



Volume 5 Issue 2  
February 2006

# *Downtown Agenda*

Monthly Newsletter for Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. (DECI)

## **Year in Review**

Numerous business owners and community members attended Downtown Eau Claire Inc.'s annual meeting on January 4th for a recap of the year's news, events, and accomplishments. The year 2005 brought much to be proud of and to report. To view a copy of the annual report, visit [www.downtown-eauclaire.com](http://www.downtown-eauclaire.com).

### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Highlights included the grand opening of Phoenix Park, the construction of the new Eau Claire Chamber of Commerce building and with it the welcoming of our new neighbors downtown, the completion of the 2 S. Barstow mural project, the creation of the North Barstow/Medical BID, and the new Jump-Start Downtown Business Competition, which awarded \$11,000 to entrepreneurs. Impressively, seven out of the 13 plans submitted for the competition have now become businesses. Fifty-nine new businesses opened downtown in 2005.

### **EVENTS**

Everyone's dedication and hard work helped with the planning of several special events in downtown Eau Claire during 2005. Events included the Spring Spruce Up, Summerfest, International Fall Festival, A Dicken's of a Christmas Celebration, and quarterly business social events called Shop Talk. With more than 13,000 attendees in 2005, the International Fall Festival broke its attendance record.

### **AWARDS**

The RCU Corporate Center and Phoenix Park received the *2005 Phoenix Award* from the Wisconsin Commercial Real Estate Women (WCREW). This award recognizes a development project that "rises from the ashes." The nine-county West Central Wisconsin Synergy Conference recognized Downtown Eau Claire for all downtown revitalization projects in 2005.



Congratulations to everyone and we look forward to a successful 2006!

### **DECI ANNUAL AWARDS**

*Volunteer of the Year:* Stan Carpenter, Dan Goelzer, mural artists

*Development Project of the Year:* Cigan Properties (101 N. Farwell St.)

*Renovation Awards:* Susan Jakober (Interior Arts, 308 Eau Claire St.)

Jim Massey (Lewis Financial Advisors, 13 S. Barstow St.)

*Historic Rehabilitation Project of the Year:* Dave & Lisa Strobel (Restoration Properties, 130 S. Barstow St.)

*Historic Rehabilitation Award:* John Mogensen (15 S. Barstow St.)

*Retail Merchandising of the Year:* Eclectica On Grand (106 W. Grand Ave.)

*Window Display of the Year:* City Living (15 S. Barstow St.)

*Above and Beyond Award:* Deb Foster

## Downtown Events

Thursday, February 2

**Gription** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

February 2-5

**Go, Dog. Go!** presented by the Eau Claire Children's Theatre at The State Theatre. 6:30 p.m. (Thurs.), 7:30 p.m. (Fri.), 1:30 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.) \$8 youth, & \$14 adults. Call 839-8877.

Friday, February 3

**Arctic Daze** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

**Quinn Elizabeth** at the Acoustic Café, 8:30-11 p.m.

Saturday, February 4

**Space Rangers** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

**Patchouli** at the Acoustic Café, 8:30-11 p.m.

Monday, February 6

**The O'Neill Brothers** at The State Theatre, 7:30 p.m., \$24.50 all seats.

Tuesday, February 7

**Freestyle Battle** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., Free admission.

Thursday, February 9

**Pat McCurday** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$7 cover.

February 9-12

**I Do! I Do!** presented by the Chippewa Valley Theatre Guild at the Grand Little Theatre, 7:30 p.m. (Thurs., Fri., Sat.), 1:30 p.m. (Sun.). \$18 each or \$35 per couple. Includes dessert. Call 832-PLAY.

Friday, February 10

**Chris Koza** at The Acoustic Cafe, 8:30-11 p.m.

Saturday, February 11

**Cloud Cult** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$4 cover.

**Silver Sounds** presented by The Chippewa Valley Symphony at The State Theatre. 7:30 p.m. Call 832-6366 for free tickets.

