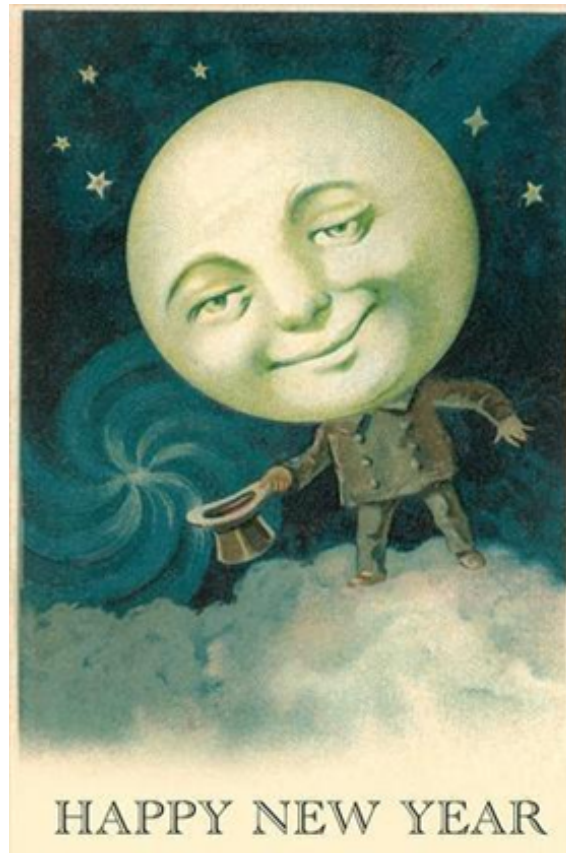


January 2024 Newsletter

From The Executive Director

“Learn from yesterday, live for today, hope for tomorrow.”

~Albert Einstein



In 2024, the sky will be illuminated by 12 full Moons, numerous meteor showers, five eclipses and four Supermoons.

The first full Moon of the year will occur on January 25th.

According to the Farmers' Almanac, the nickname that originates from Native Americans is Full Wolf Moon. The Native Wolf Symbol represents loyalty, strong family ties, good communication, education, understanding, and intelligence. The moon is roughly 4.5 billion years old and the average distance between the Earth and the Moon is 238,855 miles. The oldest surviving photo of the Moon was taken from the rooftop observatory at New York University on March 23, 1840.

We can learn so much from the facts of yesterday
and we are immersed in the world of today.

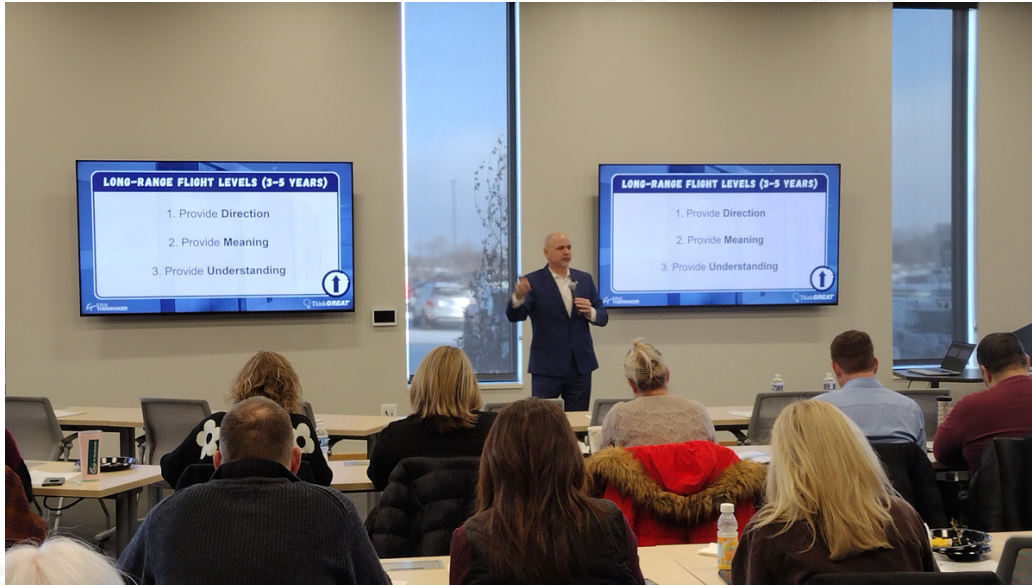
The most important thing is not to stop questioning.

That is how we shall find the hope for tomorrow.

Thank You Everyone For Attending our Annual Meeting!



Wright County Economic Development Partnership Presented:
Erik Therwanger, Founder & Author of Think Great at the
2023 Annual Meeting!



Have you put your plan together?
If not, now is the time!
For more information regarding Erik Therwanger's
3 Pillars of Business Greatness go to
<https://www.thinkgreat90.com/pillar-2-planning/>



THANK YOU SPONSORS!



