

Actionreport



April
2015

www.metroouthchamber.com

Leading Businesses
Leading Communities



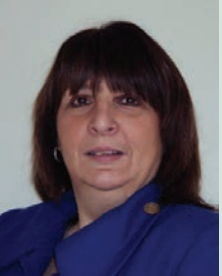
CHAMBER MISSION
To best serve the unique interests and needs of member businesses and to champion the broader economic vitality of the Metro South region.



Lady C&J Soulfood & Catering
at "A Taste of Metro South"
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Laura Bradeen,
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Chamber Says "Brockton Deserves to be Considered"

Urges "YES" Vote May 12 for Destination Resort Gaming

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors believes Brockton deserves consideration for a resort destination gaming facility on the site of the Fairgrounds. A "Yes" vote on May 12 will allow Brockton to be considered.



YES FOR BROCKTON

The proposal features twenty five acres of resort amenities, gaming and entertainment. Direct investment is projected to be \$650 million dollars with additional economic development and tax revenues anticipated. The site will feature a large conference center, performance space, and a 250 room hotel.

Payments to the city of Brockton will likely exceed 10 million dollars per year. More than 1,500 jobs are expected with preference given to Brockton residents. The casino will be required to engage local businesses and vendors to supply a significant portion of goods and services to the facility.

"The Chamber is pleased to welcome Rush Street Gaming to Brockton and the Metro South region. Their investment represents a diversification of entertainment options within our region while strengthening the climate for development in the city. Tax revenues generated by visitors and guests will stabilize city finances and provide increased support of amenities and services for the benefit of residents," said Christopher Cooney, CCE, President and CEO. "A 'Yes' vote on May 12 will allow Brockton to be considered for the last remaining destination resort license available. We think it's in the best interest of Brockton to be considered," he said.

Rush Street Gaming President at Legislative Luncheon

Wednesday, April 22, 12:00 pm, Conference Center at Massasoit

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce cordially invites you to attend our Annual Legislative Luncheon, to be held on **Wednesday, April 22, 12:00 pm at the Conference Center at Massasoit** in Brockton. The keynote speaker for the event is **David Patent**, President & Chief Operating Officer of **Rush Street Gaming, LLC**.

Continued on page 2

Chamber Testifies at EPA Hearing - "Jobs at Stake"

Urges Increased Regional Use of Water/Sewer Facilities

Chamber Chairman of Economic Development Pat Ciaramella of OCPC and Chamber President and CEO, Christopher Cooney testified before the United States Environmental Protection Agency in support of flow measures for the Brockton Area Water Reclamation Facility (BAWRF). City, County, and State Department of Environmental Affairs officials have all endorsed a flow rate of 20.5 million gallons per day.

"If adopted, this would allow greater use of this important regional asset, prevent pollution from untreated effluent and provide revenues that would support debt payments, maintenance costs and anticipated improvements going forward," said Cooney.

Pat Ciaramella spoke of the benefits to the city and the surrounding communities. "There are a number of industrial parks and commercial districts in Avon, Easton, West Bridgewater and East Bridgewater that could be dramatically improved. These areas could produce greater revenues for Brockton, tax revenues to towns, and jobs to the region if this flow rate of 20.5 million gallons per day is adopted," he said.

The Chamber recently commissioned a study written by The University of Massachusetts Donahue Economic Development Center to assess anticipated benefits from expanding ratepayers and users of the BAWRF. Economies of scale, best practices, cost/benefit analysis were all highlighted in the report and point in the direction of greater cooperation when maintaining regional water and sewer facilities.

The Brockton Downtown Business Association also endorsed the 20.5 million gallons per day recommendation at its most recent meeting. The EPA is accepting written comments through April 15. Local business, community, and municipal boards and committees are encouraged to write them in support of the 20.5 gallons per day flow rate. Contact Chamber President and CEO Christopher Cooney for more information.



Call for Nominations! Small Biz & ATHENA Awards

Small Biz Awards & Expo

SMALL BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS 2015

Sponsored by:

Bank of America VISA

The 2015 **Small Business and Entrepreneur of the Year Awards** will be presented at a special program on **Wednesday, May 20, 2015** at the **Shaw's Center** in Brockton.

The Small Business and Entrepreneur Awards are presented to businesses that have displayed employment/staying power, growth, innovation, and social responsibility. We invite you to nominate a deserving business or entrepreneur! (More criteria inside on page 8).

Also at the Small Biz Program will be an informative keynote speaker and a table-top Business Expo. Tickets to the event are \$35 for members and \$45 for future-members and includes a meal.

ATHENA Awards & Expo

2015 ATHENA AWARDS

ATHENA INTERNATIONAL

This summer, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce will present the 17th Annual **ATHENA Award** during a special program to an exceptional individual who has achieved excellence in his/her business or profession, has served the community in a meaningful way, and has assisted women in reaching their full leadership potential.

Details will follow regarding location, time, and ticket prices. To nominate an individual for the ATHENA award, please contact Athena Lavoie at 508.586.0500 x231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com.

Continued on page 8

Business After Hours at Crescent Credit Union

Tuesday April 7, 5:30 - 7:30 pm



Please join us for a Business After Hours networking event on **Tuesday, April 7 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm** at Crescent Credit Union, **1300 Belmont Street in Brockton.**

Founded in 1919, Crescent Credit Union was originally chartered to serve the financial needs of employees at the Tarlow Brothers Leather Company in Brockton, Massachusetts. As the credit union grew, it moved into a small build-

ing on Crescent Street and adopted the street's name. Today, they serve over 50,000 members who look to them as their financial partner. When you bank with Crescent, feel confident in knowing your deposits are invested locally. Crescent puts your money to work right here, in your community, in the form of prudent home loans, car loans, and business loans to your friends and neighbors. Visit crescentcredit.org.

To register, visit metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration or contact Athena Lavoie, 508.586.0500 x231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com. This event is complimentary to attend, but please RSVP in advance. Networking, refreshments catered by Stoneforge Grill, and raffles are included - don't forget your business cards!

Spring Networking at Mansfield Bank, Easton

Tuesday, April 28, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Save the date for a Chamber Business After Hours on **Tuesday, April 28 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm** at Mansfield Bank, **73 Belmont Street in Easton.**

Since 1883, Mansfield Bank has been a cornerstone of the Mansfield, MA community. Still a cooperative bank owned by their depositors, Mansfield Bank features a five-location branch network, and an experienced staff of one hundred dedicated professionals. Mansfield Bank is particularly known for the strength of their commercial and residential lending teams, the friendly expertise of their branch employees, and the significant commitments they make to charitable causes. To learn more, visit mansfieldbankonline.com.



Bring your business cards and join us for an evening of networking and refreshments, courtesy of Mansfield Bank. Register online at metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration, or contact Athena Lavoie, 508.586.0500 x231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com. This event is complimentary to attend, but pre-registration is required.

Legislative Luncheon

Continued from page 1



David Patent, President & COO, Rush Street Gaming

David Patent currently serves as President and COO for Rush Street Gaming, LLC overseeing three casinos co-founded by Neil Bluhm in Illinois and Pennsylvania. Prior to joining Rush Street Gaming, David spent seven years with Harrah's Entertainment Inc. as Vice President Enterprise Gaming, overseeing all gaming operations and leading the properties to double-digit annual improvement in revenue and earnings. He also served as AGM for Harrah's Chicago, Rio All Suite Resort and the Flamingo. He was recipient of the prestigious Harrah's Corporate "Excellence in Leadership" award in 2007. David graduated cum laude from Harvard Law School and magna cum laude from Harvard College.

The Legislative Luncheon will be a great opportunity for networking, as well as to meet and mingle with selected and elected officials from throughout the region.

To register or for more information, contact Athena Lavoie, 508.586.0500 x 231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com, or register online at www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration. The cost to attend is \$39 for members and \$49 for future-members and includes lunch.



