

PRESS RELEASE

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Digital photos will be available on Wednesday, October 28 at the contact information above or the media is asked to call (207) 215-8430 for information regarding press coverage of the awards ceremony.

Maine State Chamber celebrates businesses' achievements and entrepreneurial spirit at its October 27 Annual Meeting

Commitment to investments and creation of Maine jobs at core of Chamber recognitions

SOUTH PORTLAND – On **October 27**, 2009, the Maine State Chamber of Commerce will present its annual awards during its **2009 Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner** at the **Marriott Portland at Sable Oaks** from 4:30 to 9:00 p.m. This year, the Maine State Chamber will bestow a total of 10 awards (bios below).

William J. Ryan will accept the *Alton “Chuck” Cianchette Business Hall of Fame* award. Recipients of the *Maine Investor* awards are **First Wind** of Portland; **Sargent Corporation** of Stillwater; **Washburn & Doughty Associates, Inc.** of East Boothbay; and, **White Rock Distilleries** of Lewiston.

Maine State Chamber President Dana Connors will honor **Fred Forsley** and **Rod Rodrigue** with this year's *President's Recognition Awards*, for their entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to investing in Maine's economy and its people, which are fundamental to the state's ability to succeed, grow, and prosper.

The *2009 Chamber Volunteer of the Year* award will be awarded to **Michael Hersey** of WABI-TV for his work with and for the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce. **Rick Stanley**, president of the Sanford-Springvale Chamber &, will receive the *2009 Chamber Executive of the Year* award.

The evening's entertainment this year is Maine's own **Bob Marley**. Direct from the wrap of filming *All Saints Day* in Toronto, Bob Marley returns to touring around the country. *All Saints Day* is the highly anticipated sequel to *Boondock Saints* and is due for release in the Fall of 2009.

Originally from Maine, Bob Marley began performing stand-up comedy in his hometown of Portland. He moved to Boston early in his career, gaining experience in a city known for spawning comedy all-stars.

He has a weekly radio call-in segment with several radio stations around the country called "The World According to Bob." A featured comedian on XM and Sirius satellite radio systems, he continually makes new fans around the country.

Making his first television appearance on Comedy Central in 1992, he is now one of the few comics to do the complete late night circuit including *The Late Show with David Letterman*, *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, and *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* and *Craig Kilborn*. He has also appeared on 100 television shows including *VH-1's Super Secret Movie Rules*, *Comedy Central's Premium Blend* and the "USO Comedy Tour," and most recently, Bob's hour-long comedy special "Comedy Central Presents Bob Marley."

Many movie fans will recognize his biggest movie appearance in the movie "Boondock Saints" where he co-stars with Willem Dafoe. His comedic take on Detective Greenly inspires fans to come up to him and quote lines from the film. Audiences are in for a treat whether they catch this Mainer act on stage or on screen. For more information about comedian Bob Marley, please visit his website at www.bmarley.com.

For more information regarding the Maine State Chamber's Annual Meeting & Awards Dinner, please contact Rita Stoddard by calling (207) 623-4568, ext. 15, or by emailing rstoddard@mainechamber.org.

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ABOUT THE 2009 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Chamber Volunteer of the Year...

About the Chamber Volunteer of the Year Award: This award honors an individual who is actively dedicated to the vitality of their local chamber. Selection is determined from a statement of the volunteer's leadership qualities and accomplishments.

Michael Hersey is currently an account executive for WABI-TV Channel 5. He began volunteering with the Mid-Maine Chamber by serving on the Community Events Committee in 2002, and by 2003 was a board director. Hersey was nominated for this honor by Kimberly N. Lindlof, President and CEO of the Mid-Maine Chamber of Commerce.

During his tenure as a director he has served on the Taste of Greater Waterville and Super Raffle committee for five years, chairing the latter event in 2003. Michael also served as chair for the Annual Awards committee from 2005 to 2007. He became the co-chair of the Public Policy committee in 2007, and has been chair of that committee since 2008. During his tenure a chair of the Public Policy committee, the Chamber has began taking political positions in support of the business community for the first time in many years. In 2008 and 2009, the Public Policy Committee has developed and organized the Chamber's Hot Stove League, a gathering held monthly during the State of Maine legislative sessions. It is designed to enhance communications between the local business community and our area legislators.

Since 2005 Michael has served on the Chamber's Executive Board, and chaired the Board of Directors in 2007. During his tenure as Board Chair, he chaired the Strategic Planning committee which formed the blueprint to guide the Chamber through the next few years.

