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## **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.



Dr. Peter Ubertacci, page 6



**H&R Block Ribbon Cutting** page 6



Debora Babin Katz page 11

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# Chamber Convenes Regional Roundtable for Priorities



In an effort to encourage regional collaboration, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce recently convened a Regional Roundtable Discussion, bringing together regional town managers, chairmen, and affiliates into one room. The forum provided an opportunity for municipal leaders to connect, share areas of interest and concern, and learn about some of the Chamber's current regional initiatives. Topics of discussion included water/wastewater supply, business Site Finder services, new regional brand, Economic development, transportation & infrastructure, and more.

Continued on page 9 –

# **Enterprise News Panel and More at February Breakfast**

## Thursday, February 12, 2015, The Shaw's Center, Brockton

Join us at the next Good Morning Metro South Breakfast on February 12, 2015 from 7:30 - 9:00 am at the Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way in Brockton. This program will feature an interesting and informative panel session with key individuals operating The Enterprise newspaper.

# The Enterprise



Steve Damish, Maria Papadopoulos, Managing Editor Senior Reporter



Marc Vasconcellos, Photographer

The Enterprise is an afternoon daily newspaper published in Brockton, Mass. It is considered a newspaper of record for Brockton and nearby towns in northern Bristol and Plymouth counties, and southern Norfolk County. The Enterprise has been named Newspaper of the Year by The New England Newspaper Association and the New England Press Association. Hear firsthand what goes into running and maintaining The Enterprise on a daily basis from Steve Damish, Managing Editor; Maria Papadopolous, Senior Reporter; and Marc Vasconcellos, Photographer, in this informative panel session.

This breakfast program is sponsored by the DJ

Metro South Chamber Mission, Vision & Values

orities that the Metro South Chamber of Commerce has established to drive and guide our organization as we continue to actively support and foster the business community in 2015.

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

• Catalyzing critical public discussion on key issues and mobilizing political support;

• Projecting a positive image of the region & bolstering awareness of its many advantages;

 Striving to position the region to seize the variety of emerging economic opportunities

## Values:

• Independent & Objective

• Transparent, Open, & Honest • Collegial, Cooperative, & Inclusive (Both members and

• Focused on fostering a broader sense of community involvement, engagement, & advancement

• Relationship-driven & focused deepening connectivity on throughout the region & beyond • Ready, willing, and eager to lead the charge (advocacy, policy making, etc.)

Visit metrosouthchamber.com to learn more.



# Taste of Metro South Features Food, Music, & Fun!

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.

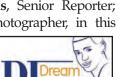


Tickets are now available at the Chamber or online at metrosouthtaste.com

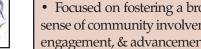
> Tickets: \$35. Must be purchased in advance. The first 300 attendees will receive a Boston MassPass \$25 Coupon Book, with hundreds of dollars in savings!

Continued on page 6 –

Dream Fund.



non-members)



- Continued on page 10

Take a look at the set of pri-

ambitions of businesses;

# **Business After Hours, Bowling at Charlie Horse**

## Tuesday, February 3, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Join us as we kick off the New Year networking season with a Business After Hours at The Charlie Horse, 674 West Center Street in West Bridgewater on Tuesday, February 3 from 5:30 pm- 7:30 pm.

If you're looking for great food, music, sports, games and more, The Charlie Horse is the right place! The Charlie Horse has some of the best food and entertainment around. The Midway Café has over 70 simulators, video games and other hi-tech toys. Feeling lucky? They're also a full service lottery agent! The Charlie Horse offers the best music



and dancing every weekend, 6 ten-pin bowling alleys, and more. Their facility is ready to make your function easy, fun and affordable. Visit thecharliehorse.com.



This event is sponsored by Family & Community Resources, Inc. FCR, Inc. is dedicated to serving individuals and families whose lives are impacted by trauma at home, school, or in their community. FCR, Inc. provides crisis intervention, emergency "safe home" shelter, advocacy, support, individual and group treatment, case man-

agement, and community education and training. All FCR services are provided within a setting that preserves safety, confidentiality, and dignity. Visit fcr-ma.org.

