

lead. inform. advocate. advance. connect.



**DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company**

Our Mission

The DeWitt Chamber & Development Company'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.

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Newsletter

April 2021

Letter from the Executive Director - Membership Benefit Spotlight

One of my favorite questions as the Executive Director of the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company is, ***“What do I get out of my DCDC membership?”*** I welcome the opportunity to share with members, or potential members, all the benefits of being part of an organization that focuses on growing our existing business, attracting new business, and supporting a vibrant community to live in, work in, and visit.



It is important that our DCDC members, and the community at large, know the value for the dollars our member businesses invest in our work plan. One of the many benefits to your DCDC member investment is our work and relationships with our local, state, and federal elected officials, as well as our partnership with the Clinton County Government Committee.

Relationships with peers, community leaders, and yes, our elected officials are built over time. They are strengthened through collaboration and in many cases conversations about current initiatives. When the time comes that a business needs the DCDC to reach out on their behalf, the existing relationship we have with these leaders enables our point of view to be heard, all on behalf of our member(s).

The purpose of the Clinton County Government Committee is to help Clinton County businesses grow and prosper by identifying and advocating for opportunities to improve government laws and regulations and to remedy barriers

to business growth. This includes all levels of federal, state, and local government. The DCDC works closely with the Clinton Area Chamber (CAC) to ensure a County-wide comprehensive approach.

Keeping our members and community informed is a significant part of our efforts. Each election cycle, we hold candidate forums in both DeWitt and Clinton. In January of each year, we hold an Iowa Legislature kick-off event with our local representatives, Mary Wolfe and Norlin Mommsen, and Senator Chris Cournoyer. In addition, we hold monthly Legislative Coffees during the session, enabling you direct and immediate access to our three local legislators.

In recent years, the DCDC and CAC have taken the lead on working with Advocacy Strategies, our lobbyist in Des Moines, to ensure close review of proposed new legislation and regulation, and to proactively advocate for changes that will enhance the business climate in Clinton County. A 2020 Legislative Session change we strongly advocated for was how the collection of statewide hotel/motel tax is calculated. Without raising taxes, this change in the collection of hotel/motel tax increased statewide revenue by an estimated \$40 million a year, Clinton County's share is estimated to be \$1.73 million a year.

A current 2021 issue is retaining what is called the Commercial Real Estate Tax Backfill. Losing this backfill from the State will cause several million dollars of lost revenue to both Clinton County and the City of Clinton for money spent on police and fire protection, etc. We are fighting hard to retain this backfill. At this point, we are not sure where this will end up, but we are monitoring it daily. This is a fairly complicated issue. If you want to know more about it, give me a call.

Government, at all levels, has an impact on your business and personal lives every day. The DCDC works hard to ensure you are informed and that we advocate on behalf of all our members on matters that affect your bottom line.

Thank you for your membership with the DCDC!



Note These Dates!

2021 DCDC EVENTS - SAVE THE DATE!

- [Revive After Five at Cram Chiropractic](#) - Thursday, May 20
- [DeWitt's Wine Walk](#) - Thursday, June 3
- [DCDC Year in Review](#) - Wednesday, June 30
- [DCDC Golf Bash Fundraiser](#) - Thursday, August 19
- [Autumn Fest Movie in the Park](#) - Friday, September 17
- [Autumn Fest](#) - Saturday, September 18
- [Hometown Christmas](#) - Saturday, December 4

REVIVE AFTER FIVE

Join us for our May Revive After 5
at [Cram Chiropractic!!](#)

Open house style event - members can meet, exchange business cards, and network in a relaxed and informal setting. We draw for prizes at 6 PM! This is our last Revive After Five until the fall - we'd love to see you there!



When: Thursday, May 20 from 5-7 PM

Where: Cram Chiropractic
602 12th St, DeWitt

[REGISTER HERE!!](#)



HUGE THANK YOU to everyone that attended April's Revive After 5, hosted by [Hassenmiller Spreadsheet Solutions](#) and [Central Therapy Services](#) at The Old Library!

