



**DeWitt  
Chamber &  
Development  
Company**

# DCDC Monthly

April 2014

## **Representative Olson Receives Award**

As one of Representative Steve Olson's nominators, the DCDC was thrilled to be at the surprise presentation of his 2014 Herbert Hoover Uncommon Public Service Award at the State Capitol on April 2nd. This award is presented annually to one member of the Iowa House and the Iowa Senate who exemplifies Herbert Hoover's humanitarian efforts and commitment with uncommon service. Congratulations and very well-deserved, Representative Olson! Thank you for serving our area for the past 12 years!



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# ***DeWitt's Ultimate Bachelorette Party***

The "DeWitt Retail Alliance" will be hosting its 2nd annual "DeWitt's Ultimate Bachelorette Party" event on Thursday, April 24th. This event is free to the public, and attendees can register during check in at Springbrook Country Club between 5-6PM . The first 100 bachelorettes through the door will receive a "swag bag" full of goodies from local businesses.

While at Springbrook, attendees will visit with vendor booths and then ride a shuttle bus downtown to discover what DeWitt retailers/businesses have to offer, while completing activities and earning "bling" along the way. The night will end back at Springbrook for the "After Party" where there will be a Comedian, DJ, free food, a variety of door prizes and several lucky bachelorettes who will win "Ultimate Bridal Prizes". The Ultimate Prizes include a 7-day trip to Hawaii (sponsored by Flowers on the Side), \$500 Gift Certificate to A Storybook Ending Bridal & Prom Shop, \$500 Gift Certificate to Necker's Jewelers, Wedding Planning Package provided by Beginnings by Chance (Valued at \$350), \$100 in printing from Graphic Elements, \$100 off a wedding flower package from Flowers on the Side and a free "Party Room" rental from Jorgie's Bar & Grill.

This event is sponsored by: A Storybook Ending Bridal & Prom Shop, Beginnings by Chance, Flowers on the Side, Graphic Elements, Jorgie's Bar & Grill, Necker's Jewelers and Springbrook Country Club. New this year, Jorgie's Bar & Grill will be hosting a Poker Night for the guys, with free food and door prizes.

Event Facebook Page Link <https://www.facebook.com/ultbach?ref=hl>

**Here are some photos from last year's event!**



## ***Get Involved in Growing Clinton County!***

How can we as businesses and individuals encourage more economic activity and new jobs in Clinton County? Over the last several months, the DCDC, City of DeWitt and our friends in Clinton County have been working together with Senator Rita Hart to create dialogue around this regional issue. The next opportunity to expand this conversation will be on May 15<sup>th</sup> when Iowa State University professor and economist David Swenson presents his findings and answers questions on Clinton County's economic stats and trends at Buzzy's in Welton from 6:30 – 8 pm. The public is invited to attend this informational session, which will hopefully spur ideas on what we can do locally to create high quality jobs and positive economic growth. Whether you are a local business or an area resident, your voice is important, and we want to hear from you! Please join us!

### ***IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER***

**4.24.14 DeWitt's Ultimate Bachelorette Party**

**5.15.14 Revive After Five - Central Community Historical Society**

**5.15.14 Clinton County Economic Development Forum: Small Towns,  
Rural Development, and the Local Economy**

**5.20.14 "How Does LeClaire Promote LeCLaire?" Presentation (see page 4)**

**DCDC Annual Meeting – June, date coming soon!!**

**DCDC Golf Bash – July, date coming soon!!**

**7.22.14 – "eat Lunch & Learn something" Program-Customer Service by  
Jeremy Tatman, Chick-fil-A**

## **How Does LeClaire Promote LeClaire??**

The DCDC invites you to an interactive presentation by Donna Walley, owner of Aunt Hattie's, as she shares the history of how LeClaire businesses and organizations formed a cohesive, community-wide marketing alliance.

Learn the who's, what's, when's and why's of their initiative and how it positively changed the way businesses work together to promote LeClaire as a whole.

What would it look like if DeWitt businesses and community partners pooled their resources to develop a community-wide marketing partnership?

Bring your friends and join us for hot coffee and a lively discussion to find out!!

**Tuesday, May 20**

**8:00 am**

**DeWitt Community Center, Small Room**

**Please RSVP to the DCDC at 659-8500 or [info@dewitt.org](mailto:info@dewitt.org).**





## *New 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Course Prepares Students for Their First Interview*

Central students enrolled in the new 8<sup>th</sup> grade Career Readiness Course taught by Zeb Hubner recently had the opportunity to practice their interviewing skills. Kristi Becker, the DCDC's Business Education Coordinator, was one of several who interviewed students who had been selected to apply for one of the many youth employment opportunities in DeWitt. In addition to the post-interview feedback provided by the interviewer, students had the opportunity to watch the video of their mock interview to see what they did well and where they need to improve. After having the opportunity to practice their interviewing skills, these students are ready to apply for their first real job. The new 8<sup>th</sup> grade Career Readiness class has been so successful that in 2014-2015 all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be required to take this class.



