President’s Column:

With the winter season not too far off in the future, it is a good time to mention to everyone to be careful out there in our operation. We can encounter all kinds of obstacles out there from parked cars to wildlife.

Another obstacle that doesn’t get noticed, usually until it’s too late, is fatigue. Fatigue can be a costly obstacle by wear and tear on equipment because the operators are not as alert. Injury or death to the operators themselves is also a possibility.

Try to take care of the operators by providing them with access to snacks and breaks whenever possible. They need to recharge their batteries a little bit before continuing. Little things like this help to keep drivers alert. Safer operations arise from alert operators.

Sincerely,
Ken Daniels,
DPW Director, Enfield

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What’s Inside? Page
► DES E-Bulletin 2
► Profile: George Campbell 2
► PW Employee Memorial 3
► Plow Rally Pictures 3
► Membership Form & Calendar 4

December 2008, Volume 6, No. 4 The Official Newsletter of NHPWA p. 1
NHDOT Commissioner George Campbell: A Profile:

In spring 2008, George Campbell was approved as commissioner for NHDOT after nomination by Gov. Lynch and praise from the Executive Council. Gov. John Lynch, said, “George Campbell has more than 25 years experience in the public and private sector, and is highly regarded for his proven record as a strong administrator. George is a leader who can build on the progress we are making in fixing our roads and bridges and balancing the Department of Transportation’s finances. (Union Leader, April 10, 2008)

Commissioner Campbell has long experience in the public and private sectors. He served as Maine’s economic development director for one year before being named commissioner of Maine DOT in 1980. He moved on to a vice-presidency in Guilford Transportation in Billerica, MA, then the presidencies of 2 consulting firms in Portland, ME before starting his own consulting firm working in public policy and economic development. He also served as town manager for three Maine municipalities, on Portland’s city council for 6 years, and as its mayor from 1997 to 1998. Campbell has both bachelor’s and master’s in public administration from University of Maine.

Cambell expressed his enthusiasm for Gov. Lynch’s community advisory group that is meeting with the heads of DOT and DES to discuss issues relevant to public works throughout New Hampshire. “What we are doing in transportation is really in partnership with local communities,” Campbell said at a recent meeting with the Technology Transfer Center at UNH.
Public Works Employee Memorial

Submitted by Carl Quiram, Public Works Director, Goffstown

For the past couple of months the NHPWA, NHRRA, NHPWSCC have been meeting jointly along with NHDOT to consider requesting that the State of NH, through its legislature, create a memorial to honor public works employees who have died in the line of duty. We have met with the Public Works Committee of the Legislature, and NHDOT is taking the lead on drafting the initial LDR and legislation.

We are contemplating locating the memorial in front of NHDOT on Hazen Drive. We have gotten very enthusiastic support so far, but there will be more work that we will need to do to support this effort. The committee will continue to meet to work out a design and budget.

Keep your eyes open for ways you can help support our effort. Obviously, we will have to raise a considerable amount of money to construct a memorial that is fitting of honoring our fallen comrades.

Look for updates on the progress of the Public Works Employee Memorial in future editions of this newsletter.

Plow Rally 2008 Pictures
September 25, 2008
Hopkinton, NH
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