Press Briefing
On Criminal Activity

by Jason Hutcheson

Last month, the Partnership released a Summary of Findings related to criminal activity within the Greater Burlington community. This summary was developed by a task force during the month of January after interviews were conducted with service providers, law enforcement officials, and those public servants within the criminal justice system. The goal of the summary was to ensure the community provided opportunities for individuals to make a positive contribution to the local economy while also providing an unwelcome environment for criminal enterprise.

The summary outlines compassion and assistance to those with real needs but also deploys tough measures for those seeking to harm our community. It has 11 points worth noting:

**CRIME PREVENTION**
- Poverty Alleviation
- Substance Abuse
- Mental and Behavioral Health
- Neighborhood Revitalization
- Education and Job Preparedness

**DETERRENTS TO CRIMINAL ACTIVITY**
- Additional Law Enforcement Officers
- Promotion of Home Ownership
- Adjustments to Transitional Social Assistance

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM**
- Criminal Prosecution
- Department of Corrections
- Witness Cooperation

The full summary with expanded detail may be found at GreaterBurlington.com.

So what happens next?

Some of the findings require activity at the local level while others require action by the state legislature and executive branch. Changes to some of the social assistance programs would need to be implemented at the federal level.

Locally, the first step in bolstering the ranks of the Burlington Police Department has already taken place. We must continue the effort to implement the additional two years of Chief Beaird’s plan. Paying for the plan won’t be inexpensive nor will a funding source be easily identified. The work must begin now to prepare for next year’s budget discussion.

In addition to the press briefing, letters to both state and elected officials were drafted and signed by dozens of residents from all walks of life. They call for a review of behavioral health services, identify concerns related to early releases by the Iowa Parole Board, and suggest changes to the transitional social assistance programs which may discourage work in some cases.

It is not the intent of the Partnership to make ‘fighting crime’ its number one priority. The organization did, however, feel an obligation to research some of the real challenges within the system and suggest meaningful change and review.

It is now on all of us to follow up.
Connecting Business and Education is the top priority for the Future Workforce committee.

This committee enhances relationships between business, education and communities in order to prepare all youth for a successful future. Each spring the committee and volunteers from a variety of careers share their experiences with 5th and 8th graders at the annual Career Fair.

In 2017, the 8th Grade Career Fair will grow to reach over eight school districts throughout Southeast Iowa. The three day Career Fair will host 1,200 students!

Each fall the committee hosts the Teachers Appreciation Reception. Teachers in Des Moines County are invited and the event is a great way to say “Thank You!” for their hard work and a fun celebration to kick off the school year!

Pictured left to right: Shaunda Campbell, Burlington Community School District; Leanne Krogmeier, Southeastern Community College; Jenny McNeil, Temp Associates; Michelle Randall, Southeastern Community College; Mary Hofmann, Southeastern Community College; Lois Roth, Danville Community School District; Cheryl Wright, Hope Haven Area Development Center Corp.

Not pictured Cindy Whalen, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services
Sherri Krause has been promoted to the role of Chief Financial Officer in recognition of her outstanding work at the Partnership and her enhanced responsibilities. “Sherri prides herself on a job well done,” said Jason Hutcheson. “Her role has expanded numerous times since joining the Partnership in 2010, and her services are extremely important to the organization.”

Sherri manages the books for nine different non-profit organizations and oversees the human resource details for the Partnership. Within the last year, Sherri has taken on the financial management for the Community Foundation of Des Moines County and also serves as the lead compliance officer for several Iowa Finance Authority projects.

Hospitality & Customer Service Training

April 19, 1 - 3 PM
Greater Burlington Partnership
Winegard Board Room
No Cost

The Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB) has partnered with the Eastern Iowa Tourism Association and Iowa State University Extension & Outreach to offer a free Hospitality & Customer Service Training session for the Greater Burlington community.

Participants in this training will gain knowledge about developing effective Community Customer Service through Ambassador Programs and materials that can be shared with front-line staff, plus learn how to create EXPERIENCES which will keep travelers coming back. This will increase front line staff skills as directing visitors to community attractions. The new skills will result in a change in attitudes about their role in creating positive impressions of the community with visitors and will result in a change of behavior when the tools participants learn are deployed in the community.

Our community shines when all our ambassadors can cater to the desires of the modern consumer.

RSVP by April 12 to Belinda Colwell or online at GreaterBurlington.com.

