



DCDC Monthly

December 2015

Letter from the Executive Director

One of the many blessings of the holidays is that it inspires us to reflect on where we've been and where we are headed. As I look back on the accomplishments and inroads made on our goals over the last year, most of which I experienced as an Investor Member and volunteer, I am even more confident in the value we provide to our members. As I look forward, here's just a few of the things I've come to better appreciate about the DCDC.



- The Strategic Plan is robust. There's a lot to accomplish and I'm excited for what lays ahead. Progress thrives on momentum and we have a ton of great things happening in DeWitt.
- It's not about one organization's work plan, it's a collaborative effort. The success and vitality of our community is not determined solely on the efforts of the DCDC. 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, regional economic development peers and government representatives.
- The DCDC needs the support of INDIVIDUALS. Support the places and causes you love and encourage your staff, friends and family to do the same. Volunteer to lead a group, help on a committee and attend the events. Encourage others to do the same. Word of mouth really is the best form of promotion and volunteers make all the difference.

And finally, I'll take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers that have made 2015 a great year for the DCDC. We could not have done it without you!

Have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

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DeWitt's Hometown Christmas

Thank you to those who were a part of this year's Hometown Christmas event! We appreciate all those that sponsored, volunteered and attended the event! What an amazing community we have! Here's what attendees are saying about Hometown Christmas...

"The live window scenes were the best. I liked that every business welcomed you in to warm up. The parade was a big hit too!"

"I'm new to town and loved the event!"

"I loved the socializing! Going into the stores and seeing what they have to offer and sampling their goodies was fun!"



Did you attend DeWitt's Hometown Christmas on December 5th? We would appreciate if you took a moment to complete a very short survey regarding the event. We consider the data collecting from the surveys when planning for next year's event! Thanks so much!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T3DJ96L>

Visit the [DCDC Facebook page](#) to view more photos from Hometown Christmas! While you're there make sure you follow us on Facebook!



MISTLETOE SPONSORSHIP



KWIK STAR

SNOWFLAKE SPONSORSHIP

Black Cat Blades • DeWitt Nite Lions • DeWitt Noon Lions
First Central State Bank • Maggie's House Assisted Living

JINGLE BELL SPONSORSHIP

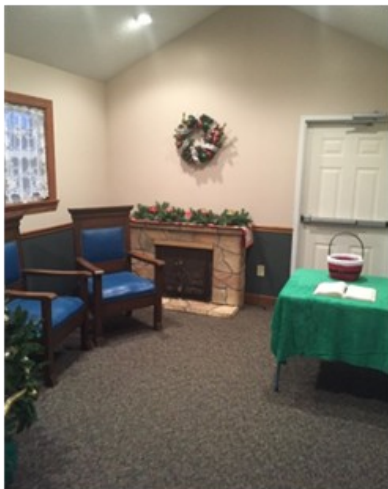
Alliant Energy • Car-Freshner Corporation • DeWitt Bank & Trust Company
Dot's Hallmark • IH Mississippi Valley Credit Union • Iowa Mutual Insurance Co.
KMAQ Radio Station • Necker's Jewelers • Ruhl & Ruhl Realtors

Volunteers Make DeWitt Shine During the Holidays!

The DCDC was happy to coordinate with those that volunteered their time to put up the holiday décor throughout DeWitt. Thank you to the 4-H Hustlers, Custom Art & Signs, Holst Construction, LLC, Kunau Implement, Jansen Electric Inc. and Gary's Electric!



A big thank you to Ike Hurning, James Hurning and Colby Azinger for volunteering their time to decorate a few trees in Lincoln Park with Christmas lights! Thanks also to Holst Rental for the use of the equipment! A great addition to our holiday décor this year!



Santa's Hut received a paint refresh thanks to Steve & Connie Fulsang volunteering his time! The DCDC sponsors Santa's Hut. Santa visited with children Dec 19th and December 21st.

Keep dollars local and give Chamber Bucks as the perfect Christmas gift!



Chamber Bucks can be purchased at DeWitt Chamber & Development Company, First Central State Bank, DeWitt Bank & Trust Company, Dot's Hallmark and Whisk Away Cafe & Bakery.

Available in \$5 and \$10 denominations.
48 hour notice is appreciated for larger orders.

