

EDITORIAL: The good word is getting out

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The work pays off when Beloit is recognized in a positive light.

WE WERE STRUCK by the comment of Joe LeBeau of Janesville, who was attending Friday night's street dance in downtown Beloit.

"We started going to the music at the park this year, and what Beloit has done to the riverfront is wonderful," he said.

Savor that. There's a certain satisfaction when people outside the immediate community are drawn to town to take part in the variety of fun events and amenities Beloit has established in recent years. That's at least part of the reason so many community improvements were undertaken at considerable expense and great effort. Beloit needed to "show better," to put its best face forward and polish its reputation. The belief was that improvements would beautify the community, build pride, renew hope and encourage investors and developers.

IN MANY WAYS it has worked. No, that doesn't mean all is wonderful now and nothing remains to be done, so stand down naysayers.

It does mean success breeds more success, and it's gratifying when Beloit's efforts are recognized by others, like Mr. LeBeau.

By the way, the street dance and the entire Celebrate Downtown weekend were terrific events, and have been every year. It's terrific to see so many people in the central commercial district enjoying themselves on a beautiful sunny weekend.

Congratulations to all who worked hard to make Celebrate Downtown a success again. This and so many other events have made Beloit a better community.