

action

impact

RESULTS

THIRD QUARTER 2010



CEO Tarren Bragdon, recipient of the State Policy Network's 2009 Roe Award for outstanding leadership in the free market movement, with some of the MHPC team in Cleveland, Ohio.

**CEO RECEIVES MOVEMENT'S HIGHEST HONOR**

In September, MHPC CEO Tarren Bragdon received the State Policy Network's annual Roe Award, at a reception in Cleveland, Ohio, for his outstanding leadership in America's free market movement. The Roe Award pays tribute to individuals within the conservative movement whose achievements have greatly advanced the free market philosophy. It recognizes leadership, innovation and accomplishment in public policy. Tarren joins the ranks of past recipients who include John Fund of the *Wall Street Journal*, Grover Norquist of Americans for Tax Reform, and Bridgett Wagner of The Heritage Foundation.

Maine people are uniting and charging forward to take back control of our government. The Maine Heritage Policy Center is helping lead this freedom-driven movement for change.

**FIX THE SYSTEM**

MHPC revived and informed the debate over welfare reform with a major report titled *Fix the System: Freeing Maine Families from Welfare Dependency*, which includes more than 100 citations from mostly government sources. We also launched FixWelfare.com, where visitors can find our research, see the growth in welfare dependency in every Maine town, and sign a petition supporting welfare reform that moves people from dependency to self-sufficiency. With our report and Web site, welfare reform is no longer driven by anecdotes and hearsay, but by research, data and proven solutions to *Fix the System*.



**PORTLAND BIG GOVERNMENT TARGETS THE LITTLE GUY**



Center for Constitutional Government Director David Crocker is representing 19-year-old Matt Rand in a fight for his rights as a citizen and young entrepreneur. By offering free golf cart rides to Peaks Island visitors—who often offer tips toward his college expenses—Matt competed with a Portland-supported nonprofit that spent \$20,000 of taxpayers' money on a new Island taxi van. When the City Council passed a law specifically targeting Matt and his golf cart service, MHPC engaged. Together, Matt and MHPC have issued an ultimatum to the Council: repeal this anti-competition law, or face legal action for violating Matt's rights.

by the **NUMBERS**

January through September 2010

**Educating the Public and Building Maine's Freedom Movement**

- **49,714** unique visitors to our Web sites
- **4,466** more people joined our e-mail list
- **48** presentations to various civic and community organizations to a combined **3,938** attendees
- **27** policy events hosted with **1,309** attendees, including **151** first-time attendees
- **769** media mentions or citations
- **701** donors, including **330** new donors

**MAINEOPENGOV.ORG CELEBRATES TWO YEARS OF TRANSPARENCY**

After two years, the impact of MaineOpenGov.org is clear. Since its September 2008 launch, 100,263 unique users visited the site, spending a combined 12,970 hours performing 747,760 searches for public employee payroll data, property tax growth, state spending, and more. Headed by Center for Open Government Director Sam Adolphsen, the site received the Maine Freedom of Information Coalition's Sunshine Award, was recognized by the Maine Legislature, won the State Policy Network's innovation award, and has been praised by transparency advocates including the Center for Fiscal Accountability, Sunshine Review, and the New England First Amendment Center.



**TAKING ACTIVISM TO THE NEXT LEVEL**

MHPC, with Americans for Prosperity-Maine, has held 12 "Building Your Activist Tool Kit" trainings across the state. From Presque Isle to York, and Farmington to Damariscotta, 618 budding activists, including more than 50 candidates for office, learned how to become effective grassroots leaders. Center for Open Government Director Sam Adolphsen and Communications Director Chris Cinquemani led presentations on: messaging, communications tactics, government transparency tools, video and new media, and high-impact events. MHPC equipped this grassroots army with tools to shake things up on Main streets, at the Statehouse, and at polling places across the state.