



DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Newsletter

October 2019

Letter from the Executive Director - Chamber Bucks eGift Card

Happy Snowy Halloween everyone!

While I can't say I'm happy about the snow so soon, it's definitely getting me thinking about the holidays! I'm shooting to keep most of my holiday shopping local this year, I encourage you to join me in Looking Local First!



To make it easier than ever, the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company (DCDC) is excited to introduce the **Chamber Bucks eGift Card**. Please note, the current PAPER CHECK version of Chamber Bucks will remain in place with no changes! The Chamber Bucks eGift Card will allow consumers the opportunity to purchase Chamber Bucks online and/or with a credit card! We are still signing merchants up, but the link to purchase the eGift Card is live at www.dewittiowa.org!

Both the paper and eGift Card version of Chamber Bucks can be purchased as gifts, for self-use, and by companies to use for employee rewards, customer appreciation, anniversary gifts, and anything they might have used a gift card for. Most importantly, the dollars stay local and benefit the shops, restaurants, and businesses in your community. **(Shameless promotion: If your company purchases any employee gifts for the holidays, or you have any hard to buy for people on your shopping list, consider Chamber Bucks!)**

Anyone can purchase Chamber Buck Checks at the DCDC office, DeWitt Bank & Trust, First Central State Bank, at and Emma Rae's. The eGfit Cards can be purchased online and are then emailed, texted, or printed to be use at participating businesses. The **eGift Cards only work at participating DCDC member businesses who choose to opt-in**. There is no cost to opt-in.

If you would like your businesses to be a redeeming location simply email April at admin@dewittiowa.org by November 5th. She'll set you up with all the details. If you have

more question, the DCDC will be hosting two informational meetings where we will further review the program. (Nov. 4th at 3 PM & Nov. 5th at 8 AM at the Hausbarn.)

We are planning to launch the program to the community November 8th, and will be featuring all the participating businesses at that time.

Stay warm my friends!



Note These Dates

- **November 7** - [DCDC 101](#)
- **November 19** - [eat "Lunch & Learn" something](#) at the Clinton County Satellite Office
- **November 21** - [Revive After Five at American Mutual Insurance and Legacy Insurance Group](#)
- **November 28 & 29** - DCDC Office Closed for Thanksgiving
- **November 30** - [Small Business Saturday](#)
- **December 7** - [DeWitt's Hometown Christmas](#)
- **December 24 & 25** - DCDC Office Closed for Christmas
- **December 31 & January 1** - DCDC Office Closed for New Year's

November Revive After Five



Last REVIVE after FIVE of 2019!!!

Join us at [American Mutual Insurance Association](#) and [Legacy Insurance Group](#) for our November Revive on Thursday, Nov. 21st from 5-7 PM. Open house style networking event! Prize drawings at 6 PM!

[REGISTER HERE!](#)

Membership News

Welcome New Member!

[MicroTek](#)

Independent consultant bringing corporate-quality IT infrastructure and support to small businesses at a much lower cost. 30 years of experience in bringing reliability, performance and security to your network.

[6034 Hillandale Road, Davenport IA 52806](#)
[\(563\) 949-2291](#)

Member Events:



Our October **Revive After Five** was held at [Lincoln Way Community Foundation](#) on Oct. 17. Connor Murphy, Murphy's Pub, Jacob Cram, Cram Chiropractic and Josh Daniel, Black Cat Wear Parts were our 6pm door prize winners!

[Click here for November Revive details!](#)

Join us for our November [eat Lunch & Learn something](#) event on

Tuesday, Nov. 19 at the Clinton County Satellite Office.

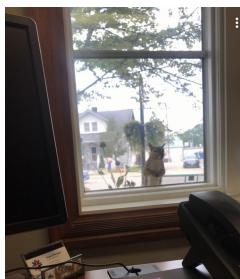
Barry Vosler, Vosler Investment Group, will be presenting on "Social Security for you and your employees." Subway will be catering!

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER!](#)

Sponsored by:



DCDC Friend of the Month



Meet Nibbles! Nibbles is a small brown squirrel who resides in Lincoln Park, DeWitt with his 253 family members. Nibbles enjoys racing his family and friends up trees, stocking up on acorns and tapping on Angela or Molly's windows for snacks (He's yet to get one!).

