

# Belknap Matters

May 2010



## Board of Directors

### Officers

Michael Persson, Esq., Chair  
*Lawson & Persson, P.C.*  
John Thomas, Vice Chair  
*Former State Representative*  
Ed Engler, Secretary  
*Laconia Daily Sun*  
Sean Sullivan, Treasurer  
*Denoncourt, Waldron & Sullivan, PA*

### Directors

Bill Beyer  
*Retired Bank President/CEO*  
Dale Dormody  
*Piper Mountain Webs. LLC*  
Mark Edelstein, Ph.D.  
*Lakes Region Community College*  
Randy Eifert  
*Cross Insurance*  
Tony Ferruolo  
*Hospitality Consultant*  
Debbie Frawley Drake  
*LRL Enterprises, Inc.*  
Tom Garfield  
*Laconia Savings Bank*  
John P. Giere, Esq.  
*Wescott, Dyer, Fitzgerald & Nichols*  
Greg Goddard  
*Gunstock Mountain Resort*  
David Haley  
*Munsey & Brazil Insurance Agency*  
Kimon Koulet  
*Lakes Region Planning Commission*  
Sam Laverack  
*Meredith Village Savings Bank*  
Henry Lipman  
*Councilor, City of Laconia*  
Kate Miller  
*Representative, District 3/Meredith*  
Sonya Misiaszek  
*Misiaszek Turpin, LLC*  
Paige T. Quigley  
*The Wilder Company*  
Jane Wood  
*Patrick Wood Law Office, PLLC*

### Staff

Jennifer Boulanger  
*Executive Director*  
Lyn O'Callaghan  
*Program Coordinator*

## Annual Meeting Highlights

The Belknap County Economic Development Council celebrated 18 years of service to the business community at its annual meeting held Wednesday, March 24th. The event took place at the Inn at Church Landing, overlooking scenic Meredith Bay, and brought together about 150 business and community leaders from the Lakes Region and across the state.

Elected to lead the Council in 2010-2011 were Michael Persson, Chair; John Thomas, Vice Chair, Ed Engler, Secretary, and Sean Sullivan, Treasurer. Joining the 100-member Board of Incorporators in 2010 are Warren Bailey, *Comcast Spotlight*; Gail Batstone, *The Inns and Spa at Mill Falls*; Carol A. Cantin, *New Hampshire Employment Security*; Gary Groleau, *New Hampshire Ball Bearings, Inc.*; Kate Hamel, *Community Matters*; RJ Harding, *Meadowbrook Musical Arts Center*; Will Hirsch, *High Road Biomedical, LLC*; Jeff Hollinger, *EPTAM Plastics*; Curtis Stafford, *Stafford Oil*; Tom Winkelmann, *Smith Tubular Systems/STS*; and Christian Zimmermann, *Pike Industries, Inc.*

A highlight of the meeting is the presentation of awards to worthy individuals and businesses, nominated by BCEDC's Directors and Incorporators. The meeting culminated with a presentation on the Lakes Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy outlining examples of successful projects and sub-committee goals as well as the funding opportunities now available. For detailed information, please read the CEDS Lakes Region Update (March 2010 edition at [www.lakesrpc.org/CEDS](http://www.lakesrpc.org/CEDS) or [www.bcedc.org](http://www.bcedc.org)).

The patronage of several local businesses made the annual meeting accessible for many. Laconia Savings Bank provided Gold Level sponsorship. Silver Level sponsors were Meredith Village Savings Bank and Community Partnerships for Affordable Healthcare. Bronze Level sponsors included Denoncourt, Waldron & Sullivan, PA, Franklin Savings Bank, Gunstock Mountain Resort, The Inns and Spa at Mill Falls, MetroCast, and Munsey & Brazil Insurance Agency. Assistance also was received from The Common Man Family of Restaurants.



Left, Incorporators Kate Hamel, Leo Sanfacon and Bob Dietz; right, Jeff Hollinger with BCEDC chair Tom Garfield. Above, Alan Robichaud with incoming BCEDC Chair Mike Persson.

