

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Kramer Presents at National Conference

Kirk A. Kramer, vice president for administrative services at St. Clair County Community College, gave presentations at two sessions during the National Association of College and University Business Officers Annual Meeting. The conference was June 27 through 30 in Boston.



Kramer of Fort Gratiot served as one of four panelists for the discussion "Getting Your Green Going: Strategies for Achieving Environmental & Economic Savings." He spoke about SC4's green initiatives with an emphasis on including green options into projects already in the planning stages. SC4's green initiatives include three green roofs, with a fourth planned, on campus buildings; solar panels and a wind turbine used by students in the alternative energy program; an electric car used by Campus Patrol; and a committee of faculty, staff and students working together on energy conservation, environmental education and recycling initiatives.

At the conference, Kramer also participated in a Cost Cutting Town Hall session. He presented technology information about virtual servers as an example of reducing costs, as well as information about green initiatives.



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MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Anup Lal Md. Patient Focused Physician of the Month

Anup Lal, MD, was named the July 2009 St. Joseph Mercy Patient-Focused Physician of the Month. The St. Joseph Mercy Patient-Focused Physician of the Month award highlights a physician's commitment to working collaboratively to promote patient and community health through clinical excellence and patient-focused care. Physicians honored with this award must also be one whom St. Joseph Mercy Hospital staff and volunteers would recommend to family and friends in the community.



Dr. Lal is a medical oncologist and hematologist specializing in the care of cancer patients through Blue Water Oncology, PC, in Port Huron, MI. He was nominated for the outstanding network of physicians and resources he has cultivated on behalf of patients, his commitment to providing access to clinical cancer research trials to his patients, and his outstanding patient care.

"It is very gratifying to receive this recognition, especially as it comes from one's partners in patient care," comments Anup Lal, MD. "Clinical trials are very important in providing state of the art cancer treatment, and the hard work of



Blue Water Area
Chamber of Commerce



You're invited...

Membership Dinner
& Business Awards

Thursday, October 15, 2009

You and your staff are invited to the annual membership dinner and awards program to recognize outstanding businesses within the Chamber membership.

Sponsorships Available

| | |
|--|---------|
| Pre-Award Reception Sponsor | \$1,500 |
| Presentation Sponsor | \$800 |
| Musical Entertainment Sponsor | \$750 |

Each sponsorship may have up to 3 co-sponsors totaling the full sponsorship needed.

Invitation Sponsor: 

Organized by the Annual Dinner & Business Awards Committee.
Chairperson: Pamela Rulienberg

MEMBER NEWS

Golf Raffle

Win a Trip to Arizona

The Chamber is raising funds now through our 71st Annual "Drive for the Green with the Blues" Golf Scramble on Monday, August 24, to the activities of the Small Business Council - a group chosen to lead the marketing and promotion, mentoring and guidance of small businesses throughout the Blue Water Area. The Chamber's Golf Committee is selling raffle tickets for four amazing trips, including:



- Stunning Scottsdale, Arizona Golf or Spa Resort Get-away!
- 90-Minute Hot Air Balloon Adventure
- Up North is Great for Families – Great Wolf Lodge Package
- Tigers for Two – Tiger Game at Comerica Park

Tickets are \$10/each or 3 for \$25 and only a limited number have been printed! Tickets can be sold to anyone, so don't delay, stop into the Chamber office for your chance to win! Drawing will be held on August 24, 2009 at the Golf Outing luncheon and prize party.



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MEMBER NEWS

Lights! Camera! Action!

The Blue Water Film Festival (BWFF) announces its call for film entries post-marked by August 31, 2009. The uniqueness of this one-of-a-kind festival is that the entries must be amateur film-makers from Michigan or Lambton County. All finalists will be shown in their entirety on Saturday, October 10, 2009 at the McMorran Place Theatre in Port Huron and will also be featured in the official Blue Water Film Festival program. The winning film will be awarded \$1,000 (US), second place earns \$750 (US) and third place wins \$250 (US). The Viewers Choice award winner receives an additional \$500 (US).

