



## DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Newsletter

March 2020

### **Letter from the Executive Director - Doing business and being a resource in a world of social distancing.**

It's March 31<sup>st</sup> and I find my self contemplating this COVID-19 world we are all learning to live and do business in. There is no map for this new reality. We can only trust that our national, state, and local leaders are making the right choices to minimize the impact of COVID-19 and provide assistance that will make a difference to our businesses, residents, and ultimately our economy. Everyone must play their part, supporting one another, all while taking the need to practice social distancing seriously. It is amazing how quickly an entire world has learned the importance of that new term.



The DCDC offices are closed to visitors, but we are still working for you remotely. I share this because I want you to know that we are here for you, your business, and our community. We hope you have found the information we've been sharing about the state and federal grants, loans, and other assistance helpful. Please call us if you have questions. I've had so many conversations with our members about how this is impacting their business and what their options are. Please use me as a resource. If you are asking the question, I'm sure others are too. Let me help you find the answer.

I'm participating in daily webinars and conference calls with industry leaders, workforce development staff, Chamber and Economic Development peers, and others. I'm sharing information and learning from their experiences, all to better help each of you. While we are emailing most of this information, we are also posting additional resources for you on our website as it comes available, you can find it [here](#).

In light of all events being cancelled, we've changed our guidelines on what can be posted to the community calendar, the What's Happening in DeWitt email, and the digital sign at the corner of the park. In summary, we're allowing VIRTUAL events to be posted. Check out the revised guidelines [here](#).

We are sharing information on social media, hopefully just the right balance between practical, a bit of humor, and lots of optimism; we will get through this, stronger than ever! Check out and like our Facebook page [here](#).

And while I know we are doing a lot, I keep asking myself, **what more can the DCDC do for our members? How can we be a resource, a benefit, and a value to you and our community?** If you have a suggestion, please share it. I remain open to feedback and ideas on how to continue to support all of you.

Sincerely,



## Things everyone needs to know...



### **NEW EVENT!! DeWitt's Wine Walk!!**

The DeWitt Chamber & Development Company is excited to announce we are working on a new event for this summer! (COVID-19 is going to be behind us by then!)

On Thursday, June 4th, we will be hosting our very first "DeWitt's Wine Walk!" The event will take place along 6th Ave. and the surrounding side streets from 5 to 7 pm!

We are looking forward to give residents, visitors and employees of DeWitt the opportunity to shop and experience Downtown 6th Ave, while enjoying FREE beverages provided by participating businesses!

You must pre-register in order to participate in the event! Pre-registration will be available at the DCDC office, at Murphy's Pub, TYCOGA Winery, or at Emma Rae's soon. Pre-registration is \$10 per person. Or \$15 when you register the day of the event.

Individuals must register in order to obtain an event "Passport" as well as receive their souvenir wine glass! Everyone will receive their "Passports" and wine glasses at check-in the day of the event!

#### **Rules to participate:**

- Each individual must be over 21 years of age and will be required to show their identification when checking into the event.
- Each individual must finish or discard their wine/beverage sample before being permitted to leave that business and move onto the next business.
- Each individual **MUST** register in order to participate in the event!

**Businesses:** [CLICK HERE](#) for sponsorship opportunities!

**Look for more fun details to come about the DeWitt Wine Walk!**

### **2019 ICCE Event of the Year Award**

The DCDC was awarded the Iowa Chamber of Commerce Executives (ICCE) 2019 Event of the Year Award for the Manufacturing Day and STEM Fest event we hosted in October, 2019!

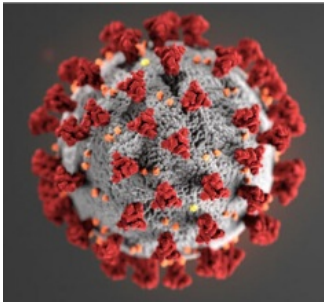
A huge thank you to all the businesses that



help make this Business - Education experience possible for our area 7-12th grade students. Great things are happening in our community, school district and businesses!



## COVID-19 Information Page



The DCDC has created a web page with [COVID-19 information and resources](#) for community members and businesses. There is a lot of information coming out very quickly and we are doing our best to share the most important information, while not filling up your email inbox. The page will be updated as we get information in. As always, if you have any questions, please contact our office.

We are also working to keep the community aware of businesses that are staying open during this trying time. We have listed businesses that are carryout and delivery options in DeWitt

## Software Updates Gave Our Website A New Look!

Recent updates to our membership software have given our [Member Directory](#) & [Community Calendar](#) a new look! The new look of the Member Directory also gives us the opportunity to highlight some businesses - **currently featured are those businesses offering Carryout or Deliver options.**

Please take a minute to check out the new look! If you see that your information needs updated, please log into the MIC and update it.

If you don't remember your login, [Email April](#).