**Trevor Marty** at the Acoustic Café, 8:30-11 p.m.

Sunday, February 12

**Lovesongs Tour-John Berry** at The State Theatre. 7:30 p.m., \$23 all seats, \$25 box seats. Call 832-ARTS.

**Superbowl 31 Revisited** at The Stone's Throw, 4 p.m., Free admission.

Monday, February 13

**The Q-tet** at The Stone's Throw, 9 p.m., Free admission.

Tuesday, February 14

**A-Scratch** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., Free admission.

Thursday, February 16

**Natty Nation** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$5 cover.

Friday, February 17

**Victor Barnes with Run Side Down** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$4 cover.

**East Hill Bluegrass Band** at the Acoustic Café, 8:30-11 p.m.

Saturday, February 18

**Three Times Thick** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

**Silver Gala** at The State Theatre. 25th Anniversary event. 6-9 p.m., \$25 per person.

**Jeff Ray** at the Acoustic Café, 8:30-11 p.m.

Monday, February 20

**The Q-tet** at The Stone's Throw, 9 p.m., Free admission.

Tuesday, February 21

**Jason Van Nurdan** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., Free admission.

Thursday, February 23

**Inebriation** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

Friday, February 24

**Hooch** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

Saturday, February 25

**NemoJoe** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., \$3 cover.

Monday, February 27

**The Q-tet** at The Stone's Throw, 9 p.m., Free admission.

Tuesday, February 28

**Six Nine** at The Stone's Throw, 10 p.m., Free admission.

# February 2006

Please visit DECI's website for meeting specifics and additional downtown events: [www.downtown-eauclaire.com](http://www.downtown-eauclaire.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 DECI Board Mtg., 7:30 a.m. RDA Forum, 6 p.m.	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Bus. Mtg., 7:30 a.m. Arts Mtg., 9 a.m.	9 Downtown WI Act Hearing, 1 p.m.	10	11
12	13	14	15 RDA Board Mtg., 7:30 a.m.	16	17	18
19	20	21 Marketing Mtg., 5 p.m.	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

## Downtown Business Update

**Lewis Financial Advisors** had its official ribbon cutting on January 23rd at 13 S. Barstow Street. Owner Jim Massey and his energetic staff look forward to serving you from their new downtown location. The business was originally established in 1914 and is now in its fourth generation of personal service.



**Luther Midelfort** had earned the state's highest honor for organizational excellence - a *2005 Wisconsin Forward Award*. A recognition ceremony with Gov. Jim Doyle is scheduled from 5-7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 13 at the Center for the Performing Arts in Madison. Congratulations!

**Lisa Aspenson** of the North Barstow/Medical BID, and **Nick Meyer** of Volume One Magazine are the newest members of the DECI Board of Directors for 2006. Welcome Lisa and Nick!

**Richard, Marano, C.H., The Hypnosis Center**, plans to offer free monthly informative sessions later this winter. His services help with a variety of issues including weight loss, quitting smoking, stress management, phobias, anxiety, depression, and more. Call 715-552-5355 or visit [www.hypnosiscenter.com](http://www.hypnosiscenter.com).

## Road Report

**Emery Street Parking Change** - On behalf of Rick's Service Center, DECI submitted a request to the City's Public Works Department to change the on-street parking regulations of the 200 and 300 blocks of Emery Street to "no parking 2AM to 6AM." City Council approved the ordinance amendment, and Public Works will remove the existing parking signs by the end of February.



