

WELCOME HOME!

Center Monthly Report

**Opportunity
Grosse Ile**
**Grosse Ile, MI
48138**

Volume 1, Issue 1
June 2, 2010

A Successful Beginning

Opportunity Grosse Ile's new WELCOME HOME! CENTER has been open to the public for just over one month. During our inaugural month of operations, we have had 16 individuals who have been helping to keep our WHC open and accessible to all. Many of our Grosse Ile businesses, non-profit groups and clubs have dropped of information about their services and offerings. It is so helpful to our WHC visitors to have this information readily available. It is hoped that the other GI organizations and businesses will bring their literature, brochures and pertinent information soon so that we have a

complete array of what Grosse Ile has to offer. Materials can be dropped of during the normal WHC hours of operation.

The Welcome Home! Center was open for 30 hours during the month of April. In May 165 hours were worked by 16 volunteers. Since the Grand Opening, 195 volunteer hours have been logged. If we were paying people \$10 per hour for their efforts, it would have cost us \$1,950 in salary plus FICA and retirement costs. Due to the generosity of our volunteers, we have been able to offer this community outreach at no charge.

GRAND OPENING!

On Sunday, April 25th Opportunity Grosse Ile hosted the GRAND OPENING of the Welcome Home! Center at 8676 Macomb Street on Grosse Ile. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held to officially

open the WHC for business. After many months of planning and hard work this special event was a milestone in the existence of Opportunity Grosse Ile. Many local dignitaries were present to enjoy the festivities.

HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday—Friday

11:00 am to 5:00 pm

Saturday

10:00 am to 5:00 pm

Sunday

12:00—to 4:00 pm

In addition, if any realtor would like us to meet with potential buyers or business owners, we would be happy to schedule a convenient time beyond the "regular" hours of operations. Just give us a call at:

VOLUNTEERS

T Martin
Peter Martin
Judy McComas
Tammy Taylor
Peter Kantz
Armando Sardanopolis
Joan Strickler
Jim Schiesel
Craig Pilkington
Pam Frucci
John Conroy
Don Roskopf
Donna Hinson
Ron Baker
Irene Will
Dena Dardzinski

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Opportunity Grosse Ile

WELCOME HOME! CENTER

8676 Macomb Street
Grosse Ile, MI 48138
734-713-7905

Opportunity Grosse Ile...is a collaboration of community, schools and business members working together to promote our island home. Through coalition building, resource development, joint planning and marketing, we promote living on, working on, and enjoying Grosse Ile.

WELCOME HOME! April-May Items of Interest

During the first month of the Welcome Home! Operations, the majority of our visitors have been people from Grosse Ile. They have stopped in out of curiosity and to show support for our endeavors. Some of our visitors have offered suggestions for information that should be included and we have even picked up a few volunteer workers as a result. We have also had visitors from Oregon, Ohio, and Louisiana sign the guest book.

The Grosse Ile Nature and Land Conservancy has used the WHC to display the great photography that was submitted for their contest. The photography, entered by middle school and high school students has been wonderful addition to the WHC displays. It was exhibited throughout the month of May.

The WHC has enjoyed the talents and donations of many of our members. Here are a few of the generous donations we have received at the WHC:

- ◆ SLATS Enterprises, Inc. have underwritten the cost of rent and utilities for our new home;
- ◆ Dr. Laura Lile has graciously welcomed her new “neighbors” by providing furniture and other accommodations that have helped us greatly;
- ◆ Chad Novak set up the WHC with a great sound system;
- ◆ Ron Baker and Greg Kish have been instru-

mental with outfitting the WHC with phone services, the Internet and various technical options;

- ◆ Irene Will and Donna Hinson called up local artists to showcase the abundant talent evident on Grosse Ile;
- ◆ Grosse Ile High School teachers Laura McIntyre and Joel Fabris guided the creative island mural that graces the north wall of the WHC;
- ◆ We have entered a partnership with the Trenton Federal Credit Union (our neighbors across the parking lot) and TFCU is sponsoring our booth at Islandfest and helping to underwrite our Pirates’ Cove event on July 31st; and so much more.

The exciting and humbling part of our new endeavor is the spirit of willingness people and organizations have to assist us in our journey. Each day brings someone into the WHC with another shining example of Grosse Ile benefits.

As we look forward to our next month of operations, we have noted that many of our visitors are looking for items that have GI or Grosse Ile on them. While we do have some things available, as a result of the school district and the Historical Society, it is obvious there is a market for “more.” It is hoped that in the near future we will be able to have an inventory of various items that can generate some revenue for Opportunity Grosse Ile.

Please give us a call if you would like to work in the Welcome Home! Center during June or July. Schedules are being created now.