# Four Join the BCEDC Board

At its March 24th annual meeting, the Belknap County Economic Development Council elected four Incorporators to its Board of Directors. Joining the Board for three-year terms are Lakes Region business leaders Randy Eifert, John P. Giere, and Sonya Misiaszek, along with State Representative Kate Miller, who has been elected for a one-year term.



**RANDY EIFERT** is branch manager of the Court Street, Laconia office of Cross Insurance. Randy has 22 years of experience in the insurance and risk management field, including the past ten years in the Lakes Region, managing complex business accounts, high net-worth personal accounts, and offering risk management consulting services for a wide-array of clientele, including non-profit social service agencies, financial service firms, contractors, hospitality, and public entity clients. Randy has obtained the nationally recognized Chartered Property & Casualty Underwriter, Associate in Risk Management, and Certified Insurance Counselor designations. A 2000 graduate of Leadership Lakes Region, he is active in serving the community. He is a past board chair and Volunteer of the Year for the Lakes Region United Way, a charter member of the Waukevan Watershed Advisory Committee, past president of the Bill Lamper Youth Baseball League, and he also coaches girls basketball and serves as a volunteer referee. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Economics from Bucknell University. He and his wife Julie and their two daughters reside in Meredith.



**JOHN P. GIERE**, Esq. is managing partner of the law firm Wescott, Dyer, Fitzgerald & Nichols, PA, with which he has been associated since 1986. John's practice includes all areas of commercial and residential real estate transactions, business formations and commercial transactions, tax law, and planning, zoning, municipal law and development. John currently serves on the Board of Directors of Community Health & Hospice and recently served as Director and President of Ozanam Place, a non-profit transitional housing program. John served on the New Hampshire Bar Association Board of Governors from 1996 to 1998 and on the Association's Finance Committee from 1992 to 2002. He is a member of the New Hampshire Bar Association.



**SONYA L. MISIASZEK** AIA, a principal in the architectural firm Misiaszek Turpin PLLC of Laconia, has 16 years of professional experience, designing many award-winning projects throughout New Hampshire. A former president of the New Hampshire chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Sonya has participated in several community design charettes and often has provided her expertise to Laconia Main Street's Design Committee. Misiaszek Turpin offers full architectural services, from conceptual design and contract documents to construction administration for municipal, institutional, and residential projects, as well as adaptive re-use and historic preservation. The firm's design services are governed by environmental and construction sensitivity and an understanding of the context of site and community. Sonya and her husband Chad Monterose make their home in Laconia.



**KATE MILLER** was elected to the New Hampshire House of Representatives in 2008, representing District 3 (Meredith). She serves on the House Health, Human Services & Elderly Affairs Committee. A graduate of Stanford University, Kate began her political career on Capitol Hill answering mail in a Congressman's office before becoming Press Secretary for the Senate Special Committee on Aging. She then spent several years in New York City, working as a freelance writer. Prior to her election to the New Hampshire General Court, Kate served on the boards of the New Hampshire Humane Society, the New Hampshire Music Festival, the John Warner Bank in Clinton, IL, and was a member of the Belknap County Citizens Council on Children and Families. She founded the Red Oak Montessori School in Franklin and is the mother of seven children, ages 15 to 23.

# BCEDC Recognizes Community Leaders

The thrill of mystery and excitement surrounds each year's presentation of BCEDC awards to deserving Belknap County individuals and businesses. This year's awards were no exception.

**THE DIRECTORS' AWARD** is presented to a business or organization that has contributed to the economic vitality of the region. Over four decades, Lakes Region Community College has provided educational, career and workforce development for thousands of Lakes Region and state residents. It has become a hub for community forums, innovations in training, and excellence in instruction, with many of its faculty receiving state and national recognition for their efforts. BCEDC Chair Tom Garfield presented this year's award to Mark Edelstein, President of the college. Lakes Region Community College joins a prestigious group of previous recipients that includes Meredith Village Savings Bank, Laconia Savings Bank, Meadowbrook Musical Arts Center, Gunstock Mountain Resort, LRGHealthcare, the banking industry of Belknap County, Eptam Plastics, The J. Jill Group, Hampshire Hospitality Holdings, the Bahre Family of NH International Speedway, and Lakes Region Linen.