Free Basic Business Workshops at Chamber

Thursday, April 23, 9 am - 12 pm (Session I)

Thursday, April 23, 1 pm - 4 pm (Session II)

Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street, Brockton



The South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation and Rockland Trust Community Development Corporation will hold free basic business workshops in Brockton aimed at assisting potential and existing entrepreneurs. Both workshops will be held at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, **60 School Street in Brockton on Thursday, January 8.**

Session 1: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm - "Learn the Fundamentals in Planning, Preparing, and Financing Your Business," is geared toward helping potential entrepreneurs evaluate and understand the fundamentals of owning one's own business. Information on how to get started, where and how to get financing, and the loan application process will be

presented. Attendees will also be provided with a free guide to writing a business plan and other materials.

Session 2: 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm - "Understanding the Purpose of Financial Statements and How They Can Help Determine the Health of Your Business." The focus of this workshop is to help attendees understand a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement. The workshop also explains how a small business owner can anticipate financial needs in order to operate his/her business more efficiently.

Please call the SEED Corporation at 508-822-1020 for more information or to register for either or both of these free sessions. Breakfast and lunch will be provided free of charge for attendees. For more information on SEED and its programs, visit www.seedcorp.com.

Geek Girl Tech Conference 2015



Join us for the largest Tech Conference for Women and Men in the area on **Saturday, May 2, 2015, 8 am - 6 pm** at the Plymouth North High School, **41 Obery Street in Plymouth.**

Whether you are a beginner newbie who needs hand-holding on all things computer, to the intermediate self-starter entrepreneur who needs some new tools, to those entirely tuned in code toads looking to learn jQuery, you'll find it all here.

Featuring workshops on Adobe products (Photoshop, Indesign, Dreamweaver), PC and Mac Instruction, Microsoft programs (Word, Excel and Powerpoint, Outlook), Social Media, Social Apps, Web Design, Web Development, WordPress, SEO & Analytics, Digital Photography, Video, Blogging and more!

The cost to attend is \$169 for the all-day conference, but Metro South Chamber of Commerce members are invited to receive a \$40 discount using code METRO40. Advertising and volunteer opportunities also available. Visit www.bostongeekgirlcon.com for tickets and information.

Abington Bank to Host Business After Hours

Wednesday, May 13, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Please join us on **Wednesday, May 13 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm** for a Chamber Business After Hours. This networking event will take place at Abington Bank, **6 Harrison Avenue in Abington.**



Tired of the "big" bank's impersonal service? Looking for a bank that has accessible decision-makers and a flexible way of approaching individual customers? Then it's time you tried the truly local alternative - Abington Bank.

Abington Bank has been quietly meeting the financial needs of individ-

uals, families and businesses throughout Eastern Massachusetts since 1888. They're proud of their record and proud to be local. Please visit www.theabingtonbank.com for

more information.

Bring your business cards and join us for an evening of networking and refreshments! Register online at metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration or contact Athena Lavoie, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com, 508.586.0500 x231.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	DIRECTORS
OFFICERS	Jason Barbosa - <i>Vicente’s Tropical Grocery</i>
Chair of the Board Susan Joss <i>Brockton Neighborhood Health Center</i>	Steve Bryant - <i>Columbia Gas</i>
President and CEO Christopher Cooney <i>Metro South Chamber of Commerce</i>	Jane Callahan - <i>HR Alternatives</i>
Chair-Elect Gerard Nadeau <i>Rockland Trust Company</i>	Joe Cardinal - <i>National Grid</i>
Treasurer John McGovern <i>McGovern Business Valuation</i>	Joseph Casey - <i>HarborOne Bank</i>
Vice Chair Economic Development Pat Ciaramella <i>Old Colony Planning Council</i>	Peter Dello Russo - <i>Bridgewater Savings Bank</i>
Vice Chair Government Affairs Ray Ledoux <i>Brockton Area Transit Authority</i>	Francis Dillon - <i>Stonehill College</i>
Vice Chair Membership Development Friend Weiler <i>Town Moderator</i>	Gregory Hart - <i>Cohn Reznick</i>
Immediate Past Chair William Morse <i>Mutual Bank</i>	Kim Hollon - <i>Signature Healthcare</i>
	Richard Hynes - <i>Barbour Corporation</i>
	Gigi Johnson - <i>Christo’s To-Go Restaurant</i>
	John Jurczyk - <i>Good Samaritan Medical Center</i>
	Robert Kenworthy - <i>Bank of America</i>
	Mahsa Khanbabai - <i>Law Office of Mahsa Khanbabai</i>
	Dr. Dana Mohler Faria - <i>Bridgewater State University</i>
	Jim Murphy LSP - <i>Tracey Environmental, LLC</i>
	Peter Neville - <i>Concord Foods</i>
	Jonathan “Jay” Pike - <i>Sharkansky LLP</i>
	Andrew Raczka - <i>Abington Bank</i>
	Kathleen Smith - <i>Brockton Public Schools</i>
	Stan Usovicz - <i>Verizon</i>
	Peter Vlaco - <i>Brophy & Philips Company, Inc.</i>
	Dr. Charles Wall - <i>Massasoit Community College</i>
CHAMBER STAFF	508-586-0500 Front Desk x 221
Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM President and CEO x 223	Lisa Pearce Finance x 230
Athena Lavoie Director of Programs & Events x 231	Alison van Dam, IOM VP of Business Development/Operations x 227
Melanie McGrath Communications Coordinator x 222	
<i>Newsletter Written & Designed by Melanie McGrath</i> <i>Printing Provided by The Enterprise</i>	



ACCREDITED
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

CHAMBER MISSION: To best serve the unique interests and needs of member businesses and to champion the broader vitality of the Metro South region.

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The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is solely responsible for the editorial content of this publication.

The Chamber wishes to assure our members of our intention to provide physically challenged participants equal access to all programs. If you or your employees have special needs in this area, please let us know by calling the Chamber at 508-586-0500 at least 48 hours in advance.

Networking at Events

is one of the most effective ways to grow your business!

APRIL	Calendar
1	Board of Directors 12:00 pm
7	Business After Hours 5:30 pm <i>Crescent Credit Union, 1300 Belmont St., Brockton</i>
8	Ambassador Meeting 8:00 am
16	India Travel Trip Webinar 12:00 pm
20	Patriot’s Day - Chamber Closed
22	Legislative Luncheon 12:00 pm <i>Massasoit Conference Center, Brockton</i>
23	SEED Corp. Basic Business Workshops 9:00 am
28	Business After Hours 5:30 pm <i>Mansfield Bank, 73 Belmont St., Easton</i>

Coming Up May	
6	Ambassadors Meeting 8:00 am
8	Government Affairs 12:00 pm
12	Executive Board Meeting 3:00 pm
13	Business After Hours 5:30 pm <i>Abington Bank, 6 Harrison Ave., Abington</i>
20	Small Business Awards 8:00 am <i>The Shaw’s Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>
25	Memorial Day - Chamber Closed
27	Board of Directors 12:00 pm

Save the Date June	
3	Ambassadors Meeting 8:00 am
4	Business After Hours 5:30 pm <i>Simpson Spring Company, 719 Washington Street, Easton</i>
12	Government Affairs 12:00 pm
18	ATHENA Awards (Location TBD) TBD

Note: All meetings are held at the Metro South Chamber Office or Metro South Business Assistance Center (BAC), 60 School Street, Brockton unless otherwise indicated.

GOODNews

Members - Send Good News to
mmcgrath@metrosouthchamber.com
Sponsored by: Good Samaritan



Good Samaritan Included in 2014 Physician Honor Roll
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care awarded 310 physicians affiliated with Good Samaritan Medical Center (GSMC), a part of Steward Health Care System, with the 2014 Physician Group Honor Roll award. The group was one of eight Steward physician groups honored this year and GSMC ranked among the top 25 percent of those measured annually. "We are incredibly proud of our physicians," said John A. Jurczyk, president of GSMC. "Each one of them brings a high level of expertise and commitment to excellence and this recognition serves as a validation of that commitment." To learn more about doctors at Good Samaritan, visit steward.org/doctorfinder.

