

## Business digest for March 12, 2009

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By [Daily News staff](#)

**The MetroWest Daily News**

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### **Southborough trade group presents conference**

The Coalition of New England Companies for Trade (CONNECT) presents the 13th annual Northeast Trade & Transportation Conference on March 18-20 at the Hotel Viking in Newport, R.I. For more information, visit [www.conect.org](http://www.conect.org). CONNECT is based in Southborough.

### **Conservation Services Group celebrates 25th anniversary**

The Conservation Services Group (CSG) this week announced an average annual job growth of 27 percent, expansion to 22 states and the procurement of \$100 million in new contracts to launch its 25th anniversary year. The Westborough-based company is bucking the current economic trend due to a growing demand for energy-efficiency programs nationwide, according to CEO Stephen L. Cowell.

### **Marlborough Chamber holds Business After Hours event**

The Marlborough Regional Chamber of Commerce holds a Business After Hours event tonight from 5:30 to 7:30 at Jacobs Hall in the Masonic Lodge, corner of Main and Newton streets in Marlborough. The cost is \$15 at the door. For more information, call the chamber office at 508-485-7746.

### **BBB warns public about exploitive grant firms**

The Better Business Bureau (BBB) is warning the public to be wary of companies offering "free" advice on how to get government grants. Dozens of Web sites claim that, because of the recently passed stimulus package and other actions taken by President Barack Obama, consumers can easily get government grants to pay bills or get out of debt. Contrary to such claims, the federal government does not award grants to help consumers pay general debt and complaints to BBB show that people who sought free advice were ultimately charged as much as \$69.95 every month on their credit or debit card. For more information, contact the Natick-based BBB at 508-652-4800.

### **Vigillo implements product from ItraLearn Software**

IntraLearn Software Corp. (ISC), a Northborough-based provider of eLearning software applications, this week announced that Vigillo LLC, the trucking industry's leading provider of comprehensive Fleet and Driver Scorecards that identify key areas of fleet risks, has implemented IntraLearn's LearningServer for .NET eLearning platform to make essential learning easier for truck drivers via in-vehicle training.

### **High schools named finalists in Mock Trial Program**

Sixteen state high schools, including Algonquin Regional High School and Newton South High School, have been named Sweet 16 regional finalists in the 24th annual Mock Trial Program presented by the Massachusetts Bar Association (MBA). They will continue in the program by competing in trials throughout this week. More than 100 high schools signed up to participate. The program places high school teams in a simulated courtroom situation where they take on the roles of prosecutors, defense attorneys and witnesses.

### **PongoResume offers writing workshops in Southborough**

This month, PongoResume and the Southborough Public Library have partnered to offer job seekers two free resume-writing workshops and a free week of full access to PongoResume.com's online resume builder via the library's Web site. The workshops include a presentation on resume writing along with tips and guidelines. Certified resume writers will be on hand at each workshop to review individual resumes and offer one-on-one advice. The workshops take place Thursday, March 19, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, March 21 at 10 a. m. The Saturday workshop will be paired with a children's program so parents can drop off their kids while they attend the workshop. The library is located at 25 Main St. (at the intersection routes 30 and 85). For more information, visit [www.PongoResume.com](http://www.PongoResume.com) or call 1-866-486-4660. Based in Northborough, PongoResume is an online resume-building resource.

*(Daily News staff reports)*

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