



March, 2004

# Alumni Connection

*Linking the leaders of the Valley with knowledge and education*

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**BLACKSTONE RIVER VALLEY**  
New England's Historic National Park Area

## Alumni Event

### Blackstone Valley Labor Market Trends



Alumni Association sponsors business luncheon

On Thursday, March 11th, the Alumni Association will sponsor a luncheon featuring nationally known speaker, Paul Harrington, Associate Director of the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University. Dr. Harrington has done extensive research in Massachusetts and Rhode Island and will be “reading the temperature” of the labor market in the Blackstone Valley.

Dr. Harrington will be giving a regional labor market overview including the population trends, educational attainment,

employment developments, impact of industry employment change, occupational projections, and youth employment. His comments are timely and often provocative.

Don't miss this exciting discussion about our region. The luncheon begins at 12:00 pm at the Museum of Work and Culture in Woonsocket. The cost is \$10.00 for non-members of the LBV Alumni Association. Make a reservation by contacting Beckley Alley at (508) 234-9090 x107 or [balley@blackstonevalley.org](mailto:balley@blackstonevalley.org).

## Holiday Party



Janet Amerault  
hosts event

**Fourteen alumni**, three members of the current LBV class and their guests gathered at Milford Courtyard by Marriott on December 5th to celebrate the holidays.

We snacked on fabulous hors d'oeuvres including stuffed portobello mushrooms, chicken wings, grilled ham and cheese sandwiches, fresh tomato and cheese focachio and conollis. The group enjoyed the privacy of the meeting room and the comfort of the newly renovated lounge with fireplace and bar.

Special thanks to the Marriott and **Janet Amerault**, Sales Manager, for hosting the event.

To book your event or to take advantage of the Marriott's getaway packages, contact Janet at (508) 634-4773 or [janet.Amerault@marriott.com](mailto:janet.Amerault@marriott.com).

## Alumni on the Move

### Tony Deller

It's now official, I'm the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Northern RI Chamber. (Pretty scary, huh!) Hopefully I'll be able to use the position to push more Valley-wide initiatives. Keep me up to date on whatever is going on where this position may be helpful.

My firm moved our office. We are now located at 301 Metro Center Boulevard, Suite 302, Warwick, RI 02886. Phone is now 401-921-2060 and fax is 401-921-2061. E-mail remains the same as [tdeller@cpaadvice.com](mailto:tdeller@cpaadvice.com)

We are excited about the move for more than just a change of locations. We have located our firm inside of DiSanto & Priest, one of RI's largest CPA firms. We will now have direct access to all of their resources, thereby being able to provide better service to our clients. The possibilities are endless.

### Kevin Rudden

As part of the Mendon Planning Board, I am working on three initiatives: 1. getting all unfinished subdivision roads completed and accepted by the town before next fall; 2. completing a Community Development Plan through an E.O. 418 grant from the state by the end of June; and, 3. working with the Board of Selectmen to pass an Affordable Housing Overlay zoning bylaw at May's annual town meeting.

### Carole Briggs Donovan

My business, Image Boosters, a promotional products marketing company, has moved to a new office, 80 Worcester Street Suite 9 (route 122) in North Grafton. Bright, beautiful and twice the space, the new suite is just down the street from the old office. The phone and fax remain the same and as always, you can shop at your convenience on the web-store: [www.ImageBoosters.com](http://www.ImageBoosters.com). Joining me in the suite is colleague Fern Nissim, a marketing consultant. Honk or stop in for a visit the next time you drive by!

### Herb Weiss

Congratulations to Herb Weiss who has received a promotion and is now the Economic & Cultural Affairs Officer in Pawtucket.

### Karen Pascucci

One of the things I am looking to do in the New Year is to enter the workforce again. Both girls at school all day and I am itching for something to do. I am looking for a part-time job opportunity (permanent or temporary). I enjoy working with people. I have experience in customer service, sales/marketing support and office management from my previous life (life before kids). I also have extensive experience with event planning and organizing both large and small-scale projects through my volunteer work of the past decade. Any leads or suggestions on where to look would be greatly appreciated - contact me at [kpascucci@charter.net](mailto:kpascucci@charter.net)

## Julie Woods

I have so much to share but will try to stick to the recent highlights.

I initiated a successful effort to get Douglas' Town Meeting to adopt an adult entertainment by-law. I worked closely with our Town Planner and Police Chief to win near unanimous approval to limit "adult" establishments to particular areas in Town. This was a recommendation made years ago by former Chief of Police Jack Creighton, but the timing seemed right this year and voters agreed.

I have been working on a number of other projects but the one closest to fruition will take place on March 11, 2004, at the new Douglas High School. Those of you who know me can appreciate how sad it is for me that it is not taking place at a new Uxbridge High School! Lizabeth Cohen, Harvard history professor and author of *A Consumers' Republic: the Politics of Mass Consumption in the Post War America*, will be the first speaker in what I hope will become a series. See the article in this newsletter for more information.

## Gerry Noel

Gerry has been selected by the Woonsocket Rotary Club to attend Rotary International's Leadership Institute at Merrimack College, North Andover, MA in March. •

## Guest Speaker

### Lizabeth Cohen to Speak at Douglas High School

On March 11th, Lizabeth Cohen, Harvard history professor and author of *A Consumers' Republic: the Politics of Mass Consumption in the Post War America*, will be the first speaker in what **Julie Woods** hopes will become a series.

Inspired in part by Gary Vaillancourt's presentation at an LBV session, where he spoke of the need to teach our communities what to value about themselves, Julie has been working to bring enrichment opportunities to her community. The lecture series and Ms. Cohen's book has been enthusiastically received by everyone she talked to. As a result, a "steering committee" has taken shape to help with this and future efforts. It includes **Susan Bloomberg** of Uxbridge, another LBV grad; Christine Anderson, owner and publisher of the Blackstone Valley Current; Lisa Moczynski of Douglas, and Gail Benedict and Sara Douglas, both of Uxbridge.

The event is free, refreshments will be served and Ms. Cohen's book will be available for purchase.

See the February issue of the River Valley Current for more details! •

Thanks to Jeanne Zavada for this quote:

*"The secret of success is to go from failure to failure without any loss of enthusiasm."*

- Winston Churchill

#### LBV Alumni Connection

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LBV Alumni Connection is a publication of the Leadership Blackstone Valley Alumni Association - keeping alive and vibrant the relationships among community leaders in the Blackstone Valley.

Deadline for the next Leadership Blackstone Valley Alumni Association "Connection" is Friday, March 19th..

Send articles to Beckley Alley at [balley@blackstonevalley.org](mailto:balley@blackstonevalley.org)