Participants Graduate Beginner Computer Literacy Class
Brockton Day Nursery and Catholic Charities South recently partnered to offer a free five-week Computer Literacy Program. The classes were being offered through funding from the United Way of Greater Plymouth County to promote computer literacy in the Greater Brockton area. On March 19th, 2015, eight of the participants graduated from the beginner's course. The participants of the program were both young and old and are in the ever-growing technology gap affecting our community. The majority of participants in the program will advance to the next available Intermediate class. For more information, please visit brocktondaynursery.org.

Free Family Afternoon at Fuller Craft's [Sense]ation Day
Come to Fuller Craft Museum for an afternoon filled with hands-on activities, craft demos, new exhibitions, and fun! Free admission from 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Save the date for an exciting afternoon of discovery and fun! Visit fullercraft.org to learn more.

Old Colony Elder Services Receives Donation
Old Colony Elder Services (OCES), the Brockton based regional agency that serves older adults and individuals with disabilities, has recently received a \$3,500 donation for their Emergency Fund from Litecontrol Corporation of Hanson and Plympton. Litecontrol Corporation's generous donation to the Emergency Fund will help provide funds for food, fuel, medication and other essentials to assist older adults and individuals with disabilities who are on a fixed income and in a crisis situation. For more information, visit oldcolonyelderservices.org and litecontrol.com.

Meet Patriots Player at Maplewood Family Fun Day!
Join Maplewood Country Day Camp & Enrichment Center, 150 Foundry Street in S. Easton, from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm on Sunday, April 12 for a fun packed day of free activities. Activities are geared towards children ages 5 and up and include moonwalks, pedal karts, gymnastics, arts & crafts, rock climbing, a petting zoo, and more. Plus,

meet New England Patriots player Patrick Chung! Chung will be signing autographs from 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm. Bring your camera to take your own photos! For more information, call 508-238-2387.

HarborOne Bank Offers College Scholarships

HarborOne Bank is excited to renew ten college scholarships of \$1,000 each for the upcoming academic year to deserving high school seniors who embody a commitment to community and academic excellence. The application can be found online at harborone.com/About-Us/Community-select scholarship.

Outrunning Homelessness Race & Fun Walk

Outrunning Homelessness is an annual 5K race and 2.6 mile fun walk held at DCR's Borderland State Park by School on Wheels of MA. This year's 5K race and fun walk will be held on Saturday April 25 from 9am-noon. Crescent Credit Union is generously supporting Outrunning Homelessness as the anchor sponsor for the fourth consecutive year. So, join us to run or walk, and bring the kids and pets out for a fun spring day in the park! It is a great opportunity to do something good for yourself, your family, or your company, and at the same time pay it forward so that children who have no place to call home can achieve success in the classroom. For more information or to register, visit sowma.org/events/outrunning-homelessness or call 508-272-1113.

Hope Health HouseCalls Expands to Meet Need

Hope HouseCalls, part of the HopeHealth family of services, announced it has added two physicians and a new care management service to its practice, to address the growing demand for its services. Hope HouseCalls provides primary care to patients in the safety and convenience of their homes, throughout Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Norfolk, Suffolk, Plymouth and parts of Middlesex counties. Hope HouseCalls was established in 2012 to deliver primary care to those who are unable to regularly access office-based primary care. Visit HopeHealthCo.org.

B.C. Tent Announces Major Expansion Project

B.C. Tent & Awning (www.bctent.com), the region's leading provider of tents, awnings and accessories, has undertaken a significant expansion of its space at its Avon location. The company, which has been serving the region since 1980, is constructing a 7,200 square foot addition to its existing 18,000 square foot facility. The addition will serve several key purposes for the company's expansion plans including the investment and storage of larger tents, and will allow the company to clean and dry tents on the premises. One of the other unique features of the construction is that there will be solar panels on top of the

roof. A formal ribbon-cutting and Open House is anticipated later this spring. Visit bctent.com to learn more.

Brockton Garden Club Meeting Includes Yoga

The Brockton Garden Club will hold their monthly meeting on Monday, April 27, 2015 at the Arnone School, Belmont Street in Brockton. Doors open at 6:30 pm. The topic this month is "Yoga Gardening" presented by Lynette Tsiang. After this very long, tough winter, we are all a little anxious to enjoy some fresh air. Socializing and refreshments included. Doors open at 6:30 pm. For more information contact Carol Beffert-Banks at 508-584-9305 or carol.banks76@yahoo.com.

Vendors Wanted for Health & Wellness Symposium

Buzz Around presents their 4th Annual Health & Wellness Symposium, to take place on Sunday, April 26 from 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm at Center at Sachem Park, 355 Plymouth Street in East Bridgewater. Vendor space is available for businesses and organizations looking to promote their businesses to over 400 local attendees. Table space is available for \$50 on a first come, first serve basis. There are also time slots available for 30 minute presentations, at a rate of \$120. For more information, please contact Jacquie Rose at 508-378-1444 or events@buzzaround.info.

D.W. Field Park History Books Now Available

The D.W. Field Park Association announces the re-release of "Daniel Waldo Field and D.W. Field Park/ A History" by Kenneth E. Bingham. Books are available in various locations throughout the City of Champions. BLF (Brockton Library Foundation) Arnold Swartz Gift Shop, 304 Main St (Brockton Main Library) has some for sale at \$15.00 each. Proceeds for the book will be shared with both volunteer based non-profits. For more information, please contact Pat the president at 508-586-4425 or email Anne at tranquilitytreasure@yahoo.com.

Brockton Day Nursery Celebrates BDN Reads Program

In March 2015, Brockton Day Nursery celebrated the BDN Reads Program. The event was a great success as our students got to interact with many leaders from the business community. This form of generosity of their valuable time to promote literacy to our students is a wonderful giveback to our community and our program. Businesses from the community that participated include Brockton Public Schools, W.B. Mason, Shaw's Supermarket, United Way of Greater Plymouth County, Brophy & Phillips, Crown Uniform, the Office of Mayor Carpenter, Mutual Bank, New York Life, Rockland Trust, and Good Samaritan Medical Center. For more information, please visit brocktondaynursery.org.

Old Colony Hospice Memorial Walk & 5K

Old Colony Hospice will host the 17th

Stepping Out for Old Colony Hospice Memorial Walk & 5K on Sunday April 26th at the Irish Cultural Center in Canton, MA. Check in starts at 11:30am and race/walk kicks off at 12:30pm. Activities include lunch catered by Texas Roadhouse of Brockton, music, kid's corner with activities, raffles, and awards for race winners and top fundraisers. Choose to walk or run our wide, flat and private 5K road race, or select our 2 mile wooded nature trail for a more scenic route. There is a \$25 minimum donation per person required to participate, but children 15 and under are FREE! For more event information or to register, visit www.ochwalk5k.kintera.org. Questions? Call 781-318-7310 or email Andrea Larocque at alarocque@old-colonyhospice.com.

YMCA Healthy Kids Day

Summer is the time for kids to get up, get out and grow. But for some kids, exposure to activities that stimulate the body and mind ends with the school year. In fact, research shows that kids are prone to gain more weight and fall behind in studies. On April 25, the Y will celebrate Healthy Kids Day®, our national initiative to improve the health and well-being of kids. Over 1,300 Ys across the country are taking part in Healthy Kids Day, holding free community events that are open to all kids and families and filled with fun, active play and educational opportunities. Visit www.ymca.net/healthy-kids-day for a full schedule of activities at a location near you!

