

# CITYnews



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## America's River III Campaign Supports Bee Branch

Recommended by residents and designed with their input, the Bee Branch Creek Restoration is at the heart of the Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project. Replacing almost one mile of the buried Bee Branch storm sewer with the restored creek and floodplain protects over 1,373 homes and businesses from future flooding while creating a beautiful linear park/greenway.

Through the America's River III campaign, the general public and private sectors have a variety of options to name/sponsor an amenity along the greenway in honor or in memory of a family member, friend, or business. The greenway garden and urban orchard, the 22nd St. cascading waterfall, the play area with slides, the Bee Branch trailhead, four flag tribute areas, and four bridges are available for sponsorship, as well as benches, trees, and personalized brick pavers. Photos and a map of all the available naming opportunities are available at [www.cityofdubuque.org/ar3](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/ar3).

All contributions to the campaign will help ensure the flood mitigation project continues to support sustainable neighborhoods and enhanced quality of life for Dubuque and Iowa. For questions or to make a donation, please call 563.690.6068. §

## Balance Your Own Version of the City Budget Using 'Balancing Act' Budget Simulation Tool

Participate in the creation of the City of Dubuque's Fiscal Year 2020 budget in a fun and interactive way. Use your smartphone, tablet, or computer to use the City's new

City's recommended operating and capital budgets. Learn about the complex trade-offs necessary to balance the general fund budget, then try your hand at balancing



3 easy steps to learn & participate in the Fiscal Year 2020 budget process:

- 1 Generate your taxpayer receipt
- 2 Decide if our priorities are right.
- 3 Provide your feedback with our Balanced Budget simulation.

online budget simulation tool called "Balancing Act." This tool allows users to learn how property tax is budgeted and tax revenues are spent and illustrates how the City of Dubuque's Fiscal Year 2020 budget will be developed. The budget simulator challenges residents and stakeholders to actively balance their own version of the City's budget, subject to the same constraints City Council members face annually when considering the

increases in certain programs and services with cuts in others.

Also available to residents is the Balancing Act Taxpayer Receipt. Answer just a few simple questions and see where your City of Dubuque property taxes and local option sales tax are spent in Fiscal Year 2019 based on the actual taxable value of your home. (The taxpayer receipt reflects

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Unable to attend in person?  
Submit your ideas online at  
[www.cityofdubuque.org/budget](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/budget)

estimated funds collected and used by the City.)

Learn more and participate today at  
[www.cityofdubuque.org/budget](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/budget). §

## Complimentary Holiday Tag Available to Curbside Collection Customers

The City of Dubuque is continuing its annual distribution of a complimentary "holiday tag" for extra garbage to its curbside collection customers. Customers must request a holiday tag by presenting the **original top portion of their utility bill that has the holiday tag information printed on it. The holiday tags will only be available until Jan. 2, 2019.** Renters in housing units where the owner pays the City utility bill will need to request a holiday tag from the owner or property manager. Paperless billing customers requesting a holiday tag do not need to print their bill; however, verification of paperless billing status will be confirmed by City staff at the time of request.

Customers may pick up their holiday tag during normal business hours at the following locations:

- Municipal Services Center, 925 Kerper Ct.
- Utility Billing office, first floor of City Hall at 13th & Central
- Housing and Community Development office, third floor of the Historic Federal Building, 350 W. Sixth St.
- Leisure Services Department, 2200 Bunker Hill Rd. (9 a.m. - 6 p.m.)

The holiday tags may be used for refuse on any collection day in the future. For additional information, please contact the Utility Billing Department at 563-589-4144. §

### Let the City Help with Your Holiday Shopping

Annual Yard Waste Decals  
Jule Monthly Passes

» Available at City Hall Utility Billing window

Summer Swim Season Passes  
Bunker Hill Golf Passes

» On sale at Leisure Services at 2200 Bunker Hill Road



## Fall/Winter Reminders from Public Works

### Curbside Collection Holiday Schedule

- Veteran's Day (Sun., Nov. 11): City offices will be closed on Monday, Nov. 12; no change to the curbside collection schedule.
- Thanksgiving (Thurs., Nov. 22): Collection on Saturday, Nov. 24, instead
- Christmas Day (Tues., Dec. 25): Collection on Saturday, Dec. 22, instead
- New Year's Day (Tues., Jan. 1): Collection on Saturday, Dec. 29 instead

Service	Dates	Items Accepted	Appointment Needed?
Leaf Rake-Out	Oct. 15 - Nov. 21	Loose leaves, pine needles, and pine cones. Grass, brush, plants, and rocks are not accepted.	Yes* (Please make appointment before raking into gutter)
Winter Yard Debris Collection	Thursdays only; Nov. 29 - March 28		Yes*
Food Scrap Collection	Thursdays (year round) for existing food scrap subscribers	All food scraps (including meat and bones); coffee filters, tea bags, food-soiled paper cups, paper plates, paper towels, placemats, napkins, and paper bags.	No
Merry Mulch	Jan. 7-18, 2019, picked up on regular collection days	Christmas trees (max. height of 8'), yard waste bags, bundles, and containers, GreenCarts with food scraps.	No

\* For appointments, call 563-589-4250 or visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/yardwaste](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/yardwaste).

