



Art In Your Eye time is here!

If you're in the city Saturday and Sunday August 8 and 9, come on down to the Riverwalk for the 5th annual Art In Your Eye Festival and see what the best in the Midwest and beyond have to show you and the family. From the juried Fine Arts Show, the City Hall exhibit of area artists and day-long Music Matters Art In Your Ear Music Stage to the Children's Art Activities and terrific food from Enticing Cuisine, you can see how art "soothes the savage soul" right in your own town. New for this year is the takeover of the plaza by the artists of the Water Street Studio co-op to exhibit their work and techniques. For details, go to artinyoureye.com.



City works on "Financial Sustainability" project

The city's revenues have suffered like the rest of the area and country. The building drought impacts significant one-time revenues, the local share of state income tax is down some \$200,000 from 2008 and retail sales tax, which has shouldered many city operational and capital expenses over the years, has continued to drop, some \$500,000 less than this time last year. While the 2009 budget has eliminated many capital improvements, and reduced maintenance somewhat, we are fortunate enough to be receiving funding to overlay Wilson Street, and depending upon our success in obtaining stimulus funds, money to overlay Main Street and possibly erect

a traffic signal at Millview Drive. We also have received grant funding to interconnect all the stoplights in the downtown, from Main and Rt. 31 to Wilson and Rt. 25. This should help move traffic in busy times.

We know that next year there is a significant chance that assessed values will go down. That's good for individual property owners, of course, but from the viewpoint of citizens as owners of the city, a service organization, this will result in further decrease in revenues. Based upon this, the City Council took action as part of the 2009 budget, resulting in the cutting of operational expenses, some early retirements, fee increases, and unfortunately, the layoff of 7 employees, both full and part-time.

City staff is working on a Financial Sustainability Project to cut operational expenses further, to focus on "core" city services, and to recommend additional revenue sources. There will be several methods for citizens to give their ideas and input: the community survey will have some questions regarding importance of certain services, focus groups will be conducted, and there will be some public sessions. Any comments you have about ways to cut down on operational expense or create new revenue sources are welcome. Comments can be sent to City Administrator Bill McGrath at bm McGrath@cityofbatavia.net, or by calling him at 630-454-2060. Thank you.

New developments are in store for Batavia

In the recent months stores and businesses across the country have been hit hard with the difficult economy and while this is also true for Batavia, and several stores have had to close due to these difficult conditions, Batavia continues to attract new restaurants, retailers and developers and City staff continue to work with property owners, developers, and retailers on why Batavia is such a great place to be.

On May 8, the City partnered with Batavia MainStreet and the Batavia Chamber of Commerce to host a luncheon at Tribella for property owners, developers, retailers and restaurateurs to highlight some opportunities for investment in the community. The luncheon has brought together and started some interesting conversations between several property owners and potential developers/retailers.

Randall Road

Batavia's section of Randall Road has always been a desirable stretch of commercial real estate and today as properties have become available brokers are quick to show them attract new businesses to Batavia. Tuesday Morning opened last month and Buy Buy Baby will open this fall. Brokers and property owners are actively showing the available spaces and anticipate movement on several other key properties.

Downtown

The City continues to make Downtown an even more exciting place to live, work, and visit. The recent



Kai Schulte's "Nature Sounds of Harmony" being installed on the Wilson Street Bridge.

completion of the \$10 million Wilson Street Bridge reconstruction project including new streetscape elements and new utilities, is a perfect example to the importance the City sees in redeveloping the downtown. The City will announce the contest for the second bridge sculpture this summer as the City Council continues efforts to attract the arts and make downtown a destination.

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) funds have also been used to assist downtown property owners and businesses in improving and preserving the exterior of their buildings through the popular Façade Improvement Grant program. This past year the City Council approved a new grant program utilizing the former Sprinkler Grant Program and expanding it to allow for additional interior improvements creating the Downtown Improvement Grant Program. The new program assists in funding improvements such as accessibility improvements for handicapped persons, energy conservation improvements, fire alarm systems, fire sprinkler system

installation or upgrade, including any needed water service improvements, lighting, painting, plumbing, and restoration of historic interior architectural features, to name a few.

The City is constantly exploring opportunities for private/public projects including parking structures and mixed-use redevelopment projects. The planned redevelopment of the First Baptist Church site creates a unique opportunity to transform three-quarters of a city block into mixed-use, residential, office and retail development. Exploration of this project is in the beginning stages with a second public meeting scheduled for this summer to continue to explore allowable developments on the site. The City hopes to send out request for proposals to developers in 2010.

More information about these grant programs and developments can be found on the City's Web site Cityofbatavia.net/business or by calling the City hall at 630-454-2000. The City is committed to seeking partners who desire to make "new history" in Batavia.

Downtown Improvement Grant Program is now available.

