



## March 2011

Each month UEDA sends out an electronic bulletin to all current members, which features shorts articles and a list of upcoming events and activities of interest to our members. It is intended to be a useful way for you to gain insight into the UEDA Community. The bulletin is also available at our website on the "UEDA News" page. We hope you find this membership service informative!

## UEDA COMMUNITY NEWS

- **Transit systems in jeopardy....Join the Coalition for Advancing Transit on Thursday, March 31st at 6:30pm** and learn about the potential impacts of the Governor's proposed State budget on our local bus systems. Held at *IndependenceFirst*, located at 540 S. 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Milwaukee. Transit is a crucial part of a growing economy – in Milwaukee County close to 45% of individuals who use transit services take the bus to work or other job-related opportunities. This meeting is FREE and open to the public – this is your opportunity to learn how you can get engaged in supporting an important part of our community. Visit [www.coalitionforadvancingtransit.com](http://www.coalitionforadvancingtransit.com) for details.
- **UEDA has office space currently available for lease** within existing nonprofit suite. Ability to share copying, internet, janitorial and other services. Excellent access to conference room and/or shared meeting space. Ideally looking for long-term tenants. Reasonable rent rate. Office Location: 2212 N. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive, Milwaukee, WI 53212. For information, call (414) 562-9904 and ask for Bill.
- **Free Tax Preparation Services are now available!** From January 19 – April 15, 2010 Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites will be located throughout the Milwaukee County to prepare low-income resident's taxes and file them electronically for free. The household income limit for free tax preparation is \$56,000. This project is sponsored by the Milwaukee Asset Building Coalition (MABC), a private/public partnership coordinated by the Social Development Commission (SDC) and coordinates the VITA site program. To learn more, [access the flyer](#).
- **Carnival Milwaukee a success!** On Saturday, March 5, over 225 people joined UEDA in a celebration of the cultural and diversity of this great community, all while raising funds to support UEDA. Guests enjoyed the sounds of Ricardo Lemvo and Makina Loca and fabulous ethnic cuisine from 15 local restaurants and caterers. Special thanks to our Sponsors, Planning Committee, Board members, Volunteers and other partners for their participation! More information about the event can be found at [www.carnivalmilwaukee.com](http://www.carnivalmilwaukee.com).
- **Milwaukee wins IBM Smarter Cities grant!** Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett announced today that Milwaukee is one of two dozen cities in the world to win an IBM Smarter Cities Challenge grant. Hundreds of cities submitted applications to IBM for the grants. With the grant, which has an estimated value of \$400,000, IBM will provide intensive analysis and expertise to support Milwaukee's efforts in urban agriculture. Sweet Water Organics in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood will be a focus of the effort to make urban agriculture more sustainable and replicable. [Learn more>>>](#)
- Each year the Wisconsin Collaborative for Affordable Housing honors someone who has impacted the world of affordable housing with the **Charles M. Hill, Sr. Award for Housing Excellence**. Criteria for consideration include people who a) Are in a leadership role within a state or local agency promoting affordable housing (staff or volunteer), or b) Engaged in advocacy related to affordable housing, or c) Engaged in the development of affordable housing and have made a significant lasting contribution either in terms of number of units or creativity, or d) Engaged in the creation of housing opportunities for the homeless or low and moderate income populations within the state. **If you know someone who meets these criteria and who you would like to see considered for the Charles M. Hill, Sr. Award for Housing Excellence, please complete this brief [survey](#)** (it will take less than 5 minutes to complete.) You may fill out the survey more than once if you have more than one person that you would like considered. They will collect names of people for consideration [through March 31](#).
- **HUD Rolling Out \$1 Billion of Emergency Mortgage Assistance in April.** A new program to provide \$1 billion of emergency mortgage relief to homeowners at risk of foreclosure will go into effect April 1st according to a notice published in the Federal Register on Friday. Provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Emergency Homeowners' Loan Program offers up to \$50,000 in non-recourse bridge loans to assist eligible homeowners with payments on delinquent loans, including delinquent taxes and insurance for up to 24 months. In order to qualify, a homeowner must have experienced a substantial reduction in income due to involuntary but temporary unemployment or underemployment resulting from adverse economic conditions or medical conditions and meet the requirements set in the notice. Potential recipients have until September 20th 2011 to utilize this project, however this assistance may be denied by the house of financial services committee. To see if you qualify please take a look at the PDF [here](#)

