



Laconia Area Community Land Trust

LACLT CELEBRATES NH BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD

Thresholds Newsletter



LACLT Staff & Board at Business of the Year Luncheon

LACLT board, staff, and partners were in attendance as Executive Director, Linda Harvey, accepted the 2005 NH Business of the Year Award on behalf of LACLT. The award in the Construction and Real Estate category was presented to LACLT at the Business of the Year Luncheon held at the Center of New Hampshire on May 24th. The event, sponsored by *Business NH Magazine* and the NH Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives, recognizes businesses for excellence in their industry, achievement, and contribution to their communities. LACLT board and staff members were joined at the awards luncheon by representatives of two of LACLT's funding partners, Chris Harper-Fahey of NeighborWorks America and Jack Terrill of the Lakes Region United Way.

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Business of the Year (Continued)

Linda Harvey, was among seven business leaders to accept awards and speak to the group of over six hundred New Hampshire business people.

Also receiving awards were College Bound Movers (Business Services), Easter Seals NH (Education/Nonprofit), Manchester Monarchs (Tourism/Hospitality), Eastern Propane and Oil (Retail/Wholesale), Ocean National Bank (Financial Services/Insurance) and Alyson Pitman Giles, President and CEO of Catholic Medical Center, named NH Business Leader of the Year.



Left to Right: Patty Pike (Board), Stephan Nix (Board) and George Helwig (Staff).



Left to Right: LACLT Executive Director Linda Harvey, Board President Bob Curtis, and Board Member Peter Brothers.



Left to Right: Pauline Latuch (Board), Linda Morse (Board), Leslie Morris (Staff), Karen Gallant (Board) and Eileen Thaler (Staff).

LINDA HARVEY'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

We are very grateful for this award which is a tremendous affirmation of our work.

Fortunately our success doesn't rely on my public speaking skills. It does rely on clarity of mission, strong planning, and skilled staff and board. It also relies on a strong foundation of partners. We focus first on building relationships, and that allows us to build the housing. We enjoy strong community support from local government, banks, businesses, civic organizations and our wonderful members, donors and funders. We thank two partners sitting with us today: Lakes Region United Way and NeighborWorks America.

A recent study shows that the lack of affordable housing for our workforce causes NH to forego the creation of up to 2800 new jobs each year and a 253 million dollar reduction in the Gross State Product. As employers, you know that your business is threatened if your workforce cannot find or maintain housing.

Our citizens need safe, decent housing that they can afford on the wages they earn. LACLT builds that housing, revitalizes neighborhoods, and strengthens familial economic capacity. It's a privilege to build community assets, and it's an honor to be recognized in this way.

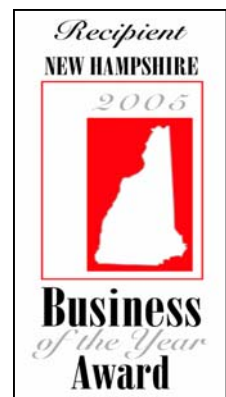
Thank you.



Left to Right: Chris Harper-Fahey of NeighborWorks America with Linda Harvey.



Left to Right: Jack Terrill of the Lakes Region United Way with Board Member Pauline Latuch.



It is a tremendous honor for us to receive this award, and we share it with you, our members, who have partnered with us to create permanently affordable housing opportunities and community assets. LACLT extends heartfelt appreciation for the many expressions of congratulations we received reflected in this small sample . . .

“Thanks to your passion and selfless dedication to creating quality affordable housing, more Laconia residents than ever have a safe place to call home. Your efforts have revitalized neighborhoods and strengthened communities. We are proud to have helped you achieve your goal.”

Laconia Savings Bank

“Congratulations! You all certainly deserved being named Business of the Year. You have earned this with your hard work, commitment, energy and vision.”

Eliza Leadbeater, Belknap Economic Development Council

“It was good to see Laconia Area Community Land Trust honored with a tribute to excellence in the real estate/construction/engineering category.”

Claira Monier, Executive Director NH Housing Finance Authority

The city is absolutely delighted by news that Laconia Area Community Land Trust has been awarded the N.H. Business of the Year Award. The Land Trust, and particularly its Director Linda Harvey, has been a tremendous asset to the City of Laconia. The Land Trust has undertaken numerous housing projects in the city that have genuinely changed the lives of the individuals who live here. The projects themselves, without exception, have had a positive impact on the neighborhoods in which they exist because they are quality developments and are meticulously cared for after the fact. As far as the City of Laconia is concerned this prestigious award is very well deserved by Laconia Area Community Land Trust.”

Eileen Cabanel, Laconia City Manager

“Congratulations in what you have accomplished. It is just outstanding.”

Theresa Guilmette, LACLT Tenant

“The Laconia Area Community Land Trust has not only made its mark on the community. It is also building a reputation that reaches across the state. The agency which develops and manages affordable housing in Laconia received a major kudo from Business NH Magazine. The publication chose the Land Trust for one of its Business of the Year Awards. The publication could not have picked a more deserving entity to receive the award for accomplishments in the field of real estate, construction and engineering. Since its beginning in the 1990’s, the Land Trust has invested more than \$11 million in revitalizing Laconia’s poorer neighborhoods, providing housing for 270 families. Evidence of the Land Trust’s impact on the city is clearly visible in areas such as Avery Hill and the South End, where it has made major improvements to deteriorated duplexes and other multifamily buildings. The latest feather in the agency’s cap is the all-new affordable housing complex built on the site of the old Vernitron building on Union Avenue. Laconia’s civil leadership is quick to recognize the extent to which the Land Trust, under the leadership of its executive director, Linda Harvey, was improving the city’s quality of life. In 2001, the Greater Laconia-Weirs Beach Chamber of Commerce presented the agency with the prestigious Irwin Award for Outstanding Community Service. Now it has something to show that it is seen not only as an asset to the City of Laconia, but to the state as well.”

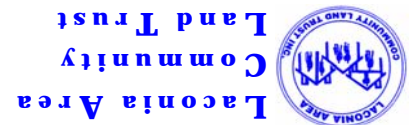
From a Citizen Editorial that appeared in *The Citizen* on Saturday May 28, 2005

It is with great pride that I submit Laconia Area Community Land Trust’s entry for the 2005 Business of the Year Award. I am very pleased the First Congressional District has such an accomplished, worthy organization working so hard for low to moderate income families.

From Congressman Jeb Bradley’s entry submittal letter to the Business of the Year Selection Committee

We thank LACONIA SAVINGS BANK and MEREDITH VILLAGE SAVINGS BANK for buying tables at the luncheon so our board, staff and partners could attend. Thanks are also given to AUTOSERVE OF TILTON for donating a large van so we could all travel to the luncheon together.

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Visit our web site
www.lactl.org

SAVE THIS DATE

Wednesday 10/19/05 - 5PM-7PM
For Our Annual Meeting
It's going to be special this year!

HomeBuyer Resource Center First-Time HomeBuyer Seminar Schedule

One Day Seminar:

October 29 (Saturday) 8AM-4:30PM in Gilford

Four-Part Seminars:

September 13-October 4 (Tuesdays) 6PM-8:30PM in Belmont
September 15-October 6 (Thursdays) 6PM-8:30PM in Tilton
October 24-November 14 (Mondays) 6PM-8:30PM in Laconia

Our Mission: To assist low and moderate income households achieve economic self-sufficiency through development of permanently affordable housing opportunities and associated support programs.