

Lake Superior Community Partnership Celebrates Five Years of Progress... Together

In the early 1980's, community leaders came together to assist in solving serious issues affecting the County's mining industry and threatening to impact thousands of jobs. They named their group the Lake Superior Jobs Coalition. Once the crisis was averted, the group became fairly inactive.

It wasn't until 1995 that the Jobs Coalition was again called to action. The reason ... the possible closure of K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base located in Marquette County. Although the attempt to save the base was unsuccessful, it was through this collaboration that the group realized it needed to continue working together to move Marquette County past the closure and toward redevelopment.

By 1997, the Jobs Coalition had formally organized, solicited leaders from throughout the County and changed its name to the Lake Superior Community Partnership. Community leaders representing labor, industry, business, religion, education, non-profits, media and government formed what has become the Partnership's organizing board of directors.

The Partnership is built on the belief that efforts to improve our quality of life should be:

1. Truly regional in nature; recognizing that we can accomplish far more together and that our competition is truly global.
2. Built around true private-public partnership; recognizing that too often in the past we have not shared responsibility for the progress of our community.
3. Focused on community development; recognizing that enduring economic benefit can spring only from a well of true community development and improvement.

Using these as building blocks, the Partnership envisions a growing, diversified and sustainable regional economy. This economic health will stem from the investment we make in our children and youth and the growing economic opportunity that we provide for our businesses and citizens. Marquette County and the region will be a rewarding place to work, raise a family and enjoy the unique environment and beauty of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Funding for the Partnership comes from both the private and public sector with the non-profit organization being run similarly to a private business rather than a municipality. The ongoing partnership between the LSCP and Marquette County EDC is critical to development efforts and the 1999 merger with the Ishpeming-Negaunee and Marquette Area Chamber of Commerce boosted

membership to just under 1,000 members.

The Partnership's bylaws allow for an 80 person board of directors. The high number of board members was encouraged because it is the most effective way to get input from all facets and regions of the County.

Four volunteer-driven standing committees function to carry out the mission of the Partnership. They are:

- Economic Development
- Chamber of Commerce
- Lake Superior Partners in Education
- Tourism and Recreation

Believe it or not, 2003 marks the five-year anniversary of the cooperative efforts of the Lake Superior Community Partnership. The creation of our umbrella organization to focus the development efforts of a region, while not totally new, is a rare occurrence. To have strong, existing agencies sign on in the name of cooperation and for the good of all is even less heard of. The Lake Superior Community Partnership and all its partners have done both and now lead the effort for a much brighter economic future for all of Marquette County!

Some highlights over the past five years include:

In 1999:

- Organized Stand up For Steel Rally
- Finalist in the Joint Sustainable Community awards program
- Received Outstanding Rural Partnership Award from the Rural Development Council of Michigan
- Received Michigan Small Business Development Center Leadership Award
- Establish county wide member gift certificate program to support shopping locally
- Establish the Lake Superior Leadership Academy, first in the Upper Peninsula
- Receive Michigan Works! School to Work grant to provide evaluation services for School-to-Work program

In 2000:

- Superiorland Ski Club signed a contract for administrative services along with the Ore to Shore Mountain Bike Epic.
- Lake Superior Partners in Education established thru \$50,000 technical assistance grant from Utility Business Education Coalition and Wisconsin Public Ser-



vice/UPPCO

- Collaborate with Marquette County to provide oversight of \$700,000 EDA Marketing Grant

In 2001:

- Established 501C3 Lake Superior Community Partnership Foundation
- Move Ishpeming office into the National Ski Hall of Fame
- Won 2001 Michigan Week State Award for Community Achievement
- Signed Michigan Economic Development Corporation Inter-local Partnership Agreement
- Assisted in securing \$700,000 MEDC grant and two UP business expansions in Negaunee Township
- Website www.marquette.org receive record 1.7 million hits
- Receive Marquette Alger Youth Foundation grant to support the hiring of a Community Development Coordinator
- Organized the country's largest Stand Up For Iron Ore rally and march in support of local mining industry

In 2002:

- Director of Economic Development receives certification as an Economic Development Finance Professional
- Graduate 4th Leadership Academy class
- Partnered with local agencies to provide job training for area youth
- Received Honorable Mention Award for 2002 Annual Report from the International Economic Development Council (IEDC)
- Create Sawyer Aviation Expo drawing thousands to county airport
- Complete Renaissance Zone negotiations for expansion of tax free zone
- Assisted local research and development company expand into manufacturing
- Host Michigan's Governor for breakfast reception

Come one, come all to celebrate our success with us at our 5th year Anniversary Celebration Business Showcase scheduled for Monday, February 10, 2003 from 5 – 7 p.m. at the Ramada Inn of Marquette.

