

# **DCDC** Monthly

November 2015

#### Hello DCDC members!

I am excited to have begun my role as the Executive Director of the DeWitt Chamber and Development Company.

As a nearly lifelong DeWitt resident, and most recently the Director of the DeWitt Hospital Foundation, I have had the pleasure of meeting or working with many of you. For those of you I have not yet met; I'm looking forward to the opportunity to learn more about you, your business and how we can work together.

It was my time with DavenportOne (now the Quad Cities Chamber) that first showed me the impact a member business organization can have on the development of a community. It was an experience that shaped my professional career, as well as my personal priorities as a community volunteer.

I believe that a vision of "what could be" can shape a community. I also believe that vision is not for a single person to choose; rather it is developed by a team that commits to working together to accomplish their part. That community vision is comprised of many aspects - the business community, employees, government entities, residents, and visitors.

The DCDC is a growing organization with a vibrant membership, dedicated volunteers, and strong relationships with our government partners. I am excited to lead the DCDC in its next steps forward, helping to shape the future of DeWitt - a community I am proud to call home.

Whether you are a business leader, employee, or resident; I welcome your thoughts and efforts on the DCDC and its mission to support existing businesses, attract new businesses and assist in enhancing the quality of life for our community. Give me a call at (563) 659-8500 or email me at director@dewittiowa.org . I look forward to our visit!

Sincerely,

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**DeWitt Market Analysis** 

November 12, 2015 • 6:30 1:30pm DeWitt City Hall, 510 1th Sweet, DeWitt

## Joshua Cleman I wa State University

- Retail sales figures and trend
- Opportunities for business development
- Challeng's to future growth

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

#### Who Should Attend?

Property & Businesses Owners • Municipal Leaders

Entrepreneurs • Elected Officials • Interested Citizens

Contact: Joshua Clements • jclement@iastate.edu • (563) 213-9357





## **Autumn Fest 2015**

Autumn Fest is an annual event put on by the DCDC with the help of our sponsors, volunteers and committee members! It is our "Community Thank You" to all those that support DeWitt and its businesses. The night has a variety of activities and attractions: children's games/activities, live music, food vendors, a classic car show and emergency vehicle display, just to name a few.



Unfortunately, Autumn Fest was canceled due to inclement weather. Luckily, we were able to reschedule the event to October 2nd, just two weeks later. Thank you to all those that were able to support the event through volunteering, sponsoring or attending the festivities!

#### Visit our 2015 Autumn Fest Album on Facebook!







#### THANK YOU TO OUR AUTUMN FEST SPONSORS

GOLD SPONSORS

















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## MFGDAY15

Thanks to the wonderful support of our members and other local businesses, our first National MFGDAY15 on October 9th was a success! Local 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade students participated in one of over 2,500 Manufacturing Day events occurring across the nation (www.mfgday.com). Businesses filled the Central DeWitt High School gym, atrium, and front walkway for a STEM Fest engaging students in hands-on activities highlighting highskill and high-paying jobs in our community. In addition to the STEM Fest, six speakers made presentations related to their careers in manufacturing and innovations happening at their businesses. Adam Gravert from Guardian Industries gave an impactful presentation discussing his career path that began in the halls of Central DeWitt! Other presenters included Genesis Systems Group, Highway Equipment Company, Rockwell Collins and CIRAS. The event was also featured in the SE Iowa STEM Hub Newsletter.



# A special thank you to all businesses that participated in the STEM Fest:

Genesis Systems Group
Guardian Industries Corporation
Precision Metal Works
DeWitt Bank & Trust
Canadian Pacific Railroad Police
Iowa Mutual Insurance Co
First Central State Bank
Alliant Energy
Iowa State Extension/CIRAS
MediaCom Communications Corp
AgSpectrum Company
Jansen Electric and ABC of Iowa

Custom Pak
iiw Engineers and Surveyors
Black Cat Blades
DeWitt Fire Department
Eastern Iowa Community Colleges
Iowa Works of Eastern Iowa
River Valley Coop
Genesis Physical Rehabilitation
CHS FFA
CHS FCCLA
CHS FTC
Genesis Ambulance Service

## **Career Exploration Opportunities Needed**

Mr. Grady Gallagher, Central DeWitt High School business teacher, has announced that his Employment Strategies class will be job shadowing at local businesses in November. The students in his class have completed a career interest survey to identify jobs that they would like to explore for future careers. From these survey results, opportunities have been identified for students to participate in a short job shadow on November 17th from 8:30-11:30. Please contact me if you are interested in providing career exploration opportunities for our local students, Jenny McGarry <a href="mailto:becoordinator@dewittiowa.org">becoordinator@dewittiowa.org</a>.

