

August 2023

CITY ADMINISTRATOR

[Monthly Update]

Keep up with the city you know and love



Unpretentious-

[adjective]

not attempting to impress others with an appearance of greater importance, talent, or culture than is actually possessed.

Real-

[adjective]

(of a substance or thing) not imitation or artificial; genuine.

Resilient-

[adjective]

(of a person or animal) able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions.

Welcoming-

[adjective]

behaving in a polite or friendly way to a guest or new arrival.



01 GVI OUTREACH TO HIGH RISK YOUTH

Since the inception of Group Violence Intervention, community partners have custom notified over 100 adults at high risk for violent victimization and offending in the community. This summer, in partnership with the Davenport Community School District, Juvenile Court Services, Juvenile Detention and Family Resources, GVI has broadened the reach of custom notifications and began outreach to high-risk youth in the community with the intention of keeping these youth safe, alive and out of prison. To date, ten high-risk youth have been custom notified, with the youth and their families being offered services through Family Resources and the DCSD.



Group Violence Intervention

02 DAVENPORT POLICE SWEARS IN TWO OFFICERS

Davenport’s newest Officers Daniel Lombardi and Michael Conner graduated from the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy’s 16-week Basic Training course and were sworn in during an August City Council Meeting by Mayor Matson. The Officers will start their post-academy training before beginning their Field Training Officer (FTO) Program. After the successful completion of their FTO training, each officer will “go solo” serving the community within the Patrol Division.



03 DAVENPORT POLICE ATTEND INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IDENTIFICATION EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

IAI Certified Latent Print Examiner Jessica Heising attended the International Association for Identification educational conference which provided a full week of high-quality hands-on training in forensic physical evidence examination and crime scene processing. Through lectures on the latest technology, techniques, and research as well as workshops, meetings, and panel discussions, this conference provided an opportunity for professionals to discuss the latest standards and professional developments in the arena of latent print examination. This will help keep Davenport up to date on cutting edge evidence practices and play an essential role in the agency’s violent crime reduction strategies.



04 DAVENPORT POLICE PRESENT AT INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CRIME ANALYSTS TRAINING CONFERENCE

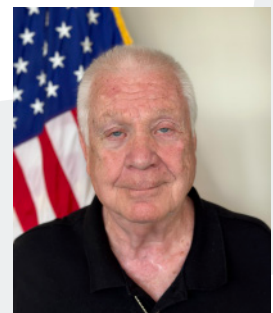
Crime Analyst Allissa Hawk, Gun Crime Analyst Bella Zak, Sergeant Greg Lalla, and Lieutenant Jason Smith traveled to Grapevine, Texas for the International Association of Crime Analysts Training Conference. This conference brought together over 600 professionals from more than twenty countries around the world to learn new techniques, advance their knowledge, and better equip their departments for continued success. The conference focused on crime and intelligence analysis, real-world case studies, investigative and analytical techniques, statistical analysis, hands-on computer training, and ESRI's ArcPro training. Davenport representatives were able to collaborate on and share new ideas, strategies, and techniques to support agency goals and crime reduction efforts. Hawk and Zak were selected to present a block of instruction and showcased Davenport's gun intelligence analysis efforts including technologies and tools utilized for violent crime reduction and real-time data-driven decision support.



05 DAVENPORT PUBLIC SAFETY CHAPLAIN PROGRAM UPDATE

The Davenport Public Safety Chaplain Program has added two members bringing the program to a total of six chaplains. Chaplains Don Timmerman and Andrew Rauenbuehler were welcomed by Davenport first responders at an August chaplain meeting. Public Safety Chaplains serve as a resource to police and fire employees, their families, and community members for personal, professional, and/or community wellness reasons providing assistance during day-to-day operations, critical incidents, death notifications, and trauma response.

Congratulations to Davenport Public Safety Chaplain Matthew Peterson who received the K&K Hardware and QC River Bandits Community All Star Award. Peterson was honored at a River Bandits game for his extensive community involvement and continued volunteerism throughout Davenport. Peterson has graciously served members of the Davenport Police and Fire Departments and the Davenport community as a Public Safety Chaplain for nearly ten years.



