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Thank You for Your Support!

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Many things to be thankful for in Rockford...



Hard Rock Opens!

After more than two years working with the City of Rockford to navigate the state application and approval process, the Rockford Casino...a Hard Rock Opening Act opened its doors to thousands of local and regional visitors in November. We anticipate at least \$1.5 million in casino revenue will fund Rockford Promise's NIU scholarship program each year. It's a win for all!



Ice Hogs Open Season in Partially-Renovated BMO Harris Bank Center

Renovations are underway at the BMO Harris Bank Center as part of a \$23 million multi-year capital project to revitalize the facility after the Ice Hogs were sold to the Chicago Blackhawks earlier this year. A new ice rink, seating and lights are just the starting point in turning the BMO into a premiere venue for hockey, world-renowned performers and special events. Go, Ice Hogs!



Soar Into a Career as an Aviation Mechanic

Governor JB Pritzker visited Rockford recently to announce a \$2.6 million investment to fast-track training for in-demand aviation mechanics, expanding training through AAR's maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO)

facility at the Rockford Airport. The expansion will lead to the hiring of 250 aviation mechanics and expand AAR's partnership with Rock Valley College and area high schools.

Bike and Walk More Easily in Downtown Rockford

Rockford received a \$16.5 million federal grant to begin transforming our downtown into a more walkable and bicycle-friendly area. The grant will fund street renovations and lighting, plus recharging facilities and three electric buses, better connecting families to work, school and recreation. Rockford was one of just 680 communities nationwide to receive the grant out of 9700 applicants.



Rockford Doing More to Help Small Businesses

With my full support, the Rockford City Council forgave more than \$932,000 in federally funded loans to small businesses in Rockford hit hard by the pandemic and continuing to struggle due to supply chain issues and labor shortages. The City followed federal guidelines in converting the loans into grants. Half of the businesses are owned by women and 67% are owned by minorities.



Thanksgiving Wishes

I am thankful to serve you and the City of Rockford. As we gather together this holiday season, I am reminded

that the little things around us are often life's greatest blessings. Happy Thanksgiving!

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A copy of our report is on file with the Winnebago County Clerk, 404 Elm St, Rockford, IL. Tom McNamara, Democratic Candidate for Rockford Mayor. Paid for by friends of Tom McNamara.

Send to Friends of Tom McNamara
P.O. Box 1134
Rockford, IL 61105

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