## Programs & Activities for Active Adults

You don't have to be a kid to experience fun activities and programs offered by the Leisure Services Department. Check out these upcoming classes and programs for active adults!

- **Women's Self-Defense - FREE** (Ages 12 & up)  
Mondays, Oct. 22 - Dec. 10, 7 - 8 p.m. at Comiskey Park
- **Tae Kwon Do - FREE** (Ages 7 & up)  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 18 - Dec. 13  
(no class Oct. 25, Nov. 15, and Nov. 22)  
5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at Comiskey Park
- **Chair Yoga - \$40 (\$48 for non-City residents)**  
Tuesdays and Thursdays, Nov. 1-29, 8 - 8:45 a.m. at Bunker Hill Clubhouse
- **Active Adventures - FREE**  
Monday, Nov. 5, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Sundown Mountain
- **Snow-Sport for Seniors - FREE**  
Wednesday, Dec. 12, and Thursday, Jan. 3, 1- 2:30 p.m. at Sundown Mountain



For more program details and to register, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org/recreation](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/recreation) or call the Leisure Services Department at 563-589-4263. §



# A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

Anyone who traveled through the Central Avenue Corridor Sept. 10-22 surely noticed two things: lots of construction activity and something new at the intersection of Central and 18th Street. While the construction activity and related street detours created inconveniences, the investments in infrastructure those multiple projects represent will have long-term benefits. Likewise, the "See the Potential on Central" activities focused around 18th and Central during those two weeks will have long-term benefits for the Central Avenue corridor and the entire community. The "Build a Better Block" activities were especially enjoyable and rewarding.

Three major efforts are changing the trajectory of this part of Dubuque. First, the \$219 million Bee Branch Watershed Flood Mitigation Project, although not yet complete, is already showing its capacity to prevent the repeated, annual flash flooding of hundreds of properties, which was a major obstacle to reinvestment with six Presidential Disaster Declarations from flooding since 1999. Secondly, when the \$130 million Southwest Arterial project is completed in 2019 and hundreds of semi-trucks and other vehicles are removed from Central Avenue and White Street, this area will become much safer and provide new opportunities for pedestrian and vehicular traffic and parking. Third, the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation's Dubuque's True North initiative and the City's CHANGE Program are coordinating efforts to

invest \$20 million, rehabilitate blighted properties, create affordable housing, repurpose commercial property, improve infrastructure, and encourage investment in the area. It is critical that current residents, business owners, and other stakeholders are engaged in efforts to take advantage of the opportunities these initiatives and others will provide to realize the potential in the Central Avenue Corridor.

## The Central Event

From Sept. 11-14, the Washington Neighborhood, in partnership with the City of Dubuque and Dubuque Main Street, held a series of events in the corridor to engage the public to create a more pedestrian-friendly street, improve safety, and create a vision to serve as the creative corridor for the neighborhood and corridor. More than 300 residents from the Washington Neighborhood and throughout Dubuque participated. The event kicked off on Sept. 11 with a community engagement festival that gave residents an opportunity to help define the features of the streetscape and their priorities for implementation. Over the next two days, residents and stakeholders met informally with the design team to share their ideas on an individual basis during drop-in hours. The event culminated on Sept. 14 with a presentation that showed a preferred vision for the streetscape integrating key features that are intended to make the street safer for pedestrians, improve lighting, integrate art, and slow down vehicular traffic. The design team is currently working with a

steering committee to refine the vision for additional feedback.

## Build A Better Block

Dubuque Main Street, the local non-profit organization dedicated to the development and ongoing support of Dubuque's downtown, sponsored and managed a series of Build A Better Block events at or near 18th and Central from Sept. 16-22 designed to show the potential on Central. Their activities included the buildup of a pedestrian area with trees, plants, benches, tables, and other amenities. Additionally, residents and visitors to the area that week had the opportunity to experience what it would be like to have additional shopping and restaurant opportunities in the corridor thanks to the participation of existing businesses and businesses that temporarily set up shop in available storefronts. Other activities, bringing people together with music and food, highlighted the potential for arts and culture offerings and making new connections with neighbors.

Neither of these events would have been possible without the involvement of numerous volunteers and the support of local sponsors and businesses. Neither of the events would have been successful without the participation of so many residents. It will be critical for this level of community engagement to continue as plans are developed and implemented to realize the potential on Central. §

## City Welcomes New Department Managers

Dubuque City Manager Mike Van Milligen has made appointments to fill two vacancies at the department manager level in the City organization.