06 METRO COALITION STRATEGY SESSION

Mayor Matson and Chief Strategy Officer Sarah Ott recently joined other mayors and city staff from around the state for a legislative strategy session with the Metro Coalition. The Metro Coalition is comprised of the ten largest cities in Iowa with a purpose to unite larger cities with similar concerns to enhance communication and advance their common interests and effectiveness in legislative matters. Hosted by the City of Des Moines, this strategy session included a debrief of last year's property tax reform bill and identification of key priorities for next legislative session, including Tax Increment Financing and Automated Traffic Enforcement. The Metro Coalition will continue to meet throughout the fall to refine the strategy for next year's legislative session.

07 BACK TO SCHOOL PROMOTIONS

The City's Communications Team recently partnered with the Davenport Community School District to create a comprehensive communications plan aimed at keeping students safe as they head back to school.

The community was actively involved in the creation of this campaign, which included topics like back to school preparations, school speed zones, bus safety, and general student safety. Students who attended Party in the Park were able to create signs that will be displayed in school zones throughout the school year.

On the first day of school, staff partnered with local media outlets for an on-site media access day where reporters had the opportunity to ride along with DPD officers who were providing traffic enforcement in school speed zones.



08 STAFF ATTENDS COMMUNICATIONS WORKSHOP

The Scott County Emergency Management Agency recently hosted a workshop for communications staff across Scott County. This workshop provided an after action review of crisis communications throughout COVID and the derecho to understand areas of strengths and weaknesses of the communications function EMA's and incident response. Staff also participated in a table-top exercise EMA to prepare for future crisis communication needs.

09 PUBLIC SAFETY LEGISLATIVE MEETING

The Davenport Police Department, along with the Bettendorf Police Department, Scott County Sheriff's Office, Davenport Community School District, Bettendorf Community School District, Juvenile Detention and Family Resources, recently hosted a meeting with local state legislators to talk about the public safety continuum in Scott County. This meeting provided an opportunity to update legislators on the progress Scott County public safety partners have made in the areas of prevention, intervention, and enforcement. In addition, the group discussed areas of opportunity to enhance public safety for the next legislative session.



10 GNP STAFF PRESENTS TO CITY OF MOLINE

Sergeant Andrew Harris and Allie McWilliams visited Moline City Hall to present The Good Neighbor Project (GNP) to City staff and members of the Neighborhood Association over the course of two days. This invitation followed the 2023 Iowa Parks and Recreation Association (IAPRA) Conference where GNP was showcased and City of Moline staff became interested in learning more.

Those in attendance received an extensive overview of GNP including the motivation to start the project, how members stay involved, success stories, analytics, and more.



“We’re proud to see growing interest in The Good Neighbor Project. We are thrilled that our success has inspired a neighboring community to think about launching their own version of this program.”

– Allie McWilliams, Community Engagement Coordinator

11 DAVENPORT PARKS AND RECREATION’S AQUATIC SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE

Davenport Parks and Recreation’s busy aquatic season came to a close on Sunday, August 21. This season was unique as Davenport was one of only two cities in the area with public pools open.



2023 Aquatic Season Stats

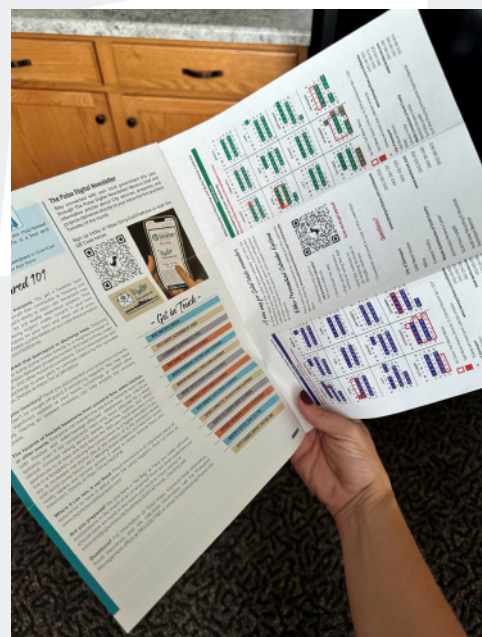
★	Total Attendance	14,310	★
📍	Annie Wittenmyer	8,644	
📍	Fejervary	5,666	
	Learn to Swim	375	
	Summer Kids Pass	2,200	
	Community Pool Passes	232	