## *DCDC Member's Choice Awards*

We are very excited to be rolling out our DCDC Member's Choice Awards in May! Members should be on the lookout for an email to come to them on May 1<sup>st</sup> announcing our awards program. The voting timeframe will be open to our DCDC Membership from May 1<sup>st</sup> – May 14<sup>th</sup>. Nomination categories will include Business of the Year, Most Promising New Business of the Year (business must be in existence for less than 18 months), Non-Profit Organization of the Year, Excellence in Customer Service and Excellence in Social Media. Once the DCDC Member voting period ends, the top three businesses will be pulled and presented to the community to select their number one pick for each category. The community voting period will be from May 16<sup>th</sup> - May 30<sup>th</sup>. The awards will be presented to the winner in each category at our DCDC Year Annual Meeting this summer. We encourage you to get involved in the voting!!

## Revive After Five

A big "Thank You" to Whisk Away Café & Bakery for holding the February Revive and Deke Insurance for hosting the March Revive After Five event. Check out a few photos from the night and plan on attending the upcoming Revives in 2014 (listed below). All DCDC member employees are welcome and encouraged to attend these worthwhile and relaxed networking events!



### SAVE THE DATE 2014 DCDC Revive After Five Schedule

*Revive anytime between 5-7PM and join other professionals for this "open house" style networking event. Enjoy a variety of great food, beverages and prizes while getting to know other DCDC members and learning about the hosting business!*

**May 15:** Central Community Historical Society

June, July, August: Summer Break

**September 18:** US Bank

**October 16:** Rock Valley Physical Therapy

**November 20:** Kunau Implement Company

December: Holiday Break

## March “eat Lunch & Learn something”

On March 25<sup>th</sup>, Will Froeschle from *The Froeschle Agency* gave an excellent overview of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), aka Healthcare Reform, at our most recent “eat Lunch & Learn something” program. The session focused on the following points related to Healthcare Reform including what it means to individuals, what it means to businesses, important dates/deadline. The DCDC Lunch & Learn programs are held on a quarterly basis. Future sessions are scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup> and November 11<sup>th</sup> additional program details will be coming out shortly.



## We Have Been Out And About!!

The DCDC was out spreading the good news about DeWitt and represented *DeWitt Delivers* at the KWQC Woman’s Health & Lifestyles Fair on March 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup>. Our booth was shared with The Central Performing Arts Center (CPAC). DCDC members had the opportunity to help sponsor our booth in trade for added visibility at the event. Thank you to those that sponsored our booth: A Storybook Ending Bridal and Prom Shop, THE CROSSROADS Inspired Living, Meant To Be with Flowers, Flowers on the Side, Graphic Elements and Maggie’s House Assisted Living.

On April 3<sup>rd</sup>, the DCDC also had a booth set up at The Observer’s Business Expo. We were excited to get in front of the community to visit and talk about updates within our organization and also share membership news.



## *Member Spotlight: Central Performing Arts Center*

ENRICH!!  
EDUCATE!!  
ENTERTAIN!!

The Central Performing Arts Center is a community based non-profit auditorium whose mission is to enrich, educate and entertain by providing exposure to quality cultural experiences.

The Central Performing Arts Center is a state-of-the-art venue for plays, musicals, concerts, recitals, comedians, dancers, speakers, business meetings, and other events in an auditorium-type setting.

The Center is part of a \$28 million addition to Central Community High School in DeWitt, Iowa. It opened to the public July 31, 2011, and offers comfortable seating for 799 patrons plus technically advanced lighting and sound systems, including a concert grand piano that has the capability to record and play even the most difficult musical scores.

The Central Performing Arts Center is a joint venture of the Central Community School District and the City of DeWitt. It is operated by an Event Coordinator and a committee made up of representatives of the communities that comprise the school district.

The Central Performing Arts Center is available for public events in addition to school performances.

Come to the CPAC to see a performance soon.





## Welcome New Members!

**Paul Skeffington Memorial Race**  
PO Box 445  
DeWitt, IA 52742  
563-357-2694



Register online @ [GetMeRegistered.com](http://GetMeRegistered.com) today and join us on June 21, 2014!

The Skeff Race is committed to making improvements in our community. Every year, the Skeff Race dedicates its proceeds to DeWitt parks and recreation projects and awards two scholarships for Central High School seniors.