Flood Control Group Holds Conference In Burlington

The Upper Mississippi, Illinois, and Missouri Rivers Association (UMIMRA) hosted its annual conference in Burlington again last month. Approximately 150 members of UMIMRA attended the event. Senator Joni Ernst shared a video message over the noon hour. This was the second consecutive annual conference the group has held in Burlington.

UMIMRA has long been a proponent of flood control measures which protect assets up and down the Upper Mississippi River Basin. The group believes that with proper planning and flood control measures the river basin can convey large amounts of water during a major flood event, with minimal economic damage and minimal loss of life.

The Partnership has been a long standing member of the organization and periodically attends advocacy events in Washington D.C. with the group’s leadership. For more information about the organization, visit umimra.org.

Krause Named Chief Financial Officer
SEEKING Small Biz Nominations

The Partnership is asking you to nominate a small business that you feel has gone above and beyond and should be named the 2017 Small Business of the Year.

Nominate a Des Moines County small business. To qualify they may have outstanding customer service, served the community for a long time, stood out on a community partnership or simply just operate an outstanding small business. Nominations must be a member of the Chamber of Commerce.

To nominate a small business, visit GreaterBurlington.com and click on the button to complete a short survey by March 31.

SMALL BUSINESS APPRECIATION BREAKFAST
Mark your calendars for May 12 at 7:30 AM to hear from the College Football Hall of Fame inductee.

Former Hawkeye Chuck Long
Small Business Breakfast Guest Speaker

Competition for Entrepreneurs

With Main Street Iowa and the Iowa Economic Development Authority, Downtown Partners is working to boost local business development efforts. The Open 4 Business competition is a chance for entrepreneurs to try out their business ideas for downtown Burlington. Each of the state’s Main Street organizations can submit one business to represent their program. The business can be either new or expanding, but it must be for-profit and plan to locate within the Main Street district.

In Burlington, the Downtown Partners Business Development Committee will select three applicants to pitch their ideas. The winner will be awarded a rental assistance grant if they open in downtown. In addition, they will go on to one of five regional competitions in June for a chance at $8,000. The five finalists will present their ideas in a statewide contest in August for an additional $20,000 in funding.

For more information, contact Steve Frevert.
Downtown Coffee & Conversation
March 29, 8 - 9 AM
Beancounter @ 211 Jefferson

If you’re a downtown property or business owner, employee, or resident put this date on your calendar for the first Coffee and Conversation get together! This new event, organized by the DPI Business Development committee, will take place on a regular basis and is designed to engage stakeholders, foster communication and strengthen the downtown community.

Spring Open House
April 8, 10 AM - 4 PM

Looking for something fresh and new? Visit your favorite shops in downtown Burlington to check out the new stores, spring fashions, décor and great merchandise. Register to win one of five chances for $100 in Downtown Dollars at the participating businesses.

Spring, Sip, Taste & Stroll
April 28, 5 - 8 PM
Supported by: Tri States Public Radio

Enjoy samples from a variety of local wineries and brewers as you stroll through shops on a beautiful spring Friday evening. Watch for ticket details in the coming weeks.

GreaterBurlington.com/Downtown
505 BIZ Tour
March 8, 5:15 PM
Tour Southeastern Community College’s NEW Health Professions Building

Join us for a tour of the new Health Professions Building on Southeastern Community College’s West Burlington campus. A full tour and presentation of the “Sim Family” will be given.

All events are free for YP members, $15 for non-members. The first event is complementary for prospective members.

RSVP via the Facebook event or by emailing youngprofessionals@greaterburlington.com.

YP OF THE MONTH
Becky Luers

Employer: Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
Hometown: Burlington
YP Member: 4 years

Why Did You Join YP: “I joined because of the opportunities to exhibit my personal work ethic and credentials. It also provides the opportunity to make corporate connections in a casual setting. Plus, I get the opportunity to foster new relationships!”

Why Greater Burlington: “The sense of civic engagement among community members makes me proud to live in Greater Burlington. I see how so many people work relentlessly to keep this community a wonderful place to work, raise a family, and just enjoy life.”

Unique About Me: “I started two fitness classes at the YMCA that are designed for parents and babies. I integrate the baby into fun workouts that improve balance, strengthen muscles and improve fatigue.”

