



Goodwill Industries Expansion Results in Partnership with Michigan Works!

Goodwill Industries of Northern Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc. are planning an expansion to the Marinette retail store (coming in April 2007). As a result of this, 20 new employees were hired.

Cindy Linsmeier, Goodwill Industries Human Resource Manager and Lisa Frost, Hu-

man Resource Coordinator contacted the Menominee Michigan Works! Service Center to assist with their hiring needs. The knowledgeable and friendly Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialists were pleased to provide assistance with the coordination, staffing, advertising and implementation of a job fair to help fill their employ-

ment needs.

Goodwill Industries applauded the services offered during the hiring process, including a variety of assessments. "We believe we have been able to hire better-qualified applicants through the services received at Michigan Works!," comments Cindy.

The REC Room...It's Not Just Any Room

The REC Room of Marquette opened for business in September of 1992 on Spring Street in downtown Marquette. The business grew rapidly, and in 1997, it became necessary to move to a larger building to accommodate its growing popularity. Presently, The REC Room is situated just two doors east of the Bonanza Restaurant in a prime location; 2322 U.S. 41 West.

Their vast array of products include; hot

tubs, pool tables, game tables, pool cues, darts, swimming pools and pool & spa chemicals. As if that wasn't enough, they've added gas and wood stoves and fireplaces, residential treadmills and, most recently, commercial exercise equipment.

So how does this growing business keep up with itself? They use Michigan Works! to find the right employees to join their sales and service team. Currently, The REC Room is advertising through Michigan Works! to locate a qualified sales associate. To make the process even easier, they are using the Electronic Application System or EAS. This system allows the job seeker to submit an application electronically which saves the business time. It is a quick and efficient way of reviewing applications.

"We are very pleased with Michigan Works! here in Marquette," states Julie Thurston, The Rec Room Manager. "They understand our needs and have always put that first when referring job applicants to The REC Room; the screening of candidates is invaluable."



COMMUNITY EVENTS

February 12 . 2007
Business Showcase Bell Financial/Congress Pizza
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

February 21 . 2007
Business after Hours Michigan Works!
Location: UpFront & Co.
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

February 28 . 2007
Business After Hours Delta County Builders Exchange
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

March 12 . 2007
Business Showcase City of Negaunee
Location: The Depot
Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.
For More Information Call Cheryl Shuty at 906.486.4841

March 19 . 2007
Economic Club of Marquette County
Time: Social Hour, 6:00pm; Dinner, 7:00pm; Presentation, 8:00pm
Location: Ramada Inn
Speaker: Steve Gulis, CFO, Wolverine Worldwide, Inc.
For More Information Call Ramada Inn at 906.228.6000

March 20 . 2007
Business After Hours Michigan Works!
Time: 5:00-6:30 p.m.
For More Information Call Marinette/ Menominee Chamber at 800.23636681

March 28 . 2007
Business After Hours Comfort Suites
Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.
For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

Manufacturing, a Mainstay of the UP Economy



Many people view the Upper Peninsula as a region with little to no manufacturing career opportunities or as a region with little to no economic contributions by manufacturers. That is a false image.

Manufacturing by small- and mid-sized companies is actually one of the mainstays of the Upper Peninsula economy.

The Upper Peninsula Regional Industrial Skills Alliance (UP-RIMSA) is a Michigan Regional Skills Alliance through the Department of Labor and Economic Growth. The mission of UP-RIMSA is to develop a highly qualified labor pool to meet the current and future needs of the U.P.'s industrial manufacturers and develop industry specific solutions through partnerships with education, legislators, other industries and current and future members of the workforce.

According to a survey done by the Upper Peninsula Regional Industrial Skills Alliance (UP-RIMSA), of 50 respondents out of 129 local manufacturers,

600 retirements are coming up over the next 5 years. These same 50 manufacturers anticipate over 2,100 openings for production and maintenance workers, and 22 firms plan expansions with over 362,000 sq/ft of production space and 20,000 sq/ft of office support space.

