



**DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company**

DCDC Monthly

September 2015

DCDC Announces New Executive Director

From: Greg Gannon, DCDC Board of Directors Chairman

I am pleased to announce that Angela Rheingans has been selected to lead the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company as its new Executive Director. Angela is no stranger to the DCDC as she has been very active as a volunteer in strategic planning and with our marketing and branding committee.

Angela is presently serving as Executive Director of the DeWitt Community Hospital Foundation. Prior to that she worked for a video production company where she produced the DeWitt Delivers video campaign. Angela also has five years of chamber experience in the Quad Cities where she was responsible for membership development. In addition to her professional experience, Angela has an extensive record of volunteerism and has received many awards recognizing her professional and volunteer accomplishments. Angela and her husband are DeWitt natives and reside in our community.



Photo: The Observer

The search committee was very pleased with the number and quality of applicants for this position. We are excited to have Angela join us, and look forward to applying her experience and ideas toward our mission. We are expecting her start date to be November 2.

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Autumn Fest 2015

Autumn Fest was postponed due to inclement weather on September 18th. A new date has been set for the event on October 2nd we are looking forward to a wonderful time in and around the Lincoln Park area on Friday, October 2nd!

The show did go on with the Autumn Fest - Family Movie in the Park on September 19th. It was a perfect night and we had a great crowd in Lincoln Park that enjoyed Monster University!



[Join the event page on Facebook!](#)



Dewitt's Autumn Fest

We want to say "thank you" for supporting local businesses!!

Autumn Fest Celebration

Friday, October 2nd 2015 (rain date)

5-9 PM Lincoln Park Area, DeWitt

Entertainment

Music from "Soul Storm" 6-9PM
(BYO blankets/chairs/coolers)

Variety of local performances/demonstrations
(Rhythm Avenue, DeWitt Millennia Martial Arts Academy and Turn Up The Bass Zumba® Kids)

Children's Activities 5PM-Dusk

- Children's Inflatable Games
- Make-it and Take-it Crafts
- Kids' Pedal Tractor Pull
- Pony Rides
- Face Painting
- Putt-Putt Golf

Other Fun Stuff

- Classic Cars Show
- Emergency Vehicle Displays
- Variety of Food Vendors
- DeWitt Farmer's Market & Craft Vendors
- Business/Information Booths

THANK YOU to our Top Autumn Fest Sponsors!!






The Marketers of DeWitt invite you to
DeWitt's Great Pumpkin Festival
Saturday, October 3rd from 10am-5pm Downtown DeWitt

Come enjoy a day of family fun that includes: Pumpkin Derby Car Races, Pumpkin Painting Contest, Balloon Drop, Kid's Costume Parade, Food and Craft Vendors, Fall Dessert/Pie Contest, Street Dance with a Live Band and much more! Find more details at the event website dewittpumpkinfest.wix.com/dewitt-pumpkin-fest or on the event Facebook page DeWitt's Great Pumpkin Fest!



THANK YOU TO OUR AUTUMN FEST SPONSORS

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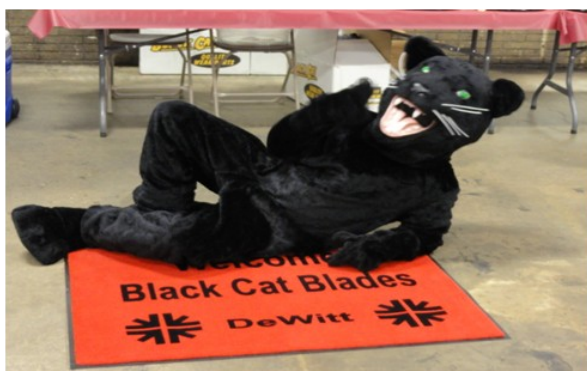
MFGDAY15

October 9th from 1:00-3:00 at Central High School local students will be celebrating National Manufacturing Day with the DCDC, Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council's Southeast Hub, Eastern Iowa Community Colleges and CIRAS!

This event will include an interactive STEM Festival and dynamic speakers to educate and excite students about manufacturing, begin to address the skilled labor shortage manufacturers face, take charge of the public image of manufacturing, and ensure the ongoing prosperity of the whole industry.



The response from businesses in our community has been amazing! Over 30 manufacturing and non-manufacturing businesses have agreed to host engaging, educational STEM activities for our local 7-12th grade students. This commitment is a great representation of our community's willingness to engage our students and educate them about various opportunities available.



