

CITYnews



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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2020

Miracle League Complex Opens at Veteran's Memorial Park

Nearly 1,700 children and youth in the Dubuque Community School District have been diagnosed with some type of disability. More than 4,000 children and youth with disabilities live in the surrounding area. Most playgrounds and recreational facilities are not accessible for individuals with disabilities and they have very limited opportunities to participate in sports leagues.

The Miracle League of Dubuque baseball field and all-inclusive playground, located at Veteran's Memorial Park (2970 Miracle League Drive), offers these individuals the opportunity to experience the joy of being a part of a team as they fully participate in our national pastime and play along with their non-disabled peers on playground equipment that is 100 percent accessible to them.

This public-private partnership between The Miracle League of Dubuque, formed by a group of passionate individuals in our community, intersects with numerous elements of the Dubuque City Council's vision for Dubuque and, importantly, it helps fill an equity gap in our community and improve inclusion for children and families with special needs in the Dubuque region.

The project was funded through grants and private donations. The City of Dubuque partnered with Miracle League of Dubuque on the project planning, the successful CAT grant application, as well as a lease agreement, and the future programming, operations, and maintenance of the facility.

The City of Dubuque thanks the Miracle League of Dubuque Board for their dedication and fundraising that led to this amazing new park amenity that will be enjoyed for years to come! §



Help slow the spread of COVID-19!

Follow these preventative measures:



Frequently wash your hands



Wear a face covering in public spaces



Stay at least 6 feet apart from other people



Stay home when you're sick

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Community Support & Recovery

Resources are available for individuals, families, and businesses impacted financially, physically, and emotionally by the COVID-19 pandemic. Visit www.cityofdubuque.org/covid19support for details. For general assistance with food, bills, etc., please call 2-1-1 from a landline or 800.244.7431 from a cell phone, or text your zip code to 898211.

Businesses/employers should call the COVID-19 Business Helpline at 563.588.3350. §

Wernimont Named Planning Services Manager



City Manager Mike Van Milligen has appointed Wally Wernimont as the City of Dubuque's new planning services manager. Wernimont's appointment

follows a national search to replace Planning Services Manager Laura Carstens who retired after serving in the position since 1989.

Wernimont has been a member of the City's planning services department since 2001, serving as assistant planner from January 2001 to December 2019 and associate planner since January 2020. Wernimont also temporarily served as assistant director of housing and community development for the City from June-September of 2019. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in community and regional planning from Iowa State University.

As planning services manager, he leads the planning services department and programs, including long-range planning, special project planning, preparation and administration of land-use regulations, data base maintenance, and historic preservation activities.

Wernimont directs the provision of staff services in the development services, city planning, and historic preservation activities of the department, including zoning enforcement and floodplain management. The planning services manager also provides and directs the provision of staff services to Dubuque's Long-Range Planning Advisory Commission, Zoning Advisory Commission, Zoning Board of Adjustment, and Historic Preservation Commission. The department also provides and directs the provision of staff services to the internal Development Review Team, the Port of Dubuque Design Review Committee, and the Chaplain Schmitt Island Design Review Committee. §

EVERYONE COUNTS TODOS CUENTAN AOLEP ARMEJ REJ AIKUJ BONBON



No matter what language you speak, the message is clear:
Everyone counts in Dubuque!

Shape
your future
START HERE >
United States®
**Census
2020**

Soon, census takers will be
going door-to-door
following up with
households who
have yet to respond.

Skip the visit and respond to the
2020 Census online at
www.my2020census.gov or over
the phone at 844-330-2020.

DUBUQUE CITY COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION



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THIRD WARD
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Term Expires: Dec. 31, 2023

*Kevin Lynch was appointed by the City Council on July 27 to fill the vacancy created by Brett Shaw's resignation.



A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

As city manager, I was presented with a very interesting decision earlier this year when I was approached by Voices Productions, a local arts organization, and a wonderful artist in our community, Shelby Fry. They asked if they could put a "SOLIDARITY" mural on the Main Street façade of the Five Flags Civic Center. They presented to me their vision and goal for the project and, after great deliberation and consulting with others, I decided it was an appropriate mural for a city building and I approved their request.

When people ask me what influenced me to make that decision, the best way I can explain it is a letter I received after the mural was completed. Here is that letter:

"I moved to Dubuque when I was 16, and never felt the city was that inclusive. When I was a sophomore at Dubuque Senior a substitute teacher read my name for attendance then said "Oh, Iranian? Are you going to bomb the country?" because of my last name. I was stunned, I went to the vice principal and she handled the situation. But prior to that none of my classmates knew that my last name was Iranian (I am Caucasian and don't look Iranian, but that shouldn't matter). I joined the Navy to get away from that mentality.

