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*Developing leaders for today and tomorrow*

**Leadership Waupaca County**

Waupaca County UW-Extension

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September 4, 2007

Dear Leadership Waupaca County Participant:

Once again let me extend congratulations to you on your acceptance into Class IX of Leadership Waupaca County. I am confident that you will enjoy, learn from, and be challenged by this leadership development opportunity. This year's class is again shaping up to be an exciting one and I am certainly looking forward to the unique experiences each session brings.

Our first session will be held on **Thursday, September 13 from 8:00am to 4:30pm at First State Bank of New London**. First State is located at 113 W. North Water Street in New London. Please park behind the bank and on either the east side of the bank's parking lot or in the municipal parking lot, which is just to the east of bank's parking lot. An agenda and map are posted on the LWC website at <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/waupaca/cnred/leadership.html>. First State is graciously sponsoring our first session, and Harry Radix, President and CEO, will provide some leadership insight over lunch. If you get a chance during the day, I encourage you to thank Harry for the bank's support of Leadership Waupaca County.

We will begin the day by getting to know each other a little bit better and going through an orientation into the class. As indicated in the previous letter, the session will then concentrate on "Personality Styles for Personal Growth" conducted by Joan LeFebvre, Vilas County UW-Extension Family Living Educator and Professor of Family Development. Joan's efforts will center on the Myers Briggs personality analysis. This analysis will be taken, analyzed, and discussed by everyone. I find it's a tremendous leadership asset to be able to understand and lead amongst a wide variety of personalities.

In addition to the map and agenda, you'll find several short reading assignments that are intended to frame the idea of "leadership". I've found that these provide a good introduction to the topic area and the class.

√ The first is an excerpt from the preface of "The Leadership Challenge" by James Kouzes and Barry Posner. The authors concisely define how 21<sup>st</sup> century leaders face new challenges, but must exhibit the same leadership skills that have been required through the ages.

√ The second is Chapter 1 of the Kouzes and Posner text. The authors center the entire book around research (mostly of the private sector) that they have done over two decades. In this excerpt they briefly summarize what they have identified as the five leadership traits.

√ The third is a summary of a speech given by former Secretary of State Colin Powell. He relies heavily on his military experience in identifying 18 essential leadership traits. The summary is fairly predictable but certainly contains many good leadership nuggets to remember.

I hope you find these readings enjoyable and educational. Occasionally a class participant will ask why we don't learn about leadership styles. While it is true that we don't have a session on leadership styles per se, the readings for this session provide the foundation for you to analyze the leadership styles of many of the speakers with whom you'll get an opportunity to interact. They also provide a framework for some meaningful introspection. So, although we don't "teach" styles, these readings form the building blocks for participants to think and learn about the many styles you will confront over the next 9 months.

This is the first class that has 100% of the participants requesting email correspondence. This is an exciting occurrence, but it does come with at least one weakness. Our system has a very strict firewall and does not accept some emails. If you email me and do not get a response within

several days please call. Also, I will use email and the web to the greatest extent possible, but some mailings will still be sent traditionally

Finally, tuition for the class is due in two installments. Unless you have received a scholarship, the first half is due October 11th (\$187.50) and the second December 13<sup>th</sup>. I will talk with scholarship recipients about their payment schedule. If you desire, you can choose to pay all at once in October. Also, if you need an invoice and/or receipt please call Nancy Hamm at (715) 258-6231 and she will be happy to assist.

If you have questions about the program prior to the September session, please contact me at the Waupaca County Extension Office by email [michael.koles@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:michael.koles@ces.uwex.edu) or phone (715) 258-6230.

Sincerely,

Mike Koles

UWEX Community Development Educator

Waupaca County

CC: Leadership Waupaca County Steering Committee

Joan LeFebvre

Harry Radix, President/CEO First State Bank New London

Enclosures