

Membership Discount Cards Available January 2003



With the beginning of the New Year, your Chamber is starting its new Membership Card program. This new innovative program is designed to encourage business amongst our members and at the same time, keep our dollars in our area!

The new member-to-member membership discount cards will be available starting Monday, January 6, 2003. Each member and their employees are entitled to a number of free membership cards, based on their annual dues. Additional cards are available for \$1 per card.

\$252 to \$350 in annual dues	10 free membership cards
\$350 to \$500 in annual dues	25 free membership cards
\$500 or more in annual dues	75 free membership cards

Just stop by the Chamber and pick yours up! We will also have the list of participating businesses and the discounts they are offering. Are you Interested in offering a discount from your business? Call the River Cities Chamber at 906-863-2679.

Tickets on sale for Love Affair 2003

“A Midwinter Night’s Dream” is the theme of the Delta County Chamber of Commerce’s Love Affair 2003. It is a take-off on “A Midsummer Night’s Dream,” the Shakespearean comedy filled with fairies, magic potions and spells. Love Affair 2003 will transform summer into a wintery theme, with the Chamber playing Puck, intent on making lovers out of all who attend Love Affair 2003.

“A Midwinter Night’s Dream” will take place Saturday, February 1st, at the Terrace Bay Inn. The doors will open at 5:30 pm to a wonderland décor with the three areas of the Terrace Bay Inn decked out as each of the three acts of the well known Shakespearean play.

Guests can begin bidding on silent auction offerings and view the many prizes on display. The Special Raffle will become the love potion on the eyes of the guests as they purchase a limited number of raffle tickets for a very special prize to be announced.

Every couple attending “A Midwinter Night’s Dream” will receive a guest gift of two bottles of private label wine. Following an elegant dinner, prizewinners will be announced and the Live Auction will begin. At the close of the Live Auction, the Grand Prize winner will be selected, the prize this year being a choice of one of three fabulous

dream vacations.

Closing out the evening will be dancing to the music of “Passion” who entertained an appreciative audience last year and have agreed to come back again this year.

A repeat of a popular 2001 offering is the Love Affair Dream Package sponsored by the Terrace Bay Inn. For only \$70, a couple will enjoy deluxe room accommodations for two, a bottle of Champaign, a box of chocolates, a bud vase with a rose and continental breakfast the following morning. Make your reservations now by calling 786-7554.

“With our theme being A Midwinter Night’s Dream, this year’s Love Affair will be an enchanting evening, with a fairy-like atmosphere. It will be like a dream to everyone who attends,” said Jalene Polkey, chair of Love Affair 2003.

Tickets are now on sale at the Chamber for \$75 per person, and because every year is a sell-out, don’t wait to buy your tickets.

Remember too, that a list of Love Affair Prizes can be viewed on the Chamber’s web page, deltami.org and that you will be able to bid on auction items using the E-Bay de Noc option also on the Chamber’s web page.

May the Force be with you!

You heard about it at the Chamber’s Annual Dinner on October 3rd. You heard about it at the Leadership



Reconnaissance Mission held by Michigan Works! and the Chamber of Commerce on October 4th. You then read about it in the October *Communicator* where Chamber Director Vickie Micheau described the importance of leadership to a progressive community.

The program is now ready to begin! Founded by the Chamber, the Delta County Economic Development Alliance, Michigan Works!, the Daily Press, Bay College and Mead Westvaco, this community development program is designed to identify, nurture, educate and motivate emerging leaders and to involve them more actively in community affairs.

“Each day will be designed to be highly interactive and thought provoking,” said Tari Calouette, one of the program organizers. A typical day will involve a combination of group discussions, field trips and presentations by respected local leaders.



Tom Schreiber, the guest speaker at the Annual Dinner, introduced The Delta Force Leadership Program in October

Candidates may apply or be nominated by an employer or another interested party. Delta Force is funded by contributions from the business and civic community and a \$350 tuition per participant. Tuition may be paid by the individual, employer, scholarship or sponsoring organization.

Approximately 20 participants will be chosen to represent a cross-section of the community. They will be selected on the basis of education and training, previous community involvement, attitude and leadership potential.

Session dates are tentatively scheduled for the last Thursday of each month and participants are expected to attend every session. An introductory evening, fireside mixer and an Opening Activity Day is slated to be held January 30, 2003.