In addition to his efforts with the Mid Maine Chamber, Michael has also been active with the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce where he has served on the Business to Business Expo and the Whatever Family Fun Festival committees. He currently serves on the Communication and Marketing committee for the Kennebec Valley United Way and on the Public Relations committee for the United Way of Mid-Maine.

In the letter of nomination, Michael received the following praise: "I have worked with many volunteers over my eight years with my chamber, and watched other volunteers perform when I served on our board as a volunteer myself. Michael is one of those rare individuals who has both the capability and willingness to lend a hand wherever it's needed. His advice is solid, and his motives pure: He wants to help the regional economy and make it a better place."

Chamber Executive of the Year...

About the Chamber Executive of the Year Award: Each year, this award recognizes a local chamber executive's hard work and dedication, determined by a statement of achievements detailing

such noteworthy efforts as economic development initiatives, successful events, and an improved bottom line.

Rick Stanley is president of the Sanford-Springvale Chamber & Economic Development. He was nominated for this honor by Eleanor J. Vadenais, executive director of the Wells Chamber of Commerce. Throughout his tenure at the Sanford-Springvale Chamber & Economic Development, Rick has been a consummate advocate for his community in the area of economic development. Working closely with the Sanford Industrial Development Corporation and the Town of Sanford, Rick has been instrumental in the promotion of available commercial/industrial properties in the area. Utilizing his expertise in commercial real estate, Rick not only acts as a clearinghouse for potential properties, but assists businesses in locating sources for information on developing business plans and financing.

Ever mindful of the sustainability of the Chamber, Rick is an advocate for business, coordinating information for micro-loan programs and other financing options for his members, while at the same time, constantly investigating other “non dues” revenue streams for the organization.

Rick is always optimistic and confident and is delighted to share his knowledge and insight with others.

Special Chamber Recognition...

About this special award: This year, our Board of Directors has authorized the presentation of a special recognition award this year. Since he took office, Governor John E. Baldacci has kept his door, his phone, and the lines of communication open to the business community – through some very contentious issues and some very stressful times. He has put in countless hours to craft compromises and to submit legislation at our request. We thank you, Governor, for being a willing partner in the legislative process, and for being so committed to building a better Maine.

Maine Investor Awards...

About the Maine Investor Awards: The Maine State Chamber of Commerce recognizes Maine businesses for outstanding contributions to the growth of their companies and the state's economy. We salute those that invest in the development of their community and our state.

First Wind, Portland

First Wind has been on the forefront of wind farm development in Maine for five years, and currently operates three Maine offices, in Portland, Lincoln, and Oakfield. First Wind owns and operates two wind power facilities (Mars Hill Wind and Stetson Wind) in Maine, and has three additional sites in advanced development (Oakfield Wind, Rollins Wind, and Stetson Wind II). The \$134 million Stetson project was brought on-line in January 2009, and construction on Stetson II has recently begun.

First Wind is committed to delivering renewable wind energy that not only provides clean power, but also generates financial benefits for local communities. During the construction phase, wind farms increase business activity locally and statewide. When operational, they provide revenue to communities that can go towards local services or tax reduction. Maine is already seeing the benefits: Of approximately \$65 million spent for construction, engineering and development services for the Stetson Wind project, about \$50 million was spent here. First Wind is also entering into a contract, approved in early October by the Maine PUC, to provide power from the Rollins project to Maine consumers at a discounted price over a 20-year period.

As a corporate citizen, First Wind also strives to be a good neighbor. Among the benefits to Maine communities are:

- A wind farm owned and operated by First Wind can create millions of dollars in new revenue for towns, potentially to lower taxes.
- First Wind hires local residents for the construction and operation of its wind farms whenever possible.
- Wind energy farms generate clean, renewable energy without the environmental or health risks of other energy forms, such as coal and oil.
- Every megawatt of energy that America can produce using its own natural resources means less reliance on foreign energy sources. By harnessing the renewable and inexhaustible power of wind, we reduce our nation's dependence on fossil fuel imports, conserve natural resources, and expand the diversity of our energy supply.
- Wind farms enable local property owners to maintain the current use of their land, such as farming or logging, while creating a new source of clean energy that provides additional income.

