

Update Rock Island News Release

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Update Rock Island is a segment at City Council meetings given by Mayor Dennis Pauley focusing on news in Rock Island. The video segment from the meeting is available on the home page of www.rigov.org and provides more information on the topics listed.

\$3.7 Million RIFAC Expansion

Rock Island Fitness and Activity Center (RIFAC) celebrated a \$3.7 million expansion with a groundbreaking. The expansion will include a new gymnasium, classroom space, and whirlpool. The new gymnasium and classroom space will host youth and adult sport leagues, special events, school break programs, fitness, and many cultural arts and special interest programs. This addition will allow more participants in existing programs as well as expanded recreational opportunities for the community to enjoy. RIFAC members will enjoy a new whirlpool annex extending off the current pool deck and new glass windows will add natural light to the pool area. In addition, all Park & Recreation administrative staff will locate to new office space at the facility.

The majority of the construction will be outside of the current building, so impact to current facility users should be kept to a minimum. Construction should be complete in October 2010. Visit www.rigov.org to see the plans and for more details

Downtown Parking Validation System to Be Considered

Two downtown parking changes were considered at the City Council meeting. Renaissance Rock Island requested changing the late night towing policy on 2nd Avenue between 17th and 18th Streets to prohibit parking after 11:30 p.m. (instead of 10:30 p.m.) Thursdays through Saturdays and begin relocating cars starting at midnight. The request was made to accommodate restaurants and downtown visitors. In addition, City Council was asked to consider a parking validation system that would allow downtown businesses to pay a portion of overtime parking fees for their customers. Renaissance Rock Island will work with the City and downtown businesses to come up with a system.

City Council approved both requests.

Library Frieze Lectures Look at “Overlooked Anniversaries”

The Rock Island Public Library and Augustana College will mark "anniversaries you might have overlooked" on four Thursdays this fall at the Rock Island Library. The 12th annual fall series presents four free public lectures at 2 p.m. on each Thursday, October 22 through November 12, in the Community Room of the Rock Island Main Library. Coffee and thought-provoking conversations follow each presentation. Visit www.rigov.org for the lecture topics. The series is free and open to the public.