



## Three men honored at 2018 Arbor Day programs

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KENOSHA – Donald J. Ruef, Dr. A.J. Capelli and Norman Buchholz will be honored by the City of Kenosha at an Arbor Day Commemoration on Friday, April 27. All three men were very active as community leaders.

Ruef, a former alderman and business owner died Dec. 9, 2017 at age 87. Capelli, a physician and leader in medicine, died at age 68 on Dec. 31, 2017. Buchholz, a long-time labor leader, died on May 4, 2017 just three months shy of his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The city will observe Arbor Day with the planting of a Red Sunset red maple tree in honor of Ruef at 10 a.m. at Wolfenbuttel Park; the planting of a Fort McNair Horsechestnut tree in honor of Capelli at 11 a.m. at Petzke Park; and the planting of a Tuliptree in honor of Buchholz at 12 noon at Pennoyer Park. The public is welcome to attend the programs.

Ruef, a native of Monroe, WI, served two years in the Army in Japan during the Korean War. After his military service, Ruef came to Kenosha and worked at the Kenosha Rambler Plant and at the American Motors Corp. He later purchased and operated a mobile home park, before entering public service. He served as an alderman from 1998-2010 and participated on many committees including City Plan Commission.

Capelli, a Kenosha native, established his primary care practice with his wife, Julie, 36 years ago. He held numerous leadership roles with Aurora Hospital, including medical director. Capelli also served the community through his roles with the Kenosha Community Health Clinic, United Way, Spanish Center, Shalom Center, Mahone Foundation and other philanthropic organizations.

Buchholz, a native of Kenosha, was well-known and respected for his decades of volunteerism in the community. In 2016 he received the Remarkable Older American Award at the Kenosha ADRC's Older American Celebration. From 1972 to 1988 he served as a constable for the City of Kenosha.

Arbor Day has been celebrated in the United States since 1872. In Wisconsin it is celebrated on the last Friday in April. This marks the 36<sup>th</sup> consecutive year that Kenosha has been recognized as a member of Tree City USA, through its progressive forestry policies and programs. The National Arbor Day Foundation sponsors the Tree City USA program.