



February  
2014

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.



Michael Widmer, page 2



John Kinnealey, page 5



Vanessa Leite, page 11

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## Chamber Convenes Regional Roundtable

*Mayor Bill Carpenter Pledges Regional Perspective & Dialogue*



The Metro South Chamber of Commerce recently convened regional town managers, chairmen, and affiliates for a Metro South Regional Roundtable Discussion. The forum provided an opportunity for municipal leaders to voice their concerns and relay their town's economic roadblocks to the newly elected Mayor of Brockton, Bill Carpenter. The main area of focus was the sur-

rounding towns' need for the expansion of Brockton's ample water and sewer services and the incorporation of a Regional Water Supply & Treatment Authority managed by the City of Brockton. Other areas of discussion included Economic Target Area expansion, life science industry support, roads and infrastructure, natural gas

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## "Boston Strong" Authors & Economist at Breakfast

*Wednesday, February 12, 2014, The Shaw's Center, Brockton*

Join us at the next Good Morning Metro South Breakfast on **February 12, 2014** from 7:30 - 9:00 am at the **Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way in Brockton**. The featured speakers are **Michael Tyler**, Eastern Bank Economist, and authors of the upcoming book, **"Boston Strong," Casey Sherman and Dave Wedge**.



Michael Tyler, CFA

Michael A. Tyler, CFA, sets investment policies and structures asset allocation strategies for client portfolios. As the primary spokesman for the firm's investment services, Michael devel-

ops and disseminates economic and financial market viewpoints. He is also responsible for selecting and overseeing providers of investment services. Michael holds a MBA with highest honors from Harvard Business School and a BA with honors from Princeton University. He is a Chartered Financial Analyst.

Casey Sherman and Dave Wedge are the authors of **"Boston Strong"**, a highly anticipated chronicle of the events surrounding the Boston Marathon bombings. "The Fighter" screenwriters Eric Johnson and Paul Tamasy have optioned feature film rights to the book, which is being published by University Press of New England later this year.

Continued on page 7

## Taste of Metro South to Feature Over 50 Restaurants

*Celebrate living and working in the Metro South region. Sample tastes from area restaurants. Discover cultural and community service organizations. Enjoy live entertainment from local performers.*



**Tickets are now available at the Chamber or online at [metrosouthchamber.com/taste.html](http://metrosouthchamber.com/taste.html)**

Tickets: \$35. Must be purchased in advance. All attendees will be entered to win a Boston MassPass Coupon Book.



Continued on page 6

## Chamber Establishes New Mission, Vision & Values

It's a new year, and the Metro South Chamber of Commerce has established a new set of priorities to drive and guide our organization as we continue to actively support and foster the business community in 2014.

"Businesses are part of the solution," said Chairman Bill Morse, President of Mutual Bank, after announcing the newly adopted mission, vision, and values at the conclusion of a recent Board planning process. "I can think of no better way for businesses to engage in the advancement of their individual enterprises and greater community than by active participation with like-minded professionals within the region," he said.

"A strong and successful democracy relies on a vibrant, committed business community," said Chamber President & CEO, Christopher Cooney. "These mission, vision, and value statements reflect the success that is sure to follow when businesses seek to strengthen their businesses and communities through the Metro South Chamber of Commerce," he said.

**See the New Chamber Mission, Vision, and Values on Page 9.**



VALUES

MISSION

**This Valentine's Day:**  
*Fall in Love With Your Facebook Page!*

**A Business Facebook Workshop**  
from Geek Girl



See page 2.

## Eastern Bank Brockton, Business After Hours

Wednesday, February 5, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Please join us on **Wednesday, February 5** from **5:30 pm - 7:30 pm** for a Chamber Business After Hours. This networking event will take place at Eastern Bank, **1265 Belmont Street in Brockton.**

Eastern Bank has helped generations of individuals, families, and businesses reach their goals for nearly two centuries. They've accomplished it with honest values and service that always puts their customers first. It's how they've grown to be the largest independent mutually owned bank and earned their reputation as a bank that cares about its customers, communities, and employees. Eastern Bank was recently awarded a Metro South Chamber Economic Impact Award for merging with Community Bank and establishing a regional headquarters in



Brockton, where the Business After Hours will take place. Visit [www.easternbank.com](http://www.easternbank.com) for more information.

Bring your business cards and join us for an evening of networking and refreshments. Register online at [www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration), or contact Kim Prosper, [kprosper@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metroouthchamber.com), 508.586.0500 x231. This event is complimentary but please RSVP in advance.

## H&R Block Self-Employment Business Solutions

Friday, February 7, 9:00 am - 10:30 am

**H&R BLOCK®**

H&R Block's Self-Employment Business Solutions workshop will take place this month on **Friday, February 7** at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, **60 School Street in Brockton.** Registration begins at **8:30 am**, with the workshop running from **9:00 am - 10:30 am.**

This workshop is entitled *Small Business Tax Issues, Part I: Considerations for Starting a Small Business.* Attendees will learn about making correct entity choices, which business permits should be acquired, accounting methods, insurance, and the impact of where business is conducted.

The last of this workshop series will take place on **Friday, February 21** with *Small Business Tax Solutions, Part II: Considerations for the Self-Employed and Compliance.* This workshop will include a discussion on running a business, inventory accounting methods, record-keeping, estimated taxes, hiring employees, tax return due dates, and state compliance issues as well as an overview of retirement planning, employer plan types, contribution limits, and requirements.

All workshops are complimentary to attend. For more information or to register, contact Kim Prosper, [kprosper@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metroouthchamber.com), 508.586.0500 x231, or register online at [www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration).



## GOVERNMENTAffairs

The monthly Government Affairs meetings are held at the Chamber and provide an opportunity for member businesses to discuss issues important to them with their elected officials.

Join us on **Friday, February 7** for the next monthly Government Affairs Luncheon, from **12:00 pm - 1:30 pm** at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, **60 School Street in Brockton.** The guest speaker will be **Michael J. Widmer**, President of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation.

Michael J. Widmer has been President of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation since 1992. He



Michael Widmer

joined the Foundation in 1990 after more than 20 years of management and political experience in both the public and private sectors in Massachusetts.

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Donz by calling 508.586.0500 x227, or email [donz@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:donz@metroouthchamber.com). The cost to attend is \$5 for members and \$15 for future-members and includes a light lunch.

Sponsored by:



## Fall in Love With Your Facebook Page

Friday, February 14, 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm



This Valentine's Day, fall in love with your business' Facebook



page! The Metro South Chamber of Commerce will be hosting a Facebook workshop presented by Geek Girl on **Friday, February 14** from **12:00 pm - 2:00 pm** at the **Stoughton YMCA, 445 Central Street in Stoughton.** Registration will begin at 11:45 am.

This two-hour information session is for the beginner to intermediate Facebook user or page administrator. You may already have a Facebook page for your business, or are ready to create one- now you need to attract fans to your page and keep them coming back!

This session will help you better understand the types of posts and content that will engage your fans; how to grow your fan base with Facebook advertising and contests and provide tips and best practices to develop your own Facebook marketing strategy.