Interested parties can either apply to be a participant, nominate a candidate, financially sponsor a candidate or all of the above. Application forms are available at the Chamber, 2300 Ludington, Escanaba, by calling 786-2192 or by e-mail at info@deltami.org.



Bay College Announces Changes in Dental Assisting Program



Student entering the Dental Assisting program at Bay College will find curriculum and internship

changes beginning the Winter 2003 semester.

Students are now required to complete a Dental Assisting class prior to enrolling in on-the-job chair-side assisting training. The Dental Assisting program will continue to require a minimum 32 credit hours but will now include two semesters of academic course work with one semester of clinical rotation.

Students interested in enrolling are required to register for CE 246 Dental Assisting during the Winter semester if they wish to do their on-the-job training during the Spring, Summer, or Fall semester. The class will be offered Monday evenings from 6:00-7:50p.m. beginning January 13, 2003. The class is also open to employees of dental offices.

Contracting with Business & Industry Program Coordinator Brady Nelson said that the changes were made in response to local dentists' requests to have students more academically prepared prior to doing on-the-job training.



"Since its inception in 1976, the Dental Assisting program has been part of Contracting with Business & Industry at Bay College and has graduated 125 qualified dental assistants," Nelson said. "It is one of our busiest programs and has provided ample career opportunity for successful students who entered the job market fully prepared," he said.

Students interested in enrolling for the Winter semester should contact Nelson at 908-786-5802, ext. 1211, toll free at 1-800-221-2001, or email at nelson@baydenoc.cc.mi.us.

Equipment Purchased Through Collaborative Effort



Northern Michigan University

Northern has a new \$55,000 science instrument. The Simultaneous Thermal Gravimetric Analysis-Differential Scanning Calorimeter (TGA-DSC) is demonstrated by chemistry professor Tom Getman and graduate student Gretchen Froehner. The equipment purchase would not have been possible without the combined efforts of two academic colleges and the Seaborg Center.

"The fact that groups across colleges and disciplines joined forces to benefit students from different colleges and disciplines is an excellent example of Northern's collaborative spirit," said Eugene Wickenheiser (Chemistry). "We are very thankful to Terry Seethoff (Arts and Sciences), Cam Howes (Professional Studies), and Peggy House (Seaborg Center) for making this possible."

The calorimeter measures both mass and energy changes within a sample as it is heated from room temperatures to as high as 1450 degrees Celsius. It is used to study decomposition reactions, which is when a compound or other material loses fragments upon heating. It is also used to study phase changes such as melting and vaporization.

"It is a good investment for NMU since it will expose students to this technique which is broadly used," said Getman. "It will be used in CH215, chemistry of the elements, which is popular with education and chemistry majors. Students learn to correlate properties of compounds with the elements of which they are composed. It is also likely to be used in our inorganic chemistry and physical chemistry courses and for student research projects."

NMU Library Receives Excellence Award

Northern Michigan University's Lydia M. Olson Library was selected a runner-up for the state's top library award.

The Library of Michigan Foundation awarded the 2002 State Librarian's Excellence Award to the Genesee District Library while Fremont District Library and the Olson Library were awarded citations of excellence as the runners-up.

"These libraries exemplify the kind of outstanding customer service that makes libraries such a vital part of their communities," said State Librarian Christie Pearson Brandau.

The selection panel praised the library staff and cited its unique role in the implementation and on-going support of Northern's technology initiative. "The library and its librarians assumed the leadership in a new initiative, which certainly is not a traditional library function," according to the selection committee's nomination review.

"We're honored to be recognized," said Darlene Pierce, dean of Academic Information Services. "People of the NMU community and Marquette area know the Olson Library staff is top-notch, but it's extremely gratifying when your colleagues cite you as being among the best in the state."

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.

For sponsorship information contact Rob Carviou at:

- (906)-789-0558 extension 223
- Fax: (906)-789-9952
- rcarviou@jobforce.org



Upper Peninsula Safety Conference to be held on January 30th

To help meet the need for safety training in our area, M-Tec at Bay College is once again holding it's annual Safety Conference, on Thursday, January 30, 2003.

Though an important part of the well being of businesses, Safety Training is not always completely accessible. It may be high priced, or not readily available in a particular region. In our region, we can consider ourselves lucky because we have the opportunity to access safety training through the M-TEC.

