

Task Force Addresses Economic Development in Menominee County



There is a new task force in Menominee County! The River Cities Chamber of Commerce is spearheading an Economic Development Task Force for Menominee County. In 2002, the Chamber changed its mandate from a local focus to a regional one. By taking the lead on Economic Develop-

ment, the Chamber begins action on its new mandate. Our Board recognizes that as Menominee County becomes more active with economic development, the entire region will benefit," says Sylvie Nelson, River Cities Chamber of Commerce Director. The Chamber has put together a core of business leaders and government entities, including Wisconsin business and industry, to explore the economic development challenges faced by Menominee County. Participants include Bay Area Medical Center,

City of Menominee, Emerson Tool, Kimberly-Clark, Nicolet National Bank, Stephenson National Bank & Trust, Wells Fargo Bank, Menominee County, Michigan Works! The Job Force Board, Stephenson Area Public Schools and Wisconsin Public Service. This task force will also work with surrounding economic development agencies to strengthen its approach and commitment to furthering economic development in Menominee County. This task force has identified the

strengths and weaknesses of Menominee County and is in the process of putting together an action plan for Economic Development. Ms. Nelson further states that, "having the business leaders on both sides of the "river" taking an active role in identifying those priorities and action plans, the entire region will benefit and lead to a better quality of life for all of our residents." For more information contact Sylvie Nelson, River Cities Chamber of Commerce Director at (906) 863-2679 or snelson@rivercities.com.

New Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth Officially Opens

for Business – State Department Created by Gov. Granholm as One Stop Shop for Business



Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and Director David C. Hollister announced that the new Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth (DLEG) is now officially open for business.

"I created DLEG to promote job creation and economic growth in Michigan by centralizing and streamlining the state's job, workforce, and economic development functions under one department. The new department will be a one-stop shop for business creation and development," Granholm said. "We all know Michigan is the best place to raise a family and locate a business - but we want the rest of the nation to experience 'mitten envy.'"

Executive Order 2003-18 renamed the Department of Consumer and Industry Services as DLEG and transferred programs of the Department of Career Development aimed at matching employers

and workers to DLEG to help create one of best-trained workforces in the nation. Key programs from other departments focusing on economic development issues were also transferred to DLEG, including:

- Commission for the Blind
- Commission on Disability Concerns
- Advisory Council on Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Fire-related programs and State Fire Marshal
- Michigan Broadband Development Authority
- Michigan Extension Telecommunications Rights-of-Way Oversight (METRO) Authority
- Michigan Next Energy Authority
- Michigan Strategic Fund

The new DLEG Web site unveiled today is www.michigan.gov/dleg. The new DLEG logo was designed by Gina DiNatale Coon, senior designer for the former Michigan Department of Career Development, now part of DLEG. Her design was the winning logo out of four finalists designed and voted on in a logo contest by DLEG employees.

"Today is an exciting day not only for our 4,500 employees, but also for the citizens and businesses of Michigan as well," Hollister said. "Governor Granholm's goal has been to make Michigan number one, the magnet state, with the top economic development, job creation, innovation, entrepreneurship and urban revitalization programs. I am excited that this new department and its close working relationship with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation as part of DLEG puts us one step closer to making this objective a reality."

Former CIS programs in the new department include:

- Most regulatory functions that relate specifically to commercial, business, and workers' issues will be in DLEG, such as the Bureau of Commercial Services, the Michigan Public Service Commission, Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Office of Financial & Insurance Services, the Bureau of Construction Codes/Fire Safety, the Bureau of Safety & Regulation (which has been renamed effective today as

MIOSHA, the Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration), the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, the Michigan Tax Tribunal, and the Liquor Control Commission.

- A new Worker's Compensation Appellate Commission is created.
- The Bureau of Worker's & Unemployment Compensation will be divided into three agencies within the DLEG: Unemployment Insurance Agency; Workers' Compensation Agency; and the Wage and Hour Division.

Functions of the former DCD now in DLEG include:

- Office of Workforce Development
- Employment Service Agency
- Office of Career and Technical Preparation
- Office of Adult Education and Spanish-Speaking Affairs
- Michigan Rehabilitation Services
- Office of Postsecondary Services

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Westwood Career Day a Success!

Five members of the Marquette Michigan Works! Service Center provided career guidance expertise to Westwood High School students at its Career day in Ishpeming on Wednesday, December 3, 2003. 375 students par-



Marquette Michigan Works! Team and Larry Boburka of Westwood High School

ticipated in The Michigan Works! Employability Skills workshop where students learned about employability skills in the topic areas of: How to Look For A Job, Networking Strategies, Correctly Filling Out Job Applications, and Preparing For Interviews.

“The day enables us to encourage students to try out career paths, to expand their horizons about the possibilities,” says Larry Boburka, Guidance Counselor at Westwood, and coordinator of the annual Career Day.