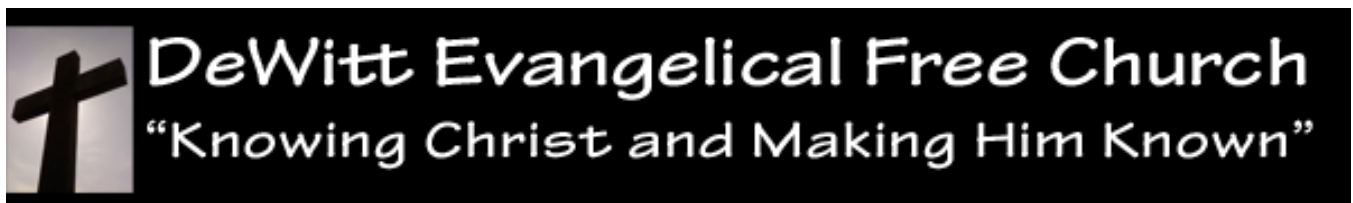
*June 16th deadline - Paul Skeffington Memorial Race Stuffers:*

Attention all Businesses! FREE advertising opportunity! The Paul Skeffington Memorial Race had over 700 runners last year. Each runner receives a goodie bag "stuffed" with your promotional items (i.e coupons, advertising etc) as well as \$5 in Chamber Bucks that runners can use at DCDC member businesses. Call us or email if you would like to send a "stuffer". Deadline to let us know if you will be participating is June 1st and *stuffers must be received by June 16th*. Please email [megan.fuglsang@fbfs.com](mailto:megan.fuglsang@fbfs.com) or call 563-659-5135 and ask for Megan..

For more details:  
Follow Skeff Race on Facebook or visit  
[www.skeffrace.com](http://www.skeffrace.com)

**DeWitt Evangelical Free Church**  
1921 Elmwood Road  
DeWitt, IA 52742  
563-659-9859

DeWitt Evangelical Free Church is a church that intends to "reflect the magnificence of God" as we are together "knowing Christ and making him known". We offer Sunday worship at 9:00 a.m. and Sunday school for all ages at 10:45 a.m.. For more information visit [www.dewittefc.org](http://www.dewittefc.org).



## *LumberKings "DeWitt Day" Tickets at DCDC Office*

The DCDC is partnering with the Clinton LumberKings for "DeWitt Day" on Sunday, June 8th at Ashford University Field. The DCDC office has 100 FREE General Admissions ticket, available for pick up in mid to late May (please limit 4 tickets per person). The June 8th game will begin at 2pm, with gates opening at 12:30pm. Rain date for the event is Thursday, June 12th, 2014 with a 6:30pm start time and the gates opening at 5:00pm. To see the entire LumberKings schedule, check out their website <http://www.milb.com/schedule/index.jsp?sid=t500&m=6&y=2014>



A promotional poster for the LumberKings 2014 DeWitt Day event. On the left is a cartoon mascot of a lumberjack wearing a crown and holding a bat. To the right of the mascot, the text reads "LumberKings 2014 DeWitt Day Sunday, June 8th". Further right is the Ashford University logo. Below these elements, the text states: "\$100 Business Sponsorship Includes- 100 GA tickets to DeWitt Day, PA and Radio advertisements through the game, and more!". At the bottom, it says: "For more information, call Jason Wright at 563-242-0727 ext 103".

## *Congratulations, Emily!*



Congrats to our very own Emily Schmitt, Program & Events Coordinator with the DCDC. Emily was presented with the FCCLA'S "Friend of the Family Award" in April for "Outstanding leadership and service in the lives of the families in our community". Students from FCCLA came to the DCDC office and surprised Emily with the Award and flowers. She was very honored to except the award.

# Thank You!

## Mission Statement

The DCDC's mission is to lead, inform, advocate and advance business interests and promote community growth. Our core focus is to support existing businesses, attract new businesses, and assist in enhancing the quality of life for our community.

## DCDC Board of Directors

Greg Gannon, DeWitt Bank & Trust, Chair  
Wayne Stuedemann, Ag Spectrum, Vice-Chair  
Brian Volkens, First Central State Bank, Treasurer  
Don Thiltgen, DeWitt Mayor  
Mary Rueter, The Observer  
Dave Deke, Deke Insurance  
Dawn Marcus, City Council Representative  
Merle Ocken, DeWitt Resident  
Dan Peterson, Central Community School District  
Steve Lindner, DeWitt City Administrator  
Tina Lively, DeWitt Bank Tax & Accounting Services  
Garey Chrones, Office Machine Consultants  
Luanne Smith, City Council Representative  
William Rice, Guardian Industries  
Dean Holst, Holst Construction  
Joe Tabor, ITW Fluids North America

## DCDC Staff

Tami Petsche, Executive Director  
Emily Schmitt, Programs & Events Coordinator  
Kristi Becker, Business Education Coordinator  
Stephanie Sagers, Administrative Assistant

## DeWitt Chamber & Development Company

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Hours: M-F, 9-4



**DeWitt  
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Connect with the DCDC



[www.dewitt.org](http://www.dewitt.org)