



DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Newsletter

May 2020

Letter from the Executive Director - New 2020-2021 Year!

As our community continues to reopen, we are beginning to catch glimpses of what our new normal is going to be. Smaller groups, social distancing, a combination of mask/no mask as we go about our days, and the heightened awareness that germs are everywhere. Some businesses are bringing their non-essential staff back to the office, others are choosing to continue to have them work remotely. Everyone is (or should be) considering what "business as usual" may be in the future. I've heard from many of you that you're developing multiple scenarios; hoping for the best, but planning for the worst. No matter if you're an optimist, realist, or pessimist, you recognize that is what needs to be done with all the COVID-19 uncertainties.



As the DCDC staff and board looks towards our new 2020-2021 fiscal year, we too are planning for many scenarios. We're hoping we can proceed with all the events, programs, and member benefits as we have provided in the past, with necessary adaptations. We've already held a number of our events virtually, some may stay that way, others we are incredibly hopeful will become in person events again! (Revive's are much more fun in person.) No doubt, we're going to be adding some new member services and activities as well. What those develop into depends on the needs of all of you, our members. (Don't be shy, reach out to me and share your thoughts, suggestions and opinions!)

What will not change is our commitment to all of you and the success of your businesses. We are single minded in our focus to support our existing businesses, attract new businesses and assist in enhancing the quality of life for our community! So welcome to the second half of 2020, we are hopeful it will be better than the first half! Whether it is or not, the DCDC will continue to be here for you!

We are all in this together, if you have a question or need help, call me.

Sincerely,

Note These Dates

Stay tuned, below events may be cancelled or moved to an online format:

- June 4 - [DeWitt's Wine Walk](#)
- ~~June 13 - [Family Movie Night in the Park](#)~~ CANCELLED
- June 25 - [DCDC Year in Review: Annual Meeting](#) **GOING VIRTUAL**
- July 11 - [Family Movie Night in the Park](#)
- July 23 - [DCDC 101](#)
- July 30 - [DCDC Golf Bash](#)
- August 8 - [Family Movie Night in the Park](#)
- September 17 - [Revive After Five at Wendling Quarries, Inc.](#)
- September 22 - [Eat Lunch & Learn Something - Leading with Excellence!](#)

Membership News

DCDC MEMBER CHOICE AWARDS



The 7th Annual DCDC Member's Choice Awards are here!! These awards were initiated to honor and bring awareness to DCDC members for their successes and overall support of our community's vitality! The winners will be awarded in each category at the DCDC Year In Review - Annual Meeting!

Congratulations to all of our Nominees!

Final voting will be held June 5th through the 12th!

Be sure to vote for your favorites!

The Nominees for the 2019-2020 Member Choice Awards are:

**Most Promising
New Business:**

- Dairy Queen Grill & Chill
- David Linder-State Farm
- Deep Roots Yoga
- L&Q Armoire Boutique
- Sarah's Dog Grooming
- The Summit Cafe

Excellence in Social Media:

- Blondie's Coffee Out Back
- Central DeWitt School District
- Cram Chiropractic
- Emma Rae's
- L&Q Armoire
- P&K Midwest

Business of the Year:

- Emma Rae's Antiques & Uniques
- P&K Midwest
- Cram Chiropractic
- David Linder-State Farm
- Dewitt Bank & Trust
- L&Q Armoire Boutique

Excellence in Customer Service:

- Blondie's Coffee Out Back
- Emma Rae's Antiques & Uniques
 - L&Q Armoire Boutique
 - Murphy's Pub
 - P&K Midwest
- Rock Valley Physical Therapy

Non-Profit of the Year:

- Central DeWitt Education Foundation
 - DeWitt Nite Lions
 - DeWitt Noon Lions
- St. Joseph Catholic Church
 - The Referral Center
- Women's Health Services

CHAMBER BUCKS eGIFT CARDS



Is your business signed up to redeem Chamber Bucks eGift Cards yet? With all the social distancing and limited office hours, our Chamber Bucks eGift Cards are selling now more than ever! Now is the time to get registered to be able to redeem them!

This is a FREE member benefit, so be sure to sign up!

Do you have questions about this program? Would you like to sign up?

[Email April](#) and she will send you all the information!

You can buy Chamber Bucks e-Gift Cards [here!](#)

You can see who already accepts Chamber Bucks e-Gift Cards [here!](#)

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBER!



[Sophie LuRoo](#)

806 6th Ave, DeWitt

Opening June 6th!!

Or stop in during DeWitt's Wine Walk on June 4th.

Sophie LuRoo is a boutique carrying home decor, baby, clothing, accessories and so much more!

MEMBER EVENTS

DCDC Year in Review - Virtual Annual Meeting Thursday, June 25, 2020

The DeWitt Chamber & Development Company invites you, your guests and business associates to attend the DCDC **Virtual Year in Review!**



Due to COVID-19 restrictions and in an effort to practice safe social distancing, this year's event will be held virtually. We are still excited to celebrate and reflect on another great year supporting the growth and vibrancy of our business community, even though things have been difficult and many have had to shift the way they do business. It is only through the support of your membership that we are able to impact our community in meaningful ways. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Interested in sponsoring this fun evening?