12 CHANGES AND ADAPTATION TO SOLID WASTE CALENDAR

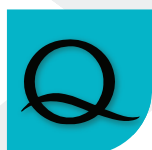
Innovation is always in play at Public Works. Following mixed reactions to changes in the distribution of the 2023 Solid Waste/Recycling and Bulky Waste Calendar, staff evaluated other cost-effective methods to distribute the calendar and better meet customer expectations. After thoughtful discussion, the City will bring back a separate print North (purple) and South (green) calendar and distribute the calendars via postal mail or email as applicable to how the property owner receives their quarterly utility bill. The biggest difference between how calendars were distributed prior to 2023 and the distribution of the 2024 calendar is that the calendars will not be individually mailed as a separate product to property owners; instead, they will be included on a second page of the City's Quarterly Newsletter distributed to property owners in the fourth quarter of each year. The change saves **over \$23,000 annually** and delivers information directly to property owners who need it.

Year	Delivery Method	Calendar Type	Cost	Usage
2022	Traditional calendar specific mailing directly to property owner	Separate North or South calendar mailed according to property location in North or South zone	\$24,081 City Cost; additional expense of approximately \$5,000 covered by the Waste Commission of Scott County	Many found in recycling and in trash; significant quantities recognized as disposed of
2023	Available for pickup at local grocery stores and municipal buildings	North and South calendar combined in one-size fits all format	Roughly \$3,200 calendar only (does not include informational post-it cost)	30% of ordered calendars not distributed/picked up
2024	Mailed to property owner with utility bill and City Quarterly Newsletter, 4th Quarter (October-December)	Separate North or South calendars mailed to all property owners; property owner keeps the calendar applicable to their property location as\if desired	\$1,661	Unknown. Limited expense makes what is not used/ placed in recycling negligible



13 FALL/WINTER RECREATION GUIDE IS NOW AVAILABLE

Davenport Parks and Recreation has released the 2023 Fall Winter Recreation Guide. The new guide spotlights two big changes coming to the department: rolling out new recreation software in November that will enhance the online registration or reservation experience for the community and a new look for The River's Edge coming late September. In addition to those announcements, highlights to this season's guide include new Nature and Garden programming, a new way for people to sign up to volunteer with the department, a sneak preview of expanded Learn to Skate class offerings in the spring, and the return of community favorite events such as the Scary Movies in the Park at Credit Island Park, Holiday Lights Display at Fejervary Learning Center, and Vander Veer Botanical Park's Poinsettia and Lights Display. The new guides are available digitally on the Parks Department's webpage with print copies available at recreation centers and partner agencies throughout Davenport.



14 THE GOOD NEIGHBOR PROJECT UPDATE

In its third year, The Good Neighbor Project continues to grow, totaling 113 neighborhoods throughout Davenport to date. The summer has been full of events and meetings with eight deployments of the Resource Trailer thus far. The Good Neighbor Project continues to enhance communication and partnerships with City staff, the Davenport Police Department, and neighbors, creating trusting relationships and stabilized neighborhoods.

Good Neighbor Project leaders gathered at Quinlan Court for the annual GNP Appreciation event. The group enjoyed ice cream and mingled with other Davenport GNP leaders. Attendees shared success stories and challenges overcome within their neighborhoods. This event is a great way to show gratitude to those who have stepped up and taken on the role of "Good Neighbor Project Leader." Because of these residents, our neighborhoods are stronger and better connected.

15 NEW ALL-INCLUSIVE ADDITION

Staff celebrated the opening of the newest addition to Gabe's All-Inclusive Play Village at Vander Veer Botanical Park with Gloria Cypret and grandson Gabe. The We-Go-Swing is an inclusive and accessible wheelchair swing set that allows users of all abilities to swing together without the need for transfer. This feature expands on the original all-inclusive intent of the play village, providing Davenport residents with another unique amenity. It is the first of its kind in the Quad Cities area and the first nationally approved, no-transfer inclusive swing in the US market.



