

SPORTS BAR & GRILL



T-Bock's

Burgers. Sandwiches. Salads. Appetizers
Great Wings. Weekend Bloody Mary Bar

LOCAL INGREDIENTS • 22 BEERS ON TAP!

EVENT VENUES



2 amazing spaces. Small or large events.
Delicious in-house catering.

206 W. Water St. Decorah
563-382-5970 • tbocks.com

Open 11am-12am daily.
Kitchen open 11am-10pm.

THE GETUP



BUY GREAT

▼

CLOTHING
MATERNITY WEAR
GEAR & MORE

▲

SELL GREAT

**102 W WATER ST
DECORAH, IOWA**

Buy & sell in-store
& online. Details at
getupdecorah.com



SUM^{OF YOUR} BUSINESS

INSPIRING ENTREPRENEURS IN THE DRIFTLESS



All photos courtesy Wadsworth Construction unless noted

From top left, clockwise: 1. New construction – a farmhouse-modern design – by Wadsworth's team. 2. Wadsworth Construction restored the windows of T-Bock's Bar & Grill in Decorah in 2012. 3. The crew wrapped up window restoration on this Washington, Iowa, building mid-November 2018. 4. The windows and balustrade of the tower on the Clayton County Courthouse in Elkader, Iowa, got some restoration love from Wadsworth's team.

**SUM OF YOUR BUSINESS: DAVID WADSWORTH
WADSWORTH CONSTRUCTION**



INTRO BY ARYN HENNING NICHOLS

When you're walking around in Northeast Iowa – and many places beyond – you might look up and see David Wadsworth.

No, he's not superman, but he is pretty super, because he's likely removing old windows from a building or house for restoration (or reinstalling the finished ones), or discussing a thoughtful construction plan with a homeowner as they take on a new project.

David is that kind of guy. He thinks things out and brings a passion and meaning to his business that shows plainly in his and his crew's work.

Continued on next page

Fantastic Selection

Great Gifts

Readings & Signings

Bestsellers
Mysteries
Puzzles
Poetry
Childrens Books
Scandinavian
And more!

Get your book buzz!

Hooray! We're celebrating 9 years in business!

Decorah
family-owned

Knowledgeable Staff

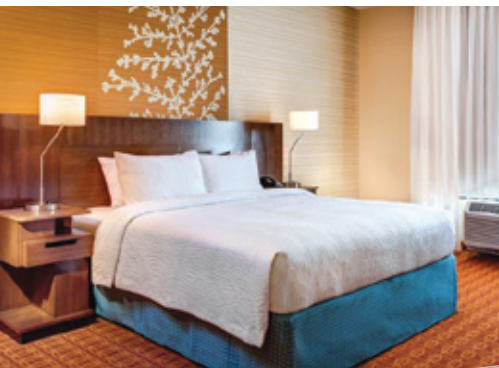
Open daily! 563-382-4275 • 112 West Water St. Decorah
www.dragonflybooks.com

**250 artists.
7 days a week.
1 gallery.**

Agora Arts
104 East Water Street
next to Hotel Winneshiek, Decorah, Iowa
563.382.8786 • www.agoraarts.com



David Wadsworth (fourth from left) and his team in front of their project house on Main St. in Decorah. / Photo by Benji Nichols



If they're not out working on someone else's house, you might spot one or some of the crew – a team of eight, including David – renovating a “project house” on Main Street in Decorah.

“Buying a fixer-upper gives us the opportunity to pour our expertise into bringing a house back from the brink,” he says, “Creating a house that is well put together and with a lot of unique and pleasing features, but would seem overwhelming to most people.”

David and team spend about half their time restoring old windows, and the other half on new construction or contracting work on existing buildings and homes.

“I’ve always liked working on older buildings, because there is always something there worth taking care of. And I’ve tried to take many of those features and incorporate them into our new homes,” David says. “Window replacement, in particular, always stuck in my craw because in most cases we were replacing old, original windows with a clearly inferior product. The quality of the craftsmanship and the materials, not to mention the beauty of the original windows, was generally far superior to what we were replacing them with. And in cases where the windows need work, there’s nothing that cannot be repaired with readily available materials.”

His passion is clear, and he’s convincing in his pitch. Wadsworth Construction restored five of our hundred-year-old windows in our home this spring, and they make us smile every time we see them.