Named in honor of the late County Commissioner and businessman, **THE NORMAN MARSH AWARD** recognizes the work of an individual with a commitment to the region whose daily endeavors benefit its residents. For 33 years, Peggy Selig has served as Laconia's Adult Education director. In that time, Peggy has designed, updated, recruited and scheduled as many as 120 individual courses annually for Lakes Region residents through her innovative evening school. Her selection of courses reflects her something-for-everyone approach, offering self-enrichment classes alongside hard skill, job training, employability classes. Her emphasis has always been on the adult learner and, often, that adult who, for whatever reason, never finished high school. Recognizing that one size does not fit all when it comes to high school education, she created a dual track leading to the same goal: GED classes as well as Laconia Academy, a fully accredited high school offering night classes and a longer enrollment commitment. These options removed barriers for the adult worker who must hold down a paying job while simultaneously striving for self-betterment through education. Presenting the award were Norman

Marsh's sons, Mike and Jim. Previous winners include Jim Carroll, Alex Ray, Alan Robichaud, Bill and Erika Johnson, Mark Thurston, Tom Clairmont, Senator Carl Johnson, Judge Bud Martin, and former Laconia Police Chief Bill Baker.

Patrick's Pub & Eatery of Gilford was awarded the BCEDC's 2009 **CORPORATE SOUL AWARD**. The Corporate Soul Award was established to recognize the work of a corporation, either for-profit or nonprofit, with a deep commitment to the essence of community and which works to make a difference. Receiving numerous nominations, Patrick's was lauded for "selfless giving and corporate accommodation in helping their neighbors ... they have redefined civic responsibility and human compassion by raising the bar for others to follow." Accepting the award presented by John Thomas were restaurateurs Wendy and Jeff Beetle and Jennifer and Allen Beetle of Patrick's Pub & Eatery. Among others recognized since the award's inception in 2000 are All Metals Industries, Inc., USDA Rural Development, Laconia Housing & Redevelopment Authority, The Taylor Community, Laconia Area Community Land Trust, Lakes Region United Way, Lakes Region Day Care, Lakes Region Conservation Trust, New Hampshire Employment Security, and the healthcare industry.





**BELKNAP COUNTY  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

2 Airport Road • Gilford, NH 03249  
603-524-3057 • [www.bcedc.org](http://www.bcedc.org)

*Together we make a difference*

*Make a difference...*

Since 1992, the Belknap County Economic Development Council has helped businesses survive and grow, assisting aspiring entrepreneurs, bringing new companies to the area, and striving for a healthy economy and business-friendly climate. Serving the municipalities of Alton, Barnstead, Belmont, Center Harbor, Gilford, Gilmanton, Laconia, Meredith, New Hampton, Sanbornton, and Tilton, the BCEDC is one of 10 regional development corporations providing economic development resources in the State of New Hampshire. BCEDC provides gap financing to county businesses through its Revolving Loan Fund. Free services include technical assistance, expansion/relocation assistance, workforce development, community and regional information, as well as a business information center.

Newbold and Nancy LeRoy, Executive Councilor Ray Burton, and many other area leaders know that supporting the work of the BCEDC means supporting sustainable economic growth and the preservation and creation of quality jobs, insuring not only opportunities for all residents but also the success of your own business. Membership is a tangible way of investing in opportunities for our region. Consider becoming a member. ***Together we make a difference.***



**SCORE**

Mark your calendar for the next SCORE Lakes Region Chapter No. 172 workshops:

**May 13, 2010** "How to Drive More Targeted Traffic to Your Website" featuring Link Moser  
5:00 - 7:30 p.m. • Pease Public Library, Plymouth NH • \$25 per person • sponsored by Laconia Savings Bank

**June 8, 2010** "Marketing & Sales"

This workshop will focus on how to do your homework in market research and competitor analysis to enable you to viably set your marketing and sales strategy.

**August 10, 2010** "Personnel Management"

This workshop covers a variety of personnel management issues: conducting job analyses, job descriptions, planning personnel needs, and recruitment, selecting the right people for the job, orienting and training, determining and managing wages and salaries, providing benefits and incentives, appraising performance, resolving disputes, communicating with all employees at all levels.

For additional information, please call 524-3057 or visit [www.scorelakesregion.org](http://www.scorelakesregion.org).