VISIT SANTA'S HUT
(SOUTH OF THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY ON 6TH AVE.)
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 19TH 5-7 PM
AND MONDAY, DECEMBER 21ST 6-8 PM



**DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company**

1010 6th Ave.
563-659-8500
www.dewittiowa.org



City of DeWitt Snow Removal

Snow is (maybe) coming!

The City of DeWitt would like to remind everyone that when there is a pending snow storm, snow removal policies will be implemented. Visit the [City of DeWitt Facebook page](#) for highlights. Please contact the City of DeWitt for their complete Snow Removal ordinances.



DeWitt Market Analysis

January 6, 2016 • 6:30 - 7:30pm

DeWitt City Hall, 510 9th Street, DeWitt

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Specialists

- Retail sales figures and trends
- Opportunities for business development
- Challenges to future growth

This presentation will provide an overview of relevant, research-based information regarding DeWitt and Clinton County retail and economic data.

Who Should Attend?

Property & Businesses Owners • Municipal Leaders
Entrepreneurs • Elected Officials • Interested Citizens

Contact: Steve Lindner • cdadmin@gmtel.net • (563) 659-3811



Business Education Coordinator Update

High School Students Explore Careers

In November Mr. Grady Gallagher's Employment Strategies class spent time in the community exploring careers through arranged job shadows. Students in his class completed a career interest survey to identify their areas of interest. From these survey results, opportunities were identified for students to participate in a short job shadow. A special thank you to our members who hosted a student or two!

Ag Spectrum
Central Community School District
Creative Learning
Eastern Iowa Community Colleges-Blong Technology Center
First Central State Bank
Frances Banta Waggoner Library
Fug's Auto Body
Genesis Health Group of DeWitt
Genesis Medical Center-Physical Therapy
Graphic Elements
Hill Chiropractic
Rock Valley Physical Therapy
St. Joseph Catholic School

K-12 Students Participate in Hour of Code

During the first week December, students in grades K-12 participated in an Hour of Code. This global initiative provides individuals exposure to the field of computer science and encourages students to consider a career in the industry. Mrs. Tammy McClimon, K-12 District Media Specialist, coordinated this year's activities, speakers, and volunteers. Over 190,000 Hour of Code events were held around the world, to learn more visit code.org.



Interested in partnering with schools to provide students exposure to local career opportunities? Contact Jenny McGarry, Business Education Coordinator, becoordinator@dewittiowa.org.

Eastern Iowa Manufacturing Visit

The DCDC was honored to be part of the Iowa Economic Development Authority's tour of eastern Iowa manufacturing businesses while hosting their Asian representatives. A big thank you to the Quad Cities Chamber of Commerce and also ITW Magnaflux for providing a great tour of their facilities.



Know Your Member Benefits: Job Postings

Do you have a job vacancy you need to fill?

Are you looking for talented new employees?

Do you want a way to reach a broader employee pool?



Submit your job openings now in the Member Information Center. It is free to post job openings for Friend, Partner and Investor level members. Associate level members can post their openings for \$50/job for 30 days. Job postings will be posted on our website, Facebook page and on our Twitter feed.

Please contact admin@dewittiowa.org with questions or for more information.

Save the Date

1.6.15 ISU DeWitt Market Analysis Presentation, City Hall 6:30-7:30 pm

1.21.15 Revive After Five - Murphy's Pub & Murphy's Vintage Picks

[Register Now](#)

1.28.15 DCDC 101 [Register Now](#)

2.9.15 "eat Lunch & Learn something"-SWOT Analysis presented by Chief Porter of the DeWitt Police Department [Register Now](#)

2.11.15 Clinton County Day at the Capital

[Click here to view our Community Events Calendar!](#)

DeWitt Delivers Campaign

Over the course of the next year, a specific DeWitt sector/topic/asset will be highlighted each month on the [DCDC website](#), [community blog](#), social media, in [the Observer](#), and throughout the community. The goal of this community-wide DeWitt Delivers Marketing Campaign is to educate our local residents and businesses about these assets and instill a sense to LIVE LOCAL, GET INVOLVED, and BE PROUD of our progressive, vibrant community.

Monthly topics:

- July – Community Overview
- August -- Education
- Sept – Housing
- October -- Manufacturing
- Nov -- Shopping & Dining**
- Dec -- Civic organizations / non-profits / volunteer opportunities**
- Jan – Healthcare
- Feb – Services
- March – Agriculture
- April -- Recreation
- May – Civil Servants (fire, police, city gov't)
- June -- Attractions



[See the full November article here](#)



[Click here to see all the "Did you know?" facts about Shopping & Dining](#)

Continued next page



DeWitt Delivers Volunteers

Check it Out!
DeWitt Delivers a new community blog!
www.dewittdelivers.com

Engaged Citizens Committed to Service

Today, there are at least 61 volunteer organizations in the DeWitt community.

