



CITY NEWS

a newsletter of the City of Dubuque



Volume 5, Issue 2

March/April 2007

Washington Neighborhood Assoc. Wins CommUNITY Award

The Washington Neighborhood Association was awarded the 2007 CommUNITY Award for Diversity Initiatives by Dubuque's Faces and Voices organization.

The newly formed and energized Washington Neighborhood Association (WNA) received the award for "providing leadership in the Dubuque community by helping to promote and support events and programs that embrace diversity."

Although the new WNA has been in existence for less than two years, the group's accomplishments are numerous. They have engaged neighborhood residents in

initiatives such as neighborhood clean-up days, a neighborhood block party, and family activities. They have been a critical partner in the Revitalize Dubuque: Washington Neighborhood revitalization initiative. They have been a voice for the neighborhood residents and have engaged in dialogue with elected officials and City staff on issues important to their neighborhood.

The individuals who nominated the WNA for this award stated: "They understand that a truly welcoming community must embrace diversity, advocate for itself, partner with other collaborative efforts to promote

understanding and acceptance, take action on behalf of its citizens and its community, work-from-the-ground level-up to counter discrimination and prejudice and build an inclusive community."

The award was accepted by WNA President Theresa Caldwell and Vice President Avery Butler at the Faces and Voices Martin Luther King Jr. Day Breakfast in January.

The WNA is one of 10 neighborhood associations in Dubuque. For more information, contact Neighborhood Development Specialist Jerelyn O'Connor at 589-4110. ■

Goodmann Named to City Post

Following City Council approval of the creation of a new three-quarter time assistant city manager position, City Manager Mike Van Milligen appointed Teri Goodmann as assistant city manager. She began employment with the City on Feb. 19, 2007.

Goodmann's focus in this new, part-time position is intergovernmental relations, nurturing partnerships,

and governmental and foundation grant funding. Her responsibilities will include conducting legislative analyses and coordinating the City's intergovernmental relations, public affairs, and grant funding efforts.

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Blouin Joins GDDC

Mike Blouin has joined the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation (GDDC) to help bolster Dubuque's national business development efforts.



Blouin was most recently Iowa's top economic

development official and is a former member of the U.S. Congress, the Iowa Senate and the Iowa House. Blouin has also successfully led the economic development efforts of Iowa's two largest cities, serving as the CEO of both the Greater Des Moines Partnership and the Cedar Rapids Chamber of Commerce.

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AMERICA'S PROMISE - THE ALLIANCE FOR YOUTH

100 BEST COMMUNITIES



America's Promise -- The Alliance for Youth has named Dubuque as one of the "100 Best Communities for Young People."

This national competition honors communities -- ranging from small towns to urban neighborhoods across America -- for their commitment to provide healthy, safe and caring environments for young people.

THE CITY OF
DUBUQUE
Masterpiece on the Mississippi

Goodmann Named Assistant City Manager, continued ...

She will also research community needs and report findings and recommendations to the city manager as part of the City's planning process related to the development of legislative and funding initiatives.

Goodmann serves as the City's legislative liaison and works with city, county, state and federal elected and appointed government officials in order to maintain effective working relationships and alliances. She also coordinates meetings with state and federal legislators and their staff. Additionally, Goodmann will research grant opportunities in order to identify and develop additional revenue sources for the City as well as cultivate grant opportunities with philanthropic foundations and organizations. Subsequently, she will provide technical assistance and advice to other City departments in preparing grant applications.

"I'm very excited to work for the Dubuque community in this new capacity," said Goodmann. "I will continue to work on the America's River developments at the Port of Dubuque and I look forward to this opportunity to expand the scope of my efforts on behalf of the community."

Goodmann holds a bachelor's degree from Clarke College and has completed graduate studies at Loras College. She was most recently development director for the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium and the National Rivers Hall of Fame, where she has worked for the past 11 years. She also served as the campaign coordinator for the \$188 million America's River project. Goodmann is past chair of the Dubuque Regional Airport Commission and is a member of the Dubuque Initiatives Board of Directors, Hillcrest Family Services Board of Directors, Mines of Spain Board of Directors, and the Dubuque Arboretum and Botanical Gardens Board of Directors.

She is also a trustee for the Nature Conservancy of Iowa and serves on its five states' Upper Mississippi River Board. She is a board member and serves on the executive committee of the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana and is a past member of the Iowa State Historical Society Board of Trustees and the Iowa Infrastructure Advisory Board. Goodmann is also a member of the Dubuque County Magistrate Appointing Commission. She previously taught French and Spanish to elementary students at area schools.