Kick off a new year with us at The Charlie Horse! There will be networking, appetizers, cash bar, open bowling lanes, raffles, and more! Register online at metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration or contact Athena Lavoie, 508.586.0500 x231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com. The cost to attend is \$5 for members and \$15 for future-members.

# Network at Doug King Builders' New Apartments

## Thursday, February 26, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

You are cordially invited to join the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and Douglas A. King Builders, Inc. for a Business After Hours networking event on **Thursday, February 26** from **5:30 pm - 7:30 pm**. This event will celebrate the Grand Opening of Edgewater at Queset Commons, located at **11 Roosevelt Circle in South Easton**.



Douglas A King Builders, Inc. has been responsible for the building of more than 1,400 single-family homes, condominium units, and rental homes as well as commercial developments in Avon, Brockton, Canton, Easton, Mansfield, Milton, Norton, Raynham, Sharon, Taunton, Walpole and Quincy. The commercial developments of the company vary from luxury office buildings and medical centers to major historic rehabs and shopping plazas.

Edgewater at Queset Commons is Douglas A. King Builders Inc.'s newest apartment building. Queset Commons is a smart growth development located in Easton MA that will provide an attractive option for convenient, safe and healthy living. Queset Commons' great architecture, landscape, and neighborhood design will make a difference in ways that will boost the local economy, protect the environment and public health, and enhance community vitality. For more information, visit queset.com.

This event is complimentary to attend; appetizers and cocktails will be served. Register online at metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration or contact Athena Lavoie, 508.586.0500 x231, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com.

# **Video Surveillance Explained**

## Tuesday, February 10, 9:00 am - 10:00 am

Are you thinking about using video surveillance technology in your business or interested in learning more about it? Join us for an informative workshop at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street in Brockton, on Tuesday, February 10 from 9:00 am - 10:00 am.

This workshop will be presented by Eric Lutz of MDCOM, a Massachusetts Security Licensed and Axis Certified Professional with over 30 years experience in commercial business technologies. Lutz will give an overview of today's video surveillance technologies including topics such as:



- Reasons to implement video surveillance (and reasons not to!)
- Detection, Recognition and Identification
- Audio surveillance techniques and responsibilities
- HDTV vs CCTV major design and resolution differences
- Pan/Tilt/Zoom vs Fixed: when and why to use
- How to keep storage from taking a 'byte' out of your budget
- Intelligent applications to help your business

For more information or to register for this complimentary workshop, visit metrosouthchamber.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 13 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 State Representative Shauna O'Connell.

Representative Shauna O'Connell represents the Third Bristol District and is Chairwoman of the Small Business Caucus at the State

House. She is also the co-author of the **Small Business Bill of Rights**, which includes seven features and is intended to ease the burden of regulations on

# **H&R Block ACA Tax Talks**



Sponsored by:

small businesses. She is also responsible for the resolution recognizing Small Business Weekend in MA.

If you would like to attend, please register online at metrosouthchamber.comcalendar-registration, contact Athena at 508.586.0500 x231, or alavoie@metrosouthcham-

bercom. The cost to attend is \$8 for members and \$15 for future-members and includes a light lunch.

Tax Talks

## Friday, February 27, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

This is the first year that your tax return will be affected by the Affordable Care Act. So naturally, you probably have some questions. H&R Block is here to help! On **Friday**, **February 27** join us and H&R Block for an informative free tax talk from 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street in Brockton.

H&R Block, tax preparation specialists, wants to help you understand the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) and how it's going to be affecting your tax returns this year. It is the single largest tax code change in almost 20 years. As a result, H&R Block is offering free tax talks by their tax professionals to help alleviate some of the confusion that the new legislation may be causing.



Register online for this free ACA tax talk at metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration.



