Michael Dittmar Bio

Born in Galena and raised in Elizabeth, Michael Dittmar is a strong advocate for the town and county he has always called home. He is a graduate of River Ridge High School where he now coaches and teaches Government and History. Michael earned a Bachelor’s Degree in History and Political Science from Western Illinois University in 1998 and a Master’s Degree in Instructional Design and Technology from Western Illinois University in 2006.

Michael’s parents are Rick and Peg Dittmar, also of Elizabeth, Illinois. Mike and his wife are co-partners with his parents on the Dittmar Farms Pumpkin Patch and Apple Orchard, which has been in the Dittmar family since 1854.  He is married to Jonna Stayner from Stockton, Illinois, and they have four children: Cora (11), Damon (9), Ella (6), and Anna (4). You may also see Michael flying the W for the Chicago Cubs and chanting Go Pack Go! for the Green Bay Packers.

After serving as an elected trustee on the Village of Elizabeth board from 2005-2009, Michael was elected as the Village of Elizabeth President (Mayor) in 2009.  He continues to serve in this position promoting Elizabeth and Jo Daviess County, especially in the area of economic development.

In addition to being the Chairman of the Jo Daviess County Republican Party, Michael is also active in the Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce (past President), former President of the Elizabeth Ambulance Association, co-founder and current Vice-Chairman of the Jo Daviess County Mayor’s Association, and a member of the Board of Directors of TCEDA, the Tri-County Economic Development Association. In the past year that he has been chairman of the Jo Daviess County Republican Party, Mike’s work has strengthened the presence and influence of the party that has long been the predominant political force in Jo Daviess County.

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