Although this event is not open to the public, we welcome additional participants and volunteers. Please contact Jenny McGarry, Business Education Coordinator, with questions becoordinator@dewittiowa.org.

Mock Interviews

Last week I sent an email requesting interviewers to participate in mock interviews at Central High School. The response from our membership was amazing and deserves recognition! Within two days our community was able to provide the instructor with enough outside interviewers to for her four classes. Additionally, I heard from many of you indicating a willingness to participate in the future. Thank you, this is another way **#dewittdelivers!**

Please feel free to contact me at any time, Jenny McGarry, Business Education Coordinator, becoordinator@dewittiowa.org

DeWitt Delivers Campaign

Over the course of the next year, a specific DeWitt sector/topic/asset will be highlighted each month in The Observer, [DCDC website](#), community blog, on social media 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. **Watch for our DeWitt Delivers Community Blog coming in October!**

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 Remarkable Real Estate

DeWitt Neighborhoods Reflect Growth

If you've driven around the northwestern suburbs in DeWitt, it's probably not escaped your notice that there are homes sprouting up in the last few years. Developments such as Celebration, Hickory Bend and the newest, Dunbar Farms offer diverse homes with price values from \$200,000 to \$500,000. These happy new

they currently own their home there because of the affordable, high-quality homes. Take a drive around the established neighborhoods in DeWitt and you'll notice the homes standing at attention on well-maintained properties. Over 400 permits have been issued for property improvements since the beginning of 2014, a direct reflection of the pride of ownership people display in DeWitt.

In 2014 it was estimated that 858 people chose to live and work in DeWitt while 4,150 people lived in DeWitt and commuted to a different community for work. The people who ultimately drive the real estate in DeWitt are those who are offered for the great quality of life. An impressive illustration of this can be found in every neighborhood, on every block, in all of DeWitt. Take a drive. How is it for yourself?

Working to create diversity and affordability in housing, this is how **DeWitt Delivers Real Estate!**

Each month throughout the upcoming year, the DCDC will highlight various aspects of the DeWitt community in a variety of ways. You will see weekly articles and weekly "Did you know?" facts in The Observer as well as DeWitt Delivers community blog, and posts on social media.

Want to share how DeWitt Delivers? Contact us at [www.dewittnews.org](#) if you are interested in being a guest blogger or get social by tagging your "DeWitt Delivers" photos on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with #dewittdelivers

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company
1010 8th Avenue • DeWitt, IA 52742
(563) 659-8500 • [www.dewittnews.org](#)

#dewittdelivers

[See the full article here](#)

DeWitt Delivers Remarkable Real Estate

DeWitt Chamber & Development Company
1010 8th Avenue • DeWitt, IA 52742 • (563) 659-8500 • [www.dewittnews.org](#)

Did you know?
So far in 2015, \$8.5 million of real estate has been sold in the DeWitt area.

#dewittdelivers

[Click here to see all the "Did you know?" fact about Real Estate](#)

Continued next page

Get Social with DeWitt Delivers Challenge!!

We challenge you to get social with the DeWitt Delivers Campaign and use the **#dewittdelivers** in your "around town" photos! Unsure of what# is? [Click here to learn more](#)

#dewittdelivers



Check out our new I ♥ items and show your community pride!



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Save the Date

10.2.15 Autumn Fest NEW DATE

10.9.15 MFGDAY15 at Central High School

10.15.15 Revive After Five - Iowa Mutual Insurance [Register Now](#)

10.20.15 SBDC Counseling Opportunity at the DCDC

10.22.15 DCDC 101 [Register Now](#)



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

First Dollar Presentations

The DeWitt Ambassadors welcomed Ann Lenth, founding manager of Make It Yours Upcycle Center and Lukas Johnson, owner of Johnson Roofing and Construction LLC, with First Dollar presentations. Congratulations on your new businesses! We wish you years of success!



Member Spotlight: Springbrook Country Club



The mission of Springbrook Country Club is to provide our membership with a friendly atmosphere for quality golf, dining and social activities.

Springbrook Country Club is an 18 hole private country club located in DeWitt, Iowa with a rich history that dates back to 1921. Springbrook offers a beautiful golf course, full dining facilities, and a calendar full of social activities. There is something for everyone to enjoy.

Our members and guests are treated to one of the best-kept courses in the area. The 18 hole golf course features a wide variety of hole designs, water hazards and intrigue. There are three sets of tees to make the course fun and challenging for all golfers. Our membership is accustomed to fast and friendly play. Tee times are not required and three-hour rounds of golf are regular. The speed of play, course availability and a relaxed atmosphere make playing golf at Springbrook a unique and desirable experience.

