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Subject: MEDC News!

From: Massachusetts Economic Development Council <jennifer.true@massedc.org>

Date: Thu, Dec 16, 2010 3:43 pm

To: jennifer.true@massedc.org

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Massachusetts Economic Development Council Fall 2010 Newsletter

Dear Jennifer,

At our upcoming meeting we will do a Toast to Massachusetts, as part of our annual meeting. We will be toasting the contributions of the food and beverage businesses and industries in our state. One in 10 Massachusetts jobs are in the food and beverage industry and 9.2% of all businesses. Town center and downtown revitalization often involves food, be it a farmers' markets or recruiting restaurants and café creating local vitality.

At the upcoming meeting, come hear about exciting new financing programs for small food businesses and the farm-to-table, buy-local food movements, and how these initiatives can strengthen your local community. The state director of US Small Business Administrator Bob Nelson will talk about new SBA initiatives.

2010 has been a year to toast for MEDC, as well. We will be honoring Bruce Hughes as the Member and the Riverwalk, as the 2010 Project of the Year. So come join us for a Toast to Massachusetts, and the hard work of economic developers throughout the Commonwealth, as we work on the ground to strengthen our local economies and close the job gap.

**ANNUAL
MEETING
Registration
Open!**

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**A Toast to
Massachusetts
MEDC Annual
Meeting and
Conference**

**Thursday,
December 2, 2010
8:45 to 9:15 am
Registration &
Networking
9:15 to 2:00 pm
Conference**

Sincerely,
Kathy McCabe
MEDC President

MEDC to Toast Massachusetts at Annual Meeting and Conference December 2, 2010

Gia Barbosa, Ph.D from the [Immigrant Learning Center](#) (invited) will discuss how food entrepreneurship provides opportunities for immigrants pursuing the American dream contribute to the revitalization of many cities and towns.

The panel, Financing the Food and Beverage Industry features **Dorothy Suput**, founder and executive director of The Carrot Project, Ana Hammock (invited), New England Director of Accion, which operates the new Boston Beer micro-loan program for food, beverage, and hospitality businesses in New England giving hospitality entrepreneurs the tools they need to help their small businesses succeed and **Roy Angel**, Vice President & Commercial Loan Officer at [MassDevelopment](#).

[The Carrot Project](#)'s work is premised on the importance of successful small and mid-sized farms in the U.S. Though access to capital is important to their success, many of these farms have difficulty obtaining loans. The Carrot Project is finding ways for small and mid-sized Northeast farms to get the capital they need. Ms. Suput serves on the board of the Organic Farming and Research Foundation and will share her experience-challenges and success stories.

A second panel discussion will focus on Local Breweries and Farm to Table initiatives in Massachusetts. **Andrea Stanley** of [Valley Malt](#), will share her experiences undertaking the exciting endeavor of helping to reestablish the farming of barley while bringing back the tradition of the local malthouse to New England. Ms. Stanley's presentation will explore how Valley's Malts provides the Northeastern craft and home brewer with artisanal malt from locally grown grains. Worcester native Master Brewer at [Wormtown Brewery](#) **Ben Roesch**, will join her and share his experience opening the first brewery in Worcester since 1962. Finally, **Kip Kumler**, the Owner and Winemaker at [Turtle Creek Winery](#) in Lincoln, MA. a small winery which presently produces about nine hundred cases of wine per year will speak about the choices he makes, his distinct point of view, and passion for the craft of winemaking. Kip Kumler is also President of Massachusetts Farm-Winery and Growers Association.

MEDC Fall Program: Effective Small Business

Program & Awards

Riverview
13 Port St
Hudson, MA 01749
4 Easy Ways to Register:

Email: MEDC
Coordinator
Jennifer True
jennifer.true@massedc.org

Phone: Terri at (978) 638-4014

Mail: c/o GRA
115 Pleasant St, Rm 201
Gardner, MA 01440

Fax: (978) 632-1905

Provide your name, title, organization name and email address (for confirmation and directions).

Registration fee includes lunch.

Member rate: \$38.00
Non-member rate: \$48.00
Includes Lunch

Confirmation and directions will be emailed upon receipt of registration.

For questions or sponsorship opportunities please contact:
MEDC Coordinator
Jennifer True
jennifer.true@massedc.org

MEDC

Development & Entrepreneurship

The MEDC Fall Program on Effective Small Business Development and Entrepreneurship was held on September 17, 2010 at the picturesque Old Sturbridge Village in Sturbridge, Mass.

The featured lunch speaker was Georgiana Parkin, State Director, at the Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (SBDC).



*"Serving
Massachusetts
Economic Developers
since 1963"*

To learn more about
MEDC or to join please
visit us [online](#).

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Photography by: Beverly Kunze

Mike Zylich
Cape and Islands

2010 EDA Regional Conference: A Success!

The [United States Economic Development Administration](#) held their 2010 Regional Conference in Philadelphia, PA on March 22nd through the 24th. The Northeast had a strong showing with over 325 participants at the Conference, 32 of whom were from Massachusetts. The three day event kicked off with a Mobile Workshop to highlight two of EDA's local investments. The first project consisted of a neighborhood revitalization project in Camden, New Jersey, spearheaded by the Respond Workforce Development Center, where a significant investment was made to develop an auto mechanics and culinary arts training facility for unemployed, at risk individuals. Later in the day the group was given a tour of the 1,200+ acre Philadelphia Naval Shipyard by the Philadelphia Industrial Development Corporation. The highlight of this trip was a tour of a recently renovated industrial building into cafeteria-style restaurant and retail complex by Outdoor Outfitters.

The following two days were filled with informative workshops and networking events. Presenters for these workshops proved to be at the forefront of economic development issues in the region, offering case studies and real life experiences we as economic developers can relate to, and learn from. The events addressed many of the topics being discussed by economic developers within our region, including broadband, and global and organizational competitiveness. The workshops showcased the numerous programs offered through EDA, the benefits of leveraging these programs, and enhancing the CEDS process to

maximize its regional impact. Social networking and GIS were two powerful tools used by economic developers that were discussed in great length. Lastly, the importance of University Centers bringing regional economies to global markets was discussed, along with the evaluation of green technologies and businesses and their role in the regional economy.

EDA's commitment to the northeast was solidified with the presence of the Honorable John R. Fernandez, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, throughout the three day event. While Willie C. Taylor, Regional Director for the Philadelphia Regional Office was on hand to moderate many of the programs and meet conference attendees during networking events. Of course, our own Matthew Suchodolski, EDA representative for Massachusetts, made himself available to the Massachusetts contingent. Matthew was instrumental in identifying EDA programs that are consistent with the needs of each region and community seeking assistance.

Submitted by:
Trevor Beauregard
Economic Development Coordinator
City of Gardner

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