

In The
SP  **TLIGHT**

**ANCHOR COUPLING, INC. OF MENOMINEE COUNTY:
A CUTTING EDGE MANUFACTURER**

COMMUNITY EVENTS

January 21st

LSCP Operation Action Meeting
NMU Great Lakes Room (9:00-1:30)
Call the Lake Superior Community Partnership for more information (906) 226-6591

January 27th

Business Showcase (5:00-7:00)
River Valley State Bank
Call the Dickinson Area Partnership for more information (906) 774-2002

February 23rd

Business After Hours (5:00-7:00)
AAA of Michigan
Location: Westwood Mall Office
Call the Lake Superior Community Partnership for more information (906) 226-6591

Menominee County is home to a major manufacturer of high quality hydraulic hose assemblies to both large and small Original Equipment Manufacturers since 1938. From plows to rocket launchers, Anchor Coupling, Inc. has the expertise, the products and the service to make other companies' products more successful.

Anchor owns a family of manufacturing plants located in the United States, Belgium, Italy and the United Kingdom. These plants use raw ingredients to manufacture hydraulic hose and couplings. Controlling the process from start to finish allows Anchor to monitor each step for conformance to standards and to ensure timeliness. In house engineering services, comprehensive testing and many forms of

electronic data interchange keep Anchor Coupling on the cutting edge. Anchor tests products 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to ensure they meet the highest standards.

Braided, high-pressure spiral and Teflon/stainless hoses are available from Anchor Coupling in industry standard configurations. Many specialty hoses with reduced bend radius and high abrasion covers are designed for rigorous applications with high temperature capabilities. Hose products are MSHA approved, and many have global marine and coast guard certifications.

Couplings are manufactured in both one- and two-piece stems. Machining, extrusion, brazing, plating and bending are performed at An-

chor's own facilities. All assemblies are designed with permanently attached couplings. Specialty assemblies with multiple bend couplings are manufactured to solve tough design issues with severe space limitations. Anchor designs and manufactures products to suit its customer's specific needs. These products are in service worldwide from the Arctic to the Tropics.

Michigan Works! handles employment applications for Anchor Coupling, Inc. The company has also used the Menominee Michigan Works! Center for the testing of selected incumbent workers applying for advanced positions requiring computer use. Michigan Works! The Job Force Board is proud of its partnership with Anchor and wishes Anchor continued success.

**OSF ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL INVESTS IN THE
HEALTH AND THE WELLNESS OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY**



When it comes to the health and wellness of a community OSF St. Francis Hospital is ever diligent in anticipating those needs. The hospital is enhancing its treatment and services by nearly \$4 million in expansion projects. Plans include a fixed medical resonance imaging (MRI) unit, a third gastroenterology (GI) lab and a new Cardiac Diagnostic Center.

Earlier this year, St. Francis formed an agreement with Upper Michigan Cardiovascular Associates, P.C., in Marquette to provide enhanced cardiology and cardiovascular services at the hospital. Cardiolo-

gists and cardiovascular specialists see patients on a weekly basis for cardiology and cardiovascular and thoracic surgery consultations, outpatient procedures and ongoing care. They also assist with out-patient cardiac testing, including treadmill, echo and nuclear imaging, and with coordination of cardiac evaluation and care for patients requiring services at a regional care facility.

The agreement provides a valuable service for patients in Delta County, who no longer have to leave town to see a cardiac or cardiovascular specialist.

The specialists are seeing patients in Suite 203 of the OSF Medical Office Building until the Cardiac Diagnostic Center is completed – likely mid-summer. To accommodate

the new Center, the hospital will be relocating its Special Care Unit to the second floor, near the Medical/Surgical Unit. The Special Care Unit currently has eight beds and will be expanded to 12 – all of which will be monitored 24 hours a day.

At a cost of approximately \$800,000, the Cardiac Diagnostic Center will feature technology that will allow advanced testing, which could rule out the need for invasive procedures such as catheterization.

With the introduction of two new surgeons to the area – Drs. Abraham Campbell and Guy Jeanblanc – the hospital has also added a third GI lab at a cost of approximately \$70,000. The third lab has also allowed specialists from the Upper Peninsula Digestive Disease As-

sociates in Marquette to increase their time at St. Francis to five days a week, which will reduce the wait time for patients for appointments, diagnosis and treatment.