**Farwell Street Bridge** - If the unseasonably warm weather continues, the Farwell Street Bridge is scheduled to re-open on Friday, February 3rd. The north bridge abutment is being reinforced with concrete retaining walls. The repairs will accommodate a 10' wide pedestrian trail under Farwell Street.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**President**

Charlie Grossklaus  
*RCU*

**Vice President**

John Dickey  
*Luther/Midelfort*

**Secretary**

Paula Kimblin  
*Third Ward Neighborhood*

**Treasurer**

Teresa O'Halloran  
*Ruder Ware LLSC*

**Presidential Appointee**

Ken Van Es  
*Eau Claire YMCA*

**Board Members**

Dave Adler  
*Eau Claire City Council*

Lisa Aspenson  
*N. Barstow/Medical BID*

Marlene Arnston  
*Randall Park Neighborhood*

Toby Biegel  
*City Council Member*

Stan Carpenter  
*Third Ward Neighborhood*

Marty Fisher-Blakeley  
*West Grand Ave BID*

Deb Foster  
*Downtown BID*

Mike Huggins  
*City of Eau Claire*

Dennis Jenson  
*Eau Claire County*

Robert Krause  
*Corporate Technologies*

Nick Meyer  
*Volume One Magazine*

Jen Roth  
*Eau Claire Regional Arts*

Bernie Trettin  
*North River Fronts Neighborhood*

Janine Wildenberg  
*Redevelopment Authority*

**Executive Director**  
Mike Schatz  
*City of Eau Claire*

**Downtown Wisconsin Act hearing to be held  
February 9th at EDC in Eau Claire**

A public hearing on the senate version of the Downtown Wisconsin Act has been scheduled at 1 p.m. on Thursday, February 9th in Eau Claire at the Economic Development Corporation, EDC, at 101 N. Farwell Street. The Downtown Wisconsin Act, Assembly Bill 499, is a group of proposals to aid downtown development. Please plan to attend and testify in support of downtown, or send a letter if you cannot make it. Contact DECI staff for more information.

**South Barstow Redevelopment Feedback Welcomed**

The Eau Claire Redevelopment Authority held its second public listening session on January 5th to gather input from property owners and the community on what type of redevelopment projects to pursue along the south riverbank, South Barstow Street to Gibson Street.



River Architects unveiled an initial conceptual plan to initiate the discussion. **To view the plan and offer feedback, visit [www.downtown-eauclaire.com](http://www.downtown-eauclaire.com).**

The third session will be held at 6 p.m. on February 1 in the North Conference Room at City Hall.

**Sidewalk Café and Sandwich Board Permits  
Available at City Hall**

With spring fast approaching, now is the time to submit your application for a sidewalk café permit or sandwich board/sidewalk sign permit. It's easy!

Sandwich Board/Sidewalk Sign Permit

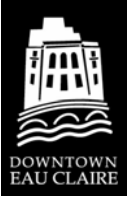
Fill out a sign permit application at City Hall in the Planning and Inspections Department. Cost is \$15 per year. Ordinance rules are as follows:

- 1.) The sign can only be out when your business is open.
- 2.) Maximum sign area = 10-square-feet per side.
- 3.) Maximum height = Four feet.
- 4.) Only one sign per public entrance.
- 5.) Must have five-feet clearance between your sign and the curb for pedestrian traffic, and must be at least two feet from the curb.
- 6.) No balloons or streamers (or other windblown materials) can be attached.

Sidewalk Café Permit

Fill out a sidewalk café application at City Hall in the Public Works Department or download it at [www.downtown-eauclaire.com](http://www.downtown-eauclaire.com). Cost is \$75 per year for a new permit, \$200 per year for a new permit with alcohol, \$35 per year for a renewal, and \$100 per year for a renewal with alcohol.





## *Downtown Eau Claire, Inc.*

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[www.downtown-eauclaire.com](http://www.downtown-eauclaire.com)

*Downtown Eau Claire, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the development of business, housing and cultural resources and activities within Downtown Eau Claire.*

## *Excellent Visibility*

### 307 S. Farwell St.

Best suite in the building with excellent visibility from busy S. Farwell Street. Also next to City Hall. Upper level 982 square feet with two private offices, reception, work room with cabinets and sink and an all purpose room. Rent is \$750 per month which includes all utilities, weekly janitorial service, and one private parking stall behind building. Large city parking lot next to building. Ideal for small business/office. Call 832-3418. Ask for Lynn or contact Mike Schatz at 839-4914.