- **2010 Overview of U.S. Housing Market Conditions.** This HUD report illustrates an overview of both fourth quarter and annual 2010 housing market conditions. The current market had various ups and downs while some trends and market conditions stayed the same. Housing affordability improved during the year, although homeownership rates for the nation and for most groups declined. But by a much slower rate than in 2009. [Read more>>>](#)
- **Consumer advocates nervous about Walker's budget.** In this article from the Wisconsin State Journal Wisconsin renters might lose the ability to prosecute landlords who have unfairly taken money or kept a deposit balance. However the proposed changes may also just be "Agency Housekeeping" To read more about these proposed changes and how they could affect not only renters but other Wisconsin consumers please read the original article [here](#).
- **Proposed new transportation policy mirrors national debate.** WI Governor Walkers budget has a provision stipulating that effective in 2013, state operating assistance for local transit systems no longer will be provided from the state's transportation fund, but instead will come from General Purpose Revenue (GPR). According to the Budget in Brief, the move is designed to "strengthen the relationship between user fee revenues and investments in transportation infrastructure." In other words, motor vehicle-related taxes and fees should be used exclusively for highways and roads, leaving other transportation modes to seek assistance from the general fund. To read more about the possible effects, visit the website [here](#).
- **Governor's Budget Proposal Would Fall Heavily on Children and Families.** The Wisconsin Council on Children and Families discusses the budget proposal and highlights proposed cuts to many essential programs and facilities which help families and children in WI. The attached PDF explains the situation in more detail. [Learn more>>>](#)
- **Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett has released an address which focuses on the United States 2010 Census.** The report breaks down the population of Milwaukee and describes our current population at 594,833 People. The report goes further and details certain population according to age, race and other characteristics. To view the information please visit [the website](#).
- **Mayor Barrett's 2011 State of the City Speech.** Focuses on some important issues and developments in the City of Milwaukee, Such as the Milwaukee Job Corps Center, which (as explained in our previous E-bulletin) hopes to take youth from Milwaukee and teach them skills to succeed in these troubled economic times. Additionally, the report discusses how Milwaukee is bucking other population trends: Our population may be stable, but our city is constantly changing". [Watch the video here](#) or [Read it here](#).
- **Governor Walker Vows Wisconsin Will Lead the Way.** In his February 1st"state to the state" address Governor Walker vowed to fix the budget crisis that Wisconsin is currently facing. This speech outlines his plan, which will mean change for many Wisconsinites. View the text in its entirety [here](#).

## NONPROFIT NEWS

- **Learning Opportunities for nonprofits are underway!** The Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee has posted their current Achieve Excellence Training calendar online. [View online here](#) or contact them at 414-344-3933for more information.
- **Every nonprofit has the right to Advocate!** If you haven't already, please visit the Alliance for Justice's website to obtain all the information you need to begin or enhance your advocacy efforts. While every nonprofit has a right to lobby, there are different distinctions for different types of nonprofits. Stay up to date and get technical assistance on your advocacy related questions [here](#).
- **Google has announced a new program for nonprofits.** This program will include a grant for ad words, exclusive tools, and collaboration forums. Instead of applying to each Google product individually, nonprofits can apply for a suite of tools. The user-friendly site, [Google.com/nonprofits](#), looks like it aims to simplify and educate how nonprofits can use the wide array of Google products for their organization. [Learn more>>>](#)
- **Looking to raise funds for a project? Not sure on how to achieve your funding goals?** This website may help. The website [www.kickstarter.com](#) is an innovative website where users can post a video on what they are trying to accomplish. Other people either get a link or view it and they can choose to donate funds to your project. To learn more about this website please visit the FAQ section of the website [here](#).

## SMALL BUSINESSES / ENTREPRENEURS

- **The Wisconsin Women's Business initiative Corporation holds interesting and exciting classes every month!** Topics include the Start Smart Business Planning Series, Small Business Discussion Circles, Financial Education series, Certification for Women and Minority-Owned Businesses, QuickBooks training and more. All classes are held in various locations and times. Fees may vary and scholarships are often available. To register or to learn more, please [visit their class calendar online](#), call 414-263-5450 or visit [www.wwic.com](#). Upcoming classes include:.