YP CONTACT
is Rachel Lindeen
GreaterBurlingtonYP.com
Dana Atkins
Recipient of the Emmy Award

Dana gives her time and dedication to the South Hill Neighborhood Association, Burlington Area Homeless Shelter and the founder of the Kayla Atkins Foundation. The Foundation provides numerous services to area residents through Kayla’s Cupboard Food Pantry. She also hosts Faces of Courage, which offers a day of beauty for women who have had or currently have cancer, and their caregivers.

Dana is pictured with Donna Logan and Joyce Vance.

Jerry Jochims
Recipient of the Emmy Award

Jerry has dedicated his time to Greater Burlington for more than 40 years. Jerry has volunteered for numerous organizations such as Little League, the team physician for area schools, Burlington Baseball Association and SCC. He has also volunteered for the Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Partners, Economic Development, SCC Foundation, Capitol Theater, First United Methodist Church, Mississippi Valley Council of the Boy Scouts and Big Hollow Recreation Area.

Jerry is pictured with Jim Olson and Joyce Vance.
Chairman’s Award was awarded to Gretchen Miller for her dedication to the Burlington Lightscape Project.

Project of the Year was awarded to Southeastern Community College, accepted by Dr. Ash on behalf of the SCC Foundation and volunteers.

Best Renovation was awarded to the Burlington Depot, accepted by active volunteer Don Traman.

Business Person of the Year was awarded to Ann Menke, Owner of Menke and Company.

Community Impact was awarded to Bridges Out of Poverty, a program of Young House Family Services, accepted by Shauna Freitag and Vern Reed.

Young Professional of the Year was awarded to Jason Strandberg, MidWestOne Bank.

Watch the videos @ /user/GreaterBurlPart
JOIN US AFTER WORK

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

Bickford Assisted Living and Memory Care
3301 Sterling Dr, Burlington
March 16, 5 - 7 PM

Join us with your co-workers to build your network at Business After Hours and grow your business!

SPRING Dates

April 20 ➔ Frank Millard & Company
May 25 ➔ Zaiser’s Landscaping, Florist & Greenhouse

GreaterBurlington.com
The Convention & Visitors Bureau will be hosting a press conference in the Winegard Board Room to announce a noteworthy tourism event.

Come join us to see what fun will be racing into town this fall!

**EGGS & ISSUES**

**Mark Your Calendars:**
April 8 - New Date
7:30 AM @ Greater Burlington Partnership

**Who’s Invited:**
Eggs & Issues is a benefit of membership, and we encourage all members to attend.

**Next One Is March 18**

$5 Breakfast, Free Coffee and Legislative Insight
Breakfast is ready at 7:15 AM, Forum starts at 7:30 AM
The key topic to be covered is Water Quality.
RSVP to Belinda Colwell by March 16.

Sponsored by
Robberts & Kirkman, L.L.L.P
Owners and Attorneys Marlis Robberts and Jennifer Klever-Kirkman celebrated their new office in Downtown Burlington.

Southeastern Community College
Members of the Board of Trustees and Elected Officials celebrated two new Electric Car Charging Stations on the West Burlington Campus.

WELCOME CENTER Ribbon Cutting and Open House

The Port of Burlington Welcome Center is almost put back together after a major remodel. The Welcome Center has a brand new floor, a fresh coat of paint, modern display cases and furniture. A ribbon cutting will be held on April 4 at 1 PM, followed by an open house.

Come see the new space and help celebrate the beginning of visitor season!
MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Thank you to the members for renewing their memberships and providing the resources to accomplish the ongoing goals of the Chamber of Commerce. Those listed in bold have made an additional commitment by making a voluntary contribution.

