

Kearsarge Magazine team takes on new projects

Laura Jean Whitcomb (Kearsarge Magazine) was hired by Eastman Community Association to give Eastman Living, their quarterly magazine, a whole new look. (View bits of the old magazine online at www.eastmannh.com/eastmanliving/Vol4No2.htm.)

Eastman demographically is made up of 50 percent families with kids and 50 percent retirees. There are 2,000 people there in the winter and 3,500 in the summer. Might this be a target market for you? Contact Whitcomb at 863-7048 for details. Deadline March 1.

Also, the team that launched Kearsarge Magazine (www.kearsargemagazine.com) in August 2005 is planning a second publication for 2006: Upper Valley Life. This bi-monthly magazine will cover people, places and events of Upper Valley towns located up and down the Connecticut River. The first issue will debut in March.

Best of NH voting begins soon

The ballots for Best of NH go out in the March issue of New Hampshire Magazine and online voting starts March 1. You can help make sure our region is well represented with winners by voting for your favorite restaurants and other local businesses. Your votes DO count! There was a noticeable increase in response from the Monadnock region in 2005, resulting in over 15% of the winners coming out of that area.

This year's party to announce the winners takes place from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. June 22. Take a moment to visit www.bestofnh.com for more details and to cast your vote.

Passport to New Hampshire

The Manchester Convention and Visitors Bureau is holding it's Passport to New Hampshire show on May 11 at the Center of NH Radisson Hotel. This is a destination showplace that promises to be an interactive, informative and entertaining one-of-a-kind experience. Promote your business and services. Meet professionals and the vacation-savvy public. Sell vacation rentals, hotel packages, attraction tickets and your unique products and services. Limited booth space. Cost for a booth is \$275 for Manchester Convention & Visitors Bureau members; for \$325 non-members. Two businesses can share a booth for \$200 each.

More information at 666-6600 or www.manchestercvb.com.

Sunapee is a place to see...

The Lake Sunapee Region will be represented in the upcoming edition of the book 1,000 Places to See in the USA & Canada Before You Die. Featured event: League of NH Craftsmen's Fair.

FastTrac programs available

The NH Small Business Development Center will present five FastTrac® Listening to Your Business™ workshops in 2006. These half-day workshops provide a forum for entrepreneurs to actively plan for their businesses' development and growth.

Listening to Your Business™ is a hands-on, facilitated workshop designed to provide small business owners and managers with critical evaluation tools and action steps needed to maximize the growth and profitability of their businesses.

Cost is \$79 (includes materials & refreshments) and \$49 for subsequent people from the same business. Dates are:

Portsmouth Feb. 15, 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Concord March 8, 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (call Heather Turner at Forfeng Design to carpool)

Merrimack April 5, 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Keene May 10, 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

North Country June 14, 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Heidi Edwards Dunn at 227-0417 or email: h.edwardsdunn@unh.edu.

Collection is topic

“Collection Techniques and the Law for Small Business” is the topic of the next Women Business Owners Network Upper Valley Chapter meeting, 11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Salt Hill Pub on the Common in Lebanon. speaker will be Debra Leahy, Esq. Cost is \$12/person. RSVP to Brooke Trottier at btrottier@direcway.com.

Anyone interested in carpooling to this event can contact Heather Turner, 938-2433.

My Biz for Women

The U.S. Small Business Administration has launched *MY BIZ for Women*, a new online tool designed to provide comprehensive business information and assistance to women entrepreneurs.

MY BIZ for Women (www.SBA.gov/women) is designed to be the first step for all women business owners, providing one-stop access to information for women entrepreneurs highlighting the best resources the government has to offer. The Web portal provides information on starting and growing a small business, gaining access to capital and contracting opportunities and links to other government agencies and SBA resource partners offering business counseling, a state-by-state listing of SBA's Women's Business Centers and other resource information.