

Three community projects win at NCIP banquet Friday

Written by Elizabeth Barrett
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Museum, youth, ABLE programs recognized.

Gothenburg again took home honors at the annual Nebraska Community Improvement Program awards banquet.

The city received special awards for Gothenburg Historical Museum and Sun Theatre projects and for a vehicle day through Dawson Area Development.

Farnam received an award for a new business—The Second Chance Store—and was honored for overall excellence in community and economic development with a Governor's Community Spirit Award.

The banquet was Friday in Kearney and followed a Governor's Conference on Rural Development.

At the banquet, community volunteers and leaders celebrate their efforts at successfully promoting and encouraging economic and community development.

City officials and volunteers have received awards numerous years since the program began in 1963.

Anne Anderson, Community Development Office director and Community Improvement Program chair, said she was thrilled and surprised that the city won in the three categories they entered

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“We only submitted in those categories this year,” Anderson said.

In the NCIP program, Gothenburg competes against cities with populations of 1,700 to 4,000.

The city was the recipient of three special awards in the following categories:

Tourism and development—Officials submitted “A Window Into the Past for Future Generations” about ongoing efforts to expand and improve the Gothenburg Historical Museum.

Arts and humanities—A tie with Imperial. Local officials submitted an entry highlighting how Gothenburg Community Playhouse volunteers raised money for a new popcorn popper for the Sun Theatre and their efforts in cleaning up and repainting the basement after flooding last spring.

Youth involvement and leadership development—Dawson Area Development and the Advocating Business, Labor and Education officials sponsored a vehicle day for Dudley Elementary children where youngsters interacted with owners of vehicles and learned about various careers.

Jerry Johnson of Wahoo, who was NCIP chair in Gothenburg in 1974, received

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