



Sunrise County Economic Council

# SUNRISE NEWS

Volume 2, Issue 1

Winter 2010

*Initiating and facilitating the creations of jobs and prosperity in Washington County*

## SCEC Board of Directors

- Skip Rogers, Chair  
Federal Marine Terminals
- Josh Bragg, Vice Chair  
CES Engineers/Surveyors
- Chris Lyford, Treasurer  
Machias Savings Bank
- Shirley Erickson, Secretary  
Maine Educational Loan Authority
- Ed Plissey  
Consultant
- David Morang  
Cooke Aquaculture
- Tony McKim  
The First
- Karen Raye  
Raye's Mustard Mill
- Jody Grimes  
Lubec Rental Properties, LLC
- Charlie McAlpin  
Eastern Maine Electric
- Cindy Huggins  
UMM
- Darin McGaw  
WCCC
- Robert Tyler  
Indian Township Tribal Government
- Leola Carter  
Bayside Shop 'n Save
- Ex Officio**
- Representative Anne Perry  
Washington County Legislative Delegation
- Chris Gardner  
Washington County Commissioners

## SCEC Wins 2009 Noyce Award for Nonprofit Excellence

In December, the Maine Community Foundation (MCF) selected SCEC as the winner of the 2009 Noyce Award for Nonprofit Excellence. SCEC received the award for its role in advancing grassroots leadership initiatives like the Washington County Leadership Institute (WCLI) and the Washington County Youth Leadership Initiative, a similar program designed for elementary school students. The award comes with a \$10,000 grant which SCEC will use to further both initiatives.

"WCLI is a valuable resource," Executive Director Harold Clossey said, "It is a network of people who recog-

nize that leadership skills are critical to the well being of Washington County. Every year that network grows,



strengthens and becomes even more involved in the community. I'm very proud of the Institute, and the Noyce Award's recognition of all it has accomplished and will continue to accomplish."

The Institute, founded in 1997 by the University of Maine at Machias (UMM) in conjunction with SCEC, helps

local people develop their leadership skills so that they can more effectively work towards a better Washington County.

Participants will spend over 70 hours in leadership sessions, group activities, team building exercises and will explore different parts of Washington County. WCLI includes nine day-long sessions held from January to April of each year. For more information, contact Jen: [scec@sunrisecounty.org](mailto:scec@sunrisecounty.org).

*Pictured left to right: Cindy Huggins, UMM; Jennifer Peters, WCLI Coordinator; Linda Godfrey, WCLI Facilitator; Harold Clossey, SCEC ; Peter Taylor, MCF; Lyman Holmes, MCF Washington County Fund*

## SCEC Names Ruth Cash-Smith 2009 Partner of the Year

SCEC unveiled women's business counselor Ruth Cash-Smith as its 2009 Partner of the Year October 29. Cash-Smith offers free business counseling through the Women's Business Center at CEI, in collaboration with the Sunrise County Business Resource Center (SCBRC), which offers a one-stop for business and community development resources co-located at the Machias Telebusiness Center. "I couldn't be more honored to work with such a pro-

active, professional organization," Cash-Smith said. "It's my deep pleasure to come in to my office at SCEC every day and work closely with such a dedicated group of folks."

Since August 2006, Cash-Smith has helped 24 small and micro- businesses access over \$4.2 million in capital investment – businesses which have created or retained nearly 70 Washington County jobs.



*Ruth Cash-Smith and Harold Clossey*

## SCEC Completes 2009 Annual Campaign

SCEC wrapped up its 2009 Annual Fundraising Campaign December 31 with \$78,775 in contributions, including a \$15,000 challenge grant from the C.F. Adams Charitable Trust. This total exceeded SCEC's goal of \$73,000.

"On behalf of our Board of Directors and staff, I'd like to thank everyone involved for making this year's campaign a success," Executive Director Harold Clossey said. "It was a difficult year to raise money, but we had some faithful contributors and a

dedicated committee of Board members who went above and beyond to get the word out about how local dollars are initiating and facilitating the creation of jobs and prosperity in Washington County as we speak."