NMU Center Promotes K-12 Economic Education

Northern has revitalized its Center for Economic Education in the hope of preparing Upper Peninsula youth to become effective participants in the global economy. As a member of a statewide delivery network coordinated by the Michigan Council on Economic Education, the NMU center will develop and implement courses, workshops and materials for K-12 teachers.



The regional network consists of two components in addition to the NMU Center for Economic Education. One is a strong base of K-12 Michigan Educator Associates – classroom teachers or other specialized individuals trained to assist the center in working with educators, students and parents. The second is a consortium of school districts that recognize and support the value of economic education. At this point, there are eight participating districts.

NMU first established a Center for Economic Education in the early '80s. Ferrarini said the revitalized version will enhance Northern's presence and impact in the Upper Peninsula.

"This is further evidence that Northern is interested in extending its service beyond campus by reaching out to other facets of the region," she said. "We have a lot of human talent in the area and it makes sense to mobilize those resources and tap the expertise of state and national associations to increase the quality of economic education in the Upper Peninsula. By doing so, we promote the growth of responsible, productive citizens who are knowledgeable consumers, savers and investors and lifelong decision makers."

To fund the activities of the center, the College of Arts and Sciences has committed office space, granted reallocation time for the director and promised funding for the center's Web site, brochure and annual expenses. The Michigan

"We are going to help them introduce economics to the curriculum by incorporating the vocabulary in activities they are already completing in the classroom," said Tawni Ferrarini, NMU economics professor and center director. "Economics dominates every aspect of our lives. It's not just part of politics, business or commerce. It's also strategic thinking through life in terms of costs and benefits of anything we do."

In October, Ferrarini received the Outstanding Rookie Award from the National Association of Economic Educators. Two months earlier, she assumed the role of center director, which involves developing and evaluating programs. These include graduate credit courses on integrating economics across the K-12 curriculum, professional development offerings on how to meet Michigan Standards and Benchmarks, and in-service workshops on virtual economics.

Council on Economic Education has also provided administrative grants.

NMU to add Gerontology Minor

There is a new academic minor offered at Northern Michigan University beginning in the Winter 2003 semester. The sociology and social work department will be offering gerontology, a 22-credit minor.

According to Patricia Cianciolo, an associate professor in the sociology/social work department at NMU, many schools are developing gerontology programs due in large part to aging demographics.

"With more older adults in our society there will continue to be job opportunities in this area; jobs that are interesting and rewarding," Cianciolo said.

A gerontology minor can also dispel myths and stereotypes about aging and the elderly, she said. Some people handle the aging process well and others do not. Growing old can mean a variety of things, many of which are quite positive.

It is too early to predict whether the gerontology program will eventually offer a major. One of the new gerontology courses offered next semester already has about 20 students enrolled, according to Cianciolo. She also said that there are a number of NMU faculty who are currently involved in aging-related research.

Students interested in taking the gerontology minor should declare it early in their academic studies. It needs to be approved by the gerontology program coordinator and forwarded to the degree audits office.

Marmalick Joins Bay's Foundation Board



Bay College Executive Director for Institutional Advancement, Carolyn Bissell, recently announced the appointment of William Marmalick to the Foundation Board of Directors at a recent meeting, filling the position left vacant upon the resignation of former member Vicki Micheau.

Marmalick was born and raised in Gladstone. After graduation from Gladstone High School, he attended Western Michigan University. Marmalick is the co-owner and president of Premier Real Estate, Inc. of Escanaba and is a licensed real estate broker and appraiser. He and his wife Pauline reside in Escanaba and have one son, Clayton.

Other members of the Bay College Foundation Board of Trustees include: John Anthony, Escanaba; Robert Bink, Escanaba; Dr. Glendon Brown,

Escanaba; Dr. James Dehlin, Gladstone; Paddy Fitch, Escanaba; Jayne Pryal, Escanaba; Greg Suderth, Gladstone; Carolyn Bissell, Executive Director; Joseph Heirman, Ex-Officio Trustee, Escanaba; and Dr. Michael Allkins, Ex-Officio President, Escanaba.

Sponsor a page in the Michigan Works! Business is UP-Date

The Michigan Works! Business is UP-Date is a respected area newsletter providing local business, economic, and educational information to over 3,500 business professionals throughout the Central Upper Peninsula.

There are various sponsorship opportunities for the Michigan Works Business is UP-Date Newsletter insuring that all businesses can find the publicity that they are looking for within our pages.

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Community Interest

Lake Antoine Family Ice Fishing Derby

This year the Lake Antoine Fishing Derby has been moved to February 8th. It will be a one-day event starting at 7am and ending at 3pm.



The Family Ice Fishing Derby entrance fee is \$15 for adults and \$1 for children. There will be an upgraded pay out for adults and children's categories. All prizes for adult and children family fishing derby categories will be given away at 3:15 on February 8th.