Your elected city officials

Mayor—
Jeffery D. Schielke

City Clerk—
Heidi Wetzel

Treasurer—
Gerald R. Miller

Aldermen Serving through 2011

Garran Sparks, Ward 1
Alan P. Wolff, Ward 2
Cathy Barnard, Ward 3
Tom Schmitz, Ward 4
Forrest L. Nelson, Jr, Ward 5
Lisa Clark, Ward 6
David J. Brown, Ward 7

Aldermen Serving through 2013

Michael F. O'Brien, Ward 1
Victor Dietz, Ward 2
Linnea C. Miller, Ward 3
James T. Volk, Ward 4,
Eldon Frydendall., Ward 5
Robert Liva,, Ward 6
Dawn Tenuta, Ward 7





Residential brush collection continues

Residential property owners are scheduled for a monthly brush pickup through mid-October. Please have brush out no sooner than the weekend before the scheduled pickup to prevent possible code violation. Keep in mind that the city's contractor can move through an area very quickly, and once they pass your address they will not return until the next scheduled pickup date. The amount of brush that has been placed out citywide dictates how quickly your area will be reached, but each side of town is typically completed by Friday of the scheduled week. Brush cannot be left out on the parkway between collection dates. Major storms may affect the pickup schedule.

The following procedures must be followed to ensure the collection of your brush:

- Brush/limbs are to be at the curb for collection by 7 am on the specified Monday collection date on the schedule
- Maximum length of limbs is 12' and maximum diameter is 10"
- Stack brush in large piles with the cut ends facing the curb away from mailboxes, utility poles, hydrants, and parked vehicles
- Brush should be placed in the front or side parkway and will not be collected from alleys
- Brush/limbs must not be tied, bundled, in containers, bagged, or in the street
- Do not place stumps, roots, landscape material, lumber, or foreign objects in pile

Veolia Environmental Services collects yard waste bags consisting of twigs, evergreen clippings, roots, stumps, and plants on your regular trash collection day.

If you have any questions, please call the Street Department at 630-454-2400 weekdays from 7 am – 4 pm.

2009 Brush Collection Schedule	
East Side - starts at 7 am	West Side - starts at 7 am
July 13	July 20
August 10	August 17
September 14	September 21
October 12 – <i>final pickup</i>	October 19 – <i>final pickup</i>

New rates for garbage and yard waste begin July 1

New rates for garbage and yard waste are effective July 1, 2009:

- Refuse or Yard Waste Sticker: \$2.67
- Refuse Bag: \$2.82
- Yard Waste Bag: \$2.88
- Half-Refuse Bag (Yellow): \$1.38
- 95-Gallon Refuse Cart: \$20.35/mo.
- 65-Gallon Refuse or Yard Waste Cart: \$17.35/mo.
- 35-Gallon Refuse Cart: \$15.85/mo.

The colors of the refuse stickers (lavender) and Yard Waste stickers (green) will not change this year, and residents may continue to use stickers and yard waste bags they have on hand beyond July 1.

To report missed pickups, please contact Veolia at 630-587-8282 Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. If Veolia does not resolve your issue to your satisfaction or if you have any questions, please contact the Batavia Street Department at 630-454-2400.

Please remember to use water wisely

- Know your day and time for watering:
 - **Odd number house addresses** can water on **odd calendar days**
 - **Even number house addresses** can water on **even calendar days**
 - 6 – 9 am and 6 – 9 pm only
- Water your lawn only when it needs it. A good way to see if your lawn needs watering is to step on the grass; if it springs back up, it doesn't need water and if it stays flat, it does need water.
- Avoid watering on windy days. Wind will carry water away from the intended area.
- Water during the coolest part of your scheduled day to avoid excess evaporation and to help prevent the growth of fungus.
- Deep-soak your lawn when you do water to get down to the roots.
- Position sprinklers so water lands on the lawn, not on paved areas.
- The lawn will retain more moisture if it is allowed to grow a little longer. Mow to a height of about 1.5 to 2.0 inches.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees and plants. Mulch will slow the evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth.
- Wash the car using a bucket of water, using the hose only to rinse and wash less frequently during dry, hot weather.
- Use a broom, rather than a hose, to clean driveways and sidewalks.
- Check for leaks in outdoor faucets, pipes and hoses.

If you have a newly sodded or newly seeded lawn, or you are planning to install a new lawn, please visit our Web site or call the city at 630-454-2700 to find out more about the recently passed Water Conservation Ordinance. The ordinance prohibits watering of new landscaping with municipal water between July 1 and August 31.

Thank you for doing your part to conserve water.





Storm drain sentries

Protecting the Fox River Valley watershed



Everyone values clean water. But a recent Roper national survey found that most of us still believe industry is the biggest source of pollution. In reality, according to the EPA, more pollution comes from the combined effects of common daily actions that rain and snowmelt rinse from our streets or farmlands.

Rainwater washes down streets and parking lots, driveways and sidewalks, roofs and yards, carrying water and everything it picks up into storm drains. Before our community was built here, natural creeks and streams carried rainwater downstream. Now storm drains and a series of pipes collect that rainwater and deposit it directly into the nearby streams, groundwater, wetland or river.

