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## News Release

**For Immediate Release:** February 2, 2006

Contact: Kim Wheeler – office: 815-964-6221, cell: 815-289-1102

127 N. Wyman St., PO Box 4331, Rockford, IL 61110

Phone: 815-964-6221; Fax: 815-963-8716; Toll Free: 800-724-8431

[www.RiverDistrict.com](http://www.RiverDistrict.com)

Rockford, IL - River District Association will hold the 8th Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner tonight, Thursday, February 2, 2006, at Klehm Arboretum, 2701 Clifton Ave. Primary Sponsors: AMCORE Bank, WTOVO/FOX39; Major Sponsor: Hinshaw & Culbertson; Supporting Sponsors: Lorden Distributing Company, River District Catering.

This event is a time for socializing, sharing, and learning about what's happening within the organization, River District Association, and Rockford's downtown neighborhood called River District. The theme this year is Vision for River District. Speakers will talk about ideas for downtown development. A short business meeting with recognition and election of board members will take place. Ending the evening on a high note will be Alderman Doug Mark singing, "Downtown" made famous by Petula Clark.

### PROGRAM

- 5:30 Socializing, Cocktails, HORS D'OEUVRES  
Entertainment: *AMBIESSENCE*, visual audio expressions  
Astralhotel Productions
- 6:30 Dinner  
PANZANELLA WITH MIXED FIELD GREENS, served  
TAPAS BUFFET, choose 2 out of 4 entrees – Bacon Wrapped Pork Loin, Sauteed Cajun  
Shrimp, Roasted Vegetable Melange, Fried Tofu with Artichoke Hearts  
DESSERT, Pastry Chef's Special Creation, served
- 7:15 Program – Vision for River District  
Welcome and Recognition - Steve Moore  
President's Remarks - Steve Moore  
City of Rockford Mayor - Larry Morrissey  
Visualize the Future of Downtown - David J. Reynolds, Shaw Environmental, Inc.  
Board Member Recognition and Election - Kim Wheeler, Rebecca Kopf, Elaine Harrington  
Closing Remarks - Rebecca Kopf  
"Downtown" - Alderman Doug Mark

### SPECIAL THANK YOU

Adams Letter Services, Klehm Arboretum, Rockford Park District, SaavedraGehlhausen Architects; Volunteers for tonight's event: David Beccue, Chad Bryden, Luan Dean, Val DeCastris, Elaine Harrington, Pam Hein, Curt Johnsen, Rebecca Kopf, Scott Long, Diane Lyon, Alderman Doug Mark, Steve Moore, Mayor Larry Morrissey, David J. Reynolds, Lynn Rode

### River District Association 2005 Board of Directors

Marge Bevers, Chad Bryden, Lew Crampton, Cal DeWeerd (Secretary), Thomas D. Foss (Treasurer), Pam Hein, Jan Jann, Sandi Kohn, Rebecca Kopf (Vice-President), Scott R. Long, Stephen T. Moore (President), Corey Pearson, Matthew Provenzano, Frank Turbyville, Thomas R. Walsh

### 2005 Ex-Officio Board of Directors

Judy Barnard, Barb Connors, Elmo Dowd, John Groh, Nate Martin, John Phelps

### Recognition - Thank You to the Following Retiring Board Members

Cal DeWeerd, 6 years (Secretary, 4 years)  
Thomas R. Walsh, 6 years (Vice President, 3 years)  
Sandi Kohn, 4 years

### **Special Recognition**

Steve Moore, retiring as President for the past 2 years; will continue as a Board Member for 2 more years

### **Election – Board of Directors**

The River District Association Board of Directors makes a recommendation to the Association Members that the following slate of candidates for a Board of Directors position be considered for approval by vote of those Members present at tonight's Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner, February 2, 2006:

- Scott R. Long, renewing for 3 years
- Corey Pearson, renewing for 3 years
- Andy Williams, 3 years
- Lauretta Rundgren, 3 years
- Maureen Flanagan, 3 years
- Ruth Miller, 2 years
- Gary Anderson, 2 years
- Brian Harger, 1 year

### **Election – Board of Directors, Officers**

The River District Association Board of Directors makes a recommendation to fellow Board Members that the following slate of candidates for a Board of Directors Officer position be considered for a one year term for approval by vote of those Board Members present at tonight's Annual Membership Meeting & Dinner, February 2, 2006:

- Rebecca Kopf, President
- Scott R. Long, Vice President
- Pam Hein, Secretary
- Thomas D. Foss, Treasurer, renewing

### **MISSION**

To promote a growing, thriving, prosperous business and residential community in Rockford's downtown neighborhood, River District.

### **VISION**

River District is an influential voice for downtown residents and businesses. There is healthy business growth. There is healthy residential growth. River District acts as a liaison for development. The community economy is sustainable. Community assets and heritage are protected.

### **LIVEITUP DOWNTOWN** **enjoy your river district**

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