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5:30 pm

www.metrosouthchamber.com	ACTION Repo	rt February 2015	5	3
BOARD OF DIRECTORS	DIRECTORS		Networking at Events	
OFFICERS Chair of the Board Susan Joss	Jason Barbosa - Vicente's Tropical Grocery Steve Bryant - Columbia Gas		is one of the most effective ways to grow your business!	
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center	Jane Callahan - HR Alternatives Joe Cardinal -National Grid	<b>FEBRU</b>	ARY Calendar	
President and CEO Christopher Cooney Metro South Chamber of Commerce	Joseph Casey - HarborOne Bank Peter Dello Russo - Bridgewater Savings Bank	3	<b>Business After Hours</b> Charlie Horse, 674 W. Center Street, W. Bridgewater	5:30 pm
Chair-Elect Gerard Nadeau	Francis Dillon - Stonehill College	4	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
Rockland Trust Company	<b>Gregory Hart</b> - Cohn Reznick <b>Kim Hollon</b> - Signature Healthcare	10	Video Surveillance Workshop	9:00 am
Treasurer John McGovern MaCostorre Businesse Valuation	Richard Hynes- Barbour Corporation	12	<b>Good Morning Metro South</b> The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton	7:30 am
McGovern Business Valuation Vice Chair Economic Development	<b>Gigi Johnson</b> - Christo's To-Go Restaurant <b>John Jurczyk</b> - Good Samaritan Medical Center	13	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
Pat Ciaramella Old Colony Planning Council	Robert Kenworthy - Bank of America	16	President's Day - Chamber Closed	
Vice Chair Government Affairs Ray Ledoux	<b>Mahsa Khanbabai -</b> Law Office of Mahsa Khanbabai	26	<b>Business After Hours</b> Edgewater at Queset Commons, 11 Roosevelt Circle, Easton	5:30 pm
Brockton Area Transit Authority	<b>Dr. Dana Mohler Faria</b> - Bridgewater State University	27	H&R Block ACA Talks	1:00 pm
Vice Chair Membership Development Friend Weiler HarborOne Bank	Jim Murphy LSP- Tracey Environmental, LLC Peter Neville - Concord Foods			
Immediate Past Chair William Morse	Jonathan "Jay" Pike - Sharkansky LLP Andrew Raczka -Abington Bank	Coming Up March		
Mutual Bank	Kathleen Smith -Brockton Public Schools	4	Ambassadors Meeting	8:00 am
	Stan Usovicz - Verizon Peter Vlaco - Brophy & Philips Company, Inc.	13	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
	<b>Dr. Charles Wall</b> - Massasoit Community College	18	<b>Taste of Metro South</b> The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton	5:30 pm
CHAMBER STAFF	508-586-0500 Front Desk x 221	24	Executive Committee Meeting	3:00 pm
Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM President and CEO x 223	Lisa Pearce Finance x 230	Save the Date		
Athena Lavoie Director of Programs & Events x 231	Alison van Dam, IOM VP of Business Development/Operations x 227	April -		
Melanie McGrath Communications Coordinator x 222		1	Board of Directors	12:00 pm
Newsletter Written & Desig Printing Provided I	e e	8 9	Ambassadors Meeting Business After Hours	8:00 am 5:30 pm
			Crescent Credit Union, Brockton	I
METRO SOUTH CHAMBER OF	(USPS-410630) is published monthly except for combined July/August for \$5.00 per year by the Metro South Chamber of	20	Patriot's Day - Chamber Closed	
	Commerce, Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087. Periodical Postage Paid at Brockton, MA	24	Legislative Luncheon	12:00 pm

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

**Metro South Chamber of Commerce** Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087 tel: 508 586-0500/fax: 508 587-1340 info@metrosouthchamber.com www.metrosouthchamber.com

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

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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.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Action Report,

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.

**Business After Hours** 

Mansfield Bank, Easton

Massasoit Conference Center, Brockton

Photography by: Rich Morgan \* www.richmorganphotography.com

# <mark>GOOD</mark>News

### Good Samaritan Go Red for Women!

Show your support for women's heart health and join Good Samaritan Medical Center for their Go Red for Women event on Friday, February 6. Bring your co-workers to get your photo taken in the Go Red for Women photo booth, to be posted on the Good Samaritan Medical Center Facebook page. Wear red or bring something red to wear for a photo. Good Samaritan will donate \$5 for each photo liked and another \$5 if shared on Facebook. The Go Red photo booth will be set up in the hospital lobby, located at 235 North Pearl Street in Brockton, from 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. Visit goodsamaritanmedical.org.

