



Clancy Potts

Summer Events in Barrington— A Family Tradition

GROWING UP IN BARRINGTON, my fondest memories are of the days I spent outdoors when school was over—at Cruise Nights with my grandfather, the Fourth of July parade with my cousins, fireworks at the high school, the waterslide at Langendorf pool, and soccer games under the scorching hot sun.

In Barrington, summer officially begins with the Barrington Art Festival, which runs Memorial Day weekend at Cook and Station Streets. Enjoy award-winning local and regional artists, musicians, and food as you browse the festival and visit artwork displays in our shops.

The Memorial Day Parade steps off at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 27, and runs from Park Avenue to Dundee Avenue, then into the Evergreen Cemetery, where a ceremony is held to honor our fallen heroes. Paul Corwin of VFW Post #7706 has been instrumental in coordinating Barrington's veteran appreciation activities. Along with Earl Billman at American Legion Post 158, Paul is spearheading celebrations of this year's 100th Anniversary of the American Legion—the theme for the Fourth of July Parade.

Cruise Night is a long-standing Barrington tradition that brings auto enthusiasts from near

and far to show off their most treasured possessions. As a part of Barrington's "Summer Fun Thursdays," Cruise Night kicks off on May 30. The Family Fun Zone at the event is a great place to bring the kids to enjoy games, balloon artistry, face painting, and ice cream treats.

The Farmers Market is back again this year beginning on June 13, with lots of local and regional vendors bringing farm-fresh and hand-made items to Barrington on Park Street from 3-7 p.m. each Thursday until October 17.

Don't miss the summer season of cultural events at Barrington's White House, beginning on

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June 20 with old-time radio shows performed by the TesserAct Theatre Ensemble and an Ice Cream Social. July 18 honors Kaleidoscope School of Art founder Jill Funk at our 3rd Thursdays Art Night Out, and the season culminates with a recital by local violist Stephanie Block on August 23. The grand finale is on August 18 when Marta Aznavoorian and Phillippe Quint, piano and violin, feature the works of Charlie Chaplin.

Flesk Fest is back this year in the parking lot near Flesk Brewery on the second Thursdays of June, July, and August, with an Oktoberfest to be held on September 27–28. Lots of fun, food, and craft beers on tap!

In July, Barrington's most cherished annual tradition, the Fourth of July Parade, steps off at 10 a.m. from Barrington High School and runs the length of Main Street. Bob the DJ will be announcing the parade from Shakou's rooftop. After the parade, stop by Barrington's White House for an open house and a performance by the Chris Walz Bluegrass Band. The Brat Tent in the North Commuter Lot serves up fun and food, all day, and the day culminates in fireworks at dusk from the high school, provided by the Lion's Club.

The following weekend, you won't want to miss the Uncork Wine Festival and Barrington Brew Fest, two annual favorites that draw attendees from all over Chicagoland.

Later in summer, we have expanded our Summer Fun Thursdays to also include live performances. Fellow Barringtonian and singer-songwriter Pat McKillen joins us on July 25 for a show at 7 p.m. at Cook & Lake Streets, while TesserAct Theater Ensemble will perform "A Midsummer Night's Dream" in Memorial Park for 'Shakespeare in the Park' on August 15 at 7 p.m.

On August 1, we continue the celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the American Legion with an Ice Cream Social that just may feature the opportunity to throw whipped cream pies into the faces of local officials, food-eating competitions, a unicyclist, and more.

If you would like more information, go to www.enjoybarrington.com. To join our e-blast list to receive information about all local events; email me at: cpotts@barrington-il.gov

Clancy Potts is the Village of Barrington's Coordinator of Communications, Marketing, and Events. She helps to coordinate many of Barrington's beloved seasonal traditions.