

Worcester Business Journal

2010 40 Under Forty: Introduction

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It is with pleasure that we introduce to you the 2010 Class of 40 Under Forty honorees. In these pages you'll meet 40 of the exciting young leaders who are shaking up the establishment of the Central Massachusetts business community.

Our group of honorees are a diverse set, representing a cross-section of industries ranging from banking, high tech, nonprofits, professional services and higher education. While each member of the Class of 2010 is unique, all share a common commitment to the community and a drive to succeed. And that bodes well for the future of our local economy.

2010 40 Under Forty: John R. Buckley



Vice President, Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co.

Company location: Westborough

Residence: Holbrook

Age: 38

Career highlights: I am a partner at the CPA firm Alexander, Aronson, Finning & Co., where I specialize in audits of nonprofit organizations. I began my career at AAF as an intern during my senior year at Worcester State University, joining the firm as a staff accountant upon graduating. I worked my way through the ranks, making manager in four years and then partner in 12 years.

Community involvement: I am actively involved with the Narragansett Council of the Boy Scouts of America. As a Cub Scout leader, I have had the opportunity to work closely with my son's troop, teaching them the skills needed to be a leader, as well as how to be good citizens. Scouting is a program that I strongly believe every boy should experience. I have also coached youth soccer over the years for my son's league. I am also an active with my alma mater, Worcester State University.

Biggest challenge: My biggest challenge has been balancing the demands of being a business owner with that of raising my two children. Through careful planning, working efficiently, developing solid team members to work with, and with the commitment of my partners, I have been able to overcome this challenge.

Mentors: Joel Aronson, a senior partner at AAF, has been my mentor for the last 10 years. My parents taught me dedication and hard work, college prepared me for the technical aspects of my job, and Joel took me under his wing and taught me the skills I needed to become a successful businessman. Having a mentor that is a great teacher, role model, supporter, and friend is invaluable.

Hidden talent: With clients all over Massachusetts and always on the road visiting them, I have developed my own version of the "Phantom Gourmet." I am always able to recommend a great place to eat in most areas of the state.