### **Mutual Bank Directors Re-elected**

Mutual Bank has recently re-elected John H. Duval of Whitman and Kevin E. Welch, DMD of Hanson to their Board of Directors. Mr. Duval has served as a director of Mutual Bank since 1995. In this role, he will continue to help guide the policy and strategic direction for the bank. Mr. Duval is the owner and president of Duval's Pharmacy, a long-time family business located in Whitman Center. Dr. Welch maintains a general dentistry practice in East Bridgewater, as Kevin E. Welch, DMD. Dr. Welch has served on the Mutual Bank board since 1999. In this role, he participates in forming policy and strategic planning for the bank. Mutual Bank is a MA-chartered, cooperative bank offering a range of personal banking, small business banking, and commercial banking services through its 10 banking centers in southeastern MA and online at MyMutualBank.com.

### Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration at Massasoit

Massasoit Community College will host its 13th annual celebration of the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Wednesday, February 4. The College's Office of Institutional Diversity's yearly event will feature Dr. J. Keith Motley, Chancellor of UMass Boston, as the keynote speaker. The Annual MLK Celebration program is designed to celebrate diversity and to commemorate Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy by bringing together faculty, staff, students, and the broader community. The celebration, which will also kick off Massasoit's recognition of Black History Month, will be held on the Brockton Campus in the Anna P. Buckley Performing Arts Center Large Theater from 12:00 - 1:00 pm. The event is free and open to the public. Visit massasoit.mass.edu.

### Annual Cupcake Decorating Contest

The annual Cupcake Contest will be held on Thursday, February 19 from 6:00 until 7:30 pm at the Brockton East Branch Library, 54 Kingman Street, Brockton. This kids' activity is free and a fun chance to be creative. Since space is limited, please register by either calling 508-580-7890 ext 301 or visiting the Children's Room at the Brockton Main Library.

ACTION Report February 2015 Members - Send Good News to mmcgrath@metrosouthchamber.com Medical Center Medical Center

mmcgrath@metrosouthchamber.com Sponsored by: Good Samaritan

## Free Family Fun Day at Maplewood

Join Maplewood Country Day Camp & Enrichment Center, 150 Foundry Street in S. Easton, from 10:00 am - 1:00 pm on Sunday, February 8 for a fun packed day full of free activities. Activities are geared towards children ages 5 and up and include moonwalks, pedal karts, gymnastics, art, chess, bricks for kids (legos), rock climbing and cargo net, and more. There will be a special performance: John Higby is the Yo-Yo guy from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm. For more information, call 508-238-2387.

### Brockton Garden Club Meeting

The Brockton Garden Club will host Jim Torrey on Monday, February 23 at the Arnone Elementary School, Belmont Street in Brockton. Doors open at 6:30 pm. Torrey will present a program on roses - planting, growing, and maintaining them. Everyone is welcome to join and light refreshments will be served. For more information, email brocktongarden@gmail.com.

### Winter Wonderland Camp for Kids

No snow? No problem! Bring the winter fun indoors with Bricks 4 Kidz! Kids can build motorized models of popular winter activities from the thrilling luge to the relaxing horse and sleigh as well as ice hockey, snowplowing, skiing, snowmobiling, and more. Classes take place Wednesdays from January 7 - February 11, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm at Simpson Spring, 719 Washington Street in South Easton. The cost is \$10 per class; multi-sibling discounts available! For more information, call 508-345-4440 or visit bricks4kidz.com.

### Brockton Symphony Orchestra Viva Scandinavia!

Trip the light fantastic in the Land of the Midnight Sun on Sunday, March 1. Join the Brockton Symphony Orchestra and special guest dancers from Matta Dance Academy as we sweep across the musical landscapes of Norway, Sweden, Denmark, and Finland. Our Swedish-American concertmaster, Kristina Nilsson, will take center stage for Svenden's Romance for violin and Jaernefeldt's Berceuse! The performance takes place at West Middle School in Brockton at 3:00 pm. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit www.brocktonsymphony.org or call 508-588-3841. Visit the Brockton Symphony on Facebook.

### **G.T. Reilly Company Announces Promotions**

Four accounting professionals have been promoted by G.T. Reilly & Company, a fullservice accounting firm based in Milton. Kevin J. Bonnett, CPA, was promoted to Accounting & Auditing Supervisor. Caleb F. Dean, CPA, was promoted to Accounting & Auditing Supervisor. Sean S. McNeil was promoted to In-Charge Accountant & Auditor. Ryan O. Young was promoted to In-Charge Accountant & Auditor. G.T. Reilly & Company is a full-service accounting and consulting firm that offers accounting, auditing and tax services, as well as management consulting and estate planning. Visit gtreilly.com.

