



2015 Awards Program Nomination Form

"Recognizing Contributions and Commitment to
Parks and Recreation in Iowa"

All nominations due Friday, February 27, 2015

Award Nomination Cover Sheet: (please check one)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Slattery / Trueblood Professional | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Support |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Carole Hanson Outstanding New Professional | <input type="checkbox"/> Lay Organization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> T. Ray Frame Parks Maintenance | <input type="checkbox"/> Service Club Award of Excellence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outstanding Part-time Team Member | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Claude Ahrens Community Service |

Nominee Information:

Name Jan Johnson
City Fort Dodge, IA Title/Agency FD Parks, Recreation & Forestry Dept.

Nominator Information:

Name Ryan R. Maehl, CPRP
Address 819 1st Ave South
City Fort Dodge Title/Agency FD Parks, Recreation & Forestry Dept.
Phone 515-576-7237 Email rymaehl@fortdodgeiowa.org

Information to be included in all nomination submittals:

- This nomination cover sheet. Make copies as needed for additional nominations.
- Reason for nomination (maximum 250 words).
- Nominator should follow the nomination criteria which can be found on the IPRA web site (www.iapra.org) or refer to the 2015 Awards Program Information brochure.
- Preference is to send all materials and photos as an email attachment(s). Scanned copies of materials are acceptable. Hard copy submissions should include 1 original and 5 copies of nomination packet.
- Please provide digital photographs (maximum of 2 photos no larger than 1MB each) as email attachment (jpeg) of the person(s), project and/or event for use at the Awards Banquet.

Electronic submission

cindy-coffin@iowa-city.org

Hard copy submission

Cindy Coffin, CPRP, 2015 Awards Committee Chair
Iowa City Parks and Recreation Department
220 S. Gilbert Street
Iowa City, Iowa 52240-1632

Questions: 319.356.5100

SAMPLE



FD PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

TO: IPRA Awards Committee

Please accept our department's nomination of Jan Johnson for the Claude Ahrens Community Service Award.

In recent years, Fort Dodge Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department has nominated numerous people, groups, and organizations for a variety of IPRA awards but the Claude Ahrens Community Service Award is a very special award for its remembrance of Mr. Ahrens and for his legacy of: "Leave it better than you found it." We feel Jan Johnson does just this. Her vision for a clean park and beautification, volunteering, and hard work towards donating her time, skills and money, have benefitted our department, but even more our community.

As you will read and see in the following pages, Ms. Jan Johnson, is a very essential part of what we do. And just like within all of these Ahrenian-like individuals, they are much happier doing the work, then receiving the praise. We feel something like this, might just be the right way to thank Jan and let her know how appreciative we are of her and the work she does for us.

Thank you for your consideration!

Ryan R. Maehl, CPRP
Recreation Administrator
Fort Dodge Parks, Recreation and Forestry
rymaehl@fortdodgeiowa.org
515.576.7237



FD PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

Dear IPRA Awards Nominating Committee,

Please accept this letter of support for Jan Johnson for the Claude Ahrens Community Service Award. Jan has been a crucial piece to our department and the City of Fort Dodge, whom without, our budgets, as well as some of our local park would be suffering.

In 2014 we decided that we needed to renovate and clean up some of our local parks that were starting to look very unorganized and unclean. The question was how would we do so with some of our parks needing attention as well as all of our other city programs and daily activity?

We knew in the parks we wanted to create a more clean and beautiful environment for people to come enjoy and feel comfortable in. We also knew this project was going to be time consuming and come with obstacles such as weather which doesn't cooperate all that well, along with everyone having their busy daily schedules.

Jan Johnson, a part time nursing assistant, is a very quiet but helpful part of our community. Jan has two children who enjoy playing in the parks, and going to our local pool during the summer. Jan involves her children in all of our youth recreation activities, as well as volunteer coaches when we need her. She feels very strongly about the beautification of our local parks, and the importance of keeping them clean for a safe environment. When the talk of these park cleanup projects came about Jan was the first one at our door wanting to help get the projects underway. We knew we had crews that could help with this project, but Jan insisted she wanted to be involved. We told her she could take on the responsibility of working on one of our parks, but Jan being the helpful person she is, took on a total of three parks.

Now onto 2015 where our park cleanup project is well underway. Jan has went above and beyond with the cleanup of the three parks that she has chosen to take care of. Everyday mid afternoon she takes an initiative to show up to each park making sure the flowers that she planted throughout the parks are watered, and benches are still intact looking nice and clean. Jan has planted flowers the past two springs for us as well as made sure that our park benches are painted when needed. The most important thing to her is that all garbage is picked up daily, and the parks are safe for all people to come and enjoy.

Jan Johnson is a great help to our community. We really appreciate her and all the hard work that she does for us as well as balancing her family and other important commitments in her life. Jan doesn't just do what is expected of her, she goes above and beyond to better our community to keep it safe and enjoyable.

Thank you for your consideration of Jan Johnson for the Claude Ahrens Community Service Award. She would be a very deserving recipient.

Kevin Lunn
Parks Superintendent
City of Fort Dodge
Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department



FD PARKS, RECREATION, AND FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

Dear IPRA Awards Nominating Committee,

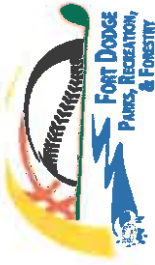
It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of Jan Johnson. Her willingness to give back to her community through her countless hours cleaning, planting, and making our parks look amazing is exactly what it appears Mr. Claude Ahrens was all about.

As Chairman of the Recreation Commission for 20+ years, I have seen many people donate 'things', including benches, playground equipment, signage, and money, but time, is and will always be the most valuable and meaningful. Jan has painstakingly kept three parks beautiful! She provides a service that we cannot or could not provide, her uncanny ability to make those "little things" pop, provides the casual park user, the cherry on top, during their visit.

This service that Jan does, is more than just beautification to a park, it has a tremendous value towards our park budget, which battles to maintain status quo, even though our park system constantly grows. To make our parks, the parks, that citizens want and expect, we require people like Jan (even though there are not many), to stand up, and make magic happen!

Thank you for your consideration of Jan Johnson for the Claude Ahrens Community Service Award. She would be a very deserving recipient.

Steve Daniel
Chair, Recreation Commission
City of Fort Dodge
Parks, Recreation and Forestry Department



FD PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY DEPARTMENT
CITY OF FORT DODGE, IOWA

Before park cleanup project began



Jan doing her daily park clean up



Flowers Jan planted this past spring

