



Uhl named new Main Street Lancaster director

BY JOE GIESSLER • The Eagle-Gazette Staff • May 7, 2010

LANCASTER -- The person who has worked to grow and develop a local college will take on a similar task with the city.

David Uhl, campus director for Daymar College, has been tapped as the next director of Main Street Lancaster and manager of the Special Improvement District.

"The downtown area played a big part in my life and my childhood growing up," Uhl said. "I'm glad to be a part of the Main Street group and efforts to revitalize (downtown) specifically because of the experience I had when growing up."

Uhl said his focus will be on supporting existing businesses and finding "creative ways" to bring in new ones to the downtown area.

For the past year, Uhl has been the campus director at Daymar College. Prior to that, he spent 10 years in various jobs within higher education.

Uhl lives with his wife and 5-month-old daughter in Circleville, but he said they are contemplating moving back to his hometown of Lancaster.

Main Street Lancaster Board Chairman David Scheffler said about 30 people applied for the position, which has been vacant since April 6.

"Certainly we are happy to have him aboard and are looking forward to getting to work," Scheffler said.

Scheffler said the interview committee used a script during interviews and he was most impressed with Uhl's responses.

"Some of the candidates were older and more experienced, but the quality of the answers weren't as direct and insightful as his were," he said.

He said Uhl's interview answers were only part of the equation.

"During his tenure (at Daymar College), enrollment increased 43 percent," he said. "What he's done at Daymar certainly has shown that he understands marketing and the importance of promoting his organization and how to promote his organization."

Uhl said he has experience in volunteer, event and organizational management.

"All of those things will be helpful," Uhl said.

Uhl has a master's degree in education and is working toward his doctorate in organizational management and leadership.

Scheffler said Uhl's first day will be May 24, which will allow Uhl to be on the job several weeks before the area's second Gus Macker Basketball Tournament.

Uhl replaces Karen Rotkis, who was called to active duty with the U.S. Army Reserves in April.

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