

City of Dubuque CITY NEWS

July/August 2023

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Accessibility & Connectivity in our Community

Safe, accessible ways for residents to get around Dubuque is a priority. With an increase in walk/bike trails in our community, residents can now travel more safely and efficiently -- whether it's for exercise, to walk the family dog, or a bike ride to work or school. Several spring and summer projects around Dubuque are addressing the mobility, accessibility, and connectivity of our community.

John F. Kennedy Rd. Sidewalk Project:

One piece of the connectivity puzzle is the new sidewalks on JFK Rd. between the Northwest Arterial and Asbury Rd. This important infrastructure project allows children in the area to safely walk to school and allows residents to access the Northwest Arterial Trail and businesses on Asbury Rd. more easily.



Lower Bee Branch Trail Project:

The Lower Bee Branch Trail project, which will connect the existing trail on 16th St. to the south side of the detention basin, kicked off this spring. The project includes construction of a paved trail that extends south from Sycamore St. and under the U.S. HWY 61/151 overpass along the shoreline of the 16th St. Detention Basin to 12th St., all with a great view of the Alliant Energy Solar Array and wildlife visiting the detention basin.



ADA-Compliant Curb Ramps:

Residents with physical challenges can face accessibility barriers that prevent them from enjoying time outdoors exploring our city. To make Dubuque more accessible, the City Engineering and Public Works Departments will oversee the installation of more than 150 ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) curb ramps at 45 intersections this construction season, allowing individuals with mobility challenges to navigate safely and independently.



LET'S BE SOCIAL!



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www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme

These projects are just a sampling of the efforts by the City of Dubuque to improve mobility, accessibility, and connectivity in our community. The **MoveDBQ Smart Parking & Mobility Study**, still underway, will provide a long-term roadmap for how the City of Dubuque can implement and invest in new technologies and systems to improve parking access, efficiency, and overall user experience. More information at www.cityofdubuque.org/movedbq.

Reminders from the City Clerk's Office

Bicycle Licenses

Under Dubuque City code, a bicycle license is required for bikes owned and ridden within city limits. Licensing a bicycle can also assist in the instance of a theft or if needed for insurance purposes. Bike licenses are \$5 and are valid for as long as the owner has the bike.

License applications are available at:
www.cityofdubuque.org/bicycles or in the City Clerk's office at 50 W. 13th St.

Special Event Permits

A reminder to residents that special event permits are required for a variety of events around Dubuque, such as: parades, 5k races, fundraisers, block parties, festivals, and concerts, if they take place on city property, in the public right-of way, or on private property and impact the public right-of-way and are open to the public.

Coordinators of events such as assemblies, marches, and neighborhood block parties are encouraged to complete a courtesy notification application.

Submit an application for a special event permit at least 60 days prior to the event.

Applications are available at:
www.cityofdubuque.org/specialevents or visit the City Clerk's office at City Hall, 50 W. 13th St.



STAY UP TO DATE WITH COVID-19 VACCINATIONS

What you need to know:

- Everyone aged six years and older should get one updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine to be up to date.
- People aged 65 years and older may get a second dose of updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.
- People who are moderately or severely immunocompromised may get additional doses of updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine.
- Children aged six months to five years may need multiple doses of COVID-19 vaccine to be up to date, including at least one dose of updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, depending on the number of doses they've previously received and their age.

Contact your health care provider for more information, or call the Dubuque VNA (563-556-6200), or Crescent Community Health Center (563-690-2850).



Trash and Recycling

Holiday Collection Changes

Independence Day Tues., July 4 Collection on Sat., July 1	Labor Day Mon., Sept. 4 Collection on Sat., Sept. 2
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Recreational Fires and Fireworks Reminders for Residents

Recreational Fires and Portable Outdoor Fireplaces

Recreational and portable outdoor fireplace fires can be enjoyed as long as a few basic rules are followed.

- **Wind Direction:** Be a good neighbor and be aware of wind direction.
- **Fuel and Wood:** Fuel used must be strictly limited to charcoal products or natural growing form wood, dried, split, or sawn to lengths no greater than four feet.
- **Smoke:** Conditions should be such that smoke and gases are allowed to rise up and away. If smoke, gases, or fire become a public nuisance, the fire must be extinguished. A fire department representative will respond to complaints and make a determination as to whether the fire or smoke is a nuisance.
- **Recreational fires** shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material and must be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.
- **Portable outdoor fireplaces** shall be used in accordance with the

manufacturer's instructions and shall not be operated within 15 feet of a structure or combustible material and must be constantly attended until the fire is extinguished.

Use of Fireworks in City Limits

Dubuque bans the use of consumer fireworks in the city. Dubuque residents can buy and possess consumer fireworks, but they cannot use them in the city.

To report violations, please call the non-emergency dispatch number: 563-589-4415.

New State Tax Exemptions Benefit Seniors and Veterans

Homestead Tax Exemption for Iowa Seniors

On May 4, 2023, Governor Reynolds signed new legislation establishing a homestead tax exemption for claimants 65 years of age or older.

In addition to the existing homestead tax credit, eligible claimants who own the home they live in and are 65 years of age or older on or before January 1 of the assessment year are now eligible for a homestead tax exemption. An exemption is a reduction in the taxable value of the property rather than a direct reduction in the amount of property tax you pay. For the assessment year beginning on January 1, 2023, the exemption is for \$3,250 of taxable value. For assessment years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, the exemption is for \$6,500 of taxable value.

NOTE: The exemption is for taxes due September 2024 and March 2025, so the exemption will not be applied on the September 2023 and March 2024 taxes due.