## **Know Your Member Benefits: Submit Events**

Do you have an upcoming event?

Are you trying to generate additional traffic to your business?

Do you want your event to reach a larger audience?

Advertise your events on the Events Calendar on the DCDC website.

Submit your events by logging into the Member Information Center (MIC) and clicking on Events. You can also indicate if you would like your event shared on the Electronic Sign and/or the "What's Happening in DeWitt?" weekly email. Submitting events through the MIC versus publicly on the website gives you more options and allows you to manage changes to your event.

Guidelines for submitting events can be found <a href="mailto:here">here</a>. Please contact <a href="mailto:admin@dewittiowa.org">admin@dewittiowa.org</a> with questions or for more information.

#### Save the Date

- **11.16.15** "eat Lunch & Learn something" Hiring, Retaining, and Incenting Employees Register Here
- 11.16.15 SBDC Counseling Opportunity at the DCDC
- 12.1.15 Merry, Meet & Mingle RSVP Here
- 12.5.15 DeWitt's Hometown Christmas

No Revive After Five in November or December

**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 <u>DCDC website</u>, 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



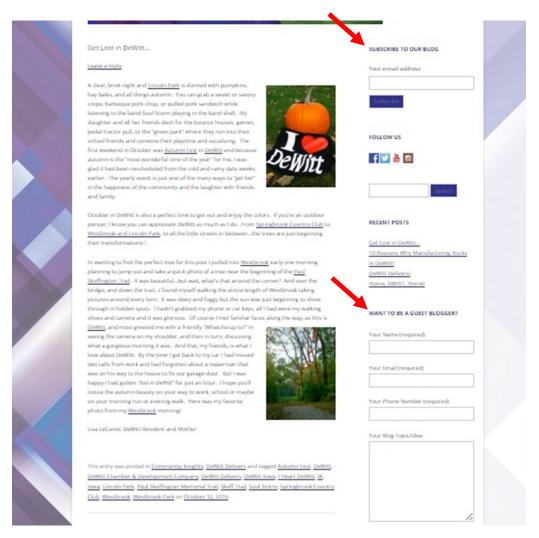
See the full article here



Click here to see all the "Did you know?" facts about Manufacturing

## Blog with us!!

Our new DeWitt Delivers Community Blog has launched! Visit <u>dewittdelivers.com</u> and "subscribe" to the blog by filling out the fields on the right side of the blog page. When you subscribe you will be emailed when new blogs are posted. If you have a great story to tell about your community, let us know! Fill out the "be a guest blogger" fields and we will be in touch about submitting a blog post. This is another exceptional tool to gain exposure of the awesome community we have!





## Member Spotlight: Iowa Mutual Insurance Company

The Iowa Assessment Mutual Fire Insurance Association opened for business more than a century ago. Our first customers were the farmers who lived in and around our DeWitt, Iowa, office. In 1920 the name was changed to



lowa Mutual Insurance Company and provided insurance coverage for all types of property exposures. In 1926 Iowa Mutual Casualty Company was formed, responding to the need to provide liability coverages.

Early in the forties the Iowa Mutual Companies began operations outside of Iowa. Currently Iowa Mutual is licensed in eleven states, actively writing in Illinois, Iowa and Nebraska.

In 1946 the two companies were combined to form a multi-line insurer, the Iowa Mutual Insurance Company. Late in the fifties, Iowa Mutual was one of the first companies to offer packaged coverage. The first package, the Commercial Coverall, was soon followed by the Personal Insurance Package and the Farmpac.