.....

Name: David Wadsworth

Age: 44

Business: Wadsworth Construction Inc.

Years in business: 15

Business address: 1087 250th St. Waukon

Website: www.wadsworthconstruction.com

1. Tell us about the “leap” moment. When/how did you decide to jump in and become your own boss?

When I moved back to Northeast Iowa in 2003, I was faced with the choice of going to work for someone else, or become my own boss. Prior to that point, I had worked for contractors in Boulder, Colorado, Santa Fe, New Mexico, and Madison, Indiana. After looking at the work being done in the area, I realized that if I wanted to do the kind of work I was experienced with and passionate about, I would need to strike out on my own.

2. What’s the best thing about being your own boss?

The best thing about being your own boss is that I am in control of the direction of the business. As trends change and my interests evolve, I like being able to adapt quickly.

3. How about the worst?

The worst thing about being your own boss is that there is really never a time when your attention isn’t needed. Even when everything is going smoothly, I’m always trying to figure out how we could be more efficient, improve quality, etc. It’s hard to shut that off.

Continued on next page



Photography by Brittany

Interested in
being a vendor?
Email us at
events@hotelwinn.com
or call 563-382-4164

Winneshiek WEDDING MARKET

HOTEL WINNESHIEK
DECORAH, IOWA

JANUARY 26, 2020 | 12-4 pm

Get social!   Register! 

Is your child texting about public transit?

*brb – beautiful, rural buses
ftw – funner than walking
nsfw – never stuck in funky weather
rofl – riding over for lunch
idc – lowans dodging cars
xoxo – xylophones, ostriches, xanthophobia & octopuses*



We pick you up at your door and take you ANYWHERE in the tristate!

Call 1-866-382-4259

R.M. GRANET & COMPANY

NORTH IOWA'S INTERNATIONAL GIFT & ANTIQUE STORE

FEATURING... FINE ART, ESTATE JEWELRY, PORCELAIN, CRYSTAL, SILVER, ANTIQUES AND HOME FURNISHINGS

1110 NORTH GRAND AVENUE CHARLES CITY, IA 50616
PHONE NUMBER 641-220-5100



WOODEN WINDOW restoration & weatherization

Residential & light commercial construction

David J. Wadsworth • 563.419.0390 • wadsworthconstruction.com



MON - THURS: 11-9 • FRI - SAT 11-10 • SUN: 11-8

OLD ARMORY
BBQ

421 W. WATER ST.
DECORAH, IA

dine in • carry out • catering

563.382.6208

facebook.com /OldArmoryBBQ

Homemade goodness.
Yum.



On this new construction project in Decorah, Wadsworth Construction worked with the homeowners to create a passive solar design plan.

4. Was there ever a hurdle where you just thought, "I can't do this?" How did you overcome it?

In order to take on the really interesting and fun projects, I needed to move beyond working by myself, and build a crew. And while the crew changes over time, there's a continuity to our work that can be seen across projects and over time.

5. Any mentors/role models you look to/have looked to?

There have been several individuals that I've worked with in the past that I would consider mentors. And in each case it wasn't necessarily how they drove a nail that inspired me, but the passion and thoughtfulness they brought to the job. For them, there was no distinction between life and work. They were one in the same.

6. What's the one thing you wish you had known before you started?

Before I started this kind of work, I wish someone had warned me that I was committing myself to critiquing every building that I see. Talk about distracted driving!

7. How do you manage your life/work balance?

It took me years before I felt like I was beginning to take control of my life/work balance. Work will take everything you give it and still demand more. As my role in life has changed as a boss, husband, father, and friend, that balance has constantly shifted. But I came to realize that I'm not very good in any one of those roles if I don't take time to recharge my batteries. And anyone that knows me will attest to the fact that I'm always in search of adventure.

8. What keeps you inspired? Any quotes that keep you going?

I've always loved this quote by John Ruskin:

"When we build, let us think that we build forever. Let it not be for present delight nor for present use alone. Let it be such work as our descendants will thank us for; and let us think, as we lay stone on stone, that a time is to come when those stones will be held sacred because our hands have touched them, and that men will say, as they look upon the labor and wrought substance of them, 'See! This our father did for us.'"