



City Calendar

**Zoning Board**

March 7 6:30 p.m.

**City Council/  
Board of Works**

March 11 6:30 p.m.

**EDC**

March 15 8 a.m.

**Park Board**

March 20 6:30 p.m.

**RDC**

March 27 6:30 p.m.

**Water & Gas**

March 28 Noon

In This Issue:

- Northside Park donations
- Pill Disposal Info
- SLS visits PD
- Celebrate Wedding
- Council Notes
- Fire Dept. News
- BMPL Digital Class
- Thing-A-Lings bring record numbers
- Remember When?

## Mayor highlights continued progress in State of the City



Mayor Mike Bettice delivered the State of the City at Batesville Middle School on February 19.

The public presentation featured 2018 accomplishments, plans for the coming year, future initiatives and a question and answer session.

Completed projects in 2018 included Merkel Road, the stormwater project on Main Street, renovations to the fire department, a new ambulance and mini-pumper, and a handicap accessible playground at Liberty Park.

Construction is currently underway at Northside Park on Six Pine Ranch Road. Margaret Mary Health donated the three-acre parcel of land to the City for development of the park which will feature a walking trail, playground sites, picnic tables and an observation area. The park is expected to open this year.

Additional projects planned for 2019 include street paving, Wastewater Treatment Plant renovations, and Memorial Pool upgrades.

Mayor Bettice also reviewed city finances stating, “We started in 2016 with just under \$4 million and we finished 2018 with \$4.8 million so we are a net positive of \$800,000 for the last three years.”

Bettice also challenged the community to build upon the recent success to promote and grow the City of Batesville.

“I think we need to focus on how we attract people. There is not one lever to pull and people move to Batesville. I believe we need to think about what we can do differently to build upon all of our successes that will take us from good to great when it comes to talent attraction.”

## Sponsors sought for Northside Park

Batesville Parks & Recreation is currently seeking donations for the new park on Six Pine Ranch Road.

Donations are needed for a picnic table, a small message board and a trash can. Those interested in sponsoring one of those items should contact Mike Baumer at (812) 212-0603.



## Police Beat

### Police Department welcomes SLS students

The St. Louis Preschool had the opportunity to tour the Batesville Police Department in February.

Officer Travis Cook showed the preschoolers how to obtain fingerprints and handle evidence by packaging a toy as evidence.

Students also learned how the communications center and 9-1-1 works as well as the equipment officers use.

“We are thankful for the opportunity to teach the youth in our community about police work,” said Chief Stan Holt.



### Record-number of pills disposed safely in 2018

The Coalition for a Drug Free Batesville, Margaret Mary Health and the Batesville Police Department provides safe opportunities to dispose of prescription medications throughout the community.

Opportunities for disposal include permanent drug take-back boxes at the Batesville Police Department and Margaret Mary Health. There are also a variety of take-back events throughout the year.

In 2018, more than 835 pounds of prescription medication was safely disposed. The previous record was 768 pounds in 2017.

“We began tracking these numbers in 2016 and are thankful to report our community is using the disposal boxes and reducing access to prescription medications throughout the Batesville community,” Kim Linkel, director of the Coalition for a Drug Free Batesville. “We thank those who have used the permanent sites to date and encourage others to take advantage of them as well.”

The safest way to dispose old medications is by dropping off at BPD or MMH and the locations are secured by video surveillance. Please keep the meds in the original bottle, remove the label, and drop it off at your convenience.



## CLAIM YOUR POWER

### Women's Self-Defense Class

Saturday, March 9, 10 am – 12 pm

**Do you know what it means to protect yourself?**

- Learn the basic skills necessary to protect yourself by fighting back the S.A.F.E. way.
- Please **RSVP** by calling the Welcome Center at **812-934-6006** starting February 12th, so we can have enough volunteers to facilitate the program.

**FREE to all.**



Southeastern Indiana YMCA • 30 State Road 129 South, Batesville, IN 47006 • [www.siyymca.org](http://www.siyymca.org)





## Ice Rink, Cherry Thing-A-Ling’s draw large crowd

Thousands braved the cold weather to participate in the first-ever Cherry Thing-A-Ling Festival in February.

The weekend event attracted locals and visitors to enjoy ice skating, ice sculpture carving and the famous cherry fritters.

Schmidt’s Bakery celebrated the President’s Day tradition by selling a record-breaking 145,440 Cherry Thing-A-Ling’s. The previous record was 118,000 in 2018.

“This started as a one-time promotion on a Sunday in the 1970’s and then turned into tradition. We are blessed to have the community embrace this and look forward to it every year, this is something that makes Batesville exciting,” said owner Bertie Schmidt.

The longtime tradition will return February 13-18, 2020.

## February City Council Notes

Batesville City Council approved a 10-year property tax abatement for proposed apartments at Depot Square in February.

Developer Bruce Rippe has said the project includes 54 market-rate apartments and construction is expected to begin this spring.

City Council had previously approved the abatement in 2014, however, delays arose due to the building being on the National Historic Register.

