

MPA/MACS FACTS

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May 12, 2020

PERSONAL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT RESOURCES

Personal protection equipment (PPE) continues to be challenging to find. Many MPA/MACS Associate members have stepped up to offer PPE for their customers. Members should continue to check with current vendors to see if they are offering various products that is needed.

Below are some other resources for businesses that could be helpful procuring PPE.

Pure Michigan Business Connect connects Michigan businesses with procurement needs with Michigan based personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety products suppliers. https://www.michiganbusiness.org/services/pure-michigan-business-connect/

Michigan Chamber of Commerce has compiled a list of companies that source, manufacture or distribute PPE equipment. https://www.michamber.com/personal-protection-equipment

The National Association of Convenience Stores (NACS) has posted a list of companies that offer PPE's and other equipment. https://www.convenience.org/getattachment/Topics/Operations/Disaster-Preparedness/Coronavirus-Resources/PPE-Barriers-Signage.pdf?lang=en-US

MPA/MACS SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PERIOD ENDS ON MAY 15

The Michigan Petroleum Education Foundation (MiPEF) Scholarship application period through our partner Scholarship Management Services has been extended until May 15. This extension will help if some students have been struggling with getting all the necessary information needed to complete the application.

Interested students must download and complete the pdf application and mail it along with a complete transcript of grades to Scholarship Management Services postmarked no later than May 15, 2020. Detailed information about the program and the application form can be downloaded from the MPA/MACS website (under Scholarship tab) at: www.mpamacs.org/scholarship.

CONSIDER A DONATION TO MICHIGAN PETROLEUM JOBBERS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE (MPJPAC)

MPA/MACS Board of Directors set a fundraising goal for the Michigan Petroleum Jobbers Political Action Committee (MPJPAC) to raise \$175,000 for 2019 and 2020 combined. MPJPAC has just under \$46,000 left to be raised to meet the two year goal.

MPAMACS needs to be in position to have a impact on important state elections. The entire State House of Representatives is up for election. All the positive gains MPA/MACS has made over the last several years could go by the wayside if we don't help get the right people elected.

Please consider a personal contribution to MPJPAC today to help meet this goal. Members can donate directly from the MPA/MACS website at https://www.mpamacs.org/mpjpac. Or use the donation form attached. A list of current MPA/MACS donors can be found on page 3.



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CELL PHONE TRACKING SHOW MORE PEOPLE IN MICHIGAN ON THE MOVE

According to Unacast's social distancing scoreboard, more Michiganders have been on the move since Easter Sunday. However, data from Unacast and Facebook show Michigan isn't alone in this trend. Rather, Michiganders are doing comparatively better at staying at home than some states, but not as good as others. Unacast gave 24 states failing grades in its social distancing activity, based on how far individuals travelled, how much they cut back on non-essential visits and limited their social interactions.

Michigan was among seven states receiving a grade of a D-, the national average. The best grade was the District of Columbia with a C+. Nevada had a C. Unacast gets its data from "hundreds" of data suppliers, apps pulling GPS signals from our cell phones, according to a published report.

Michigan scored much better at various points in this COVID-19 pandemic. It received a B on Easter Sunday and various other dates between early-March and mid-April. For most of April, it was hovering in the "C" category. But on April 30, the day of the "Patriot Protest" and the day the Legislature declined to extend the Governor's emergency order, Michigan received a failing "F" grade from Unacast in the "non-essential visit" category. After a slight dip, the number of visits is going back up again in Michigan and the grade is worsening.

This trend isn't unusual. Nationally, the social distancing rates are bouncing up and down between the "C" and "D" range, but is now at D-. Whether the state had a stay-at-home order didn't seem to matter. Of the 17 states that still have stay-at-home orders in place for at least the next week, six states had an F, 10 were in the D range and one was in the C range. Facebook data is showing similar results.

To view Unacast's social distancing scoreboard go to: https://www.unacast.com/covid19/social-distancing-scoreboard?view=state&fips=26

Source: MIRS News

DEMAND FOR GASOLINE REBOUNDS

The demand for gasoline is rebounding, as the car—at least for now—makes a comeback. Areas around the globe are reopening, and driving has emerged as the social-distancing transportation mode of choice. That is providing some relief to an oil market fresh off its worst crash in history, reports Bloomberg.

In the United States, gasoline consumption is clawing back from record lows, rising by 400,000 barrels a day during the week ended May 1. Cities in Florida, one of the first states to re-open, have seen fuel sales rebound to 3% below normal levels, from 50% a few weeks ago, reports the Florida Petroleum Marketers Association. "I think maybe we will get a third of gasoline demand back relatively easy," Patrick DeHaan, analyst at GasBuddy, told Bloomberg. The rest will come back much more slowly, he said, perhaps taking a year or more.

At fuel distributor Pilot Flying J, management has noticed the trend. "People are thinking about their travel plans for this summer, and many are considering road trips due to people feeling more comfortable driving," said Whitney Haslam Johnson, chief experience officer. "People are using their cars because they are afraid to use public transportation," said Patrick Pouyanne, chief executive of French oil giant Total SA. In Berlin, public transit use remains down 61%, while the number of people driving has recovered to 28% below normal, according to data from Apple, which tracks requests for directions on its popular Maps app. The same is occurring in Ottawa, the Canadian capital, where driving directions on the app have recovered to 40% of normal levels, up from 60% in April, while directions for mass transit remain flat from April at 80% below normal levels.

Source: NACS



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- Blarney Castle Oil Co. (Bill McCarthy, Brian McCarthy, Dennis B. McCarthy and Dennis P. McCarthy)
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As of 5/11/20

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY PREPARES TO REOPEN CAMPUS IN FALL

Central Michigan University (CMU) President Bob Davies confirmed plans to offer face-to-face classes on the Mount Pleasant campus for the fall semester. Davies said the university also will offer remote and online options for students and faculty who are unable to return to campus.

CMU's Emergency Management group is developing plans to ensure social distancing in shared spaces, such as classrooms, offices and event venues; CMU also has established new protocols for cleaning and disinfecting these common and shared areas. CMU's College of Medicine and local health officials are guiding the Emergency Management group's decision-making process.

CMU recently notified students of changes in its on-campus housing: The university will reduce the number of students living in each residential suite, and an on-campus isolation and quarantine space has been established in the event of new cases of COVID-19 in the community. Faculty and staff also received information about CMU's strategic, phased return-to-campus plan, which takes effect later this month.

Davies acknowledged the uncertainties surrounding the future impact of COVID-19, but said he believes the university faculty and staff will be prepared for a safe and healthy fall semester.