



# BELGIUM CHRONICLES

Volume 1 Issue 8-19-2018

**Village of Belgium  
Community  
Development Group Officer**  
*Established Feb 24, 2018*  
*Christine Delhaye- Pres*

*Village Officers*  
*David Crowl - Mayor*  
*Paulette Myers - Secretary*  
*Nikki Nelson - Treasurer*  
*Jim Delhaye - Trustee*  
*Kathleen Bayles - Trustee*  
*Debbie Martin - Trustee*  
*Eli Williams - Trustee*  
*Mike Halcom - Trustee*  
*Ron Harrier - Trustee*  
*Phil Hawley - Road Commissioner*  
*Isaiah Crowl - Asst to Rd  
Commissioner*

*Come join us on our face book page Belgium, IL Yesterday today and tomorrow*  
*Did you know what is happening in the Village of Belgium*

**Next Village Board Meeting is Sept 9, 2018 @ 6:30 at City Hall**



**From the Mayor Desk...**

Greetings from our Mayor,  
With the rising local Government expenditure, the village board has opted to initialize the Vermillion Co Sheriff's Department to cover over emergencies. This decision will aid us in consent rating on our roads that are in much need of repair. We want to thank all those officers who have faithfully served our village in the past. Thank You

**Phil & Crews Road News**

**6/6/2018-7/3/2018**



We filled pot holes on Danville St and Smith St, Pickup backhoe and buckets from Joe Wise's shop. Started cutting trees on Smith St by Andy's garage getting ready to dig Ditch (per Engineer), Graded south side looking for storm sewers if there is one the rain will open it up (per Engineer), trapped 3 ground hogs 1 coon dropped off at Red Bridge, rewired police garage, put up 4 new lights and new breaker box, grading Kelly Ave getting ready to dig ditch on south side and install 5 new culvert for water to drain to storm sewer, we need to get this done before Westville resurfaces the road from Shaw St to the top of E Kelly Ave, (per Engineer approx. cost is \$1800.00, 10" black pipe @ \$5.34 per ft need 120 ft, 2 loads of road pack approx. 30 ton cost \$615.00), resealed the city hall roof, going on vacation June 14 to 25, FYI, by the state of IL, there is no such thing as a Backhoe License, and by the state of IL, there is no state license for electrician, it is a city or Village ordinance.

## **From the Ordinance Committee:**

**This month's reminder for all Village Residents:**

As August returns we are asking that you please pay attention to posted speed limits on all village streets. School will be in session, children, and school buses will be present on our roads. Posted speed limit on all village streets is 20 mph with the exception of Lyons RD which is 30 mph. Let's have a safe start to the school year. Also please be aware of road construction work on Kelly Ave by our Rd Commissioner and Crew. This is in preparation for water drainage and road resurfacing. We ask that you slow down in this area. If any speed limit signs are in need of repair or additional signs are needed on your street, Please contact Jim Delhaye at 217-304-9261. Please leave a message if no answer.

## **Resident's Birthday for the month of August**

Aug 1 Henrietta Delp, Aug 4 Angie Sapp, Aug 6 Sue Scaggs, Aug 10 Mary Richardson, Billie Jo McDaniel, Aug 13 Vickie Zaayer, Jeff McDaniel, Aug 16, Lance Atwood Jr, Mary Cahill, Aug 22 Jennifer Welker, Aug 23 Sheila Woods, Ed Scaggs, Aug 25 Barbara Cline, Aug 27 Brittany Williams, Aug 30 Paulette Myers, Chris Williams

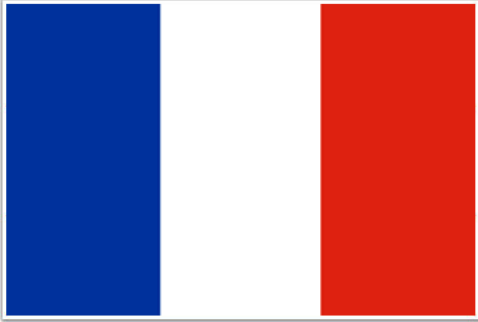
**If you do not what your birthday on our Birthday list let us know on our Face Book page**

## Debbie's Historical News

### The Year 1908

#### How the Village Got Started

Once upon a time there was a town in Illinois, called Westville. IL and about 1896 they wanted to be called a town so they went to the



Vermilion County court house and with 37 names out of 370, they petition to name their little town Westville. The name that they chose was after one of the first settlers that came to settle in the early years of 1800. After being a city for about 10 years they incorporated all the ground from the Kellyville Street to Lyon road and Smith St. The people in



that part of town were mostly French and Belgium and that is when things got hot.