This mural is absolutely beautiful and



Photo courtesy Five Flags Center

makes me proud to have lived there. I will be moving back to help my family soon and this makes me much more comfortable and less apprehensive. I currently live in Dallas and have shown some of my friends this incredible mural and they love it and want to visit. You're likely going to get emails from folks that don't understand or are blinded by what they've been taught. I hope the mural stays for years to come because it is truly wonderful.

As a veteran the semicolon was the part that really touched my heart, 22 veterans are lost per day to suicide, the semicolon is something many of us that battle suicide have tattooed on us. The semicolon reminds us that our story isn't over. This mural speaks to everyone."

I will add that I believe the "SOLIDARITY" mural is a great example of residents recognizing a problem in the community, inviting others to work with them and form partnerships, and taking action to address the problem. More than 75 community volunteers participated in painting the mural which, in itself, is a real testament to its message. All materials and supplies were donated.

I hope all who see this mural will view it as a visual embodiment of unity and a message of our community's inclusivity. I believe it will serve as an ongoing catalyst for conversation and positive change to make Dubuque an equitable community of choice for all. §

Sustainable Dubuque Grant Applications due Sept. 15

Put your idea into action with a Sustainable Dubuque Grant! Community project grants of up to \$2,500 are available to organizations, businesses, and passionate residents. Projects must incorporate Sustainable Dubuque principles and include an element of community engagement and/or education. Grant applications are reviewed and awarded twice each year. Apply by Sept. 15. Learn more and apply online at www.cityofdubuque.org/sustainability or call 563.690.6038. §

2020 Water Quality Reports Available

The City of Dubuque Water Department has published the annual water quality reports for the Dubuque water supply. The drinking water met all state and federal water quality requirements and had no drinking water violations in 2019. The complete report is available online at www.cityofdubuque.org/2020waterquality and printed copies are available by request. For more information, call 563.589.4291 or visit www.cityofdubuque.org/water.



Voting Information for Nov. 3 General Election

Dubuque County voting sites will be open from 7 a.m. - 9 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 3. Early in-person voting begins Oct. 5 at the Election Annex, 75 Locust

St. Requests for absentee ballots are currently being accepted. For information on voting, voter registration, deadlines, and to request an absentee ballot, visit www.dubuquecounty.org/Elections or call 563-589-4457.



New Faces

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Dane Bakken-Drinkall - Police

Aidan Carr - Police

Ryan Cleary - Water & Resource Recovery Center

Jenna Hirtz - Finance/Budget

Steven Miller - Public Works

Bryan Moose - Airport

LaMetra Murdock - Housing & Community Development

Bailey Paulsen - Police

Madeline Roling - Finance/Budget

Cody Schwochert - Police

Anthony Sheehan - Public Works

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

Civil Service Commission

Carla Heathcote

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Matthew Mauss

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twitter.com/CityofDubuque

Contact Information

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

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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.

CALENDAR

September

7	City offices closed for Labor Day (Trash/recycling collection on Sat. Sept. 5)
8	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., virtual meeting*
21	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., virtual meeting*

October

5	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., virtual meeting*
19	City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., virtual meeting*

**At time of publication, all public meetings are being held virtually to abide by social distancing guidelines. For details on participating in these virtual meetings, visit cityofdubuque.org/agendas or call 563.589.4120. City Council meetings are City Council meeting are aired live on CityChannel Dubuque (Mediacom channels 8 and 1117.2) and 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.



The Southwest Arterial IS OPEN!

CDBG Spotlight: Dubuque Dream Center

The City of Dubuque supports a variety of organizations through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG.) The Dubuque Dream Center, located at 1600 White Street, is a recipient of this funding.

Dream Center Mission: We strive to inspire vision and purpose through impacting youth, strengthening families, and building community. Our program is structured to strategically impact students through our academic center, Spark activities, healthy meals, character development curriculum and family engagement. We are supporting the present workforce by providing working families with a safe and high quality childcare option, and more!



The Dream Center's long term vision includes holistic initiatives to benefit the entire community. Our essential youth impact structure includes academic initiatives, character development, and college and career preparation.

The Dream Center is currently looking for community members, that are passionate about seeing our youth reach their highest potential despite life's challenges, to become a Dream Maker. It costs \$3,000 per year to sponsor a student. Please consider helping impact a child's future! For more information, please contact Racquel McClellan, Donor Relations Coordinator, at rmcclellan@dbqdream.org, or visit our website www.dubuquedreamcenter.com, or follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/dubuquedreamcenter. §