



DORR BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Battle over; Gun Lake Tribe wins the casino war

The Dorr Business Association is pleased that the Gun Lake Tribe can at last lay claim to the 147 acres it has set aside for the future site of its Gun Lake Casino.

The federal government placed the land into trust ending a long and arduous battle with MichGo and 23 is Enough.

“Today we rejoice knowing that all our hard work has paid off and the sacrifices of our ancestors was not made in vain,” said D.K. Sprague, Tribal Chairman. “Now it’s official. Justice has been served to those who were motivated by greed and power to delay this project for nearly ten years.”

Dorr Industries operates under auspices of TG Manufacturing

TG Manufacturing purchased Dorr Industries in December. President Rich Achtenberg explained TG Manufacturing is a division of the Tora Group, a diverse, Michigan-based group of manufacturing and service companies. Tora Group companies include TG Renewable Energy Systems, a global system supplier to the renewable energy industry and TG Global Tooling Alliance.

Achtenberg anticipates expanding Dorr Industries’ customer base and processing. Teams from both companies have planned strategic integration of both company’s products and employees. Achtenberg said the 15 employees of Dorr Industries will continue to serve in their present ca-

The casino land title was transferred to the United States government to be held in trust on behalf of the Tribe. The Department of the Interior authorized the title transfer, which is not open to a legal challenge. This action ends any legal ambiguity about the Tribe’s ability to conduct gaming in accordance with federal law.

Soon the Tribe will hold a press conference to announce a ground breaking date, provide information for those who want to apply for a casino job, and inform area business owners how they can bid on contracts for goods and services.

The Gun Lake Casino will be op-

erated by the Tribe’s management partner, Station Casinos.

On Wednesday, Feb. 11, the Michigan State Senate followed suit and passed a resolution approving the compact with the Tribe.

Sewer project brings mixed emotions

Work is progressing on the planned sewer improvements in Dorr Township. The \$1.54 million project has received a couple of monetary pledges from Wayland Union School, \$137,000 and the Downtown Development Authority for \$400,000. The remainder is being sought through public assessments and grant monies.

Supervisor Tammi VanHaitsma said she is exhausting all resources for assistance, looking at stimulus packages and other grant monies available.

“At this time a draft assessment role is available and two petitions have left our office, one for and one against the project,” said VanHaitsma. “We’re waiting to see what we get back and then we’ll determine if we want to set up a public hearing on this.”

The township is looking at extending the sewer line from downtown Dorr west to the park and south along Hickory to Dorr Elementary School.

VanHaitsma said the sewer is much needed and with the coming of the casino will be a valuable asset to development that will sure to follow.

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The Dorr business offers metal stamping, turning, assembly, welding and bending as well as plating, painting, heat treatment, designing and the creation of prototypes.

Easter Egg Hunt volunteers needed

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is slated for Saturday, April 11, and the DBA is looking for persons interested in volunteering to help both before and during the event.

Please contact Melodie Niemczyk, 681.9927 or Chris Lipka, 681.9481.

DBA Board

President: Jim Maynard, Maynard's Water Conditioning, 616.877.4713.

Vice President: Steve Dutkiewicz, Dick's Market.

Secretary: Pat Staley, PS Graphics,

Treasurer: Melodie Niemczyk, United Bank.

Directors: Elise DeYoung, De Young's Carpet; Mary Barnes, Project Hope; Seth Leyendecker, Byron Bank; Chris Lipka, Four Seasons Hardware; and David Brown, PrePaid Legal Services.

Business Highlights

The law offices of Margaret Webb PLC have opened a new satellite office in Hopkins at 115 East Main St. That office will be open one day a week, Wednesday. Webb will maintain regular hours at her Dorr office, 1668 142nd Ave.

Sympathies

Our sincere condolences go out to the family of Harold Schumaker upon the loss of Harold's new grandson.

Lions Plan Fundraiser

The Dorr Lions Club will be raising funds to support projects for its group. Members are planning a Texas Hold 'Em event at Woody's/Spectrum Lanes on Clyde Park near 54th St. on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, March 5-8.

The fun begins on Thursday from 2 pm to 2 am, Game hours on Friday, Saturday and Sunday are from noon to 2 am.

Visit us online: DBA website has fresh, new look

Take a look at the DBA's new website, www.dorrbiz.com and see what's new.

Board secretary Pat Staley has given the site a makeover, adding some new pages and information to the site. We're hoping to make it a viable tool for all members and

an informational site for area residents.

More pictures, news and features will become part of the site.

We welcome any ideas you may have to improve the site. Contact Staley at 269.792.9249 with your news, events, thoughts and ideas.

New DBA meeting place

The meeting room at Project Hope, 1808-143rd Ave., Dorr, serves as the new home for the Dorr Business Association.

Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at one o'clock at Project Hope (use the side door for entry).

This month's lunch will be provided by United Bank of Michigan. Please feel free to join us.

Come to the Cabaret

You won't want to miss out on a very popular night of music. The annual Cabaret takes place in Allegan at the Griswold Auditorium and is chock full of music that will knock your socks off!

Talent abounds during the night of entertainment, which, this year, features three Dorr Idol winners.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend one or more of these nights of rockin' fun, Saturday, March 14, Friday, March 20 and Saturday, March 21. Contact Marcia Haloran for tickets, 616.877.4554.

On March 21 the Cabaret group features a pre-show cocktail hour. Wine and dine with the stars of the show and enjoy a selection of hearty, delectable appetizers.

Wings of Hope Hospice is the beneficiary of the annual fundraiser.

SIGN UP!

Be a part of the Dorr Business Association.

DEADLINE FOR MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL IS MARCH 1.

Sign up with Melodie, just call 616.681.9927

Meet our new member

Welcome Innovations Hair Studio to the Dorr Business Association family. Innovations is owned and managed by Debbie Broadwater, who purchased the business 2-1/2 years ago.

Debbie has four additional professional stylists who work for her and a nail technician. She covers the gamut on hair care from cuts, color, perms, highlights, with eyebrow waxing and nail care.

Debbie and husband, John, have three grown children and two grandchildren. They have lived in the Dorr community eight years come this August.

She said she loves living in Dorr and is excited about joining the DBA and getting involved in the community.