

IDEA: START A MIDWEST SPACE MUSEUM!

By Woodrow Wilcox

The City of Valparaiso and its Economic Development office have been looking for a solution to the empty bread company building on the east side of Valparaiso.

I suggest that the property be used for a MIDWEST SPACE MUSEUM. The dome shaped building on the grounds looks like a giant alien space ship that has landed. The long, grassy grounds north of the building could show exact scale model rockets from the NASA program.

The dome shaped building could have a cafeteria, a gift shop, a theater, a conference facility, and museum exhibits.

Because the Midwest Space Museum would be a non-profit entity, everyone in northwest Indiana could join in helping it to become a reality. Local colleges could start internship programs so that students could work at the museum and get college credits for “space engineering and history” or “museum operations and management”.

The connections between the space program and northwest Indiana could be featured at the museum. The museum would be a source of community pride and interest for everyone in northwest Indiana.

I believe that many schools in the Midwest would send school buses of children to the museum for a visit. Many of the children might persuade their parents to take the entire family to the Midwest Space Museum in Valparaiso at another time.

The visitor traffic to the Midwest Space Museum would generate revenue for motels, restaurants, and other businesses in and around Valparaiso.

If you like this idea, please, contact the Valparaiso’s Mayor’s office at 219-462-1161 to tell them that you like Woodrow Wilcox’s idea for a Midwest Space Museum in Valparaiso.

Written on June 20, 2007.