Business Monday: Movers and shapers in the business community

Free Press Staff Report

• GW Plastics, Inc. of Bethel and Royalton announced that John VanBosch has joined the company as general manager, contract manufacturing. He will be responsible for leading GW's growing commercial expansion in contract manufacturing with a focus on the medical device market. VanBosch joins GW Plastics from HTG-Parker Medical Systems having served as president of the Infinity Plastics business unit in Ventura, Calif. He holds a B.S. in industrial technology from the University of Wisconsin.

• The Northeast Association of Electric Cooperatives has honored two people with its annual George D. Aiken Award. The association, whose members include the rural electric cooperatives in the New England states and New York, established the award many years ago in honor of Vermont's former governor and senator, a champion of rural electrification and strengthening rural economies. Wendell Cilley of West Topsham, a member since 1993 of the board of directors of Washington Electric Co-op in East Montpelier, died unexpectedly in September 2008 at the age of 56 as the result of an accident. He was remembered as a genuine and caring person, committed to the Co-op, his community, his job working with adults with developmental disabilities, and his family. Diane Domion, executive secretary of Otsego Electric Cooperative, Hartwick, N.Y., and long-time board member and secretary of NEAEC, was also honored. Lola Aiken, widow of George Aiken, was a guest and participated in presenting the awards.

• Rory Waterman, assistant professor of chemistry at the University of Vermont, was awarded one of only 10 Research Corporation for Science Advancement Cottrell Scholar Awards. These awards, which provide a grant of $100,000 to each recipient, represent the foundation's largest individual grant for scientific research and teaching. Waterman is investigating catalysts that allow various molecules to form bonds with the element phosphorus.

• Peregrine Outfitters announced that Matt King has accepted the position of sales & marketing manager. He returns to Peregrine from New England Footwear, where he was vice president of global sales. He has more than 10 years at Peregrine as a regional and national accounts manager.

• David Raphael, owner of Artisan Realty, has been named the 2009 Realtor of the Year by the Northwestern Vermont Board of Realtors. The award honors an individual who best exemplifies the professional qualities of a Realtor, as well as outstanding leadership and service in civic, community and charitable causes. He serves as president of the Vermont Real Estate Information Network, the state's largest and oldest multiple listing service. He also serves as treasurer of NVBR's board of directors. Celine Teeson was named winner of the 2009 Distinguished Service Award by NVBR. The award recognizes a NVBR Realtor who has provided continuous service to the association in various capacities over an extended period. Teeson, broker/owner of Teeson Real Estate in Burlington, has been a licensed Realtor for 25 years. Dody Fraher-Ruland of Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, was named NVBR's Affiliate Member of the Year. The award recognizes an outstanding NVBR affiliate member who made the greatest contribution to the association and the community in 2008. Stella Abraham of Coldwell Banker Hickok and Boardman was named the NVBR's Rookie of the Year. The award is presented to a Realtor who has been in the real estate profession for less than two years, and who has demonstrated enthusiasm, leadership and professionalism in their career and their community. Louise Merriam earned the Good Neighbor Award. Merriam, a Realtor with Coldwell Banker Hickok and Boardman, chairs NVBR's Community Service Committee.

• Williston remodeler Mike Gervais has been appointed to the state and local government affairs committee and the environmental issues committee of the National Association of Home Builders. Gervais is president of Prime Renovation Group and DreamMaker Bath and Kitchen of Northern...
The state and local government affairs committee works closely with NAHB's 800 affiliated state and local home builder associations to advocate for the residential construction industry. The committee oversees NAHB's efforts to give state and local government officials and other stakeholders the building industry's perspective on a wide range of regulatory issues related to land development, insurance, taxes and fees and other concerns.

Copley Hospital honored three employees for excellence and recognized years of service during its annual employee awards banquet. Emergency Room nurse Andy Duff was presented with the Edward French Memorial. The Goddard Family Award was presented to Karin Vossler of the Radiology Department. Copley President Mel Patashnick named Wendy Kruger of Hardwick as Employee of the Year. Kruger, also celebrating her 10 years of service to Copley, works in the hospital's Quality Management Department.

Stowe resident Lisa Grady has recently joined the staff of Sotheby's International Realty, Vermont Country Properties on the Mountain Road in Stowe. Grady began her real estate career in Massachusetts in 1981.

Terry Stone has successfully completed a recertification of the Advanced Certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor training and testing program. This accomplishment adds to Stone's current qualification as a Certified ProAdvisor for versions 1999 through 2009. Stone trains bookkeepers and micro-business owners in the functional business use of QuickBooks and has been a certified QBooks advisor since the inception of the certification program in 1999. Stone owns and operates Business Performance Solutions in Colchester, providing accounting and consulting services in Vermont since 1982.

Spherion Corp., a staffing, recruiting and workforce solutions provider, announced that Ken Ballard, owner of the company's South Burlington office, is the recipient of the Franchise Owner of the Year Award for 2009. Ballard also received a President's Award, which is given to six owners who have created consistent revenue and gross profit growth over the past three years. Of these winners, one individual is recognized as the Owner of the Year. Ballard has been with Spherion for more than 12 years. He is past president of Spherion's Franchise Advisory Board, current chairman of the Vermont Association of Staffing Services, and current vice president of the Boy's & Girls Club of Burlington.

Dr. Bill Grover, professor of political science, was awarded a Rev. Gerald E. Dupont Award from the graduating seniors of the class of 2009 at an awards banquet at St. Michael's College. Dupont Awards, named for former president of the college, Rev. Gerald E. Dupont, S.S.E., are given to persons who "demonstrate dedication to the ideals of courage, vision, devotion and faith upon which St. Michael's College was founded," and are given "in recognition of outstanding contributions to the St. Michael's Community. The 2010 Student Association President David M. Hiltz presented the award.

Sister Irene Duchesneau, RHSJ, longtime leader of Fanny Allen hospital, was awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters at the St. Michael's College 2009 commencement. Duchesneau serves as executive director of the Fanny Allen Foundation and as president of the Fanny Allen Corp. Marcelle P. Leahy, a registered nurse who has served medical organizations in Vermont and the nation, was also awarded an honorary doctor of humane letters. She is the wife of St. Michael's graduate Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

Ross Environmental Associates, Inc. of Stowe announce that Jenny Schwartz has been certified as a lead paint technician and asbestos site inspector by the Vermont Department of Health. Schwartz is a project scientist with more than four years' experience with environmental site assessments and Geographic Information Systems planning.

Mason W. Alling of Richmond has been hired by FairPoint Communications to serve as an account manager in Chittenden and Franklin counties. Prior to joining FairPoint, Alling was the owner of a telecom sales agency, and has had five years of experience in the telecommunications field. Harold F. Skorstad of South Burlington has been hired as an account manager. Skorstad has 11 years of experience in the telecommunications industry, and more than 20 years' experience in sales in Burlington. He previously worked for Logic Supply. Kim Williams of Cambridge has been hired as an account manager in mid market areas of Vermont. Williams worked for One Communications and has six years' experience in telecom sales and management. Rene DeLaricheliere of St. Albans has been hired as a sales manager for Vermont. He has more than 18 years' experience in telecommunication sales and marketing, and previously worked for Verizon Communications in sales, marketing, and business development.