



DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company

DCDC Monthly

March 2016

Letter from the Executive Director

It's spring, and with it comes a renewed enthusiasm for checking off to-do lists and starting new projects. There's a flurry of activity throughout the community; new construction groundbreakings, new business openings, business expansions, new employee hires, and kick offs for new initiatives (just to name a few). It's a time for celebrations and growth!



Keeping true to the DCDC's mission "to lead, inform, advocate and advance business interests and promote community growth," we want to help spread the word about what's new and exciting with our members. To do so, we are launching a new section to our monthly newsletter and promoting an existing function of our website. "Read About It" will share a short summary of member business announcements in the monthly newsletter and link to the full press release on our website. As a member, you can upload your business/organization news directly through the Member Information Center (MIC) online. (See page 4 for instructions.)

Our core focus is to support existing businesses, attract new businesses, and assist in enhancing the quality of life for our community. So tell us the good news, whether it's a new service being offered, an employee promotion, a new product line or an upcoming open house. If you're excited about it, we want to share it with the rest of the DCDC Membership and community, encouraging them to "Read About It."

Your announcements are examples of what makes our community a great place to live, work and visit!

IN THIS ISSUE:

| | | | |
|--|-----|---|----|
| Letter from the Executive Director | 1 | Member Spotlight | 7 |
| Groundbreaking for New AmericInn Hotel | 2 | Save the Date | 7 |
| Get Involved | 2 | SBDC Business Counseling | 8 |
| Welcome new employees to the community | 2 | Revive After Five | 9 |
| Legislative Coffees | 3 | DCDC 101 | 10 |
| Read About It: Enhanced Section | 4,5 | "eat Lunch and Learn something" | 11 |
| DeWitt Delivers | 6 | DCDC Mission / Board of Directors / Staff | 12 |

Groundbreaking for New AmericInn Hotel



Photo: The Observer

Community leaders joined representatives from AmericInn as they broke ground for the new, 3-story 47-room hotel to be built in the Northeast quadrant of Highway 61 and Highway 30 in DeWitt. Construction is scheduled to be completed in the Fall of 2016.

Get Involved!

Participation in a DCDC committee is a great way for members to get involved behind the scenes and help make things happen! Committees are comprised of volunteers who want to give back to the community and gain exposure. Based upon your interests and schedule, you can be active on as many committees as you like.

- Help plan events such as **Autumn Fest**, **DCDC Golf Bash**, and **Hometown Christmas**.
- Members can also serve on the **Branding/Community Relations Committee** or **Member Development Committee**.

Contact [Emily Schmitt](#) for more information or to join a committee!

Welcome your new employees to the community!

Do you have new employees (within the last 6 months) that are commuting to DeWitt from another community? Introduce them to the community by giving them a **Welcome To DeWitt Employee Kit**! This kit is full of great resources, allowing them to get to know DeWitt better! Included are a DeWitt Delivers Welcome Booklet, Community Guide and Business Showcase that includes business information, special offers and coupons from 50+ DCDC members!

The Welcome To DeWitt New Employee Kits are available to all DCDC Members to distribute to their new commuter employees encouraging them to get out and about in our community. Please contact the DCDC if you are in need of kits for new employees or go to our [Welcome Kit page](#) on our website to request kits.



LEGISLATIVE COFFEE



The coffee offers an opportunity for Clinton County residents to weigh in on important legislation under discussion in Des Moines.

April 2nd 11am-Noon
(Note date change-originally scheduled April 9th)
DeWitt Community Center, Large Room
512 10th St., DeWitt

The 2016 Legislative Coffee Program is sponsored by the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company and Clinton County Farm Bureau.

