



## **DUPAGE MAYORS AND MANAGERS CONFERENCE**

*an association of municipalities representing over 1,000,000 people*

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### **Municipal innovation not a new concept for Village of Woodridge**

The Village of Woodridge received the DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference Municipal Innovation Award for the third time in seven years with its innovative program, "Dancing with the CRC Kids". The Municipal Innovation Award recognizes municipalities for ideas, programs, or procedures that save money, increase efficiency and implement new initiatives or solutions to local issues. Village officials share their ideas and concepts with their peers who then vote for the one they consider the most innovative. Conference members voted for Woodridge's program to receive the award at the June 20, 2007 Conference Business Meeting.

"Dancing with the CRC Kids" is coordinated by the Woodridge Community Resource Center for the students in the After School Program. These students are in grades two through six and attend the Resource Center every Monday through Thursday after school. The nine months of ballroom dance classes culminated in a recital on June 6, 2007. Among the dance partner volunteers were Woodridge Village Administrator John Perry, Assistant Village Administrator Peggy Halik, and Police Chief Steve Herron. The fifty kids in the After School Program gained knowledge not only in dance, but also about accomplishment and commitment.

Other Municipal Innovation Award nominations this year included the Village of Addison's GIS mapping and technology integration, the Village of Bloomingdale's Leadership Academy, the Village of Westmont's Safe and Secure Intergovernmental Task Force, the Village of Winfield's Commuter Parking Permit Renewal Program, and the City of Wood Dale's Council Meeting Podcasts.

The DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference is a council of 34 municipal governments representing over 1,000,000 people. A coalition of cities and villages, the Conference works to voice municipal concerns on local, regional, state, and national issues. It also serves its members and region by fostering intergovernmental cooperation. The Conference is a not-for-profit organization supported by membership dues and grants.

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