Sargent Corporation, Stillwater

"Our vision is simple: be the most efficient and effective contractor on the planet; do things better than they've ever been done before." ~Herb Sargent

As one of the Northeast's largest earth-moving companies, Sargent Corporation has deep roots in the Maine economy. Spanning more than eight decades, the family business began in 1926 in Alton, Maine, when Herbert E. Sargent set out to make a living with just one used dump truck. His reputation was built solidly on a good work ethic, reliability and integrity, and in just a few years time, he was able to acquire trucks, a bulldozer and a power shovel.

His son Jim joined the company in 1957, encouraging growth and furthering their reputation as honest and reliable contractors. In 1975, Herb retired and the role of company president was handed to Jim. In 1983, Herb R. Sargent joined the company as a foreman trainee, eventually filling roles of estimator, superintendent and project manager. In 1988, the family sold the company to Razel, a much larger construction firm from Paris, France.

Leaving H.E. Sargent, Inc. in 1991, Herb R. founded Sargent & Sargent in Bangor, Maine. This company grew steadily, and in 2005, Sargent & Sargent acquired the assets of H. E. Sargent, Inc. In the following months the combined entities were placed under one banner: Sargent Corporation.

Today, Sargent Corporation's 400 employees work in seven states, and are led by a field management team boasting more than 1,000 years of combined experience. Sargent continues to be an industry leader, specializing in commercial, industrial and institutional site preparation, landfill construction, highway and utility projects, airports, athletic facilities and wind power access. It boasts well-trained professionals; an unparalleled commitment to safety, quality and efficiency; and, a dedication to managing and minimizing environmental impacts.

As testimony to Sargent's work on the Mars Hill Wind Project, the firm's "unequaled investment in the best people, specialized training and the latest in precision technologies is helping these new projects succeed in protected areas where 'good enough' just won't do."

Sargent Corporation also recognizes that its professional success is intertwined with the successes of its employees and their communities. Employees participate in many volunteer activities, from coaching ball teams to donating company time and resources to build an entire athletic facility. The Sargent team also supports the United Way of Eastern Maine at a level greater than companies many times larger. Its 2009 United Way Contribution, a combination of employee giving and company matching, totalled \$118,714. To make the holidays brighter for area kids, Sargent delivered 150 toys

to Toys for Tots. Sargent employees also participate at leadership or team levels on a wide variety of industry and public boards and committees in the business community.

Washburn & Doughty Associates, Inc., East Boothbay

Washburn & Doughty Associates, Inc. of East Boothbay, Maine, specializes in the construction of steel and aluminum commercial vessels. Founded by Bruce Doughty, Bruce Washburn, and Carl Pianka, the yard began building fishing boats in 1977. Since then, the yard has continued to prosper by diversifying its capabilities, developing innovative designs and building techniques, and reaching out to new markets. Whether building to a customer's plans or a custom design by its experienced in-house architects, Washburn & Doughty has delivered of a diverse mix of tugboats, commercial passenger vessels, fishing boats, barges, ferries and research vessels.

On July 11, 2008, a fire destroyed Washburn & Doughty's main facility. Only a few days later, plans to rebuild were in place. The town helped to raise funds; contractors worked tirelessly; and, the state helped to expedite the permitting process. Just 59 days later, they were back in operation, thanks to a makeshift workspace.

Now just over a year later, the proverbial phoenix has risen from the ashes, stronger and better than before. There were 92 employees working on three boats before the fire. Now there are 124 employees working on six boats.

On Thursday, July 23, 2009, Washburn & Doughty launched its first vessel – the Lois Ann L. Moran, a 121' Intercon Tug under construction for the Moran Towing Corporation – one year and twelve days after the fire. Because the vessel emerged relatively undamaged from the fire, Washburn & Doughty was able to continue construction on the vessel, while The Sheridan Corporation built the company's new building around the tug. Bruce Doughty, president of Washburn & Doughty, contributes the company's progress over the past year to the support of its customers, most notably Moran, vendors, and community.

On July 27, 2009, Washburn & Doughty launched a second vessel for Moran Towing Corporation – the Catherine C. Moran, a 98', 500 Ton, Z-Drive Tug. Its construction began shortly after the July 2008 fire and continued to be built outdoors through the winter. Constructing the vessel in the East Yard necessitated a crane launch, which was another first for the shipyard.

White Rock Distilleries, Lewiston

White Rock Distilleries of Lewiston, Maine, was built by adhering to the classic Maine values of character, integrity, and quality. Three generations of the Coulombe family attribute White Rock Distilleries' growth and success to its commitment to innovation, strategic marketing and national leadership in sales and distribution.