For more information or to register, contact Kim Prosper at [kprosper@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metroouthchamber.com), 508.586.0500 x231, or register online at [www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration). Tickets are \$25 for members and \$50 for future-members and includes lunch.

## Do You Need a Professional Headshot?



Your business image matters. Do you have a professional headshot for use in marketing and social media such as LinkedIn or Facebook, business cards or press releases? Plan your session with professional photographer Rich Morgan Photography ([www.richmorganphotography.com](http://www.richmorganphotography.com)) at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce office, **60 School Street in Brockton** on **Tuesday, February 25** from **9:00 am - 1:00 pm.**

For only \$49 for members and \$99 for non-members, you will receive a 20 minute photo shoot session with 1 clothing change, and a DVD containing 6 of the best images. **When 3 or more employees from the same organization sign up, pay only \$35 per person.** First come, first serve basis. For more information or to reserve your space, contact Doris Flecchia, 508.586.0500 x 221, [doris@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:doris@metroouthchamber.com).

## Networking & New Member Reception at H&R Block

Thursday, February 27, 4:00 pm/ 5:30 pm

**Business After Hours: 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**

Join us at H&R Block, **2001 Main Street in Brockton** for a Business After Hours. Form and nurture new business connections while enjoying refreshments.

H&R Block is one of the world's largest tax services providers, utilizing more than 100,000 highly trained tax professionals and having prepared more than 550 million tax returns worldwide since it was founded in 1955. H&R Block has grown to become a brand and franchising icon. For more information, visit [www.hrblock.com](http://www.hrblock.com).

To register or for more information, call Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, email [kprosper@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metroouthchamber.com), or register online at [www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/calendar-registration). This event is complimentary, but please RSVP in advance.

**New Member Reception: 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm, prior to Business After Hours**

The New Member Reception gives new and prospective members as well as new employees of existing member companies an opportunity to network and explore the programs and services available to Metro South Chamber Members.

The New Member Orientation will take place at H&R Block prior to the Business After Hours Networking Event. The orientation and Business After Hours are free for new members to attend. Please bring plenty of business cards for networking and promotional materials about your business to share. Pre-register for this event by calling Kathleen at 508.586.0500 x 229 or email [klynch@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:klynch@metroouthchamber.com).



BOARD OF DIRECTORS	DIRECTORS
<b>OFFICERS</b>	<b>Jane Callahan</b> - HR Alternatives
Chair of the Board	<b>Joe Cardinal</b> -National Grid
<b>William Morse</b>	<b>Pat Caramella</b> - Old Colony Planning Council
<i>Mutual Bank</i>	<b>Peter Dello Russo</b> - Bridgewater Savings Bank
President and CEO	<b>Francis Dillon</b> - Stonehill College
<b>Christopher Cooney</b>	<b>Gregory Hart</b> - Ercolini & Company, LLP
<i>Metro South Chamber of Commerce</i>	<b>Kim Hollon</b> - Signature Healthcare
Chair-Elect	<b>Richard Hynes</b> - Barbour Corporation
<b>Susan Joss</b>	<b>Gigi Johnson</b> - Christo's
<i>Brockton Neighborhood Health Center</i>	<b>Robert Kenworthy</b> - Bank of America
Treasurer	<b>Ray Ledoux</b> - Brockton Area Transit
<b>John McGovern</b>	<b>Jeffrey Liebman</b> -
<i>Rodman &amp; Rodman, PC, CPA's</i>	<i>Good Samaritan Medical Center/Steward</i>
Vice Chair Community Affairs	<b>Dr. Dana Mohler Faria</b> -
<b>Loretta DeGrazia</b>	<i>Bridgewater State University</i>
<i>East Coast Petroleum</i>	<b>Jim Murphy LSP</b> - Tracey Environmental, LLC
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Vice Chair Government Affairs	<b>Kathleen Smith</b> -Brockton Community Schools
<b>Susan Joss</b>	<b>Peter Vlaco</b> - Brophy & Philips Company, Inc.
<i>Brockton Neighborhood Health Center</i>	<b>Dr. Charles Wall</b> -
Vice Chair Membership Development	<i>Massasoit Community College</i>
<b>Patricia Williams</b>	
<i>HarborOne Bank</i>	
Immediate Past Chair	
<b>Peter Neville</b>	
<i>Concord Foods</i>	

CHAMBER STAFF	508-586-0500 Front Desk x 221
<b>Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM</b>	<b>Kimberly Prosper, IOM</b>
President and CEO x 223	VP of Programs & Events x 231
<b>Doris Flecchia</b>	<b>Lisa Pearce</b>
Administrative Assistant x 221	Finance x 230
<b>Kathleen Lynch</b>	<b>Donz Soares</b>
Membership Director x 229	Grants/Graduate Intern x 227
<b>Melanie McGrath</b>	<b>Alison van Dam, IOM</b>
Communications Coordinator x 222	VP of Marketing & Communications x 225

Newsletter Written & Designed by Melanie McGrath

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METRO SOUTH

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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!

FEBRUARY

Calendar

5

Ambassador Meeting

8:00 am

5

Business After Hours

5:30 pm

Eastern Bank, 1265 Belmont Street, Brockton

7

H&R Block Workshop

9:00 am

7

Government Affairs

12:00 pm

12

Good Morning Metro South

7:30 am

The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton

14

Geek Girl Workshop

12:00 pm

Stoughton YMCA, 445 Central Street, Stoughton

17

President's Day - Chamber Closed

21

H&R Block Workshop

9:00 am

25

Rich Morgan Professional Headshots

9:00 am

27

Business After Hours

H&R Block, 2001 Main Street, Brockton

New Member Reception

4:00 pm

Business After Hours

5:30 pm

Coming Up

March

5

Ambassador Meeting

8:00 am

12

Executive Board Meeting

3:00 pm

14

Government Affairs

12:00 pm

19

Taste of Metro South

5:30 pm

The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton

26

Board of Directors

12:00 pm

Save the Date

April

2

Ambassador Meeting

8:00 am

3

Business After Hours

5:30 pm

Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street, Brockton

17

Business After Hours

5:30 pm

Copeland Toyota, 970 W. Chestnut Street, Brockton

21

Patriots Day - Chamber Closed

25

Legislative Luncheon

TBD

Bridgewater State University

30 - 1

Membership Drive

8:30 am

Stonehill College, Easton

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

# GOODNews

*Celebrate the great things going on!*

*Members, send your Good News to  
mmcgrath@metroouthchamber.com*

## Made in Massachusetts Closing Celebration

Join the Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street in Brockton, on Sunday, February 9, 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm for their "Designing the Future" Closing Day Celebration for Made in Massachusetts exhibition with Speaker Rosanne Somerson. Events include a talk and book signing by publisher Bebe Pritam Johnson, a talk by Rosanne Somerson, Interim Director of RISD. Tickets are \$7 for members and \$15 for non-members. For more information or to reserve your tickets, please call 508.588.6000 or visit [www.fullercraft.org](http://www.fullercraft.org).

