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**GOVERNOR'S REMARKS FOR THE
HURLEY INFORMATION CENTER RIBBON CUTTING**

TUESDAY, JUNE 8, 1:00 PM

Tourism Information Center, Hurley

They are expecting a pretty good turnout, as the Governor's visit has been touted on the radio and area newspapers. The agenda is as follows:

Welcome from Jim Gruender, DOT District Director

Remarks by Louis Leoni, Iron County Board Chairman

Remarks by Moose Speros

Remarks by Chuck Thompson

Governor

Pete Derubis is mentioned at the end. He was a mining engineer who played a major role in developing the center's displays. He died about two years ago.

****NOTE:** It is very important that the Governor mentions the Iron County Senior Citizens Association. They were a little miffed when he didn't acknowledge them at the groundbreaking (see attached article).

THANK YOU.

IT WAS JUST A YEAR AGO THAT I STOOD AMID MY GOOD FRIENDS HERE AND BROKE GROUND FOR THIS MAGNIFICENT NEW WISCONSIN INFORMATION CENTER.

I AM BACK TODAY TO OFFICIALLY OPEN THIS CENTER . . . AND TO THANK EVERYONE HERE FOR ALL THE HARD WORK THAT MADE THIS DAY POSSIBLE.

(pause)

WHEN I BECAME GOVERNOR, I KNEW THAT ONE OF THE WAYS TO KEEP WISCONSIN'S ECONOMY STRONG WAS TO PROMOTE A HEALTH TOURISM INDUSTRY. I KNEW, AS YOU DO, THAT A HEALTHY TOURISM INDUSTRY WOULD BE AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN WISCONSIN'S ECONOMIC SUCCESS ... ESPECIALLY FOR AREAS RICH IN NATURAL BEAUTY LIKE IRON COUNTY.

EVERY YEAR SINCE THEN, TOURISM HAS CONTINUED TO BE ONE OF THE TOP INDUSTRIES IN WISCONSIN ... \$5.5 BILLION DOLLARS LAST YEAR ALONE. IN IRON COUNTY, TOURISM EXPENDITURES WERE \$26.7 MILLION DOLLARS LAST YEAR ... AND MAJOR IMPACT ON YOUR AREA'S ECONOMY.

THIS NEW \$1.1 MILLION DOLLAR INFORMATION CENTER FULFILLS A PLEDGE I MADE TO YOU WHEN I BROUGHT STATE GOVERNMENT TO NORTHERN WISCONSIN BACK IN THE SUMMER OF 1987.

YOU SAID YOU NEEDED A FACILITY TO PROMOTE THE CLEAR RIVERS AND LAKES ... ABUNDANT FISH AND WILDLIFE ... SCENIC NATURAL AREAS ... EXCITING RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND THRIVING BUSINESSES THAT MAKES THIS AREA SO POPULAR.

YOU SAID A WISCONSIN INFORMATION CENTER WAS NEEDED TO PUBLICIZE THIS AREA. TO CREATE JOBS, AND ALLOW YOU TO COMPETE FOR VITAL TOURISM DOLLARS.

I AGREED WITH YOU, AND I TOLD THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND THE DIVISION OF TOURISM TO GET TO WORK. I TOLD THEM TO DEVELOP A FACILITY THAT WOULD ADVERTISE NORTHERN WISCONSIN AS AN IDEAL VACATION DESTINATION.

I WANTED A FACILITY THAT GIVES VISITORS THE FEELING THAT THEY ARE

RECEIVING A WARM WISCONSIN WELCOME WHEN THEY STOP HERE.

I ALSO WANTED A PLACE THAT SHOWS THAT WE IN NORTHERN WISCONSIN ARE PROUD OF OUR HARD-WORKING MINING AND LUMBER HERITAGE.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, I WANTED A FACILITY THAT WOULD BE A CONVENIENT PLACE FOR ALL TRAVELERS ... A PLACE WHERE THEY COULD STOP, REST, HAVE A PICNIC AND -- AT THE SAME TIME -- LEARN ABOUT THE RICH HISTORY AND RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THIS PART OF THE STATE.

THIS INFORMATION CENTER DOES THAT. IT NOT ONLY HAS A WELL-TRAINED STAFF TO PROVIDE INFORMATION FOR VISITORS ... IT CONTAINS AN IMPORTANT TRIBUTE TO THE MINING INDUSTRY THAT PLAYED SUCH AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THIS AREA.

THE DISPLAYS HERE AT THE CENTER WERE THE RESULT OF THE OUTSTANDING EFFORTS OF YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHO WORKED -- OR WHOSE FAMILIES WORKED -- IN AREA MINES, INCLUDING THE MONTREAL AND CARY MINES.

THE DISPLAYS INCLUDE A MAGNIFICENT SUN DIAL FEATURING MINING CORE SAMPLES FROM THE CARY MINE ... PLAQUES THAT TELL THE STORY OF MINING IN THE AREA ... AND HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS.

EQUALLY IMPRESSIVE IS THAT GREAT STATUE OF A MINER JUST INSIDE THE DOOR, PAID FOR BY CONTRIBUTIONS FROM THIS COMMUNITY.

IT IS A WISCONSIN INFORMATION CENTER THAT EVERYONE CAN BE TRULY PROUD OF.

SINCE THIS CENTER OFFICIALLY OPENED FOR BUSINESS IN MID-DECEMBER -- IN TIME FOR THE BUSY WINTER AND SNOWMOBILING SEASON -- IT HAS BEEN A POPULAR PLACE.

THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS HAVE STOPPED IN TO LEARN ABOUT WISCONSIN
AND THE MANY RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES HERE.

AS THEY LEAVE THIS FACILITY, THEY TAKE WITH THEM A STRONG SENSE
OF THE PRIDE AND THE HERITAGE OF THE PEOPLE OF IRON COUNTY.

I WANT TO THANK THE MANY PEOPLE WHO PARTICIPATED IN MAKING THIS
WISCONSIN INFORMATION CENTER A REALITY. IT TOOK PEOPLE WITH
VISION AND A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE TO CREATE A FACILITY LIKE
THIS.

TO THE CITIZENS OF IRON COUNTY ... MAYOR TOM GAMACHE (ga-MAHsh)
... (county board chairman) LOUIS LEONI ... "SUDS" MORICHETTI ...
AND ALL THE PEOPLE WHO WORKED SO HARD TO GET THIS EFFORT GOING.

THAT INCLUDES: THE IRON COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION ...
THE WHITE THUNDER RIDERS SNOWMOBILE CLUB ... THE CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE ... THE HURLEY DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION.

I ALSO WANT TO EXTEND A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO SOMEONE WHO CAN'T
BE WITH US TODAY ... PETE DERUBIS (de-ROO-bis). PETE IS NO LONGER
WITH US, BUT HIS WORK WILL LIVE ON IN THESE MARVELOUS DISPLAYS
THAT HE WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE HAPPEN.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOU COMMITMENT TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN.

CONGRATULATIONS!