One of the most significant changes at the hospital will be the addition of a fixed MRI unit and emergency department renovation. Thanks for a **\$1 million donation from Mr. and Mrs. John Besse** last year, St. Francis was able to apply for a fixed MRI unit. Pending Certificate of Need (CON) approval, the hospital will be adding on to the Emergency Department in the spring to accommodate the new unit.





Will Carne, President Job Force Board



The Job Force Board wants to congratulate and thank all of our Upper Peninsula Business and Industry for their support in getting our veterans back to work. The President's National Hire Veterans Committee has been a nationwide campaign to

HIRING VETERANS FIRST CAMPAIGN CONTINUES!

heighten employer awareness of the diverse capabilities, broad range of skills, excellent training, and proven character of our veterans.

The campaign, through its Web site, www.hirevetsfirst.org, and the U.S. Department of Labor's Toll-Free Help Line 1-877-US2-JOBS (TTY: 1-877-889-5627), has referred employers to local Michigan Works! Service Centers for assistance in connecting to veterans.

When you recruit recently separated military veterans, you are reaching out to a unique pool of potential employees who have all ready demonstrated integrity, commitment to excellence and the desire to do the best job possible.

Veterans give you a clear edge on the competition. As a result of the intensive Leadership training they receive. The military trains people to accept & discharge responsibility for activities, resources and one's own

behavior. This training includes: setting an example, giving carefully considered directions, inspiring leadership capabilities in others and continually motivating others in the group.

One definite characteristic of military service is that service members must perform. They must do their job, do it right the first time and in a timely fashion. They are continuously setting priorities, meeting schedules and accomplishing their missions. Pressure and stress are built into this, but service members are taught how to deal with all these factors in a positive and effective manner

Veterans also bring added value to your business through their specialized advanced training. All service personnel receive advanced training in their fields. Their career fields designate a specialized focus & skill building for their individual jobs. Advanced training and cross-

referenced training can be on computerized, financial, medical, engineering, administrative, personnel, technical mechanical or security fields.

Is your business in need of qualified employees? Need assistance to meet your hiring needs?

Our Michigan Works! Service Centers offer comprehensive services to our business and industry. Michigan Works! Service Centers have Local Veterans Employment Representatives (LVERs), Disabled Veterans Outreach Workers (DVOW) and Business Representatives who are ready to assist you in your hiring needs.

Hiring Veterans is just smart business. We are excited about this critical campaign and look forward to working with you to provide your business with an incredible workforce; those women and men who have served our country.



AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK— HIRE VETS FIRST CAMPAIGN CONTINUES

American Communication Network is a leader in the rapid expanding global telecommunications industry. A.C.N. is one of the world's leading telecommunication sellers, having served millions of customers in 18 different countries. The company is experiencing more than 40% annualized growth and as such has earned its place as one of the fastest growing direct sales and customer service companies in the world.

American Communication Network has a call center right in the middle of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan in Gwinn. When looking for employees with the right knowl-

edge, skills and abilities A.C.N. turns to Michigan Works!. Michigan Works! handles the applications system, administers an employer required typing test and also a call center simulation assessment. A.C.N. understands the value of hiring Veterans as they possess strong communication backgrounds and strong work ethics.

American Communication Network hired over eight veterans in the past year and over six still remain on staff. Seth Prusi and Randall McNaughton are two examples of "sterling" employees, according to Sherry Dominiski, HR at A.C.N.

"Randy" has been at A.C.N. for over a year and continues to excel in his position. Randy served in the United States Army as a Biomedical Equipment Repairman and was looking to come to Upper Michigan because he enjoys the outdoors.

Seth is an Upper Michigan Native and served in the United States Army and is an active member of the Michigan National Guard. Seth was honored in Germany in May of 2003 for his work done for the 1075th Maintenance Battalion in Hoenfels, Germany with a Certificate of Appreciation. Seth joined A.C.N. February of 2004.

Another Veteran employee of A.C.N., Stephen Stacy was deployed to Iraq in October. Stephen will remain on the A.C.N. payroll for his tour and has a job waiting for him upon his return.

We are proud to be a human resource service partner with A.C.N." commented Paul Arsenault, Chairman of the Board for the Six County Employment Alliance and Job Force Board member. "On behalf of the Six County Employment Alliance Board and the Job Force Board, we want to congratulate A.C.N. in hiring Veterans who have served our country."