As a part-time City employee, Goodmann has the flexibility to contract with other organizations for consulting services. She intends to continue to do work for the Dubuque County Historical Society/National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium and National Rivers Hall of Fame. ■

City Chosen for Sustainable Design

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) Center for Communities by Design has selected Dubuque as one of five communities to receive technical assistance under the Sustainable Design Assessment Team (SDAT) program in 2007. The SDAT brings together architects and other professionals from across the country to provide a roadmap for communities seeking to improve their sustainability – as defined by a community's ability to meet the environmental, economic, health, and social equity needs of today without reducing the ability of future generations to meet their needs. The SDAT will work in conjunction with local stakeholders to help shape the community's strategy to increase sustainability and achieve Greet City designation. ■

Blouin Joins GDDC, continued ...

GDDC also restructured the organization with current Director Rick Dickinson assuming the new title of Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer (COO) with Blouin filling the position of President. Both Dickinson and Blouin will report directly to the GDDC Board of Directors.

Dickinson noted that despite Dubuque's #1 rank in Iowa and a Top 25 rank among U.S. cities for job growth, complacency is not an option. Dickinson said that Blouin's move is a clear sign that Greater Dubuque will continue to push the boundaries of economic development.

GDDC Chairman, David Becker, noted that while Dubuque's job growth has been impressive, it won't secure the future. Becker cited Blouin's vast experience and rapport with national, blue-chip companies as a way to enhance the organization and move Dubuque forward.

"The Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, its staff and investors, as well as tri-state public officials, have made Dubuque a great place to live and pursue a career," said Blouin upon his appointment. "My role will be to work with this team and build on that greatness. I am committed to making this happen and look forward to getting started." ■

City Expo 2007 "Good to Great"

This year's City Expo will be held on Tuesday, April 10, from 5-8 p.m. in the Five Flags Civic Center at 405 Main Street.

City Expo is a family-oriented, educational event for Dubuque residents to learn more about city programs, services, and resources. Admission is free.

CITY MANAGER'S COLUMN

by Michael C. Van Milligen

One of the City Council's five-year goals is "partnering for a better Dubuque." Progress toward this goal is evident in several areas.

A "first birthday" celebration was held in January for Envision 2010. This community envisioning process, facilitated by the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce and the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque and funded by the Dubuque Racing Association, yielded 10 top ideas which were the basis of Dubuque's winning application for the Iowa Great Places competition.

The *America's River* Phase II projects are now underway in the Port of Dubuque. In addition to the expansions at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium and the Diamond Jo Casino, the City is in discussions with the Durrant Group and Wayne Briggs regarding their development projects. Renovations continue at the Dubuque Star Brewery, the future home of Stone Cliff Winery, a restaurant, art gallery, and retail and office tenants.

The addition of Mike Blouin to the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation coincides with a new business recruitment initiative for Greater Dubuque. GDDC recently completed the River Valley Initiative, a five-year campaign designed to create unparalleled growth and opportunity by focusing on business retention and expansion, attracting new industry, creating a new venture capital fund, and marketing the Greater Dubuque area. The five-year goals of the initiative were to spur \$200 million in new construction and create 5,100 new jobs with a total workforce of 55,900. Instead, more than \$540 million in new construction occurred, and 5,300 new jobs were created with a total workforce of 56,200 in just four years. Plans for a second phase of the program in 2007 are being finalized.

Teri Goodmann's appointment as part-time assistant city manager will enhance our ability to strengthen our existing partnerships and develop new relationships. Her focus will be

to advance key strategies and initiatives through improved intergovernmental relations and additional foundation and governmental funding opportunities. She and Assistant City Manager Cindy Steinhauser will make a powerful combination helping to move Dubuque forward.

Dubuque's inclusion in the "100 Best Communities for Young People" is due, in large part, to the success of the Dubuque Mentoring Partnership and Mississippi Valley Promise. More than a dozen Dubuque organizations have partnered to make a positive impact in young people's lives.

Another group which was recently recognized for its work in improving our community is the Washington Neighborhood Association. They have become a unifying force for diverse groups in one of our oldest neighborhoods. They, too, are a great example of a partnership making Dubuque a better place. ■

City Co-Sponsors Tax Preparation Assistance

The City of Dubuque has joined forces with other community groups to connect working families with information on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and local free tax preparation services.