16 PARTY IN THE PARK 2023 WRAP UP

And that's a wrap! The City of Davenport would like to thank everyone who helped make Party in the Park events a success this summer. A special thank you to the presenting sponsor, Kraft Heinz, for their continued support, generously donating hot dogs, buns, chips, juice, and swag items at all four events, and Sweet Delite for vending food and providing everyone with delicious ice cream! Families enjoyed live music, food, games, crafts, giveaways, and more, and left each event with useful information from a variety of organizations within our community. It was truly rewarding to see the community come together to celebrate fun summer days, and we look forward to Party in the Park next summer!



17 WHY ASPHALT, NOT CONCRETE?

Public Works has fielded several inquiries and concerns over the use of asphalt on East 53rd Street and other projects in Davenport. Being top of mind in the community, the City wanted to take a moment to dispel a few myths about asphalt. Often referred to as the “perpetual pavement,” the City began using varying applications on higher volume roads a few years ago due to its cost, durability, low maintenance, and reduced travel inconvenience over time. Application on these higher volume roads involves the installation of a drainable rock base and a base, intermediate, and surface course of asphalt. Each course has its own material specification for oils, rocks, and other materials; the mix gets tighter in composition as it becomes closer to the surface. The depth of the layers is specified based on expected traffic/wear. For example, East 53rd Street comprises of 10 inches of specified layers of asphalt. The base and first intermediate courses are made to be fatigue resistant. The second intermediate and the surface course are high-wearing and made for high-traffic road experiences. Unlike concrete that would need to be entirely removed to be repaired in the future, the top few inches of asphalt will be milled and replaced when needed with minimal travel inconvenience and reduced expense than the replacement of more rigid concrete.

18 TRAFFIC CALMING

Approval of a Traffic Calming Policy establishing criteria and procedures for installation by City Council in May 2023 has been put into practice with the installation of speed humps at a second location in Davenport. The first project for speed hump installation was piloted on East 32nd Street between Eastern Avenue and Belle Avenue in late 2021. This second installation was part of the street reconstruction project completed on West 36th Street between Division and Pacific Streets. Other forms of traffic calming have been implemented across the City over the years; having clear criteria for future installations will help staff evaluate and prioritize calming projects in the future.

Traffic calming measures are intended to affect the driver's comfort level. As humans, we drive as fast as we feel comfortable; traffic calming measures make our comfort level appropriate for the roadway and area being driven through.

Examples of traffic calming measures are visual cues such as signage or road changes like speed humps, narrowing or realigning a street, bump outs like those found on East 46th Street between Eastern Avenue and Jersey Ridge Road, and roundabouts.



19 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The City received its performance letter for the use of CDBG funding which highlighted the following:

- The City exceeded its public service goals serving 1,254 persons and provided 478 homeless person overnight shelter services.
- In the area of affordable housing, the City rehabilitated 29 housing units (exceeding its goal) and provided financial assistance nine homebuyers.
- Through the City's Economic Development Program, eight jobs were created and/or retained and eight businesses were assisted.
- One street and sidewalk project was completed with two additional infrastructure projects underway.
- The City continued to utilize its CDBG-CV funds to financially support small businesses that were impacted by COVID and fund youth programs coordinated through the City's Parks and Recreation Department and Library.



"We appreciate your staff's efforts in using HUD funding to benefit the citizens of your community and providing good reporting for public inspection. We know the past few years have been a challenge. However, your staff continued to administer essential projects helping those most in need in your community, for which they are to be commended.

"Congratulations on the projects undertaken and we look forward to continuing our great relationship with the City of Davenport. It is always a pleasure working with you and your staff."

- Brenda Carrico, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development



Employee Spotlight



TAYLOR SCHNEIDER Horticulture and Environmental Educator

Between mid-April and mid-August, Schneider was enrolled in the Master Conservationist Program, a collaborative program offered by ISU Extension and Outreach, County Conservation Boards, and local conservation leaders and professionals.

