

CITYnews

Dubuque Recognized Nationally & Internationally **IN THIS ISSUE**

Dubuque is the top-ranked city on Forbes' list of "The Best Small Cities to Raise a Family."

The listing ranked cities with populations under 100,000 by quality of life measures that make living easier for families such as education level, median household income, rate of home ownership, housing affordability, and average commute time.

The article on Forbes.com states, "Dubuque's size puts it in kind of a sweet spot: large enough to be a center of industry, small enough to not be overcrowded. An economy that diversified after the collapse of local manufacturing industry contributes to an unemployment rate that's nearly half the national average at 6.5 percent, and a median household income of \$48,779. That means most families have the jobs they need. They also don't have to spend a lot of time getting there: Only 2.6 percent of the population spends an hour or more getting to work."

Dubuque was named a third-place finalist and a gold standard community at the International Awards for Livable Communities (LivCom) held in Chicago in November.

Finalists were divided into five categories based on population. Dubuque was the highest-ranked American city in the "whole city" category for communities with populations up to 75,000. Criteria for the awards were based on each community's demonstration of enhancement of the landscape, heritage management, environmentally sensitive practices, community sustainability, healthy lifestyles, and planning for the future.

"It's an incredible honor for Dubuque," said Mayor Roy D. Buol. "It's one thing to be compared to communities in the United States. This is getting recognized globally. It doesn't get much better than that, and it speaks volumes about where this city is and where it's headed."

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The LivCom Awards are endorsed by the United Nations Environment Program and are the world's only awards competition focusing on best practice regarding the management of the local environment. For more information, visit www.livcomawards.com.

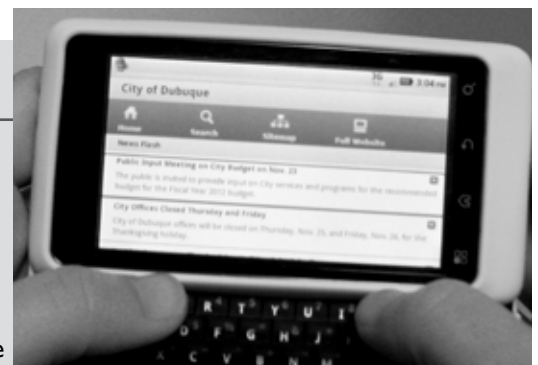
Get City Alerts & Updates Anywhere

Text Message Alert Option Added

The "Notify Me" function of the City's website allows residents to self-subscribe to receive notifications of announcements, alerts, meetings, and events in more than 20 categories. Previously, email was the only way to receive this information but you can now sign up to be notified via text message on your mobile phone instead or additionally. Visit www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme to sign up or manage your subscriptions.

Mobile Site Now Available

The City recently launched a "mobile version" of its website that is automatically detected and displayed by web-enabled mobile phones and other devices. This enables site visitors to easily access information and browse the City website from almost anywhere. If they prefer, mobile phone users can still view the "full version" of the website. Visit www.cityofdubuque.org from your mobile phone today!



THE CITY OF
DUBUQUE
Masterpiece on the Mississippi

Free Financial Literacy Classes and Free Tax-Filing Sites



Operation: New View Community Action Agency is co-sponsoring free financial education classes. These classes are divided

into four sessions based on the Four Cornerstones of Financial Literacy. The following FREE classes will be held at the Prescott Elementary Neighborhood Resource Center at 1151 White Street:

Budgeting to Create Savings

Tuesday, January 11 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Debt Reduction & Asset Building

Tuesday, January 18 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Building a Good Credit Rating

Tuesday, January 25 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Consumer Protection & Financial Institutions

Tuesday, February 1 - 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Individuals are encouraged to attend all sessions for information on getting their financial situation on track. Please RSVP to 563.556.5130, ext. 14, or email bjenkins@operationnewview.org.

Five free tax-filing sites will be located throughout the community for income-eligible families during the upcoming tax season:

- AARP ~ Hills & Dales Lifetime Center
- Loras College
- AARP ~ St. Matthew Lutheran Church
- University of Dubuque
- Operation: New View Community Action Agency

Dates and times for each location will be determined in late December. For more information, please call Operation: New View Community Action Agency at 563.556.5130 or Information and Referral at 211. §

Dr. King Tribute Days: January 16-17

The City of Dubuque Human Rights Department, in partnership with faces & voices, the Dubuque Chapter of the NAACP, and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, invite you to attend the following events in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King Junior's birthday.

Sunday, January 16, 1:00 p.m., Prescott School, 1151 White Street: NAACP March and Student Awards. Free to the public. No registration required.

Monday, January 17, 7:30 a.m., Grand River Center, 550 Bell Street: Dr. King Birthday Breakfast. Price to attend is \$15.00 for adults, \$5.00 for youth 12 and under. Pre-registration is required by no later than January 7 through the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, 563-588-2700.