"Michigan's artistic film talent is in abundance - most people are unaware of all of the directors, producers, actors and film-makers in this great state. This superb festival will highlight the talent of Michigan's film artists giving them the opportunity they may have not received by entering a film festival that draws from the entire nation," states Karen Palka of the Blue Water Film Festival.

Studio 1219 recently joined the festival by sponsoring the After-Glow Brunch on Sunday, October 11, 2009. Studio 1219 offers over 8,000 square feet of total space making this the largest public art facility in Michigan's Thumb Region. Over 100 local artists display and sell artwork. The perfect compliment to end an exciting weekend.

An entry form can be downloaded from the BWFF website at www.BlueWaterFilmFestival.com. Anyone with questions regarding entering a film can call the Blue Water Film Festival at (810) 985-9223.

MEMBER NEWS

\$33,500 in scholarships awarded to 29 individuals

Twenty-nine individuals received scholarships from Port Huron Hospital, the Port Huron Hospital Auxiliary, Marwood Nursing & Rehab and the Port Huron Hospital Foundation. These scholarships are given to students pursuing degrees in nursing, physical therapy, allied health; and with the addition of Port Huron Hospital employee scholarships, in professions represented within the hospital and community.



Port Huron Hospital Auxiliary Scholarships:

- Jacqueline Cole of St. Clair
- Christine Fletcher of St. Clair
- Siera Hipp of Marysville
- Heather Marshall of Lexington
- Leigh Peltz of Port Huron
- Lacy Potter of Brown City
- Lindsey Schuhmacher of China Township
- Jennifer Vanderkerckhove of St. Clair Township

Port Huron Hospital Employees That Care (ETC) Scholarship:

- Hailey Wagar of Port Huron
- Jenna Watt of St. Clair

Karen Susan Draper Memorial Scholarship for Healthcare Professions:

- Danielle Adent of Kimball
- James Arpan of Clay Township
- Rachel McDowell of St. Clair
- Steven Bliss of Fort Gratiot
- Tiffany Kreiner of Port Huron

Port Huron Hospital Employee Scholarships:

- Michele Brown of Port Huron
- Erin Owens of New Haven
- Matti Rood of St. Clair
- Allyson Symon of Avoca

Shirley Jardine Carter Memorial Scholarship for Physical Therapy:

- Kathryn Collica of Chesterfield Township
- Melissa Holstine of East China
- Michael Stevenson of Chesterfield
- Kathleen Juzysta of North Street

Theron & Eleanor Godbold Nursing Scholarships:

- Alexandra Miller of Algonac
- Angela Zaunerof of Fort Gratiot

Catherine Smith Memorial Scholarship:

- Stephanie DeLano of Port Huron
- Alicia Zimmer of Fort Gratiot
- Lauren Nimmo of New Baltimore

Ellen Ross Graduate Nursing Scholarship:

- Lisa Goddard of Fort Gratiot

mary maxim retail

Tent Sale Starts August 13th



MEMBER NEWS

Show Your Work... Of Art

Artists are encouraged to get their applications to Studio 1219 by the August 12th final deadline for September's "Artists' Alley." Previously "Art on the Avenue" and now "Artists' Alley," this juried art show has been combined with the hugely successful "Fire and Ice" free art education festival, **September 12 and 13**. Located at **Vantage Point** this year -- two blocks east of the Studio -- and partnering with the Port Huron Museum and the St. Clair County Library System, the Festival promises to be the biggest yet in the Studio's history.

Activities for this year's Fire and Ice Festival include: an "Emerging Artists" tent where artists from middle school through college will display, demonstrate and sell their artwork; a "Children's Collectors" tent where children 14 and under can start their collection of original fine art for a very small price; an adult hands-on tent with unique art projects for adults; an "Arts in Action" tent where patrons can see artists hard at work demonstrating their art and talent; a Raku firing; an art history area, hosted by the Port Huron Museum, where children can learn about Michelangelo and paint on an artificial ceiling; an underwater sculpture and painting demonstration by



MEMBER NEWS

Ambassadors Fill in as Balloon Handlers for Rotary Parade Fun

The Blue Water Area Chamber would like to give a BIG thank you to the Blue Water Ambassadors that represented the Chamber of Commerce and your businesses this year at the Annual Rotary International Day Parade!

