

Alternate Power Initiative News Letter

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The Alternate Power Initiative is a committee of the Whiting-Robertsdale Community Improvement Corporation, Inc., a 501(c)(3) entity

www.alternatepowerinitiative.com

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Editor: Greg Krabbe

2011 Race for the Future

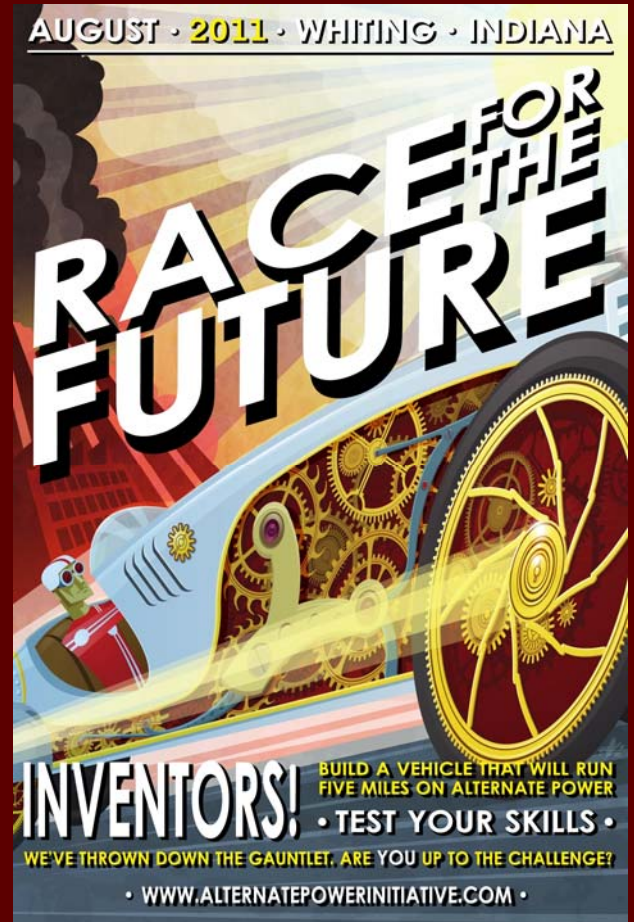
Welcome to the first Alternate Power Initiative NEWS LETTER. The purpose of this monthly communiqué will be to share information about the 2011 *Race for the Future* and to encourage the inventors and creators who have entered our competition. We will feature interviews with contestants and discuss problems and solutions as they build their vehicles and prepare for the challenge. We will explore invention and creativity and how to inspire and encourage both for the common good. We will interview members of our Advisory Board so that you can get to know who we are.

The *Race for the Future*, hosted by the Alternate Power Initiative and the City of Whiting Indiana, is a meeting place for inventors. More than a competition, it is a proving ground for ideas and a place where inventors and creative people can encourage and inspire one another to greater accomplishment.

Invention is a passion, a challenge that must be met, a curiosity that insists on resolution, an unanswered question that demands reply; it is a call to the very soul of the creative individual. We hope that this NEWS LETTER will inform, inspire and encourage you on your creative journey. Hats off to you who have taken up the challenge and good luck, we look forward to meeting you on August 27, 2011.

Bill Halliar

Chairman; Alternate Power Initiative Advisory Board





An introduction by News Letter Editor Greg Krabbe

As we begin 2011, another year of opportunities, hopes and ambitions for the challenges that face us all, not the least of which is our national economy and certainly the way in which it shapes possibilities and plans.

I still maintain that we are among the most fortunate generations ever to be born, amid comforts and conveniences unparalleled in human history with this goes an abiding sense of responsibility.

While I don't want to go "Hallmark" on anyone in this inaugural issue of our newsletter, it is a responsibility that folks like yourselves obviously take seriously to even be included in this mailing list.

That having been said, let me thank you for reading our pages and encourage you to follow the progress of the 2011 Race for the Future in our monthly newsletter.

EVENT UPDATE

Mark your calendars; August 27 is the date for our "Race for the Future" for 2011. This year the headquarters for our event will be the newly renovated Chamber of Commerce office in the middle of down town Whiting. Just as last year the "For the Love of Art" fair will be celebrating local artists on the same day. Our race route will be a circuit around the fair. Carrie Gallagher, our event planner, is working to make this year's event bigger and better than last year. We will keep you updated as our plans progress.





Refining the Heart of Community Mayor Joseph M. Stahura

November 18, 2010



The City of Whiting, Indiana is proud to host the second Alternate Power Initiative which will be held in August 2011. Last year's event was very successful and drew participants and spectators from the US and Canada. We are hoping that we can attract an even greater interest in the next initiative.

Whiting has a unique connection with the transportation industry starting with its founding in 1883. It was here, on the southern shore of Lake Michigan, in 1889 that the Standard Oil Company built its first refinery. In 1909 it developed the first practical process for the "cracking" of heavy oil to produce gasoline. This discovery then ushered in the age of the automobile.

Just as the internal combustion engine automobile has changed American life for all time, it is our hope that the innovations inspired by the Alternate Power Initiative will revolutionize the field of transportation. The possibility to introduce an era of clean efficient transportation that is environmentally friendly, technologically sound and simple in its science is a great challenge that can provide enormous benefit. Whiting prides itself on being a green community so events such as this further serve our mission and purpose as well.

We look forward to this gathering of inventive minds and creative technology and invite all who share an interest in innovation and automobiles to join us in Whiting, Indiana in August 2011 for a race for the future.