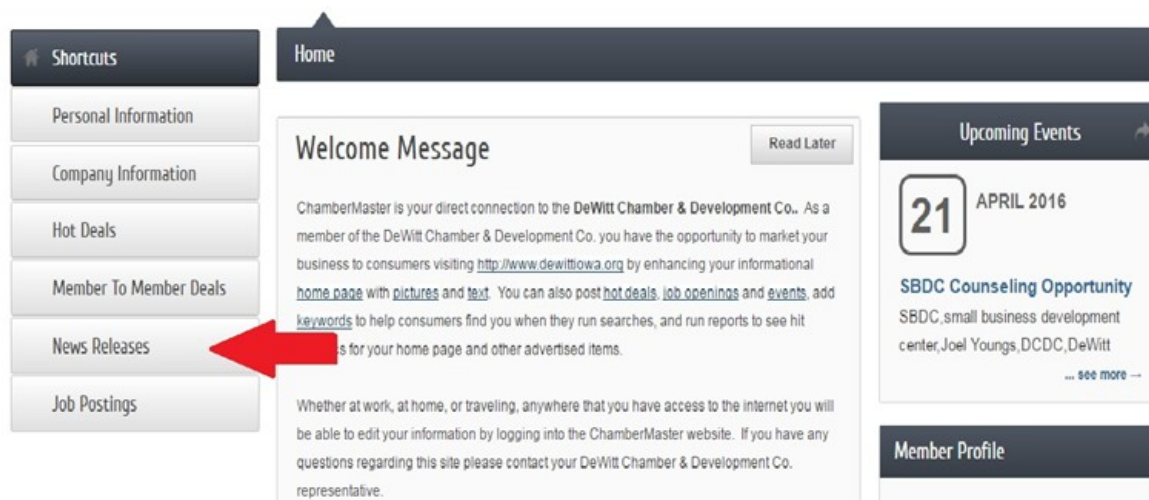


Read About It: Enhanced Section on DCDC Website & Newsletter

The DCDC encourages members to utilize this enhanced “Read About It” section on the DCDC website to post your business/organization news directly through the Member Information Center (MIC). This is an excellent tool to utilize and gain additional exposure while informing our membership and the community about what is happening with you!

Sending us your news is easy! Here are the steps:

1. Member logs into the Member Information Center (MIC). This is found on the top, right corner of the DCDC website homepage www.dewittiowa.org
2. When in the MIC, select **News Releases** from the left side menu. (See below)
3. Click **Add News Release**.
4. Complete the on-screen form and click **Submit for Approval**.
5. Click **Back to List** at the bottom of the screen.



Some examples of news to share:

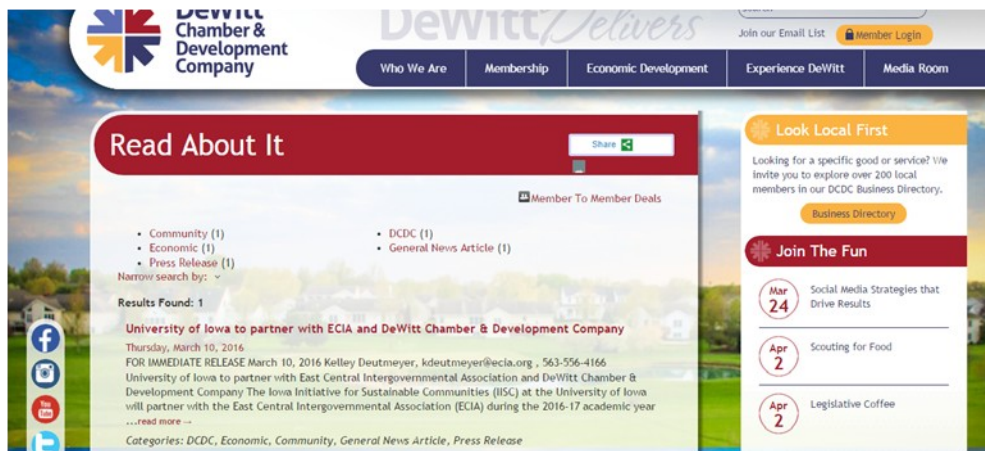
- Employee activities and service
- New business ventures and partnerships
- New product lines
- Events overview

Click to view [Member New Release Guidelines](#)

Continued

Continued from pg 4

The Read About It section is found under the Media Room tab and also on the sidebar found on the right side of every page. Additionally, a headline and link to the online "Read About It" will be published in the monthly DCDC newsletter. (See this month's example below).



Read About It

[University of Iowa to partner with East Central Intergovernmental Association and DeWitt Chamber & Development Company](#) [March 2016](#)

>> The Iowa Initiative for Sustainable Communities (IISC) at the University of Iowa will partner with the East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA) during the 2016-17 academic year to work on sustainability projects. ECIA is one of two communities selected from a pool...



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 Agriculture

Live Local!
See how residents live local with the DeWitt Delivers community blog

Prime Location. Profound Impact.