Balloon Handlers:

- Joyce Doyle-Gannett Directories
- Brandon Scudder- Fairfield Inn By Marriott
- Larry Morse- EmbroideMe
- Norm Krol - The Office Lounge
- Angie Kemp- Padgett Services
- Brian Wood- Port City Communications
- Willie DeVeny- Fresh Air Heating & Cooling
- Trina Avedisian- Community Marketing Group



Student Ambassadors:

- Joan Patrick, Baker College intern
- Davan Ledsworth
- Alex Will

Also, a special Thanks to Trina Avedisian from Community Marketing Group for coordinating the Balloon Handlers.



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Bill Cote
Fort Gratiot



Paul Lydy
Marysville



Jay Wolford
Port Huron

MEMBER NEWS

Chamber Meeting Dates

The BWACC serves the business community through its many member volunteer led committees. If you have an interest in learning more about our committees and participating as a committee volunteer, please contact the Chamber office, 810-985-7101.

Committee Volunteer Request: The Education Committee is looking for one volunteer to set on the committee to assist with planning the fall and spring series of small business workshops. Anyone interested should contact Al Jones, Chair at 810.625.2713

August 3rd

BbR High Fives

August 11th

Blue Water Ambassadors Meeting - 12:00 pm

BbR Shameless Networkers

August 12th

Executive Board Officers Meeting - 12:00 pm

August 17th

Final Day for Golf Registration

BbR High Fives

August 18th

New Member Orientation - 8:00 am

August 20th

Financial Oversight Committee - 12:00 pm

August 24th

71st Annual Golf Scramble - 8:30 am

August 25th

BbR Shameless Networkers

August 27th

Small Business Council Meeting - 8:00 am

Important Upcoming Dates

Sept 10th

Dale Carnegie "Leadership in a Time of Change" Seminar; \$25/pp -
8-10:30 am

Sept 16th

Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Insurance Agents Continuing Ed. Classes;
\$20 per class, \$40 for the day. Anyone signing up for both classes will receive
lunch included - 8:00 am

Oct 15th

Annual Membership Dinner & Business Awards @ Black River Country
Club - 6-8:00 pm



MEMBER NEWS

Downtown Businesses Jump on the Trail to Sew Up Sales

During one of the area's busiest weekends of the year, when travelers from all over Michigan, Ontario and neighboring states fill hotels to find vintage antiques and great garage sale finds for the 7th Annual Antique Yard Sale Trail, **August 14-16**, from Algonac (M29) to Sebawaing (M25), downtown entrepreneurs are sewing up their own plans to draw in visitors.



Business owner, **Linda Whipple, The Whipple Tree** and other businesses occupying the "Majestic Block" along Huron Avenue between Grand River and Quay Street have coordinated the Majestic Quilt Trail & Grand River Avenue Street Fair. Businesses interested in selling items downtown during that weekend can purchase a 10' x 10' tent for only \$40. For more information, please contact Linda Whipple, 810.985.4707.

MEMBER NEWS

Mercy Pink Ribbon Ladies' Day Event Boasts Success

Celebrating 14 years of providing educational resources, information and an opportunity to support local women in need, St. Joseph Mercy Foundation is pleased to announce that it raised \$19,000 during the Mercy Pink Ribbon Ladies' Day, held at Fore Lakes Golf Club in June 2009.



More than 140 local women and a number of women's focused product vendors spent the day supporting the Mercy Pink Ribbon Fund which provides financial support for advanced breast cancer diagnosis to women in the community who lack health insurance and the financial resources to pay for their care.

In addition to the nine-hole golf scramble, participants enjoyed a continental breakfast, lunch and access to women's product vendors. Many teams also participated in the Cart Decorating and Spirit Award competitions, where teams decorate their golf carts and don special attire, all in an effort to raise breast cancer awareness.