The intensive program blends online and in-person curriculum developed to equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to make informed decisions about natural resources and become local leaders and educators. Master Conservationists are individuals who share an interest in the sustainability of natural resources and becoming better stewards of those resources.

Graduates are awarded a certificate and encouraged to become engaged locally to apply the information learned and continue to build connections to conservation. Schneider plans to use her newly expanded skills to continue growing the Nature and Garden Program and create more horticulture, conservation, and natural resources programs and workshops for Davenport residents as well as growing her program collaborations with other horticulture and conservation professionals in and around the Quad Cities.

DAVENPORT POLICE HOST AWARD CEREMONY

The Davenport Police Department hosted a ceremony to recognize staff accomplishments and milestones in their careers including retirements, promotions, and awards. Lieutenant Kevin Smull, Corporal Clif Anderson, Corporal Mike Greenleaf, Corporal Seth Farley, Corporal Gavin Tigges and Officer Jason Pojar were honored for their years of service and dedication to the department as they retire and start their next chapter.

Promotions

- Corporal Angela Jarrin
- Corporal Randy Hegg
- Corporal Emily Rasche
- Corporal Robert Welch
- Corporal Robert Myers
- Corporal Nicholas Mark
- Corporal Robert Farra
- Sergeant Joseph Dorton
- Sergeant Christopher Hebbel
- Lieutenant Nicholas Shorten

Combat Bar

- Officer Mason Pauley
- Officer Benjamin Betsworth
- Corporal Brandon Askew

Life Saving Award

- Detective Lauren Anderson
- Corporal Austin Ryckeghem
- Corporal Brandon Askew
- Corporal Joseph Dorton

Commendation Bar

- Officer Nicholas Berger
- Officer Joshua Derner
- Officer Donnie Pridemore
- Detective Aaron Hoenig
- Corporal Brandon Askew

Excellent Duty Bar

- Detective Bryan Butt

Unit Citation Awards

- Officer Harold Bateman
- Officer Martin Gonzalez
- Officer Brockton Trice
- Detective Cory Hughes
- Detective Ryan Leabo
- Detective Nathaniel Thomas
- Detective Joel Griffin
- Corporal Robert Myers
- Corporal Emily Rasche
- Sergeant James Quick
- Sergeant Timothy Murphy

Good Conduct Awards

- Lieutenant Shawn Voigts – 30 years
- Lieutenant Dennis Colclasure – 25 years
- Corporal Joshua Stocking – 20 years
- Corporal Brian Schertz – 20 years

Letters of Commendation

- Officer Samuel Miller
- Officer Martin Gonzalez
- Sergeant Ann Sievert

Project Highlights:

Creating Places | Public Wi-Fi Hot Spots

The City of Davenport now has five neighborhood parks equipped with free public Wi-Fi services through ARPA funding. The City's Information Technology Department partnered with MetroNet to install free public Wi-Fi zones at the following parks: Centennial, Cork Hill, Fejervary, Emeis, and Herington. The City of Davenport joins the cities of Indianapolis, Sacramento, and Albuquerque who also are using ARPA funding to launch free public Wi-Fi in an effort to provide accessible and reliable internet access. Instructions on how to access the Wi-Fi can be found on signage located in each of the five parks.



METRONET

ARPA Continued



Planning & Development

Creating Places

Main Street Landing: Adventure Play and Event Lawn | Sasaki came on site to capture the next wave of public input. Sasaki attended multiple events to gather community input including the Quad Cities River Bandits Game, Freight House Farmers Market, Fejervary Family Fun Days, and Made Indie Market at Alternating Currents

Cork Hill, Van Buren, and Herrington Multi-Sport Courts | Project will be rebid in the fall of 2023

Emeis Adaptive and Inclusive Playground | The design and purchase of the playground equipment is anticipated to go through the City's bidding process in fall of 2023

Cork Hill Splashpad | Project engineering plans and specifications are under final review by City staff

Dohse Splashpad | Contractor has been recommended for City Council approval

West Locust Sewer Connectivity

Duck Creek Sewer | All engineering design documents have been completed. The City is waiting to receive final federal and state permits before going out to bid to secure a construction contract

Multi-Modal Connectivity

Multi-Modal | N/S Path | The design process for the project continues; meanwhile, City staff will soon begin the land acquisition process with affected property owners

