

August 2010



# News Briefs

*This monthly news bulletin is designed to keep Maine Dietetic Association members informed about issues affecting our profession. We hope you find this resource helpful in staying up-to-date and in touch. Please send comments to [MDA Communications Coordinator](#).*

## **In This Issue:**

- **Easy Ride to FNCE**
- **Meet Our New Logo**
- **New Website Launched**
- **Public Policy -- Nutrition Services and Health Care Reform**
- **Defending the Healthy Potato**

## **Easy Ride to FNCE**

The New Hampshire Dietetic Association has hired busses for their members to travel to Boston for FNCE this November. They are willing to add buses if there is enough interest from MDA members. Currently, they have a bus going from Londonderry, NH, straight to the convention center in Boston. They would consider adding a stop in Portsmouth and possibly in Manchester if there is enough demand.

The bus service would be daily, so you can travel back and forth each day if you like, or just use the service when you need it.

Cost has yet to be determined, but will likely be between \$20-\$30 round trip, dropping you right at the convention center.

If you are interested in this opportunity to get to Boston for FNCE with no hassle, no driving and no parking worries, please email Kit Broihier [nutricomminc@mac.com](mailto:nutricomminc@mac.com) with your name and whether you're interested in a Portsmouth or Manchester pick-up site. If there is enough demand, follow-up information will be forthcoming in a separate email communication from MDA/NHDA.

## **And the Winner Is...**

... the pine tree logo, with 59 percent of the vote. Our new logo – at the top of this News Brief -- is the result of many months of input from members, collaboration with the designer, and a final vote by MDA membership.

The logo will be used on our Web site and newsletter, in addition to MDA stationary and business cards, which are used frequently in our nutrition advocacy work and in correspondence

with state agencies, other professional groups, and to request sponsorships and support from vendors. The logo will most often appear in combination with the “eatright “ADA logo.

---

## **Public Policy Update – Nutrition Services and Health Care Reform**

Health Care Reform is a mega-issue to be discussed at the next House of Delegates meeting before FNCE. Please follow the link below, login as an ADA member, and read the Executive Summary on the next steps in Health Care Reform. You also will find a more detailed Backgrounder. With the increased state role in health care, this is a crucial time for MDA members to get involved!

---

Here’s the link:

<http://www.eatright.org/HODMegaIssues/>

Comments or concerns on this important mega issue can be sent to:

Tina Haluska, MDA Delegate -- [tmhg@roadrunner.com](mailto:tmhg@roadrunner.com)

Pat Watson, MDA Public Policy Coordinator -- [watsonp@wmhcc.org](mailto:watsonp@wmhcc.org)

Dona Forke, MDA State Regulatory Specialist -- [dona@fairpoint.net](mailto:dona@fairpoint.net)

Marcia Kyle, MDA State Policy Representative -- [bkyle@roadrunner.com](mailto:bkyle@roadrunner.com)

---

## **UMaine Food Science Professor Defends the Healthy Potato**

The recent decision by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to exclude the potato from the list of fruits and vegetables eligible for the federal Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program has sparked a science-based rebuttal from UMaine Food Science and Human Nutrition Professor Mary Ellen Camire. Read a news report about Professor Camire’s defense of this nutritious, inexpensive food here: <http://www.umaine.edu/news/blog/2010/06/28/food-science-professor-defends-the-healthy-potato/>

Read Professor Camire’s entire paper here: <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all?content=10.1080/10408390903041996>