- **March 30th 6-8pm: Human Resources 103:** This class will deal with employment and human resource law. Fee: \$10.. Location: Tri-City National Bank: 6767 W. Greenfield Ave. West Allis, WI 53214.
- **March 31st 6-8pm: Social Media and Email Marketing:** This course will cover the core concepts of social media marketing; exploring techniques for employing social media as a marketing tool. Fee: \$20.. Location: WWBIC Milwaukee Offices: 2745 N. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive Milwaukee, WI 53212.
- **National SBIR Conference: April 10-13, 2011 Madison, WI...**At this conference you will learn about key facets of the federal SBIR/STTR [**Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer**] programs, and how the programs fit within the innovation ecosystem. If this event is something you or your organization would be interested in please register by visiting [the registration section](#). Also for more information about the event please visit the [website](#).
- **Does your small business accept credit cards?** This article explains how local independent businesses may sometimes refuse credit cards due to the “swipe fee” that credit card companies typically charge the business ,this swipe fee on average is 44 cents. But changes could soon be coming. Last year the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act required the Federal Reserve to cut the rate so the cap would be 12 cents. [Read more>>>](#).

## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Tuesday March 29th, 11:30AM to 1:30 PM Insurance – Lunch Break Learning Seminar!** Do you have questions about the workings of various insurance company practices? In this seminar you can ask questions to employees from insurance companies who will attempt to answer any questions you pose. This event will be held at the Hilton Milwaukee River Hotel – 4700 N. Port Washington Road. For registration information view the PDF [here](#).
- **Wednesday March 30th at Summit Credit Union 4800 American Parkway, Madison, WI from 8 AM to 10 AM. Credit Education for Nonprofits.** Whether it's used to help bridge those last dollars of a capital campaign, to finance the re-modeling or expansion of an existing facility, fund a specific project, or a need for a line of credit, nonprofits may need to access credit to finance their impact. Come meet with lending and CPA professionals who specialize in understanding the needs of nonprofits as they access and utilize credit as a tool to grow and sustain their mission and impact. To learn more about this event please call 608-257-3863 and to RSVP please contact [jillm@forwardci.org](mailto:jillm@forwardci.org)
- **In March the Nonprofit Center of Milwaukee is offering some classes to those who have a desire to learn!** All courses are held at the Nonprofit Center, located at 2918 W. Highland, Milwaukee unless otherwise noted. To register please fill out a form located [here](#) or call 414.344.3933for more information.
  - **Tuesday, March 29 / 9:00am to Noon: Managing and Improving Employee Performance** The supervisor plays the most critical role in ensuring high performance. Learn about using both your agency's formal performance appraisal system and on-going feedback techniques to keep employee's accomplishment high Presenter: Ann Heidkamp, Milwaukee Area Technical College Fee: \$75; \$50 Nonprofit Center members and CDBG agency attendees.
  - **Wednesday, March 30 / 8:30 to 10:30am: The Role of Nonprofits in Quality Child Care: YoungStar** held at the Malaika Early Learning Center 125 West Auer Avenue Milwaukee YoungStar, the new quality rating and improvement system for child care in Wisconsin, was created to improve child care throughout the state. Learn how your nonprofit can reach out to support & nurture smaller providers to be in compliance and move beyond what is required. Presenter: Joyce Mallory, Malaika Early Learning Center Fee: \$35; \$20 Nonprofit Center members and CDBG agency attendees.
- **The National Community Reinvestment Coalition conference is almost upon us!** This conference is being held in Washington, DC **April 13-16th** at the Washington Court Hotel. This conference will touch on important current subjects such as Fair Housing, Fair Lending & Foreclosure Prevention as well as networking, workshops and presentations. To register and to find out more information please visit the event website [here](#).
- **Saturday, April 30, 2011 8:30 AM - 3:15PM the 12th Annual Milwaukee Money Conference** is being held at the CTK Quality of Life Center , 7750 N 60<sup>th</sup> ST in Milwaukee , WI. This conference covers topics ranging from proper money management to insurance issues and even basic home ownership. To register please view the PDF [here](#).

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This bulletin is a service for our members. If you would like to know how you can become a UEDA Member, contact us at the phone number below or visit our website's membership page for details. *If you have a suggestion for an upcoming UEDA Member Bulletin, please contact [Kristi@uedawi.org](mailto:Kristi@uedawi.org).*

### **Questions or Suggestions? CONTACT US AT:**

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