



F.Y.I. — 1/21/09

BCEDC Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony

Preparations are underway for the Belknap County Economic Development Council's Annual Meeting, to be held Wednesday, March 25, at Church Landing in Meredith. The now traditional Soup Social will kick off a great evening celebrating your Council's 17 years of service to Belknap County and includes the presentation of awards to worthy individuals, organizations, and businesses. We invite you to participate in the annual BCEDC award nominations process.

Nominations for three awards are being sought. **The Directors' Award** is presented to an area business or individual in recognition of contribution to the *economic vitality* of Belknap County. **The Norman Marsh Award** is presented to an individual who *works daily for the benefit of the residents* of this region. **The Corporate Soul Award** recognizes a business or organization with a *deep commitment to the essence of community*. Please submit your nominations by January 27 to BCEDC by fax at 524-0314, email info@bcedc.org, or mail to BCEDC, 2 Airport Road, Gilford, NH 03249.

February 20 Workshop on Funding Historic Building Redevelopment

Do you know that investing in historic buildings and downtowns often offers greater financial incentives than new construction, as well being a "greener" alternative? Are you discouraged by the current economic climate, and confused about where to find the information and resources to help you get started?

Presented by NH Preservation Alliance and NH Community Development Finance Authority in cooperation with NH Division of Historical Resources and NH Office of Energy and Planning, this all-day workshop on February 20 will introduce you to economic development programs, public and private resources, creative financing techniques and specialized preservation strategies that can help you with your project. With an honest approach to today's financial realities, it will present a variety of funding tools, case studies for practical application, and introduce you to professionals, including organizations and private consultants, who can guide you to success. For registration and information, please contact Sarah E. DiSano of the NH Community Development Finance Authority at 717-9127 or email sdisano@NHCDFA.org.

BIBA Presents Stacy Mitchell March 31

The Belknap Independent Business Alliance invites the public to a free presentation to be held at 7:00 p.m. on March 31 at Laconia High School. The featured speaker is Stacy Mitchell, a senior researcher with the New Rules Project, a program of the Institute for Local Self-Reliance that challenges the wisdom and inevitability of economic consolidation and works to advance policies that support strong local economies and vibrant communities.

The Belknap Independent Business Alliance (BIBA) is a non-profit coalition dedicated to organizing and empowering local independent businesses and the community. For more information, please visit www.bibanh.org.