



DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Newsletter

December 2018

Letter from the Executive Director

The Holidays make me nostalgic, thankful for what I have, and anticipate what's to come. Family, friendships, and community are most important. Which makes the work I do at the DCDC meaningful and rewarding.

As I look back on the success and inroads made on our DCDC goals over the last year, I am confident in the value we provide to each DCDC member. I am thankful for the broad support we have, the many volunteers that give of their time and experience and most of all, for the DeWitt Community.

As I look forward, I'm excited about what is to come.

The DCDC work plan is robust. There's a lot to accomplish and I'm excited for what what's to come. Progress thrives on momentum and there are so many great things happening in DeWitt. We continue to change and evolve into a better version of ourselves each year!

It takes a village to raise a community! The vitality of DeWitt is reliant on many things. While we can work to be a better and more appealing community for existing and new businesses and residents, there is much outside our control. That's why it is so important to partner with our local businesses, area nonprofits, regional economic development peers, and elected officials.

The DCDC needs the support of INDIVIDUALS to be a success and make an impact. Support the places and causes you love and encourage your staff, friends and family to do the same. Look Local First, volunteer on a committee, and attend the events in our community. Encourage others to do the same. Word of mouth really is the best form of advertising, so spread the word that DeWitt Delivers in so many ways.

And finally, I'll want to take this opportunity to thank April and Molly for all they've done to help make 2018 a great year for the DCDC, I think we make a pretty amazing team!



Have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

Angela Breinzay

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Butt's Meats

911 11th St., DeWitt
(563) 659-7675

Butt's Meats boasts an excellent selection of specialty meat cuts and other local goods. Stop by to check out their delicious selection!



Happy Holidays from the DCDC Staff!

Note These Dates

- **December 24** - Christmas Eve, DCDC Office Closed
- **December 25** - Christmas Day, DCDC Office Closed
- **December 31** - New Years Eve, DCDC Office Closed
- **January 1** - New Years Day, DCDC Office Closed
- **January 12** - Legislative Coffee at 11 am @ the Community Center
- **January 17** - [Revive After Five at 21 Chop House & Springbrook Country Club](#)
- **January 22-23** - Grow Clinton County Day at the Capitol



2019 Revive After Five Schedule

Revive anytime between 5-7PM on the 3rd Thursday of the month and join other professionals for these "open house" style networking events! Enjoy a variety of great food, beverages and prizes in a laidback setting while getting to know other DCDC members and learning about the hosting business.

All DCDC member employees are welcome and encouraged to attend!

January 17th – Springbrook Country Club/21 Chop House

February 21st – Kunau Implements

March 21st – The Observer

April 18th – Necker's Jewelers

May 16th – IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union

June, July, August - Summer Break

September 19th – Eden Chiropractic

October 17th – LincolnWay Foundation

November 21st – American Mutual Insurance/Legacy Insurance Group

December - Holiday Break



**Join us for our first Revive of
the new year at **21 Chop House
and Springbrook Country Club**
on Thursday, January 17
from 5-7 PM!**



**DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company**

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

**THANK YOU!
2018-2019 INVESTOR MEMBERS!**



Hometown Christmas Recap



Rain or Snow, we were a go! In spite of seeing a lot of umbrellas at this year's Hometown Christmas, we had a wonderful event!

We made a few changes this year, one of which was re-locating the Children's Christmas Carnival to [Emmaus Road Church](#). We've had nothing but great feedback about how nice it was to have all the games, crafts, prizes, and Santa visits at one place. We also offered a "Santa Picture Pass", allowing families to save their place in line to visit Santa while they played games and completed their crafts. Santa thought the kids seemed to be in great spirits by the time they got to visit him. Those that attended the free showing of "Home Alone" at the [DeWitt Operahouse Theater](#) also received a free hot dog lunch provided by the [DeWitt Nite Lions](#) with a donation to [The Referral Center](#)!

The evening activities went on as planned, including the Lighted Pickup Parade which has become a community favorite! Immediately following the parade was our 1st Christmas Tree Lighting in Lincoln Park, sponsored by [Central Realty](#) and [Ohnward Insurance](#). Be sure to drive by and check it out, it is truly adding a bit of Christmas Magic to our downtown.

The Live Window walk is always my favorite part of Hometown Christmas! We had a large number of Warming Stations this year, which helped out tremendously for those looking to get out of the rain. The Community Center was host to a free dinner from the DeWitt Nite Lions, the decorated Wreath Silent Auction, a Live Nativity Scene, the [DeWitt Junior Women](#) Bake Sale and a gourmet hot cocoa station provided by [Mediacom](#)! The evening wrapped up with a special showing of "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" at the DeWitt Operahouse Theater. Enjoy the rest of the Holidays!



Are you hiring?

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!



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you like to have fun?
Are you interested in sharing your ideas to make the DCDC even better?

Join the Membership Committee!

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

LOOK LOCAL FIRST WINNERS!

Our LLF Holiday Promotion was a blast!

Over the 4 week time period, we had 827 LLF Loyalty Cards turned in, representing \$165,400 of local spending. Participation was up about 10% over last year, proving that our residents and visitors continue to value the initiative. We received great feedback on the Facebook Live events, check them out [here](#).

A huge thank you to all the businesses that donated to the Prize Packages! Their generosity allowed us to draw nine lucky winners this year! Participation in the program for 2018 represents nearly \$1 MILLION with total participation since inception in 2016 representing over \$2.4 MILLION in local spending! Thank you for continuing to Look Local First and CONGRATULATIONS to all of our holiday prize winners!

Keep getting those cards punched, we will be continuing the program in 2019!



Michelle Hoffman



Terri Bumann



Ardy Steine



Anne Mulholland



Frances Beer



Cathy & Brad Gannon



Gloria Kagemann



Julius Michel

A "Dash" of Leadership

Let's talk reindeer.

Can we all agree Rudolph got a bit lucky? A foggy night, a nose so bright, and, HO HO HO, you're the most famous reindeer of all. Talent, meet timing.

But another flyer deserves some extra hay tucked away in his manger: [Dasher...](#)



Home Base Iowa Updates!

Recent changes to the Home Base Iowa (HBIA) incentives offered by Clinton County: Clinton County no longer requires a veteran purchasing their first home within the

county to secure a mortgage through a local lender and solicit the services of local counsel (attorney) to aid in the closing. Therefore, as long as the veteran is purchasing their first home in Clinton County, has been in the area fewer than 12 months, and is able to provide proof of service (DD214) they are eligible to receive \$1500 as a closing cost reimbursement. Again, this is an incentive offered through Clinton County's Home Base Iowa program. The \$1,500 is presented as a closing cost reimbursement following the purchase of their home. Incentives will not be available prior to closing. The \$275 per diem for up to two days remains as originally resolved. The veteran must interview with an employer located within Clinton County.

All local businesses are encouraged to check into becoming a Home Base Iowa Partner! [CLICK HERE](#) learn more about the benefits of being a HBIA business partner.

For your reference, [CLICK HERE](#) to view the HBIA brochure WITHOUT the updated closing cost criteria. It outlines additional veteran benefits offered by communities in Clinton County. To learn more about the Home Base Iowa Program [CLICK HERE](#).



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