23rd Annual Peter Mareb Memorial Lecture

Good Samaritan Medical Center joins Stonehill College in the commemoration of Brockton businessman and community inspiration, Peter Mareb, in the 23rd Annual Peter Mareb Memorial Lecture on Thursday, April 23. A reception will take place at 6:00 pm, followed by a lecture at 7:15 pm at Stonehill College's Martin Institute for Law & Society in Easton. Alfred DeMaria, Jr., M.D. will present the keynote "Infection Real and Perceived. What We Learn from Ebola." In addition, the evening will feature a presentation of the Mareb Scholarship and remarks from Joel B. Solomon, MD. This lecture is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to Donna Benoit at dbenoit@stonehill.edu or call (508) 565-1131.

Attention Landscapers and Contractors!

Costco Wholesale in Avon is offering a wide variety of shrubs and trees. Costco is able to have large orders placed, picked, and ready for pick-up for your landscaping needs! Not a member? Not a problem. We can come to your business and sign you up. For more information, please email Mark Ofstein at w303mkt03@costco.com.

Loans Available for Snow Impacted Businesses

As a result of significantly reduced patronage during recent snow storms, many Massachusetts small businesses have lost sales and fallen behind in meeting their financial obligations, including payroll.

This can have a negative impact as it ripples through the local economy, on business owners and employees.

The following proposed loan program from the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) is meant to address this pressing need for impacted Massachusetts businesses.

A Proposed Micro Loan fund: MGCC will make available up to \$1,000,000 in loan funds to provide

micro-loans of \$5,000 up to \$10,000 to small businesses, targeted to Boston, Gateway Cities, and other communities in need. Anticipate this program to be available for disbursements through May 2015.

The program is targeted to small businesses profitable in the prior year but suffering cash flow problems due to recent loss of revenue. Your business may be eligible to participate in this program.

If you are a small business interested in participating in the loan program, please call 617-337-2820 or download the loan application online at massgcc.com.



"See, Click, Fix" - Report Potholes & More

Now you can help report non-emergency problems to the City of Brockton from your smartphone, tablet, or computer, thanks to their new partnership with SeeClickFix. Use the SeeClickFix app to report issues such as: Dead/Loose Animal, Graffiti, Junk Cars/Yard Debris, Landlord Issues, Parks & Rec Field Maintenance, Potholes, Snow Removal, Street Light Repair, Street Sign, Traffic Signal Issue, Trash/Dumping, and Vacant or Abandoned Buildings.

Brockton staff respond to SeeClickFix requests during regular business hours. If this report comes in on a holiday, weekend or after-hours, it will be read on the next business day. You have the option to upload a photo with each service request, as a visual reference to help communicate the need to staff. Customer service requests are routed to city staff to help answer questions and provide solutions. PLEASE NOTE: SeeClickFix is not to be used for emergencies.

To learn more, please visit brockton.ma.us/information/seeclixfix.

Careers in Health Program Students Succeed



The Metro South Chamber's Careers in Health grant program has come to a close, but students that participated in the program are reaping the benefits through opportunities that the grant has provided them. The Careers in Health Initiative was made possible by a Workforce Training Fund grant and a grant in support of higher education from the Lumina Foundation. For more information, please visit metrosouthchamber.com/programs/careers-in-health.

"I would have never been able to obtain my goal of getting my BSN without the support and grant money from the Careers in Health program. I feel so fortunate to have been able to pursue my education and look forward to graduating."

-Pauline Lane, Careers in Health Participant



Board Member Makes Visit to New England Brass Refinishing, Brockton

Robert Kenworthy, Bank of America, Metro South Chamber Board of Directors, and Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO visit Ron Bethany at New England Brass Refinishing, located at Campello Antiques, 1085 Main Street in Brockton. Campello Antiques has been in the business of restoring and selling antiques since 1895! Visit campelloantiques.com for more information.

Support Career Day!

April 7, 2015, 8:00 am - 11:45 am



We are pleased to announce the 18th Annual Connecting Activities Career Day presented by the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board and supported by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. This initiative is designed as an opportunity to build stronger connections between schools and the community. By connecting schools with area businesses and organizations, students can see the relevance and authenticity of what they are learning in school, invigorating the school culture and the classroom, while they begin to consider their potential careers.

The event, which will be held on **Tuesday April 7th from 8:00 am to 11:45 am at The Shaw's Center, Brockton**, will provide high school students with the opportunity to explore careers in the following areas:

Education and Human Services, Finance, Business Management, Sales and Marketing, Manufacturing and Construction Trades, Information Technology, Arts, Media & Communication, Cosmetology, Armed Services, Health and Science, Government, Court System and Law Enforcement, Travel /Hospitality, Retail, Animal Care, and Architecture.

For more information, please contact Krystal Love at klove@bawib.org or (508) 584-9800.

Annual "Keep Brockton Beautiful" Day



Saturday, May 2, 2015

"Keep Brockton Beautiful Day," started in part by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce more than a decade ago, will be held on **Saturday, May 2, 2015 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**, rain or shine.

Volunteers are needed to participate and work together to clean parks, neighborhoods, and other public areas for the betterment of Brockton. Registration will take place from 7:30 am - 9:00 am at Heights Crossing, 35 Christy's Place, Brockton. A cook-out and raffles will follow the clean-up at Heights Crossing beginning at 12:00 pm. Businesses can help by donating goods and services, funds, or forming a team.

For more information, visit www.brockton.ma.us, call the Mayor's office at 508-580-7123, the Department of Public Works at 508-580-7135, or the Recycling Depot at 508-580-7827. This event is sponsored by the Office of Mayor Bill Carpenter, The Department of Public Works, and the Beautification Committee.

Stay Up-To-Date with Chamber's New e-Update



Make sure to sign up for the Chamber's weekly e-Update to stay informed about the latest news, updates, and upcoming events at the Metro South Chamber and in the region.

The newly re-designed e-Update is more mobile-friendly, so you can read on the go. From the e-Update, you can easily register for events on the Chamber's website, view community events, and more.

To sign up to receive email updates, visit metrosouthchamber.com/news-media/e-update.

Interested in placing an advertisement in the weekly e-Update? Rates start at just \$25 per week and includes a link to your site. Contact Melanie McGrath for more information at 508.586.0500 x222, mmcgrath@metrosouthchamber.com.

The Metro South Chamber weekly e-Update is sponsored by Bridgewater Savings Bank. Visit bridgewatersavings.com to learn more.



"Taste of Metro South" Featured 45 Restaurants, Great Food, Exciting Music!

The 23rd Annual "A Taste of Metro South" entertained a crowd of over 500 people with food, music, and fun. The evening promoted many of the positive aspects of living in the Metro South Region. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Metro South Chamber of Commerce Foundation for Education. **Photos by** www.RichMorganPhotography.com. Visit www.flickr.com/photos/metrosouthchamber to see all photos from the event.



JJ's Caffe



Costco Wholesale - Avon



Christo's To Go



Bertucci's Restaurant - Brockton



Paradise Caribbean Restaurant



C.M. Petti Market & Deli



Brockton Rox Hot Dog Stand



Tito's Cakes



Italian Kitchen



St. Joseph Manor



Elvera's Cafe



South Eastern Regional Vocational Tech. HS



The Lobster Barn



Signature Healthcare



Cake in a Box



Players Sports Bar & Grille



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Al's Backwoods Berrie Co.



Fuller Craft Museum



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NW-CN13254744



A crowd of over 500 members of the Metro South community gathered at the Shaw's Center in Brockton for the 23rd Annual "A Taste of Metro South." See participating restaurants, vendors, organizations, and more at metrosouthtaste.com.

Taste 2015

Thank you to our media partners, Brockton Community Access Channel, Rich Morgan Photography, Rob Peters Entertainment, WVBF 1530 AM Radio, and Boston MassPass.



