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DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



As we celebrate the 40th anniversary of Greater Dubuque Development Corporation this holiday season, we reflect on the valued partnerships that make our work possible. We wish you and yours a blessed holiday and a new year filled with peace and prosperity.

Business Services

YOUR BUSINESS can be great here.



Business Expansion

Dubuque Manufacturer Plans Expansion

Universal Tank & Fabrication, manufacturer of pressure vessels, tanks, and related fabrications for customers across North America, plans to invest \$4,065,000 in an expansion that will increase capacity and add 15 high-quality jobs in the Dubuque Industrial Center West.

[Learn More >](#)



Interested in learning how we can assist your business in it's next expansion project?

Contact Jason White, Vice President of Business Services, at 563-557-9049 or jasonw@greaterdubuque.org



Scenes from the inaugural Denver Air Connection flight into the Dubuque Regional Airport on November 4, 2024. Courtesy of the City of Dubuque and the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce.

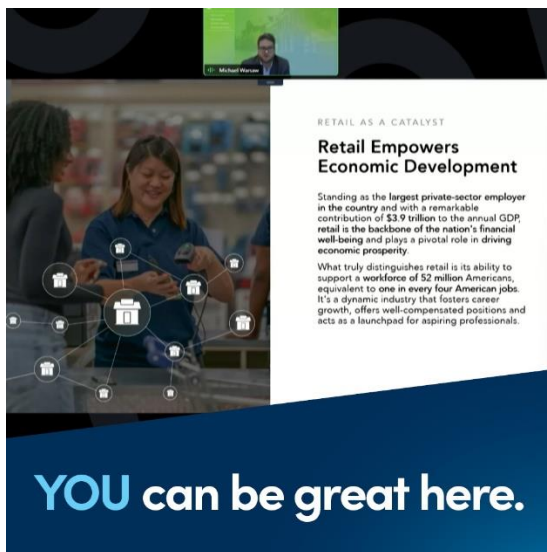
Community Update

From Dubuque to O'Hare and Then Anywhere With Denver Air Connection

On Monday, November 4, 2024, the DBQ Air Board along side community and regional partners celebrated the inaugural Denver Air Connection flight into the Dubuque Regional Airport. Governor Kim Reynolds and Congresswomen Ashley Hinson joined Dubuque Mayor Brad Cavanagh, Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Molly Grover, and several hundred members of the community in celebrating the momentous occasion.

Denver Air now offers daily flights to and from O'Hare international Airport out of the Dubuque Regional Airport, providing business and leisure travelers with same-day connection to more than 200 destinations. The Denver Air service operates a 50-seat jet, arriving in Dubuque at 3:25 p.m. and departing at 3:55 p.m., maximizing access to connecting flights at O'Hare and the opportunity to get in a near full work day prior to travel. Flights can be booked at [FlyDBQ.com](https://flydbq.com).

[Book your next flight from Dubuque to O'Hare then onto anywhere at FlyDBQ.com](https://flydbq.com)



Strategic Initiatives

City Council Work Session Explores Opportunities for Retail & Hospitality

On Monday, December 16, Greater Dubuque Development's Rick Dickinson and Michael Warsaw of Retail Strategies [delivered a presentation](#) to the Dubuque City Council. The presentation focused on recent findings and recommendations to enhance Dubuque's retail and hospitality sectors based on 2024 research by Retail Strategies as retained by Greater Dubuque Development.

[Download the Presentation >](#)

[Watch the Work Session >](#)



Interested in learning about our partnership with Retail Strategies?

Contact Rick Dickinson, President & CEO, at 563-557-9049 or rickd@greaterdubuque.org



Interior and exterior spaces of the new HODGE headquarters located at 400 Ice Harbor Drive in the Port of Dubuque. Photos courtesy of HODGE.

Business Development

HODGE Celebrates Move to New Headquarters in the Port of Dubuque

On Tuesday, November 19, 2024, HODGE celebrated the relocation to their new headquarters in the Port of Dubuque with an official ribbon cutting hosted by the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce. Greater Dubuque staff, along with ambassadors from the Dubuque Area Chamber of Commerce, local officials, and community members, attended the event, marking the beginning of an exciting new chapter for HODGE.

The facility is known locally as the former Durrant building, or MSA building, is a 13,000 square foot space is located on 400 Ice Harbor Drive in Dubuque. As a logistics, warehousing, and material handling company, the new headquarters will serve as the home for HODGE's growing team which works closely with businesses nationwide to improve efficiency and optimize supply chain processes. HODGE's materials handling branch will remain at their former location in Dubuque's Industrial Park West.

[Read more about the grand opening of HODGE's new headquarters](#)



Questions about how we can assist your existing business in hitting it's next milestone?

Contact Jason White, Vice President of Business Services, at 563-557-9049 or jasonw@greaterdubuque.org

Workforce Solutions

YOUR CAREER can be great here.



