



F.Y.I. — 12/19/08

BCEDC Speaks Up

Since its inception in 1992, the BCEDC has worked quietly behind the scenes to enhance economic vitality and make positive change happen. Facing the loss of Belknap County funding, the Council's Chair, Greg Goddard, issued a statement to the press outlining the benefit to county taxpayers of their investment in BCEDC. Please visit http://www.bcedc.org/new_events_latest.asp to read his statement,

Are You Ready for Mother Nature's Next Assault?

Most of us try to live by the Boy Scout motto, Be Prepared, but how well have you planned for the next storm to test your resourcefulness? The New Hampshire Department of Safety offers a four-page brochure, *Preparing for an Emergency: The Smart Thing to Do*, which provides checklists and advice on precautions to take to keep your family and/or employees safe. The brochure is attached for your convenience. Alternatively, you will find it at <http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/bem/>

Live Long and Prosper

Did you know that New Hampshire ranks first nationally as the most livable state, safest state, has the most favorable tax climate, best standard of living, and highest level of child and family well-being? Pretty impressive! *New Hampshire Economic Review*, published annually by Public Service of New Hampshire, offers a wealth of statistics and research that can only make one feel great about choosing to live, work, and play in the Granite State. Copies of this interesting review may be obtained from the BCEDC or by contacting the Economic and Community Development Department, PSNH, PO Box 330, Manchester, NH 03105-0330 or by calling 1-800-490-7764. View it on the web at <http://www.psnh.com/Business/Economic>

Innovation Rocks!

The New Hampshire Division of Economic Development has recently released its 2008 expansion and relocation publication, *Innovation in the Granite State*. This year's issue features Stonyfield Farm's CE-Yo Gary Hirshberg and Segway inventor Dean Kamen. Among area businesses commended for their forward-thinking are Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion, which hosted its first annual Greenerpalooza, and EFI VUTEK for its evolution. The publication contains much useful business information; topics range from incentives and loans to reports on taxes, open spaces, and the biotech industry. To obtain a copy, please contact the Division of Economic Development at 271-2341. A few copies are also available at BCEDC offices.

USDA Rural Development Program Helps Non-Profits Finance Public Facilities

Through its Community Facility (CF) Guaranteed Loan Program, the USDA Rural Development partners with private lenders to finance public facilities operated by non-profits in rural areas. Among the sectors qualifying for this program are healthcare, education, cultural entities, community support services, fire, rescue and public safety. In 2008, four banks in New Hampshire and Vermont used USDA RD's Community Facility Guaranteed Loan to benefit five clients; with the guarantee, these lenders were able to make loans in excess of \$6,000,000. To learn how you can use this lending tool, contact the area USDA Rural Development office in Concord, NH; Gregg MacPherson, Community Programs Specialist, 603-223-6045. To learn more about USDA Rural Development, visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/vt>