## Bridgewater Savings Bank Donates

The Bridgewater Savings Charitable Foundation recently donated \$5,000 to the East Bridgewater Music Parents Association, which conducts several fundraisers to help raise money for the East Bridgewater School District Music Program. The funds raised help purchase much needed instruments and help various bands and groups participate in festivals and parades. "We recognize the value music plays in the lives of students in our communities," said James C. Lively, Bridgewater Savings President and CEO. For more information, please visit [bridgewaterwatersavings.com](http://bridgewaterwatersavings.com)

## Massasoit Community College Appoints New Directors

Rose Paquette is Massasoit's newly appointed dean of workforce development/community education. Ms. Paquette earned a bachelor of arts degree in Portuguese and education from UMass Dartmouth and a master of science in management from Eastern Nazarene College. She has served as the director of community education at Massasoit since 2007. Maryellen Brett will be working with the region's business and corporate community on developing and providing training programs that meet the region's workforce training needs. These customized workforce training programs will provide the business and corporate community with cost effective and high quality training solutions. Maryellen holds a bachelor of arts degree in sociology with a minor in economics from UMass Boston with an impressive background of experience to draw from. Visit [www.massasoit.mass.edu](http://www.massasoit.mass.edu).

## Good Samaritan's February Heart Health Program

Co-sponsored by the Stoughton Woman's Club and Good Samaritan Medical Center, the "Go Red for Women" free program on heart health will take place on Wednesday, February 12 at 12:15 pm. Interact with experts from Good Samaritan Medical Center's Cardiology Division in an informal setting. Learn the latest information about causes, prevention, and treatment, with special attention to the needs of women. This program supports the American Heart Association's national "Go

Red for Women" Campaign to raise awareness in the fight against heart disease which is still the #1 killer of women in the United States. Event takes place at the Stoughton Public Library, 84 Park Street. Space is limited. Please call 1-800-488-5959 to register.

## HarborOne Renews College Scholarship Program

HarborOne Bank has announced that it will renew its college scholarship program for 2014. Ten, one thousand-dollar, scholarships will be offered to eligible candidates. Applications will be accepted at HarborOne offices between February 3 and March 31. Only the first fifty completed applications received by the HarborOne Scholarship Committee will be considered. Evaluation will be based upon Academic Record, Community and School Activities, Recommendations, Awards and Recognition, Essay, and the appearance of the Application. Applications and other details are available at [www.harborone.com](http://www.harborone.com).

## Brockton's Own United Brass Quintet To Perform

On Sunday, February 9 at 2:00 pm, The United Brass Quintet will perform at the First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 900 Main Street in Brockton. The United Brass Quintet, founded in 1978, is well known to concertgoers throughout New England. This is the third concert of the Cornerstone Concert Series, proceeds from which benefit the church restoration fund. Sponsors of the event include Rockland Trust, Montello Heel Mfg., Inc., Barbour Corporation, and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Tickets for the event are on sale now, and available at the church office, online at [www.firstevltheran.org](http://www.firstevltheran.org), by phone at 508-586-9021, or at the door on the day of the concert.

## BAWIB Amp it up! Grant Funding

The Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board (BAWIB) has been awarded funding from MassDevelopment's AMP it up! campaign to encourage more teens and young adults to pursue a career in manufacturing. AMP it up! is a policy initiative set in motion by Governor Patrick's Advanced Manufacturing Collaborative. BAWIB will be partnering with the Massachusetts Manufacturing Extension Partnership, Brockton Public Schools, and Whitman Hanson Regional High School. Seniors in high school and recent graduates who are interested in applying for a free 1-week basic manufacturing skills certificate course, or schools and non-profits seeking more information, contact Andy Martin at 508-584-9800.

**New Manager at Crescent Credit's Campello Branch**  
Jane Wells has been appointed manager

of Crescent Credit Union's branch located at 1219 Main Street in the Campello neighborhood of Brockton. Ms. Wells brings 45 years of banking experience to Campello, having served as manager at Crescent's Eastside Brockton office since 1999. Jane served 30 years with Fleet Bank prior to joining Crescent. Visit [www.crescentcredit.org](http://www.crescentcredit.org) for more information.

## loveCRAFT Valentine's Day Event @ artKitchen Cafe

Friday, February 14 from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Fuller Craft Museum invites you to feed your senses with an evening of Valentine's Day fun. Try your hand at the potter's wheel and express yourself in clay (adults only). Enjoy live music, DJ Miles Jackson, gallery games, cash bar, light supper, an open dessert bar, and love poetry. Fuller Craft Museum is located at 455 Oak Street in Brockton. Tickets are \$30, or 2 for \$50. Call to reserve your tickets at 508.588.6000. For more information please visit [www.fullercraft.org](http://www.fullercraft.org)

## Brockton Symphony Orchestra Concert

The Brockton Symphony Orchestra will continue their 66th Season, a Symphonic Voyage, on Sunday, February 23 with music from the beautiful and romantic city of Paris. 3:00 pm at West Middle School in Brockton. Performances will include "Paris City of Love," music of Chausson, Berlioz, and Debussy, with the sopranos of the Jubilate Chorale joining the orchestra in "Sirenes from Debussy's Nocturnes. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for Seniors and Students under 21 or with a student ID. Free admission for children under 12 who are accompanied by an adult. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.brocktonsymphony.org](http://www.brocktonsymphony.org) or call 508-588-3841. Visit the Brockton Symphony on Facebook.

## Rob Peters Entertainment on Wedding Wire

Rob Peters Entertainment is now featured as a recommended Wedding DJ on Wedding Wire, the nation's leading technology company serving the wedding and events industry, where Rob Peters Entertainment has many five-star reviews. Visit [weddingwire.com](http://weddingwire.com). For more information on Rob Peters Entertainment, please call 781-848-4235, or visit [www.robpetersentertainment.com](http://www.robpetersentertainment.com).

## Stewart's Investments at Good Samaritan Create Positive Economic Impact in Brockton

Good Samaritan Medical Center, a part of the Steward Health Care System LLC (Steward), recently released an economic impact report for 2010-2012, produced by the Health Business Group, an independent consulting firm in Boston. The report reveals that Steward invested \$33.5 million in construction and technology

improvements at Good Samaritan Medical Center, provided \$14.9 million in community benefits, and delivered \$2.9 million in tax revenues to the City of Brockton. The \$33.5 million capital investment at Good Samaritan Medical Center includes a new, state-of-the-art emergency room, new spine surgery program, new angiography room, a bariatrics surgery clinic, a third CT scanner, and investments in robotic technology. To read the full report, please visit: [www.steward.org/economicimpact](http://www.steward.org/economicimpact).