Storm water is not cleaned before it empties into our waterways. This means that lawn care chemicals, grass clippings, leaves, litter, pet waste, automotive products like used oil and antifreeze, plus other wastes are dumped untreated into our waterways. Pollution and harmful bacteria go straight into our local fish habitat, swimming areas or drinking water.

The Batavia Environmental Commission is promoting a program developed by the Kane Dupage Soil & Water Conservation District to stencil every storm inlet in the city with “DUMP NO WASTE – DRAINS TO RIVER.” It is the intent of the commission to raise public awareness that personal actions within individual neighborhoods can and does have a great impact on our water ways. Call 630-454-2750 if you’d like to participate.

Batavia’s 4th of July Sky Concert

The City of Batavia is proud to host one of the most celebrated 4th of July fireworks productions in the western suburbs of Chicago, the “Sky Concert.”

Where:

Watch the show from Engstrom Park at the corner of Millview Drive and West Main Street and Batavia High School athletic fields on West Main Street (music piped in to this area this year).

Time:

The event begins with our Savor-the-Flavor food vendors at 5 pm, musical entertainment will begin at 7 pm and the “Sky Concert” will begin at 9:30 pm.

Check bataviafireworks.org for rain delay, parking and safety information. See you at the show!



Downtown News

The heat is on this summer in downtown and that means our long-awaited summer festivals, outdoor concerts and theatre are here! Batavia MainStreet and market sponsors Harris, N.A. and Gerald Nissan Subaru of North Aurora invite



you to the **14th Annual Batavia Farmers’ Market**, now open Saturdays from 8 am - noon through October 10 on S. Water St. between Wilson

St. and First St. New this year is the **Batavia MainStreet “Planting Green Ideas”** tent. Volunteers have programs, seventeen weeks of activities, education and more to showcase Batavia’s “green” side, so be sure to check it out each week. The south market is open to residents, community groups and businesses each Saturday. Interested persons, groups or businesses should contact Sue Fricano at sue@downtownbatavia.com, call 630-761-3528 or check online at downtownbatavia.com.

July features the annual family favorite, **Windmill City Fest** the weekend of July 10-12 — now on Sunday too! The **Downtown Sidewalk Sale** and new **Gold Coin Promotion** are being held the same weekend as Windmill City Fest, so check out the great sales and collect your chocolate coins for your chance to win one of five hidden \$100 gift certificates to participating downtown businesses. Details about the promotion can be found on the MainStreet website. The unique **Batavia Quilt Show** returns to the Eastside Community Center the weekend of July 17-19. The **Jaycees Cruise Nights** are at the Riverwalk on July 10 and 24, bataviajaycees.org and the annual **Chili Cook-off** rounds off the end of the month July 25-26.



July and August also focus on Batavia’s artistic side with the **5th Annual Art in Your Eye** activities... starting with the **School of Art and Fine Arts Walk** on July 17 from 5-9 pm. **Shakespeare on Clark** returns to the island with *A MidSummer Night’s Dream* on July 24, 25, 31 and August 1 at 7pm and on Sundays July 26 and August 2 at 6 pm. Downtown’s signature **Fine Arts Festival** is on August 8 and 9 at the Riverwalk. Check out all the details at artinyoureye.com. **Theatre on Clark** features *Alice in Wonderland*, a children’s production, on August 1, 2, 8 & 9 at 1 pm on Clark Island. **River Rhapsody** concerts wrap up on Wednesday August 5 at the Riverwalk while the **Jaycees Cruise Nights** roll into downtown August 7 and 21.

See you downtown,

Britta McKenna

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News & More... Keep “up” with downtown in two new ways. First, join our “downtown Batavia” Face Book page. Second, join our E-News – just go to our website and click the box on our home page at downtownbatavia.com. Also, check out the offers from your **MainStreet merchants for great E-deals** – Avon, Bee-Attitudes, Enticing Cuisine, O’Brien’s Pub & Grill, Prairie Path Cycles and Special Occasions. Summer’s here, so spend it downtown where there is always something moving by nature.

Just around the corner...

Coming up, the **3rd Annual Batavia House Walk** is scheduled for Saturday, September 26 with the theme “The Art of Living in Batavia.” Tickets are available in August at Bee-Attitudes Antiques, Sue’s Family Hair Co, Batavia MainStreet or Gibby’s Wine Den (Geneva). Contact Coordinator Sharon Harwick at sharwick@comcast.net or call 630-482-9402 for more information or to volunteer.

Bridge Bash returns!

Plan to stay home over Labor Day to help us celebrate **Bridge Bash II** on Sunday September 6 from 5-9 pm. The bridge will be closed in celebration and transformed into a stage to host bands and performing artists as well as a street dance. What’s more we are wrapping in our fall arts walk to the event to have an arts open house at the same time. **Where’s Bob?** Participating downtown restaurants again feature a “Best of Batavia” (B.O.B.) by preparing sample portions of their signature dishes for us to enjoy, so plan to graze your way through the bash. Plan to come with an empty stomach!