



TOGETHER, WE

CONNECT



FEBRUARY 26, 2025

2025 State of the City Address

Members of the BRC, along with many others, filled the Waterfront Convention Center to hear Bettendorf Mayor and Rotarian Bob Gallagher present his “State of the City” address.

He shared the Vision 2040, which is: *The City of Bettendorf is the most livable community with rich educational, cultural, and recreational opportunity where we enjoy a vibrant riverfront and a growing, competitive business environment.*

He also shared Goals 2030, which are:

- *Financially sound city providing quality city services*
- *Orderly growth and quality development*
- *Riverfront/downtown development--destination for living, working and entertainment*
- *Growing current businesses and attracting new businesses*
- *A premier place to live in the Quad Cities.*

Bettendorf has a lean operating budget of \$113 million. Included in the budget is funding for 6 firefighters and an aggressive infrastructure program but no increase to citizens’ levy. Challenges when building the budget include increased costs of insurance, vehicles, and health insurance, as well as unplanned expenses, like those incurred due to last year’s flooding and tornado.

All city departments do a great job monitoring their budgets. A new police station is needed. Citizens will be surveyed and a referendum may be coming later this year.

The TBK complex has been the catalyst for development, as was hoped. Nearly 8 million visitors, many from out of town, have utilized the TBK facilities, and 55% of those visitors had an overnight



COMING UP...

Wednesday, March 5th

BRC Membership Committee Chair Bobby Ray Bunch

BRC Survey Results and What Do We Do Now?





stay. A number of projects are currently being developed in that area, including a gateway bridge. Continued growth is expected for the city, including development north of I-80.

Plans are also underway for development west of the new I-74 bridge. The area will be a destination with several different uses anticipated.

To continue promoting the downtown area, an April 16th “Downtown Clean Up Day” and a June 7th “Be Downtown” events are planned.

Opening in December, the Landing Ice Rink has been a great success. The new aquatic center is expected to open in May. Parks and recreation usage has increased 13% in the past year.

Palmer Hills Golf Course had the most rounds played since it’s opening, with over 42,000 rounds. The course will celebrate their 50th anniversary this year with some special events planned.



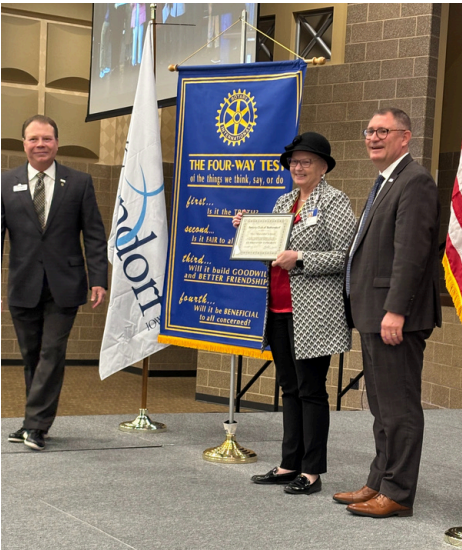
The library has a new app that allows users to forget their library card but still use all library services. The library also boasts a creation studio and automatic materials handling operation. The Children’s Museum has experienced a 16% increase in visitors. A new exhibit “On the Road” is currently being developed and will open later this year.

Overall, Bettendorf citizen survey responders rated their satisfaction with quality of life at 98%, and 95% of responders would recommend Bettendorf to others for a place to live.

More information about the Mayor’s address and other city business can be found on the city’s website, Facebook page, and other social media platforms.



Paul E. Hellwege **Guardian of Integrity Award** **Mary Macumber-Schmidt**



The State of the City gathering was a perfect occasion to announce and honor this year's Bettendorf Rotary Guardian of Integrity Award recipient, Mary Macumber-Schmidt.

To honor the memory of the late District Governor, Judge Paul E. Hellwege, clubs are invited to nominate a member for this annual award. Recipients are chosen on the basis of their generosity, consideration, bravery, selflessness, and determination. The following is part of Mary's nomination:



Mary is a steadfast pillar of integrity and service, embodying the highest ideals of Rotary in both her personal and professional life. With an unwavering commitment to uplifting others, Mary has spent decades championing initiatives that improve the lives of individuals and strengthen the Quad Cities community. Whether through her leadership in civic organizations, her advocacy for ethical business practices, or her hands-on involvement in service projects, she consistently demonstrates a selfless dedication to the well-being of others.