Monday, January 17, 7:00 p.m., Clarke University Atrium, 1550 Clarke Drive: An evening with Robyn Afrik. Free to the public. No registration required.



Dubuque Regional Airport News

Airport Ranked Best in the Nation for Safety Compliance

The Dubuque Regional Airport recently received official notice of its 20th consecutive year of perfect compliance with Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 139. FAR Part 139 governs safety standards for airfield operations, safety, and maintenance at airports served by commercial airlines. This acknowledgment means the Dubuque airport meets or exceeds all federally mandated standards, rules, and policies which promote safety at all commercial airports. No other airport in the country has a perfect FAR Part 139 safety compliance record for a consecutive 20-year period!

American Airlines Adds Fourth Flight

American Airlines and the Dubuque Regional Airport have added a fourth daily flight to Chicago O'Hare beginning on April 5, 2011. The fourth flight increases the airport's seat capacity by 25 percent, or 100 seats per day. For more information, visit www.flydbq.com or contact the Dubuque Regional Airport at 589-4128. §

Community Improvement Efforts Recognized

- The Academy for a Healthy Iowa has awarded Dubuque the 2010 Healthy Iowa Community Award for efforts in wellness, activity, programming, financial commitment, measurability, and sustainability.
- The International Economic Development Council awarded its 2010 Excellence in Economic Development Award in the category of Public/Private Partnerships to the Roshek Building Redevelopment Project.
- The City of Dubuque and JEO Consulting were awarded a "2010 Planning Excellence Award for Best Practice" for the City's Unified Development Code (UDC) by the Iowa Chapter of the American Planning Association. The UDC also garnered Dubuque the 1000 Friends of Iowa's "2010 Best Development Award" in the category of "Leadership in a Large Community." The UDC updated and consolidated zoning, subdivision, site development, historic preservation, and sign regulations into a single city code.



A MESSAGE from the CITY MANAGER

Michael C. Van Milligen

FY2012 BUDGET PROCESS

I will soon present my budget transmittal message and the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 recommended budget document to the City Council. The budget process will continue as City staff from each department and division present budget information to the City Council at a series of public meetings. The public is invited to attend and provide input at the following public hearings:

Wednesday, February 9: Health Services, City Attorney, City Manager, City Council, City Clerk, Cable TV

Tuesday, February 15: Water, Water Pollution Control, Public Works, Engineering

Thursday, February 17: Human Rights, Information Services, Five Flags Center, Conference Center, Recreation, Parks

Thursday, February 24: Emergency Communications, Emergency Management, Fire, Police, Building Services

Tuesday, March 1: Housing & Community Development, Library, Finance, Airport

Thursday, March 3: Purchase of Services, Planning Services, Economic Development, Parking, Transit

Thursday, March 10: Final Public Hearing to adopt the FY2012 Budget.

All budget hearings begin at 6:30 p.m. and are held in the City Council Chambers on the second floor of the Historic Federal Building at 350 W. 6th Street. These meetings are also aired live on CityChannel 8 on the Mediacom cable system and streamed live and archived on the City website at www.cityofdubuque.org/media.

For additional details on the City budget process, visit www.cityofdubuque.org/budget or call 589-4322. §

Yard Lighting Rebate Program Expanded

The Dubuque City Council has approved the expansion of the City's yard lighting rebate program to include neighborhoods east of the bluffs area as well the city's low/moderate income neighborhoods.

The lighting initiative was developed to enhance public safety and allows property owners in these areas to apply for a partial rebate of the purchase and installation costs of energy-efficient lighting fixtures for their front and/or backyard. The program was first offered in the Washington Neighborhood in 2008. The expansion follows a recommendation of the Safe Community Task Force for the City to create ways to encourage people to light up their own property and surrounding public property.

For front yard lighting, property owners are eligible for a rebate of up to half of \$500 (\$250 maximum) toward the cost of purchase and installation of energy-efficient electric, gas, or permanent solar lighting fixtures installed. The light fixture must be in close proximity to the public sidewalk and at least partially light the public sidewalk.

Property owners are also eligible for a rebate of up to half of \$200 (\$100 maximum) toward the cost of purchase and installation of energy-efficient electric, gas, or permanent solar lighting fixtures installed in their back yard. The light fixtures may also be attached to the rear of the home or to the owner's garage on the alley. The light fixture must be in close proximity to the alley and at least partially light the alley. Motion-sensitive lighting fixtures and fixtures using incandescent bulbs are not eligible. City permits and inspections by the Building Services Department are required for this program.

For additional information and to view a map of eligible neighborhoods, please visit www.cityofdubuque.org/yardlighting. To participate, please contact the Building Services Department at 589-4150 or building@cityofdubuque.org. §

Van Milligen Named National Academy Fellow

Dubuque City Manager Michael C. Van Milligen was recently named a National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) Fellow by the Academy's board of directors.

