Build It and They Will Come

Duck Creek Plaza Construction is Underway

Within the last year the City of Bettendorf came to an agreement with Equity-Dalan, L.L.C. for a major redevelopment of Duck Creek Plaza. Dave Smith, President of Equity Growth Group, L.L.C. recently updated the Mayor and City Council with the following information. The 95,000 s.f. Home Depot, although progressing nicely, is slightly behind schedule due to extensive site preparation. Opening is still expected prior to the end of this year. Of the remaining 55,000 s.f. to be built at this site, Walgreen’s 14,000 s.f. is also moving along well.

The City of Bettendorf and C.S. Technologies, Inc. have recently approved a fifteen year lease agreement to bring to business what few cities in the nation can boast, a multi-redundant fiber optic network. C.S. Technologies, Inc. has just completed the extension of their fiber optic cable from their home base in Eldridge to the existing fiber optic network the City of Bettendorf already has in place throughout the city. Once the southern extension is complete and all connections are made, any business demanding a fast, secure, and durable communication highway to the Internet will be able to do so within this synchronous optical network or SONET.

Storm Water is on the Run

Due to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II regulations, storm water quality is becoming a higher priority for cities. The City of Bettendorf will be responsible for managing the quantity and quality of storm water runoff within the city limits. In order to fund the storm water management services, the City Council approved the establishment of a Storm Water Utility Ordinance on September 2, 2003. The storm water fee will be based upon the amount of impervious area found on the property, or ERU (Equivalent Runoff Unit).

The City Council also approved a Storm Water Ordinance which establishes methods for controlling the introduction of pollutants into the municipal separate storm sewer system by storm water discharges by any user. Due to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Phase II regulations, storm water quality is becoming a higher priority for cities. The City of Bettendorf is growing by leaps and bounds - we are one of the fast growing cities in Iowa. Growth in housing has been our foundation, but we now are seeing the growth of commercial projects that will take our community to new heights of prosperity. Years of preparation and dedication to an economic development program are literally sprouting new buildings. Trinity Hospital will open its doors in February, 2004; the first phase of the redevelopment of Duck Creek Plaza will open soon and future phases are running ahead of schedule; the Golden Triangle area, identified as the future heart of Bettendorf in the 1970’s, has finally begun new development with construction of the Farway Center open in the spring of 2004; and 53rd Avenue is open to future growth all the way to Middle Road; the YMCA will break ground for an exciting new facility in late October; and we are poised for new development in the downtown as we work with several developers on exciting new projects. Bettendorf, a town built on an economic incentive proposal 100 years ago, is booming again.

But at the same time that we look to a bright and prosperous future, we have not forgotten our roots. The Bettendorf brothers valued hard work and strong families. That dedication to children and families has never been lost in Bettendorf. We are one of the safest communiti- es in Iowa. We continue to be a city where the schools and the local government work together to assure a bright future for our children. The Family Museum, the Library, the parks and recreation department provide an outstanding quality of life. We continue to grow, but in all the important ways, we remain the same.

The first hundred years were great, but hold on to your seats, the second hundred will be awesome!
A Look Back at 2003

A Year to Celebrate

What a year 2003 has been! A year full of fun, celebration, and a chance to look back at our City’s colorful history. If you live in or near Bettendorf, you know 2003 is the City’s Centennial. With the help of a very hard-working committee, many events were planned and executed throughout the year. Remember the Centennial street festival or the Dix Jazz Festival held at Middle Park? There were exhibits, movies, tours, contests, concerts, decorated deer, and a visit from Sally Bettendorf Vieth, the granddaughters of Industrialist Joseph Bettendorf.

A permanent reminder of the celebration is the Centennial Garden, where over 1,000 perennials and 1,100 daffodils bloomed in 11 garden beds. Don’t forget to take the time to visit Middle Park and see the array of color and enjoy the unique atmosphere. A special appreciation to everyone who made Bettendorf’s Centennial a celebration to remember. To those who opened their homes, rolled up their sleeves, or shared their memories of a city that grew from a sleepy German village to a thriving community, we say thank you.

The End of the Year Celebration!

2003 has been an exciting year for our City. We look back at some wonderful times we shared during the Centennial and grateful for the chance to meet new friends, near and far away. But the year is not over yet. The Centennial Committee is proud to announce the last major event of the Centennial year, “Living Art.” This is the first time in the Midwest that such a production has been presented. Audiences will see paintings re-created and become a three dimensional creation, where live actors become part of this amazing piece of art. A choir, live music, and an original play will accompany the living art.

Don’t miss the last event of the Centennial celebration and a once in a lifetime experience.

Buy Year Centennial Book Today

Bettendorf: The First Century is a historical book that was created to commemorate our City’s 100th anniversary. This hardbound book has more than 50 chapters and nearly 350 pages of photos and illustrations telling the story of what was known during the 60’s and 70’s as “Iowa’s Most Exciting City.” Each book is $35.00 and can be purchased at the Library, City Hall, Davenport Border’s, or by the order form found on the City’s webpage: www.bettendorf.org (click on Centennial button and then the Centennial Book button.)

A Gala Event
Saturday, November 8, will be a magical night in Bettendorf! “Living Art,” as we planned will enjoy gourmet desserts, spirits, and a coffee bar. Tickets are $25 (includes performance) and can be purchased at the Library, Family, Melissa, and City Hall.

Visitors From Our Sister City

The group visited ALCOA, lock and dam 15, several local schools, and the recycling center. They also enjoyed the Davenport Museum of Art and the German Club, tossed the Mississippi, and enjoyed an evening of music and friends at the Pepe Concert. One of the most memorable times during their visit was the dedication of the roundabout and the renaming of 53rd Avenue to Kronach Way.

The week passed quickly and our new friends returned home, but not before leaving an invitation to visit their beautiful and historical city.