Firms with growth plans identified 53 areas of hiring needs over 11 different occupation areas where they anticipate hiring demand. Similarly, firms not projecting facility growth projected 36 areas of hiring needs over 10 different occupation areas.

UP-RIMSA has identified three primary strategies to address these needs for the future workforce: partnering with the three UP Michigan Works! Regions to recruit a qualified labor force; collaborating with universities, community colleges, and secondary schools to recruit workers; and working to identify annual hiring needs to provide real time occupational projections to ensure that an equilibrium of supply and demand exists in the labor force.

Currently, many manufacturers, especially in the Menominee and Dickinson County areas, are experiencing worker shortages. Without local labor, companies may eventually need to look elsewhere. In times of large shortages of qualified labor, companies may need to outsource not due to cheaper labor but because of lack of labor.

Area manufacturers also want the public to know that the nature of their work is not what many people think it is. Once upon a time, it meant putting wing nuts on widgets. Now, robots do that. The manu-

facturing worker must understand how the robot makes the widgets and be able to manage that process.


For a copy of the survey or more information on UP-RIMSA contact Holly Peoples at 906-789-0558 ext 215.




CELEBRATING OVER 30 YEARS

of improving the economy and quality of life in the central Upper Peninsula by bringing employers and job seekers together!

Upper Peninsula Business Works because...



"My business works because Michigan Works!"
Services Offered for employers



Visit our user-friendly Michigan Works! Service Centers in Escanaba, Iron Mountain, Manistique, Marquette, Menominee and Munising.

Join us for these upcoming Business After Hours Celebrations!

February 21, 5:00-7:00 PM
UPFront & Co., Marquette

March 20, 5:00-6:30 PM CT
Best Western, Menominee

May 15, 5:00-7:00 PM
TBA, Munising


June 14, 5:00-7:00 PM CT
Pine Mountain, Iron Mountain

September 26, 5:30-7:30 PM
Log Cabin Grille & Bistro, Escanaba

October 10, 5:00-7:00 PM
TBA, Manistique

We hope to see you there!


www.jobforce.org
(800) 285-WORKS



"I work because Michigan Works!"
Services Offered for job seekers

- Profiling jobs to determine necessary skills and abilities
- Writing job descriptions and advertisements
- Posting job openings on the Talent Bank and campus websites
- Screening resumes and applicants
- Providing interview rooms and meeting facilities
- Training employees
- Helping with Human Resource administration issues
- Planning for business retention and expansion
- Offering Business Building Sessions on key issues

- Linking job seekers with local and regional Employment opportunities and job search web sites
- Testing ability and knowledge
- Offering employment and career skills workshops
- Helping with education financial aid forms
- Providing a resource library of links, videos and software for job seekers
- Offering Internet access, word processing equipment, phone and fax services
- Supplying information on employment policies and legal issues



The Job Force Board and the Six County Employment Alliance
Serving Alger, Delta, Dickinson, Marquette, Menominee and Schoolcraft Counties.

Equal Opportunity Employer Michigan Relay Center (1-800-649-3777) Auxiliary Aids & Services Available to Individuals with Disabilities.

NMU Provide Students an "Edge" with Employers



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To complete an "edge," students document 100 hours of relevant and approved activities and experiences and write a reflection paper articulating what they have learned through the process.

After completing an edge, a Student Enrichment Transcript documenting each edge gets sent out with each Northern's academic transcript. If students finish all four edges, they get the distinction of having the "Superior Edge."

Characteristics of the Superior Edge

- Participation is open to every student at Northern Michigan University.
- Students can progress at their own pace; progress towards an "edge" can be made throughout their years at NMU.
- The Superior Edge combines in- and out-of-the-classroom experiences.
- Students can choose their level of participation; they can elect to complete one, two, three, or all four "edges" for the Superior Edge.

To get started with the Superior Edge, students attend a one-hour [orientation session](#) where criteria for the program is explained and they receive instruction on the e-portfolio.

