

**NORTH COUNTRY
COUNCIL
PLANNING
REGION
COMMUNITIES**

- Albany
- Bath
- Benton
- Bartlett
- Berlin
- Bethlehem
- Campton
- Carroll
- Chatham
- Clarksville
- Colebrook
- Columbia
- Conway
- Dalton
- Dummer
- Easton
- Eaton
- Ellsworth
- Errol
- Franconia
- Gorham
- Groton
- Harts Location
- Haverhill
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- Lancaster
- Landaff
- Lincoln
- Lisbon
- Littleton
- Lyman
- Madison
- Milan
- Monroe
- Northumberland
- Pittsburg
- Plymouth
- Randolph
- Rumney
- Shelburne
- Stark
- Stewartstown
- Stratford
- Sugar Hill
- Thornton
- Warren
- Waterville Valley
- Wentworth
- Whitefield
- Woodstock

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Bethlehem, NH 03574

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**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS...**

March 17, 2010, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5:00 p.m., NCC Offices.

April 7, 2010, **CEDS Meeting**, 2-4:00 p.m., NCC Offices.

April 7, 2010, **Local Ammonoosuc Advisory Committee**, 4:30-6:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

April 21, 2010, **Transportation Advisory Committee**, 3-5:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

May 5, 2010, **CEDS Meeting (energy sub-committee)** 2-4:00 p.m., NCC Offices.

May 5, 2010, **Local Ammonoosuc Advisory Committee**, 4:30-6:30 p.m., NCC Offices

May 19, 2010, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5:00 p.m., NCC Offices.

June 2, 2010, **CEDS Meeting**, 2-4:00 p.m., NCC Offices

June 2, 2010, **Local Ammonoosuc Advisory Committee**, 4:30-6:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

June 16, 2010, **Transportation Advisory Committee**, 3-5:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

June 23, 2010, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5:00 p.m., NCC Offices.

DID YOU KNOW?
OUR NEWSLETTER IS NOW AVAILABLE VIA OUR WEBSITE
WWW.NCCOUNCIL.ORG



North Country Council
Regional Planning Commission

POINTS NORTH

A Regional Report From The North Country Council

North Country Council, 107 Glessner Road, Bethlehem, NH 03574

March 2010

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**North Country Council Convenes
Broadband Meeting**

Article by: *Michael King, NCC Executive Director*

At the request of a number of communities, the North Country Council convened a meeting on February 10, 2010 to talk about internet broadband service in the North Country.

Carol Miller, the Director of Broadband Technology for the State of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, opened the meeting and reviewed the many activities that the State is involved in to increase broadband availability to the State and to the North Country.

Carol was followed by Michael Blair who is coordinating an effort for the University of New Hampshire to inventory and map broadband availability in New Hampshire. This is part of a wider effort by the Na-

tional Telecommunications Infrastructure Administration to inventory broadband availability throughout the country. UNH in partnership with the regional planning commissions is in the process of conducting this inventory which should be available in the spring of this year.

“Wireless Linc”, a project to improve broadband availability to a number of communities throughout the North Country, was the focus of a presentation by Jon Freeman of Northern Community Investment Corporation. The good news is that Jon is estimating that the first phase of the project should be completed by the end of this year. This means that 19 communities (see list) in the North

Country should have high speed internet access by the end of the year.

Christine McCarthy from Fairpoint Communications outlined Fairpoint’s efforts to upgrade their facilities for DSL. There are six communities (Littleton, Lisbon, Pike, N. Haverhill, Twin Mountain, and Woodsville) which are scheduled to have improved DSL equipment and will be offered service beginning this summer. Fairpoint also announced that some of their efforts are being deferred until such time as the company has completed their bankruptcy reorganization.

NCIC Wireless Linc

- | | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------------|
| Bath | Easton | Landaff | Northumberland |
| Benton | Franconia | Lisbon | Stark |
| Bethlehem | Haverhill | Littleton | Stratford |
| Columbia | Jefferson | Lyman | Whitefield |
| Dalton | Lancaster | | |

Planner's Corner

Article By: *Community Planning*

Free Planning Newsletters on the Web for New Hampshire Planners

Did you know that there are two other newsletters with planning information helpful for North Country planning boards?

Many of New Hampshire's professional planners belong to the New Hampshire Planners Association (NHPA) and the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association (NNECAPA). Each of these professional organizations publishes a newsletter periodically and makes it available to the public for free via the internet. These newsletters contain articles written by professional planners working with cities and towns in northern New England, many facing issues similar to yours. They are great resources for anyone

involved in any aspect of planning, including New Hampshire planning board members. Topics include: updates on state laws and programs; upcoming workshops; and news of innovative planning projects, emerging issues, and new approaches to familiar issues.

NHPA's The Granite State Planner can be downloaded at www.nhplanners.org.

NNECAPA's Yankee Planner can be downloaded at www.nnecapa.org/resources.

For additional internet resources, check out North Country Council's resources page at www.nccouncil.org/resources.php.

Michael King, Executive Director For North Country Council, Testifies Before the House Appropriations...