Students from Eighth to Twelfth

grade at Westwood High School spent the day with a busy schedule of presenters from local colleges and universities, Michigan Works! Armed Forces and business professionals encompassing over 70 specific career fields. Students had an opportunity to learn about the daily life of Broadcasters, Crime Scene Investigators, Auto Mechanics, FBI Field Agents, Accountants, Restaurant Managers, Surgical Techs and Doctors.

Every year, students are given this opportunity to talk informally with people who know what it really takes to do the job. They



Careers in the Military presented to students at Westwood High School

ask questions about the hours, the working conditions, the education required and also hear stories about the sometimes funny and challenging aspects of the job, from the perspective of experience. “It

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4th Annual Upper Michigan Safety Conference

January 29, 2004 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Two Locations

NEW Recreational Safety Day
January 28, 2004 - Noon to 4 p.m.

NEW 2 days
2 locations

TRACK ONE M-TEC at Bay College	TRACK TWO Island Resort & Convention Center
ONE DAY COST \$39	TWO DAY COST \$59

On the web at: www.baycollege.edu/www/umsc.html
For registration information call
906.786.5802 or 800.221.2001, x1227 or 1510

Supporting Organizations

Meadwestvaco

Michigan Works! The Job Force Board

Island Resort and Casino

UPPCO



at Bay College
2000 North 30th St
Escanaba, Michigan

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CIS bureaus whose core missions are more closely in line with other state departments were transferred out of DLEG, including:

- Bureau of Family Services, which regulates adult foster care, homes for the aged, child care homes/centers, child caring institutions, child placing agencies, adult/children camps, and court-operated facilities. It will be renamed "Office of Children and Adult Licensing" and transfers to the Family Independence Agency (www.michigan.gov/fia).
- Bureau of Health Services, which regulates health professionals, transfers to Department of Community Health (www.michigan.gov/mdch).
- Bureau of Health Systems, which regulates health facilities, emergency medical services and nursing homes; Controlled Substances Advisory Commission; and Advisory Committee on Pain and Symptom Management; transfers to Department of Community Health (www.michigan.gov/mdch).

Need Exceptional Youth Workers?

Michigan Works! Youth Works! provides area businesses with qualified youth candidates to fill their employment needs. For the City of Escanaba's Department of Public Safety, the experience was a perfect match. Michigan Works! Career Development Consultant, Electa Shepeck, met with Mr. Jim Hansen, Director, and Officer Gary Lark of the Department to introduce the Michigan Works! Internship opportunities to place a youth intern at the Department of Public Safety.

The internships are designed to help youth attain personal goals, and experience businesses expect-



Melissa Washcer, a participant in Michigan Works! Youth Works!, on duty at the Delta County Department of Safety.

tations of employee's while gaining meaningful work experience. The youth learn valuable job related skills and a chance to develop personal ethics as a young adult in actual day-to-day job conditions.

A successful match was made with the Department of Public Safety and Melissa Washcer. Melissa moved to the area from Ontonagon, Wisconsin, and was enrolled as a freshman at Bay De Noc Community College, to pursue a degree in the field of Criminal Justice.

Being a new youth to the area it was very difficult for Melissa to obtain employment. Her search eventually led her to the Delta County Michigan Works! Service Center. Melissa told us, "When I first came to Michigan Works, I thought I knew how to effectively search for employment. After several failed attempts to gain employment, I started attending workshops that were employment related

training. With assistance from the team at Michigan Works! I realized that I had been missing the key materials it takes to be successful in a job search. I needed an updated resume, I hadn't been filling out applications the way the businesses would want to see them, and I lacked the positive motivation and persistence it takes when trying to establish employment in a new location."

According to Officer Gary Lark, "Melissa began her internship with Public Safety by an initial interview, greeting the staff, and touring the facility. She was exposed to the fire floor, trucks and equipment. Once fitted for a uniform, she was given police training and patrol time with officers. Melissa was sworn in at City Hall to enforce ordinances by the county clerk, and was assigned a patrol vehicle. She also assisted officers during night patrols, and did a very good job when exposed to the variety of serious and unusual complaints."

"Melissa took time out to introduce herself to the local businesses and was found to be a very good PR person. The Department is very pleased with how well she did in this program. It was an opportunity that will help pave the way for other Michigan Works! candidates in the future." Will Carne, President of the Job Force Board, echoed the comments of Officer Gary Lark, noting "The Job Force Board is delighted to see successful business partnerships with our Michigan Works! Service Centers that assist youth into Career Paths."

Melissa is continuing her career pursuit in criminal justice and adds, "Michigan Works! gave me an opportunity to experience and research further the field of interest I had chosen as my future occupation. I learned an array of valuable skills and experiences that will assist me to stay on track to attain my college degree and my long-term personal goal of becoming a police officer".