Please slow down for Nibbles if you see him on 6th Ave, and give him a wave. But please, no snacks.

Preschool Trick or Treat

We celebrated the first ever "White Halloween" with DeWitt preschoolers! They were so cute {and cold} today! Friendly reminder that Trick or Treat in DeWitt is tonight from 5:30-7:30. **BUNDLE UP!**



2019 Hometown Christmas



DeWitt's Hometown Christmas Saturday, December 7th

Kid's Christmas Carnival

9-11 AM: Santa arrives at [Emmaus Road Church](#) to visit with children and listen to their wish lists. The popular "Santa Picture Pass" will be available to all families to avoid waiting in a long line! Visits with Santa are FREE - but we ask that you bring a non-perishable food item to donate to the [Referral Center](#).

Carnival games, make-it & take-it crafts, and carnival prizes are all donated and located at [Emmaus Road Church](#).

Kid's Christmas Movie*

at the [DeWitt Operahouse Theater](#)

11:30 AM: Hot dog lunch sponsored by the DeWitt Nite Lions before the movie.

NOON: Movie - Dr. Suess' The Grinch will be playing

*For safety purposes, children must be escorted to and from the movie if the parent/guardian is not attending. Entrance into the movie and lunch are based on a first-come first-served basis, space and quantities are limited.

Lighted Pickup Parade

5 PM: Lighted Pickup Parade down 6th Ave, for more details or for information on how to be a part of the parade visit [Lighted Pickup Parade](#) or email parade@gmail.com.

Live Window Walk

5-7 PM: Live Holiday Windows, Gingerbread House Contest, Warming Stations and Caroling in the Downtown area. Wreath Contest and Silent Auction, [DeWitt Jr Women](#) Bake Sale and dinner sponsored by the [DeWitt Nite Lions](#) at the Community Center.

[Join the event on Facebook.](#)

[Support this event through sponsorship, click here to find out more!](#)

[Check out photos from last year's Hometown Christmas event!](#)

HUGE **THANK YOU** to our Title Sponsors!



DEWITT
OPERAHOUSE THEATRE
ESTABLISHED 1878

Emmaus
Road Church

Business For Sale



DeWitt Business for Sale

DeWitt Office Center & The Joy of Giving

Established Client Base.

Terms & Timeline Negotiable.

Call Paul at 563-659-5122

Things everyone needs to know...



Are you hiring?

Post your available positions on the DCDC website for free. They'll be shared on our social media pages, in our weekly "What's Happening" e-newsletter and in this monthly newsletter.

[View current employment opportunities here!](#)



[Click here to check out "Read About It" articles posted by members!](#)

Do you have exciting news about your company you would like to share? Have you hired a new staff member, been recognized in your industry, or expanded your products & services? [Login to the Member Information Center \(MIC\)](#)



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Do you like to have fun? Are you interested in sharing your ideas to make the DCDC even better?

Join one of our committees today!

[Email Angela](#) or call 659-8500 for more information.

2019 Stem Fest Wrap Up

What do you get when you combine 6 different schools,
30 local businesses and almost 900 students?

STEM Fest & Manufacturing Day 2019!

October is Manufacturing Month and the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company (DCDC) celebrated at Central DeWitt High School by inviting students from Central DeWitt High School & Middle School, St. Joseph Catholic School, Northeast High School, Clinton High School and Calamus-Wheatland High School to participate in the 4th bi-annual event on October 8th!



This is an event provides career exposure to area students expose as well as helps them to begin thinking about life after high school. All students were given the opportunity to visit with local manufacturing, CTE and STEM related businesses during a Business Expo. See a list of all who participated here. Students had their questions answered and learned about career paths they may not have been aware of. Students also heard from local manufacturing professionals, Adam Gravert from [Guardian Industries](#), DeWitt as well as Dr. David Jones from AgriKing, Fulton, during their session in the Central DeWitt Performing Arts Center. 9th through 12th grade classes from all schools had the chance to participate in a "Roundtable" session where they were one-on-one with local business professionals from a variety of fields. Students also heard from representatives from Clinton Community College about college courses available to students now and how those credits will transfer to other Universities or colleges once completed. Click [HERE](#) for a full list of participants!

This event was a HUGE success and the students enjoyed the experience. Student surveys showed that they were were able to gain valuable insight to new career paths and others felt more confirmed and confident they are going down a path they most desire.