In late 2003, Iowa Mutual affiliated with Motorists Mutual Insurance Company in Columbus, Ohio, to become a member of The Motorists Insurance Group. Since the affiliation, Iowa Mutual has grown from \$41 million in direct written premiums to almost \$89 million at the end of 2014. Embracing change and surviving difficulties, Iowa Mutual has existed for over 100 years.

lowa Mutual is a trusted and responsive insurance carrier in the independent agency system.

We sum it all up in one word — Service.

Security through growth and profitability

Excellence in the products we offer

Regard for our policyholders, agents and employees

Vision plus action

Integrity in all aspects of our business

Community involvement

**Exceptional** service

Through our independent agents, we offer personal and commercial insurance products, risk management services, and life insurance. Iowa Mutual also offers top-notch claims service when our customers need us most.

Each company in The Motorists Insurance Group is guided by a singular vision: to be a regionally focused, innovative, profitable, customer-oriented insurance enterprise.

## "eat Lunch and Learn something"

Please join us for the November 16th "eat Lunch & Learn something"-Hiring, Retaining, and Incenting Employees.

Presented by Eastern Iowa Small Business Development Center and lead by <u>Troy</u> <u>Randall</u> (click to read bio).

Some takeaways from the program will include:

- How to hire the "Difference Maker"
- Retaining & Incenting the "Difference Maker"
- Ways to Motivate Employees

#### **CLICK HERE to register**

Date: November 16, 2015

**Time:** 11:30-1:00 PM

Location: Clinton County Satellite Office

226 11th Street, DeWitt

Contact: Emily Schmitt, Program & Events Coordinator

Email: eventscoordinator@dewittiowa.org

Date/Time Details: Check-in after 11:30am and food from Mezcal will be

available after 11:40am, session will run from

Noon - 1:00pm **Sponsored By** 



(563) 659-3211

Fees /Admission: -\$12 for Member. Discounts will be applied for

specific DCDC Membership Tiers. You will be notified after

registration if you receive a discount.

-Not Yet Members are \$20

RSVP before November, 12th if you plan to attend!

**Register Here** 





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

What: Free, Confidential and Individualized Counseling Sessions
When: Monday, November 16th, Noon — 4 pm (by appointment)
Where: 1010 6th Ave. DeWitt IA
(DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Office)

The DCDC has partnered with Marsha Rinetti, Director of the Eastern Iowa Small Business Development Center, to bring her services to DeWitt on the third Tuesday of each month. Marsha will be available to speak to both existing businesses and 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
- Export assistance
- Cash flow projections
- Business growth and succession strategies
- Strategic planning
- •Business continuity planning

To sign up for a free, confidential one-hour session, please contact Kathy at the SBDC at 563-336-3401 by November 9th.

## **DeWitt's Hometown Christmas**

Mark your calendars for the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Hometown Christmas event on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>! Fun for all ages throughout the day!

#### **Kids Christmas Carnival**

9:00-11:00 AM Santa arrives at the American Legion Post 238, visit with Santa and play carnival games.

10:00 AM - NOON Donuts, make-it and take-it craft tables and carnival prizes at the DeWitt Community Center.

#### **Kids Christmas Movie**

NOON Family Holiday Movie\* "Up on the Wooftop" and hotdog lunch (free with a canned good donation for the Referral Center) at the DeWitt Operahouse Theatre.

#### One Mile Hometown Holiday Hustle Fun Run

3:30-4:15 PM Registration\*\*, Costume Judging & Awards at the DeWitt Community Center. 4:30 PM 1 Mile Run/Walk down 6th Avenue.

#### **Live Window Walk**

5:00-7:00 PM Live Holiday Windows, Holiday Performances, Gingerbread House Contest, Warming Stations, Elf on the Shelf Contest and More!!

#### **Lighted Pickup Parade**

5:30 PM A Lighted Pickup Parade will be happening down 6th Avenue during the window walk!

Join the Hometown Christmas event on Facebook and share it with your friends and family!

Get your business or family involved in the Hometown Christmas Gingerbread House Contest . Check out the flyer/entry form for all the details!

Would you like to help sponsor this festive community event? Let us know before November 13<sup>th</sup>.







