



# DCDC Monthly

June 2016

## ***Join us for the DCDC Year In Review Celebration!***



The DeWitt Chamber & Development Company invites you, your guests and business associates to attend the DCDC Year in Review! We are excited to celebrate and reflect on another great year supporting the growth and vibrancy of our businesses community. It is only through the support of our membership that we are able to impact our community in meaningful ways. We look forward to celebrating with you at the upcoming Year in Review!

**Date:** Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup> 2016

**Location:** TYCOGA Vineyard & Winery (2585 195th St DeWitt, IA 52742)

### **Event Rundown:**

**5-5:30 PM** Networking/Cash Bar (One drink a person provided)

**5:30 PM** Meal catered by Whisk Away

**6:00 PM** Event Program including:

- Year Recap & Looking Forward
- Keynote Speaker: Janet Ady, President of Ady Advantage.

*As a community marketing and economic development consultant, Janet Ady offers a unique insight on what it takes for a community to become the best version of themselves. She will share current and emerging business trends, the importance of existing business retention and expansion efforts (for both big and small businesses), and how available workforce impacts the future of both a community and businesses.*

- DCDC Member's Choice Awards Presentation

**Admission:** *Includes Program, meal and one drink ticket*

**\$25 Member and Member Guest** (Discounts will be applied for specific DCDC Membership Tiers. You will be notified after registration, through an email confirmation, if you receive a discount). **\$35 Non-Members**

**[REGISTER HERE](#) before June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

# 2016 DCDC Year In Review

## Title Sponsors:



*We're on for you.™*



## Gold Sponsors:



## Silver Sponsors:

*DeWitt Bank & Trust • First Central State Bank • IW, P.C. • Iowa Mutual Insurance Company • Kwik Star  
Necker's Jewelers • Ruhl & Ruhl Realtors • The Observer • Wendling Quarries, Inc • Whisk Away*

## DCDC Member's Choice Awards 2016

### Final voting period until June 8th!

The DeWitt Chamber & Development Company is excited to bring you the 3rd annual DCDC Member's Choice Awards. Initiated to honor and bring awareness to DCDC members for their successes and overall support of our community's vitality! The initial voting period was open to the community and the top nominees in each category were selected.



These nominees have moved onto the ***final voting period between June 1st - 8th***. The category winners will be announced on June 30th at the [DCDC Year In Review](#) celebration!

**[VOTE HERE NOW!](#)**

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## Business Education Coordinator Update

Thank you to all of the businesses and individuals that contributed to the ongoing development of our business-education partnerships this school year! I have been amazed at the willingness of businesses and individuals in our community to contribute time and expertise to provide career exposure opportunities for area students.

Continuing to foster these meaningful partnerships is critical to providing learning opportunities for students which develops a qualified and diverse workforce for our members.

To take the next step, we are requesting your help! We are looking for individuals to participate in a Business Education Committee. The role of this committee will be to collaborate with educators and identify unique career exposure opportunities that will ultimately result in our current students fulfilling the future workforce needs of our community!

Please contact me if you are interested in learning more about this committee or know someone you think would be a valuable contributor.

As always, feel free to call me if you have a unique opportunity in your business that you would like to share with students or the community.

Is your business interested in **partnering** with area schools to **provide** students exposure to **local career opportunities**? Does your business have **workforce needs** that could be addressed through a **partnership** with local high schools, technical schools or community colleges?

Contact Jenny McGarry, Business Education Coordinator, [becoordinator@dewittiowa.org](mailto:becoordinator@dewittiowa.org).

## Read About It

### [REGISTRATION OPEN for Clinton County Cookout Contest](#)

>>DeWitt Iowa – Show your skills at an outdoor cooking contest designed to promote Iowa meat that is being planned by the Clinton County Farm Bureau. Contest Chairman Peter Whitman says that you don't have to be an expert chef to participate...







**DeWitt  
Chamber &  
Development  
Company**

## **Looking to Start a Business or Need Some Existing Business Advice?**

**What: Free, Confidential and Individualized Counseling Sessions**

**When: Third Thursday each month**

**(Appointments are available at 9 & 10:30 am, 1:00 & 2:30 pm)**

**Where: 1010 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. DeWitt, IA**

**(DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Office)**

The DCDC has partnered with Joel Youngs, Director of the Eastern Iowa Small Business Development Center, to bring his services to DeWitt on the third Thursday of each month. Joel will be available to meet either existing businesses or individuals looking to start their own business and provide counseling on a variety of topics, including but not limited to:

- New business guidance
- Business planning and modeling
- Loan proposal assistance
- Financing opportunities
- Market research services
- Profitability analysis
- Cash flow projections
- Business growth and succession strategies
- Strategic planning
- Business continuity planning



**To sign up for a free, confidential one-hour session,  
please call the SBDC at 563-336-3401 or email  
[jeyoungs@eicc.edu](mailto:jeyoungs@eicc.edu)**



# Revive After Five

A big “thank you” to [Black Cat Blades](#) for putting on a great May Revive After Five!! They were wonderful hosts for this American/Canadian themed gathering. Plant Manager, Josh Daniel, took the attendees on a tour highlighting all that happens in their facility!