One way that M-TEC tries to meet our area's

safety training needs is with it's annual Upper Peninsula Safety Conference. This conference, which will be held on Thursday, January 30, 2003, is designed for contractors, developers, owners, suppliers, managers, human resource personnel, employees, and students in related fields.

Topics for this year's conference include, but are not limited to:

- Preventative Body Maintenance
- Blood born Pathogens
- Productive Safety Meetings
- Chainsaw Safety

- Workman's Compensation
- MIOSHA
- Drug Testing
- Indoor Air Quality
- Crane Inspections/Heavy Equipment



The conference registration deadline for this year is January 17. It is \$25 for a regular registration, \$20 for students. Space is limited, so register now to reserve your seat. The registration form can be found online at www.baydenoc.cc.mi.us/www/mtsafety.html, or call 906.786.5802 x1510 for more information.

MEDC Report Shows Improvements in Tech Transfer

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation, in partnership with the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan, released the results of the second annual state report that benchmarks the technology transfer performance of Michigan's major research universities. The report indicates that Michigan universities' performance closely approaches the national average on statistics that define economic development measures.

"This report shows progress is being made when it comes to encouraging more technology transfer out of our world class universities," said Doug Rothwell, president & CEO, of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. "However, we realize that more work lies ahead to bring Michigan's universities up to par with the best in class tech transfer educational institutions."

The report, drawn from the Association of University Technology Managers (AUTM) report for 2000 (the most current data available), benchmarks the University of Michigan (UM), Michigan State University (MSU), Wayne State University (WSU) and Michigan Technological University (MTU) to the national average and the best-in-class universities. The report uses a number of statistics and measurements to create benchmarks in the areas of technology transfer and entrepreneurial activity.

In the categories of number of licenses and options yielding income, adjusted gross license income received and total sponsored research dollars Michigan universities improved in this year's study. Specifically, Michigan universities received close to \$950 million in sponsored research dollars in 2000 as compared to \$880 million in 1999.

The report shows that Michigan universities are still below the national average in start-up crea-

tion. However, the four universities generated a total of nine start-up companies in 2000 compared to four in 1999.

A recent study by the MEDC and the Presidents Council showed that Michigan's universities contributed \$39 billion annually to the state's economy. However, only about \$131,000 of that yearly contribution can be attributed to revenue from university start-up companies.

The MEDC has created several programs including the Emerging Technology Challenge Fund, Michigan Entrepreneurship Education Network and SmartZone Business Accelerator Programs to encourage further entrepreneurial activity at Michigan's research universities.

This annual report is one element of the Partnership for Economic Progress, a strategic partnership between the MEDC and Michigan's 15 public universities, created to recognize and enhance the important role universities have in economic development.

According to Glenn Stevens, Executive Director of the Presidents Council, "Michigan's economic growth will be influenced by how effectively we promote technology transfer and foster a strong commitment to entrepreneurial initiatives. The value of the MEDC-university partnership has already been demonstrated, and there is every reason to believe that continued collaboration will produce significant benefits in the future."

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation, a partnership between the state and local communities, promotes smart economic growth by developing strategies and providing services to create and retain good jobs and a high quality of life. To view the complete benchmarking report, visit medc.michigan.org.

MediRide Continued from Page 1

surgeries, dialysis, and dental and vision appointments in their Wheelchair Coach. The Wheelchair Coach is a discreet, comfortable van with a state of the art wheelchair lift. Also, MediRide offers AssistCAR transports to those patients that are able to walk but don't have their own transportation. For both Wheelchair Coach and AssistCAR transports, their first-aid-trained crew members will accompany the patients in and out of their appointments and offer them some assistance in getting back into their homes. DeLisle explains that these types of transports aren't limited to the local area. "Often times people have appointments or scheduled procedures at health care institutions out of town or even out of state. Many of our patients don't have their own transportation to get them to these appointments and they don't want to burden their friends or family by asking them to take time off of work to take them to Mayo's or Marshfield. MediRide is pleased to offer both local and long distance transportation to patients finding themselves in this situation."

MediRide, Incorporated also offers EMS events coverage through its Moshpit Medics division and remains recovery through its Gentle Touch Recovery Division. "No one in the U.P. offers as many transportation options as we offer and we're extremely motivated to continually enhance our EMS and transport services to fill in as many of the medical transportation gaps as is possible," said Guizzetti. To learn more about the services of MediRide Incorporated contact them at (906) 226-4565 or visit them on the web at www.mediride.com.



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