We look forward to 2021 when we host this event and hope your business is able to join us!

Look Local First!



**Bimm Prichard was the September
winner of \$50 in Chamber Bucks!!**

Our Look Local First punch card program
continues to drive business to our members!

Get your cards punched at area businesses
and turned in at [Randy's Neighborhood
Market](#), [Scott's Thrifty White Drug Store](#)
or the DCDC office to be entered to win \$50
in Chamber Bucks each month!
Keep Looking Local First!

Next drawing will be Thursday, Oct.



Look Local First Holiday Promotion Kick Off!

This year we are celebrating the 10th Anniversary of [Small Business Saturday on November 30th](#) and the DCDC is getting into the holiday spirit by planning to launch its Look Local First (LLF) Holiday Promotion the Monday before SBS, November 25th!



Starting on Monday the 25th will be Facebook Live drawings at local businesses to promote their Holiday hours as well as different specials going on that customers can look forward to! The Monday host business will also draw where we will be going on the Wednesday where we will draw that week's Look Local First winner! The LLF Holiday Promotion will conclude on Wednesday, December 18th with the Grand Prize Package Drawings!

What you can do to get involved in this fun tradition:

1. Support your local businesses by **shopping on Saturday, November 30th during Small Business Saturday!** Last year, DeWitt businesses had some amazing deals going on during this day and this year will be even better!
2. Continue to get your Look Local First punch cards punched at any participating local business! Don't forget to turn them into the DCDC office, Scott Drug or Randy's Neighborhood Market!
3. Watch our Facebook Live videos every Monday and Wednesday at 10 am to see if you are one of our weekly winners!!

****Reminder, even if your LLF punch card isn't drawn for a weekly drawing, it could be drawn for the Grand Prize drawing on December 18th!**

Approximately 67 cents of every dollar spent at a U.S. Small Business remains in that local community. Supporting out small businesses in our community helps bring a vibrant and unique business economy to our area!

Please reach out to Molly Goettsch at eventscoordinator@dewittiowa.org to include your business hours and Small Business Saturday specials by November 8th to be promoted with the Look Local First Promotion in The Observer and other marketing materials!

IowaWorks Update



IowaWORKS Centers across the state will hold events for employers and job seekers as part of Registered Apprenticeship Appreciation and Awareness Week Nov. 11-17.

Iowa Workforce Development is partnering with the U.S. Department of Labor/Office of Apprenticeship and the Iowa Economic Development Authority to grow Registered Apprenticeship Programs in Iowa. The work is supported by \$2.8 million in Apprenticeship USA State Expansion Grants from the

U.S. Department of Labor. As part of the grant funding, organizations who create a new Registered Apprenticeship Program or add an additional occupation in the industries of healthcare, information technology or advanced manufacturing can receive an incentive of \$350 per Registered Apprentice or \$500 per Registered Apprentice who qualify as an underrepresented population (women, minorities, veteran, youth, or people with disabilities).

IowaWORKS and Eastern Iowa Community College will host its 3rd Annual Apprenticeship Fair on **Thursday, November 14 from 1-3 pm at Scott Community College's Culinary and Hospitality Facility – 500 Belmont Road, Bettendorf.**

Employers and local unions will provide information on high demand career areas. Those who attend the FREE event can see first-hand how they can learn while they earn through a registered apprenticeship.

Employers and job seekers interested in learning more about Registered Apprenticeship opportunities are also encouraged to visit www.earnandlearniowa.gov. The website provides a high level overview on how a Registered Apprenticeship functions and provides forms for job seekers and employers to complete to receive information.

For additional information about the event go to
apprenticeship.gov/national-apprenticeship-week

DeWitt Delivers Blog



Partnering with Peanut Butter

My name is Andy Sokolovich, and I serve as the Existing Industry Manager for the Clinton Regional Development Corporation. I have been involved in the creation of the Clinton County Community Student Loan Assistance Program for over a year. In that time, we have fostered a collaborative environment focused on the growth and wellbeing of our county. A strong member of that collaboration has been the DeWitt Chamber & Development Company. Angela, Molly, and April have been supportive from the start and will serve as valued partners in the promotion and expansion of the program. Their involvement has been the linchpin to our continued success, and I am thankful to have such a dedicated and responsible team within Clinton County...

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