

WHEREAS, Avenue Motor Sales was founded by William H. Clark, known as “Scoop”, in 1930 and operated by four generations of the Clark family for 81 years in the City of Batavia, and

WHEREAS, the name Avenue Motor Sales was derived from the fact that the original location of the dealership was at 24 N. Batavia Avenue, and

WHEREAS, in 1988, when there were little more than cornfields as far as the eye could see on Randall Road, Don Clark, son of William, had the foresight to move the dealership from its original location on Batavia Avenue to the corner of McKee Street and Randall Road. In a letter dated February 23, 2000, Mayor Jeffery D. Schielke wrote Don, in part, as follows: “Your role and farsighted vision in setting the stage and crafting the political mindset necessary many years ago that set the Randall Road expansion plan into action is part of our history and public record.” and

WHEREAS, Avenue Motor Sales enjoyed an excellent reputation throughout its existence as a both a premier dealership and an expert mechanical service provider,

WHEREAS, in its heyday Avenue Motor Sales employed 48 people and generated more than \$300,000 in sales tax revenue for the City of Batavia, and

WHEREAS, Avenue Motor Sales supported many organizations in the community, such as the Batavia Rotary Club, boys’ baseball and soccer, and was a charter member of the Batavia Chamber of Commerce, and

WHEREAS, in the current generation, John C. Clark, along with his sons, J.D. and Jim operated the dealership until 2009 when the dealership closed in the wake of the bankruptcy filing by General Motors, and

WHEREAS, the Clark family since closing the dealership has sought a buyer for its property that would redevelop the site in a way that would be beneficial to the future prosperity of the City of Batavia. And after several years of having to bear the cost of carrying the property they have now found a buyer who plans to build a new restaurant on the site of the former showroom that will be a future source of revenue to the City, and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeffery D. Schielke, Mayor of the City of Batavia, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2019, as:

“Clark Family Month”

in the City of Batavia, and I urge all citizens to recognize the many contributions of all the generations of the Clark family to our prosperity, to our history and to our community. **PROCLAIMED** this 18th day of March 2019.

Jeffery D. Schielke, Mayor