### **Old Colony Hospics Coins for Comfort**

Old Colony Hospice's new Coins for Comfort campaign gives you an opportunity to participate in raising awareness and funds to support quality care for loved ones during their end of life journey. Every donation counts, big or small - just one example of how you can make an impact in the loves of friends and neighbors right here in your own community! There are several ways to get involved: place a "Coins for Comfort" jar in your office or business or invite your children to fundraise at a school or community group. For more information, or to get your jar today, contact Nicole Rozelle, nrozelle@oldcolonyhospice.com, 781-318-7331, or visit oldcolonyhospice.org.

### Family Autism Night: Children's Museum in Easton

On Friday, February 6, the Children's Museum in Easton will open from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm exclusively to families with children ages 10 and under on the Autism Spectrum, giving them an opportunity to explore the Museum's hands-on exhibits in a less overwhelming atmosphere. Children can meet Bailey the Therapy Dog and his driver Jack from Dog Bones. Also, enjoy a special art activity in the Art Studio. This program is free but pre-registration is required. Call 508-230-3789 to register. For more information, visit childrensmuseumineaston.org.

### loveCRAFT Valentine's Evening Event

Feed your senses with an evening of Valentine's fun at the Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street in Brockton this Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14. Enjoy live jazz by Candida Rose and her quintet, dinner, love poetry by Everett Hoagland, Kizomba dance lessons, a DJ, and couples' games. Takes place from 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm. Space is limited, reserve discounted tickets before February 6, \$55 or two for \$100 (members \$40 or 2 for \$70). Reserve your tickets online at fullercraftmuseum.org.

## Valentine's Day Teen Skate

Join the Carousel Family Fun Center for a Teen Skate this Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14. This celebration of love will include fun music, games, prizes, giveaways, and special gifts for the first 50 people. Activities will take place from 7:00 pm -10:00 pm at 1055 Auburn Street, Whitman. Admission is \$10 per ticket and skate rental is \$3. For more information, please visit carouselskate.com.

### Celebrate Chinese New Year at Brockton Library

Join the Brockton Public Library in celebrating the Chinese New Year on Thursday, www.metrosouthchamber.com

February 19 from 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm in the Lingos Auditorium Main Library, 304 Main Street in Brockton. Children ages 3 and up are invited to a viewing of Disney's Mulan at 1:00 pm, and a Chinese dragon parade, crafts, and snacks at 2:30 pm. To sign up, please call 508-580-7890 x301 or visit the Children's Room at the Brockton Main Library. Visit brocktonpubliclibrary.org for more information.

## First Banana Bread Bake-off Planned

Come and join the Marketplace at Simpson Spring for their first Banana Bread Bake-off on Saturday, February 21, 719 Washington Street in South Easton. People's choice award will begin at 10:00 am, with the official judging beginning at 1:00 pm. Pick up a registration form 6 days a week at Simpson Spring. Deadline for entry is February 14- limited to fifteen entries, first come, first serve. For more information, call simpsonspringmarketplace.com, or call 508-238-4472.

## Old Colony YMCA's Annual Spin-a-thon

Join the Old Colony YMCA as they pedal with a purpose! The Annual Spin-a-thon will take place on Saturday, March 7; help to make this year the best yet! One hour is all it takes to help make a significant impact in the life of a local family. Your participation in this event will help support those in need in our community; all proceeds raised will benefit the Y's Annual Support Campaign. To learn more or to book a bike, visit oldcolonyymca.org/events/spin-thon-2015.

### Winter's End Celebration

Please join The Downtown Brockton Association for their 2nd Annual Winter's End Celebration on Saturday, February 28 from 6:00 pm - 11:00 pm at the Brockton War Memorial Building, 156 West Elm Street. The year 2015 marks the 125th anniversary of the First Department Store Santa- James Edgar- our inspiration for making a difference in the community. The Winter's End Celebration will feature the presentation of the James Edgar Award to Dr. Claire Appling, entertainment by Electra 225, DJ Joe Lupica and Jose DJ Master, the Merian's Muse Award Announcement and Presentation, and much more! This semi-formal celebration is not to be missed! To reserve your tickets, visit eventbrite.com/e/winters-end-celebration-tickets-15322802916 or email dbabrockton@gmail.com.