"As a NAPA Fellow, I am going to have the opportunity to learn from the best and brightest in public administration in the world," said Van Milligen. "This is a humbling honor and I hope I can make some small contribution to their work."

To be selected as a NAPA Fellow, individuals must be nominated by three existing Fellows, be recommended for consideration by a nominating committee of existing Fellows, and then be elected

by a vote of all Fellows. There are approximately 700 NAPA Fellows. Van Milligen is one of just 72 current or former city or county managers elected to the group.

The NAPA is an independent, non-partisan organization created by Congress to help public sector leaders meet the important and varied management challenges of today and anticipate those of the future. The NAPA undertakes its work on behalf of the public sector by anticipating, evaluating, analyzing and making recommendations on the nation's most critical and complex public management, governance, policy and operational challenges. For more information, visit www.napawash.org. §

Transit Adds 'Medical Loop'

Dubuque's Keyline Transit now offers riders a new "Medical Loop" route. The loop provides hourly service between the Finley Hospital, Mercy Medical Center, Medical Associates Clinic (East Campus only), as well as Clarke University, Loras College, the University of Dubuque, and the Hy-Vee Food Store on South Locust Street. Passengers can access the service from the other Keyline bus lines at the 6th and Iowa transfer point at 45 minutes past the hour between the hours of 7:45 a.m. and 4:45 p.m.

Keyline's standard fare structure applies to the Medical Loop: \$1.00 per ride for the general public; \$0.50 for senior citizens, students 17 and under, and persons with disabilities; and no charge for transfers. For more information about the medical loop route, contact Keyline Transit at 589-4196, email transit@cityofdubuque.org, or visit www.cityofdubuque.org/transit.

New Faces

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Suzanne Dodd
Library

Bradley Hesselbacher
Police

James Patterson
Parking

Jason Hartman
City Manager's Office

Lynne Johnson
Transit

Sarah Smith
Library

Rebecca Heil
Library

David Lois
Police

Brooke Vance
Library

Retirements

Congratulations to the employees who recently retired from the City of Dubuque:

Francis Frommelt Water Pollution Control **Jolene Patterson** Housing **Penny Ehlinger** Leisure Services **Steve Ohnesorg** Parks

Volunteers Needed for Bridges Initiative

Volunteers for a wide variety of tasks are needed for the Bridges Initiative, co-sponsored by the City and designed to provide a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by those who live in and have lived in poverty. If you have a desire to end poverty in our community and would like to join in or learn more about our efforts, please contact Carroll Clark at 589.4230 or cclark@cityofdubuque.org.

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 phone
(563) 589-4149 fax
ctymgr@cityofdubuque.org



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.

Sister City Commission

The City of Dubuque is seeking applicants for the newly created, 12-member Sister City Relationships Advisory Commission. Membership terms begin in February 2011 and duties will include:

- Facilitate and maintain economic and cultural exchanges with the City's officially recognized International Sister Cities.
- Explore potential relationships with cities where a Sister City relationship may be mutually beneficial.

For more info or to apply, call 589-4120 or visit www.cityofdubuque.org/boards
Deadline to apply: January 12.

January

- 3 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 3-14 City's Merry Mulch Christmas Tree Recycling Program and Yard Waste Collection. Call 589-4250 for details.
- 4 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room 1, City Hall Annex
- 10 Human Rights Commission Meeting, 4:15 p.m., Conference Room II, City Hall Annex
- 11 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course snack bar
- 13 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Building
- 18 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 18 Housing Code Appeals Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 24 Airport Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center
- 25 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Carnegie-Stout Library Auditorium
- 25 Housing Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 26 Investment Oversight Advisory Commission Meeting, 3:00 p.m., Conf. Room A, City Hall
- 27 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 4 p.m., Carnegie-Stout Library auditorium

February

- 7 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 8 Environmental Stewardship Advisory Commission, 5 p.m., Conf. Room 1, City Hall Annex
- 8 Park and Recreation Commission, 4:30 p.m., Bunker Hill Golf Course snack bar
- 10 Transit Advisory Board, 4:15 p.m., Room 223, Historic Federal Building
- 14 Human Rights Commission Meeting, 4:15 p.m., Conf. Room II, City Hall Annex
- 15 Housing Code Appeals Board Meeting, 4:30 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 22 Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Commission, 4:30 p.m., Carnegie-Stout Public Library Auditorium
- 22 City Council Meeting, 6:30 p.m., City Council Chambers, Historic Federal Building
- 22 Housing Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Suite 312, Historic Federal Building
- 24 Carnegie-Stout Public Library Board of Trustees Meeting, 4 p.m., Carnegie-Stout Public Library auditorium
- 28 Airport Commission Meeting, 4 p.m., Dubuque Jet Center

This calendar does not include all events, and is subject to change. Are you using Dubuque's "Notify Me" e-mail alert system? If not, please sign up today at www.cityofdubuque.org/notifyme to receive agendas, news releases, event notifications, and other timely news.

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 Road