

**Batavia Books Between Bites Program**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Batavia's Books Between Bites Program for 2009-2010 Announced**

**(BATAVIA)** The popular Batavia book program **Books Between Bites** announces its 23rd season. The monthly series is held at the Batavia Public Library, 10 S. Batavia Avenue, and presents a number of interesting new authors and presenters, as well as several returning favorites for the 2009-2010 season.

The season opens Thursday, September 17, welcoming back author Julia Keller, a Pulitzer Prize winner and cultural critic for the Chicago Tribune. She will discuss her new novel "Back Home". The story is narrated by Rachel Browning, a 15-year-old girl whose father suffers a traumatic brain injury while serving in the Iraq war. When he returns home, Rachel and the rest of the family must adjust to a new reality: The dad they knew is gone forever, replaced by a sullen stranger. "Back Home" is about the strength and resiliency of families, and about the tremendous sacrifice made by our military veterans and their families. The book will be available for sale and signing.

**(Complete 2009-2010 schedule attached)**

The public is invited to attend these free programs from 12:00 to 1 PM, presented September through May on the third Thursday of the month. Reservations are not required. The program is held in the large community room located on the main level of the Batavia Public Library. Parking is available in the lot just south and adjacent to the library.

People are invited to bring their lunch and eat as they enjoy the program and discussion. Coffee, soft drinks and cookies are available for sale. Lunch can also be pre-ordered and available for pick-up just before the program from 10 South Coffee House, located in the library. Please call 630-406-8870 to order.

Books Between Bites was established in Batavia in 1987 by the late Lee C. Moorehead. The program is being continued by Moorehead's wife, Betty, and his daughter, Becky Hoag, in partnership and co-sponsorship with George H. Scheetz and Stacey Cisneros of Batavia Public Library.

For more information about **Books Between Bites**, please call the program director Betty Moorehead, at 630-879-4426. The complete schedule can be found on the Website: [booksbetweenbites.com](http://booksbetweenbites.com). Printed schedules can be found at Batavia Public Library.

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## **Batavia's Books Between Bites Schedule for 2009-10**

**Location - Batavia Public Library, 10 S. Batavia Avenue**

**Noon - 1 pm Third Thursday of the month**

Bring your lunch and enjoy a different book review/discussion each month. Coffee and soft drinks for sale.

Order lunch in advance from 10 South Coffee House – 630/406-8870

**Betty Moorehead, Director, 630-879-4426 Batavia Public Library, 630-879-1393**

**Thursday, September 17, 2009 Back Home**

**Author/Presenter: Julia Keller**

We welcome the return of this Pulitzer Prize winner and *Chicago Tribune* culture critic to open our 23rd season. Keller's new novel is narrated by Rachel Browning, a 15-year-old girl whose father suffers a traumatic brain injury while serving in the Iraq war. When he returns home, Rachel and the rest of the family must adjust to a new reality; the dad they knew is gone forever, replaced by a sullen stranger. "Back Home" is about the strength and resiliency of families, and the tremendous sacrifice made by our military veterans and their families.

**Thursday, October 15, 2009 River Ghost by B. R. Robb**

**Author/Presenter: Bruce Steinberg**

Batavia attorney Bruce Steinberg returns for his second "Books" appearance. Publishers Weekly praised *River Ghosts* as a murder mystery written with "steely eloquence" and *Kirkus Reviews* awarded Steinberg's novel its coveted Starred Review, comparing it favorably with Alice Sebold's *The Lovely Bones*. Mayor Jeff Schielke selected it as one of the year's three important books with Batavia connections. Steeped in a hard-scrabble search for faith amid stubborn racism, *River Ghosts* is a mystery that matters.

**Thursday, November 19, 2009 More Batavia Literary Highlights**

**Presenter: Mayor Jeff Schielke**

Mayor Jeff Schielke continues his sharing of recently discovered literature, both new and old in age, which features Batavia, Illinois, as its central theme. The highly entertaining pieces featured are sure to catch the interest of local readers, both old-timers and newcomers.

**Thursday, December 17, 2009 Sidewalks, Portraits of Chicago, Book 2**

**Authors/Presenters: Rick Kogan and Charles Osgood**

Rick Kogan, of the *Chicago Tribune* and WGN Radio, and photographer Charles Osgood team up to create the weekly Sidewalks column in the Sunday Tribune. Their first book of "Sidewalks" photos and stories was so popular that a second book has been published. Photos will be shared, stories will be told, and the audience will be able to participate. No doubt interesting tidbits about the Chicago beat will be shared and the state of journalism today will be up for discussion.

**Thursday, January 21, 2010 The Scot Harvath Series**

**Author/Presenter: Bruce Thor**

*New York Times* best-selling author Thor talks about his popular series of thrillers featuring covert Homeland Security operative and former Navy SEAL Scot Harvath. Nelson DeMille has called Harvath "the perfect all-American hero for the post-September 11 world." Thor has served as a member of the Department of Homeland Security's Analytic Red Cell Program.

**Thursday, February 18, 2010 The White House Chef Series**

**Author/Presenter: Julie Hyzy**

Chicago-area author Julie Hyzy, discusses her White House Chef mystery series, including *State of the Onion*, *Hail to the Chef*, and the newest book, *Eggsecutive Orders*. These books feature Olivia (Ollie) Paras, who feeds the First Family and saves the world in her spare time.

**Thursday, March 18, 2010 One Book, One Batavia selection 2010**

**Playing With the Enemy: A Baseball Prodigy, a World War, and a Field of Broken Dreams**

**Author/Presenter: Gary Moore**

Chicago-area author Gary Moore discusses his nonfiction account of his father Gene's experience as a 15-year-old catcher signed by the Brooklyn Dodgers just as World War II began. Gene played on the Navy baseball team before being brought back to the U.S. to serve on a secret mission, guarding German POWs whose U-boat was captured.

**Thursday, April 15, 2010**

**The Beckham Experiment** by Grant Wahl **American Icon** by N.Y. Daily News Sports Investigative Team

**Presenter: Lester Munson**

Nationally known commentator, writer, ESPN editor, and our go-to guy on sports topics, Lester Munson shares his impressions of two new sports books. The first describes the state of professional soccer in America. The second describes Roger Clemens and his use of performance-enhancing drugs. Munson is sure to comment and take questions on other current issues. What about those Cubs?

**Thursday, May 20, 2010 The Dixie Highway in Illinois (Images of America Series)**

**Author/Presenter: James R. Wright**

Homewood historian James R. Wright gives an overview of the early history of the Dixie Highway in Illinois, illustrated by photos from his book. The highway was an early thoroughfare between Chicago and Miami. In Illinois, the highway's origins date to 1915, and it was the first Illinois highway to be fully paved when it was completed in 1921.