MEMBER NEWS

New Lab Ready for Transportation Programs at SC4

St. Clair County Community College has established a state-of-the-art lab to train students for jobs in the fields of transportation, distribution and logistics. The lab will train students enrolled in certificate programs in radio frequency identification technology and transportation and logistics technology. Both programs will give students the education they need to compete in the growing shipping and import/export industries. Classes for both programs begin Aug. 24 in Port Huron.



The lab features a working conveyor system, radio frequency identification equipment and related computer equipment. "The equipment will emulate warehouse activities and gives students a basic understanding of the capabilities and limitations of the technology," said Dennis Valade, SC4 transportation, distribution and logistics project manager. The radio frequency identification technology certificate trains students to set up an RFID system, test and troubleshoot the system components and modify the system. The transportation and logistics technology certificate gives students a working knowledge of the freight transportation industry. This includes supply chain management, domestic and international freight operations, import and export procedures and documents, and border security.

Both programs were funded as part of a \$2 million grant, in partnership with Mott Community College in Flint, under the Community-Based Job Training grants, as implemented by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration. The grant is providing the program and equipment to train more than 400 workers in the tracking and movement of goods.

MEMBER NEWS

Siena Heights to offer bachelor's degree advising session at SC4

Siena Heights University will offer an advising session at St. Clair County Community College from 1 to 4 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17, to discuss Siena's two bachelor's degree programs available at SC4. The advising session will be in Room 251 of the Citizens First Michigan Technical Education Center on SC4's Port Huron campus. Siena Heights is one of SC4's University Center partners.



Representatives from Siena will be available to answer questions to get students enrolled for its bachelor of applied science in allied health, trade and technical fields and bachelor of arts in multidisciplinary studies degree programs. The next program start date is Saturday, Sept. 5. Students should bring a copy of their transcripts and current resume for an on-site transfer credit evaluation. For details, call Siena at SC4 at (810) 989-5808.

MEMBER NEWS

Marwood Nursing & Rehab kicks off makeover with "Men Who Cook"

The Friends of Marwood will entertain guests and prepare tasty dishes during an outdoor event to kickoff an extreme makeover of the Marwood Nursing & Rehab campus, 1300 Beard Street, Port Huron to be held on Thursday, August 13, 5-8PM. The event will also feature live entertainment from the Voo-Doo Doctors and a door prize get-away trip for two to Toronto.



Enjoy valet service and pig roast with "Men Who Cook" celebrity chefs from prominent area businesses including Tom DeFauw, President/CEO of Port Huron Hospital; radio personality Paul Miller, WPHM; Chip Mortimer II, President of Mortimer Lumber; Jim Marsh, Managing Partner of Willis of Michigan, and Larry Smith, General Manager of Radio First.

Tickets are \$15 per person. For information, call 810.966.5426.

MEMBER NEWS

93,000 Referrals!

July 2009 was the highest web referral month in the Chamber's history with over **93,000** web directory referrals in one month. Average referrals per day was 3,004.

Top 8 Business Categories in July:

1. Entertainment & Arts
2. Retail Shopping
3. Travel & Lodging
4. Health & Medicine
5. Business Services
6. Manufacturing & Industrial Supplies
7. Financial & Insurance
8. Restaurant

Top 10 Keyword Searches in July:

1. Entertainment
2. Lodging
3. Mi
4. Port Huron
5. Shopping
6. Dining
7. Real estate
8. Transportation
9. Utilities
- 10.48060

Top 10 Most Popular Events clicked in July:

1. E & A Credit Union's Boats, Balloons & BBQ's Festival
2. Yale Bologna Festival
3. Port Huron to Mackinac Sailboat Race
4. McDonagh's Carnival
5. Rotary International Day Parade
6. Taste of Port Huron
7. Vantage Point Farmer's Market
8. Annual Dome Reunion
9. Antique Yard Sale Trail
- 10.Hansinger Mudfest Adventure Race

Executive Summary:

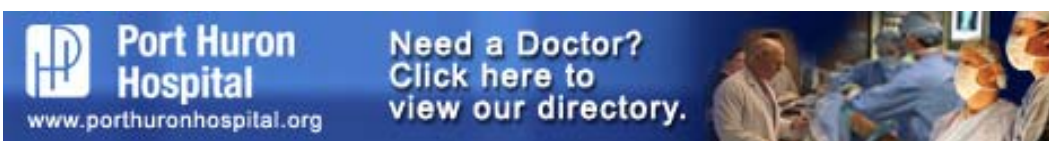
The Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce has maintained a healthy investor level even in these difficult times. Today, we have 383 members. Our member investment retention rate is currently 78%. Year-to-date, the BWACC has received 34 new members and has lost 45 members. Ninety-five percent (95%) of the members lost this year are due to closures or businesses with sales reps that have pulled out of the Blue Water area.

Members Renewed:

- Al Bourdeau Insurance Service
- Arc of St. Clair County
- Bauer-Reno & Associates Real Estate LLC
- Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan
- BMJ Engineers & Surveyors
- Calming Effects Health Spa
- CiCi's Pizza
- Comcast Business Services
- ConnecTech
- East Lake Builders, LLC
- Edison Shores Condominium Association
- Flagship Federal Credit Union
- Fresh Air Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.
- Gordon Food Service
- Instra-Med
- Military Street Music Café
- North Port Village
- Peacock Landscaping, LLC
- Port Huron Icehawks
- Regency on the Lake
- Ron Brickey Associates
- St. Clair Travel
- Swissel's Inn
- The Robbins Group
- Thorpe Printing Service, Inc.

New Members:

- AFLAC – Kevin Schwanitz
- Blue Water Federal Credit Union
- Blue Water Scentsations Inc.
- Constructive Communications, LLC
- First Preferred Mortgage
- Manufacturing Technology Mutual Insurance (MTM)
- Robbins Dental
- Staples



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AFFINITY PROGRAMS

BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD

The Chamber offers exclusively to their member's attractive insurance options for medical coverage. When you choose Blue Cross Blue Shield or Blue Care Network insurance, you receive broad coverage from one of Michigan's highest-quality insurance providers and have the advantage of selecting from these affordable plans:



- Managed Traditional
- Community Blue PPO
- Blue Choice POS
- Blue Care Network HMO
- My Blue – Individual Health Plans
- Blue Dental

And wait, there is more! As a member, you can also benefit from the Blue Health line, a free 24-hour hotline dedicated to answering your questions regarding a variety of medical topics. You can also access the PersonalPath.com web site, where you can receive personalized health information and details on other topics such as diseases and medication.

For more information about these and other Chamber Group plans and programs contact 1-800-361-0526

An advertisement for Golfview Arms Apartments. It features a photograph of a brick apartment building with a porch. To the right of the photo, the text reads: 'Free Heat and Water!', '810.650.4414', and 'GOLFVIEW ARMS APARTMENTS' in a stylized font. At the bottom right, the website 'www.GolfviewArmsApartments.com' is listed.

AFFINITY PROGRAMS

COMCAST

Blue Water Area Chamber of Commerce members will enjoy significant cost savings and productivity gains from the service bundle. For more information, members may visit www.comcastchamber.com or call 1-888-737-8361.



Comcast's Business Class suite of services is designed to help small and medium-sized businesses work faster and more efficiently by providing access to a full array of communications technologies, many of which have been previously reserved only for large businesses.

Comcast's Business Class line of services offers customers dedicated support and individual attention, 24x7, plus the convenience of one bill. Business Class customers can access a variety of packages and offerings that can be tailored to meet the demands of their business. For more information about Comcast Business Class products and services, please visit

AFFINITY PROGRAMS

OFFICE DEPOT

The partnership between Office Depot and the Chamber can now help cut your office supply expenses – sometimes by as much as half.



Chamber members now have the exclusive opportunity to save as much as 90% off list price at Office Depot on all office supplies. That's an incredible discount on all your paper, hardware, post-its, labels and anything else your office needs.

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AFFINITY PROGRAMS

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