CONGRATULATIONS WINNERS!



2023 WCEDP Partner of the Year
CorTrust Bank
Photo to the left



2023 WCEDP Start-Up Entrepreneur of the Year
Forget Me Not Cafe
Photo to the right



2023 WCEDP Citizen of the Year
Bill Hanson
Photo to the left



2023 High Vitality Business of the Year
Rachel Contracting
Photo to the right

UPCOMING EVENTS



**CENTRAL MINNESOTA
Jobs & Training Services**



Central Minnesota Career Fair

Wednesday, March 27 from 2 - 6pm
Monticello High School, 5225 School Blvd, MN 55362

Registration cost is \$150.00 per booth.

Registration includes one table, two chairs, limited electricity,
Wi-Fi and advertising for the event.

**** Remember you must complete your registration online by Feb 24th to be included in the employer directory given to job seekers attending the career fair.**

[Register by clicking HERE](#)



Lean Leader: Train-the-Trainer

Are you ready to revolutionize your leadership approach to continuous process improvement for yourself and your team? This curriculum will explore industry-relevant real-world tools to take your leadership skills to the next level and make a significant impact in your personal and professional journey. Become a trailblazer by cultivating vital “soft skills” essential for success in your professional field, while strengthening and empowering the team around you.

Who Should Attend?

- **Corporate Teams:** Equip your workforce with the skills needed to lead in today's dynamic business landscape.
- **Educators:** Prepare the leaders of tomorrow by instilling essential leadership qualities from an early stage.
- **Individual Professionals:** Take charge of your career growth by investing in your personal and professional development.

Why Choose this Course?

- **Practical and Applicable:** Our program goes beyond theory, providing practical tools that can be immediately implemented.
- **Industry-Relevant Content:** Stay ahead of the curve with content that aligns with current industry trends and demands.
- **Expert Facilitators:** Learn from Dr. Mary Kay McVey, a seasoned professional in the manufacturing industry, with a wealth of experience in leadership development.

Embark on a journey of transformation and emerge as a leader with the skills and confidence to navigate any professional landscape. Seize the opportunity to make a lasting impact on your team, institution, and personal growth.

REGISTER NOW



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Employer Reasonable Accommodation Fund

The Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) Employer Reasonable Accommodation Fund (ERAF) creates a central fund where small to mid-sized Minnesota employers can request reimbursement for expenses related to providing reasonable accommodations for job applicants and employees with disabilities. The ERAF's purpose is to encourage employment of people with disabilities by reducing any perceived or real financial barriers.

In addition to processing reimbursements, the ERAF Coordinator is available for technical assistance (TA) and consultation at no cost to employers.

TA is available for the following activities:

- Understanding the Americans with Disabilities Act as it pertains to hiring and retaining individuals with disabilities and implementing reasonable accommodations;
- Consulting on how to locate, purchase, and implement reasonable accommodations that meet the needs of individuals with disabilities;
- Connecting employers to disability-related trainings and resources, including DEED-specific programs and initiatives; and
- Answering any questions about the ERAF.

MORE INFO



Amplio Expands Loan Program Options

Amplio Economic Development Corporation has been providing SBA 504 loans to help businesses build, purchase, or refinance real estate and equipment for over 40 years.

We recently launched a brand new financing resource for commercial borrowers – designed to work alongside the SBA 504 loan program and help even more businesses get access to capital.

The Amplio Loan Program will help solve issues for borrowers with two types of financing:

- * Gap financing to help 504 borrowers with their down payment
- * 2nd mortgage financing where a 504 loan is not a good fit

These loans work alongside a lead bank loan and provide more solutions for more business owners!

Give us a call if you know of a business that could benefit from this type of loan for real estate or capital equipment.

MORE INFO

BUSINESS NEWS



Workforce Pathways

Mission

Identify and assist Wright County businesses with their workforce needs to create a long-term vibrant community through education, training, marketing and collaboration.

Objectives:

- a. Create a database of major employers and manufacturers in Wright County.
- b. Enlighten people of all ages and backgrounds to the quality businesses and jobs that exist in Wright County.
- c. Utilize and help connect the existing assets in Wright County including MN Career Force Center, Wright Tech Center, and regional high schools.
- d. **Identify skill sets in demand from Wright County employers and collaborate with educational partners to offer training (in Wright County) that match.**

WE WANT TO KNOW...

What skills are most needed for your employees here in Wright County!

Efforts though collaboration with regional higher education facilities are hopeful to bring needed courses our way!

Contact Us Today with the specific skill courses your business desires.

Jolene Foss - jolenef@wrightpartnership.org

or

Missy Meidinger - missym@wrightpartnership.org

Do YOU want your business added to the Workforce Pathways Wheel for potential employees to be able to look at your career opportunities?

Go to- <https://wrightpartnership.org/business-resources/>