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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DRA Board Contributes \$10,872 to Veteran's Freedom Center to Support Dubuque's Memorial Day Parade and Community Cookout

Memorial Day 2023 festivities to feature first ever parade saluting veterans on Schmitt Island

Dubuque, IA – May 23, 2023 – During today's DRA board meeting, the board voted to present Veteran's Freedom Center with \$10,872 to support the community's Memorial Day Parade honoring veterans, which will be held for the first time on Schmitt Island.

The parade, which is returning after a three-year absence, has traditionally been a yearly event and will now be held on Schmitt Island, home to Q Casino, Dubuque Ice Arena and Veteran's Memorial Plaza. The new parade route will begin in the casino parking lot and end at the Veteran's Memorial Plaza. Following the parade, there will be a short program and the laying of a memorial wreath to honor those who have given their lives in defense of the country.

The public is invited to attend the parade and ceremony, as well as a community cookout immediately following the ceremonies. Food will be provided by Hy-Vee and is free for those attending. The parade begins at 10:30 am on May 29th, rain or shine.

"Through this funding support, we are pleased to help bring back the local Memorial Day Parade, and we look forward to honoring local heroes who have served our nation," said Kathy Buhr, Director of Strategic Philanthropy & Schmitt Island Development at DRA. "We have a long history of supporting community events, so providing funding that helps residents enjoy this national holiday - while also honoring those who have gone before us - is important."

For more information on Dubuque's Memorial Day Parade and the related ceremonies, contact Randy Rennison, 563-589-7840.

"It's always exciting to see the community come together and show support for programs and activities that highlight others," said Buhr. "And DRA's support of this endeavor is just another way for us to demonstrate our commitment to partnering with organizations who want to be a positive catalyst for improvement and change in the community."

DRA's commitment to the community is made possible by proceeds that come from both Q Casino and the Diamond Jo Casino – both of which attract thousands of visitors to Dubuque each year from Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin and beyond.

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About the DRA

The DRA, through its gaming and entertainment facilities provides for social, economic and community betterment and lessens the burden of Dubuque city and area government, while contributing to the growth and viability of Dubuque area tourism. The organization has been a vital part of the community since its inception in 1985 and is operated by a volunteer board comprised of 21 directors who work together to guide operations of Q Casino. The DRA holds the license for casino-gaming operations of Q Casino and is also the co-licensee for the Diamond Jo Casino, both of which are located in Dubuque. For more information on DRA and its community-minded mission, visit <https://dradubuque.com/>.



- Parade will begin at 10:30 am, starting at Q Casino and ending at Veteran's Memorial Plaza.
- Parade route is shown in BLUE.
- Parking is available in the main lot at Q Casino, the skatepark, Dubuque Community Ice Arena, and McAleece Park/Veteran's Memorial Plaza.
- Access to Q Casino will be limited to Ski Club Road for a short period of time during the start of the parade (approx. 10:25 am - 10:40 am). Staff/Volunteers will be available to help direct traffic before, during and after the parade.