AD Specialties Unlimited
Advanced Home Health Care
Great Prairie AEA
Aflac
Air Choice One
Alfagomma America
Allen Blasting and Coating
Alter Metal Recycling
American Ordnance
Ameriprise Financial
Amtrak
Arnold Refrigeration
ASPEN Financial Services, Kevin Gobble
Bark & Play Daycare and Suites
Becker’s Jewelers & Gemologists
Berthel Fisher
Bickel’s Cycling & Fitness
Bickford Assisted Living and Memory Care
Big Muddy’s
Big River Resources
Bi-State Contracting
Mississippi Valley Council, Boy Scouts of America
Brad Deery Honda
Brockway Mechanical & Roofing Co.
Burlington Bent River
Burlington Jet Stop
C.A.R.S.
Cardon Industries
Carl A. Nelson & Company
Carpetland USA
Casa Fiesta Mexican Restaurant
CenturyLink
Cessford Construction Co.
CNH Industrial
COBO USA
Community Action of SE Iowa
Community Health Centers of Southeastern Iowa
Connection Insurance
Crossroads RV Park
CSI Ltd.
Culligan of Burlington
C.U.R.E. Solutions
Danville Telecom/i-connect you
Dave Bessine Electric
Deery Brothers
Dennis Company
Derby’s Furniture Company
Des Moines County Humane Society
Designer’s Viewpoint
Doran & Ward Printing & Packaging
Douds Stone LLC, Heritage Quarry
Employee Benefit Systems
Energyefficient Systems
EZ Media
Farmers & Merchants Bank & Trust
Federal Mogul Ignition Products
Floyd’s E-Z Way Container Service
FMA
French-Reneker-Associates
Friends of Community Field, NPC
Flynn & Boyle’s Co.
Girl Scouts of Eastern Iowa and Western Illinois
Glik’s
Goodwill of the Heartland
Graystone Construction
Great River Plumbing
H & L Mack Truck Sales
H & R Block
Hamilton Place Apartments
Happy Joe’s of Burlington
Horse & Buggy Museum
Huffman’s Farm & Home
Hy-Vee Food Store #1
Hy-Vee Food Store #2
IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union
Indiana, Illinois, Iowa
Foundation for Fair Contracting
Industrial Motors
Industrial Service Corp.
Iowa Land & Home Specialists
J & M Displays
Jern’s Heating and Air Conditioning
Jet Air
Jonescapes
Kellogg, Dr. Roderick E.
Kemper’s True Value
Kenny’s Roller Ranch & Rec Center
Kim Anne Photography
Kozlowski Law Group
KS Esthetics And Massage
Manpower
Mann’s McDonald’s
Mediacom
MFS Mutual Insurance Company
Midwest Eye Clinic
Milestones Area Agency on Aging
Minard, Edwin E. II
Mt Hamill Elevator & Lumber
MTC Technologies
Nature’s Corner
Nick’s Cycling & Fitness
Nunnikhoven Mold Company
Parrott Farms
Dr. Mark C. Pothitakis D.D.S.
Prairie Radio Communications
Prall Insurance
Preferred Products Corporation
Premier Designs - Penny Sudbeck
Product Development Services
QPS Employment Group
RE/MAX Real Estate Specialists
Record Securities
Reif Oil Company
Rheinschmidt’s Flooring
Ritter’s Landscaping, Home & Garden Center
River Basin Publications
Roederers Pit Stop
Rokusek
Salon West
Sanders, Steve & Diane
Shottenkirk Superstore
Slumberland Furniture
Southeast Iowa Builders Association
Southeast Iowa Building & Construction Trades Council
Southeast Iowa Property Owners
Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra
Southeastern Community College
Subway
Super 8 Hotel
Target
TD&T CPAs and Advisors
Team Staffing Solutions
The Sherwin-Williams Company
The Washington
Two Rivers Bank & Trust
Two Rivers Insurance Services
Tyson Fresh Meats
United Rentals
Burl./West Burl. Area United Way
U.S. Cellular
U.S. Gypsum
Van Meter
Video Production Services of Iowa
Walmart Vision Center - Dr. Eric O’Brien, OD
Wells Fargo Bank
Iowa Workforce Development
Wunderlich Excavating & Plumbing
Young House Family Services

Renewals: 1/3/2017 - 2/1/2017

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MARCH HAPPENINGS

2 - World Traveloque Series with Dennis Burkhart
Capitol Theater - 7:30 PM
burlingtoncapitoltheater.com

2 - The Price is Right Live
Memorial Auditorium - 7:30 PM
burlington-capitoltheater.com

3 - United Way Annual Meeting
PZAZZ! Convention & Event Center - 12 PM
319-752-7831

3 - Eric Pettit Lion
Art Center of Burlington - 6 PM
artcenterofburlington.com

3 - Savoy Brown
The Washington - 8 PM
thewashingtonmusic.com

4 - The Pale Moons & Sean Costanza
The Washington - 8 PM
thewashingtonmusic.com

9 - Lunch at the Top
First United Church of Christ - 11 AM
319-754-4807

9 - 11 - SnowBull
Memorial Auditorium - 7 PM
bma-live.com

10 - I Gotta Right to Sing the Blues, A Salute to Ella, Judy & Patsy
Capitol Theater - 7 PM
burlingtoncapitoltheater.com

