

Nu-Vu / Toastmaster Recognized as Marinette Menominee 2007 Business of the Year



L to R: Matt Deming, Nu-Vu; Najib Madlouf, Nu-Vu; Will Carne and Joe Esbrook, Michigan Works! The Job Force Board.

Michigan Works! The Job Force Board has had the privilege of presenting the Business of the Year award at the Marinette Menominee Area Chamber Awards Ceremony for the past several years.

Nu-Vu / Toastmaster is an award winning company which was purchased and relocated to Menominee almost 30 years ago. Just this past summer, Nu-Vu beat out Mexico, the Philippines and others for the opportunity to manufacture the prestigious Toastmaster line of products. Toastmaster credited their

decision largely in part to the high-quality work they produce at the Menominee, MI plant and for their first-rate workforce.

This is yet another U.P. company setting the standards on a local, state, national and international level. They are a chamber member, member of the Marinette Menominee Manufacturers Association and active players in the Upper Peninsula Regional Industrial Manufacturers Skills Alliance.

Under the leadership of their current president, they received numerous awards and recognition, including the prestigious 2006 Kitchen Innovations Award and the 2006 Operation Action UP Business Excellence Award.

Nu-Vu / Toastmaster is a leader in on-premise baking – manufacturing a wide variety of commercial baking equipment for restaurants and institutions of all sizes. Some of their main products include baking ovens, bread proofers and pizza equipment.

Nu-Vu / Toastmaster contributes to the economic and workforce well-being of the Marinette Menominee area as well as the Upper Peninsula. Thank you for your business commitment to our great communities.

Michigan Works! Joins in Celebration of Alger County Being Chosen as “100 Best Communities for Young People”

Alger County has been chosen for recognition as one of the “100 Best Communities for Young People” by America’s Promise Alliance. The competition honors communities ranging from small towns to urban neighborhoods across America for their commitment to provide healthy, safe and caring environments for young people. This is the second year that Alger County has won this distinction, also having been chosen in 2005.

At the heart of America’s Promise Alliance criteria for 100 Best Communities pledge is to secure the “essentials” for children to succeed. The Five Promises being: caring adults, safe places, a healthy start, an effective education and opportunities to help others. Over a thousand communities from 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands applied for the 2007 competition.

A celebration took place at 4 p.m. on Thursday, March 29th at the Mather Auditorium and included presentations from prominent dignitaries, Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm by way of video, Sheri Davie, representing US Senator Debbie Stabenow presenting a Certificate of Congressional Recognition, Representative Bart Stupak’s Congressional Aide Tom Baldini reading a congratulatory message, Judy Watson-Olson from the Great Lakes Center for Youth Development and Job Force Board Member, and Mayor Rod Desjardins. Display tables were set up in the hallway of the Mather building from various groups and organizations in Alger County that depict the story of what makes Alger County a great place to live, work and raise children. In attendance was Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialists and their display illustrating their



COMMUNITY EVENTS

June 7 . 2007

Nursing Assessment Course

Location: M-TEC at Bay College

Time: 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Cost: \$105 plus optional purchase of two recommended textbooks

To register or to learn more, call the M-TEC at 906.789.6902, ext. 1227

June 11 . 2007

Business Showcase Sawyer Airport & Q107

Location: UPFront & Co.

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

June 14 . 2007

Business After Hours Michigan Works!

Location: Timberstone

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m. CT

For More Information Call Dickinson Area Partnership at 906.774.2002

June 20 . 2007

Business Showcase Goodwill Industries

Location: Goodwill Industries

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

June 27 . 2007

**Business After Hours Irish Oaks/
Northern Michigan Banks & Trust**

Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

July 18 . 2007

Business Showcase Nordic Bay Lodge

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

For More Information Call Lake Superior Community Partnership at 906.226.8591

July 25 . 2007

**Business After Hours
Charter Business/Charter Media/
OSF St. Francis Hospital**

Time: 5:30-7:30 p.m.

For More Information Call Delta Chamber at 906.786.2192

role in making Alger County one of the best communities to raise children.

Creating Pathways to the Future



Over 900 students and 130 presenters participated in this year's event.

The second annual Pathways to Your Future-Career Choices was held on the campus of Northern Michigan University on April 27th. The program sponsored jointly by NMU, Marquette-Alger Regional Educational Service Agency, and Lake Superior Partners in Education, involved over 900 high school juniors in the Marquette, Gwinn, Westwood, North Star Academy, Ishpeming, Negaunee, Republic-Michigamme, Superior Central, and Munising Schools.

The event provided students with an opportunity to explore a broad range of career and educational options. Students were asked to identify an area of career interest based on the six Michigan Career Pathways, prior to the event. Career areas included:

- Arts and Communication
- Business, Management, Marketing and Technology
- Engineering, Manufacturing and Industrial Technologies
- Health Sciences
- Human Services
- Natural Resources and Agriscience

Over 130 presenters, representing government, business, and community organization sectors, gave students information regarding job specific skills needed to succeed in their careers. In addition, presenters were asked to give a forecast for job opportunities in their related business. Students gained valuable information that they can use while making choices for their final year of high school. Negaunee student Josh Esbrook thought the day went well. "It's been a great opportunity to meet the people that have actually went through all the college courses, earned their degree(s) and are now in the career they had their sights set on," Esbrook said.