FUN Enterprises, Inc. takes photos of guests in front of a green screen, putting them on the cover of a food magazine! (shown right)



Brockton High School Jazz Band



singer Candida Rose



Brockton Symphony Orchestra



Cardinal Spellman's acapella group Symphonium

SPONSORS

Thank you to the many generous organizations who sponsored "A Taste of Metro South," making it a successful night of food, culture, and fun!



Thank you...

to all those who participated in the 23rd Annual Taste of Metro South on March 18, 2015 at the Shaw's Center in Brockton.

RESTAURANTS & FOOD VENDORS

Abington Ale House • Al's Backwoods Berrie Co. • Baypointe Rehab. & Skilled Care • Bertucci's Restaurant - Brockton • Braemoor Health Center • Brockton High School Fine Arts Café • Brockton Rox Hot Dog Stand • Brockton Day Nursery • C.M. Petti Market & Deli • Cake in a Box • The Charlie Horse Restaurant • Christo's To Go • Costco Wholesale - Avon • Daddy's Dairy • Elvera's Cafe • Freda's Fine Foods & Spirits • Fresh Catch Restaurant & Sushi Bar • Good Samaritan Medical Center • Gowell's Candy • Heights Crossing Assisted Living Residence • Italian Kitchen • JJ's Caffé • Just Desserts Bakery & Cafe • Lady C&J Soul Food & Catering • Lawadessa Restaurant • Lobster Barn • Organo Gold Coffee • Paradise Caribbean Restaurant • Players Sports Bar & Grille • Signature Healthcare • Simpson Spring Company • Skinner's Sugar House • Southeastern Regional Vocational Technical High School • St. Joseph Manor • Stoneforge Grill • The Shaw's Center • Tito's Cakes • Vicente's Tropical Grocery • Wicked Kickin' Savory Cheesecakes

ORGANIZATIONS

WVBF 1530 AM Radio • Boston Masspass • Brockton Symphony Orchestra • Fuller Craft Museum • FUN Enterprises, Inc. • H&R Block • The Metro South Chamber of Commerce • Metro South Chamber Travel • Webster Bank • Next Step Living • Old Colony Elder Services • Rob Peters Entertainment • Old Colony Elder Services

ENTERTAINMENT

Brockton High School Jazz Band • Candida Rose • Cardinal Spellman's Acapella Symphonium • Rob Peters Entertainment • Brockton Symphony Orchestra Chamber Group • George "The Silver Fox" Cataldo



Did you see this ad while commuting? Lamar Outdoor Advertising recently featured this advertisement on their Route 24 electronic billboards to promote the Taste of Metro South event! (Advertisement designed by Lamar's artists). To learn about advertising with Lamar, please visit www.lamar.com or call Kathy at 401-421-4504.

How Fit are Your Finances?

Tax time is the perfect time of year to check in on your investment strategy and goals.

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ADVISORS

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• Are NOT Insured by Any Government Agency
• Are NOT guaranteed by the Bank

NW-CN13255216

Business EXPO - Reserve Your Table Top Now!

Promote your company to lots of prospective clients at the 2015 Business Expo presented in conjunction with the Small Business & Entrepreneur Awards event.

Businesses' products and services will be featured in this table top Expo. Tables are limited and will be reserved on a first come-first served basis. The cost for an Expo table is \$99 for members and \$149 for future-members. **Prices do not include a ticket to the program.** Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information call Athena Lavoie at 508.586.0500 x 231 or email alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com.



Sponsored by:

MEMBERProfile

Laura Bradeen,
Primerica Independent Rep.
5 Cabot Place
Stoughton, MA 02072
(617) 838-9371
primerica.com/laura-j-bradeen



Laura Bradeen, Primerica

Year Established: 1977

Products or Services:

Our main product is a complimentary Financial Needs Analysis that helps each client develop a strategy to get from where they are financially to where they want to be. This is accomplished through education, retirement accounts, college funds, annuities, life insurance, long term care insurance, debt solutions, and complimentary financial workshops for the employees of businesses and nonprofit agencies.

Number of Employees: 90,000 independent contractors both full and part time. I am one of the full time agents, working out of the Stoughton office with seven other agents.

What is unique or special about your firm and the products and services you offer?

I am a sole proprietor, the owner of my own business, but marketing the services and products of an international company. This means that I am able to give personalized attention to my clients, building a

relationship with them, but able to have all the resources of a very large company to draw upon while servicing those clients.

What is your market area?

Personally – Massachusetts, Company wide – The United States, Puerto Rico and Canada.

What markets do you serve?

Primerica serves clients across the economic spectrum but has a special focus on the middle market as they are usually under served.

What is your main business objective concerning your customers and the business community?

My mission is to provide my clients with the proper information, and access to quality services and products, to meet all their financial goals. In the business community, I want to help agencies add value for their employees through workshops that encourage understanding of, and participation in, the financial programs available to them.

Interested in Hosting a Member-Led Workshop?



Laura Bradeen of Primerica presents an "Investing 101" workshop at the Metro South Chamber in March 2015

Do you have knowledge you'd like to share with the business community? Host a member-led workshop at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and help others learn about an important topic. Hosting a workshop is free of charge for members and includes conference space at the Chamber office building in Brockton.

Past topics have included: investing, marketing, social media, retirement plans, and more. If you are interested in hosting a member-led workshop, contact Athena Lavoie at 508.586.0500 x231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com.

Call For Small Biz Award Nominations

The Metro South Chamber and Bank of America recognizes the achievements and contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in creating new jobs and economic opportunities in the Metro South region. We welcome you to nominate businesses for the 2015 Small Business of the Year and Entrepreneur of the Year awards.

Nominating someone is easy...

You may nominate your own business or any other business you deem worthy. **Call the Chamber at 508.586.050 x 231 for nomination forms.** You may include any additional documentation that will help illustrate why the business is deserving of the award. Nominees do not need to be

Sponsored by:

members of the Chamber.
Small Business of the Year Criteria: 50 or less full-time equivalent employees; in business more than 3 consecutive years under the current ownership; for-profit business.

The Entrepreneur of the Year Criteria: 10 or less full-time employees or equivalent; in business less than 3 years; a for profit-business.

Companies will be rated on their creativity and imagination in the development of their business, their demonstration of growth, and a reflection on internal and external social responsibility.

Nominations are due to the Chamber by **April 17, 2015**. Recipients will be announced at the Small Business and Entrepreneur Luncheon on **May 21**.

Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients

- 2014 J.M. Pet Resort
- 2013 Solex Payroll Systems, Inc.
- 2012 Vicente's Tropical Grocery
- 2011 McGuigan's Pub
- 2010 Prisco's Market
- 2009 MCG Partners
- 2008 Heights Crossing
- 2007 Westgate Lanes
- 2006 Cindy's Kitchen
- 2005 Northeast Wholesale Nail & Fastener Supply Co.
- 2004 Dupliron, Inc.
- 2003 Modern Auto Body
- 2002 United Furniture, Inc.
- 2001 Robert Sharkansky & Company, CPA

Prior Entrepreneur of the Year Recipients

- 2014 JJ's Caffe
- 2013 James Tran, Sky8 Shrimp Farm, LLC
- 2012 Billy Michaud, Sparky's Import Repair
- 2011 Al Ata, Elie Baking Corp
- 2010 Patricia Winberg, Topnotch Design Studio
- 2009 Michelle Cully, Xpressman Trucking & Courier
- 2008 Robert Monahan of UPPAbaby
- 2007 Howard Wright of Wright Technology
- 2006 Rob Peters of Rob Peters Entertainment
- 2005 Jeffrey Chrzanowski of Spark Street Autobody
- 2004 Charles Bernard of The DJ Experience
- 2003 James Messinger of The Crazy Chefs Caterers
- 2002 Jerome Offutt of Top Quality Staffing
- 2001 Randy Yanoff of Eye of the Tiger Karate

ATHENA Award Recognizes Leadership

Call for Nominations

This June, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce will present the 17th Annual **ATHENA Award** to an exceptional individual who has achieved excellence in his/her business or profession, has served the community in a meaningful way, and has assisted women in reaching their full leadership potential.

