DMACC HOSTS MID-AMERICAN WINE COMPETITION

Dr. Murli Dharmadhikari, Extension Enologist, and Director of the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute at Iowa State University, tastes a wine at the eighth annual Mid-American Wine Competition held July 11-13 on the DMACC Ankeny Campus.

Judge Katie Cook, an Enology Project Leader at the University of Minnesota, samples a wine while holding a rib during the food-wine pairing portion of the Mid-American Wine Competition. The judges awarded a total of 403 medals, including 100 gold medals this year. Snus Hill Vineyard and Winery's Blushing Clair received the Dr. Richard Peterson Best Iowa Appellation Award. This award is bestowed on the wine that has been judged as the best Iowa wine produced from grapes grown in the state.

DMACC HOSTS FUNDRAISER FOR THE AMERICAN HEART

Mid-American Wine Competition Director Bob Foster (left) to right and judges Ellen Landis and Daryl Groom conduct a guided tasting of the sweepstakes winners as part of a fundraiser for the American Heart Association.
Nearly two dozen people sampled award-winning wines under the tutelage of the certified sommelier and wine maker. Each tasted a variety of white, red and dessert wines.

Wine maker Daryl Groom talks about Colby Red wine, created by Groom and his son, Colby. Colby came up with the idea of producing a wine with sales of each bottle going towards charities that support heart health, including the American Heart Association. When Colby was almost 10 years old, he underwent back-to-back open heart surgeries. So far, more than $500,000 has been raised through the sale of Colby Red.

FELIX GALLAGHER TAKES OATH OF OFFICE

Felix Gallagher of Johnston takes the oath of office to become a member of the Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Board of Directors as DMACC President Rob Denson watches. Gallagher replaces Jeff Hall on the board. Gallagher is president of PharmServ Solutions.
CUMMINS ENGINE

Cummins Central Power, LLC, donated a Cummins ISX 15 liter, 485-horsepower engine to the DMACC Diesel Technology program. Those taking part in the donation include Cummins Des Moines Branch Manager Steve “Doc” Wilson (left to right), Cummins Central Power President/CEO Rafael Dorador, DMACC President Rob Denson, DMACC Industry and Technology Dean Scott Ocken, DMACC Diesel Technology Chair Bill Gorman, DMACC Diesel Technology Professor Pat Bishop and Cummins Distributor Field Service Engineer Matt Matz. The engine will be used by DMACC Diesel Technology students to learn about the latest technology available on Cummins engines.

JUMPSTART SUMMER CAMP AT SOUTHRIDGE

Nine-year-old Anna Leu and her mom, Staci Shugar, of Huxley, present to the group what it is like to get pulled over by a police officer at the Southridge Jumpstart Middle School Summer Camp at the (DMACC) Southridge Center. The camp allows middle school-aged students to learn from sessions like automotive technology and welding, teaching and health occupations or criminal justice for the daily program. Shugar is a former police officer and currently teaches Criminal Justice courses for DMACC.

Twelve-year-old Haley Meyer helps friend twelve-year-old Jordan Peterson, both of Martinsdale, to try on the bulletproof vest for the criminal justice session at the Southridge Jumpstart Middle school Summer Camp at the DMACC Southridge Center.

Chriss Barck, a high school teacher from Perry and DMACC employee, works with former shop student Chad Mormon, a DMACC employee also of Perry, to help to teach the building sessions to students at the Southridge Jumpstart Middle school Summer Camp at the (DMACC) Southridge Center. Both Barck and Mormon worked side-by-side to teach students what Barck was able to teach Mormon years ago in his own middle school shop class.
NEW EMPLOYEES

Samantha Burk joins DMACC as a Child Development Specialist in the Early Childhood Education Department. Her phone number is 964-6578.

She earned a degree in Early Childhood Education from DMACC. Samantha served in the army before becoming a stay-at-home mom.

She is married and has a 13-year-old son.

Samantha enjoys scrapbooking, quilting as well as spending time outdoors.

Alexis Cade is the new HiSET/ESL Navigator at the Southridge Center. She can be reached at (515) 287-8714.

She received an Associate's degree in teaching from Tyler Junior College in Tyler, Texas. She then transferred to the University of Texas where she completed both her Bachelor's degree in Interdisciplinary Studies and a Master's in Educational Administration/Leadership.

Alexis has been employed at DMACC as a part-time employee since July of 2013, serving as a GED instructor, college prep reading and writing instructor, academic advisor and Gateway to College Resource Specialist. Prior to working at DMACC, she taught in the K-12 school system in Iowa and in Texas.

Alexis is married to Anthony Cade, and they and they have a one-year-old boy named Matthew.

