormitory.
6. The \$43,000,000 Illinois State Police crime lab opens at West Main & 23rd St.
7. The Citizens Park to Bellevue Park trail opens. This is the first phase of the West Belleville Bike Trail.
8. McClintock Ave. opens after \$2,300,000 improvements.
9. Construction begins on The Cottages at Cathedral Square at S. 1st St. & Garfield St.
10. FCB Bank completes improvements and opens new branch on S. Illinois St. near downtown.
11. Replacement Services completes \$978,000.00 renovation to former YMCA/Turner Hall building.
12. City of Belleville continues its \$44,000,000 wastewater treatment plant expansion.
13. City of Belleville is awarded a \$298,600.00 grant for Bicentennial Park from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.
14. City of Belleville is awarded a \$96,250.00 grant from the Metro East Parks & Recreation District for lighting upgrades to the ball fields at Laderman Park.
15. City is awarded \$109,000 from the American Water Charitable Foundation for the Bellevue Part Nature Play area. This grant was only one of four awarded in the entire U.S.
16. City of Belleville is awarded a \$100,000.00 DCEO grant for the North Virginia Ave. project.
17. City of Belleville is awarded a \$500,000 DCEO grant for improvements to Prairie Ave., S. 23rd St. and S. 2nd St.
18. Belleville is named as a Top 5 Runner Friendly Communities in the nation by the Road Runners Club of America.

19. City of Belleville is awarded a \$28,671.00 grant from St. Clair County Parks Grant Commission for the Bicentennial Parks Enhancement project.
20. Scott Air Force Base is named as the top place to live among 68 air force bases by the Air Force Times. The bases were ranked on a weighted scale that took into account such major factors as quality of local schools, median housing costs and size of base commissaries, exchanges and health care facilities.
21. Eckert's Country Restaurant is named as a Top 10 Family Restaurant in the U.S. Foods Top Family Restaurant contest.
22. City of Belleville is awarded a \$149,397.00 grant from the Metro East Parks & Recreation District for the Bicentennial Park Improvements Phase II project.
23. City receives AA- bond rating from Standard & Poor's.
24. Lindenwood University-Belleville and SWIC are named "Top Schools" by Military Advanced Education Magazine.
25. City issues 125 Business Occupancy Permits, including:
 - a. Beast Craft BBQ Company
 - b. 4204 Main Street Brewing Co.
 - c. Replacement Services
 - d. Volkert, Inc.
 - e. Ruler Foods
 - f. Archview Floors
26. M.A.C. Medical begins \$930,000 renovation to downtown building.
27. Pro-Pack Quality Testing begins \$365,000 expansion in Belle Valley Industrial Park.
28. St. Paul's Home opens new \$29.5 million nursing home.
29. Planning begins for new Police Station at 6th St. & West Main St.