Rippe assured council members that the project now has the necessary approvals to move forward this year.

In other council news, the Mayor’s Youth Council (MYC) received financial assistance for a community art project. The art will be displayed on Miss Shannon’s Music Studio on Boehringer Street.

Council awarded a \$10,000 Belterra grant for the project which costs total \$16,000. MYC has also received a \$5,000 state grant and plans to raise the remaining funds through a separate grant.



## Celebrate a Wedding at Liberty Park!



Looking for a place to celebrate a wedding reception? The pavilion at Liberty Park is the prime location to host the memorable day.

The rental cost is \$1,000 with a \$400 deposit which is refundable pending the renter cleans the area after use. Contact the Memorial Building at (812) 933-6100 for more information.

## Firehouse News

### Stop the Bleed, CPR training provided to City employees

The Ripley County Health Department has generously donated 50 “Stop the Bleed” trauma kits to Batesville Fire & Rescue.

The kits will be installed in all City of Batesville municipal buildings and vehicles to further our mission of providing the highest levels of public safety services to the citizens of Batesville and the surrounding areas.



The bleeding control kits allow bystanders to control life-threatening bleeding and provide immediate care to the injured while awaiting the arrival of professional responders. The kits contain a tourniquet, wound-packing materials, training devices and instructions.

“We want to equip our city employees with the ability to make a lifesaving difference in case of an emergency,” Fire Chief Todd Schutte said. “This gift from the Ripley County Health Department allows our employees to understand and deploy basic techniques of bleeding control to a citizen or a co-worker before first responders arrive.”

The kits will also allow Batesville Fire & Rescue to conduct Stop the Bleed trainings for organizations and schools in the community. If your organization is interested, contact Chief Schutte at (812) 934-2230.

On February 27, the Fire Department and Ripley County EMS conducted training for all City of Batesville employees. They learned and practiced CPR training, Stop the Bleed and Bloodborne Pathogens.

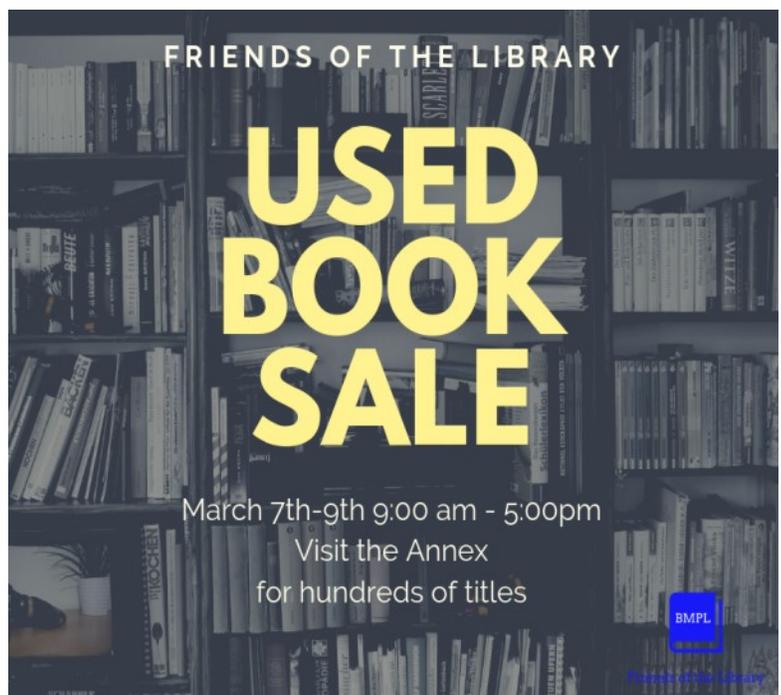


### Library Hosts Digital Device Classes

Do you have questions about your laptop, tablet, or smartphone? The Batesville Memorial Public Library offers classes to teach residents how to efficiently use electronic devices.

The public is welcome to attend the classes which take place on the fourth Thursday of each month. The next session is scheduled for March 28 from 3-5 p.m. in Meeting Room B.

Call 934-4706 for more information.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

# USED BOOK SALE

March 7th-9th 9:00 am - 5:00pm  
Visit the Annex  
for hundreds of titles

BMPL  
Friends of the Library



Middle School Night 

# THE AMAZING RACE

**Friday • March 15 • 7-9 PM**  
On Your Mark, Get Set, Go! Call the Y to Register!

Bring your team or join a team at the Y that night to compete in the Amazing Race. Food, Prizes, and More! **Free to all Middle Schoolers.**

Southeastern Indiana YMCA • Batesville, IN • 812-934-6006 • siymca.org

## Remember When?



This photo shows cattle crossing the bridge that runs through Hillcrest Golf Course on State Road 229. The cattle have since been replaced by cars. Hillcrest Pond is viewable in the far right. (Jean Struewing)

## Stay Connected!

Mayor Mike Bettice

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Council Member Kevin Chaffee (At-large)

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Council Member John Irrgang (District 4)

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## 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