American Welding Society  
District 12  
Upper Peninsula Section 114  
October Announcement

Tour of Wausaukee Welding Program

Tuesday, October 11, 2011  
5:00pm tour & 6:00pm Dinner

The Wausaukee campus of NWTC is a cooperative effort of NWTC, Crivitz High School, Wausaukee High School and Pembine High School. The course work is NWTC Vocational Diploma Program the same course work as Green Bay and Marinette Campuses. The students receive dual credit (both High School and college Credit at the same time). The program has cutting and visual Inspection, Shielded metal arc Welding, Gas Tungsten Arc welding, Gas Metal Arc Welding, Flux Core Arc Welding, along with Plasma Arc Cutting and Air Carbon Arc Cutting. Also taught is Blueprint reading and starting to set up the Fabrication part of the program. When students graduate from High School they can transfer to NWTC to finish their degree.

There will be a dinner meeting immediately following the tour (approx 6:00pm) at Newingham’s Supper Club.

Please RSVP by October 7th  
Todd Christian  
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A) Wausaukee High School  
N11941 U.S. 141  
Wausaukee, WI 54177

B) Newingham’s Supper Club  
722 Main St.  
Wausaukee, WI 54177

www.awssection.org/upperpeninsula/

IN THE NEWS – Marinette EagleHerald  
10/1/2011  
Employers, educators focus on job growth, training - By CLINTON LANG EagleHerald staff writer

MARINETTE - Despite a tough economic climate that has crippled business growth across much of the nation, some of the largest employers in Marinette and Menominee are earning record profits and expanding their operations. Bucking state and national trends - manufacturing is alive and well in the Twin Cities. Yet the picture is not all rosy for local industry. The area needs technically-skilled high school graduates to fill the good-paying manufacturing jobs which are already, or will be soon, available locally. But those graduates are in short supply - and area high schools currently lack the technology needed to set students up for successful careers in manufacturing. Fortunately, local schools and businesses have identified the problem and have committed to work in partnership to address it.

Nicolet National Bank sponsored an economic summit which was held Thursday at Little River Country Club. The summit featured two panels, consisting of education and business leaders. It allowed local high school principals and college deans to sit side-by-side with local industry executives and discuss how to best address the interrelated problems they face. "We do need to join hands with the education folks in the area and bring our people up to speed, so I don't have to go out of state to hire," said Jerry Mullins, president and CEO of Enstrom Helicopter Corp., adding that his company is in line for its most successful year in its 50-year existence.

John Lee, operations manager of Caterpillar Inc. (Anchor Coupling) also spoke of his company's recent success, saying this past August was its best ever. Chuck Goddard, president and CEO of Marinette Marine Corp., spoke similarly of his company's success and growth - which includes a $74 million expansion project and doubling the shipyard's 1,100-employee workforce over the next two years. L.E. Jones Co. and TYCO/Ansul are also thriving according to executives from both companies. Tyco's plant manager Eric Brell noted that his company had record sales this year.
Yet despite their success, the companies need help from the schools. Expansion has created a huge demand for new hires. Couple that with an aging workforce, and what you've got is tremendous need for an influx of new, technically-skilled, high school graduates. While area school administrators are aware of local industry's needs - they sadly lack the resources necessary to implement the courses and supply the equipment needed to chum out the type of graduates local businesses are seeking.

The focus of Thursday's economic summit was to initiate a partnership between the education and industry to help ensure the success of students and industry alike. "We need to dedicate time to see what the other has to offer and how we can enhance the offerings of both," said Marinette High School Principal Corrie Lambie. "We're not doing enough - we need to take the time to do more," agreed Brell. "We've just got to make it happen."

The area's institutions of higher education are also aware of local industry's needs and are actively working to tailor programs geared toward meeting those demands. UW-Marinette and NWTC have already implemented programs to address the local shortfall in technically-skilled graduates. "We are a member of this community, and we take the responsibility to support the region's economic development very, very, seriously," said NWTC Dean Pat O'Hara. UW-Marinette Dean Paula Langteau agrees. "We can tailor an education plan to meet your (business) needs," Langteau said.

But to make it happen, business and education leaders need to work together. "Collectively, all of us up here need to do a better job to prepare students," said Goddard, one of the business panelists. "It's really, really, good that we will be able to partner with our schools to be able to bring people in locally - because believe it or not, there's not a lot of people that understand what a wonderful area this is to live."

While most of the country is hurting for jobs, the employment situation in the Twin Cities is a bit different. "Over 9 percent unemployment (nationally) - how could we possibly think we're going to have a shortage of labor force here? That's what I'm hearing, though," Marinette Schools Superintendent Tim Banek said. "We need to put our heads together and collectively identify what is the problem - and let's look at this from a number of different perspectives and say how can we contribute towards coming up with solutions to help resolve that problem."

The panelists' consensus was that education and industry need to do a better job of working hand-in-hand to address the area's unique economic concerns. "We are a community at the center of a manufacturing resurgence in the state of Wisconsin. And (for) those history buffs - in the U.S., manufacturing has always led to economic recovery," O'Hara said.

According to Mullins, the Twin Cities offers plenty of manufacturing job opportunities for qualified employees. "There are manufacturing jobs out there that are something that people desire - and there are people in this area that can fill those positions. "We have a tremendous amount of talent in this particular area, and I think we need to continue to nurture that - continue our education programs and expand that," Mullins said.

The hope is that Thursday's economic meeting proves a solid foundation on which the area's business and education leaders can build a stronger community.

November 14-17, 2011
McCormick Place
Chicago, IL

How do you receive your meeting notices?
e-mail, fax, web-site, snail mail?

Make sure we have your updated information and preference for receiving notices.
Contact Heidi Headman (Section 114 Secretary) with contact information updates.

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