



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

1/13/16

DUBUQUE BUSINESSES CHOSEN FOR AMERICA'S SBDC IOWA AWARD

Charlotte's Coffee House and Drake Guest House chosen as Small Businesses of the Month

AMES, Iowa – America's SBDC Iowa is pleased to announce that Cheryl Rusk, owner, Charlotte's Coffee House and Drake Guest House, Dubuque, is the winner of the SBDC's Business of the Month Award.

Jay Wickham, regional director of the Northeast Iowa SBDC, Dubuque, says, "Cheryl is a first-time woman business owner who worked with the SBDC to create a great business plan for her two businesses. She has totally renovated two old buildings in the historic millwork district of Dubuque, adding considerable value to the historic neighborhood while creating two vibrant businesses in the downtown area."

Charlotte's Coffee House is a unique boutique coffee house and gathering space located on the corner of 11th and White Streets in two historic buildings. The business offers a cozy and inviting atmosphere in downtown Dubuque where people can take a break and visit with friends, or just stop in for a quick drink and treat themselves to something delicious.

The Drake Guest House is co-located with Charlotte's Coffee House. It includes three high-end, extended stay residences offered for rent on VRBO, part of the HomeAway Family, the world leader of vacation rentals.

The Business of the Month Award will be presented to Cheryl in Dubuque by SBDC Regional Director Jay Wickham, who nominated her businesses for the award.

For more information on Charlotte's Coffee House or Drake Guest House, visit their respective websites at <http://www.charlottescoffeehouse.com> and <http://www.drakehousestay.com>.

The America's SBDC Iowa program is an outreach program of Iowa State University's College of Business. Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business

Administration, the organization has 15 regional assistance centers located strategically across the state. Since program inception in 1981, the Center has helped hundreds of thousands of Iowa businesses and entrepreneurs through no cost, confidential, customized, professional business counseling and practical, affordable training.

For more information on America's SBDC Iowa programs or services, call (515) 294-2030 or visit www.iowasbdc.org.

Press Contacts:

Tricia Janes, America's SBDC Iowa, 515-294-2030, triciaj@iastate.edu

Jay Wickham, Northeast Iowa SBDC, 563-588-3350, wickhamja@nicc.edu

#