The Iowa Department of Revenue has amended the Homestead Tax Credit and Exemption (54-028) to allow claimants to apply for the new exemption. Applications are due July 1 to the Dubuque City Assessor. If the exemption is granted, the exemption will be allowed for future years without future filing as long as the claimant continues to qualify.

Application (54-028) available at:

tax.iowa.gov/tax-credits-and-exemptions (under Iowa Homestead Tax Credit). Seniors must apply for this exemption and applications **MUST** be returned on or before July 1.

Applications may be filled out online at www.dubuqueassessor.org. Fill in your address and click Search, and scroll to the bottom of the page and click, "Apply for Homestead, Military, or Sales Questionnaire." Some homeowner information is pre-filled on the online form.

Homestead Tax Exemption for Iowa Veterans

The new law has also increased the military service property tax exemption from \$1,852 to \$4,000 for an honorably separated, retired, furloughed to a reserve, placed on inactive status, or discharged veteran.

Military veterans currently receiving the exemption do not need to file a new application as long as the veteran or the veteran's spouse is the legal or equitable owner of the property on July 1 for which the exemption is allowed.

For more information, contact:

Dubuque City Assessor
1789 Elm St. or 563-589-4416
www.dubuqueassessor.org
Office Hours: Mon. - Fri., 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Iowa Department of Revenue
tax.iowa.gov or 800-367-3388



Eleven new sculptures are slated for installation in early August 2023 along the Mississippi Riverwalk for the 17th edition of the City of Dubuque's Art on the River rotating sculpture program. The 2023-24 exhibit theme, chosen by a community planning committee, is "Innovate & Illuminate." As "the Key City," Dubuque has historically served as a beacon of progress, showed forward momentum, and signified a bright tomorrow. Historically and today, the Dubuque community strives to light the way to a future that is sustainable and resilient. Our community of the future is one that is inclusive, equitable, connected, active, and vibrant. A call for artists to submit pieces that speak to the theme was answered with 32 applications from 22 artists in 10 states and Canada.

The opening celebration will take place on Friday, Aug. 4, from 5-7 p.m. on the Grand River Center patio. This event is free, open to the public, and will feature interactive arts experiences, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, and a cash bar.

Learn more:

www.cityofdubuque.org/artontheriver

'Finding Dubuque' Atlas Highlights Stories of Black Dubuquers

Historically, Black Dubuquers belonged to a variety of social and fraternal organizations. While some groups put up explicit and implicit barriers to keep African Americans from joining, Black Dubuquers joined the organizations they could or started their own, a testament to their power and perseverance.

John Logan, a local barber that worked in barbershops (1890s) and later operated a barbershop business himself (1901-1911), is pictured in the below image (back row, far right) of the Barbers Local 429 labor union. Being part of the union afforded Logan the ability to adhere to set prices with other barbers, ensuring a more even playing field.



More information on the "Finding Dubuque" Atlas:

www.cityofdubuque.org/blackheritagesurvey

New Faces & Retirements

New City Employees

Nicholas Ansel	Public Works
Ryan Gleason	Health Services
Brittney Hayes	AmeriCorps
Ann Marie Jannette	Equity & Human Rights
Rylee Leitzen	Police
Connie Marcov	Transit
Glenn Nicol	Transit
Miranda Onofre	AmeriCorps
Demi Prichard	Emergency Communications
Andrew Pusateri	Public Works

New Board/Commission Members

Lauren Link	Equity & Human Rights
Enoc Sanchez	Commission
Theresa Sampson Brown	
Matt Zanger	
Cliff Conrad	Long Range Planning Advisory Commission
Jason Henkel	Park & Recreation Advisory Commission

Recent City Retirees

Mark Ludescher	Fire
Thomas Ludescher	Fire
Joleen Murphy	Police



Park(ing) Day is a global, public, participatory project where people across the world temporarily repurpose on-street curbside parking spaces and convert them into mini public parks and social spaces to advocate for safer, greener, and more equitable streets for residents.

Park(ing) Day is coming to Dubuque September 15-16, from 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. with spaces available in the following locations:

- Main St. from Fifth St. - 11th St.
- Central Ave. from 14th St. - 19th St.
- Washington St. from Ninth St. - 11th St.

Learn more and register to participate at:
www.sustainabledubuque.com

Calendar

July

- 3 Airshow and fireworks, A.Y. McDonald Park, 5:30 p.m. (fireworks at dusk)
- 4 City offices closed for Independence Day (Trash and recycling collection on Saturday, July 1)
- 5 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 17 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 29 Comiskey Park Grand Reopening Celebration, 5:30 - 8 p.m.

August

- 1 National Night Out, 6-8 p.m., Comiskey Park
- 4 Art on the River Exhibit Opening, Grand River Center patio, 5-7 p.m. Free and open to the public.
- 7 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- 21 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings are held at City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building, 350 W. 6th St.

The public has the option to view and participate in City Council meetings in person at City Council Chambers or virtually (see agenda for details.) Meetings are aired live on CityChannel Dubuque (Mediacom channels 8 and 117.2 and ImOn channel 5), streamed live and archived on the City's website at www.cityofdubuque.org/media, and streamed live on the City's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cityofdubuque.

This calendar does not include all events and is subject to change. Sign up for Dubuque's "Notify Me" e-mail/text alert system at www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news.

Upcoming events at the Dubuque Regional Airport



July 2: Airshow Aircraft Viewing, 3 - 5 p.m.
See aircraft featured in the July 3rd airshow. Old Terminal Ramp (watch for signs)

July 20-23: North American Trainers Assoc. (NATA) WWII Aircraft
Public can view aircraft from EAA Observation Area located off Aviation Drive - 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.

The Carnegie-Stout Public Library would like your feedback!

Please take a few minutes for a short survey. Scan the QR code with a smartphone or visit <https://bit.ly/CSPLsurvey>



SCAN ME