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August 6, 2007

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## **YOUNG PROFESSIONAL SOCIETY OF GREATER SPRINGFIELD CONTINUES CEO LUNCH SERIES**

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(SPRINGFIELD, MA- August 6, 2007) – Young professionals from the Pioneer Valley are interacting with area CEO's and company leaders in a series of lunch meetings. The second in the series will be hosted by Allan Blair, President/ CEO of the Economic Development Council (EDC) of Western Massachusetts on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The *CEO Lunch Series* seeks to introduce, engage and involve YPS members in business development, leadership and community issues.

Business and career development are key components of the Young Professional Society (YPS) of Greater Springfield's mission. To support the mission, the group has organized the *CEO Luncheon Series*, hosted by different CEO's every other month, giving YPS members an exceptional opportunity to meet with, learn from, and share ideas with, some of the most successful CEO's in the Pioneer Valley. Wayne Kapinos, Insurance Center of New England shared, "The most rewarding aspect to being a member of the Young Professional Society (YPS) is the opportunity to confer with local decision makers; these luncheons provide that opportunity."

The August lunch is at maximum attendance as there is a real interest in the economic state of the region amongst young professionals. YPS members are seeking opportunities to get involved and make an impact. Allan Blair and the EDC of Western MA bring together the positive resources from Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin Counties in order to foster solid economic growth in the region. With the newly offered flights from Westover Airport on *Skybus*, as well as flights from Bradley International Airport to Amsterdam, the region has many positive signs of growth, and YPS members are eager to be part of this excitement.

If you are an under-forty professional interested in learning leadership skills or honing those that you have, the CEO Lunch Series is an excellent place to start. To learn more about the future YPS events and to sign up visit our website at [www.springfieldyps.com](http://www.springfieldyps.com).

YPS' Board of Trustees are Maria Burke from Springfield Symphony, Kathleen Plante, formerly of the Affiliated Chambers of Commerce of Greater Springfield, Alyssa Carvalho from the Greater Springfield Convention and Visitors Bureau, Michael Kusek from the Valley Advocate, Michelle Sade from United Personnel, Ryan McCollum from the City of Springfield, Taryn Markham from the Springfield Business Improvement District and Patricia Canavan from the Springfield Public Forum.

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