Good food, delicious drinks, and great company!!
Join us in May for another great event!

DEWITT'S WINE WALK

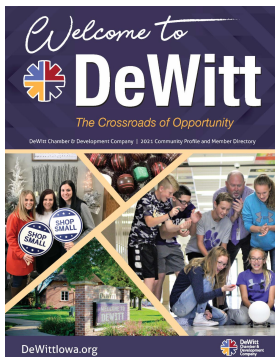
DeWitt's Wine Walk is BACK for a 2nd year!!
Join us on Thursday, June 3rd from 5-7 PM in downtown DeWitt! Check-in in front of the DCDC Office for your passport and souvenir wine glass!

Register [HERE!](#)



Want to help with the planning or volunteer the day of the Wine Walk? [Email Molly today!](#)

COMMUNITY PROFILE & MEMBER DIRECTORY



Community Guide and Member Directory Reprint is in the works!

We encourage our members to purchase an advertising spot in our upcoming bi-annual DCDC Community Guide & Member Directory. But don't want too long to secure your spot, time is running short!

We'd love to have your support in the guide, which will be directly mailed to every household in the Central DeWitt School District in late June 2021. The DCDC will also use this publication as one of our primary community promotion and economic development tools for the next couple of years.

To secure your advertising spot, you can [Email Trevis Mayfield](#) or call 563-552-6630..

LUNCH AND LEARN



Thank you to everyone that attended our Eat Lunch & Learn Something last month!

Shout out to our presenter Micah Moser, Client & Business Development Manager from Twin State Technical Services, who demonstrated technology essentials you should know to run your business or non-profit.

Everyone walked away with a new tip or trick up their sleeve!

THANK YOU to our sponsor!!



Membership News

WELCOME NEW DCDC MEMBERS

[Brent's Firehouse Coffee](#)

1523 11th St, Suite A, DeWitt
OPENING SOON! Stay tuned for details!

[Junior Achievement of the Heartland](#)

800 12th Ave, Moline

JA provides the Central Community School District and St. Joseph's School with a curriculum to educate students on the free enterprise system and economic education.

[SERVPRO of Clinton](#)

1631 Main Ave, Suite 900, Clinton

SERVPRO of Clinton understands the stress and worry that comes with fire or water damage and the disruption it causes your life and home or business. Our goal is to help minimize the interruption to your life! Call us today! (563) 212-2874

AMBASSADOR NEWS

Today the DeWitt Ambassadors presented a First Dollar to [Cut Loose!](#)

Jenny recently opened her own salon!!
Congratulations Jenny! Stop in for her Open House on Monday, May 10 from 5-7 PM. Check out all the work they have done to the space!

818 6th Ave, Ste. #2, DeWitt
(563) 212-0904



DCDC BOARD OF DIRECTORS SEAT OPEN

Do you want to make DeWitt a better place to own a business, live, or work?

Have you ever considered making that happen through your participation as a DCDC board member?

**GET
INVOLVED**
Be a volunteer and reap the rewards

[Email Angela](#) or call her at 659-8500 to learn more about submitting your application to the DCDC Board of Directors. (Applications are due April 12th.)

The DCDC Board of Directors meets each month. The Board is composed of representatives of various member businesses, the Mayor, City Administrator, and two representatives from the DeWitt City Council. Applications from individuals that have expressed interest in a board position will be shared with the DCDC Nominating Committee, April 12th. Final nominations to the full Board of Directors will be made by the end of April. An election will be held at the May Board Meeting. New Board Member terms begin June 1, 2021.

JA VIRTUAL JOB FAIR

The Junior Achievement Inspire Virtual Career Fair is available for your student!



Students in grades 7-12 have the opportunity to participate in the **JA Inspire Virtual Career Fair** which features a self-guided curriculum, career assessment and business exhibits providing downloadable career information and exhibitor videos.