The ATHENA Awards Program was created in 1982 and has expanded to over 500 cities in the United States, Russia, Canada, China, The United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. The Metro South Chamber of Commerce believes in the values underlying the ATHENA Foundation's philosophy of incorporating the talents and expertise of women into the leadership of our businesses, communities and government.



To nominate an individual for the ATHENA award or for more information, please call Athena Lavoie at 508.586.0500 x 231, or email alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com.

Prior ATHENA Recipients

- 2014 Janet Trask, Brockton VA Hospital
- 2013 Kathleen Smith, Brockton Community Schools
- 2012 Ruth Bramson, Girl Scouts of Eastern Massachusetts
- 2011 Elaine Reiser, Brockton Area Multi-Services
- 2010 Anne DeMinico, St. Joseph Manor
- 2009 Sue Joss, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center
- 2008 Vanessa Tierny, Brockton Area Multi-Services
- 2007 Susan Szachowicz, Brockton High Principal
- 2006 Loretta Degrazia, East Coast Petroleum
- 2005 Marianne Wroble Cox, WXBR 1460am Radio
- 2004 Shailah Stewart, Brockton Public Schools
- 2003 Linda Faria Braun, The Adult Learning Center
- 2002 Christine Karavites, Proteas Consulting
- 2001 Barbara Duffy, My Turn, Inc.
- 2000 Noelle Foye, Brockton Elementary School Nurse
- 1999 Janice Cunningham, East Bridgewater Police

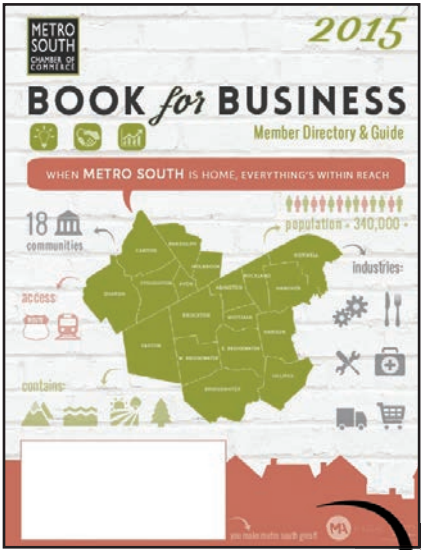


View photos from last year's Small Biz & Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, ATHENA Awards, and more Metro South Chamber events at flickr.com/metrosouthchamber.

New Book for Business Arriving This Month!

Look out for the Chamber of Commerce **2015 Metro South Book for Business** in April!

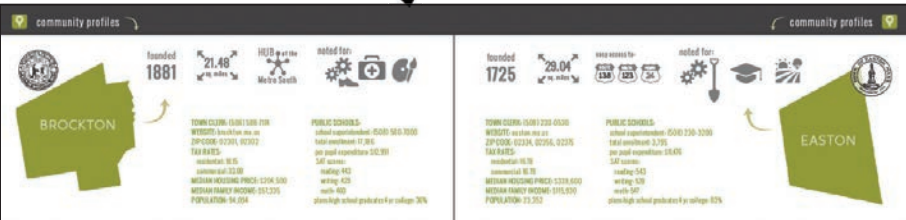
The book features area dining, lodging, public golf courses, recreation, legislative leaders, regional and economic data, and a complete membership listing. The book also includes a full color map of Metro South and highlights hotels, golf courses, industrial parks, and other points of interest.



Five thousand copies of the Book are being distributed throughout the region to all Chamber members, banks, real estate offices, town halls, area colleges, libraries, legislators, and sent to all relocating businesses and families interested in the Metro South area.

This year's Book design incorporates the Metro South regional branding colors, theme, and tagline "When Metro South is Home, Everything's Within Reach."

For more information on the Book for Business, contact Melanie McGrath at 508.586.0500 x 222, or mmcgrath@metrosouthchamber.com.

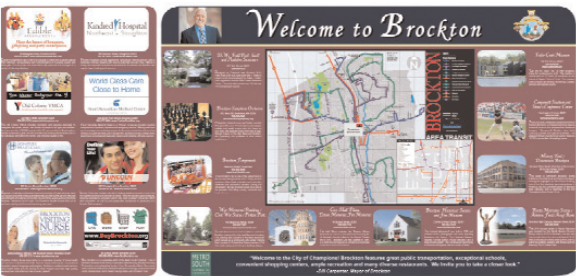


A Letter from President & CEO, Christopher Cooney, CCE:

Whether you are looking for a bustling urban atmosphere, peaceful lakes and parks, diverse multicultural dining, fun sporting events, or rich cultural activities, Metro South has it right within reach! In Metro South, you can visit the one-of-a-kind Fuller Craft Museum, listen to the acclaimed Brockton Symphony Orchestra, cheer on the Brockton Rox, or try your hand at Formula 1 kart racing. Metro South is also within reach of world-class cities such as Boston and Providence, postcard perfect landscapes, and some of the most beautiful beaches in the country, conveniently accessed by road or rail.

This directory is your guide for living, working, and visiting the Metro South region. It contains listings of local business members, representing the finest in their respective fields, as well as an abundance of interesting and useful information including visitor attractions, economic development data, and regional statistics to help you better understand this dynamic region.

Gain Exposure With Brockton Information Boards



Gain business exposure while supporting the revitalization of the city of Brockton by sponsoring a space on the Brockton Information Boards! The Brockton Information Boards (BIBs) feature local attractions as well as a map of Brockton containing major routes, transportation services, schools, and train stations.

Sponsors will be highlighted with a photo, logo, contact information, and description of their business. Your sponsor space will be displayed on each of the 7 boards across 6 locations. With increased visitors in Downtown Brockton due to recent and continuing developments such as Station Lofts, the Enterprise Block, and City Hall Plaza, the Boards are sure to receive increased attention.

Prices to sponsor are \$1,500 for a one-year agreement. For more information, contact Melanie McGrath, 508.586.0500 x222, mmcgrath@metrosouthchamber.com.

Thank you to a couple of renewed sponsors:



Exciting Travel Opportunities...

Take a look at what's in store for Fall 2015! The Metro South Chamber of Commerce will be offering exciting travel trips to India & Ireland. Save the date and join in on the adventure of a lifetime! For more information, visit metrosouthchamber.com/events/travel or call 508.586.0500.



Explore India in this 10 day travel trip. Your journey starts in Delhi and moves on to Samode, Jaipur, Agra, and back to Delhi. Feel like royalty with spa activities and a Gala dinner at the Samode Palace. You'll get the chance to participate in exciting activities like Elephant Polo in the spectacular countryside, a gem cutting demonstration, exploration of famous pink sandstone city buildings and museums, a visit to the Taj Mahal, and much more!

Departs September 15, 2015. Prices start at just \$2795 per person for double occupancy. Visit www.metroouthchamber.com/events/travel for a detailed itinerary and more information or call 508.586.0500.

India Travel Info Session

Thursday, April 16, 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

Want to learn more about this travel trip? Join us for a live webinar on **Thursday, April 16 from 12:00 pm - 12:30 pm**. Hear more information from a travel representative and get a chance to ask questions. To register for the webinar, visit metrosouthchamber.com/events/travel.



Enjoy the highlights and hidden gems of Ireland with your local Irish driver and guide in this ten day, eight night Ireland tour. Your unforgettable experience of Ireland will include visits to historic castles, mills, and abbeys, beautiful scenery and dramatic landscapes, shopping, pubs, and more! Start in Kilarney and journey through Galway, Connemara, Derry, and Belfast.

Departs October 7, 2015. Prices start at \$2495 per person for double occupancy. First come, first serve - reserve your space now! Visit www.metroouthchamber.com/events/travel for a detailed itinerary.