Volunteerism is the heart of our community. It is the spirit that drives us to help others, to make a difference, and to build a better future for all. The spirit that drives us to help others, to make a difference, and to build a better future for all. The spirit that drives us to help others, to make a difference, and to build a better future for all.

For a complete list of volunteer organizations, contact info@dewittchamber.com

Each month throughout the year, the DCHC highlights various aspects of the DeWitt community in a variety of ways. Watch for monthly articles and weekly "Did you know?" facts in The Observer, the DeWitt Delivers community blog, and posts on social media.

Want to share how DeWitt Delivers Content is at www.dewittdelivers.com? If you are interested in being a guest blogger or get word to helping "be" "beard" team" photos on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with #dewittdelivers

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company
1010 8th Avenue • DeWitt, IA 52742 • (563) 659-8500 • www.dewittchamber.com

#dewittdelivers

[See the full December article here](#)



DeWitt Delivers Volunteers

Did you know?
DeWitt has at least 61 volunteer organizations.

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#dewittdelivers

[Click here to see all the "Did you know?" facts about Volunteers](#)

Coming Soon!!

As part of our ongoing [DeWitt Delivers](#) campaign, we want to continue to encourage people to **LOOK LOCAL FIRST!** We will be rolling out window decals to all members to continue to promote this idea! Look for a communication in January regarding the decals!

We are very excited to be launching a **New Resident and New Employee program** in early 2016! This will be an excellent opportunity for our members to spotlight themselves to new individuals in the community! Please look for an email to be coming to you shortly regarding how you can be a part of this program!



Revive After Five

Plan on joining us for the first Revive After Five of 2016 at

Murphy's Pub & Murphy's Vintage Picks January 21st. [CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

All DCDC member employees are welcome and encouraged to attend these worthwhile and relaxing networking events!



2016 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 21st– Murphy's Pub & Murphy's Vintage Picks

February 18th – Clinton County Farm Bureau

March 17th - Holst Construction & Rental

April 21st– Skeffington Memorial Race

May 19th - Black Cat Blades

June, July, August -Summer Break

September 15th– THE CROSSROADS Inspired Living

October 20th- Family Resources Inc.

November 17th– LincolnWay Foundation

December - Holiday Break





DCDC 101

We encourage those interested in joining the DCDC, new members, new company representatives, and existing members who would like to learn more about the DCDC services to join the DCDC staff for coffee as we share ideas and tools on how to make the most of your DCDC membership! This one hour, informal gathering will include a review of member services and perks that will help your business or organization reach its fullest potential.

Join us for DCDC 101

Who: Prospective, New, and Existing
DCDC Members and All Employees

What: DCDC 101 – Discover How to Maximize
Your DCDC Membership

When: Thursday, January 28th
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Where: DeWitt Chamber & Development
Company Office 1010 6th Avenue

RSVP: by Tuesday, January 26th via the
online event page.

[Click here to register!](#)

Session take aways!

- How to take advantage of DCDC networking opportunities to grow your business
- How the DCDC can help you gain visibility and exposure among your customers
- How you can benefit from the DCDC's economic development activities and growth in our region
 - How you can get involved in community events and projects to keep DeWitt a great place to live, work and play

First Dollar Presentation

The DeWitt Ambassadors recently welcomed Emma Rae's Antiques & Uniques with a First Dollar presentation. Congratulations! We wish you many years of success!



Happiest of Holidays from the DCDC Staff!



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
Brian Volkens, First Central State Bank, Treasurer
Wayne Stuedemann, Ag Spectrum,
Don Thiltgen, DeWitt Mayor
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
Kasey Kleinsmith, Flowers on the Side
Kim Broders, Ruhl & Ruhl Realtors
Kevin Jansen, Jansen Electric
Roddy Greig, Guardian Industries Corp
Steve Shupp, Alliant Energy—Ex-Officio Member

DCDC Staff

Angela Rheingans, Executive Director
Emily Schmitt, Programs & Events Coordinator
Jenny McGarry, 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.dewittiowa.org