In 1971, Ray Coulombe purchased a small distillery –Maine's Androscoggin River, located 25 miles inland from the Maine coast. At that time, White Rock had three employees, a 10,000-square-foot plant, and was selling just 25,000 cases a year.

Over the next three-plus decades, Ray and his son, Paul, built White Rock into a major force. A 1975 graduate of University of Maine, Paul Coulombe has grown the company through acquisitions and internal growth since becoming CEO in 1995, and remains steadfast in his commitment to investing in both the company and its people. Paul's daughter, Michelle Coulombe, serves as vice president and director of Florida sales. She graduated from University of Southern Maine in 2002 and joined company in 2004.

Through strategic acquisition and development of new technologies, the Coulombe's expanded White Rock's market into 50 states and more than 20 countries. Its sales have grown from 25,000 cases a year to over three million, worldwide. Currently, White Rock's product line includes more than

100 brands of vodkas, scotches, prepared cocktails, cordials and liqueurs, Canadian whiskeys, rums, and tequilas. Its state-of-the-art facility sits on 10 acres which house six bottling lines and has the capacity of more than five million cases. White Rock also has import agreements with several international distillers.

Even in an economic downturn, the company is poised to realize a double-digit growth. Overall growth has exceeded 20% annually under his leadership. The Coulombe family attributes White Rock Distilleries' growth and success to its commitment to innovation, strategic marketing and national leadership in sales and distribution.

Recently, White Rock has been selected as one of "Maine's Best places to Work", a tribute to the dedication of all employees and the generosity Paul Coulombe in providing a positive work environment.

White Rock Distilleries is an aggressive company which uses youthful and creative thinking and consistently stays a step ahead by offering new and fresh takes on tried and true spirits and liqueurs.

President's Recognition Award...

About the President's Recognition Award: This honor is presented to a company or individual who demonstrates involvement in promoting the mission and activities of the Maine State Chamber. This year we are recognizing two individuals who have demonstrated an entrepreneurial spirit and a commitment to investing in Maine's economy and its people.

Fred Forsley

A native of Gray, Maine, Fred Forsley is the founder and co-owner of The Shipyard Brewing Company, the largest brewery in Maine and a national leader in the craft brew industry. The Shipyard Brewing Company was founded by master brewer Alan Pugsley and entrepreneur Fred Forsley.

Shipyard first began in 1992 at Federal Jack's Restaurant and Brew Pub in Kennebunk, which is one of Maine's original brew pubs and working breweries. Within two years, demand for Shipyard beer outpaced the small operation and, in April 1994, Fred and Alan opened the Shipyard Brewing Company in the heart of the waterfront in Portland, Maine on the site of the former Crosby Laughlin Foundry.

In 1995, he formed a 50:50 partnership with the Miller Brewing Company to extend Shipyard's distribution throughout the United States. In April of 2000, Fred made the strategic decision to buy back Miller's share of the company and Shipyard became an independent brewery once again.

Today, Shipyard Brewing Company is ranked as the 16th largest craft beer company in the U.S. and 31st overall. Maine's largest brewery produces 14 varieties of award-winning English style and seasonal ales and seven flavors of hand-crafted Capt'n Eli's Soda. Award-winning Shipyard beer is available in 38 states from Maine to Florida and west to California.

In 2008, Shipyard Brewing Company shipped nearly 1,050,000 cases (81, 641 barrels) of its award-winning, hand-crafted ales. The company also shipped over 41,000 cases (2,900 barrels) of Capt'n Eli's Soda.

The total brewing capacity of the brewery is 140,000 barrels so it has the ability to double production in the years ahead. At peak production, Shipyard fills 144,000 bottles per day (6,000 cases).

Shipyard Brewing Company employs 50 at its brewery, with another 350 jobs statewide at its other various ventures, which include the Shipyard Brew Pub in Eliot; Federal Jack's Restaurant and Brew Pub, the Kennebunkport Brewing Company, and the Kennebunkport Chowder Company in Kennebunk; The Inn on Peaks Island; Sea Dog Brewing Company in Topsham and Bangor; and, the Shipyard Brewhaus at both Sunday River and Sugarloaf. Every year the company spends over \$1

million in support services from local businesses and donates thousands of dollars to non-profit organizations.