April 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
			We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt
			"We're Going on a Bear Hunt" Virtual Story Time	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	CANCELLED: Community Baby Shower & Toddler Fest
			Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	CANCELLED - Adult Swing Dance Lessons		CANCELLED: Legislative Coffee
						CANCELLED: Community Easter Egg Hunt
						CANCELLED: Prospective Member Open House
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt	We're Going on a Bear Hunt
CANCELLED: Student Star Performers	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	Offering Free Sack Lunches - State Farm, David Linder	
CANCELLED: Easter Egg Hunt		Chuckie's Tenderloins in DeWitt!				
		CANCELLED:				



## Reminder! Complete the Census NOW!

At this time, every household should have received an invitation in the mail to complete the census. Each household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone. The results of the 2020 Census will help determine how hundreds of billions of dollars in federal funding flow into communities every year for the next decade. That funding shapes many different aspects of



## Hearts in the Windows!

Have you seen hearts in your neighbors windows? Have you seen hearts in the downtown business windows? Wondering why??

It's a Virtual Scavenger Hunt! The Facebook group called [Heart Hunters](#) was looking for a way to help promote social distancing and an activity our kids would enjoy! This is a great way for kids to connect with other houses around town (while practicing social distancing) as well as let our essential workers know we are thinking of them and supporting their efforts!

## Note These Dates

- April 4 - CANCELLED [Legislative Coffee](#)

Stay tuned, below events may be cancelled

- April 16 - [Revive After Five at Sashollie](#)
- May 12 - [eat Lunch and Learn something - How to Avoid Being Scammed](#)
- May 21 - [Revive After Five at First Central State Bank](#)
- June 4 - DeWitt's Wine Walk (see details above!)
- June 13 - [Family Movie Night in the Park](#)
- June 19-21 - [Come Home 2020: All Class Reunion Weekend](#)
- June 25 - [DCDC Year in Review: Annual Meeting](#)

## Membership News

### Board Member Seats Available:



**We are looking for a few NEW VOLUNTEERS, specifically for the DCDC Board of Directors.**

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?

[Email Angela](#) or call 659-8500 by April 10th to learn more about the DCDC Board of Directors.

The DCDC Board of Directors is composed of the Mayor, City Administrator, two representatives from the DeWitt City Council, and representatives of various member businesses. The names of individuals that have expressed interest in a board position will be shared with the DCDC Nominating Committee in March. Final nominations to the full Board of Directors will be made in April. An election will be held at the May Board Meeting. New Board Member terms begin June 1, 2020.



## Member Events:



### Come Revive With Us!

Stay tuned for updated details about our April **Revive After Five**, currently scheduled for Thursday, April 16 from 5-7 PM at Sashollie!

[Complete 2020 Revive After Five schedule is here!!](#)

## 2020-2021 Sponsorship Opportunities



The DCDC is excited to offer sponsorship opportunities for the upcoming 2020-2021 programs and events. Based on feedback from the membership that a one time annual ask is helpful for their budgeting process, we are sharing these annual sponsorship opportunities.

When you utilize this sponsorship form **you receive a 5% discount for each sponsorship you commit to.**

[Click here for the sponsorship form.](#)

The completed form must be returned to the DCDC by 4/30/20 and payment received by 5/31/20 to receive the discount.

**Can't commit now? No problem!**

We will continue reach out to the membership prior to each event to offer opportunities to sponsor and be part of the programs.



### Are you hiring?

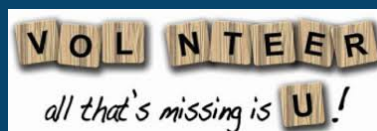
Post your available positions on the DCDC website for free. They'll be shared on our social media pages, in our weekly "What's Happening" e-newsletter and in this monthly newsletter.

[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 one of our committees today!

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

## Look Local First



Our January Look Local First winner was  
Gloria Kagemann!

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

Be sure to keep Looking Local, punching your Loyalty Cards  
and turning them in at [Randy's Neighborhood  
Market](#), [Scott's Thrifty White Drug Store](#) or the DCDC  
office. You too could win \$50 in Chamber Bucks!

Next Drawing is Tuesday, March 31st! Watch for us on Facebook!

## Grow Clinton County Day at the Capital



On March 11th & 12th, the DCDC joined Clinton County business leaders, County Supervisors, Mayors, City Council Members, City Administrators, and Superintendents from DeWitt, Clinton & Camanche, the Clinton Chamber, CRDC, and Clinton Community College in meetings with our State's leadership. We advocated for issues important to all Clinton County. The days were productive, establishing and cementing relationships

with our elected officials and leadership. Contact the DCDC for more information on how you can be involved in our continued communication with our elected leadership.



## DeWitt Delivers Blog





## [4-H Tech Changemakers](#)

Hi [DeWitt Community!](#) My name is Amanda Rau and I am the County Youth Coordinator for [Iowa State University Extension and Outreach in Clinton County.](#) In July of 2019, I moved to Clinton County after graduating from Iowa State University and quickly felt at home in [DeWitt.](#) Growing up in a small town of 250 taught me how important local businesses are and I'm so grateful to have a job where I can meet so many community folks. As the County Youth/4-H Coordinator for [Clinton County Extension and Outreach,](#) I have the privilege of working with bright and determined K-12 youth. Whether it's in the classroom, through 4-H clubs or the county fair, the youth I meet continue to impress me. There's one group of high school 4-H'ers I want to highlight today, the 4-H Tech Changemakers...

[<<<READ MORE>>>](#)



**DeWitt  
Chamber &  
Development  
Company**

**1010 6th Ave  
DeWitt IA 52742**

**FOLLOW US**

