



F.Y.I. — 1/26/10

SMALL BUSINESS DAY AT THE STATE HOUSE

Learn about New Hampshire's controversial new tax on distributions from LLCs. Hear from the state's top elected leaders about key small business issues in 2010. Receive practical resources and information to help operate and grow your business. Don't delay in registering for this January 27 event! Please visit www.nhbia.org or call 603-224-5388 x116.

WHAT'S AT STAKE?

On Saturday, February 13th, 2010, hundreds of citizens in 11 locations across New Hampshire will have an opportunity to participate in small-group, facilitated day-long community-based conversations to address the question: *What's At Stake? Community Conversations to Weigh the Benefits and Risks of Expanded Legal Gambling in NH*. Register or find more information at whatsatstake.unh.edu or call toll free: 877-338-5322.

ARRA 504 FEE RELIEF EXTENSION

On December 23, 2009, SBA announced additional funding is available for 504 loans under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. This funding will extend fee relief to both the 504 processing fee and the bank fee. Fee relief is expected to be available through February. There is hope that other funding under the "Jobs Bill" will soon be available to further extend ARRA fee relief to 504 and 7A small business borrowers through September. For more information on SBA 504 lending, visit any of these providers: CRDC at www.crdc-nh.com or 228-1872; Granite State Development Corporation at www.granitestatedev.com or 436-0009; or NCIC at www.ncic.org or 802-748-8101.

SHOP AND BUY NH

The State of New Hampshire has joined forces with WTPL 107.7 on a new initiative to highlight the effects of local spending on the economy. A special public service announcement from Governor John Lynch and NH DRED Commissioner George Bald will urge citizens to shop and buy locally in order to stimulate the state's economy, build stronger communities, and generate job creation. To listen, tune to 107.7 on Monday between 7 and 10 a.m. or visit www.wtplfm.com.

FREE TAX PREPARATION AND ELECTRONIC FILING

The Lakes Region Financial Stability Partnership is teaming up with the IRS to bring free tax preparation for low- to moderate-income taxpayers in the Laconia area. At the Laconia Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, eligible families can claim their tax refund and the EITC without paying a cent. Free tax preparation services will be available at Lakes Region Family Center (CAP Office), 121 Belmont Rd (Rte 106), Laconia through April 15. In January and February, walk in on Saturday mornings, or by appointment only on Thursdays between 5:00 and 7:30 p.m. In March and April, returns are prepared by appointment only on Saturdays and Thursdays. To set up an appointment or for more information, including what to bring to the tax site, call Lakes Region United Way, 603-524-6864, Ext. 102.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT: NEW HAMPSHIRE WORKING

Governor John Lynch has announced a new plan, New Hampshire Working, that will train workers and help them keep their current job or find new ones. Companies going through a slow period can register with the state and, instead of laying workers off, will reduce hours. The state will make up most of the difference through unemployment benefits in hopes of avoiding future job losses. With this plan, employees keep their jobs and their healthcare benefits while companies will keep their trained workers. Another phase of the plan will provide laid off workers with six weeks of training in a new career while they are collecting unemployment benefits. Contact the NH Works office for more information; the Laconia office number is 524-3960. And be sure to check http://www.bcedc.org/labor_market_start.asp for labor market information.

"Our business is helping business."