CURRAN AND COMPANY PLEASED WITH HIRING OF VETERAN

"He's doing great! He is extremely hard-working, has a good working knowledge and is beyond my expectations!" These are just a few of the accolades Eugene Mainville has received from his employer, Mark Curran, President of Curran & Co.

Curran & Co is a small construction company serving Mar-

quette County for over twelve years, focusing on residential and multi-family apartment buildings. Michigan Works! has been posting job orders, collecting and screening resumes, proctoring assessments and providing other relevant resources for Curran & Co. One of their immediate needs was to find a

hard-working, knowledgeable and ethical carpenter.

Gene was receiving career consulting services from Dale Stephenson, Veteran's Representative and Michelle Delisle, Business Service Consultant at the Marquette Michigan Works! Service Center. As a former Veteran, Gene's work eth-

ics, knowledge and skills and abilities matched the hiring requirements of Curran & Company. According to Gene, "I was offered the position within two hours! My employer, Mark, is super and I wouldn't have this without Michigan Works! This is a dream come true!"



STRONG WORK ETHIC AND MILITARY BACKGROUND A PLUS FOR WORKING AT LOUISIANA PACIFIC

Louisiana Pacific, founded in 1973, is headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee, and is a leading manufacturer of building materials in North America. LP has facilities throughout the United States, Canada and in Chile with more than 40 manufacturing facilities in North America. One of these manufacturing plants is located in Gwinn, Michigan.

LP has a distinct advantage over the competition – our people. For over 27 years, LP has provided customers with the products they need with the superior quality they have

come to expect, and would not be able to do so if it were not for the high quality staff LP employs.

Michigan Works! is where LP goes to post their position externally when a job opening occurs. The job is posted on the Michigan Talent Bank and all applications flow through the Michigan Works! offices within the six county area, directly to the Human Resource Department at LP.

All Veteran's applications are the first to be sent and therefore, the first viewed by the Human Resource Department at Louisiana

Pacific. No doubt, the strong work ethic and military background is a positive force behind these applications sent to LP. LP has hired over nine vets since October of last year and the following is an example of such an applicant.

Donna Curtis came in to Michigan Works!, Marquette in July of 2004, and met with Dale Stephenson, Veterans Employment Specialist. Donna had been in the Air Force for ten years and worked as a Supply Systems Analyst while in the service. She was employed at the time but she was looking for something that was fulltime with a step

up on a career progression path. Donna also said that she really enjoyed working out of doors and preferred physical labor to office work. When Louisiana-Pacific had an opening, Dale was able to contact Donna to come to Michigan Works! to apply at LP. Donna had the KSAs LP was looking for and joined the company in September of 2004.

"Congratulations to LP for hiring Veterans," adds Will Carne, President of the Job Force Board, "we look forward to continuing to provide the company with our value added human resource services."



HIRING A VETERAN MAKES GOOD BUSINESS SENSE FOR US-41 LUMBER COMPANY OF ESCANABA

Just ask Ed Kuper, Manager of 41 Lumber Company in Escanaba, if hiring a veteran makes good business sense. Ed had an immediate hiring need and called Richard Salo, Disabled Veterans Outreach Worker at the Delta County Michigan Works! Service Center. 41

Lumber was seeking a reliable worker who could adapt immediately to the job as a warehouse assistant. Richard referred a US Army recently honorably discharged veteran Brad Skorupski of Escanaba. Brad was successful at his interview and landed the job immediately. Ed

Kuper said, "Michigan Works is our first choice for locating quality workers. Richard is very helpful and met our needs quickly!"

For more information on how your company can benefit from hiring a Veteran, please contact Richard at 789-9732 extension 210.

ENTREPRENEURIAL EXPO AIMS TO KEEP COLLEGE STUDENTS IN THE AREA



Dave Ollila of VIOSport (www.viosport.com) presents on the topic of E-Commerce during the NMU EXPO.

In an effort to keep seniors in the region who will be graduating from the upper Peninsula's four colleges, the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance and partners have developed a series of Entrepreneurial Expos. These Expos feature resources for students to identify opportunities for micro and small business development as well as employment options after graduation.

A key component of the Expos is the development of a DVD which features local entrepreneurs

and professionals across all age ranges. The DVD features profiles of entrepreneurs such as Rick Shapero, artist Kayo Miwa, Sarah Rupiper and more. The DVD also discusses the quality of life and recreational opportunities and promotes the U.P. as a viable place to stay and start a career, profession or a business.