11 - Shamrock Shuffle
Crapo Park - 10 AM
burlingtonkiwanis.com

14 - CVB Press Conference
Greater Burlington Partnership
Winegard Room - 2 PM
GreaterBurlington.com

16 - Business After Hours
Bickford Assisted Living and Memory Care - 5 PM
GreaterBurlington.com

17 - 19 - Spring Craft & Vendor Show
Westland Mall - Mall Hours
641-451-5294

17 - Wine Tasting and Jared Rouggly LIVE
Art Center of Burlington - 5 PM
artcenterofburlington.com

18 - March Eggs & Issues
Greater Burlington Partnership
7:15 AM - GreaterBurlington.com

18 - Southeast Iowa Symphony Orchestra
Spring Classical Concert
Capitol Theater - 7:30 PM
burlingtoncapitoltheater.com

18 - Hong Kong Sleepover Musical Entourage
The Washington - 8 PM
thewashingtonmusic.com

19 - Jack Broadbent Early Show
The Washington - 8 PM
thewashingtonmusic.com

23 - Devon Allman + Stars in Toledo
The Washington - 7 PM
thewashingtonmusic.com

24 - Rusted Root
The Washington - 8 PM
thewashingtonmusic.com

29 - Downtown Coffee & Conversation
The Beancounter Coffee House & Drinkery - 8 - 9 AM
GreaterBurlington.com

30 - Burlington Civic Music Presents:
Chicago Harp Quartet
Memorial Auditorium - 7:30 PM
bma-live.com

GET MORE EVENT DETAILS: GreaterBurlington.com
Don’t Forget to Register - Shamrock Shuffle

Burlington Kiwanis is excited to announce the return of the Shamrock Shuffle. The 5K run/walk will take place on Saturday, March 11 at 10 AM in Crapo Park. Again this year, the Shamrock Shuffle will be a color run, and participants will enjoy the festive course as they run through bursts of color.

There is still time to register for the Shamrock Shuffle at GetMeRegistered.com/KiwanisShamrockShuffle. For those already registered, don’t forget to pick up your packet ahead of time on March 10 from 11 AM - 6 PM at our new location, Burlington Bees, Community Field, 2712 Mount Pleasant St, Burlington.

For more information, visit www.burlingtonkiwanis.com, Like “Burlington Shamrock Shuffle” on Facebook or email burlingtonshamrockshuffle@gmail.com.

Experience the MAGIC!

The Burlington Police Department challenges the Midwest Magic Special Olympics team in the 4th Annual Basketball Championship game. “A Magical Afternoon 4” takes place on March 26, 4 PM at the Burlington Community High School.

Ticket cost is adults $5 and students $3. You can pick up your tickets at Hopefully Yours Thrift & Gift Store at 617 Jefferson St.

For more information, call 319-237-1140.

Burlington/West Burlington Area United Way Annual Meeting

The Burlington/West Burlington Area United Way will hold its Annual Meeting on March 3 with a 12 PM Luncheon at the PZAZZ! Convention and Event Center.

Reservations are required. To RSVP call 319-752-7831. The Annual Meeting agenda includes nominations for organization officers and board members.

Small Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Award Nominations Sought

Does your small business (99 or fewer employees) recycle or have a waste reduction program? Do you know a small business that does? We want to recognize them! Nominations for the 2017 Small Business Recycling and Waste Reduction Awards are being accepted.

Previous winners include Burlington in Bloom and Optimae Behavioral Health Services! Nominations accepted until April 24. Winners will be announced at the 2017 Small Business Breakfast on May 12. To request a nomination form, contact Darven Kendell at dkendell@dmcwaste.org or 319-753-8126.

Want to be in the Business Spotlight?
Contact Brenda Wischmeier!
GREATER BURLINGTON LEADERSHIP	

GETS PROJECT STARTED

The Greater Burlington Leadership class has been busy preparing to put their 2017 project into motion. In the next month, the group members will be contacting and meeting with impacted building owners to continue to create a safer and more beautiful downtown through alleyway cleanup, improved lighting and a building mural.

The group intends to install both permanent and temporary (string type) lighting in various alleys with the permission of downtown building owners as well as cleaning up dead vegetation, debris and graffiti.

Fundraising efforts will be firing up this month! The Greater Burlington Leadership Group is accepting monetary, time and product donations.

If you’re interested in assisting with this betterment project, contact Jessica Dean, Great Western Bank at 319-576-7116 or jessica.dean@greatwesternbank.com.

This alley is on the 300 block of Jefferson leading to Washington St.