The Club has had many names over the years including Spring Brook Gardens to Spring Brook Sportsman's Club to Spring Brook Golf and Country Club. Spring Brook was two words until January 18, 1937. The Iowa Secretary of State has the Club officially named Springbrook Country Club (one word).

Know Your Member Benefits: Submit News Releases

Keep your services in the forefront of everyone's mind by posting frequent news/press releases about your organization on the DCDC website. Share information such as employee activities and service, new business ventures and partnerships, new product lines or an overview of your last event. News releases are located on the website under Media Room, News & Events.

[Click here](#) for more information and guidelines for submitting news releases.

Also, check out some additional opportunities:

- **Advertise events** - add your events to our online event calendar displayed with quick links; use these links to share in your social media, text to mobile devices, add to your calendar, or email to others.
- **Job postings** - submit your own job openings.
- **Deals** - offer coupons and special deals; fellow members may well be your best customers.
- **Network with other members** - check out other member listings, jobs, deals.

Haven't created a login yet? Email admin@dewittiowa.org to request information on creating your personal login.



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

What: Free, Confidential and Individualized Counseling Sessions

When: Tuesday October 20th, 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 October 13th.



**DeWitt
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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, October 22nd
8:30 – 9:30 a.m.**

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

**RSVP: by Tuesday, October 20th 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 and Learn something"

On September 15th our quarterly "eat Lunch & Learn program" focused on Identity Theft for Businesses. The session was Presented by Eastern Iowa Small Business Development Center. Kathy Middleton, Business Solutions Specialist with LegalShield spoke about the five most common types of identity theft, how to protect yourself and your family from identity theft as well as what you need to know as a business owner regarding Identity Theft.

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



The next "eat Lunch & Learn something" is Hiring & Training Quality Employees, Presented by Eastern Iowa Small Business Development Center on November 17th, [register now!](#)

Sponsored by:



Other DCDC Happenings

On September 1st the DCDC was happy to host the Central Community School District School Board Candidate Forum which allowed community members to ask questions of the four candidates that were running in the September 8th election.

The DCDC spoke to the Central Hall of Fame inductees on September 25th at the Historical Society during the Hall of Fame luncheon. It was a great opportunity to get them up to speed with all the exciting things going on at the DCDC and within the DeWitt community!

Revive After Five

A big "thank you" to **Springbrook Country Club** for hosting the September Revive After Five Event. Plan on joining us for the next Revive After Five **October 15th at Iowa Mutual Insurance Company** [CLICK HERE TO RSVP](#)

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



2015 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!*

October 15th - Iowa Mutual Insurance Company

November 19th – DeWitt Memorial Company

December - Holiday Break



Welcome New DCDC Members!

Make It Yours Upcycle Center
411 Main St.
Welton, IA 52744
(563)659-1534



Make it Yours Upcycle Center in Welton promotes creative reuse of items that would otherwise end up in the landfills. Everything from traditional craft supplies, school and office supplies, seasonal and party decor to non-traditional items like bottle caps, bottles, broken crayons, jars, maps, junk drawer contents. Items sold by the pound or at very low costs individually. Items accepted by appointment.

Strides for Clinton County Autism
PO Box 12
Camanche, IA 52730
(563) 503-1809
www.strides4cca.com



Strides for Clinton County Autism is a non-profit organization that was established in the Fall of 2010 with the purpose of bringing awareness to Autism and providing assistance to those individuals who work daily with children affected by Autism. S.C.C.A. holds various fundraisers throughout the year; the largest being their Annual Family Autism Walk & 5k, which is held each year in May. S.C.C.A. distributes all of the funds that they raise locally. Recipients include Clinton and Jackson County Special Education teachers, the Quad City Autism Center and area High School Seniors (in the form of scholarships).

Johnson Roofing and Construction LLC
611 11th Ave.
DeWitt, IA 52742
(563)321-6169

Johnson Roofing and Construction LLC is a licensed and insured company specializing in roofing. They also do siding windows, doors and decks.

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

Emily Schmitt, Programs & Events Coordinator
Jenny McGarry, Business Education Coordinator
Stephanie Sagers, Administrative Assistant

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Email: info@dewittiowa.org
Website: www.dewittiowa.org
Hours: M-F, 9-4



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Connect with the DCDC



www.dewittiowa.org