

Sidelights

*on the business
and the people in it*



Soderberg Insurance Services and the Westover Insurance Agency, both based in Lynnfield, Mass., have contributed money for the Annual North Shore Special Needs Fundraiser that will be held on August 22 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proceeds from the fundraiser are put towards educational and recreational programs for special needs young adults. The organization seeks donations of “gently used items” that can be sold by the special needs young adults and event volunteers. For more information, contact Fran Soderberg, tel. (781) 334-3237.

Educational Achievement

Sandra Almeida, personal lines sales manager, and Kristin Giardillo, personal lines account manager, at Provider Insurance Group, were recognized for their outstanding educational achievement on Aug. 6 at the Independent Insurance Agents of Rhode Island (IIARI) recognition awards luncheon.

The two received certificates at the luncheon. Almeida has also earned the Certified Professional Insurance Agent (CPIA) award and will receive an additional special education bonus.

“I applaud the efforts of Ms. Almeida and Ms. Giardillo to continue their insurance education,” said Bill Darcey, senior vice president and chief operating officer at Provider. “While the ultimate beneficiaries are our clients, the rewards to Ms. Almeida and Ms. Giardillo in terms of professional development are very real.”

Provider Insurance Group was founded in 1945, and is a Trusted Choice insurance agency with offices in Needham, Mass., and Woonsocket, R.I.

Supporting Scholars

A local high school student has won a \$1,500 scholarship

from the InVEST program, a classroom to career education program run by the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America (IIABA).

Danielle Sailer, of East Hartford High School, in East Hartford, Conn. was the only recipient of the scholarship from New England. Thirty-eight students from seven states received a total of \$43,000 in scholarships from the program.

“InVEST is important not only to the future of the independent agency system, but to the insurance industry as a whole,” said Robert Rusbult, IIABA president and chief executive officer. “The average age of an insurance professional is 54. Survey results from a collaboration of the Big “I” and leading independent agency companies pointed to InVEST as the future of the industry, with 56% of respondents stating that the insurance industry should encourage high schools and community colleges to help students plan for insurance careers.”

The program was founded in 1970 and is based in Alexandria, Va. Programs are run both at the high school and college level to prepare students to enter the insurance industry.

On the Calendar

The Southern Connecticut Chapter and the Westchester Chapter of the Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter’s Society will hold its 50th anniversary celebrations on Sept. 17 at the Hyatt Regency Greenwich in Old Greenwich, Conn. The joint conferment dinner will feature guest speaker Bill Berkley, chief executive officer of W.R. Berkley Corporation.

The Southern Connecticut Chapter was founded in 1959. Chapter members have access to educational programs, leadership opportunities, and business and career networking opportunities. For more information contact Tim Russell, CPCU, at trussell@therussellagency.com

In the Family

The Fair & Yeager Insurance Agency has been recognized as a winner of the Central Mass 2009 Family Business Award in the category of 25 or fewer employees. The award, given to the agency on June 25, was presented by the Worcester Business Journal. The 111-year-old agency is a third generation family-owned and operated business, and is located in Natick, Mass.