Northeast Iowa Community College staff (left), Jennie Weber of Loras College (center), and Tony Calabrese (right with Mandi Dolson and Nic Hockenberry of Greater Dubuque) were just a few of the 180 attendees representing 77 regional employers and partners at our December 13 Workforce Solutions Breakfast.

Event Recap

Workforce Solutions Breakfast: Connecting Talent, Innovation, and Opportunity

On Friday, December 13, 2024, the Greater Dubuque Development Corporation welcomed business leaders, HR professionals, elected officials, and community partners to the Workforce Solutions Breakfast at the Q Casino + Resort. The event provided an opportunity to reflect on workforce challenges and highlight innovative solutions that are driving progress in the Greater Dubuque region.

Presentations by Greater Dubuque Development staff and its educational partners covered an overview of our Workforce Solutions programs and resources, the power of internships, the untapped potential of international students, and achievements in increasing child care access throughout the county.

[Click for a full recap of the Workforce Breakfast and to access a PDF of the presentation](#)



College Outreach

College Hockey Night Scores Big with 325+ Students

On Friday, November 8, 2024, Greater Dubuque Development welcomed over 325 college students for the latest installment of the **YOU can be great here** Community of Colleges event series. Students from Clarke University, Emmaus University, Loras College, Northeast Iowa Community College, and the University of Dubuque came together to participate in the event. Sponsored by Greater Dubuque Development and AccessDubuqueJobs.com, the **YOU can be great here** Community of Colleges series aims to connect students with opportunities and experiences that highlight the benefits of living and working in the Greater Dubuque region.

[Read more about College Hockey Night and other upcoming events for college students](#)



Interested in learning more about the **YOU can be great here** Community of Colleges series?

Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org

Event Recap

Future Leadership Team Explores Potential Retail Growth in the Greater Dubuque Region

On December 4, 2024, Greater Dubuque Development Corporation's Future Leadership Team met to discuss the role of retail recruitment in shaping Dubuque's economic future. The meeting featured a presentation by Michael Warsaw, Portfolio Director of Retail Strategies, who shared data-driven tools and strategies to address retail opportunities and challenges in the Greater Dubuque region.

[Read more about our Future Leadership Team's December meeting](#)



Questions about our Future Leadership Team?

Contact Nic Hockenberry, Director of Workforce Programming, at 563-557-9049 or nicolash@greaterdubuque.org



Photo courtesy of UNI

Staff Highlight

Dolson Elected TRIHRA President & Joins UNI Advisory Board

We are proud to announce that Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, has been elected as the next president of the Tri-State Human Resources Association (TRIHRA) and invited to serve on the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) Employer Advisory Board.

[Read More >](#)

AccessDubuqueJobs.com Update

YOUR SUPPORT can be great here.

Invest in AccessDubuqueJobs.com and receive unlimited access to the top regional jobs site, expert assistance from our Workforce Solutions team, and a suite of newcomer service tools.

NEW Investors

- Bethany Home
- EIMCO
- Fastenal Company

Renewed Investors

- 1800Tshirts
- AARP Foundation
- Advance Pump & Equipment, Inc.
- Area Residential Care
- Assured Partners/The Friedman Group

Renewed Investors, cont'd

- Dubuque Montessori School
- Eagle Point Solar
- Eide Bailly LLC
- Emmaus University
- FGH Delivery
- Grand River Medical Group
- Green State Credit Union
- Holy Trinity Lutheran Church-Noah's Ark
- Klauer Manufacturing Company
- M&M Sales Enterprises Inc.
- Michelin Manufacturing
- Northeast Iowa Community College

- Bimbo Bakeries USA
- Blackrock Fabrication
- Diamond Jo Casino
- Platinum Supplemental Insurance
- RIE Coatings, LLC
- Rousselot
- Sisters of Charity, BVM
- University of Wisconsin-Platteville



Interested in becoming a Workforce Solutions Investor and access our complete suite of recruitment and retention tools?

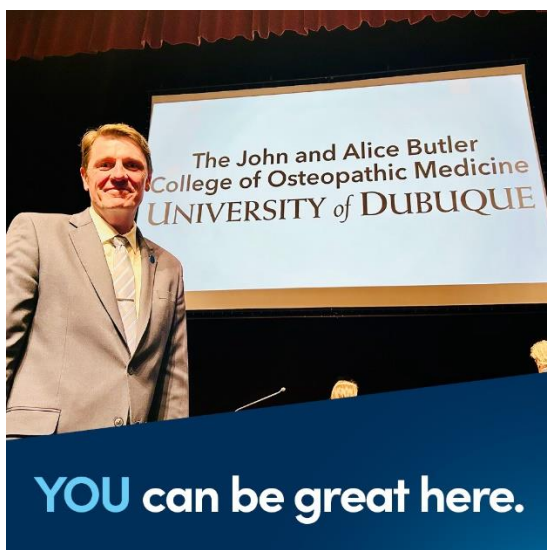
Contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention, at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org



AccessDubuqueJobs.com is made possible through a partnership between TH Media and Greater Dubuque Development Corporation.

