



NEWS RELEASE

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Internet Address: www.sba.gov/me

Contact: Bonnie Erickson

622-8275

bonnie.erickson@sba.gov

HOST OF BACK TO BUSINESS TALK RADIO SHOW NAMED SBA'S 2007 SMALL BUSINESS JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR FOR MAINE AND NEW ENGLAND

Augusta, Maine -- Deborah Neuman, business columnist for *themaineedge.com*, a weekly newspaper in Bangor, and producer and host of the "Back to Business" radio show, has been named Maine and New England's 2007 Small Business Journalist of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). "Back to Business," a talk radio show for small businesses, can be heard every Saturday on WVOM, the Voice of Maine 103.9 FM, and her column featuring business tips and advice for small businesses can be found each week in *The Edge*.

Christopher Frank, founder of Intelligent Spatial Technologies in Orono, nominated Neuman for the award. "Deb's show highlights small business issues and offers weekly 'best practice' tips from business experts," said Frank. "Her distinguished career has given her the ability to foresee the topics that are of interest to the Maine business community and she always chooses topics relevant to her listening audience," he added. "To place Deb's name in nomination is indeed an honor, as Deb successfully nominated me in 2006 as the SBA's Young Entrepreneur of the Year. Deb was instrumental in helping my company evolve from a graduate-student run start-up to an established technology company with a lot of potential."

SBA New England Regional Administrator Charles Summers said, "Deb's drive and creativity reflects the spirit of entrepreneurship in Maine, she is most deserving of the award."

Entrepreneurship is in Neuman's blood, she applies this attitude to everything she does. Her passion is helping others be successful with their businesses. As Director of the University of Maine Target Technology Incubator and an authorized Associate Counselor with the Maine Small Business & Technology Development Centers (Maine SBTDC), Neuman, provides technology firms with access to the resources they need to grow and attain long-term success. The incubator, a project of the University of Maine's Office of Research and Economic Development fosters technology development, commercialization and successful business management practices.

Neuman has counseled and coached hundreds of small business owners from across the State of Maine and beyond to help them achieve their American dream. Jake Ward, Assistant Vice President of Research and Economic Development at UM said, "Deb's commitment to Maine

business is complete. Very few people could match her dedication and the pride and enjoyment she takes in this role. She is extremely worthy of this recognition.”

Neuman will be honored at the SBA Celebration dinner in May.