### Free Zumba at Signature Healthcare

Join Signature Healthcare every Wednesday from 5-6 pm for a free fitness class. All ages and levels welcome, no registration required. The next class will take place on Wednesday, February 4, 5:00 pm at Massasoit Community College Brockton Campus, 2nd floor of the Field House. For more information, call 508-941-7654 or visit signature-healthcare.org.

# **Employees Advance up Health Care Career Ladder Through Chamber Initiatives**

It was three 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 mem-



A certificate ceremony held at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce congratulated students who completed a training course through the Careers in Health initiative. Longer retention and higher wages resulted.

ber 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 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.

In July 2014, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce was awarded a \$40,000 grant in support of higher education from the Lumina Foundation, the nation's largest private foundation. These funds were used to continue the Chamber's Careers in Health Program,

an initiative enabling us to train the region's health care workers to meet the current and future workforce needs of the healthcare facilities in the Metro South region. The program targeted entry and advanced level health care employees who seek career and workplace advancement but require higher education, certification, or licensure.

Incumbent health care workers were chosen from Baypointe Rehabilitation &

Skilled Care Center, New England Sinai Hospital, Heights Crossing Assisted Living, Steward Health Care System, The Guardian Center, and Signature Healthcare. The grant provided funding to health care workers taking classes at local colleges and universities to further their careers in health, as well as one-on-one career mapping.

# Meet Careers in Health Program Participants:

### Felicia Brinson, Signature Healthcare



What is your current and previous occupation?

Prior to participating in the CIH Grant, I worked as a Credentialing Specialist. Now I work in the same department but was promoted to a Supervisor position.

### What are your future career goals?

I am working towards completing my Bachelor's degree at Lesley University through Massasoit Community College. Once I complete my Bachelor's degree, I hope to work in human services or counseling psychology.

## How has participating in the grant helped you or will help you to achieve your career goals?

The CIH Grant helped me to map out and take the courses necessary to complete my Bachelor's degree. It really helped me as an adult learner and opened up my options for courses and beyond. Throughout the process, I have gained so many skills in time management, learning, and career-related that will really help me in my future.



What is your current and previous occupation?

I am now, and have been working full time at Good Samaritan Medical Center as a registered nurse.

## What are your future career goals?

I enjoy what I do and want to remain in my field and position as a registered nurse, however I am looking forward to completing my Bachelor's degree. Right now I have RN status through an associate's degree, but completing my Bachelor's degree at UMass Boston is a goal of mine and will offer career advancement.

## How has participating in the grant helped you or will help you to achieve your career goals?

The Careers in Health Program was a game changer. CIH was able to facilitate getting me into the right program and classes. The one-on-one sessions and financial aid made the transitions into college courses an easy one. I'm thankful for the Careers in Health Program.

# 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 mhtl.com or call 617-479-5000.

# **Chamber Hosts Workforce Training Fund Forum**



The Metro South Chamber recently hosted a Workforce Training Fund Business Forum, held by English Works. Any business that pays unemployment insurance is eligible to receive Workforce Training Fund grants. WTFP funds are available to enhance the skills of

your workforce! Grants can be used to train employees in new technologies, improve employee's English skills, and more. To learn about how to apply for grants, visit english-works.org or contact Franklin Peralta at 617-982-6863.

# Mayor Tours Evans Machine Company in Brockton



Gordon Carr, Brockton 21st Century Corporation; Tom Roach, Evans Machine Company; Mayor Bill Carpenter; Dan Evans, Evans Machine Company; and Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO tour the four million dollar expansion at Evans Machine Company in Brockton. Evans employs 65 people, with more expected in the coming year.