In order to receive the Adams challenge grant, SCEC had to raise at least \$15,000 in new or increased donations from 2008. Clossey reported that the organization concluded 2009 with \$52,425 in that category.

"I'd like to send a special

thank-you and grateful acknowledgement to Ed Hennessey at Machias Savings Bank, Joe Murphy at Bar Harbor Banking and Trust, and Paul Gaynor at First Wind for putting us over the top," Clossey added. "These three organizations have been tireless supporters of SCEC, and really stepped up in a big way this year."

Clossey concluded by thanking C.F. Adams for its commitment. "The C.F. Adams Charitable Trust has been a faithful partner of SCEC for the past ten years," Clossey

said. "Their \$15,000 challenge grant goes a long way, but it also says a lot about their philosophy of helping nonprofits build local grassroots support for their initiatives. C.F. Adams has been there at every turn, and we're very appreciative of all that they do."

SCEC's annual campaign committee included 2009 Board Chair Ed Plissey, Josh Bragg, Chris Lyford, Charlie McAlpin and Shirley Erickson.

## Special Thanks to SCEC's 2009 Annual Campaign Contributors

Axiom Technologies, Inc.  
Bangor Savings Bank  
Bar Harbor Bank & Trust  
Bayside Supermarket, Inc.  
Billy Howard  
Bob & Ingrid Tyler  
C.E.S., Inc.  
Calais Motor Inn  
Calais Rotary Club  
Camden National Bank  
Charlie McAlpin  
Cherryfield Foods, Inc  
Chris Gardner  
Chris Lyford  
Cindy Huggins & Laurel Robinson  
Cooke Aquaculture  
Darin McGaw  
Dave & Vickie Morang  
David Freeberg & Anna Grimshaw  
Down East Federal Credit Union  
Downeast LNG, Inc.

Eastern Maine Electric Cooperative  
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Eastport Port Authority  
Ed & Marilyn Plissey  
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Federal Marine Terminals, Inc.  
Fickett Property Management  
First Wind Energy, LLC  
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Gerald Wood & Son, LLC  
Heather Perry & Harold Clossey  
James & Theresa Miner  
Jasper Wyman & Son  
Josh & Deanne Bragg  
Lubec Rental Properties  
Machias Motor Inn  
Machias Rotary Club

Machias Savings Bank  
Moose Island Marine, Inc.  
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Tony McKim  
Varney Agency, Inc.  
W. K. Construction & Sons  
Water's Edge Realty  
Whitney Businesses



Jake Ward

## SCEC 2009 Annual Meeting Held in Eastport

Jake Ward of the University of Maine's Office of Research & Economic Development delivered the keynote presentation at SCEC's Annual Meeting in Eastport October 29. Ward focused on the impact offshore wind power could have in boosting coastal Maine's economy, stating that

the industry as a whole could provide \$27 billion in economic opportunities.

"Right now there's an opportunity to start thinking about how we can develop offshore wind on our own terms," Ward said, noting that large-scale commercialization is

currently a long way off, due largely to limitations in technology and transmission. "We need to focus on doing really solid experimentation, good testing, good environmental monitoring, and keep challenging ourselves to think about the best ways to use this resource."



## Destination: Washington County 2009 & Beyond

Organizers of Washington County's groundbreaking alternative energy and telecommunications expo, *Destination: Washington County 2009 & Beyond*, estimated that at least 350 people gathered at the Lee Pellon Center in Machias September 25-26 to learn more about how Washington County is taking advantage of the emerging "green economy".

The expo, keynoted by First Wind CEO Paul Gaynor, showcased wind, tidal, and

solar energy opportunities, and featured tips on how businesses and communities can better position themselves in the alternative energy market.

"Whether it's on or offshore wind, tidal, solar or biomass, the high turnout shows how much enthusiasm there is in Washington County for alternative energy," SCEC Executive Director Harold Clossey said. "Pulling off an event of this size was a team effort, and an awe inspiring display of

what we can achieve by working together."