Community Information

YOUR LIFE can be great here.

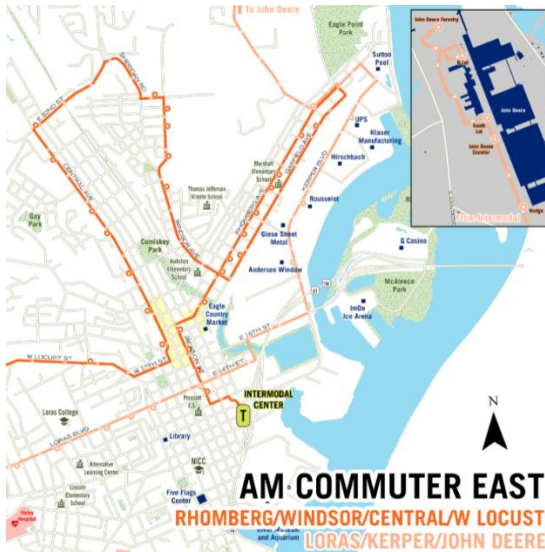


Community News

University of Dubuque Announces Plans to Launch Medical School

On December 13, the University of Dubuque announced that it plans to open a college of osteopathic medicine - named the John and Alice Butler College of Osteopathic Medicine in recognition of a \$60 million donation - in downtown Dubuque in 2028.

[Learn more >](#)



Community News

New Commuter Maps Available for The Jule

Updated maps and timetables are now available for The Jule's AM East, AM West, and PM Commuter routes in the city of Dubuque. Timetables have been adjusted to have a similar look as their other maps.

[Learn more >](#)



Photo courtesy of Q Casino + Resort

Community News

Island Social Opens at Q Casino + Resort

Island Social, the newest addition to the Q Casino + Resort, opened to the public on November 27. With 75 high-end interactive and prize arcade games, duckpin bowling, digital axe throwing, and more, Island Social is an all ages family fun zone included in the multiphase, \$83 million Schmitt Island development efforts.

[Learn more >](#)



Strategic Initiatives Spotlight

Conlon Construction Co.

Hear from Matt Mulligan, President and Chief Operating Officer of Conlon Construction Co. about his experience of working with Greater Dubuque Development to respond to the need for more housing stock in the region.

Upcoming Events

YOUR NETWORK can be great here.

Tuesday, December 24, 2024 - Wednesday, December 25, 2024

Tuesday, December 31, 2024 - Wednesday, January 1, 2025

Greater Dubuque Development Offices Closed

Our offices will be closed on Tuesday, December 24 and Wednesday, December 25 for the Christmas holiday, and again on Tuesday, December 31 and Wednesday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday. Aside from these holiday hours to provide our staff with time to spend with friends and family, our regular business hours of Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. will be in effect.

Wednesdays, January 29 - February 26, 2025

Wednesdays, March 12 - April 9, 2025

Wednesdays, August 20 - September 17, 2025

Wednesdays, October 1 - 29, 2025

Distinctively Dubuque Newcomer Program

5:30 - 8:30 p.m. | Various Locations | Dubuque, IA

[Distinctively Dubuque](#) is a five-night course led by high-energy presenters with in-depth knowledge of the Greater Dubuque region and is designed for individuals who are new to the area within the last five years. Thanks to our generous sponsors of the DRA, City of Dubuque and Dubuque County, Distinctively Dubuque is offered free of charge. [Online registration is now available](#) for all 2025 sessions. For more information, contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention for Greater Dubuque Development at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org.

[Register Online >](#)

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

AccessDubuqueJobs.com Spring Career Fair

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. | Grand River Center | 500 Bell Street, Dubuque, IA

As part of our 2024-2025 **YOU can be great here** Community of Colleges event series, Greater Dubuque Development will host the AccessDubuqueJobs.com Spring Career Fair on Wednesday, March 26, 2025 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. at the Grand River Center, located at 500 Bell Street in the Port of Dubuque. Mark your calendars now and look for employer registration to open soon. For more information, contact Mandi Dolson, Director of Workforce Recruitment & Retention for Greater Dubuque Development at 563-557-9049 or mandid@greaterdubuque.org.

Religious Holidays & Cultural Observances for December

December 1-24 | Advent (Western Christian)

December 8 | Bodhi Day (Buddhist)

December 12 | Our Lady of Guadalupe (Christian)

December 21 | Winter Solstice

December 24 | Christmas Eve (Christian)

December 25 | Christmas (Christian)

December 25 - January 2 | Hanukkah (Jewish)

December 26 - January 1 | Kwanzaa

December 31 | New Year's Eve

YOU Can Be Great Here Campaign

Our sights are set on 5 goals through 2027.

Grow our regional workforce to over 64,000 jobs.

Support median household income to reach \$76,000.

Encourage and facilitate \$1 billion of new construction.

Reduce regional poverty by 5%.

Reach a population of 105,000 in the Greater Dubuque region.

[View Progress](#)

View past issues of the newsletter [here](#).



YOU can be great here.

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