Gina Bell joined the City of Dubuque as sustainable community coordinator on Oct. 1, 2018. As the City's sustainable community coordinator, Bell is responsible for implementing and managing Dubuque's

sustainability plan based on environmental and ecological integrity, economic prosperity, and social/cultural vibrancy to create a viable, livable, and equitable community. Her appointment to the position fills the vacancy created when Cori Burbach left the position after eight years to become assistant city manager in 2017.



Alexis Steger was named the City's new housing and community development director, effective Oct. 1, 2018.

Steger had served as the acting director of the department since June when Alvin Nash retired from the position. As housing and community development director, Steger is responsible for the management of Dubuque's housing code inspection, rental housing licensing, federally assisted housing, housing rehabilitation, housing relocation, lead paint hazard reduction, community development, Family Self-Sufficiency, Green and Healthy Homes, Bridges Initiative, and home purchase programs. §



## JOIN THE CARNEGIE CLUB

Get special library perks  
+ save big at local businesses!

NEW!

# CALENDAR

Join the Carnegie Club at  
Carnegie-Stout Public Library! Joining is easy.  
To learn more, call 563-589-4225 or visit  
[www.dubuque.lib.ia.us/Carnegie-Club](http://www.dubuque.lib.ia.us/Carnegie-Club)

## New Faces & Retirements

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

**Andrew Ausdemore** - Emergency Communications  
**Emily Bartley** - Library  
**Hannah Burke** - Library  
**Adam Busch** - Airport  
**Ella Esser** - Library  
**Rachael Ferraro** - Transit  
**Jacob Freund** - Public Works  
**Shane Hoeper** - Housing  
**Jacob Humpal** - Police  
**John Kirk** - Public Works

**Christopher Kluesner** - Fire  
**Kyle Knutson** - Fire  
**Cinnamon Miranda** - Transit  
**Amanda Mosby** - Library  
**Robert Nelson** - Public Works  
**Armina Odobasic** - Transit  
**Raneisha Ross** - Housing  
**Joseph Schmitt** - Fire  
**Daniel White** - Fire  
**Trent Wood** - Police

The City of Dubuque congratulates these recent retirees:

**William Kelly** - Public Works      **Michael Schmit** - Police  
**Mike Knowles** - Fire

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new board or commission members:

Airport Commission  
**Jennifer Chambers**  
  
Historic Preservation Commission  
**Melissa Cassill**  
**Brandi Clark**  
**Charles Richard (Rick) Stuter**

Housing Commission  
**Brad Cavanagh**  
**Sam Wooden**  
  
Transit Advisory Board  
**Robert Daughters**

### Contact Information

The City of Dubuque welcomes comments and suggestions about your city government or news appearing in this newsletter. Please contact:

City Manager's Office  
50 W. 13th Street  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001-4864  
(563) 589-4110  
[ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org)



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### Editorial Information

City News is published by the Public Information Office and is inserted in the City of Dubuque utility bills six times per year. For the most up-to-date City news and events, visit [www.cityofdubuque.org](http://www.cityofdubuque.org).

## November

5 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.  
12 City offices closed for Veterans Day (No change in refuse collection schedule)  
14 Budget Public Input Session, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Fed. Bldg.  
19 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.  
22-23 City offices closed for Thanksgiving (Nov. 22 refuse collection will occur on Sat., Nov. 24; no change to Nov. 23 collection.)

## December

3 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.  
18 City Council Meeting, 6 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Bldg.  
24-25 City offices closed for Christmas (No change to Dec. 24 collection, Dec. 25 refuse collection will occur instead on Sat., Dec. 22.)

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](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme) to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news. Public meeting notices are also available on CityChannel Dubuque and in the Telegraph Herald.

City Hall: 50 W. 13th St.  
City Hall Annex: 1300 Main St.  
Historic Federal Building: 350 W. 6th St.

Carnegie-Stout Public Library: 360 W. 11th St.  
Bunker Hill Snack Bar: 2200 Bunker Hill Rd.  
Dubuque Jet Center: 11000 Airport Rd.



Crescent Community Health Center assists residents with health insurance options. Open enrollment and re-enrollment for the Health Insurance Marketplace runs Nov. 1 through Dec. 15.

Assistance to apply for the Iowa Health and Wellness (Medicaid) plans can be done year-round. Please contact Angela at (563) 690-2884 to schedule an appointment. §



## Have Lunch with Santa!

Join us on **Saturday, Dec. 8 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.** for holiday cheer and celebration while having lunch with Santa at Bunker Hill! During lunch, visitors can decorate their own cookie or create an ornament at the holiday craft stations. This is a family event so all are welcome, but all attendees must register in advance. Hot dogs, chips, and a drink are on the menu! Only those pre-registered will be allowed into the event as space is limited.

**\$5 per person - pre-registration required**

Register online at [www.cityofdubuque.org/recreation](http://www.cityofdubuque.org/recreation) or by calling 563-589-4263.