## Winter's End Celebration- Come & Get Your Love!

"Winter's End Celebration - Come and Get Your Love!" will be held on Saturday March 1, 2014 at The War Memorial on West Elm Street in Brockton. This is the first public event in the War Memorial since the extensive renovations have had the building closed to public events. We are also thrilled to offer catering by JJ's Cafe and music by the band Electra 225 and DJ's Joe Lupica and Jose Rodriguez. Rich Morgan Photography will be present to capture every moment, guests are encouraged to dress to impress! This event is the first of many to celebrate USA Christmas Town Holiday Activities which include the Annual Santa Hat Challenge and Holiday Parade. Come and Get Your Love! is hosted by DBA Brockton. Tickets are \$50 per person and available through [www.tinyurl.com/comeandgetyourlove](http://www.tinyurl.com/comeandgetyourlove) - no tickets will be sold at the door and there is limited admission. For more information, please email [dbabrockton@gmail.com](mailto:dbabrockton@gmail.com)

## BDN 8th Annual Mardi Gras Madness Fundraiser

Brockton Day Nursery is pleased to announce Avon Co-Operative Bank as a French Quarter Sponsor for the 8th Annual Mardi Gras Madness Fundraiser. The New Orleans inspired event will be held on Saturday, March 8 at 7 pm at the Shaw's Center located at 1 Feinberg Way in Brockton. Proceeds from this event will be used to support BDN's afterschool, before school, and early education programs. Guests will be immersed in the sights, sounds, and flavor of New Orleans as they enjoy live music and authentic Cajun cuisine. Raffles, auctions and a variety of other entertainment including psychics, adult face painters, a dance contest, and raw bar will keep guests entertained all evening. Tickets for this adult-only event are on sale now at \$50 per person, \$80 per couple, or \$450 for a Corporate Table of 10. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.brocktondaynursery.org](http://www.brocktondaynursery.org). For more information contact Brittanie Hansbury, at [bhansbury@brocktondaynursery.org](mailto:bhansbury@brocktondaynursery.org) or 508-588-2700.



# Chamber Boosts Education, Retention

via *Careers in Health Program*

It was two years ago when the Metro South Chamber of Commerce became the first Chamber in Massachusetts to receive a Workforce Training Fund grant. The Chamber was awarded close to \$250,000 to hire Chamber member educators to provide chamber member health care facilities with training for their incumbent workers. The benefit to more than one hundred employees of regional health care facilities was advancement up the health care career ladder.

"The individual stories of working moms, in many cases, accessing help with their career development for the benefit of their employers, community, and family is inspirational," said Christopher Cooney, Chamber president and CEO. Cooney went on to say, "We could not be more pleased with the outcome of assisting and encouraging so many health care professionals to advance their careers. The program increased retention rates and reduced

turnover costs while increasing the skill levels and credentials of many people who participated in the program. We hope the chamber has inspired employers to apply for workforce training funds going forward."

The fund was established in 1998 and generates more than twenty one million dollars each year in potential grant funds available to Massachusetts employers that pay into the fund through a portion of unemployment insurance funds collected each year.

To learn more about applying for Massachusetts Workforce training Funds, go to [www.mass.gov/lwd/employment-services/business-training-support](http://www.mass.gov/lwd/employment-services/business-training-support). You can also learn more information from the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board (BAWIB), a business-led, policy-setting board that oversees workforce development initiatives in our region. Visit [www.bawib.org](http://www.bawib.org) or call Sheila Sullivan-Jardim at 508.584.3234.



# Crescent Renovations Draw Crowd

Photos by RichMorganPhotography.com.



Howard Spiller, Tony Macedo, and Jim Mihos of Crescent Credit Union; Shaynah Barnes, Brockton City Council; Robert Gustafson, Crescent Credit Union; Mayor of Brockton Bill Carpenter; Bob Sims, Crescent Credit Union; Michael Brady, State Representative; Jane Wells, Crescent Credit Union; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO



Linda DeMarco and Nadege Denis of Webster Bank; Nancy Van Lenten and Rose Moore, Crescent Credit Union



Lou Brambilla, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center; Pat Ciaramella, OCPC; Bob Wisgirda, Metro South Resources; Ron Bethoney, Campello Business Association; Kevin Brower, HarborOne Bank

# Mayor Meets With Manufacturers



Richard Hynes, Barbour Corporation leads a tour of the facility on N. Montello Street in Brockton



Bruce Pearson, Barbour Corp.; Mayor Bill Carpenter; Richard Hynes, Barbour Corp.; Chris Cooney, Chamber President & CEO



Left: Owner John Kinneale and Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO on a recent tour of Kinnealey Meats in Brockton, a family-run business with a 75-year history in the Boston area.

If you are a company in Brockton interested in planning a site visit, please contact Christopher Cooney, [chris@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:chris@metrosouthchamber.com), 508.586.0500 x223.

# Membership Drive in April - May

The Chamber will be running a **Membership Drive** on **April 30 and May 1, 2014** at Stonehill College in Easton. The Chamber's goal is to welcome many new members this year. Becoming a Chamber member provides your business with the opportunity to accelerate its growth. When you join the Chamber, you become a leader within the business community and a member of the region's most dynamic advocacy organization. Membership means potential new business prospects, savings, access to valuable resources and information, access to health insurance, a variety of marketing opportunities, and much more!

If you are a current **Chamber member who would like to assist in the drive** and express what Chamber membership has meant to you, or to donate a prize, contact Kathleen Lynch, 508.586.0500 x 229, [klynch@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:klynch@metrosouthchamber.com).



Crescent Credit Union was founded in 1919, and today serves over 48,000 members who look to them as their financial partner. Their Campello branch has a newly renovated interior and recently updated exterior signage. By investing in the branch renovation, Crescent seeks to provide a better in-branch experience for both personal and business clientele. For more information, visit [www.crescentcredit.org](http://www.crescentcredit.org).

# Workers May Qualify; Earned Income Tax Credit

Low to moderate income families in the Greater Brockton area are again eligible for this free service. Most people can get their state refund in 3 to 5 days and their federal refund in about 7 days, saving hundreds of dollars in tax preparer and loan fees. Workers can claim both the federal and state EITC, even if they do not owe income tax, simply by filing federal and state income tax returns. You will receive a state credit equal to 15% of the federal amount. Millions of eligible workers risk missing out on these important federal tax benefits which are also matched to a lesser degree by the state.

There will be Free Tax Preparation for qualified individuals from February 3, 2014 to April 7, 2014 at the Brockton Public Library Main Branch, 304 Main St., Brockton on Mondays



from 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm and at the Massasoit Community College Library in the Student Center, 1 Massasoit Blvd, Brockton, on Saturdays from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

## Who Is Eligible?

## Earned Income Credit Limits

Tax year 2013			
# of children	Single	Married	Receive
none	\$14,340	\$19,680	\$487
one	\$37,870	\$43,210	\$3,250
two	\$43,038	\$48,378	\$5,372
three +	\$46,227	\$51,567	\$6,044

For details on required documents, limitations, and eligibility, please visit [www.brockton.ma.us/Information/New.s.aspx](http://www.brockton.ma.us/Information/New.s.aspx) and click on "Free Tax Preparation Feb. 3 - Apr. 7, 2014". This program is sponsored by NeighborWorks, City of Brockton, Mayor Carpenter, and Massasoit Community College.



