

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT 7-21-2011

Submitted by: Joe Seacrist

- 1. Interviewed by the Waterbury Republican and the Town Times concerning the recent growing rate of economic activity in the Town of Watertown.**
- 2. Had a discussion with the representative of a proposed new retail development at 1359 Main Street (former Lorraine Gardens) location concerning his plans for the development. He intends to build two separate buildings at the location. One is already set-aside for a single tenant, the other will house multiple tenants. Preliminary site plans are attached for your review.**
- 3. Continued discussions with a North Haven Realtor concerning his desires for tenants for part of the manufacturing space at 400 Park Road.**
- 4. Helped put John Maxwell of J&J manufacturing currently in Thomaston in touch again with the owners of the former Henlopen plant on Park Road which he has a desire to purchase and move his operations to Watertown.**
- 5. Spoke with an individual who is interested in locating a smoke shop in the Crestwood Plaza in Watertown. Walked him through all the zoning issues and referred him to the landlord of the property.**
- 6. Working with several developers concerning a new location for the Litchfield Bank location currently on the corner of Davis and Main Street.**
- 7. On behalf of the Watertown Economic Development Commission issued a certificate for Outstanding Contributions to the Watertown business community (copy attached) to Betsy Loth, former owner of Betsy and Todo, the women's clothing and accessory store on Main Street in Watertown. She retired and decided against trying to sell the store to another party.**
- 8. With Chairman McGrail, attended the annual CT Landscape and Nurseryman's trade show held this year in Watertown's Veteran's Park. There were hundreds of participants, and shuttle bus tours from the park to Hosking's nursery and Planter's Choice nursery. In addition there were a number of vendors who had booths in tents on the park grounds. There were a large number of attendees from all**

over the state, which showcased Watertown as one of the largest perennial plant growers in the state.

9. Saturday was the first day of this summer for the Watertown Farmer's Market. Attendance was good and the market continues to thrive. On July 30, the theme will be meet the town officials, so I will represent Economic Development that Saturday along with members of the commission if they would like to attend.
10. Please find attached a report from the US Chamber of Commerce in which they rate the 50 states in a number of categories concerning Economic Development. I've included their analysis of Connecticut in which they find us approximately in the top 50% of the enterprising states. Two reports are attached. The first is the Connecticut ratings, the second is an overall executive summary of all the states, including a list of the top performing states in terms of business and the creation of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) jobs, a list of anticipated state budget gaps for FY 2012, and the fastest STEM job growth states.

FOR O U T S T A N D I N G
CONTRIBUTION
TO THE WATERTOWN CONNECTICUT BUSINESS
COMMUNITY
Honoring

BETSY LOTH

Given by the Watertown Economic Development Commission

*In recognition of her more than 20 years as the proprietor of
Betsy and Todo*

Woman's Apparel store on Main Street in Watertown CT.

OUTSTANDING BUSINESS AWARD

Congratulations are hereby bestowed upon

BETSY LOTH

Dated at Watertown, Connecticut this 27th day of June, 2011

*Joseph McGrail, Chairman
Watertown Economic Development Commission*