The DVD and a variety of resources were available to students and other interested community members during three Entrepreneurial Expos held this November

and December. The Expo's were held with local partners at Northern Michigan University, Lake Superior State University and Michigan Tech and Finlandia University. Over 60 vendors participated in these expos, and over 300 participants attended the workshops and visited the trade area of the expos over the three days.

To learn more about the UPEDA or to inquire about the DVD *Growing Businesses. Harvesting Jobs*. Visit the UPEDA web-site at www.upeda.com.



VETERAN FACTOR AT STEWART MANUFACTURING, LLC OF SPALDING



Stewart Manufacturing, LLC in Spalding Michigan.

“We are always interested in hiring Vets,” says Gregory R. Stewart, President of Stewart Manufacturing, LLC in Spalding, MI. Stewart, himself, is a veteran.

In January 2003, Stewart purchased the company formerly known as PS Manufacturing, which was founded in 1969. Stewart has worked in the manufacturing business for over fifteen years and his experience and expertise has established the company as a quality-oriented machining center providing on-time delivery of its products.

Stewart Manufacturing customers know they are just a phone call away from personalized service. They have a highly qualified staff, engineering capabilities, a well-equipped quality department and skilled machinists that work

as a team to provide the best possible parts and service to their customers. Veterans employed

at the company play an important role in maintaining quality production and timely service.

“The allure behind hiring veterans is that they have learned through their time in the military, a sense of discipline and loyalty,” says Stewart. “They know the urgency and importance in getting the mission accomplished. They have developed leadership skills that are very important to an employer who is experiencing continued growth and hiring.”

With the recent purchase of the former Les Brown plant in Hermansville, and an investment in new equipment, Stewart Manufacturing now has two (2) facilities offering vertical and horizontal machining capabilities of various metals with assembly, if required. Employment has grown

from nine to sixty employees, and has lead to a need for more persons who embrace the work ethic necessary to meet unforgiving production deadlines.



Rudy Schwartzmier (left) and James Cannon, both Navy veterans, pictured in front of a new MAKINO CNC machining center at Stewart Manufacturing, LLC Hermansville plant

To date, the staff of Stewart Manufacturing includes eight military veterans. Production Supervisor, Rudy Schwartzmier, is among them. While walking through the plants at any given moment, Schwartzmier particularly values the efforts of employees who voluntarily step up their efforts to assist co-workers in meeting their production goals. Veteran status is an attractive plus when Schwartzmier reviews an applicant’s resume. It indicates that the individual has already

been taught to see, and to work toward, the larger goal beyond his/her individual assignment.

Veterans Mark Morehouse, Vernon Streeter, Ryan DeWyse and James Cannon currently fill Machine Operator positions. Fred Antonissen holds a Machine Maintenance position and Richard Smith is a Tool Maker. Michigan Works! has assisted with the placement of most of these veterans, along with many other Stewart Manufacturing employees.

Michigan Works! currently provides human resource services to Stewart Manufacturing, LLC including application processing, talent referrals, and advertising the company’s available positions on the Michigan Talent Bank at www.michworks.org

Stewart Manufacturing, LLC is looking to fill several more positions over the next few months. Qualified applicants for advertised positions are encouraged to contact one of the Michigan Works! Service Centers in the Central Upper Peninsula by submitting a resume and/or filling out a company application. Or they may e-mail a resume in MSWord (rtf) format to: rsta-cey@jobforce.org.

HIRE VETS FIRST SUCCESS STORY: MICHIGAN WORKS! LENDS A HAND TO VETERAN JON HRONEK



Jon Hronek, served 10 years of military service in the U.S. Army and was recently discharged. Jon was working as Specialist for the Army as he completed his year’s active duty when he found himself looking for employment as civilian. He relocated to the Manistique area to be closer to their family.

Jon began volunteering at the

VFW could bring him closer to the community and with local employment opportunities.

With assistance from Michigan Works! Jon became employed full time by Direct T.V. as one of the Upper Peninsula Customer Service Installer/Repair Man.



Bring Your Profits UP

A quality labor force. Outstanding education and worker training opportunities. Affordable and affordable land. A connected infrastructure. And unlimited recreational opportunities. It's a dream business environment.

UP/EDA Invest in Michigan's Upper Peninsula... Where Success Comes Naturally.

The free and confidential solutions, contact the Upper Peninsula Economic Development Alliance. 906.235.0108 www.superiormichigan.com

Happy
New Year!
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