



In this E-newsletter...

- ✚ **Call To Action: CoreComm Closing Its Doors on December 12**
- ✚ **Special Guest: GLITR Editor to Present at January 17 Membership Meeting**
- ✚ **Update: Organizational and Membership Committee Meeting**
- ✚ **Final Notice: Six Sigma “Black-belt” Training Orientation**
- ✚ **Announcing: Grants Available to Support Regional Entrepreneurs and Inventors Days**

### **Call To Action: CoreComm Closing Its Doors on December 12**

I just learned that the pending closure of CoreComm Internet Services, Inc.'s East Lansing facility (as a result of a consolidation of certain operations with those in western New York,) has now been moved up to Wednesday, December 12. Approximately 69 employees of the facility will have their employment terminated as a result of this closing. The positions include technical and help desk support, billing services, customer and sale service personnel, and others.

Members of the CAMW administrative team will be meeting with CoreComm next Monday and will provide information about local IT companies that are hiring—if you would like to be included on a list of companies for the CoreComm staff to contact about potential job opportunities please contact me this afternoon. It is very important that we help find new positions for these individuals so let me know if you have any current needs.

### **Special Guest: GLITR Editor to Present at January 17 Membership Meeting**

I am very pleased to announce that Matt Roush, Editor of the Great Lakes IT Report has agreed to present to our group at our next IT Council membership meeting on Thursday, January 17, 2008 at the LCC/MTEC (West Campus)—located at: 5708 Cornerstone Drive in Lansing.

Among other topics, Matt will talk about how to successfully market your technology business and provide examples of IT firms in the region helping spur our economic transformation.

You can learn more about the Great Lakes IT Report by visiting:

[www.glittr.com](http://www.glittr.com) <<http://www.glittr.com/>>

### **Update: Organizational and Membership Committee Meeting**

This past Tuesday, December 4 the Organizational and Membership Committee met to resume discussions about the process for adopting bylaws, nominating/electing our

Operating Board, and implementing a membership dues structure. Based on outcomes from this meeting, the committee has made the following recommendations:

\*Based on the progress that has been made by this group, the follow-up meeting that had been scheduled for January 9 will be canceled

\*Proposed version of bylaws (including two minor revisions regarding 1) the allowable ratio for Associate Members, and 2) process for appointing any board members who resign their posts prior to the end of their term) to be posted on web site under "About Us..." section for membership to review

\*Proposed membership dues structure to be posted on web site for membership to review

\*List of nominations for Operating Board to be posted on web site for membership to review—on-line nomination form to be developed as well

Detailed information about these organizational and membership items will be available on-line for registered users of the site to review. If you have any specific questions, you can contact me at: 517-492-5592 or [cknapp@camw.net](mailto:cknapp@camw.net)

### **Final Notice: Six Sigma "Black-belt" Training Orientation**

Please let me know if there is any interest in this activity--expressed interest so far is at a bare minimum.

We are working with the Capital Area Manufacturing Council and the Businesses and Community Institute (BCI) at LCC to offer Six Sigma classes at discounted prices. Market prices range from \$3,000 for web-based to \$11,000 for traditional "black belt" courses. Depending on final response/interest from IT Council member employers and availability of incumbent worker training dollars, IT Council members may be able to attend the training at a considerable discount (30% - 50% or more). The prices included in the attached flyer represent a 30% discount for members—pricing may be discounted further based on employer interest. To offer these courses to area employers, we need a combined minimum class size of 10.

On December 13th at 3:00 PM, we will be conducting an informational seminar at the LCC/MTEC (West Campus) Room S150 to describe the course offerings and determine interest in moving ahead. Please contact me at: 517-492-5592 or [cknapp@camw.net](mailto:cknapp@camw.net) if you are interested in attending this information session.

For more information on Six Sigma, go to the American Society for Quality at <http://www.asq.org/learn-about-quality/six-sigma/overview/overview.html>.

### **Announcing: Grants Available to Support Regional Entrepreneurs and Inventors Days**

Prima Civitas Foundation, on behalf of the Mid Michigan Innovation Team, is now accepting applications for organizations wishing to sponsor an Entrepreneurs or Inventors Day in the Mid Michigan region. Proposals are due January 18, 2008, and the full Request for Proposals is attached.

By leveraging the regions' resources in entrepreneurship and commercialization, intellectual property, and human capital, Entrepreneurs and Inventors Days are intended to spur innovation by fostering institutional investments in talent development and cultural change.

Entrepreneurs and Inventors Days are just one component of a broader University Commercialization initiative being implemented by Prima Civitas Foundation and its partners, and funded by the C.S. Mott Foundation. Other components include:

- \* Identifying the region's higher education-based commercialization and entrepreneurship practices and offerings.
- \* Convening the region's university and other commercialization and entrepreneurship service providers to encourage alignment of efforts, identify benchmarks, and explore exemplary commercialization and technology transfer models.
- \* Facilitating a strategic action planning process with the region's commercialization and entrepreneurship service providers to include recommendations on commercialization and technology transfer models, establishment of a regional university commercialization network, and public policy recommendations.
- \* Creating a business plan for the launch of a virtual technical assistance center to assist higher-education based entrepreneurs looking to pursue commercialization activity.

For more information on these initiatives please contact Irma Zuckerberg, Director of the Mid Michigan Innovation Team, at [i.zuckerberg@primacivitas.org](mailto:i.zuckerberg@primacivitas.org)