Sincerely,

Mayor Joseph M. Stahura
City of Whiting, Indiana



City of Whiting

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Advisory Board Member Interview

Mike DiLuigi

“Mike DiLuigi has been an engineer for 35 years working in the transportation field. Mike brings a great deal of expertise to our Advisory Board given his broad understanding of both the critical need for alternative energy and the transportation industry itself. Mike believes that America is in desperate need of alternative energy and that it is something we should have been working on for years.

“We are certainly at a cross roads and we need to embrace alternative energy”, Mike says. “The solution to the problem must encompass a multifaceted approach including better utilization of our natural resources in addition to maximizing the performance of current technology while exploring all new possibilities.”

According to Mike, the effort to mitigate our dependence on foreign oil must be aggressive, and continuing, as the demand will always keep prices artificially inflated, and could make our nation vulnerable to the whims of OPEC countries with whom, in many cases, we already have tenuous ties. Mike says that, “the free market will be the best vehicle for introducing alternative energy transportation in the future, not an artificially created demand with the government picking up the tab for innovation.”

Mike noted that his interest in alternative fuels was born with the gas rationing of the 1970's. The difference now is that the demand is even more critical because we have other nations like China and India competing for the global supplies of crude.

Mike also believes that our approach must begin with a dramatic change in consumer attitudes rather than a complacency that allows us to see prices go up as if we are without any choice. The fact is we are not without a choice we've just not exercised it, because it hasn't hurt badly enough yet.



What is the ALTERNATE POWER INITIATIVE?

The City of Whiting Indiana and the Alternate Power Initiative sponsor the “Race for the Future”, an annual competition dedicated to invention and the search for alternate engines and sources of power to propel our nation into the future. The Alternate Power Initiative is comprised of an Advisory Board of engineers, inventors and designers; men and women who share the dream of a clean renewable power source for America's future. The Advisory Board has crafted a set of rules to challenge the most creative minds of America with the goal of inspiring an inventive atmosphere of competition and co-operation which will lead to great discoveries. The game's afoot, the gauntlet has been cast; who will take up the challenge?



Mike says that Consumers will need to “re-engineer their thinking about real transportation needs and stop comparing alternative fuel transportation to conventional internal combustion engines plus vehicles must be introduced to the market at a price point that people are willing and able to pay.”

Joe Markovich And His Team Take UP The Challenge

An interview with team leader Joe Markovich

Q. What is your back ground?

A. My background is in electrical and computer engineering. I have been active in that field for 20+ years.

Q What sparked your interest in alternative engine design?

A. I read an article in the newspaper in August and thought “this is an interesting problem to work on”. My family was discussing the article while eating dinner at my parent’s house, we looked up the rules and in goofing around came up with a few ideas. We said, “We could build that”. The creative ideas come with the construction and control of the vehicle. We have already learned a great deal from the project. I have three kids in my group and maybe this will spark some breakthrough idea later in their careers.

Q. Who are the members of your team?

A. The entire Markovich family!!

Joe and Darlene, mom and dad; Team leaders

Chris; Age 17 and driver of the vehicle

National Science Olympiad 1st place, in junkyard challenge 2006.

National Science Olympiad 3rd place in robotics 2007

JETS State Champion 3rd place National 2010

Holly; Age 16

National Science Olympiad 5th place optics 2010

JETS State 4th place 2010

Mike; Age 12

Student Math Bowl 1st place 2010

Q. Do you have a particular passion that drives your interest more so than another?

A. Basically, we like building things Trying to solve a problem like this is interesting, and the competition the Alternate Power initiative has set up forces the participants to put their ideas on the road. That implementation, in my opinion, makes the competition fun. We may win, we may not, but I like the friendly competition of running one machine against another, and the best team wins.

In closing:

Sitting in a class room talking about energy problems and lamenting future transportation needs, while well meaning, produces mere perspective but is not very productive. Opening this program up to anyone and making them apply their ideas is very productive. Maybe no breakthrough will be made in August, 2011, but then again, a single inventor could break new ground in the advent of modern transportation. Either way it is win/win.

Some Final Comments from the Editor

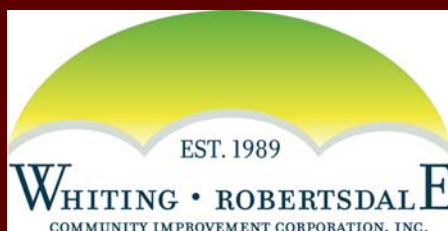
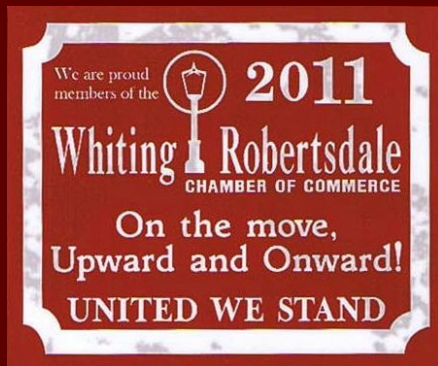
How often do our more “rational” arguments talk us out of our passion for ingenuity? It’s too difficult, I can’t, if it could have been done, someone would have done it already. What inventors, innovators and entrepreneurs want and need is tangible encouragement; that is what the “Race for the Future” 2011 offers!

Ask yourself how many times you have said, “I could have thought of that”, when hearing about some new sensational success over a new product, company or an IPO. I think everyone thinks about this at least once. The only difference between the successes and failures is that the people who succeeded never gave up!

Greg Krabbe, Editor

Don't be discouraged. Every time I think of a new idea, some nincompoop tells me it can't be done.

T.A. Edison



Here are some web sites that you might like to visit;

Make Technology on your time

www.makezine.com

Inventors Digest

www.inventorsdigest.com

Hackerspace

www.hackerspaces.org

Leonardo Da Vinci's Automobile (You Tube)

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