



235 West Chisholm Street
Alpena, MI 49707
989.354.4181
(f) 989.356.3999
www.alpenachamber.com

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CHAMBER NOTES

Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce

By serving its members, the Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce actively champions economic development and the advancement of the community's quality of life.

May/June 2016

Leadership Development Take a moment to consider these quotes about leadership.

"The growth and development of people is the highest calling of leadership." - Harvey S. Firestone

"Average leaders raise the bar on themselves, good leaders raise the bar for others, great leaders inspire others to raise their own bar." - Orrin Woodward

"Leadership and learning are indispensable to each other." - John F. Kennedy

"Leadership is an action, not a position." - Donald McGannon

"When you stop growing, you stop leading." - Mark Miller

2016 CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chairperson: Luciana King - Lappan Agency; Past Chairperson: Chad Esch - Bannan Funeral Home; Vice Chairperson: Ryan Fairchild - Omega Electric; Secretary-Treasurer: available; Directors: Eileen Budnick - First Federal of Northern Michigan; Pat Gerow - R.S. Scott and Associates; Cindy Limback - RE/MAX New Horizons; Elaine Orr - Alpena Power Company; Adam Poll - City of Alpena; Shawn Shankie - Days Inn; Brian VanWormer - Employment Services Inc.; Dylan Wallace - The Wallace Firm, P.C.

CHAMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For ribbon cuttings and event details, contact the Chamber at 989.354.4181 or visit www.alpenachamber.com.

May 2016

- 4 - Ambassador meeting, 8:00 a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- 5 - Government Relations Committee meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- 6 - Leadercast, 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Granum Theater, tickets start at \$75 for members
- 10 - Economic Development Board meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- 10 - Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance meeting
- 13 - Good Morning Alpena: State of the Community, 7:00 a.m., Sanctuary Inn, \$9 per person, sponsored by BCBS, registration required*
- 14 - Fireworks fundraiser, front door sales event, Wal*Mart, Neiman's, Perch's, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 20 - Overtime Rules Seminar
- 24 - Curb side fireworks bracelet sales, 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m., Culligan Plaza
- 26 - Grow Your Digital Marketing Knowledge Seminar

* register by contacting the Chamber:
info@alpenachamber.com or 989.354.4181

June 2016

- 1 - Ambassador meeting, 8:00 a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- 2 - Government Relations Committee meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- 3 - Fireworks fundraising drive buy bracelet sales event, Alpena Alcona Area Credit Union, 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 14 - Economic Development Board meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce
- 14 - Northern Michigan Chamber Alliance meeting
- 28 - Chamber Board meeting, 7:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce

* register by contacting the Chamber:
info@alpenachamber.com or 989.354.4181



Nonprofit corporations and independent licensees of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Chamber. We continue to grow in membership which also means we are able to accomplish more. We appreciate all of our members - both new and returning ones.

Komo's Pizza
424 W. Chisholm St.
Alpena, MI 49707
989.356.2424

Hide A Way Tavern & Grill
10085 US 23 North
Alpena, MI 49707
989.595.6787

Connie's Café
11585 US 23 South
Ossineke, MI 49766
989.471.5415

Northland Area Federal Credit Union
185 N. State Street
PO Box 1008
Alpena, MI 49707
800.336.2328

Rite Aid Pharmacies
2140 State Avenue
Alpena, MI 49707
989.354.4630

Graiter Services LLC
13018 US 23 South
Ossineke, MI 49766
989.464.4758
*address correction

Eagle Supply Co.
315 W. Chisholm Street
Alpena, MI 49707
989.464.2980

The Wagon Wheel
2030 E. Nicholson Hill Road
Ossineke, MI 49766
989.471.1125

Presque Isle Farm
11386 Bolton Road
Posen, MI 49776
971.322.6226

We understand the value of good leadership, the importance of growing more leadership, and the chance of lost potential and opportunity when leadership stops growing and developing. That's why the Chamber is dedicated to providing leadership development opportunities.

One of the greatest opportunities we offer is our annual Leadercast event. We would like for you to join us. The 2016 Leadercast is on May 6th. The theme is "Architects of Tomorrow". This is a full-day event (9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with registration beginning at 8:00 a.m.) held at Granum Theater at Alpena Community College. Tickets are \$75 for members of the Alpena, Oscoda, and Rogers City Chambers of Commerce, and \$105 for others. The price includes the full day experience, a work book, lunch, refreshments, and more.

For more information or to make reservations, please contact the Alpena Area Chamber of Commerce.

Current fireworks fundraising results: Of the \$22,016.74 goal, we have raised \$6,216.74. Please help us reach our goal by contributing today! Buy a bracelet, make a donation, hold an internal fundraiser, sell bracelets, purchase a donation card at participating locations, or come up with another creative way to help us meet our goal.