MA Sick Leave Law - Effective July 2015



On November 4, 2014, Massachusetts voters approved a ballot initiative providing for earned sick time for employees. The Law takes effect on July 1, 2015, and will require certain employers to provide up to 40 hours of earned sick time per year to their employees for a wide variety of covered reasons.

Given the significant changes to sick time under the Law - including accrual, payment, usage, and documentation requirements - adjustments may need to be made in order to stay within compliance. It is expected that the Massachusetts Attorney General will be issuing rules and regulations for the Law in 2015.

For more information, visit the website of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey, & Lehane, LLP at mhhl.com or call 617-479-5000.

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Brockton, MA 02301
(617) 602-2215
Entertainment Company

Timeless Communications

Mr. Brian Reiser
26 Thompson Court
Stoughton, MA 02072
(508) 265-8569
timeless-communications.com
Business Coaching

To Join the Chamber,
contact Alison van Dam,
508.586.0500 x 227,
avandam@metrosouthchamber.com

Annual rates start at just \$295.

RENEWING *Members Thank You !*

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Back Bay Bagel
Beacon Residential Management
Bridgewater Trophy
Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board
Brophy & Phillips Co., Inc.
Caetano Family Chiropractic
Carousel Family Fun Center
Cheryl Hodge-Spencer, DMD
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage
Comcast Spotlight
Commonwealth Mediation & Conciliation
Congressman Stephen Lynch
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Four Points Realty
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Irving's Home Center
John E. McCluskey, Esq. PC
Law Office of Brent T Warren LLC
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Maplewood Country Day Camp &

Enrichment Center
Masoneilan Dresser
Massachusetts School Counselor Association
McCall Ambulance Service
Minuteman Health, Inc.
Morse Insurance Agency, Inc.
Motorcars International, Inc.
Niccoli Oil & Energy
North Easton Savings Bank
Old Town Real Estate LLC
Packard Paper Corporation
Parker Property Management Inc.
Pawtucket Red Sox
Pilling Engineering Group Inc.
ProLink Networking Group
R.E. Lyons & Son Fire Equipment Corp
Rich Morgan Photography
SET Associates
Super 8 Metro South
T.F. Kinnealey & Co.
TNT Cleaning Services, Inc.
TRACEY Environmental
Westfield Child Center
Willwork Inc., Exhibit & Event Services
Wood Palace Kitchens Inc.
Woodwards Auto Parts & Spring Shop
Wright Technology Group

Chamber Affiliate News & Events

To become an affiliate organization of the Chamber, contact Christopher Cooney at 508.586.0500 x 223 or email chris@metrosouthchamber.com.



The **Bridgewater Business Association (BBA)** will hold its 4th Annual Meet & Greet on Tuesday, April 7 from 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm at Sullivan Tire, 300 Bedford Street in Bridgewater. Don't miss BBA's largest networking event of the year! This is a free event with complimentary food and cocktails. Visit bridgewaterbiz.biz.

The **Stoughton Chamber of Commerce** will hold a "Caught You Doing Something Good" appreciation luncheon and award presentation on Tuesday, April 7 from 11:30 am - 1:00 pm at Texas Roadhouse Restaurant, 124 Westgate Drive in Brockton. Visit stoughtonma.com for more information and to register.



The **Norwell Chamber of Commerce** will hold a Business After Hours networking event on Tuesday, May 5 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm at South Shore Bank, 15 Farrar Farm Road in Norwell. This event is complimentary to attend and includes refreshments. Visit norwellchamberofcommerce.com to learn more and register.

The **East Bridgewater Business Association (EBBA)** was founded in 1993 "to promote a healthy business environment in East Bridgewater and to provide services to assist its members including education, networking and fellowship." Please visit www.eastbridgewaterbiz.com for more information.



The **Avon Industrial Park Association** is a non-profit group seeking to advance the advocacy and business of its members in public and private affairs. Membership is open to all companies who operate within the confines of Avon Industrial Park. Visit avonindustrialpark.org for more information.

The **Randolph Chamber of Commerce** will hold their 7th Annual Best Taste of Randolph on May 5, brought to you by the Bank of Canton, at The Lantana, 43 Scanlon Drive, Randolph. This year's event will take place from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm and feature area restaurants, caterers, bakeries, beer and wine tasting, raffles, and more! Visit randolphchamberofcommerce.org to purchase tickets.



ProLink Networking Group is one of Metro South's finest business networking groups. Because we are a category exclusive network, each member feels comfortable knowing that we provide a non-competitive environment. We invite you to come visit us and see for yourself! For more information, visit www.prolinknetworking.com or contact Craig Pina at 508-408-1049.

The **South Shore Women's Business Network (SSWBN)** will hold their April Speaker Breakfast on Thursday, April 30 from 7:30 am - 9:30 am at the Holiday Inn, 929 Hingham Street in Rockland. The featured speaker will be Michelle Marie Flynn, founder and operator of Socially Your Marketing Group. Visit www.sswbn.com.



State Representative Michael Brady Speaks to Chamber



State Representative Michael Brady, recently named Vice Chair of the House Committee on Bonding, Capital Expenditures and State Assets, spoke at the Chamber's monthly Government Affairs Committee meeting in March. Pictured left: Ray Ledoux, Vice Chair Government Affairs, Brockton Area Transit Authority; State Representative Michael Brady; State Representative Angelo D'Amilia; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO

Go Solar & Save!

Save thousands for your business by going solar with Energy Sage! Visit energysage.com to read more about solar energy and its benefits, get instant estimates for going solar, compare quotes online, and more! To learn more, call John Gingrich at 617-453-8924.

MA Businesses are going solar to:

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Shelley Tierney
OWNER

AMBASSADOR of the Quarter

Gail Delgado
Brockton Area Arc
 1250 West Chestnut
 Street, Brockton
 508-583-8030
BrocktonAreaArc.org



Gail Delgado,
 Brockton Area Arc

What is your business?
 I am a Job Developer at the Brockton Area Arc and Recruitment Manager for "All Aboard the Arc!"

How long have you been in this business?

I have worked at the Brockton Area Arc for almost 4 years. The Arc was established in 1950, and is the nation's leading advocacy and service organization for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, serving more than 1 million people with I/DD and their families through more than 700 state and local chapters.

Please list your past experience and educational background.

19 years as an Independent Beauty Consultant with Mary Kay Cosmetic and many years of various other experience including sales, marketing, mer-

chandising, customer service and home health aide. For many years I was involved with MDA and Make-a-Wish Massachusetts volunteering in many different areas.

How long have you belonged to the Chamber? When did you become an Ambassador?

Brockton Area Arc has been a member of the Chamber since 1987. I became an Ambassador about a year ago.

How does your Chamber membership work for you?

Chamber membership helps me to be immersed in the community of Brockton as I network to bring awareness to the community of what we do at the Brockton Area Arc.

What additional organizations do you belong to?

Brockton Lions Club District 33-S (current President), Downtown Brockton Business Association



*This year's "All Aboard the Arc!" Rally for Inclusion will take place on May 16, 2015. We are all meant to shine! Join the Arc for a ride into Boston Common to celebrate, and guest speaker Lauren Potter from "Glee!" For more info, contact Gail at 508-583-8003 x216 or gdelgado@brocktonarearc.net

Chamber Offers Health Insurance Options

The Chamber offers options for Chamber members seeking health insurance. For more information or to join the Chamber, contact Alison van Dam, 508.586.0500 x 227, avandam@metrosouthchamber.com.