Alexis enjoys arts and crafts, particularly in the area of creating unique gifts for special events and invitations. She also likes reading contemporary realistic fiction and loves to write, saying she "hopes to one day become a published author."

Aaron Chittenden is the new Business Solutions Consultant in DMACC Business Resources. His phone number is 256-4921.

He earned a B.A. in Anthropology from the University of Iowa and a Master’s in Urban and Regional Planning with an economic development focus from Iowa.

Aaron has served as Executive Director of the Jones County Economic Development Commission, Executive Director of the Grimes Chamber and Economic Development Planner and Assistant to the City Manager and Development Manager for the city of West Des Moines.

Aaron and his wife, Jennifer, have two children—nine-year-old Dante’ and seven-year-old Alexandria.

Aaron enjoys singing in the Des Moines Choral Society, as well as reading, attending Des Moines Performing Arts Center events and Hawkeye sports.

Marvin Harris has been hired as a Custodian on the Ankeny Campus. He can be reached at 964-6677.

Marvin previously worked at Des Moines Roofing.

He and his wife, Bonita, have two children, Marvin, Jr. and Marnette.
NEW EMPLOYEES CONTINUED

Zerina Hobot has also been hired as a Custodian on the Ankeny Campus and can be reached at 964-6677.
Zerina attended school in Bosnia and Slovenia and studied Business Management.
She worked at Mercy Hospital as a custodian/housekeeper for 11 years and still works there part time as needed.
Zerina has a son and a significant other.
She likes to hike, write, travel, read and spend time with her family.

Caylene Hollinrake is the new Administrative Assistant in DMACC Business Resources. She has an office at Southridge and can be reached at 256-4920.
She earned an Associate’s degree in Business Administration from AIB in 2010. She previously worked as a bookkeeper at Pro Commercial, LLC, in Huxley.
Caylene has a 20-month-old daughter, Jella, and a toy poodle named Winnie.
Caylene enjoys spending time with her family and friends, fitness and painting.

Drea Iseminger is the new DMACC Testing Center Coordinator located in Bldg. #6 on the Ankeny Campus. Her phone number is 965-7137.
She joined DMACC in 2009 as a financial advisor on the Urban Campus. She participated in Leadership Institute for a New Century (LINC) in 2011-2012. She joined the academic advising team at the DMACC Urban Campus in 2012 and served as the Disability Services Campus Contact Liaison and coordinated testing accommodations. She also advised for the ESL, Surgical Technology, and Interpretation and Translation programs. Iseminger served on districtwide committees including the Curriculum Commission and Completion Taskforce. She also taught the SDV 108 College Experience since fall semester of 2012.
Iseminger was nominated by students and staff at the DMACC Urban Campus and received the Superior Service to Students Award at the Student Activities Committee spring 2014 awards ceremony.
She is married to Larry Iseminger. She enjoys horseback riding, travelling, gardening, yoga, boating and kayaking. She has a thoroughbred horse, two mini-dachshunds and a cat. In her spare time, she enjoys going to the arts festival, I-Cubs games and other fun summer activities in the Des Moines area.

Craig Larsen is the new Mechanical/Electrical technician. He can be reached at 964-6258.
He earned an A.A.S. in Electrical Maintenance from Iowa Central Community College.
Craig previously worked as a journeyman electrician at Glass and Sons Electrical, Commercial and Residential Electrical.
He and his wife, Lori, have a dog named “Chase.”
Craig enjoys home audio and taking pictures outdoors.
Greg Neal has been employed full time as a locksmith in the DMACC Physical Plant. He can be reached at 964-6212. He earned a degree in Criminal Justice from DMACC and has worked in the Physical Plant as a part-time employee. Greg and his wife, Sarah, have two boys—three-year-old Carter and 18-month-old Brodey. Greg enjoys biking, camping and sports with their boys.

Rachel Newsom is the new Administrative Assistant at the Transportation Institute. Her phone number is 965-7450. She earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Iowa and is a licensed EMT. Rachel previously worked at Mercy College. She and her husband have two kids and a cat.

Cheryl McCracken is the new Administrative Assistant I in Continuing Education at the Evelyn K. Davis Center for Working Families. She can be found at 697-7713. She received a diploma and Liberal Arts degree from DMACC’s Ankeny Campus and an Administrative Support Basics certificate from the Urban Campus. Cheryl previously worked at Portico Staffed and in the Ankeny Community School District. Cheryl and her husband, Dale, have a daughter, Danielle, and two sons, Brent and Ryan. Cheryl enjoys riding her bike, riding horses and riding motorcycles. She loves spending time with her family as well as quiet times for herself as a stress reliever. She is also taking tae kwon do lessons.