Volunteer, Nichole Williams, representing A.G. Edwards & Sons Inc. of Marquette had good things to say about the event. "I see this as a way to get these young students to meet with leaders in the business community. It starts them on their way to relationship building and hopefully will help keep them in our area."

Transporting over 900 students can be challenging. Event coordinator Sandy Meyskens of MARESA said that all went well. "I think there were fewer glitches than last year," Meyskens reported. "We've already started the planning for next year; it seems that every year will just get better."

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

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MICHIGAN WORKS!TM

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!

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!

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- Linking job seekers with local and regional Employment opportunities and job search web sites
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- Providing a resource library of links, videos and software for job seekers
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- Supplying information on employment policies and legal issues

MICHIGAN WORKS!TM **business is UP**

The Job Force Board **is UP**

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

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Dickinson Area Students Participate in Networking Breakfast

Approximately 200 students from both Kingsford High School and Iron Mountain High School participated in the annual student/employer networking breakfast held at the National Guard Armory in Kingsford during the month of April.

Michigan Works! was among the thirteen area businesses sharing valuable tools and resources with the students to help them in their career path decision making process.

The three career paths that were focused on at the event included human services, health sciences and arts & communication. Students were engaged and inquisitive to the information provided. A majority of them came prepared and requested information on the knowledge, skills and abilities that are required in the specific career paths.

Businesses represented at the networking breakfast commented on the students' involvement and interest in the three career paths presented.



Michigan Works! Human Resource Specialists shared career path tools and resources with students.

Dale Carnegie: Creating Leaders of Today & Tomorrow



Jon Walrath, Dale Carnegie Course Trainer.

Jon Walrath, a Dale Carnegie Course trainer, has been busy in the central Upper Peninsula this spring. "We've just completed four different courses in the past month," Walrath reports. Graduates of the Dale Carnegie training were required to attend twelve weekly sessions along with assignments to help them incorporate their new-found skills into everyday living. The goals of the Dale Carnegie Course, Effective Communications and Human Relations, centered on how to strengthen interpersonal relationships, and how to handle and manage stress in today's fast changing workplace. In addition, graduates are better equipped to perform as a persuasive communicator, problem solver and a more focused leader.

"We really get people to stretch themselves," Walrath said. "The leaders of today and tomorrow need to be prepared to move out of their comfort zones and attain new goals," he went on to say.

Walrath has additional trainings for the near future in the area. Carnegie's courses, Leadership Advantage and Leadership Training for Managers, are both focused on how leaders can create a vision and put strategies in place that will make things happen.

To learn more on these and other Carnegie Trainings at www.dalecarnegiesystems.com.

Thank You to Sponsors of the UP Construction Skills Challenge

On April 20, 2007, eight teams of five high school juniors and seniors, involved in construction technology programs throughout the Upper Peninsula, competed in the Inaugural U.P. Construction Skills Challenge at the Jacobetti Center on the campus of Northern Michigan University. Teams demonstrated their skills by constructing pre-designed storage buildings during the competition. The buildings were then donated to Habitat for Humanity to be placed with homes they construct. The top three teams received awards for their achievement.

The 2007 U.P. Construction Skills Challenge Planning Committee would like to thank all the sponsors who contributed to the success of this event!

Thank You!

4-Safety

All Phase Electric (Marquette)

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Fastenal

Gogebic Mechanical Inc.

Iverson's Home Center

Jilbert Dairy Inc.

JP Electric Professionals

Marquette General Health Systems

Menze Construction

Meyer & Sons Co.

Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

Michigan Regional Council of Carpenters

Michigan Works! The Job Force Board

Midway Rental and Sales

OK Industrial Supply

Public Service Garage

Swanson's Hardware

The Safety Store

U.P. Construction Labor Management Council, Inc.

U.P. Construction Regional Skills Alliance

United Building Center

Local Entrepreneur Credits Michigan Works! for Success

From jobseeker to entrepreneur, Scott Martin has come a long way since his first visit to the Marquette County Michigan Works! Service Center.

Scott, a self-described computer wizard, was a regular visitor to the Service Center and soon was able to find employment at Office Equipment Systems where he was employed for four years.

While working for Office Equipment Systems, Scott never gave up his dream of having his own business and working strictly with what he loves – computers. Scott states, "I've been interested in

computers ever since Apple came out with the first color screen."

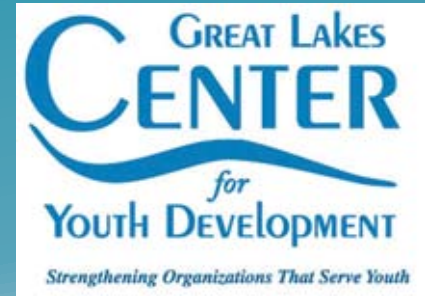
PC Medic, a mobile computer repair service, was founded by Scott Martin in January of 2006. His passion and determination in conjunction with resources such as the Michigan Works! Biz Resource Center turned his dream of becoming an entrepreneur into a reality.

He can be seen in his PC Medic vehicle in Marquette, Iron and Dickinson counties, providing computer repair services to customers in both residential and commercial settings.

Scott often refers to himself as "The Poster Child for Michigan Works!" because he attributes his success to the opportunities he was afforded through services provided by Michigan Works!

Congratulations, Scott. You are officially an Upper Peninsula Entrepreneur!





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