# Whelan Associates Breaks Ground in Easton



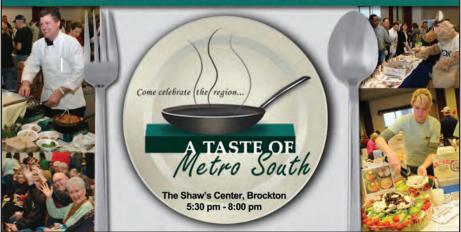
Whelan Associates celebrates the groundbreaking ceremony for the construction of Three Washington Place, a 26,000 sq. ft., two-story, Class A medical office building on Route 138 in Easton



Bill Whelan, President of Whelan Associates; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO

# 23<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL TASTE OF METRO SOUTH

# WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015



## TICKETS AVAILABLE AT METROSOUTHTASTE.COM

Ticket Price: \$35. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Call 508.586.0500 x 231 for tickets and more information

Like us at <u>www.facebook.com/metrosouthchambercommerce</u> to stay up to date on participating restaurants, organizations and entertainment acts.

Bring your appetites on **March 18**, **2015**, **5:30 pm - 8:00 pm** to the Shaw's Center in Brockton for the 23rd 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 wellreceived 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, Cardinal Spellman High School's acapella group Symphonium, and more!

Tickets are available by contacting Athena Lavoie at 508.586.0500 x 231, alavoie@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 metrosouthtaste.com. Visit metrosouthchamber.com or 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 Athena Lavoie at 508.586.0500 x 231 or email alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com.



John E. Walsh, Executive Director of TogetherPAC Deval Patrick Committee, former Metro South Chamber chair



Dr. Peter Ubertaccio, Director of the Martin Institute at Stonehill College (sponsor)



Dan Trout, Mutual Bank, emcees the program. See page 1 for info about the next breakfast program.



The Martin Institute at Stonehill College is a center which prepares students for leadership as active citizens. Visit www.stonehillcollege.edu



Christian Caruso, Crescent Credit Union, Beth Roll Smith, West Bridgewater Public Library, and other guests enjoy breakfast catered by Sodexo

# **H&R Block Opens New Belmont Street Location!**





City officials and members of the community gather to celebrate the Grand Opening of H&R Block's newest location at 641 Belmont Street in Brockton. Visit hrblock.com for more information. Pictured: Brockton Rox mascot K.O.; John King, Cirees, Inc., Chamber Ambassador; Mayor Bill Carpenter; Mary Murgado, District General Manager, H&R Block; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO; Karen Maye, Regional Director, H&R Block

# 0

## Sponsored by: MARTIN Sound by Rich I Sound by Rob Pa Video by Brockta Channel (check I

Barry Bluestone, John Walsh at Breakfast

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



Barry Bluestone, Economist, Founding Director of the Dukakis Center for Urban & Regional Policy, Northeastern University

# **Centennial Innovation Renovations Underway at Metro South Chamber Headquarters!**

The Chamber has a responsibility to represent Brockton and the Metro South Carpet Before region as the premier, modern hub of business and development, to serve as a model of innovation and progress, and to demonstrate the support and strength of the business community. Thanks to your generous donations and support, the Metro South Chamber is able to renovate our headquarters, making structural, aesthetic, and technological improvements.

The headquarters served as a power station for Thomas Edison in the late 19th Century. It is here where he perfected his three-wire system of underground lighting that would power city theaters, factories, firehouses and residences and serve as the model for electricity in the rest of the world. The Chamber purchased the building in 1988, transforming Edison's power plant into office space.

"The building retains much of its original character through its brick walls, but has not been updated since the time of purchase," stated Christopher Cooney, Chamber President and CEO. "As we enter into the 2015 year, we remember the impressive industrial history of downtown Brockton, while ushering in the next wave of development. It is important for the Chamber to remain in downtown Brockton and support its economic revival. This City is the heart of the entire Metro South region." said Christopher Cooney, Chamber President and CEO.

The Chamber plans to debut these renovations to the public at a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and Open House this summer.



# Supporting Sponsors:

Abington Bank B.E. Peterson, Inc. Bay Copy Beacon Financial Planning Beacon Telecom, Inc. Bernardi Hyundai & Honda of Brockton **BKA** Architects Bridgewater Credit Union Bridgewater Savings Bank Brockton Area Transit Authority Bridgewater State University Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc. **Brockton Housing Authority** Brockton Neighborhood Health Center Prism Energy Services Capeway Aluminum Chase Corporation, Global Operations Ctr Rodman & Rodman, P.C. Christopher Cooney Christo's, Inc. **Constellation New Energy** Crescent Credit Union Curry College Cushman Insurance CWB Contractors, Inc. Douglas A. King Builders, Inc. East Coast Petroleum Corp. **Everett** Auto Franklin Sports, Inc. George's Cafe

