

City Calendar

**City Council/  
Board of Works**

*Dec. 10 6:30 p.m.*

**Park Board**

*Dec. 19 6:30 p.m.*

**EDC**

*Dec. 21 8 a.m.*

**Christmas -**

**City Hall Closed**

*Dec. 24-25*

**Water & Gas**

*Dec. 27 Noon*

**New Year's Day**

**City Hall Closed**

*Dec 31– Jan 1*

**In This Issue:**

- Council OK's ATVs
- Sister City visit
- Christmas Trees
- Holiday trash pickup
- Rx takeback at OA
- Holiday Contest
- Façade grant open

## Batesville kicks off the holiday season

The annual holiday parade and tree lighting ceremony brought hundreds of families to downtown Batesville on the evening of November 30.

Children, parents and grandparents lined the streets to get a glimpse of Santa during the parade. Mayor Mike Bettice, Santa and James then hosted the official Tree Lighting Ceremony.



The holiday festival featured reindeer, festive music, carriage rides, food vendors, Elfie Selfies and meet-and-greet with Santa.

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## Chinese Sister City visits Batesville

The City of Batesville hosted a delegation from its Sister City, Haiyan County, China, on Monday December 3.

The exchange began with opening remarks and a gift exchange by Mayor Mike Bettice and his counterpart, Zhu Beihua, Vice Director of The Standing Committee of the People's Congress of Haiyan County.



The six Chinese delegates joined city officials for tours of Hill-Rom, Weberding Carving Shop, The Sherman, Batesville Area Historical Center, St. Andrews Health Campus and Batesville Community School Corporation.

This marked the second delegation from Haiyan County to visit Batesville, the first time being the establishment of the Sister City relationship in 2013.



“Our two cities are vastly different in many ways, for example, Haiyan County has a much larger population,” said Mayor Mike Bettice. “However, we found plenty of common ground and I believe our hospitality, educational programs and our culture made a positive impact on them.”

The Sister City relationship was formed in 2013 to promote exchanges and cooperation in the fields of economy, trade, culture and education.

Batesville is one of twelve Indiana cities to have a sister-city relationship with a community in the Chinese province of Zhejiang.

## Park named in honor of veterans

The City of Batesville dedicated a downtown park as Veterans Park in mid-November. A ceremony was held at the park which is located at the intersection of South and Depot streets on November 12.

City officials joined the VFW, American Legion and Patriot Guard for the dedication which included many U.S. flags, a 21-gun salute and Taps.



“It is important we honor the brave men and women who served in the military. Today I ask all citizens of Batesville to take time to remember and give all of our veterans, servicemen and women the upmost respect,” Mayor Mike Bettice said as the new sign was officially unveiled.

The dedication of the park marked a century since Armistice Day, November 11, 1918, which was the end of World War I.

## Where do the City's Christmas trees come from?



Mayor Mike Bettice wishes to thank two local tree farms for donating Christmas trees to the City of Batesville.

Bohman Christmas Tree Farm in Enochsburg provided the Christmas tree which is located at the Memorial Building.

Since 1968, the family farm has been a Christmas tradition for thousands of families. Bring the whole family, bring your dog, take a wagon ride through the Indiana countryside to select the perfect Christmas tree from a huge variety of trees at Bohman Christmas Tree Farm, 9966 E Base Road in Greensburg.

On Friday, November 30, the City held the official Tree Lighting Ceremony at the downtown Bike Park. That Christmas tree is donated by Sheets Christmas Tree Farm.

Sheets has the proud distinction of being honored by the State of Indiana with the Hoosier Homestead Farm Sesquicentennial Award. The award is reserved for farms that have been in the family for over 150 years.

The tree farm had the prestigious honor of supplying the White House Christmas Tree in 1968. Sheets Christmas Tree Farm is located at 5679 N Co Rd 200 E, in Osgood.

## Trash Collection schedule for Christmas, New Years

Batesville residents with Rumpke Garbage service will be delayed by one day in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.

Holiday collection days for residents located NORTH of Pearl street are Wednesday, December 26 and Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

Those residents living SOUTH of Pearl Street will have their garbage collected on Saturday, December 29, 2018 and Saturday, January 5, 2019.

## Batesville opens roads to ATV, ORV traffic

Batesville City Council approved an ordinance in November that allows all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and off-road vehicles (ORV) to drive on city roads.

Riders must abide by state law which requires drivers to be at least 18 and have valid insurance. The vehicle would have to be registered with the City every two years.

Learn more about ORV registration by calling the Memorial Building at (812) 933-6100.

The off-road vehicles are banned from city streets from midnight to 6 a.m. every day.

Ordinance violations are subjected to fines, suspensions and even a lifetime ban, depending on the infraction.