## H&R Block New Westgate Location



H&R Block Employees as well as members of the business community, Metro South Chamber Ambassadors, Brockton Mayor Bill Carpenter, and Chamber President & CEO Christopher Cooney gather to celebrate H&R Block's new location at Westgate Mall in Brockton.

On Friday, January 17, H&R Block celebrated the opening of their newest store location at 200 Westgate Drive in Brockton with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony.

H&R Block is happy to announce their new location. They have operated an office in the Westgate Mall area for over 40 years offering tax, financial, and business services to thousands of clients each year. The T.A. professionals at the office have experience working with clients individually for as many as 35 years, with a majority having over 15 years of experience. You can rest assured they know taxes. Visit [hrblock.com](http://hrblock.com) for more information.

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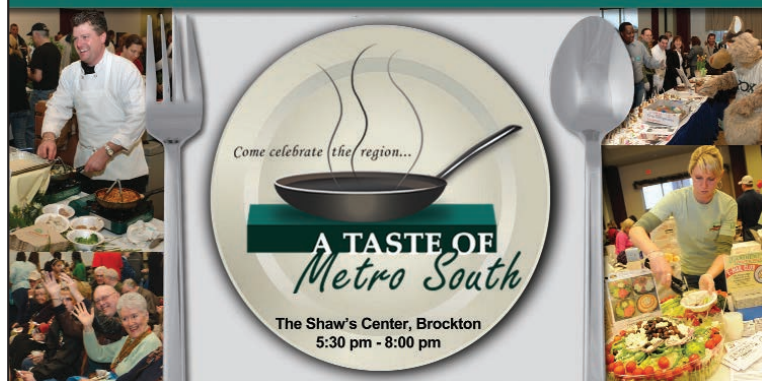
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## 22<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL TASTE OF METRO SOUTH

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014



**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT**

**[WWW.METROSOUTHCHAMBER.COM/TASTE.HTML](http://WWW.METROSOUTHCHAMBER.COM/TASTE.HTML)**

Ticket Price: \$35. Tickets must be purchased in advance.

Call 508.586.0500 x 231 for tickets and more information

Like us at [www.facebook.com/metrosouthchambercommerce](http://www.facebook.com/metrosouthchambercommerce) to stay up to date on participating restaurants, organizations and entertainment acts.

Bring your appetites on March 19, 2014, 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm to the Shaw's Center in Brockton for the 22nd Annual Taste of Metro South event. This highly anticipated event features an all you can eat sampling of over 50 diverse restaurants, cultural and community organizations, live entertainment, raffle prizes, and more!

The Taste of Metro South is a highly visible, much publicized and well-received evening of enjoyment for everyone. This event has traditionally drawn between 600-700 people. Come celebrate the Metro South Region.

Entertainment acts to include the Brockton High School Jazz Band, Brockton Symphony Orchestra, Rob Peters Entertainment, and BSU group Acapella Anonymous.

Tickets are available by contacting Kimberly Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, [kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com), or by visiting the Metro South Chamber office, 60 School

Street, Brockton, on Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. You may also purchase tickets online at [www.metroouthchamber.com/taste.html](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/taste.html). Visit [metrosouthchamber.com](http://metrosouthchamber.com) or [facebook.com/metrosouthchambercommerce](http://facebook.com/metrosouthchambercommerce) for an updated list of participating restaurants and entertainment, and for more information.

### CALLING ALL RESTAURANTS:

Area restaurants are encouraged to participate by signing up for a free booth space or sponsoring the event. All those who do participate will gain exposure through direct interaction with new potential customers, word of mouth, through advertisements in the Enterprise, Action Report and Program Guide, and potential coverage on the Brockton Community Access Channel. Don't miss this invaluable opportunity. For more information, please contact Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231 or email [kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com).

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## Sharkansky CPA's Celebrates 50 Years in Business; Chamber Celebrates Success!



Jim Murphy, Tracey Environmental; Joe Schulman, Sharkansky LLP, CPA's



Len and Andrea Pudt, National Physical Therapy



Rob Sheldon, ABC Specialties wins Bruins tickets in a raffle sponsored by Sharkansky.



Sharkansky CPA's Employees Brian Coyne, OAS Team; Donna Wabrek OAS Manager; Chris Chery OAS Team, Michael Bradley, Small Business Tax Team; Anthony Huynh, Small Business Tax Team



Kate Thomas-Moody, Brockton Rox; David Frenette, Frenette & Associates P.C.; both winners of Red Sox tickets in a Sharkansky raffle.



Sharkansky LLP, CPA partners Scott Estabrooks, Joe Schulman, Howard Spiller, Jay Pike, Joyce Christensen, Mitzi Hollenbeck, and Chamber President & CEO Christopher Cooney



Sharkansky, LLP, CPA's, and independent CPA firm, recently celebrated their 50th year in business with a well attended Chamber Business After Hours event. For more information on Sharkansky please visit [www.sharkcpa.com](http://www.sharkcpa.com).



Michael Brady, State Representative; Joe Schulman & Howard Spiller, Sharkansky CPA's; Claire Cronin, State Representative



Bob Buckley, Chief of Staff for Mayor Bill Carpenter, congratulates Sharkansky on 50 years in business.

## "Boston Strong" Authors & Economist at Breakfast

*Continued from page 1*

Sherman was born in Hyannis, Massachusetts and is a graduate of Boston University. An award winning journalist, Casey Sherman gained international headlines with his re-investigation of the notorious Boston Strangler case, which he later chronicled in his true crime bestseller "A Rose for Mary". He has appeared on dozens of television programs including The Today Show, Dateline NBC, CBS 48 Hour Mysteries, America's Most Wanted, and The View.

Dave Wedge is a Brockton native, award-winning journalist, and former Boston Herald lead investigative reporter. Wedge joined the Boston Herald in 1999 and has covered a variety of local and national news and political stories


in his career, including reporting from Ground Zero on Sept. 11, the Rhode Island nightclub fire, and the 2004 and 2008 presidential races.

As always, the Good Morning Metro South breakfast program is a great networking opportunity. Guests are encouraged to stay for the informal networking immediately following the program.

Register by calling Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231, email [kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com) or register online at [metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration](http://metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration). The cost to attend is \$25 for members and \$35 for future-members and includes breakfast.

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# Exciting Chamber Travel Opportunities



## Rhine & Moselle River Cruise

Save the date for an exciting Metro South Chamber travel opportunity, taking place in Fall 2014! Join a Riverboat Cruise from Zurich, Switzerland to Amsterdam. Enjoy 7 nights and 9 days of breathtaking sights, luxury, and culture. Every day will bring a new adventure, from visiting medieval castles and exploring villages, to biking along the gorgeous Rhine River. Discover the hidden gems of historical and romantic Switzerland and Amsterdam with this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

This river cruise will take place October 19-27, 2014 with extension options in Paris and Amsterdam. Prices start at just \$3098. Space is limited, reservations will be made on a first come, first served basis. Visit [www.metroouthchamber.com/events/travel](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/events/travel) for a detailed itinerary and more information or contact Alison van Dam at 508.586.0500 x225, [avandam@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:avandam@metroouthchamber.com)



## DISCOVER THE AZORES

NOVEMBER 11-18, 2014

The amazing islands of the Azores are the perfect backdrop for your 8-day exploration of the region. Located in the Atlantic Ocean and just over a four hour flight from Boston, these islands are nature's masterpiece. Your island hopping program will expose you to stunning vistas, blue lakes bordered by flowers, dazzling views of the sea, and lush green landscapes of ancient volcanic craters. The hospitality of the local people will surely be a highlight and talked about long after your return. Discover the Azores and feel different...feel alive.