The people were not allowed to run in the elections or if they did there was not enough people in that end of town to get the elected, also that part of town was not fixed up or could not get any help from the people of Westville to fix it up, so a group of men from this section of Westville went and annexed out of Westville and called there town Belgium, I guess they were more Belgium then French men so that is why they called it Belgium.

#### A headline in the April 8, 1908 issue of the Commercial News:



1<sup>st</sup> Mayor of Belgium  
Jacob Troyer

Danville Wettes of Wet one, and the voters declared the township to be wet, but Westville, in Georgetown Township voted dry, and some of Westville rand to the township dividing lines. A "wet" spot developed. There were two saloons in the wet township; owners were Vic Van devoir and William Hamilton. Thirty six taverns in Westville had to go. Prices on land in the wet area soared, when the vote was known, especially in an area known as Kellyville. Saloon keepers were expected to swarm into the area, including brewers, from Terre Haute, IN, with interest here. It seems there was a need for a town without the new restriction on hours of taverns operating; apparently the news of the new village's petition didn't get around too well.

This suggestion was put forth in the April 9 issue of the paper: A New Corporation may arise with revenue derived from the liquor sales.... A police force and fire department could be organized... in the wet area. The Danville Paper reported daily events of the controversial area. A wrestler named the Belgium Terror was active in Westville bouts. An advertisement in the paper harped on the Lyons Big 4 shops subdivision on the southern border of Danville Township just north of Kellyville. An April 20 issue old of drunks in the city jail in Danville after arrests on city streets. They had gone to Westville for their refreshments on Sunday as Danville Taverns were supposed to close them. Danville City council was discussing rear or back entrances to taverns and H C Patterson justice of the peace and jury had acquitted a city saloon keeper of being open on Sunday. The corporation petition in county court was reported in the paper. It said the town to be was commonly known as Garlic town and O'Connellsville and was just north of Westville. Residents of the area were supposed to be mostly of Belgian's and French backgrounds and wonder was being express over a name for the town. An attorney presenting the court petition denied to the newspaper that the town was wanted for town in the wet Danville Township.

Next: A Town is born

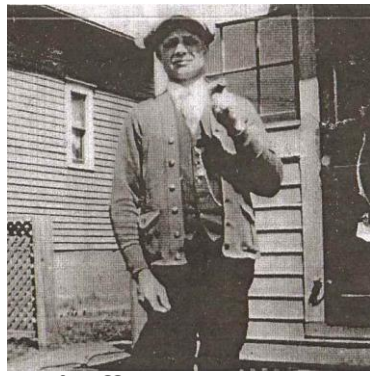
***We have a Big Thank You to Martin Lipa with his four businesses, and Vapor Plus for donating to our Village of Belgium Community Development fund.***

***If there is anyone out here in the Village of Belgium or that use to live in the Village of Belgium that would like to volunteer to help me with the Village of Belgium Community Development Group, please don't hesitate to get a hold of me Chris Delhaye on our Face book page***

*110 Years of Mayors for the Village of Belgium, IL*



*1<sup>st</sup> Village Mayor  
Jacob Troyer  
1908-1910*



*2<sup>nd</sup> Village Mayor  
Camille Detraite  
1910-1913*



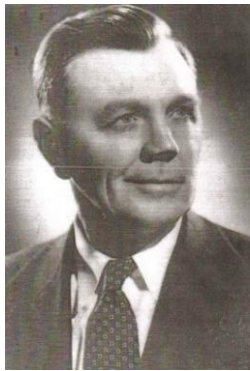
*3<sup>rd</sup> Village Mayor  
Archille Lete  
1913-1929*



*4<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Peter Markunas  
1929-1933*



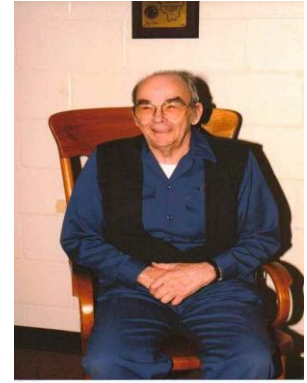
*5<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Mac McCorkle  
1933-1937*



*6<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Peter Markunas  
1937-1945*



*7<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Hector Delanois  
1945-1982*



*8<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Robert Bayles  
1982-1983*



*9<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Robert Martin  
1983-2002*



*10<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Tim Jenkins  
2002-2006*



*11<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Mitchell Valangeon  
2006-2016*



*12<sup>th</sup> Village Mayor  
Marc Valangeon  
2016-2017*



*13<sup>th</sup> Mayor  
David Crowl  
2017-*