Flood Mitigation

Flood Mitigation Stage 22 | HR Green has begun the check plan design (95% plan preparation) and all necessary permits have been submitted to all regulatory agencies. Once those permits have been received, the plans will be finalized and ready for bid



Construction

Neighborhood Reinvestment

DREAMPlus | Forty-seven projects have now been awarded, with 28 already complete or with work underway

Library Enhancements

Fairmount Community Center | Construction has begun and is expected to conclude in the Spring of 2024



Completed

Youth & Family Support

Launch of Coordinated Assessment Program (CAP)

Launch of Group Violence Intervention (GVI)

Creating Places

MLK Plaza: \$500,000 commitment awarded by City Council

Public Wi-Fi Hot Spots

Library Enhancements

Hiring of Library Social Worker

Launch of Pre-K Literacy Initiative

Creating Places | Neighborhood Parks-Play

Whalen Playground | June 2023

Harbor Road Playground | December 2022

Lafayette Playground | December 2022

Emeis Ninja Warrior Playground | June 2023

Neighborhood Reinvestment

Regional Transitional Housing



Dohse Park Splash and Play Concept



Construction Begins!



Library Updates

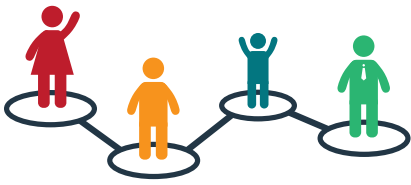
01 BACK TO SCHOOL WITH DAVENPORT PUBLIC LIBRARY

Davenport Public Library hosted a Back to School event in early in the month with a great attendance. Library Staff was able to distribute 110 backpacks, 50 Shoe Carnival gift cards, books, and numerous other resources generously provided by community partners.

02 1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN GRADUATION CEREMONY

50 young readers and families attended the first 1000 Books Before Kindergarten Graduation Ceremony at Fairmount on Saturday, August 19. During the event, attendees received graduation caps, diplomas, and enjoyed activities and a photo booth. Congratulations to the children and their grown-ups for all of the hard work they put into this program!





COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

01 SHOP WITH A COP

As Davenport youth headed back to school, twenty Davenport Community School District students had the opportunity to Shop With a Cop. Through a Davenport Fraternal Order of Police partnership with Dick's Sporting Goods House of Sport, officers had the opportunity to assist students in shopping for the new school year.



02 PARTNERSHIP WITH DAVENPORT WEST

Mayor Matson and staff attended a ceremony celebrating a new collaboration between Davenport and Bettendorf. Students from Bettendorf High School and Davenport West High School designed and created bike racks for both cities. Bike racks will be installed in Downtown Davenport along the riverfront.



03 COPS AND CONES

Over 1,000 Whitey's Ice Cream cones were enjoyed by community members at Vander Veer Botanical Park during this year's Cops and Cones ice cream social hosted by the Davenport Police Association. Community members of all ages enjoyed cool treats, toured squad cars, and engaged in meaningful conversations with Davenport Police Officers.



04 LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORTS SPECIAL OLYMPIANS THROUGH TIP A COP FUNDRAISER

Davenport Police Officers and Scott County law enforcement agencies partnered with Texas Roadhouse for the annual Tip-A-Cop luncheon fundraiser raising \$3,307.27 to help support Special Olympians in Iowa.



05 MUSIC ON THE RIVER

The Music on the River concert series wrapped up the season with a performance by the Central High School Marching Band. Throughout the summer, free concerts for the community were held at Petersen Pavilion in LeClaire Park.



06 FEJERVARY FAMILY FUN DAY BACK 2 SCHOOL BASH

Parks and Recreation hosted the annual Fejervary Family Fun Day – Back 2 School Bash with games, activities, a petting zoo, and bounce houses, and distributed bags of school supplies for the first 100 families. Kids could also enter to win one of two backpacks filled with school supplies to start the new school year off right. Supplies included notebooks, pencils, erasers, colored pencils, rulers, and scissors. Providing some of these basics allows families to focus on specific supplies outlined by their schools and teachers.

