

Michael Gantz (left)
33-year resident of Dubuque

▶ *Co-owner*, Verena Street Coffee

Eric Gantz (right)
34-year resident of Dubuque

▶ *Co-owner*, Verena Street Coffee



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Michael Gantz

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Eric Gantz

“Greater Dubuque Development works hard to create a vibrant local business environment. Its Existing Business team has partnered with us since day one, offering resources and helping us identify opportunities.” — Michael Gantz

The street itself is long gone. But its legacy lives on in the cups of coffee lovers everywhere. In 2011, cousins Eric and Michael Gantz, along with their fathers Jim and C.J., founded *Roasting Solutions, LLC d/b/a Verena Street Coffee Co.* Since then, its craft roasted coffees have gained local and national notoriety, prompting the company to expand its operating space twice within a five-year period.

“We doubled the size of our existing production area in 2014,” says Eric. “But due to steady growth in our grocery and club channels, we outgrew the space within about two months.”

In late 2015, *Verena Street* broke ground on a new 34,000-square-foot facility in the Dubuque Industrial Center South. Once completed, it will house the company’s roasting, packaging and shipping operations, and a small tasting room. In the future, the Gantzes hope to add a larger retail space. “It will probably be one of the most up-to-date, state-of-the-art coffee facilities here in the Midwest,” says Michael, who, along with Eric, represents the fourth

generation of Gantzes to have strong stakes in the Dubuque business community. “We see it as an opportunity to sustain our family’s Dubuque-based business tradition while creating a unique local destination.”

The Gantzes credit Greater Dubuque Development’s Existing Business team with helping make their expansion such a smooth experience. “Greater Dubuque Development works hard to create a vibrant local business environment,” says Michael. “Its Existing Business team has partnered with us since day one, offering resources and helping us identify opportunities.”

Greater Dubuque Development’s nationally-recognized Existing Business team works closely with area businesses of all sizes and sectors, connecting them to the resources they need, including tax incentives, available sites and buildings, qualified talent, and much more.

\$700M
NEXT Campaign
Commercial and Residential Construction Goal

Actual: \$701M

*Since 2012, the Greater Dubuque area has tallied more than \$701 million in new commercial and residential construction projects, exceeding our NEXT Campaign goal.**