On February 3rd, North Country Council Executive Director Michael King was asked to testify to the house appropriations and subcommittee on commerce, justice, science and related agencies in regards to the Economic Development Administration's (EDA) congressional appropriation.

North Country Council has been affiliated with EDA since 1975 as a designated Economic Development District. This designation allows the North Country

region access to federal EDA funding for numerous projects throughout the region., such as the Mt. Washington Valley Technology Village, the Colebrook industrial park, and the "sudden and severe economic adjustment" grants for Coos Country.

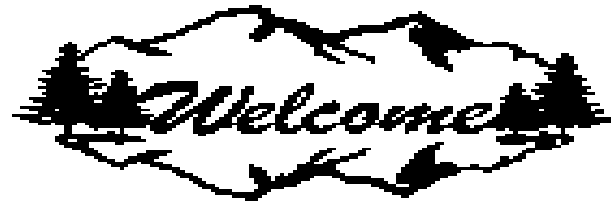
Mr. King gave examples of successful projects in our region and explained to the committee how these projects have helped or are helping the economic growth and prosperity of the



Michelle Moren joined North Country Council (NCC) after spending the past ten winter seasons as an Assistant Ski School Director and summer seasons as a Biological Technician and brings to us a diverse background.

She has worked with the US Forest Service conducting research, assisting with the writing of biological and environmental evaluations, and educational outreach to the community. Michelle will assist North Country Council planners with daily operations, research, as well as outreach, and special projects.

Michelle has an Associate Degree from White Mountains Community College in Natural Resource Management and has continued her education in business management.



region by creating high quality jobs. He mentioned the Dartmouth Regional Technology Center, the Sustainable Economic Initiative and the Littleton Industrial Park as examples of how funding received through the EDA program creates jobs and leverages private investment. Also given were examples of areas where EDA could improve the program and the delivery of the program. You can get a copy of the written testimony by going to www.nccouncil.org.

If you need any further information or have questions, please feel free to call Michael King at North Country Council, 603-444-6303.

"No money shall be drawn from the Treasury, but in consequence of appropriations made by law".

(U.S. Constitution, Article I, Section 9, Clause 7)

NCC Welcomes Planning Assistant

Travel Trainers

Article By: *Beverly Raymond
Tri-County CAP*



Travel Trainers Tri-County Community Action Program (TCCAP) transportation program which includes the North Country Transit, Tri-Town bus, and soon Carroll County Transit is busy educating people about the types of services they provide.

People of all ages living in rural areas are not aware of what types of transportation services are provided in their towns as well as how to use them. To help them better understand, TCCAP Transit received funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to fund the position of a Travel Trainer to meet with people

and groups living in TCCAP's Coos, Carroll, and northern Grafton County service areas. The services provided by the travel trainer are to educate people on what the service is, areas it covers, where to call and how to schedule a ride, fares or services a person may be eligible to receive, ADA requirements, passenger rights and responsibilities, the agencies' rights and responsibilities, and to answer any questions people may have.

Beverly Raymond, Director of Tri County CAP Transit explained that although she and many of her staff travel throughout their service area participating in meetings and informing people about their service, many people are still overlooked. Those people are the ones who we need to get the information to so they understand how the service can help them and how to use it. To find out more about the Travel

Training program or to set up a time to have a travel trainer do a presentation, call our toll free number 1-888-997-2020 and ask for Brad Wallace. Brad is the travel trainer for northern Grafton and Coos County and will be happy to present information for a group or on an individual basis. If you would like to book a presentation for Carroll County, call Malcolm Longnecker at 603-969-1432 who is the travel trainer for Carroll County. He will be happy to set something up for a group or to educate on an individual basis.



North Country Council Participates in Toys For Tots Campaign

Article by: *Karen Malkiewicz*



North Country Council's staff participated in the 62nd annual U.S. Marine Corps

Reserve Toys for Tot campaign. During these very difficult economic times, when so many families are struggling to pay for housing, food and making ends meet, there is little left for toys or other items that are not a necessity of everyday life. We at the North Country Council gladly offered

our help and support in carrying out the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's dedication to "delivering a message of hope and bring the joy of Christmas to America's less fortunate children."

According to the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, "during the 2009 campaign they

North Country Projects Receive LCHIP Funding

Article By: *Patricia Garvin*

The Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) recently award \$3.1 million in matching grants to 33 projects in 28 New Hampshire communities. North Country projects included:

- Androscoggin Headwaters Project/**Errol**/ Trust for Public Land, \$250,000
- **Lyman** Town Forest/Lyman/Trust for Public Land, \$250,000
- Old Town House Planning Study/**Thornton**/Thornton Historical Society, \$7,204
- The Cottage at the Rocks/**Bethlehem**/North Country Council, \$9,000.

North Country Council's project will repair and restore the stone front porch of NCC's building.

The \$3.1 million in funding is leveraging over \$32 million in other sources; meaning that for every \$1 of public funding awarded, over \$11 in other funds are being spent.

distributed 16.4 million new toys to 7.4 million less fortunate children throughout the nation. This was one of the most successful campaigns in their 62 year history of Toys for Tot program."