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**COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**TO: Thomas Thomas, City Manager**

**SUBJECT: ATSC Presentation**

**Date: 1/30/13**

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The following will provide information on next Monday's presentation of the Mark W. Schwiebert Sustainability Leadership Award. The award was created in July 2009 by the city's Advanced Technology & Sustainability Consortium (ATSC). It recognizes a business, organization, or individual that has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the area of green or sustainable initiatives.

The 2012 award will be presented to Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH). Representing the organization will Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback. ATSC Chair Kevin Koski will join Mayor Pauley in making the presentation.

Previous winners of the ATSC award were:

- 2009 Mark W. Schwiebert
- 2010 Augustana College
- 2011 White HydroPower
- 2012 Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation

**Submitted by:** Mary Chappell, Development Programs Manager  
Jeff Eder, Community & Economic Development Director

## **2012 Mark W. Schwiebert Sustainability Leadership Award**

Members of Rock Island's Advanced Technology and Sustainability Consortium (ATSC) established the Mark W. Schwiebert Sustainability Leadership Award in April 2009. It was created to honor former Mayor Schwiebert for his 20 years of service to Rock Island and for his work in the area of sustainable initiatives. This special award would be given annually to a business, organization, or individual that has demonstrated outstanding leadership in the area of green or sustainable initiatives. The first award was presented to Mark Schwiebert at a January 2010 City Council meeting.

The actual award was created from a green material as it was developed from a small piece of a steel beam taken from the Armory demolition site. Most of the demolition materials were reused on site or recycled. Valley Construction generously provided a 10" x 6" section of beam and also created an attractive wooden base to hold the heavy piece. The base was designed with space for names of future award recipients. The award is now kept in the City Hall trophy case with a smaller award to be presented to the recipient as a reminder of the acknowledgement.

The 2012 award recipient is Rock Island Economic Growth Corporation (GROWTH). Renaissance Rock Island President Brian Hollenback will receive the award from Mayor Pauley and ATSC Chair Kevin Koski.

GROWTH was selected for the following reasons:

- Ongoing efforts to take existing commercial buildings and put them back into active use. The most recent examples of such buildings are Jackson Square, the Goldman Family lofts and the Shoppes on Second building. Previous efforts included the Goldman Lofts, Renaissance Lofts, Sala Flats, Voss Brother's Lofts, and the McKesson Building.
- Providing leadership with local partners to utilize NSP1 and NSP2 funds toward the rehabilitation of homes located throughout the City. This effort will retain the existing housing stock and sustain the neighborhood.

The person who nominated GROWTH referenced the City's efforts to encourage citizens of Rock Island to live green, noting that the greenest building is the one that is already built. GROWTH has certainly carried the banner by revitalizing and repurposing existing commercial buildings and by rehabilitating existing housing, both of which will sustain Rock Island for years to come.