**We will be back Revivin’ with you again in September, after our summer break!. Remember, all DCDC member employees are welcome and encouraged to attend these worthwhile and relaxing networking events. So join us in September and bring along your co-workers!**



[Check out more photos from 2016 Revive events!](#)



## 2016 Revive After Five Schedule

Revive anytime between 5-7PM on the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!*

June, July, August -Summer Break

September 15th– THE CROSSROADS Inspired Living

October 20th- Family Resources Inc.

November 17th– LincolnWay Foundation

December - Holiday Break



# DeWitt Delivers Campaign

Over the course of the 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



**DeWitt Delivers Civil Servants**

**Live Local!**  
See how residents live local with the DeWitt Delivers community blog!  
[www.dewittdelivers.com](http://www.dewittdelivers.com)

**At Your Service, Day and Night**

**DeWitt's 30 volunteer firefighters put in double the amount of training required by the state of Iowa each year.**

**Did you know?**  
A full-time School Resource Officer is devoted to proactively bridging the gap between students and law enforcement.

**DeWitt Chamber & Development Company**  
1010 6th Avenue • DeWitt, IA 52742  
(563) 659-8500 • [www.dewittiowa.org](http://www.dewittiowa.org)

**#dewittdelivers**

[See the full May article here](#)



**DeWitt Delivers Civil Servants**

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**#dewittdelivers**

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

Visit our [DeWitt Delivers Community Blog](#) and read how a DeWitt resident was inspired by a childhood incident to volunteer and become a positive role model for the next generation! **#dewittdelivers**

## **"eat Lunch & Learn something"**

Michael Edmondson, Ph.D. Associate Vice President in Career Development at Augustana College put on a great "eat Lunch & Learn something" session on May 17<sup>th</sup> at Springbrook! The session entitled, "Your Personal Assessment of the Traits and Habits to Success" (PATH) was a 90-minute workshop. Attendees were able to discuss and analyze similar traits, habits and experiences through a variety of questions, exercises, and assessments that they find in successful individuals.



Thank you to our "eat Lunch & Learn something" sponsor:



**Register now for upcoming "eat Lunch & Learn something" sessions!**

9.13.16 "To Be A Top Workplace, Starts with the Culture" presented by Angie Treptow, Farm Credit Services of America's Regional Vice President of East Central Iowa. [Register Here](#)

11.8.16 "Marketing On A Budget" presented by Andy Sokolovich owner of Bent Business Marketing & Advertising. [Register Here](#)

## Member Spotlight: Black Cat Blades

Black Cat Blades began manufacturing cutting edges in Edmonton Alberta in 1968. In the following decade as machine size and horsepower increased, Black Cat invested heavily in the latest technology and equipment to produce higher quality, harder, tougher "Through Hardened" edges. Many other manufacturers during that time were clinging to the older technology, making their carbon edges thicker to compensate for the lack of toughness. That dedication to being an industry leader fueled the company's growth and continues today. Black Cat Blades now operates multiple production facilities in Canada, China and the US and distributes their industry leading products worldwide.



In 2003 Black Cat began to develop an offering of complementary cast wear parts to offer a broader range of parts for their distributors. Investing heavily in research and development, design, and quality assurance, the company is determined to develop a "first-tier" product offering. The range of these parts grew quickly and now includes a large variety of bucket teeth and adapters, ripper teeth, bucket lip and sidebar protection items, bull dozer end bits, half arrow shaped blades and segments, and numerous other complimentary wear parts for a broad range of applications

The entire team at Black Cat Blades is committed to meeting or exceeding the needs of their customers by providing superior quality, service and product support. The first paragraph of the company's culture statement defines the commitment: "Our culture is driven by the rewards of honesty, integrity, trust and high achievement with respect for each other, our assets and our environment. These values will not be compromised for profit."

## Save the Date

**6.16.16** SBDC Counseling Opportunity at the DCDC

**6.30.16** Year in Review-Annual Meeting at TYCOGA Vineyard & Winery (5-7:30PM).  
[Register Now!](#)

**7.21.16** SBDC Counseling Opportunity at the DCDC

**7.28.16** DCDC 101 (8:30-9:30AM) [Register Now!](#)

**8.4.16** DCDC Golf Bash Fundraiser-Sponsorship and registration opportunities coming soon!

**CLICK HERE**  
to view our entire  
Events Calendar or  
to submit an event.





## DeWitt Day - Clinton LumberKings



The DCDC is partnering with the Clinton LumberKings for "DeWitt Day" on Sunday, June 12th at Ashford University Field. The game will begin at 2pm, with gates opening at 12:30pm. The DCDC office has 100 FREE General Admissions tickets available for pick up (please limit 4 tickets per person).

To see the entire LumberKings schedule, visit the [Clinton LumberKings website](http://ClintonLumberKings.com).



