

# CORD

---Collaborative Organizations Responding to Dislocation

May 1, 2009

## JOB CENTER "ANNEX" OPENS IN UAW HALL

### Inside This Issue

- 1 Job Center Annex Opens
- 2 Advantages of Self-Employment
- 2 What Is Bartering?
- 3 Displaced Worker Orientation Session
- 3 Variety of Classes Offered
- 4 Schedule of Classes

A NEW Rock County Job Center Annex has opened in the United Auto Workers' (UAW) Hall at 1795 Lafayette Ave. on the south side of Janesville, just two blocks from the main Job Center building at 1900 Center Ave. The new site offers additional services and flexibility that was not available with the one main site at 1900 Center Ave. The space is being leased by the Southwest Wisconsin Workforce Development Board (SWWDB).

Featuring 15 computer stations, the Annex will be open on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Wednesdays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. It will be closed on Thursdays. Former GM employee and current Employment Training Specialist Ed Martinez will be the main resource at the center most of the time, with other staff assisting as necessary. Also Molly Polk is the Administrative Assistant. To contact either you can call (608) 755-5120 and enter ext. 103 for Ed or 127 for Molly.

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*The Rock County Job Center Annex at the UAW Hall is now open to serve your needs*

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GM's Mary Frederick (left) observes the jacket distribution process at the UAW Hall on April 28. Those coming in to pick up their jackets were invited to visit the Rock County Job Center Annex just down the hall. The Annex is open to anyone interested in improving their employability options.

## CONSIDER ADVANTAGES, PITFALLS OF SELF-EMPLOYMENT

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*"You need to be in a field you really enjoy, where it becomes a pleasure to work, not a chore."*

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While it may not be for everyone, self-employment can be rewarding and lucrative. But know what you're getting into before taking the plunge. "Many people want to start their own businesses, but few understand the dynamics and challenges," says David Reeves, who started a PR firm in Boca Raton, FL 15 years ago. He said some will say they want the 'freedom' of coming and going as they please. "Wrong," he emphasized. He said you'll put in more time than ever, and a change of mindset from an employee mentality to an entrepreneurial one.

It can be extremely rewarding, but you need to be in a field you really enjoy, where it becomes a pleasure to work, not a chore. Plan on long hours. You also must be sure your business (product or service) meets the needs of a large number of people. You need an objective view of whether your business will have customers. You'll also need to know your competitors and their strengths. And of course, you'll need to know the cash requirements. Then you can start to put your plan together. Planning is critical—80% of the businesses fail before year five, 96% before year 10.

Lay a firm foundation—be prepared. Take business classes or workshops. Plan on having a website. Think of how you'll market your business. A key question is "Why would anyone buy this product or service?" This is especially critical in this slow economy. The latest data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics show the number of self-employed Americans has fallen by an average of 74,000 per month since August, 2008. In February, 2009, there were 8.9 million self-employed Americans, down from a peak of 9.9 million in December, 2006. While part of that can be attributed to the slow economy, it also may leave openings for certain products and services. Be sure your research and subsequent plan hits your target market!



*Repairing an auto for someone else is but one option for possible bartering agreements to help save you money*

## CAN BARTERING BE AN OPTION FOR ME?

When resources are scarce, bartering--an exchange of assets and resources with others—can be a Godsend. Bartering eliminates money as an exchange method—goods and services take its place. But you need to make smart and fair exchanges. You should also be aware of liability/insurance issues and not make risky exchanges. In fact, when there is substantial investment, a barter agreement is always good to have. In it, state your expectations, who is responsible for materials or services, and be sure it is in writing. Also be aware that there may be IRS (tax) and state tax issues. You can barter with friends, family or others you may know, but be sure it is with someone you can generally trust.

Among the various possibilities for bartering exchanges are:

- |                    |                       |                             |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| * animal care      | * arts and crafts     | * carpentry/handyman        |
| * child/elder care | * entertainment       | * food prep or preservation |
| * gardening        | * hair care           | * home care upkeep          |
| * lessons/tutoring | * moving/hauling      | * newspaper delivery        |
| * office-type work | * photography/video   | * sewing                    |
| * transportation   | * vehicle maintenance | * yard work                 |

These are just a few—you can use your own skills to determine the best means to set up a possible bartering agreement with someone else.

## DISPLACED WORKER ORIENTATIONS

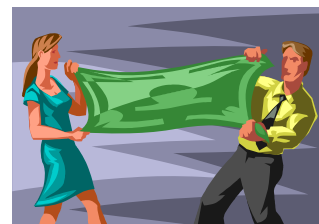
- \* Tues., May 5, 2-4 p.m. Job Center      \* Fri., May 8, 10 a.m.-noon, Annex
- \* Weds., May 13, 9-11 a.m., Job Center    \* Fri., May 15, 2-4 p.m., Annex
- \* Tues., May 19, 9-11 a.m., Job Center    \* Fri., May 22, 10 a.m.-noon, Annex
- \* Tues., May 26, 4:30-6:30 p.m., Annex    \* Weds., May 27, 1:30-3:30 pm-Job Ctr

## CLASSES DESIGNED TO HELP YOU!

Listed on the back page of this newsletter are varied and numerous classes offered at the Rock County Job Center/Annex. However, these are just some of the classes being offered of which you can take full advantage. Check 'em out!

