

# Awards: MTM Recognition founded by Dave Smith in 1971

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With the growth of a millennial workforce, comes a need for frequent and interactive recognition programs, Lamprecht said. Although workforce demographics have changed over time, one thing hasn't changed; the need to feel valued for a job well done.

MTM Recognition practices what it preaches. The company uses Carousel and celebrates employee anniversaries every Wednesday. They give back to the community through fundraisers for local schools, food pantries and the homeless. The company is also a supporter of Special Olympics and hosts an annual 5k run to raise money for the program.

Smith founded the company in 1971, while working as a teacher and basketball coach. The business, formerly called Midwest Trophy Manufacturing Company, quickly grew from the ground up to be an industry leader with a workforce of more than

550 employees.

"Dave Smith truly is a visionary and a highly competitive person, both of which have served him well in his professional career," Lamprecht said.

The company still calls Del City home with a 20-acre campus and 250,000 square-feet of manufacturing and office space. More than 350 people work at the headquarters.

"While we have expanded to include several facilities across North America, and employ over 500 people, Del City is our corporate headquarters," Smith said during an event with Del City Chamber of Commerce several years ago.

For more information about MTM Recognition, visit [mtmrecognition.com](http://mtmrecognition.com).



Left: MTM Recognition created custom awards and plaques for Devon Energy. Above: Several championship trophies are on display at the Del City company headquarters. -Staff photos by Jeff Harrison

## Scott Street:

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"We expect to see the first dirt moving within just a few days, as the relocation of the electric lines begins," he said. "Grading and site work should begin in earnest this spring."

Leatherbee said the importance of this project cannot be understated.

"What was once a dilapidated apartment complex and a flood-prone field will be transformed into a gateway that is emblematic of the sort of revitalization that Del City has experienced over the last 10 years," he said. "City leaders have made a strong commitment to redeveloping its interstate corridor, and this development will be one more important piece, along with clearing a number of dilapidated and blighted properties, developing the Shoppes at Del City mixed use center at I-40 and Sooner Road, redeveloping the shopping center at I-40 and Vickie

Drive and now adding the Integris Community Hospital on SE 15th Street."

Leatherbee said these positive impacts will not be limited to the interstate corridor, but will stretch into the adjacent neighborhoods.

"The neighborhood behind the Scott Street project, full of well-built homes designed in a unique, mid-century "Storybook Ranch" architecture, fell on hard times due to changing population patterns and blighted conditions that largely originated from the apartments," he said.

"With the apartments removed and new development on the horizon, this neighborhood has now begun to experience significant investment and an influx of new homeowners. To facilitate that investment and preserve the unique architecture, the neighborhood has been designated as the Storybook Ranch Preservation District."

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