

Letters to the Editor

City making progress toward secure future

As part of my 18-month economic development "listening tour" around the state, I had the great pleasure of visiting Mt. Pleasant. I want to express how gratifying it is to see how much progress your community leadership has made in establishing a secure economic future for the region and its residents.

My visit followed on the heels of the Delfield Company expansion announcement. It came on the same day that Gov. Granholm announced that a Mt. Pleasant startup, DCM Associates, had won a matching grant from the Technology Tri-Corridor Emerging Business Fund, the first company in Michigan to qualify for the program. Your community is to be congratulated on these accomplishments.

I was very impressed with the state-of-the-art research facilities I saw at CMU's Center for Applied Research and Technology and the Dow Science Complex. These are the types of developments any community in the state would be proud to have. The work being done at these facilities is a vital contribution to our overall effort to diversify Michigan's economy to include high-technology and high-growth emerging business sectors.

My afternoon meeting with George Dunn and our other partners at the Middle Michigan Development Corp. was time well spent. They outlined a very complete vision and strategy for future action, one that is well on its way to implementation, and we at MEDC are happy to give our full support to your efforts.

It was good to come by and meet the people who are providing Mt. Pleasant with such inspiring and dynamic leadership. I look forward to continuing to work in partnership with them as we confront the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead!

Don Jakeway
president and CEO
Michigan Economic Development Corp.