The Massachusetts Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives is offering the Chamber Health Coop, a group purchasing program that makes health insurance more affordable for businesses with 1 to 50 full-time employees. Chamber members can save hundreds of thousands of dollars a year on health insurance from Fallon Community Health Plan, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, and Health New England. In addition, the Chamber Health Coop provides wellness programs free to all covered employees and their families, to help them live healthier lives that in turn may help

keep premium costs at bay. To learn more, visit ChamberHealthCoop.com, or email support@chamberhealthcoop.com. Reference the Metro South Chamber when contacting. **Open enrollment starts April 1!**



Health Service Administrators (HSA) offers Chamber members a variety of different health Insurance options, including Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, Neighborhood Health Plan, Tufts Health Plan, and Delta Dental. Established in 1969, HSA offers a comprehensive understanding and One-Stop-Shop of all your benefit needs, including healthcare, dental, life, disability group, long term care and integrated solutions. For more information, call 888-703-3335 or email info@chamberinsuranceservices.com.

Fair Housing Event to Take Place at Westgate Mall

Saturday, April 18, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

The City of Brockton will hold a Brockton Fair Housing Event on **Saturday, April 18** at the **Westgate Mall** in Brockton from **10:00 am - 4:00 pm**. This event is organized by the Brockton Redevelopment Authority and sponsored by the Office of Mayor Bill Carpenter and the Metro South Redevelopment Organization.



Over thirty vendors are expected to participate in the housing event, including banks, credit unions, realtors, and non-profit agencies providing

information on issues relating to the purchasing of homes, foreclosure prevention, energy savings opportunities, and other government programs. Small group workshop sessions will also be held. This event is being held to promote the goal of providing equal access and opportunities for all in housing. Members of the community are invited to attend!

Exhibitor space is still available for businesses and organizations related to housing as well as sponsorships! If you would like more information, please contact David Guzman at the Brockton Redevelopment Authority, 508.586.3887.

Sponsors:



Exhibitors:



Brockton Downpayment Assistance Program Open



The City of Brockton, Office of Mayor Carpenter, in partnership with NeighborWorks Southern Mass (NWSOMA) and the Brockton Redevelopment Authority (BRA) is offering down payment/closing cost assistance to 17 eligible first time homebuyers purchasing a single or two-family home (no condos) in the City of Brockton. The First Time Homebuyer Program (FTHP) is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development HOME Investment Partnership.

The FTHP offers a maximum of \$10,000 financial assistance through a zero-interest deferred loan, repayable in the event of property transfer of ownership or loan refinancing (except for rate and term of the loan). The approval for the amount of funding is based on the amount of assistance needed at the mortgage closing. The funds are subject to availability.

For complete details and requirements, and to download the full application visit www.nwsoma.org and choose the Homebuyer Education Tab. If you have questions or would like an application mailed, email Cindy Pendergast at c.pendergast@nwsoma.org or call 508-587-0950 ext. 46.

Affordable Housing Wait List in Bridgewater

SEB is currently working with Axis at Lakeshore and the Town of Bridgewater to provide affordable rental housing. The Waiting Lists are now open and eligible households can now reserve homes on a first come, first served basis!

Axis at Lakeshore is a community that will be two five-story elevator buildings with 192 units and includes state of the art clubhouse outfitted with a fitness center, meeting space, swimming pool, theater room, and Wi-Fi Cafe. Units feature spacious floor plans with 9' ceilings, in-unit laundry, and central air. The units will also be accented with designer kitchens featuring granite counters and Clean Steel appliances. The first units will be ready in May 2015.

Fourty-eight of the units will be rented to households with annual incomes not exceeding 80% of Area Median Income (AMI) adjusted for family size as determined by HUD.

The leasing office is now reserving units to eligible households! Interested households should contact the Leasing Office at 508-279-2947 and complete a Waiting List Application immediately.

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McCaul Land Title Company is a Veteran owned business, established in 1986 and operated by Shaun P. McCaul, attorney at law & Tim McCaul, Title examiner. We are in the business of Real Estate Title Examinations in the following counties: Barnstable, Bristol, Essex, Middlesex, Norfolk, Plymouth, Suffolk & Worcester Counties. Our clients range from conveyance attorneys, banks & Mass DOT. We offer competitive rates and quick turnaround times.

Vicente's Tropical Grocery

Vicente's
Tropical Grocery

689 Main Street, Brockton

508-580-0296

Vicente's Tropical Supermarket is your everyday supermarket, selling fresh produce, fresh meats, dairy, frozen foods, and bakery foods (fresh hot bread baked every half hour). We also specialize in specialty ethnic products from all over the world, including Cape Verde, Haiti, Portugal, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Peru, and Ecuador. We also offer Cape Verdean Take Out Food. Come Visit Vicente's, "Your home away from home." **New location opening Spring 2015 on Pleasant Street in Brockton!**

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Brockton • 508-272-5643

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60 School Street, Brockton • 508-586-0500

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Join the Chamber and network your business to success! The Chamber hosts informative meetings, networking events, and puts you in touch with your legislators. We also offer marketing and advertising opportunities, referrals, publicity and exposure. In addition, we offer Health Insurance packages and access to Comcast Savings, Discounts, and more. Call to learn more today!

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The Metro South region offers the best of all worlds: cultural and corporate advantages, natural beauty, and the serenity of historic New England.

The region features **top notch education**, including three institutes of higher education, exceptional health care facilities, including four major hospitals. **Rich in culture**, the region is also home to symphonies, a craft museum, children's museum, and various historic museums. It also contains many recreational activities, including baseball outings, golfing and many parks and lakes for walking, hiking, and fishing. With over 500 hotel rooms, the Metro South region is a **great place to stay** and competitive housing costs offer affordable and varied living opportunities.

Whether for Business or Pleasure, The Metro South region provides exceptional value in the heart of Eastern Massachusetts, centrally located between Boston, Providence, Plymouth and Cape Cod. *Ride the rail to Boston in only 35 minutes!* Call 508.586.0500 for your free map.



Metro South Regional Economic Development Organization
For more info, contact the Metro South Chamber of Commerce,
508.586.0500 • www.metroouthchamber.com



Metro South Site Finder

metrosouthsitefinder.com

Search for available commercial
sites for purchase or lease in the
Metro South region, or list a property!



BUSINESS EVENTS *Planner*

April 7

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Crescent Credit Union

1300 Belmont Street, Brockton

Enjoy networking and refreshments at a Chamber member business courtesy of Crescent Credit Union! (see p. 2)

Tickets: Complimentary

Please RSVP call 508-586-0500 ext. 231

April 22

Legislative Luncheon

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Conference Center at Massasoit

770 Crescent Street, Brockton

Join other Chamber members for this opportunity to interact with legislators over lunch and hear from the President & COO of Rush Street Gaming. (see p. 1)

Tickets: \$39 members, \$49 future-members

For more information, call 508-586-0500 ext. 231

April 23

Basic Business Workshops

9:00 am - 12:00 pm & 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Metro South Chamber of Commerce

60 School Street, Brockton

Come and learn! SEED Corp. will present two basic business workshops. (see p. 2)

Cost: Complimentary

Please register at 508.822.1020

IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!

508-586-0500 x 231 ☎

508-587-1340 📠

E-mail: info@metrosouthchamber.com ✉

Online: www.metroouthchamber.com

Send reservation and payment to: 🏠

Metro South Chamber of Commerce

Sixty School Street

Brockton, MA 02301-4087



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April 28

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Mansfield Bank

73 Belmont Street, Easton

Please join us for an evening of networking and refreshments at a Chamber member business. Don't forget your business cards! (see p. 2)

Tickets: Complimentary

Please RSVP call 508-586-0500 ext. 231

May 8

Government Affairs

12:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Metro South Chamber of Commerce

60 School Street, Brockton

Save the date and join us for lunch & discussion with a featured speaker at our monthly Government Affairs meeting.

Cost: \$8 members, \$15 future-members

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

May 13

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Abington Bank

6 Harrison Avenue, Abington

Chamber member Abington Bank will host an evening full of networking, refreshments, raffles, and more. (see p. 2)

Tickets: Complimentary

Please RSVP call 508-586-0500 ext. 231