



# *News Release*

**Maine District Office**

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## **SBA Announces Annual Award Winners**

### **Pack Baskets of Maine Receives Micro-Enterprise of the Year Award**

Augusta, Maine – Today, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced the winner of its annual Micro-Enterprise of the Year Award for 2013. Kurt and Kathy Cressey, owners of Pack Baskets of Maine in Orrington have been selected to receive this prestigious award for Maine.

“Small businesses are the backbone of our economy, and recognizing those who work so hard to achieve success is truly an honor,” said Marilyn Geroux, SBA District Director for Maine. “It is a particular privilege to present this award to Pack Baskets of Maine because they represent the best characteristics of our successful small businesses; a can-do attitude, steady growth and very high quality products,” added Geroux.

Pack Baskets of Maine is located in Orrington. Started in 1998 by the Cressey’s as a way to supplement the income of their general store in Grand Lake Stream during slow months, their pack baskets have become successful in their own right. By 2008, the Cressey’s decided to focus solely on the pack basket business and relocate to their hometown of Orrington. Today, the company produces over 2,000 hand-made baskets each year. The company has benefitted from an SBA guaranteed loan with Bangor Savings Bank, which nominated the Cressey’s for this award.

Mr. and Mrs. Cressey and Pack Baskets of Maine will be honored at an SBA celebration luncheon on June 4, 2013 at the Spectacular Event Center in Bangor.

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) was created in 1953, and assists our nation’s small businesses in creating jobs, preserving free competitive enterprise, and strengthening the overall economy of our nation.

NOTE: Pack Baskets of Maine Manufacturing Photo Attached

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