This exciting trip will take place November 11- 18, 2014. Prices start at just \$2,199. Space is limited, reservations will be made on a first come, first served basis. Visit [www.metroouthchamber.com/events/travel](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/events/travel) for more information or contact Alison van Dam at 508.586.0500 x225, [avandam@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:avandam@metroouthchamber.com).

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Shelley Tierney  
OWNER

# 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 2014 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 508.586.0500 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 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.

#### Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients

- 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

# ATHENA Award Recognizes Leadership

## Call for Nominations

This summer, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce will present the 15th 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.



**The Entrepreneur of the Year Criteria:** 10 or less full-time employees or equivalence; 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 1, 2014. Recipients will be announced at the Small Business and Entrepreneur Breakfast on May 15



Ted Reinstein, "Chronicle"

where the featured speaker will be Ted Reinstein, reporter, producer, and occasional anchor for WCVB-TV Channel 5's "Chronicle", the nation's longest running locally produced nightly newsmagazine.

#### Prior Entrepreneur of the Year Recipients

- 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

To nominate an individual for an ATHENA award, or for more information, please call Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, or email [kprosper@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:kprosper@metroouthchamber.com).

#### Prior ATHENA Recipients

- 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, WXHR 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



## Chamber Convenes Regional Roundtable (cont.)

fired energy generation, and electricity aggregation. The meeting provided a venue for neighboring towns to develop and foster relationships with one another in order to create a more economically viable whole. Towns in attendance included Brockton, Stoughton, West Bridgewater, Easton, Whitman, Avon, Norwell, Halifax, Hanover, East Bridgewater, and Hanson.

*"Together we can accomplish, for the benefit of the region, what none of us can alone."*

- Bill Morse, Chamber Chairman



Pat Ciamarella, Old Colony Planning Council; Ray Ledoux, Brockton Area Transit Authority; Joe Scardino, Town of Stoughton



Troy Clarkson, Town of Hanover; Charlie Seelig, Town of Halifax; Ellen Allen, Town of Norwell; Frank Lynam, Town of Whitman; Carl Kowalski, Town of Whitman



Dottie Fulgini, Town of Easton; Dan Murphy, Town of Easton



Gregory Enos, Town of Whitman; Mayor Bill Carpenter



Joe Grivers and Paul Moran of MassDevelopment; Mayor Carpenter; Jim Walsh and Tania Hartford of MassDevelopment



Ron San Angelo, Town of Hanson; Mayor Bill Carpenter



Philip Carver, UMASS Boston, Bill Morse, Chamber Chairman; Sue Joss, Chair of Government Affairs; Mayor Bill Carpenter; Chris Cooney, Chamber President & CEO



Robert Brady, Town of Avon; Mayor Bill Carpenter; Frank Hegarty, Town of Avon; Bob Costa, Avon Industrial Park Association

## Metro South Regional Branding Update



The Metro South Chamber of Commerce has been collaborating with Connelly Partners, an advertising and media company contracted by the Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism, on a major Regional Branding of the Metro South region. The goal is to create a brand identity to develop the Metro South region as a recognized regional entity and attract more visitors and businesses to the area.



Lauren Brown, Connelly Partners, presents findings at a recent Chamber Board Meeting

The rebranding has included an extensive assessment of the region; background information was obtained from key stakeholders, and three phases of interviews were conducted with Chamber members, Industry Professionals, and Residents of the community. After gathering and reviewing the personality, strengths and weaknesses, and resources of the area, Connelly Partners and the Metro South Chamber have

together come up with a positioning paragraph to guide the remainder of the branding process based on the convenience that the Metro South region holds.

**"Lakes, cities, countryside. In Metro South we have access to it all, any time we want. With the super accessible highway and commuter rail, it's easy to commute to Boston, head to the Cape for a beach weekend, or catch a Patriots game at Gillette. Plus, with gorgeous parks, golfing, shopping, diverse multicultural dining options and attractions like Fuller Craft Museum, Blue Hills ski area, and the Brockton Rox, there's so much to enjoy, right here at home, too. With a thousand things to see and do, right in our backyard, it's obvious why many of us are Metro South residents for life."**

Moving forward, the next steps in the branding process are as follows:

- 1.) Connelly Partners to develop a brand manifesto for Metro South based on the "Convenience" positioning directive.
- 2.) Connelly Partners to draft a creative brief to inform creative strategy and approach for brand book, as well as to be referenced internally by the Metro South Chamber in the development of future brand materials.
- 3.) Connelly Partners to create a digital brand book that captures both the tone of voice and the visual essence of the brand's new positioning.

Based on the recommendations of Connelly Partners and once the branding is complete, an ongoing multi-phase branding approach will take place. This will start internally and slowly spread outward through the community, the surrounding area, and eventually other regions in New England and beyond.

## Chamber Establishes New Mission, Vision & Values

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

**Vision:** To be the Metro South Region's qualified leader for:

- Attracting and harnessing the energies, capabilities, and ambitions of businesses;
- Catalyzing critical public discussion on key issues and mobilizing political support;
- Projecting a positive image of the region and bolstering awareness of its many advantages;
- Striving to position the region to seize the variety of emerging economic opportunities

**Values:**

- Independent & Objective
- Transparent, Open, and Honest
- Collegial, Cooperative, and Inclusive (Both members & non-members)
- Focused on fostering a broader sense of community involvement, engagement, and advancement
- Relationship-driven and focused on deepening connectivity throughout the region and beyond
- Ready, willing, and eager to lead the charge (advocacy, policy making, etc.)

## Geek Girl Tech Conference



Save the date for Geek Girl Tech Con, the largest Hands-On Tech Conference in the area, taking place on Saturday, March 22 from 8:00 am - 6:00 pm at Plymouth North High School.

Women and men of all ages and skill levels are invited to attend and learn about a variety of computer skills and programs, social media platforms, and more! Tickets are \$169 for the all-day conference; Chamber members save 20% with code METRO14. For more information or to register, visit [www.bostongeekgirlcon.com](http://www.bostongeekgirlcon.com).

SAVE  
THE  
DATE!

