



DeWitt Chamber & Development Company Newsletter

September 2020

Letter from the Executive Director - Adapting and Changing how we recruit!

How many times in the last six months have you had to change how you do something at your business? Thanks to COVID-19, I bet more than ever before. Depending on the day, I'm enthusiastically or grudgingly embracing worlds like "adapt, change, and new guidelines!" I bet you are too.

Here's a new one for you - DRIVE THRU JOB FAIR.



I gotta say, at first I was hesitant. I mean, doesn't everyone just go online to find a job posting? But the more I thought about it, the more I warmed up the idea. For companies, traditional job fairs are labor-intensive in preparation and staffing the day of the event. Attendance is sporadic and usually disappointing, but they usually participate because workforce is vital, unemployment is low, and that amazing new employee may walk up to their booth and make it all worthwhile!

Job fairs for job seekers are nearly the same; pinched toes from long hours spent walking up to company booths in search of the perfect company and career opportunity!

But what if it was easier? What if the company could share some info about their business and the available job opportunities they have WITHOUT having to staff the event? What if all the employment opportunities were assembled into a Job Opportunity packet that is handed out at a drive-thru (just like your fav fast food) with minimal contact to ensure low COVID-19 exposure?

Covid-19 adaptations strike again!

The DeWitt Chamber & Development Company (DCDC) is partnering with our local IowaWORKS-Davenport office, American Job Center, and the Clinton Regional Development Corporation (CRDC), to host a Drive-Thru Career Fair!

The goal of this Drive-Thru Career Fair is to help local businesses promote current job openings in a safe, efficient, and unique manner. The event will be held in DeWitt AND Clinton on separate days and times to provide flexibility for participants to attend the events.

- Clinton on October 14th in the former Ashford University Call Center parking lot at 1310 19th Ave NW, Clinton, from 11:00 am - 1:00 pm.
- DeWitt, on October 20th at the DeWitt Travel Mart (DTM), 630 S 6th Ave, from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm.

As a DCDC member, you are invited to participate at no cost. You DO NOT have to present the day of the event. The goal is to minimize the number of individuals in one place to ensure a safe environment.

If you are interested in having your business participate, please complete the [Google form](#). Reach out to me directly with questions.

Drive-thru Job Fairs, what will we think of next?



Welcome Keaton Zeimet!



In his position as our Fall intern, Keaton Zeimet, will provide the DCDC with a youth perspective on everything going on in and outside the community and assist us with the everyday tasks that go on within the DCDC.

Keaton is a Senior at Central DeWitt High School and is actively involved in multiple school activities, including serving as President of the Student Council, a National Honor Society member, Captain of the Wrestling team, Huddle Leader for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, a member of Future Business Leaders of America, and Athletic Leadership. After high school, he plans to attend college to major in Political Science and then continuing his education in law school to become an attorney.

Note These Dates

- **October 15** - [Revive After Five at Krieger's of DeWitt](#)
- **October 22** - [DCDC 101](#)
- **November 3** - Election Day - VOTE!
- **November 17** - [Eat Lunch & Learn Something](#)
- **November 19** - [Revive After Five](#)
- **November 26** - Thanksgiving Day (Office Closed)
- **November 27** - Black Friday (Office Closed)
- **November 28** - [Small Business Saturday](#)
- **December 5** - [Hometown Christmas](#)



REVIVE AFTER FIVE

Thank you to everyone who attended our first Revive After Five of the fall season at [Wendling Quarries!](#) The tours were amazing, the food was delicious, the drinks were cold, and the company was outstanding!

Join us for our next Revive on
October 15th at
[Krieger's of DeWitt!](#)

[Register HERE!](#)



EASTERN IOWA SHOP WHERE I LIVE

Great news! Our [Eastern Iowa Shop Where I Live](#) site is now live!
If your business sells products, services, memberships or gift cards -
this is for YOU!

[Learn more here!](#)
[Click here to register!](#)



The DCDC has invested in this site for our member businesses to be able to have access to sell online as an added benefit to your annual membership! **You'll have your own shop** within the platform to sell products, services, gift cards, virtual products, and more. You can list up to 25 products in your shop for **FREE!**

Check back here for more information on a HOLIDAY PROMOTION starting in November!

We hope you will **take advantage of this right away so that we can further promote this resource** to the community. Please register your business at the link above.
Please [email April](#) or call 659-8500 if you have any questions!

Membership News

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

2020-2021 DCDC Membership Renewal letters went out earlier today to the Primary Contact on your business listing.
If you did not receive the email or if we should send the notice to another person on the account, please [email April](#).

MEMBER OF



**DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company**

Earlier this year we sent out a notice that due to the strain COVID was putting on our local businesses, our board decided to push back sending out renewal notices. Please reach out if you have any questions on your account, would like to update your information or change your membership level. If you have any questions, please call Angela at (563) 659-8500.

EAT LUNCH AND LEARN SOMETHING

A BIG THANK YOU to Dustin James, Expert in Motivation, Sales and Leadership from Moments Leadership for sharing tips to "Lead with Excellence" at our Lunch and Learn this month. Our crew left the luncheon feeling AMAZING!

