

WHY A MURAL?

Murals tell the story of a community, add to the beauty of downtown, increase appreciation for the arts, and draw both businesses and tourists! Murals add color and interest to a community and become community centerpieces that bring people together to celebrate the history and heritage of their hometown.

RESTORE AVILLA

Restore Avilla
P.O. Box 562
Avilla, IN 46710

Website: restoreavilla.org
Facebook: facebook.com/RestoreAvilla
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As an OCRA's Downtown Affiliate Network member, ReStore Avilla, Inc., is part of a statewide network of communities who share both a commitment to creating high-quality places and to building stronger communities.

ReStore
Avilla
KEEP IT NOBLE

ReStore Avilla Downtown Mural Project



SEEKING A MURAL ARTIST

Restore Avilla is currently raising funds and seeking grants to paint a historic mural on the side of the building next to the parking lot on Albion Street downtown. We are in search of an artist who would be willing and able to paint a mural depicting various pieces of Avilla's history. If you are interested, please submit a cost estimate with a sketch of the proposed mural of this project along with photos/locations of previous murals to "Restore Avilla, P.O. Box 562, Avilla IN 46710" or twoenker@townofavilla.com by June 1, 2023.

Downtown Avilla Mural Project: Elements of our history which could be included in a collage

What follows are elements of our history which could be included in a collage. The QR codes will take you to websites with information and pictures related to each piece of our history.

Lima Road



Lima Road, which ran from Fort Wayne to Lima (now Howe) contributed greatly to Avilla's development. The road began as a well established Indian path known as the Mongoquinon or Big

Squaw Trail. It was converted from a dirt road to a wood plank road in 1847 was paved in the early 1900's. We envision a mural that might show the progression of this road from dirt path to plank to paved.

Sacred Heart Home



Sacred Heart Home was established in 1876 when a group of persecuted nuns from Germany resettled in Avilla, Indiana at the invitation of the local Catholic priest. Sacred Heart was the first

Catholic motherhouse in America and established their "Old Peoples Home" in 1896.

Historic Downtown



Avilla, originally called Hill Town was settled by Noah I. Hill sometime between 1836-1844. Hill built a store and a tavern to accommodate travelers making their way along Lima Road. The St. James Hotel, located downtown, was built by Pennsylvania farmer Jonathon James in 1878 and is the oldest and longest-running restaurant in northeast Indiana. The Grand Rapids and Indiana Railway and the Baltimore, Pittsburgh and Chicago Railway passed through town.

Avilla Speedway and Dragway



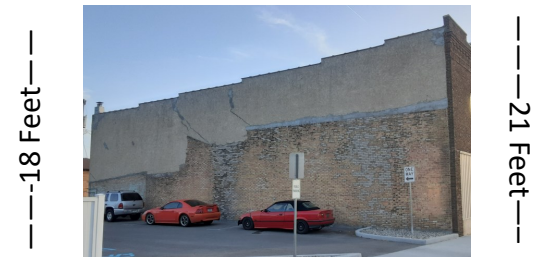
The Avilla Speedway and Dragway, located on State Road 8 east of Avilla operated from 1964-1995. The Street Nationals drag-racing event in 1977 was the first in the country. A number of notable racers raced on the tracks in Avilla. The page about the Avilla Dragway is about 3 pages down on the website linked to the QR code.

Welcome to Avilla

We would like our town's name, "Avilla," to be featured prominently in the mural.

BUILDING DIMENSIONS

-----80 Feet-----



We would like the bottom of the mural to rest at 6 feet above the ground so that the full mural will be visible over parked cars. Side of building is brick and stucco and has been recently tuck-pointed.