



Building Businesses.
Building Communities.



Weekly NewsBrief

September 15, 2008

Leadership Blue Water series unveiled Chamber offering up to four scholarships to qualifying members

The inaugural session of Leadership Blue Water will begin Tuesday, October 7. Registrations will be limited to 15-20, therefore, applications are being accepted now through September 30th only from anyone who has the desire to lead.

Developing our future leadership has been a significant topic of discussion throughout the area over the past few years. In answer to that need, Port **Huron Hospital Foundation Business & Professional Committee**, **Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce**, **Michigan State University Extension**, and **St. Clair County Community College** have joined forces to create Leadership Blue Water (LBW).

LBW is a dynamic six week series designed to develop leadership skills and community and political awareness that enables participants to constructively participate in local decision-making. Each workshop will include dinner, interactive activities, leadership skill development, and discussions with community, government, and economic development leaders.

Speakers have been recruited from a diverse group of professionals from financial services, education, manufacturing, healthcare, the arts, community organizations, government and other sectors. Presentations will help the participants acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to be more effective as a leader in their organizations and the community.

Sessions start on Tuesday, October 7, 5:30-9:30 p.m. and will conclude at a certificate presentation by the St. Clair County Board of Commissioners on Wednesday, November 19. During each session, a working dinner will be served promptly at 5:30 p.m. and the leadership presentation portion of the session will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

Leadership Blue Water Scholarships

The Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce Community Benefit Fund will award up to 4 scholarships covering program costs to its members who apply and are accepted into the program. Scholarships will be based on Chamber involvement and willingness to become a future committee or board member.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact either one of us. We look forward to helping develop the next generation of leaders for the Blue Water area.

Sincerely,

Vickie R. Ledsworth, President, Blue Water Area Chamber
Chairperson, PHH Business & Professional Committee 810.985.7101

Denise Brooks, President, Port Huron Hospital Foundation 810.982.9817

Chamber staff heading to annual conference

Kelli Plater, Administrative/IT Coordinator at the Chamber attended the annual WebLink International conference in Indianapolis last week. Kelli spent three days learning about upgrades to the Chamber's WebLink database and website systems and how to effectively utilize reports, referrals, and revenue tracking.

Chamber President, Vickie Ledsworth and Sales Coordinator, Amanda Will are scheduled to attend the annual Michigan Chamber of Commerce Executives (MCCE) conference in Crystal Mountain, October 22-24.

Workshops include:

- Action Planning for Leading Community Vision
- How Technology is Changing the Way Members Network
- Supercharging Chamber Growth
- Implementing a Tiered Dues System

Join us for
SEPTEMBER BUSINESS AFTER 5

Wednesday, September 17, 2008
5:00 to 7:00 pm
at the DMI Professional Building
704 Mara Street, Pt. Edward

Sponsored by:

DMI and **LEHDER**
PROFESSIONAL BLDG. Excellence in Industrial Air Quality Services

Catering by:
Gourmet Cafe

Show up early!
Put a Shine on Sarnia Lambton Contest
Winners will be announced at 4:45 pm!

Celebrity Emcees
Burge & Ally from 106

Networking games, appetizers, exhibit tables, great door prizes and much more!
Chamber members: Free + Non-members: \$10.00
You must be 19 years old to attend.

SARNIA LAMTTON Chamber OF COMMERCE

Michigan Chamber of Commerce presents MBT Seminar

Michigan Chamber Services is holding a seminar on the **Michigan Business Tax** in September in Lansing and Novi. This comprehensive, full-day seminar will cover both the legal and practical accounting aspects.

Register today to ensure a spot!

MICHIGAN BUSINESS TAX

September 18, 2008 in Lansing

September 23, 2008 in Novi

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

<http://mcs2.michamber.com/semevent/mbt082.asp>

OTHER FALL SEMINARS COMING UP:

<http://mcs2.michamber.com/semevent/seminars.asp>

Union Contract Negotiations
Green Initiatives: Practical Energy management & Sustainability Policies
HIPAA/COBRA Update
OSHA/MIOSHA Update 2008
2008 Employment Law Update
Practical Guide to Employee Layoffs and Terminations
Fundamentals of Employment Law for Managers and Supervisors
Michigan Sales & Use Tax