William Mann is the new Welding Instructor at the Southridge Center. His phone number is 287-8725. He earned an A.A.S. from Southeastern Community College. He previously was a weld training specialist and certified welding inspector at Case New Holland, a weld training coordinator for Southeastern Community College and a welder/fabricator for Industrial Tooling and DTMP. He and his wife, Amber, have three sons—Evan, Isaac and Wyatt, and one daughter, Sarah. William enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and youth sports.

Rachel Newsom is the new Administrative Assistant at the Transportation Institute. Her phone number is 965-7450. She earned a bachelor’s degree from the University of Iowa and is a licensed EMT. Rachel previously worked at Mercy College. She and her husband have two kids and a cat.
NEW EMPLOYEES CONTINUED

Dennis Piotraschke is the new Welding Instructor at the Southridge Center. His phone number is 287-8718.

He served in the U.S. Navy and then attended Fireman Apprentice School in San Diego studying marine engineering. He has also completed Hull Maintenance Technician Courses and Advanced Fire Fighting and Damage Control.

Dennis has worked at General Motors, Toyota, J.I. Case Corporation, Maytag, the Des Moines Regiser and Iowa Prison Industries.

He and his wife have two children.

Dennis enjoys family outings, fishing, camping, metal detecting, metal art and golfing.

Jodie Skellenger is the new Computer Lab Coordinator located in Bldg. #6 on the Ankeny Campus. Her phone number is 965-6007.

Jodie comes to us from DMACC’s IT and Marketing departments, where she worked part-time for three years while completing her DMACC degree. She now coordinates services in the Computer Lab, supports DMACC Tech Support and serves as an advisor for Phi Theta Kappa.

She previously worked at Farm Bureau Financial Services in West Des Moines in the IT department.

Jodie has a daughter, Brittany, who recently graduated from UNI with a degree in Graphic Design.

Jodie loves spending time with my family and friends, going to movies, exploring new places to take pictures and enjoying the great outdoors. When she is relaxing watching movies, she is generally working on craft projects.

Gail Zehr is the new Academic Advisor on the Ankeny Campus. She can be reached at 965-6031.

She earned an A.A. from Iowa Central Community College, a B.A. from the University of Northern Iowa and a Master’s degree from Iowa State University.

Gail previously worked for ten years at Hawkeye Community College in Admissions and High School Relations.

She is married to her husband, Joshua, and they have one son, Parker, and two dogs, Santos and Bella.
PIONEER CONNECTION

JULY MEETING - On Thursday, July 10, the Pioneers and guests were thoroughly pleased with the presentation by Bryan Burkhardt from DMACC’s Electronic Crime Institute. We were educated about the fascinating world of electronic crime and saddened to learn that DMACC is ending this very important training program due to the expense. This was one of the outstanding Pioneer meetings of the year.

AUGUST MEETING: - Thursday, August 14, at 11:30 a.m., in the FFA Enrichment Center on the Ankeny Campus. Please join us for lunch in the atrium of the FFA building where Duane Vierling of the Modelaeros will tell us about the modeling and hobby use of the First Person View (FPV) Drones. Many thanks to Carolyn & Tom Hildreth for organizing this meeting. Note: The board meeting begins at 10 a.m.

In order to help us accurately plan, please make your reservation by 4 p.m. on Monday, August 11, by calling 964-6868 or emailing pioneers@dmacc.edu. No reservations will be accepted after that time. Please bring non-perishable donations for Pamela’s Pantry. The pantry is very low on donations.

PIONEER OFFICERS FOR 2014-2016

It is with great pleasure that we can finally take a breath because our offices are nearly filled for the upcoming terms.

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As you can see, we still need our Pioneer membership to step up to plan and host programs/meetings. It is not a huge undertaking as many of our meetings are already in place for each year.

Many thanks to everyone who stepped up for the pioneers of DMACC.

PIONEER REQUEST FOR SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

In the near future, you will be receiving a request for student scholarship and assistance from our Pioneer group. This is an extremely important part of what we do to support our students and your continued generosity is deeply appreciated.

By agreement with our Bookstore, we only need to raise $10,000 to receive matching funds from them every year. That is how we are able to gift over $20,000 in scholarships to our students. The Garage Sale has been one of our biggest fund-raising events and we appreciate everyone of you who gives of your time to help every time we do this. Unfortunately, our Pioneer group is aging and this type of fund raising activity may be coming to an end. So, please consider gifting whatever you can manage. It is so important to our students.

HAVE A WONDERFUL REST OF THE SUMMER,
Dee Johnson
Past President & Communication Director - Pioneers
djohnsonathome@aol.com (send me your News & VIEWS)