"Destination" was a collaborative effort between Axiom Technologies, the Machias Bay Area chamber of Commerce, Northwest Mutual Financial Network, SCEC, the Town of Machias, Washington County Council of Governments, Washington County: One Community, and other community stakeholders who share our belief that Downeast Maine's alternative energy and telecommunications initiatives need

to be recognized for their contribution to Washington County's economy and way of life.



*Paul Gaynor  
First Wind CEO*

## SCEC Assists Local Businesses with CDBG Applications

Two Washington County businesses – Coast of Maine Organics (Marion) and Cobscook Bay Company (Trescott) – were amongst six businesses statewide to successfully apply for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) grants during the most recent funding cycle.

Coast of Maine Organics received \$60,000 to pur-

chase an industrial forklift and cover general operating costs associated with hiring two additional workers. Coast of Maine manufactures an assortment of organic soil and compost products, mulches, and fertilizers.

Cobscook Bay Company received \$120,000 toward the purchase of a pie machine and refrigeration unit as well

as general operating costs associated with hiring four employees. These funds make it possible for CBC to manufacture and market their unique brand of "seafood pies".

SCEC partnered with the Washington County Council of Governments to provide technical assistance and expertise to both companies over the summer.



## Tourism Training Initiative

In September 2009 SCEC joined the Maine Woods Consortium's (MWC) Maine Woods Tourism Training Initiative. Training will be accomplished through networks of individuals, organizations, and institutions organized around specific needs identified by local tourism businesses as high priority. The three pilot areas are Franklin, Piscataquis, and Washington Counties. Current planning team members represent Greater

Franklin Development Corporation, Piscataquis County Economic Development, SCEC, Maine Center for Tourism Research and Outreach, Maine Office of Tourism, and a tourism training consultant.

"This is an excellent opportunity to strengthen Washington County's tourism sector," SCEC Program Manager Jennifer Peters said. "We can do a better job identifying and equipping

area tourism based businesses with the types of training they want to promote sustainable nature based tourism on a regional level."

SCEC continues to work with Downeast Acadia Regional Tourism (DART) and the Vacationland Resources Committee (VRC) of Downeast RC&D to advance sustainable tourism initiatives in Washington and Hancock Counties.



# Sunrise County Economic Council

SCEC is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) that initiates and facilitates the creation of jobs and prosperity in Washington County by working with a consortium of community-minded businesses, nonprofit organizations, municipalities and citizens. Founded in 1993 by a group of business and community leaders, SCEC uses a grassroots approach to economic and community development. By seeking common ground, working across political, municipal and economic boundaries, Washington County residents are building a brighter future.

## Sunrise County Community Development Partners



**Helping communities plan their future in Washington County**

Washington County  
Council of Governments  
Judy East  
454-0465  
Jeremy Gabrielson  
255-0983



**Committed to improving the quality of life for Washington County citizens.**

Washington County:  
One Community  
Eleody Libby  
263-7691

## SCEC Board of Directors Report FY 2010

SCEC ushered in FY 2010 with a new slate of officers and two new Board members October 1. Roland "Skip" Rogers (Federal Marine Terminals) was elected chairman; Josh Bragg (CES, Inc.) took over as vice chairman; Chris Lyford (Machias Savings Bank) became Treasurer; and Shirley Erickson (Maine Educational Loan Authority) was elected secretary.

SCEC welcomes businesswomen Leola Carter (Bayside Supermarket in Milbridge) and Karen Raye (Raye's Mustard in Eastport) to the Board of Directors. Dick Fickett (Fickett Property Management), Kevin Raye (Perry) and Gary Willey (Milbridge) termed off the Board September 30. Each were honored with a plaque commemorating their service to SCEC during our October 29th annual meeting. Ed Plissey was also recognized for his three year tenure as chairman of the Board and his leadership on SCEC's Annual Campaign.



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## SCEC Staff

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Jennifer Peters, Program Manager  
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## Sunrise County Business Resource Center



Sunrise County Economic Council

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