## Home and Business Holiday Decorating Contest with prizes

A new community contest encourages homeowners and businesses to earn Chamber checks by getting into the holiday spirit!

The Batesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Duke Energy and Country 103.9 WRBI have teamed up to host a holiday home and business decorating contest in the Batesville area called, "Twas the Lights Before Christmas."



The free contest is open to all residents and businesses in the Batesville area and participants must submit a photo of their decorated property to [www.wrbiradio.com](http://www.wrbiradio.com). All entries must be submitted between November 30 and December 9.

### HOW TO VOTE

Voting is open to the public and takes place on the WRBI website from December 10-16.

### PRIZES

The top three winners in both the Residential and Business categories will be announced on Monday, December 17. Winners from both categories will receive Batesville Chamber Checks. The first place winners will receive \$100, second place \$50 and third place will receive \$25. *Stay, Shop, Support Local!* Special thanks to Duke Energy & Country 103.9 WRBI for supporting this contest

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG TAKE-BACK EVENT



Join Margaret Mary Health in keeping our communities safe by keeping prescription medications out of the wrong hands. Conveniently drop off your unused or expired medications for safe disposal.

An adult **MUST** bring medications - children are not permitted to drop them off. To learn more, call Meg at 812.933.5257.

Saturday, December 15  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m.  
Oldenburg Academy • 1 Twister Circle

### THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!



## Economic Development News

### **Building Improvement Grant applications due Dec. 31**

The City of Batesville's Building Improvement Grant (BIG) provides matching funds to business and property owners wanting to renovate the exterior of their structure.

Applications for the final round of the program are due by December 31, 2018.

This is a matching grant program where tenants and property owners can receive dollar for dollar matching funds of up to \$5,000 to finance direct costs associated with approved renovation activities. Proposed project must be completed within six months of signing of Grant Agreement.

The Economic Development Commission, in their sole discretion, will determine grant recipients in January 2019.

#### **Eligibility**

The grant is for owners and store tenants who wish to renovate the façade of their building. Tenants must have approval from the building owner and have at least two years remaining on their lease or an option to renew to receive funding. Grant funds must be used for permanent exterior/façade improvements.

#### **Applications & More Information**

The application and more information is available on the City's website at <https://batesvilleindiana.us/> in the Incentives drop down tab under Economic Development or can be picked up at the Memorial Building. Applications should be delivered to Sarah Lamping at the Memorial Building or by email at [slamping@batesvilleindiana.us](mailto:slamping@batesvilleindiana.us).

## **Volunteer for a nonprofit in 2019!**

You know why Batesville is such a great place to live? It's because of the wonderful volunteers and organizations that give back to our community.

Are you interested in becoming more involved? If so, there are many organizations and likely one that is addressing an issue you may be passionate about.

We are blessed with non-profits that address issues such as domestic violence, helping an abused child, substance abuse, landscaping and beautifying around town, to improving downtown Batesville. And many more!

If you want to give back in 2019 feel free to contact Community Development Director Steven Harmeyer at (812) 933-6116.



## **SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN!**

**SANTA IS WAITING TO HEAR YOUR  
SECRET WISHES AT HIS HOUSE  
IN DOWNTOWN, BATESVILLE!**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8  
8:30AM - 10:30AM  
RETURNING AGAIN:  
2:00PM - 4:00PM**

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15  
10:00AM - NOON**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 18  
5:00PM - 7:00PM**

**SANTA'S HOUSE IS LOCATED IN THE BIKE  
PARK PARKING LOT (BEHIND TOTAL TECH)**



### Remember When?



“The Caroling Christmas Tree of Batesville” was a holiday tradition where St. Louis schoolchildren would carol from the tree each year. It attracted visitors from across the region. Lou Voegele and Jean Struewing started the “Caroling Christmas Tree” in 1972. This photo is from 1981.

### Stay Connected!

Mayor Mike Bettice

[mbettice@batesvilleindiana.us](mailto:mbettice@batesvilleindiana.us)

Council Member Kevin Chaffee (At-large)

[Kevin@etczone.com](mailto:Kevin@etczone.com)

Council Member Darrick Cox (District 1)

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Council Member John Irrgang (District 4)

[John.irrgang@assuredptrnl.com](mailto:John.irrgang@assuredptrnl.com)

### City Services

(812 area code)

Building Commissioner	933-6103
Clerk-Treasurer	933-6101
City Court Judge	933-6102
Community Development	933-6116
Economic Development	933-6113
Fire & EMS	934-2230
Mayor's Office	933-6100
Parks and Recreation	934-4560
Police	934-3131
Street Department	934-4393
Wastewater Treatment	934-5338
Water & Gas	934-3811