Mary's impact reaches far beyond individual acts of kindness--she has shaped policies, guided organizations, and inspired countless others to lead with integrity. Her ability to identify challenges and implement meaningful solutions has provided critical support to local nonprofits, educational institutions, and social service organizations. Her leadership ensures that resources are directed where they are most needed, benefiting those who might otherwise be overlooked.

At the core of Mary's service is a deep sense of fairness and respect. She approaches every endeavor with an open heart and an open mind, valuing diverse perspectives and ensuring that all voices are heard. Whether mentoring young professionals, advocating for underserved populations, or fostering collaboration between community stakeholders, she leads with compassion and a commitment to ethical decision-making.

Mary's dedication to Rotary's principles of truth, fairness, goodwill, and service above self makes her an outstanding recipient of the Paul E. Hellwege Guardian of Integrity Award.

important

Take heed of these important meetings and dates coming up quickly.

Grant Management Learning Seminar -

If our club plans to apply for a DISTRICT COMMUNITY SERVICE GRANT or a GLOBAL GRANT for the 2025-2026 Rotary year, at least 1 member of the club must attend a GRANT MANAGEMENT LEARNING SEMINAR (GMLS) each year. Register at www.rotary6000.org. Contact Gretchen Nollman or Todd Wheeler at d6000csg@gmail.com with questions.

When: March 29th, 9 a.m.

Where: Shive-Hattery, Inc.

4125 Westown Parkway

West Des Moines, IA

Rotary Leadership Inst.

Dates: April 5th and 6th

Where: West Des Moines, IA

Contact Steve Wienke for any questions swieneked6k@gmail.com.

D6000 Conference

Date: April 12th

Where: FFA Enrichment Center

Ankeny, IA

Contact District Admin Carolyn for any questions at dis6000admin@lisco.com.

(Information provided by Gretchen Nollman
gretchen.nollman@gmail.com.)



**Happy
BIRTHDAY
FEBRUARY**

5th

Shelly Naumann

10th

Gwen Tombergs

13th

Shawn Langan

16th

Tim Downing

17th

Bobby Ray Bunch

21st

Jolene Powell

23rd

S.K. Nanda

25th

Craig Windmiller



SK Nanda
Foundation Chair

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FOUNDATION FACTS

Needle-Free Syringes! What a Great Idea!

For years, the polio vaccine has been administered using an intramuscular delivery with a needle and syringe. Now, needle-free syringes are being used. This syringe, introduced in 2019 by the World Health Organization during its polio eradication campaign in Pakistan, drives the vaccine through a nozzle orifice that delivers the dose into the skin without the penetration of a needle.

The results from using these needle-free syringes have been outstanding. This method of vaccine administration helped increase campaign coverage by 18.4% compared to the traditional needle and syringe method. In a survey in Karachi, Pakistan, 97.6% of vaccinators and 99.6% of caretakers preferred jet injectors to needle and syringe. The speed of use and absence of discomfort associated with a needle stick are the two primary reasons that people prefer this method. These needle-free injectors also reduce the risk of accidental needle stick injuries both during injection and while managing waste.

Polio still exists in the world and Rotary Foundation is committed to eradicating it. Contact Foundation Chair, SK Nanda to see how you can support these efforts.

LOCAL ROTARY CLUB MEETINGS...

Monday

12:00pm | Davenport | Outing Club
12:00pm | Moline | Trinity Lutheran Church

Tuesday

12:00pm | Rock Island | QC Botanical Center

Wednesday

12:00pm | Bettendorf | Tanglewood Hills Pavilion
5:00pm | Davenport | Mini-Meet | Lunardi's

Thursday

7:00am | Iowa Quad Cities | J-Bar
12:00pm | East Moline | Christ United Methodist Church
12:00pm | Milan | Pinnacle Country Club

Friday

12:00pm | North Scott | Steeplegate Inn





Club of Bettendorf

Club Executives

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Rotary Foundation

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Bettendorf Rotary Gear:
Click on the link below to check out
the custom-made BRC apparel.
[BRC gear here.](#)

If you know someone in the club who is not receiving the newsletter, tell them to contact Shelly Naumann at bettendorfrotary@gmail.com, so they can get the latest scoop.