# WELCOME *New Members*

## *Making an Investment in Our Community*

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Mr. Jordan Branco  
P.O. Box 603  
Norton MA, 02766  
(774) 254-4725  
appsunloaded.com  
*Promotional Products*

### **Gomes Plaster & Drywall**

Mr. Matthew T. Gomes  
832 Central Street  
East Bridgewater, MA 02333  
(508) 697-3552  
*Contractors Specialty*

### **Minuteman Health, Inc.**

Mr. Patrick O'Brien  
711 Atlantic Avenue  
Boston, MA 02111  
(855) 644-8951  
www.minutehealth.org  
*Insurance Health*

### **Nextiva**

Mr. Yaniv Masjedi  
8800 E. Chaparral Road, Suite 300  
Scottsdale, AZ 85250  
(800) 983-4289  
www.nextiva.com  
*Telecommunications*

### **T2C Advertising**

Ms. Karen Emery  
23 Depot Street  
South Easton, MA 02375  
(508) 326-3113  
www.eastonsave.com  
*Advertising*

### **Braemoor Health Center**

Ms. Mary McGonigle  
34 North Pearl Street  
Brockton, MA 02301-1708  
(508) 586-3696  
www.braemoorhc.com

### *Nursing Homes/Rehabilitation Centers*

### **C&C Design Studio**

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140 Bay Road  
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### **Constable Service MA**

Mr. George Vemis  
401 South Avenue  
Whitman, MA 02382  
(781) 532-5035  
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To Join the Chamber,  
Contact Kathleen Lynch,  
508.586.0500 x 229,  
klynch@metrosouthchamber.com  
Annual rates start at just \$295.

# RENEWING *Members* Thank You !

### **AJ's Cleaning and Maintenance Corp.**

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Avon Quality Storage  
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Boys and Girls Club of Brockton, Inc.  
Brockton Arts  
Brockton Community Access (BCA)  
Brockton Historical Society  
Brockton Library Foundation  
Brown Chiropractic Center, PC  
Busy Bee Jumpers & Tents  
Chapel of New Hope, Inc.  
Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram 24  
Coastal Community Capital  
Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage  
Collins Crane & Rigging Service, Inc.  
Comcast Spotlight  
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Old Colony YMCA  
Parker Property Management Inc.  
Pawtucket Red Sox  
Philadelphia Insurance Companies  
School on Wheels of MA  
South Coastal Bank  
Sullivan Tire & Auto Service  
The Brockton Rox  
The Guardian Center for Skilled Nursing, Rehabilitative Service  
The Storage Pros  
TRACEY Environmental  
WAITD 95.9FM  
Willwork Inc., Exhibit Services  
Yamato Japanese Steak House

## Chamber Affiliation News & Events

To become an affiliate organization of the Chamber, contact Christopher Cooney at 508.586.0500 x 223 or email [chris@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:chris@metrosouthchamber.com).



The **Bridgewater Business Association (BBA)** is a non-profit corporation, originally formed in 1984, devoted to the business community in Bridgewater, MA and beyond. They are run by a dedicated group of volunteers with countless combined years of business experience. Membership is open to any business in any town. They are celebrating their 30th Anniversary this year in 2014! Visit [www.bridgewaterbiz.biz](http://www.bridgewaterbiz.biz) more information.

The **Stoughton Chamber of Commerce** recently held their "Caught You Doing Something Good" Appreciation Luncheon at the Texas Roadhouse in Brockton on February 3. Certificates of Recognition were presented to individuals caught going above and beyond by Chamber members. For more information, visit [www.stoughtonma.com](http://www.stoughtonma.com).



Norwell Chamber of Commerce

The **Norwell Chamber of Commerce** will join the Hanover Chamber for a Multi-Chamber Bowling Fundraiser Event on February 6 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at the Boston Bowl in Hanover. Come to cheer on your Chamber team! For more information, visit [norwellchamberofcommerce.com](http://norwellchamberofcommerce.com).

The **East Bridgewater Business Association (EBBA)** held their Annual Meeting recently at the TJ Smith Victorian House in East Bridgewater. The event included the Installation of Officers, Roundtable Discussions, breakfast, and networking. For more information, visit [www.eastbridgewaterbiz.com](http://www.eastbridgewaterbiz.com).



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, Avon, MA. The AIPA is governed by a board of directors and holds regular meetings to discuss AIPA business and promote camaraderie between members. For more information, call Bob Costa at 508-586-0900. Visit [avonindustrialpark.org](http://avonindustrialpark.org)



The **Randolph Chamber of Commerce** recently held their Annual Awards Dinner at Lombardo's newly renovated Jessica Suite in Randolph. Featured keynote speaker was Social Media and Google SEO Expert Patrick O'Malley. For more information, visit [www.randolphchamberofcommerce.org](http://www.randolphchamberofcommerce.org).



**ProLink Networking Group** is an invitation-only, non-competitive business networking group. Network After Work Meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of the month - 5:30pm at Harry's Westgate Pub, 59 Westgate Drive in Brockton. For more information, visit [www.prolinknetworking.com](http://www.prolinknetworking.com) or contact Craig Pina at 508-279-4194 or email [craigpina@gmail.com](mailto:craigpina@gmail.com).

## 2014 Book For Business Arriving Soon

The Chamber of Commerce will soon be distributing the **2014 Metro South Book for Business**. The book features area dining, lodging, public golf courses, recreation, legislative leaders, community demographics, regional and a complete membership listing. The book also includes a full color map of the Metro South



region, highlighting hotels, golf courses, industrial parks, town halls and other points of interest.

Copies of the Book for Business will be distributed throughout the region to banks, real estate offices, town hall offices, all Chamber members, area colleges, and sent to all relocating businesses and families interested in the Metro South area. For more information, contact Melanie McGrath, 508.586.0500 x 222.



# MEMBERProfile



243 Crescent Street, Brockton, 02302  
508.588.2700  
www.brocktondaynursery.org

Year Established: 1894

## Products or Services:

Early Education, Out of School Time Care, Enrichment, Social Services, Tutoring, and Computer Literacy for Adults

Number of Employees: 82

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

It is the mission of Brockton Day Nursery (BDN) to serve the needs of families and children by providing comprehensive early education, care and support services that lead to achieving academic proficiency and becoming productive citizens. In addition, our program is now offering free on-site academic tutoring for our out of school time students and free adult computer literacy classes in partnership with Catholic Charities for the residents of greater Brockton community. We pride ourselves on providing for the family as a whole unit not just the student as an individual.

## What is your market area?

We currently serve families from the Greater Brockton area including, but



Vanessa Leite

not limited to, the City of Brockton, East Bridgewater, Easton, Holbrook, Norwell, Randolph, Raynham, Sharon, Taunton, Weymouth, and Whitman.

## What markets do you serve?

Brockton Day Nursery serves working class families and their children in need of early education and out of school time care. Our families include those who pay privately, families who meet the income eligible guidelines, and families with Department of Children and Family support.

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

Our main objective is to be a resource for both families and local business by providing low cost quality early education and care for the children of the community. This will enable families to find and maintain employment and gives employers of our community the ability to hire workers knowing their children are safe and cared for while being provided with the fundamentals tools needed to be proficient in the public school system. This task does not come easy; it takes the community working together as a whole.

# Lt. Governor Candidate, DD at Breakfast

Sponsored by:



Photos by Rich Morgan Photography.  
Sound by Rob Peters Entertainment.  
Video by Brockton Community Access Channel (check listings for air times).