Tuesday, February 6	8-9 p.m.
Thursday, February 8	4-5 p.m.
Monday, February 19	5-6 p.m.
Friday, February 23	Noon-1 p.m.

Orientation Dates

To get started with the Superior Edge, students attend a one-hour orientation session where criteria for the program is explained.

All of the Orientation sessions will be held in The Back Room, Don H. Bottum University Center. Please call 227-6543 or e-mail edge@nmu.edu to register.

To schedule an orientation for your class or student organization, please call (906) 227-6543 or e-mail edge@nmu.edu.



Interview Preparation Workshops Presented at Iron Mountain High School

The Michigan Works! Service Center in Dickinson County presented two interview preparation workshops at Iron Mountain High School this winter. Senior-level students from Pam Petrie's Economic classes attended the workshops to help clarify and confirm the required interviewing skills needed to be successful in a career search. These students were working on an interviewing preparation project at the time, and Mrs. Petrie

wanted an outside source to reiterate how imperative interviewing skills are to their future employment success.

The students received hand-outs outlining important interviewing guidelines such as: "How to Impress Employers", "Why Your Appearance is so Important" and "How to Answer Basic Interview Questions". The Human Resource Specialist discussed each topic in detail with the students, emphasizing their

importance. They also viewed an informative interviewing what-not-to-do video called *First Impressions*.

At the end of the second workshop, one of the students commented, "Thank you for the workshop. You did a great job and shared some good information with us."

Mrs. Petrie was impressed with the workshops provided and looks forward to utilizing Michigan Works! services for her future classes.



Marquette General Hospital Receives Verification as Level II Trauma Center

Verification from American College of Surgeons Committee on Trauma

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"Because of our committed staff, we were able to accomplish this verification in only two and a half years. It's unprecedented for any hospital to achieve this in such a short timeframe," said Kosinski.

Emergency Department and ICU nurses must undergo ongoing specialty training in trauma care, and a core group of surgeons and emergency department physicians must complete specific continuing education courses on trauma once a year.

Other aspects of a Level II center include data collection and re-

porting, tracking of trauma patients throughout their hospital stay, and public education on trauma prevention and safety.

"The American College of Surgeons is very specific in emphasizing that Trauma Center care begins at the scene of an accident, continues in the ambulance, the emergency department, and through every phase of care including physical rehabilitation and discharge," said trauma surgeon Patrick Bulinski, M.D. "In effect, a Level II Trauma Center is not just the Emergency Department or emergency care; it is a hospital-wide standard of care and commitment to the injured

patient."

"We also are working with community hospitals throughout the region to develop a U.P. Trauma Network," Kosinski said. "In a region like ours, close cooperation and communication are essential in transporting trauma patients to the primary care hospital, with possible transfer to a trauma center for treatment."

For questions or more information on the trauma program, please call the Marquette General Trauma Department at 906-225-4615 or 1-800-562-9753, extension 4615. For emergency care, call 911 or your local emergency number.



Do your employees have the computer skills they need?



*The World's
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Certified Program!*

What is ICDL?

- International Computer Driving License (ICDL) was created to help individuals become more competent with computer use, increasing their productivity at work, school and home.
- ICDL is a fully integrated solution that successfully encourages candidates through a development path that produces skilled job candidates. The ICDL program consists of diagnostic tests to determine the candidate's knowledge, e-learning options, and tests and certification for those who pass.



Benefits of ICDL?

- Reduces the time needed for training by 35-40%
- ICDL Certified employees give them a new confidence in using a computer as a tool when entering an existing or new work environment
- Employers will have a better return on investment, higher productivity, and higher confidence in hiring ICDL Certified candidates
- Statistics show that ICDL certified candidates are more productive, less apt to rely on costly support services and ready to address the business of the enterprise
- Over 140 hours per year/per employee are lost in solving an employee's basic computer questions
- An ICDL Certified candidate will save an employer those lost hours because they will already be skilled and knowledgeable

Contact your local Michigan Works! to learn more!

alger

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f. 906.387.4938

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