Steadily Moving Forward on Strategic Goals

We are pleased to inform you that we are steadily moving forward on our ambitious strategic goals for 2016. Below is a brief update.

Workforce development/educational attainment: We have an initial plan drafted. The plan is heavily focused on education through some creative approaches. We will be meeting soon with an additional group of stakeholders to get their feedback on our plan before we begin implementation.

Mentoring/connections: We have focused more effort on connecting our members with a variety of opportunities that might be helpful to their business. This includes information in our weekly ENotes publication, individual phone calls to specific businesses when the situation fits, and industry-specific communication for upcoming opportunities. We have also connected several businesses on an individual basis to fitting connections that fulfill a need. We have researched starting a SCORE Chapter, and are willing to help make it a reality if we have active volunteers who want to take the lead.

We are working to finalize our tenant lease agreements.

The Ambassadors explored hosting a Grub Crawl event twice a year per Board request, but ultimately decided against it so the novelty does not wear thin, among other reasons.

Restaurant guides are nearing completion (should be complete by the time you are reading this) and the distribution phase should have begun by the time you are reading this.

We have not yet developed a cost for our final phase of building renovations but hope to get started on that process soon. If there is anyone who would like to help with this, please let us know.

We are exploring a second travel program, this time to Ireland. The Board will make that decision at an upcoming meeting.

Other activities we have accomplished this year:

- We responded to a membership need by setting up the May 20th Wage and Hour Training and Compliance Seminar.
- We hosted the first events in our series of digital marketing educational training opportunities.
- The improvements/changes we have made to our Good Morning Alpena series have been very well received.
- Our Government Relations Committee closed their survey on the upcoming elections and are now working with the results to formulate an action plan.
- We have partnered with a number of organizations across the region on an upcoming Opportunity and Prosperity Conference on May 21st.

Have you checked into Accident Fund Insurance through the Chamber's workers' compensation program? Contact your local agent today to learn more about the savings you could be recognizing through up-front premium discounts and potential dividend payments.

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Presque Isle County consists of fourteen townships, two cities and two villages. The population of the County according to the 2010 census was 13,376. The County has three lighthouses, three marinas located on Lake Huron, four state parks and several campgrounds. Presque Isle County is also known for its karst formations of underground rivers and sinkholes, and contains the world's largest open pit limestone quarry with a deep-water port.

The County government operates the jail, maintains rural roads, operates the major local courts, keeps files of deeds and mortgages, maintains vital records, administers public health regulations, and participates with the state in the provision of welfare and other social services.

Early Native Americans living in the area were nomadic, using the land as hunting grounds. To them the land between the Ocqueoc and Swan Rivers was sacred ground. The name "Presque Isle" was given to the area by fur traders who portaged over the strip of land that attaches Presque Isle to the mainland. The original settlers of this county were lumbermen, fishermen and farmers.

Presque Isle County offices are located at 151 East Huron Avenue in Rogers City. Contact them at 989.734.3288 or find more information at www.presqueislecounty.org.

The Mountain Inn was opened for business on August 1st, 1936 by Oliver and Roseanne DeRocher. On November 27th of the same year it burned to the ground and was re-built in the spring of 1937, this time with living quarters attached. On October 15, 1955 it burned again but was back open for business by November 21st that same year.

The business thrived through the late 50's and 60's as a prime location for food, drinks and socializing. In 1967 the DeRocher's sold the bar. From 1967 to 2012 there have been ten different owners. Continuing with the heritage of the Mountain Inn, the original owner's grandson, Jim DeRocher and business partner Dan Gauthier purchased the Mountain Inn in May of 2012. They immediately started remodeling and re-opened for business on July 3, 2012.

After just eight months of learning the ins and outs of the bar business and experiencing firsthand the demands and participation from the local area and other patrons, Jim and Dan decided to take advantage of their own business experiences and began construction of the NEW Mountain Bar and Grill in January, 2013. Their goal was to create a destination point for Northeast Michigan and just 101 days after closing for construction, their dreams came true. The Mountain Bar and Grill covers over 3,400 square feet with an atmosphere that highlights the old and brings in the new, exemplifying a true traditional up north experience.

The open floor space offers seating for 105 and includes ten flat screen televisions and two Keno screens positioned throughout the interior. The Mountain Bar and Grill will continue with their history of being the number one destination in the area to enjoy food and drinks, entertainment, socializing with friends and family or relaxing while watching your favorite sporting event.



The Mountain is located on US 23 South in Black River and is open Monday through Thursday from 11:30 a.m. until 10:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. until midnight and Sunday from noon to 9:00 p.m. They can be contacted at 989.471.2066 or visit them online at www.themountainbarandgrill.com.