



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
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### FREE COMMUNITY EVENT BENEFITS HEART PROGRAM

*Dubuque, Iowa- July 18, 2016*—Four Mounds is preparing for the annual Great Cardboard Boat Race, which takes place at the Dubuque Marina & Yardarm on July 31, 2016 from 1-4 pm. The event consists of a fun-filled, free community day where contestants use their ingenuity (and cardboard, tape, glue and paint) to create and race their boats. This main attraction is supplemented by other fun family activities including a dunk tank, a raffle, and great food and drink. Raffle prizes include three chances to win a night stay at historic Four Mounds.



The event benefits the Housing Education and Rehabilitation Training Program, or HEART. HEART Partners include Four Mounds Foundation, Dubuque Community Schools, Dupaco Community Credit Union, NICC, Four Oaks of Iowa, Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Community Housing Initiatives, Iowa Workforce Development and the City of Dubuque.

Participants work year-round rebuilding the Washington Neighborhood, one house at a time. Under the direction of Four Mounds, participants learn work and life skills through homebuilding, restoring historic houses in Dubuque's most vulnerable residential neighborhood. These young people have converted 40 units of derelict housing back into owner-occupied homes and are achieving a 90% graduation rate. Last year's race helped support the HEART Bridge, a new program component where students set career goals, earn money for their participation and save toward objectives to reach their goals. If they follow through on their plans, their funding is matched dollar for dollar by HEART partner Dupaco R.W. Hoefer Foundation!



You need not be a boat racer to enjoy the day. Individuals, families and companies are encouraged to enter the race with their own handmade boats. The only rules are to restrict building materials to cardboard, tape, glue and paint. A \$10 entry fee for each boat goes toward the winner's pot, distributed to the winning participants. Register on-site between 11am-12noon the day of the race or visit [Four Mounds webpage](#) to register on-line.

Visit the [Dubuque Marina & Yardarm](#) Facebook page for more on the event.  
To learn more about Four Mounds and the HEART program, visit [www.fourmounds.org](http://www.fourmounds.org).  
Four Mounds is a non-profit 501(c)3 incorporated under the internal revenue code.