## DeWitt's Hometown Christmas Saturday, December 5th 2015

#### THIS ALL DAY EVENT INCLUDES:

SANTA'S ARRIVAL - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MOVIE

1 MILE FAMILY FUN RUN - LIT HOLIDAY PARADE -HOLIDAY PERFORMANCES
FUN FAMILY CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES -LIVE WINDOW WALK









## SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

#### MISTLETOE SPONSORSHIP (Contribution of \$400 and above)

- Your company logo will be on our DCDC event calendar webpage as a top sponsor!
- Your company will receive mention in an upcoming DCDC newsletter and on our DCDC Facebook and Twitter page.
- Your company logo will be placed on a sponsor banner.
- Your company logo will be placed on event marketing materials, including flyers, ads and more!
- Your company logo will be placed on a post-event Thank You ad.

#### SNOWFLAKE SPONSORSHIP (Contribution of \$250-399)

- Your company will receive mention in an upcoming DCDC newsletter and on our DCDC Facebook and Twitter page.
- Your company *name* will be listed on a sponsor banner.
- Your company name will be placed on event marketing materials, including flyers, ads and more!
- Your company name will be placed on a post-event Thank You ad.

#### **IINGLE BELL SPONSORSHIP** (Contribution of \$100-249)

- Your company will receive mention in an upcoming DCDC newsletter and on our DCDC Facebook and Twitter page.
- Your company name will be listed on a sponsor banner.
- Your company *name* will be placed on a post-event Thank You ad.

### (Deadline for sponsorship is November 13th)

Please email <u>eventscoordinator@dewittiowa.org</u> if you are interested in a sponsorship. We truly appreciate your consideration of sponsoring our 4<sup>th</sup> annual Hometown Christmas event.





# 2015 Gingerbread House Contest

- •Get creative!! Design a unique gingerbread house that represents you, your family or your business!
- •Bring your gingerbread house (along with the below registration form) to DeWitt Bank & Trust on Saturday, December 5th between 8:30 -11:45AM.
- •The gingerbread houses will be judged by the community in the *DeWitt*Bank & Trust lobby on Saturday, December 5th from 5-7PM during the Hometown Christmas Live Window Walk!
- •Chamber Bucks will be awarded to the winners in the Individual/Family and Business categories: 1st place \$75, 2nd place \$50 and 3rd Place \$25.







Hometown Christ	mas Gingerbread Hous	se Registration Form	12	DeWitt Chamber &
Business Entry	Individual /Family Entry	(Please check the one that applies)	75	Developmen Company

Business or Individual /Family Name

Contact Name

Contact Phone Number

Turn this form in with your Gingerbread House at DeWitt Bank & Trust between 8:30-11:45AM on Saturday, December 5th. Gingerbread Houses can stay out on display the following week, but will need to be picked up by December 12th before Noon.

## **Revive After Five**

A big "thank you" to **lowa Mutual Insurance Company** for hosting the October Revive After Five Event. All DCDC member employees are welcome and encouraged to attend these worthwhile and relaxing networking events!





The November Revive After Five has been cancelled. We will see you in January to Revive again!



## 2016 Revive After Five Schedule

Revive anytime between 5-7PM on the  $3^{\rm rd}$  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



## **Welcome New DCDC Members!**

Murphy's Pub 613 10th St. DeWitt, IA 52742 (563) 659-8275 Great selection of craft, microbrews, domestics and more. Iowa native wine as well!



Murphy's Vintage Picks 613 10th St. DeWitt, IA 52742 (563) 321-0830 Murphy's Vintage Picks was established in early 2014, with a main goal of salvaging products that were created many decades ago.



With such a unique inventory, and personalized request orders, we surely have something for you.

Mesquakie District, Ilowa Council, Boy Scouts of America 4412 N. Brady St. Davenport, IA 52806 (563) 349-8052 The Mesquakie District serves around 1,000 youth and adults annually in Clinton and Jackson Counties in Iowa. We oversee all Boy Scouts of America and Learning for Life programs in that area.

The mission of the Boy Scouts of America is to prepare young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. The Boy Scouts of America will prepare every eligible youth in America to become a responsible, participating citizen and



MESQUAKIE

leader who is guided by the Scout Oath and Law.

## **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

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