The economic impact from agriculture in Clinton County is significant; 8,887 jobs, producing \$524 million in wages and over \$4.8 million in total sales.

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company
1010 6th Avenue • DeWitt, IA 52742
(563) 659-8500 • www.dewittiowa.org

#dewittdelivers

[See the full March article here](#)

DeWitt Delivers Agriculture

Did you know?
There are **1,244 farms**
in Clinton County, covering
land the size of **542,345**
football fields.

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company
1010 6th Avenue • DeWitt, IA 52742 • (563) 659-8500 • www.dewittiowa.org

#dewittdelivers

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

Visit our [DeWitt Delivers Community Blog](#) and read the latest entry to grow your Agricultural Awareness! #Dewittdelivers

Member Spotlight: Holst Construction, LLC/Holst Rental

Dean and Lori Holst started the construction business in 1992 located on their acreage north of Welton. They moved to Timber Creek in 1998 and also had a shop in DeWitt near Farm Services, later moving the shop to a garage near St. Joseph's Church. In 2009 they moved to their current location at 208 11th Street. Holst Construction, LLC started primarily in residential construction and has expanded to include commercial construction and equipment rental. Holst Rental started at True Value on 6th Avenue and is now located at 208 11th Street with the construction business. They rent tools and small equipment as well as heavy equipment.



DeWitt Iowa 563-559-5589

Dean and Lori believe in community involvement and actively support many organizations and clubs. They are a family business, with their son Jason working for the construction business and daughter Brandi working for the equipment rental business. They appreciate the opportunity to serve DeWitt and its surrounding communities.

Save the Date

4.2.16 Legislative Coffee at DeWitt Community Center, 11-noon

4.21.16 DCDC 101 at the DCDC office [Register Now](#)

4.21.16 SBDC Counseling Opportunity at the DCDC

4.21.16 Revive After Five - Skeffington Memorial Race [Register Now](#)

5.17.16 "eat Lunch & Learn something" Your Personal Assessment of the Traits and Habits to Success [Register Now](#)

6.30.16 DCDC Year in Review-Annual Meeting at TYCOGA Vineyard & Winery (evening program, details to come)

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





**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 6th 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**

Revive After Five

A big “thank you” to Holst Construction LLC/Holst Rental for hosting the March Revive After Five. Lori and Dean did a great job putting on a St. Patty’s Day themed Revive with a variety of green food and beverages!

Plan on joining us for the next Revive After Five with the Skeffington Memorial Race on April 21st [CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#) All DCDC member employees are welcome and encouraged to attend these worthwhile and relaxing networking events! So join us and bring along your co-workers!



[Check out more 2016 Revive pictures!](#)



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!*

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 – 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, April 21st
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

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

RSVP: by Tuesday, April 19th 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

"eat Lunch & Learn something"

Your Personal Assessment of the Traits and Habits to Success

Successful people and organizations share similar traits, habits and experiences. This 90 minute workshop will help you better understand your Personal Assessment of the Traits and Habits (PATH) to Success through a variety of questions, exercises, and assessments. This program will be presented by Michael Edmondson, Ph.D. Associate Vice President in Career Development at Augustana College. Lunch at Springbrook with also be provided.

Date: May 17, 2016

Time: Check-in between 11:00-11:30am. This is a *90 minute* program that will run from 11:30am - 1:00pm

Location: Springbrook Country Club
2122 17th Avenue
DeWitt, IA

Admission: \$20 for DCDC Members. Discounts will be applied for specific DCDC Membership Tiers. You will be notified after registration if you receive a discount. Not Yet Members are \$25. [RSVP HERE](#)



(2015 eat Lunch & Learn something session)

Thank you to our program sponsor!



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

Brian Volkens, First Central State Bank, Treasurer

Wayne Stuedemann, Ag Spectrum

Don Thiltgen, DeWitt Mayor

Dave Deke, Deke Insurance

Merle Ocken, DeWitt Resident

Steve Lindner, DeWitt City Administrator

Tina Lively, DeWitt Bank Tax & Accounting Services

Garey Chrones, City Council Representative

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

Sara Hasenmiller, Marketing Intern

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company

1010 6th Ave

DeWitt, IA 52742

Phone: 563-659-8500

Email: info@dewittiowa.org

Website: www.dewittiowa.org

Hours: M-F, 9-4



Connect with the DCDC



www.dewittiowa.org