Tickets can be purchased for all events at the Dickinson Area Partnership, Jim's Sport Shop, Norhtwoods Wilderness Outfitters and Whispering Pines Outpost. Once you register, you MUST save your registration form, this will be your ticket for the event.

Super Derby tickets are \$35 per person. This fee will also include you registration for the Family Derby on Saturday. The Super Derby will be held on Saturday from 1 pm to 2 pm. Prizes will be given away at 3:30 pm. There will also be a Super Cash Payout. All entrants into this derby will be put into a random ice auger drawing.

To kick the weekend off, Join Big Brothers, Big Sisters on Friday, February 7th at the K of C hall in Kingsford from 4-7 pm for the third annual fish fry.

Final Registration for the ice-fishing derby will take place that evening. Also available at the hall will be the District II Walleye Club. The club will be conducting seminars for children and available to answer any fishing questions.

Be sure to get your tickets early and get ready to have a family filled fun day! Dress warm!! If you have any questions, contact the Dickinson Area Partnership at (906) 774-2002 or (800) 236-2447.

Affordable Business Skills Education Program Coming to the Chamber

Your River Cities Regional Chamber of Commerce is partnering with Productivity Point International to bring you affordable training sessions geared to-



ward helping you run your business more effectively! The sessions bring attendees practical, relevant and immediately usable tips and techniques for businesses of all sizes.

Productivity Point has been delivering custom solutions for over 10 years, helping organizations improve workforce performance and reduce time to proficiency. Become more productive and knowledgeable through a learning solution that blends the right information with training to move your business forward.

For your convenience, the training sessions will be held at the River Cities Regional Chamber of Commerce office, which is located at 1005 10th Avenue in Menominee, Michigan.

The following is a schedule for the training:

Wednesday, February 19, 2003

Teams at Work (Half Day) Price: \$50
Conflict Resolution (Half Day) Price: \$50

Wednesday, March 19, 2003

Time Management skills:
A Personal Approach (All Day) Price: \$100

Wednesday, April 16, 2003

Providing Extraordinary Customer Service (All Day) Price: \$100

Interested in attending one or more sessions? Call The River Citeis Regional Chamber of Commerce to register at 906-863-2649. Space is limited at 25 participants per session.

Do you have a training request? Let us know! We want to ensure that we are catering our training opportunities to your needs! Please call the River Cities Regional Chamber with any requests!

Introducing Northern Lights



The Michigan Technical Education CenterSM (M-TECSM) at Bay College recently announced a grant from the Michigan Public Service Commission to establish a \$1.6 million revolving loan fund specifically designed to finance the purchase and installation of energy efficiency upgrades in your school, municipality, or business. The savings from these energy upgrades will be used to pay back the loans, so general operating budgets will not be affected.

The M-TEC's Energy Team will evaluate each application and determine its appropriateness for this program. Participants will also receive energy management services through this program to in-

sure energy savings are maximized.

At No Cost, The M-TEC will:

- 1) Conduct an Introductory Energy Evaluation (IEE) of your facilities, an examination of current energy technology and energy usage.
- 2) Provide a report that identifies energy conservation opportunities.
- 3) Review the IEE with your staff for clarity and accuracy and determine if your organization wants to move forward with the program.
- 4) Contract with a state-approved consultant to conduct a Limited Component Technical Energy Analysis (LCTEA) of the energy conservation opportunities identified in the IEE.
- 5) Submit the LCTEA for endorsement by the State of Michigan Energy Office engineer.
- 6) Review the LCTEA and finalize the criteria in the request for proposal.
- 7) Solicit bids from contractors to perform the efficiency upgrade installation.
- 8) Monitor the installation process.
- 9) Provide energy management services for the duration of the loan.
- 10) Provide monthly reports detailing energy usage and energy savings (as compared to base-year data) from both the energy efficiency upgrades and energy management services.
- 11) Maintain regular communication via phone, fax, email, or site visits, on all matters relating to the "Northern Lights" program.
- 12) If requested, present information about any aspect of the "Northern Lights" program to your governing board.

Northern Lights Participant Responsibilities:

- 1) Provide copies of the previous 13 months of utility bills (current usage patterns are an important part of the introductory energy evaluation).
- 2) Before the LCTEA is conducted, commit to energy upgrade projects that the LCTEA quantifies as 5-year or less paybacks.
- 3) Provide a list of state-approved contractors to be included on the Request For Proposal mailing list.
- 4) Approve and award bids for the energy upgrade installation.
- 5) Provide copies of each month's utility bills to the M-TEC, as well as weekly readings of all utility meters and boiler settings.
- 6) Implement no-cost recommendations (regarding operational practices) of the energy management team.
- 7) Notify the M-TEC of any system or procedural change initiated by your staff that may affect energy usage and/or consumption.

If you're interested in more information, please call Doug Russell, Energy Grant Coordinator, at 906-786-5802, ext. 1210.

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