Rod Rodrigue

Rod Rodrigue is a respected entrepreneur and business professional. A founder of the U.S. Small Manufacturing Coalition, he currently serves as the president of the Florida and Maine divisions of the Manufacturing Extension Partnership, a national network with hundreds of specialists who understand the needs of manufacturers and assist them with services and access to public and private resources that enhance growth, improve productivity, expand capacity, and enhance global competitiveness.

Rod founded Time Wise Management Systems, a nationwide training and business advisory firm that helps organizations achieve strategic process improvements, sustain their performance gains, and drive continual improvement across their supply chains.

He and his wife Marion established Ironwood, a residential treatment center in Morrill, Maine, committed to helping families in crisis with troubled teens. Ironwood is a co-educational residential treatment center and working farm occupying 500 acres of countryside on the beautiful mid-coast of Maine. Ironwood's treatment program offers therapeutic, clinical, and educational services helping teens to adopt proactive behaviors necessary to lead a productive life as a contributing family member and community citizen. Ironwood's treatment program is carefully designed to assist families in crisis and turn around the behavior of the troubled teen by developing self-respect, values, and effective communication skills.

Following graduation from Maine Maritime Academy in 1967 with a degree in Marine Engineering combined with an MBA degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University, Rod embarked on a long and illustrious career in the field of engineering and manufacturing. His diverse business experience includes past executive leadership posts with the Belfast & Moosehead Lake Railroad; Consolidated Auto Recyclers, Inc.; International Power Chemicals; and the Mexico-based firm of Productos Rolmex S.S. de C.V.

Alton "Chuck" Cianchette Business Hall of Fame Award..

About the award: Leadership is a quality all of us admire, but few of us ever truly attain. When we think about leadership, one person stands out among the rest.

Alton "Chuck" Cianchette helped men and women throughout the state to understand the true qualities of leadership. For many people in Maine, Cianchette defined the term.

COMPASSION, COURAGE, COMMITMENT

Chuck Cianchette was a leader because he exemplified these qualities in every area of his life-in his eight years with the Maine Legislature, where he voted his conscience; in his work with Cianbro Corporation, a company he founded in 1949 with his three brothers; and most importantly, in his private and family life, as his wife and his children provide such a tremendous testament to his enduring legacy.

Cianchette's involvement with his community was extensive, both in Pittsfield as a member of the Town Council, and statewide, working tirelessly for organizations such as the Boy Scouts of America and the Susan L. Curtis Foundation. Wherever he was involved, people who worked with him learned how to reach for consensus and find solutions.

He embodied the very best qualities in a leader. Compassion, courage, and commitment. We will always look to his example as the definition of leadership in Maine.

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce is proud to present a Maine business hall of fame award named in remembrance of Chuck Cianchette and awarded to those who reflect his values. The Alton "Chuck" Cianchette Business Hall of Fame award annually recognizes the contributions of an

individual who demonstrates public service leadership, business success, and most importantly, embodies his spirit through compassion, courage, and commitment.

William J. Ryan

With a quarter-century of banking experience, William J. Ryan is currently chairman of the Board of TD Bank, N.A. Prior to joining the Bank in 1989, Bill served as president of the Bank of New England North in Lowell, Massachusetts, and as executive vice president of community banking for the Bank of New England in Boston. Earlier in his career, he was president of BNE Baystate, a commercial bank subsidiary of the Bank of New England, and a vice president of the Bank of New England. Bill began his banking career with Essexbank in Peabody, Massachusetts, where he held numerous senior management positions of increasing responsibility.

A board member of TD Bank Financial Group, Bill also served as group head of U.S. Personal and Commercial Banking, as vice chair of TD Bank Financial Group, and as president and chief executive officer of TD Banknorth Inc.

He is a director of WellPoint, Inc. and of Unum, and also serves as a trustee of the Libra Foundation and an emeriti trustee of Colby College. He is also on the Board of Advisors at the University of New England, and participates in various other civic and professional activities.

A graduate of St. Francis College in New York and the Stonier Graduate School of Banking at Rutgers University, Bill and his wife Peg have four children and make their home in Falmouth, Maine.

About the Maine State Chamber of Commerce...

The Maine State Chamber of Commerce represents a diverse network of 5,000 businesses statewide and advocates on behalf of their interests before the Legislature and regulatory agencies and through conferences, seminars, and affiliated programs. Through its OneVoice program, the Maine State Chamber represents thousands of businesses with fewer than 10 employees. Its Grassroots Action Network works to involve members and their employees in the legislative process through outreach campaigns.

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