How to Get Started

- [Student Curriculum & Workbook](#) which can be downloaded and saved to a device includes:
 - * Pre and Post Student Survey links
 - * Four pre-event sessions, the JA Inspire Virtual Career Fair website link and one follow up session
- [JA Digital Career Book](#) – Found within the Student Curriculum & Workbook, this Junior Achievement USA hosted website includes a Career Interest Inventory and more.
 - * The JA Digital Career Book website and account creation is separate from the information provided for the JA Inspire Virtual Career Fair platform. When registering for a JA Digital Career Book account, please select "Heartland" as the location.
 - * To save Career Interest Inventory results, register for a Junior Achievement account to save Career Interest Inventory results and track progress over time. OR Click "Take the Inventory" to take the Career Interest Inventory without registering for a JA Account. To save results, copy and paste results URL into an email and email to yourself.
- Virtual Career Fair Website - <https://jaheartlandinspire.vfairs.com/>



Encourage Your Student to Plan for Their Future By:

- Making a plan to visit the **JA Inspire website** with your student and having them show you their favorite booth.
- Talking about **what careers they are interested in**.
- **Discussing next steps**, such as high school courses, continuing education opportunities, internships and extracurricular activities.

Have questions? Contact Christy Kunz (christy.kunz@ja.org)
Junior Achievement of the Heartland | 309.277.3907 | jaheartland.org

Business For Sale



Ice Cream Shop for Sale



Ice Cream Shop for Sale Cups & Cones - 401 11th Street - Dewitt

Have you ever dreamed of owning your own ice cream shop? Here is a great opportunity to buy a turn-key ice cream shop that offers uniqueness and charm. Cups & Cones has been an established business, thriving in its location in Dewitt for over 70 years and we did not slow down during 2020! If you're craving shakes, malts, sundaes, blasters or floats, we are serving up ice cream with a smile. Along with yummy desserts we also serve burgers, tenderloins, hot dogs, fries and many other appetizer type selections. For more information about this opportunity, please contact Megan Cox for an NDA at megan.cox@sunbeltnetwork.com or 563-940-1255.

Look Local First

Our March Look Local First winner was
Mary Johnson!

Congrats to Mary on winning \$50 in Chamber Bucks!

Be sure to keep Looking Local and keep getting your cards punched and turned in at **Randy's Neighborhood Market**, **Scott's Thrifty White Drug Store** or the DCDC office and you could win \$50 in Chamber Bucks!

Watch for us on **Facebook** - we draw LIVE!



JOIN OUR TEAM

Are you hiring?

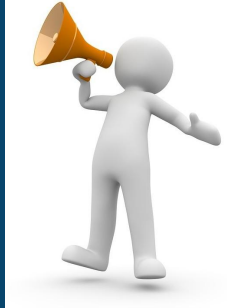
VOL NTEER
all that's missing is U!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you like to have fun? Are you interested in sharing your

Post your available positions on the DCDC website for free. They'll be shared on our social media pages, in our weekly "What's Happening" e-newsletter and in this monthly newsletter.

[View current employment opportunities here!](#)



[Click here to check out "Read About It" articles posted by members!](#)

Do you have exciting news about your company you would like to share? Have you hired a new staff member, been recognized in your industry, or expanded your products & services?

[Login to the Member Information Center \(MIC\)](#) and add your news in News Release section!

ideas to make the DCDC even better?

Join one of our committees today!

[Email Angela](#) or call 659-8500 for more information.

RAGBRAI is Coming to DeWitt

Have you heard?! RAGBRAI is coming to DeWitt!!

Mark your calendar for Friday, July 30th and plan to join us Downtown DeWitt! Beverage garden, delicious food trucks, live entertainment, and more! Not to mention ALL THE BIKES!

There are lots of moving pieces to put on this great event, if you are interested in being a part of it, WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU!

[Be sure to Follow Us on Facebook for details!](#)

If you are interested in hosting a group on your lawn or in your home, please follow our [DeWitt RAGBRAI Housing and Camping](#) group on Facebook and find your perfect match!

If you are interested in being a vendor on this fun day, vendor and downtown business expansion details can be found [here](#). To sign up to be a vendor, [CLICK HERE!](#)



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FOLLOW US