## Welcome New DCDC Members!

### **RE/MAX Elite Homes QC, Kim Broders**

3709 N Harrison St  
Davenport, IA 52806  
(563) 340-1809

[www.kimbroders.com](http://www.kimbroders.com)

Re/Max Elite Homes QC is a leading real estate specialist serving the Quad Cities and surrounding areas. Our services include residential, new construction, commercial and foreclosures. For all of your real estate needs contact RE/MAX Elite Homes QC.



### **Spic N Span Cleaning**

PO Box 192  
DeWitt, IA 52742  
(563) 659-2575  
[tjaques13@iowatelecom.net](mailto:tjaques13@iowatelecom.net)

Spic N Span Cleaning is a locally owned residential and commercial cleaning company. We offer free estimates and daily, weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly cleaning schedules. We pride ourselves on our client 100% satisfaction, proven by their word of mouth referrals. For your peace of mind we are bonded, and insured.

## First Dollar: Diamond Rock/Jacobson Farms



Jacobson Farms celebrated the kick off of the home building season with an open house and tours of existing homes in the new residential development. DCDC Ambassadors, preferred home builders and Ruhl&Ruhl Realtors joined in a presentation of the symbolic First Dollar to Pete Bush and Dave Necker of Diamond Rock Development, LLC. The subdivision is conveniently located on the west side of DeWitt.

## Spotlight on Success: Krieger's of DeWitt



The DeWitt Ambassadors shined their Spotlight on Success at Krieger's of DeWitt's Grand Re-Opening, recognizing their nearly \$2 million renovation and 60 years of business. The open house was also attended by area businesses, Krieger's staff and four generations of the Kreiger family; including (L-R) John and Jackie and children, Doug and Susan, Marvin, and Joey and Jesse and children.

# Have You Renewed Your 2016-2017 DCDC Membership?

## Here's Why Others Have....

*(Top reasons taken from the 2015 DCDC Membership Survey results.)*

**Sense of Community.** Your investment allows you and other DCDC members to **make our community** the kind of place **you want to live and do business in**. A strong business community means a strong overall community.

**Economic Development.** Your investment ensures that the DCDC can continue to **focus on economic growth**. Our priority of fostering **quality job creation** will benefit your business and our community by providing **new customers**, an **expanded workforce**, **improved infrastructure**, and many other **invaluable services**.

**Credibility.** Your investment **instills trust** amongst consumers of your product or service. **66%** of consumers **believe that chamber members** use good business practices, are reputable, care about their customers, and are involved in the community. (The Schapiro Group, 2012 national study on effects of chamber membership)

**Networking.** Your investment means you have the **opportunity to network** with business and community leaders through events like monthly Revive After Fives, Lunch-n-Learns, community programs and events, and forums related to specific industry needs. **Remember: it's** not who you know but **who knows you!!**

**Promotion.** Your investment provides you **24/7 exposure** through the DCDC's powerful **website** (tools include business directory, logo display, company video, banner advertising, community calendar and much more!). Make your **business visible** by displaying your marketing materials in the DCDC lobby, sponsoring an event, or utilizing the community electronic sign.

**Focused Support.** Your investment provides you resources that will **strengthen your business**. From **access to market intelligence**, to **meetings facilitated** with appropriate support agencies to **posting open job positions** on the DCDC website. The DCDC offers a variety of ways to **build positive opportunities** for your business!

**Chamber Bucks.** Your investment allows you to **accept Chamber Bucks**. Over **\$40,000** in Chamber Bucks was **purchased last year** that stayed right here in **our community**!

**Small Business Advocacy.** Your investment gives you the opportunity for **your voice to be heard**. The DCDC **actively cultivates relationships** with local, state, and federal **elected officials** in order to advance our **shared goals** of job creation, economic growth and a business climate conducive to success!

**Training and Professional Development.** Your investment provides you and your employees **access** to timely programs at **affordable prices** through its quarterly "eat Lunch and Learn something" programs. You will **stay updated, informed** and **educated** at prices much lower than programs that could be obtained through other means.



## Thank You, Sara!

This month we said good-bye to our high school intern, Sara Hasenmiller. Sara has been with the DCDC since the beginning of spring semester. She has assisted with social media, data management, graphic design and other DCDC projects. Sara is headed to Iowa State next year. We wish her the best of luck!



*Congratulations,  
Sara!!!*

  
*Class of*  
**2016**

# 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

Dan Peterson, Central DeWitt Community School District, Vice Chair

Leo McGarry, First Central State Bank, Treasurer

Kim Broders, RE/MAX Elite Homes QC

Garey Chrones, City Council Representative

Kerri Hanna, Rock Valley Physical Therapy

Kevin Jansen, Jansen Electric

Kasey Kleinsmith, Flowers on the Side

Steve Lindner, DeWitt City Administrator

Tina Lively, DeWitt Bank Tax & Accounting Services

Luanne Smith, City Council Representative

Wayne Stuedemann, Ag Spectrum

Don Thiltgen, DeWitt Mayor

Merle Ocken, DeWitt Resident

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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Phone: 563-659-8500

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Website: [www.dewittiowa.org](http://www.dewittiowa.org)

Hours: M-F, 9-4



**DeWitt  
Chamber &  
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Connect with the DCDC



[www.dewittiowa.org](http://www.dewittiowa.org)