The EITC, approved by the Federal government in 1975, was designed to help boost the wages of low- and moderate-income individuals and families. To qualify for the EITC, applicants must be employed, or have been employed, and have earned under \$38,348 in tax year 2006. Successful applicants may receive a refund or the EITC may reduce the amount of taxes they owe.

To apply, simply ask your tax preparer if you qualify. If you prepare your taxes yourself, check out the IRS booklet "Publication 596: Earned Income."

Individuals with low and moderate incomes are eligible to receive free and confidential assistance with their taxes at the following sites:

*St. Matthew Luth. Church (AARP)
18th and White Streets
February 1 – April 15, Monday-Friday, 12:30-4:00 p.m.
Walk-ins welcome.*

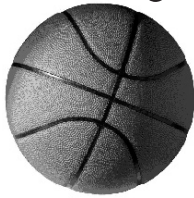
*Prescott School Neighborhood
Resource Center*

*Thursday evenings, 5:30-7:30 p.m.,
through March 15, by appointment
only. Call 588-4655, ext. 1005.*

For additional information about free tax preparation sites at Loras College, the University of Dubuque, and the Dubuque Area Lifetime Center, contact Information and Referral by dialing 211 or 557-8331.

Taxpayers must provide their social security cards, their 2005 Federal and State tax returns, their 2006 tax booklets, and all of their 2006 W2, 1099, 1098, and K1 Forms. Most 2006 tax forms are available at the Carnegie-Stout Public Library. ■

Registration Open for Alumni Basketball Tournament



The Leisure Services Department will host the 13th Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament for the Modern (graduating in 1997 or since) and Women's (graduating in any year) divisions March 23 - 25 and for the Classic (graduating in 1996 or earlier) and Master's (graduating in 1986 or earlier) divisions March 30 - April 1. Registration materials are NOW AVAILABLE! Entry fee is \$56 per team. The deadline is Wednesday, March 14, 2007. Please contact the Leisure Services Department for additional information, 589-4263. ■

New Faces

The City of Dubuque welcomes these new employees:

Paul Avenarius
Police Department

Cory Behounek
Airport

Jodi Chapman
Emergency Communications

Mary Duncan
Transit Division

Mishereen Ellis
City Manager's Office

Teri Goodman
City Manager's Office

Dawn Grierson
Library

Angela Johnson
Library

Jesse Kremer
Airport

Katherine Mertz
Police Department

Steve Moller
Building Safety

Jered Shipley
Airport

Douglas Springer
Police Department

Matthew Walker
Police Department

Justin Weidemann
Police Department

Retirements

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

Connie Booth
Transit Division

Karen Chesterman
City Clerk's Office

Louis Fischer
Fire Department

Patricia Folger
Police Department

Janet Anderson
Finance Department

Sandi Hutchcroft
Emergency Communications

Terry Driscoll
Police Department

Contact Information

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

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For the most up-to-date news and announcements regarding the City of Dubuque, visit the official City of Dubuque website at www.cityofdubuque.org.

Editorial Information

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City News is inserted in the City of Dubuque utility bills six times per year. Articles that appear in *City News* may be reprinted with credit given to the City of Dubuque.

Calendar of Events

March

- 2-3** NCAA 34th Annual Division III National Wrestling Championships Hosted by Loras College, Five Flags Arena
- 4** Mines of Spain Recreation Area Program: Beneath our Feet, 1 p.m., E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center. FREE
- 10-11** Dubuque Symphony Orchestra - Classics III "Innocence & Experience," 8 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Five Flags Theater
- 11** Mines of Spain Recreation Area Program: Physiology of the Five Senses, 1 p.m., E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center. FREE
- 23-25** Wahlert High School Musical Dept. presents "Les Miserables" The School Edition, 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Five Flags Theater
- 25** Mines of Spain Recreation Area Program: Hiking and Where to Go, 1 p.m., E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center. FREE

April

- 1** Mines of Spain Recreation Area Program: Spring Has Sprung, 1 p.m., E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center. FREE
- 10** City Expo 2007, 5 - 8 p.m., Five Flags Civic Center. FREE
- 21-22** Dubuque Symphony Orchestra - Classics V "Rach & Rossini," 8 p.m. on Saturday and 2 p.m. on Sunday, Five Flags Theater
- 29** Mines of Spain Recreation Area Program: Iowa - State of Excitement, 1 p.m., E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center. FREE

This calendar is subject to change. For more information on Five Flags events, call 589-4258 or visit www.fiveflagscenter.com. For more information on Mines of Spain events, call 556-0620.