Robert Branca, Chairman of Dunkin Donuts Franchise Owners Political Action Committee



Karyn Polito, Candidate for Lt. Governor



Professor William Ewell, Martin Institute (sponsor) is interviewed by Christine Karavites, Proteas Customized Consulting



Fran Dillon, Stonehill College, Emcee of the Breakfast Program



Guests enjoy breakfast catered by Sodexo



Good Morning Metro South Breakfast held at The Martin Institute at Stonehill College, a center which prepares students for leadership as active citizens. Visit [www.stonehillcollege.edu](http://www.stonehillcollege.edu).

# Ambassadors Recognized for Chamber Service



Cheryl Showstack,  
CS Consulting Services



Joseph Kameese, American  
Bookkeeping Solutions

The Metro South Chamber would lik to thank Cheryl Showstack and Joseph Kameese, who will be stepping off the Chamber Ambassador team after many years of dedicated service. Joe has been a member of the Ambassador team since 2001 and Cheryl has been an Ambassador since 1998. We wish to thank them for their commitment to the business community and the Ambassador team!

# The Ambassador Team • Win-Win Opportunity!

The Ambassador Team meets on a monthly basis to serve fellow members by providing information, resources, member-to-member support, increasing awareness and promoting active participation in Chamber programs and services. The next **Ambassador meetings** will be held on February 5 and March 5, 2014 from 8:00 - 9:00 am at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street, Brockton. For more information, call Kathleen Lynch at 508.586.0500 x 229.

# U.S. Small Business Programs Offered

Attend a **FREE SBA** workshop designed to highlight the various SBA programs and services that are available to prospective or current entrepreneurs who need assistance in starting or expanding their business. General information will be provided on the following:

- **SCORE**- Counselors to America's Small Business
- **MSBDC**- Mass Small Businesses Development Centers
- **BIC's**- Business Resource Centers
- **SBA Guaranty Loan Programs**: 7(a), Micro Loans, Patriot & SBA Express Loans & 504-Project Loan Development
- **Government Contracting Opportunities**: 8(a) business Development, HUBZones (Historically Underutilized Business Zones), Small Disadvantaged Business, and Surety Bonding (when applicable - 2 yrs in-business experience required)
- **Disaster Assistance**

The workshop will be held at **CareerWorks**, 34 School Street, Brockton from **2 - 4 pm** on the third Wednesday of each month. The next workshops will be held on **February 19, 2014 and March 19, 2014**. Contact CareerWorks at 508.513.3400 for further workshop information.

CareerWorks





Buy Local From These New Chamber of Commerce Members

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For 20 years, Dr. Siri Steinle has been providing Brockton and the surrounding communities with affordable, high quality orthodontic care, in a caring, comfortable environment. Our friendly and efficient office works with our patients to offer different treatment and payment options, to best help our patients achieve the smile they've dreamed of. We are conveniently located on the Brockton/Avon line. Please visit us for a consultation today!



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USA Mobile Drug Testing of Greater Brockton is your on-site solution to a Drug Free Workplace. We cover you from policy review, to training; specimen collection, and book-keeping. Pre-employment screening services; as well as DOT and non-DOT testing, and around the clock availability. Call on us to be your Compliance Experts! Visit [www.USAMDT.com/GreaterBrockton](http://www.USAMDT.com/GreaterBrockton) for more information.



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508-279-4194 • [www.craigpina.nylagents.com](http://www.craigpina.nylagents.com)  
As an agent with New York Life Insurance Company and a Registered Representative with NYLIFE Securities, LLC, I work with individuals and families in defining their financial goals and finding solutions in achieving them. I especially enjoy working with small businesses on employee benefit and retirement solutions as well as helping business owners find tax-advantaged strategies to achieve their retirement and/or business succession goals.



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800-221-2725 • [www.crownuniform.com](http://www.crownuniform.com)  
Crown Uniform & Linen Service has been providing uniform and linen programs throughout New England for 100 years. Save time and money, improve customer satisfaction, and build a stronger brand image with work uniforms, restaurant wear, medical apparel, linens, and floor mats from Crown. Our full service program includes weekly pick-up & delivery, inventory tracking, hygienic laundering, professional pressing, and repairs & replacements.

**Business or Pleasure...**  
THE METRO SOUTH REGION: THE HEART OF EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
Hundreds of Dining Options • Great Conference Space  
Over 500 Hotel Rooms • Many Parks & Lakes

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, biking, 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](http://www.metroouthchamber.com)

**NEW! Site Finder**

Search for available commercial sites for purchase or lease in the Metro South region, or list a property.  
[www.metroouthsitefinder.com](http://www.metroouthsitefinder.com)

**Impact.**  
It takes the right tools to start - or grow - a business. And it takes customers to keep business growing.

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce builds strong businesses and communities by connecting you to new customers and suppliers, as well as to those who influence the local economy and quality of life. You'll get the tools and resources you need to grow and make a positive impact.

Call 508.586.0500 x 229 or visit [metroouthchamber.com](http://metroouthchamber.com) to learn more.

BUSINESS EVENTS Planner

**February 5**  
**Business After Hours**  
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm  
**Eastern Bank**  
1265 Belmont Street, Brockton

Join us for networking and refreshments at Eastern Bank's regional headquarters in Brockton. (see p. 2)

*Free to Attend*  
Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

**February 7**  
**H&R Block Workshop**  
9:00 am - 10:30 am  
**Metro South Chamber of Commerce**  
60 School Street, Brockton

The second workshop in a three-part series on Self-Employment Business Solutions. Learn important tax considerations for starting a small business. (see p. 2)

*Free to Attend*  
Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

**February 7**  
**Government Affairs**  
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm  
**Metro South Chamber of Commerce**  
60 School Street, Brockton

Speaking at the Government Affairs luncheon will be Michael Widmer, President of the Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation. (see p. 2)

Cost: \$5 members, \$15 future-members  
Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

**IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!**

508-586-0500 x 231  
508-587-1340  
E-mail: [info@metroouthchamber.com](mailto:info@metroouthchamber.com)  
Online: [www.metroouthchamber.com](http://www.metroouthchamber.com)  
Send reservation and payment to:  
**Metro South Chamber of Commerce**  
Sixty School Street  
Brockton, MA 02301-4087

**February 12**  
**Good Morning Metro South**  
7:30 am - 9:00 am  
**The Shaw's Center**  
1 Feinberg Way, Brockton

This breakfast program features informative speakers in a talk show style format and allows for networking opportunities. (see p. 1)

Cost: \$25 members, \$35 future-members  
Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

**February 14**  
**Geek Girl Workshop**  
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm  
**Stoughton YMCA**  
445 Central Street, Stoughton

Fall in love with your Facebook page this Valentine's Day! Learn how to engage your fans and grow your fan base, developing your own marketing strategy. (p.2)

Cost: \$25 members, \$50 future-members  
Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

**March 19**  
**Taste of Metro South**  
5:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
**The Shaw's Center**  
1 Feinberg Way, Brockton

Sample tastes from over 50 area restaurants, enjoy live entertainment and celebrate living and working in the Metro South region (page 1).

Cost: \$35. Tickets must be purchased in advance  
Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

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