

MEDIA ADVISORY



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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YOUNG PROFESSIONALS: IT'S BUSINESS TIME!

SPRINGFIELD- The talents and insights of emerging young professionals in the Greater Springfield Area will once again come together on November 15, 2007, when the Young Professional Society of Greater Springfield (YPS) will hold its free, monthly networking event, *Third Thursday*, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, at the Boston Billiard Club located at 885 Riverdale Street in West Springfield.

YPS is proud to support The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts during this month's event. Attendees are encouraged to bring a canned good or monetary donation to help support the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. The Food Bank provides food to 400+ member agencies, including food pantries, meal sites, and shelters, which in turn feed low-income families, children, elders, and adults who are hungry or at risk of hunger. YPS would like to do all they can to help alleviate chronic hunger, which affects about 1 in 10 people in Western Massachusetts.

YPS is the first organization in the area to provide a *networking resource* for the young professional community in Greater Springfield and the Pioneer Valley. The group was launched in March by young professionals in the corporate, non-profit, cultural, and public arenas to initiate a dialogue on how to involve and engage the under 40 demographic in the community in which they live and work. About 650 area young professionals already support YPS, attending monthly Third Thursdays, CEO Luncheons and supporting area non-profit events. YPS is encouraged by the enthusiastic support they have received from area organizations, business leaders, and young professionals. "Third Thursday" events, having continually boasted over 200 attendees, are quickly transforming themselves into the premier networking and social events in the Pioneer Valley. YPS welcomes all young professionals interested in participating in this regional effort, to join them in realizing their goal of fostering lasting professional and personal connections between people of diverse backgrounds, while also helping to contribute to the community.

The YPS sponsored events have created a buzz among area professionals, and are quickly becoming known as the best networking and social experience offered for young professionals in the area. "With each monthly event young professionals are provided with an opportunity to meet new people and to develop our business connections. Furthermore, the events afford us the chance to increase our involvement in the community, as we work toward helping to contribute to the economic and market growth of our city," said Carla Santaniello of Market Mentors, LLC and YPS committee member.

Bring friends, business cards, an outgoing attitude, and this month, a contribution to The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts! Food, music, and a cash bar will be provided courtesy of the Boston Billiard Club. For more information on the next event or to learn more about YPS visit www.springfieldyps.com. Advance reservations are not required but appreciated.

YPS is focused on engaging an under 40 demographic in several distinct areas: social and cultural involvement; business/career development and networking; and community involvement through nonprofit organizations and volunteerism.

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