Key take away from his presentation.

Remind yourself that "You Are Amazing!"

Tell others that "They Are Amazing!"

Lead with Enthusiasm, it is Contagious!



BARBARA COLLINS



**Also BIG THANK YOU to
Lunch & Learn sponsor!**

SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT FOR SUCCESS

American Express is approaching 10 years of Small Business Saturday which is always the Saturday after Thanksgiving and when you #ShopSmall, it can make a big impact. For every \$1 spent at small businesses, 67 cents stays in the community!

American Express and the Shop Small campaign do more than just encourage folks to shop locally in their community. They work hard all year round to help empower business owners and to inspire them to continue to invest in their businesses, their communities and themselves. One-way to do this is by signing up for the

[9th annual Business Class LIVE: Summit for Success!](#)

This is an entirely virtual experience that takes place from 8 am to 4 pm (CST) on October 20th. You will get the opportunity to network with a diverse group of fellow business owners, industry experts and entrepreneurs, engage in workshops and panel discussions that address their business and personal development, and get inspired by speakers and motivating round-table talks that can spark your next move! Click [HERE](#) for details!



COVID-19 RULES FOR IOWA BARS, SOME RESTAURANTS

The Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division (ABD) is requiring liquor license holders across

the state to complete a COVID-19 Compliance Checklist to certify they read and understand the terms and conditions of Gov. Reynolds' latest proclamation issued Sept. 18. You can read the full proclamation [here](#).

If licensees choose not to complete the checklist, an ABD investigator will visit the establishment to verify compliance with the proclamation and determine what other course of action will be taken as a result of not complying with this requirement.

Of note, all bars and restaurants that are open for dine in must have a seat for all patrons at a table, booth or bar and all patrons must consume their food or beverage while seated at the table, booth or bar.

Other links:

Alcohol and Beverage Division [here](#).
COVID-19 Compliance Checklist [here](#).

IOWA SMALL BUSINESS UTILITY DISRUPTION PREVENTION PROGRAM EXPANDED

Some area businesses who tried to apply for the Iowa Small Business Utility Disruption Prevention Program when it was first made available found that they were not eligible because they did not have overdue utility bills. **The program has now been expanded**, which means some of you may now qualify for assistance.

Eligibility criteria now includes utility assistance for eligible small businesses and nonprofits for electric or natural gas service provided between March 17, 2020 and October 15, 2020. The program will accept applications through October 31 or until all funds have been exhausted.

[Click here to learn more and apply.](#)

If you have questions, feel free to contact Angela or reach out to Iowa Economic Development Authority directly at 1.515.348.6200.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT.
RESPOND NOW.

Shape your future



United States®
**Census
2020**
START HERE

Autumn Fest

THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 TITLE SPONSORS!

DEWITT  EYECARE

 **GUARDIAN
GLASS**



AUTUMN FEST WRAP UP



Our 33rd annual Autumn Fest celebration in DeWitt was a success!

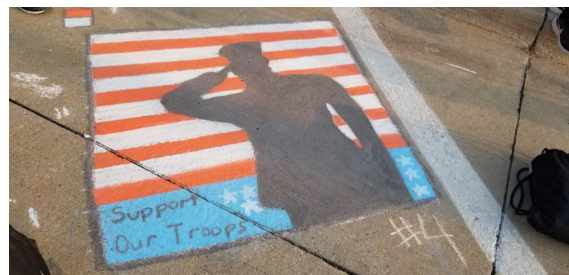
Autumn Fest was held on Saturday, September 19th. The evening was a great success thanks to our sponsors, volunteers, committee members and Mother Nature!! (It was an AMAZING fall day!)

The event was put on by the DCDC as a "Thank You" to those that support DeWitt! The night had a variety of activities and attractions: children's games & activities in the park, live music, lots of food & craft vendors, a classic car show, and so much more!

Our **Autumn Fest Family Movie** night on Friday was a bit on the chilly side, but no one was "Frozen"! Thank you to everyone who joined us for Frozen 2 on the big screen!

Check out **Facebook** for this year's photos!!

Thank you to all who participated in this year's chalk contest and to this year's two winners!





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 \(MIC\)](#) and add your news in News Release section!



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.

DeWitt Delivers Blog

Do you have something exciting to share about your business? Do you have a great story about how you got to DeWitt? Do you have a topic you would like to share with our membership? We want to know about it!!

We are looking for blog writers for our dewittdelivers.com blog! Not a professional? No problem! We are happy to help guide you thru the process!

[Email Molly](#) if you would like more information!



Look Local First



Our August Look Local First winner was
Cathy Ingwersen!

Congrats to Cathy on winning \$50 in Chamber Bucks!

Be sure to keep Looking Local and keep getting your cards punched and turned in at [Randy's Neighborhood Market](#), [Scott's Thrifty White Drug Store](#) or the DCDC office and you could win \$50 in Chamber Bucks!

Watch for us on [Facebook](#) - we draw LIVE!



DeWitt
Chamber &
Development
Company

1010 6th Ave
DeWitt IA 52742

FOLLOW US