Westwood Career Day is a Success!

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helped me zero in on my future plans, they basically told us the good and bad things about the job," another student said. Learning about careers in the Medical field drew a lot of attention. The sessions were well attended and full of spirited discussion. A Senior reported, "I liked learning about medical careers because I hadn't really considered one prior to career day. Now I feel that nursing might be

a good field for me."

The Michigan Works! presentation to students about the services it provides to in-school youth, internship services, and opportunities for assistance with career and employment needs was well received.

"Having the opportunity to share information about Employability Skills, and Michigan Works! ser-

vices with the students of Westwood High School at Career Awareness Day was an exciting event. We all learned a lot from each other and I congratulate all participants in making this event at Westwood so informational and fun. I look forward to continuing to work with the students and staff as the Career Development Consultant for the Michigan Works! Youth Program," said Nina Garcia-Locke.

For information regarding the Michigan Works! Youth Services call 1-800-MI-Works!



Michigan Works! Amy Gibbs at Westwood's Career Day



Ready for Work?

Ready or not, Michigan Works has unveiled a new and exiting initiative called "Ready for Work." This workshop series responds to the needs of the business community and helps provide businesses with quality entry level workers who have a solid understanding of workplace requirements.

For more information, contact your local Michigan Works! Service Center.



www.jobforce.org 1-800-285-WORKS!

Benefit from workshops at Michigan Works!

Managing Change/Assessments– Easy to do assessments that help you bring your hidden skills and talents out. They also help you decide what interests you have. The workshop includes discussions on current issues.

Computer Basics– Learn basic computer skills, the components of the computer, and how they interact. Learn to use word processing software to create resumes and cover letters and how to use the internet as a tool for your job search.

Computer Lab– Utilize computer systems to do your job search, access educational websites, practice typing, OPAC, and follow up or complete any assignments.

Resume, Thank you & Cover Letter writing– Discussion and tips on how to write an effective resume and cover letter that will get you noticed.

Labor Trends/Job Search– Learn new techniques that you can apply to your job search, both online and in networking. Learn to use labor market statistics to help you decide what choice or employment your future has to offer.

Ready for Work– *Would you hire you?* Learn about employment issues and get tips for interviewing. Knowing the right things to do and say when job hunting can make you successful.

Budgeting/Self-Assessment Review and Occupational Outlook– We use this time to review assessments from Monday's class and also to present you with budgeting alternatives and forecasts for specific occupations.

Networking– Discover successful job search methods. Leave with a better understanding of the power of networking and how your own personal list of contacts can help you find employment.

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114 W Superior Street Suite 4
Munising, MI 49862
P: 906-387-4937 / F: 906-387-4938

DICKINSON COUNTY
200 Fairbanks
Iron Mountain, MI 49801
P: 906-774-3647 / F: 906-774-6066

MENOMINEE COUNTY
2604 10th Street
Menominee, MI 49858
P: 906-863-9957 / F: 906-863-9986

DELTA COUNTY
2831 N. Lincoln Road
Escanaba, MI 49829
P: 906-789-9732 / F: 906-789-1904

MARQUETTE COUNTY
1498 O'Dovero Drive
Marquette, MI 49855
P: 906-228-3075 / F: 906-228-4372

SCHOOLCRAFT COUNTY
200 North Maple Street
Manistique, MI 49854
P: 906-341-1111 / F: 906-341-1112

COMMUNITY EVENTS

January 12

Business Showcase

Superior Lanes
Call the Lake Superior Community Partnership
for more information (906) 226-6591

January 16

Operation Action U.P.'s Annual Meeting

Great Lakes Room– Northern Michigan University
Call the Delta County Chamber of Commerce
for more information (906) 786-2192

January 21

Business Showcase

Dental Associates
Call the Lake Superior Community Partnership
for more information (906) 226-6591

January 28

BAH

Ferdinand's Mexican Restaurant
Call the Delta County Chamber of Commerce
for more information (906) 786-2192

January 28 and 29

4th Annual Safety Conference

On the web at:
www.baycollege.edu/www/umsc.html
For registration information, call (906) 786-5802 or
(800) 221-2001 x 1127 or x 1510

February 2

Bay Area Economic Club Dinner

Bay College Heirman Center
Call the Delta County Chamber of Commerce
for more information (906) 786-2192

February 7

Annual Love Affair Dinner

Danforth Place
Call the Delta County Chamber of Commerce
for more information (906) 786-2192

February 9

Business Showcase

Northern Michigan University's Starbucks Coffee
Call the Lake Superior Community Partnership
for more information (906) 226-6591

Find us on the web at: www.jobforce.org
or call toll-free: 1-800-285-WORKS