

Village president sees harmony of purpose

Written by MARK JAEGER

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Concentration on economic growth promised in address

While political posturing and infighting have stymied most meaningful progress in Washington, D.C. and Madison, Saukville Village President Barb Dickmann presented a picture of local harmony during her State of the Village address to the Saukville Chamber of Commerce last week.

“As we think about the State of Saukville and its value as a community, it’s important to realize that this fine village is ready to serve its residents, organizations and businesses at all time,” Dickmann said.



Barb Dickmann

She attributed part of that coordinated outlook to the visioning process village officials completed last spring.

An outgrowth of that process was the development of the village’s first mission statement — “The Village of Saukville is dedicated to meeting our community’s needs by providing high quality services in a safe environment through proactive, responsible planning and leadership.”

Dickmann said sharpening the community focus through the adoption of strategic priorities and action steps set a course for coordinated progress.

“Using these resources, we, as well as our successors, will be able to grow our fine community within a more focused and structured framework ... always being cognizant of the needs of existing residents and businesses,” she said.

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Dickmann noted last year was a time of transition, with the retirement of several key employees in the village. They included dispatcher Betty Bogle after 15 years with the police department, Gerald Dickmann after 33 years with the utility department and Glenn Dickmann after 42 years with the department of public works.

Dickmann pointed to the opening of several new businesses over the past year, strengthening the community's tax base and adding to its local workforce.

Singled out were the adult day-care service Golden Pearl, Sass Accounting, disposable wipes research company Carroll Converting and IT support firm C3 Electronix.

Citing an economic rebound in the community, expansion projects were also noted at Schmit Bros., Tri Par, Charter Manufacturing, Cramer Coil, Johnson Brass and Jeneil Biotech.

Dickmann also lauded the business forum hosted by the village and Ozaukee Economic Development at the Ozaukee Humane Society shelter.

"The group that gathered was enthusiastic, shared information and ideas on their businesses as well as their thoughts on what Saukville could do to enhance their presence here," she said.

As for the year ahead, Dickmann said unity of vision rather than political agendas will be the rule.

"We will concentrate on focused economic growth, especially business and industrial, the economical structure of our staffing, the addition of residential development, continued fiscal management and added partnerships with surrounding communities," she said.

"We believe that folks live and work here because they can enjoy a safe environment and a greater sense of community."