- ***Planning for the Months Ahead***—Is training right for you? How do you keep a roof over your head while you're in school? Meeting your insurance needs.
- ***Getting Through The Tough Times***—Which bills do you pay first? What's the best way to talk with creditors? Bartering—what it is and will it work for me?
- ***Doing What is Best***—Is bankruptcy an option? What are the different types of bankruptcy and which one may be best for me?
- ***Helping Yourself and Others***—Helping your children cope with this difficult time. Making your family a part of the solution and taking care of yourself.
- ***Moving Ahead***—Covers job scams, starting your own business (not always necessarily a good idea), and community agencies and resources.
- ***Hot Jobs***—Features information about new jobs that have been added to the [www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com](http://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com) website in the past week. Job search techniques including describing transferable skills, resume and cover letter development, interview do's and don't's and other topics are covered.
- ***Managing What You Have***—How to make the most of what you have be setting spending priorities and strategies for spending less.
- ***Beginning Computer classes***—Helps with the basics—how to turn on a computer, operating a mouse, sending an e-mail, opening an e-mail attachment, saving a file, creating folders to save documents, and searching for information on the Internet, etc.
- ***Intermediate Computer classes***—More information on using the various functions in Microsoft Word, Excel, Outlook & PowerPoint.

Call the Job Center for further details at (608) 741-3578.



*Learning how to stretch your money is but one aspect of getting control of your budget. The workshops being offered help you to plan so you can maximize your resources in your tight budget situation.*

## CHECK OUT THESE OPPORTUNITIES

There are several **Dislocated Worker** group sessions that may be of interest to you. Call the Rock County Job Center for information or to schedule a session—Julie Funk at (608) 741-3462 or Carol Kohl at (608) 741-3418.

<b>Doing What Is Best (at UAW Hall/Annex)</b>	Mon., May 4, 8-9 a.m.
<b>Moving Ahead</b>	Mon., May 4, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Managing What You Have</b>	Mon., May 4, 10-11 a.m.
<b>Helping Yourself and Others</b>	Tues, May 5, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Planning For The Months Ahead</b>	Tues., May 5, 10-11 a.m.
<b>Hot Jobs</b>	Weds., May 6, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Getting Through the Tough Times</b>	Thus., May 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
<b>Doing What Is Best (at UAW Hall/Annex)</b>	Mon., May 11, 8-9 a.m.
<b>Moving Ahead</b>	Mon., May 11, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
<b>Managing What You Have</b>	Mon., May 11, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
<b>Helping Yourself and Others</b>	Tues., May 12, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
<b>Planning For the Months Ahead</b>	Tues., May 12, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
<b>Hot Jobs</b>	Weds, May 13, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Getting Through The Tough Times</b>	Thus., May 14, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
<b>Doing What Is Best (at UAW Hall/Annex)</b>	Mon., May 18, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Moving Ahead</b>	Mon, May 18, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Managing What You Have</b>	Mon, May 18, 10-11 a.m.
<b>Helping Yourself and Others</b>	Tues., May 19, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Planning For The Months Ahead</b>	Tues., May 19, 10-11 a.m.
<b>Hot Jobs</b>	Weds., May 20, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Getting Through The Tough Times</b>	Thus., May 21, 10:30-11:30 a.m.
<b>Moving Ahead</b>	Tues., May 26, 1:30-2:30 p.m.
<b>Managing What You Have</b>	Tues., May 26, 2:30-3:30 p.m.
<b>Hot Jobs</b>	Weds., May 27, 9-10 a.m.
<b>Planning For The Months Ahead</b>	Weds., May 27, 10-11 a.m.
<b>Helping Yourself And Others</b>	Weds., May 27, 11 a.m.-noon
<b>Getting Through The Tough Times</b>	Thus., May 28, 10:30-11:30 a.m.

In addition, *Beginning* and *Intermediate* Computer classes are being offered throughout the month at various times as follows:

- Mon, May 4, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Weds., May 6, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Fri., May 8, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Intermediate*)
- Mon, May 11, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Weds., May 13, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Fri., May 15, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Intermediate*)
- Mon., May 18, 1:30-6:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Weds., May 20, 1:30-6:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Fri., May 22, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Intermediate*)
- Weds., May 27, 1:30-6:30 p.m. (*Beginning*)
- Fri., May 29, 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. (*Intermediate*)

MAY 2009						
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JUNE 2009						
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### QUOTE OF THE DAY

“Patience, persistence and perspiration make an unbeatable combination for success.”

---Napolean Hill