[Email Molly!!](#)

To find out more about Year in Review or to register, [CLICK HERE!](#)



Revive After Five

Thank you to everyone that attended our Virtual Revive After Five with [First Central State Bank!](#) Drink demonstrations, snacks, games, and PRIZES were had!

We will be on "Summer Break" for June, July and August. Watch for details to come on our Fall Revive events!

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

SHOP WHERE I LIVE

We are excited to announce a new member benefit!!

In an effort to support our rural communities and businesses, the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company has joined with the Bellevue, Clinton, and Maquoketa Chambers to introduce a new online shopping initiative to support our member businesses!

The site easterniowa.shopwhereilive.com will be a new marketplace website in partnership with the four Chambers of Commerce to help local small businesses sell their products and services together.

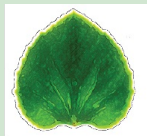
Chamber members will be invited to sell up to 25 items on this online marketplace, at no cost to them. Consumers using the site will have the ability to search for a business by name or city/location, as well as to purchase directly from the site, be redirected to a member business's website, or to "inquire" about a product or service directly to the local business via email.

Watch for details on how to get signed up, coming soon!!

Thank you to our generous sponsors for helping to make this project possible!!

Community Title Sponsor:

GreenTech
Spray Foam Insulation



Smart Choice, Safe Result

Community Supporting Sponsors:

American Mutual Insurance Association
DeWitt Bank & Trust
Emma Raes Antiques & Uniques
First Central State Bank
Iowa State Extension Office - Clinton County
KMAQ
Maggie's House Assisted Living
Plasti-Paint
Sashollie
Shelly Borota, Ruhl & Ruhl
The Observer

Things everyone needs to know...



DeWitt's Wine Walk!!

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

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

COVID-19 considerations will be used throughout the event!

[PRE-REGISTER YOUR GROUP HERE!](#)

Pre-registration is \$10 per person if registered before June 1st, or \$15 when you register after June 1st or 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! Check in will be held at the DCDC office.

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!

We hope to see you at DeWitt's Wine Walk!



GREAT NEWS!!!!

[DCDC Golf Bash Fundraiser](#) will be back for another fun filled year! Save the date (Thursday, July 30th) and golf with us at [Springbrook Country Club](#).

Watch for emails with info about the event, sponsorship, and our Early Bird Registration discount.

[Check out photos from last years Golf Bash here!](#)



The **census** helps shape many different aspects of our community. Make sure **EVERYONE** is counted and complete yours today!

For the first time, you can choose to respond online, by phone, or by mail.

[Complete the Census Today.](#)

Your Response Matters.

More information about the CENSUS can be found [here](#).

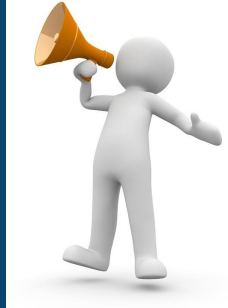
VOLUNTEER
all that's missing is U!

JOIN OUR TEAM

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



Now, more than ever, it is important to keep Looking Local First!

Looking for a gift for someone?
Looking for someone else to cook for you?
Look Local First!

Check out our [Membership Directory](#) for all your local options!! Lots of our local businesses are doing business a little differently these days - but they are still doing it! Call or find your favorites on Facebook to see what options they have. Many retailers are open for shopping, as well as offering virtual shopping options, curbside pick up or free shipping. [Click here](#) for an updated list. Restaurants are continuing to offer curbside pick up and carry out. Some are even open for dine-in. [Click here](#) for an updated list.

Watch Facebook for our LIVE Look Local First drawings the last business day of the month.

Watch for details of our Look Local First Summer Promotion!



DCDC Summer Movies in the Park

The DCDC is excited to team up with the DeWitt Parks & Recreation Department again this summer to put on the 3rd annual, **Family Movie Night in the Park Series!**

Schedule below!! All movies will be shown at dusk!
Some snacks available for purchase or bring your own!

JUNE was cancelled, but we are hopeful we will be hosting July & August!

Plan to bring your family and friends, its a great way to enjoy a free night out in DeWitt!



[July 11th - The Lion King](#)

Sponsored By:
[David Linder - State Farm](#)
[Edward Jones Investments - Will](#)
[Froeschle](#)
[Smilee's Ice Cream and More](#)



[August 8th - Toy Story 4](#)

Sponsored By:
[Cram Chiropractic](#)
[David Linder - State Farm](#)
[Guardian Industries Corporation](#)

DeWitt Delivers Blog

[Media Group to Shoot Film About Local Livestock Exhibitor](#)

While Covid-19 may have created a new normal, in some instances it has also offered new opportunities to Clinton County students. The Current Ag Concerns Media Group (CAC) is



comprised of Beth Lamp, Brooklyn Kucera, and Kesley Holdgrafer, all from Northeast, along with Megan Clark from DeWitt. These four ladies do a weekly ag radio program live on Friday mornings, run interviews with ag professionals across the country, and do a variety of print and social media like the weekly publication of “Kesley’s Corral.” They also specialize in conference and event coverage including the PBR Finals in Las Vegas this past November.

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



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