Heights Crossing Holiday Inn Express Koso America Law Office of Andrew Schwartz Lombardo's Mansfield Bank Montello Heel Manufacturing, Inc. Morse Insurance Agency, Inc. New England Sinai Hospital Nissan 24 NorthEast Electrical Distributors North Easton Savings Bank Old Colony Elder Services, Inc. Old Colony YMCA **Rivers Electrical Corporation** Santander Sharkansky LLP, CPA's Stonehill College The Enterprise The Guardian Center for Skilled Nursing, Rehabilitative Services The Ockers Company, Inc. Thomas J. Curtin, DDS VHS Transportation Company, Inc. WalMart Weiss Sheet Metal Westgate Mall

# 

Skylight Before





Skylight After

**Carpet** After



During Chamber building renovations, the outdated roof and skylights have been replaced, new carpeting has been installed, and walls have been repainted. Renovations to come include new furniture, brick restoration, new signs, and awnings. Stay tuned for more renovations and a Grand Opening Celebration to come this Summer 2015!

# **Busting out with** custom solutions for your business.



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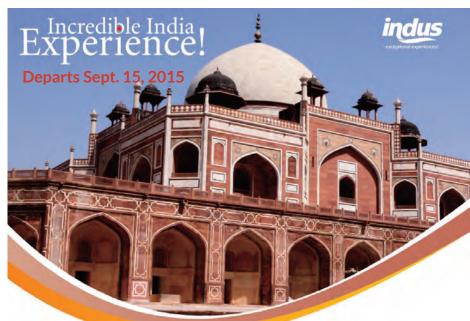
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# **Exciting Travel Opportunities...**

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 Visit www.metrosouthchamber.com/events/travel for a detailed itinerary and more information or call 508.586.0500.



Enjoy the highlights and hidden gems of Ireland with your local Irish driver/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.metrosouthchamber.com/events/travel for a detailed itinerary and more information or call 508.586.0500.

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**Shelley Tierney** flickr OWNER

# **Call For Small Biz Award Nominations**

The Metro South Chamber Sponsored by: members of the Chamber. and Bank of America recog-

nizes 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

### **Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients** 2014 J.M. Pet Resort

ZUT4 J.M. PET KESOTI
2013 Solex Payroll Systems, Inc.
2012 Vicente's Tropical Grocery
2011 McGuiggan'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 Duplitron, Inc.
2003 Modern Auto Body
2002 United Furniture, Inc.
2001 Robert Sharkansky & Company, CPA

**Bank of America** 

Small Business of the Year Criteria: 50 or less full-time equivalent employees; in business more than 3 consecutive

years under the current ownership; forprofit business.

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, 2015. Recipients will be announced at the Small Business and Entrepreneur Luncheon in May.

### **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
Fastener Supply Co.	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
iny, CPA	2001 Randy Yanoff of Eye of the Tiger Karate
	<ul> <li>2005 Jeffrey Chrzanowski of Spark Street Autobody</li> <li>2004 Charles Bernard of The DJ Experience</li> <li>2003 James Messinger of The Crazy Chefs Caterers</li> <li>2002 Jerome Offutt of Top Quality Staffing</li> </ul>

# **ATHENA Award Recognizes Leadership**

## Call for Nominations

This summer, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce will present the 16th 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 reach-

ing 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 an 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.



# **Chamber Convenes Regional Roundtable to Discuss Area Priorities**

The recent Metro South Regional Roundtable 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 Abington, Avon, Bridgewater, Brockton, Easton, Halifax, Hanson, Holbrook, Randolph, Stoughton, West Bridgewater, and Whitman. See topics of discussion below. For more information on any studies, contact Alison van Dam, Vice President Business Development at 508.586.0500 x227, avandam@metrosouthchamber.com.



David Colton and Daniel Murphy, Town of Easton; Mayor of Brockton Bill Carpenter; Sue Joss, Chamber Chair, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO



Pamela McCarthy, Town of Stoughton; Dori Jamieson, Town of Abington; William Phelan, Town of Holbrook







Pat Ciaramella, OCPC, Vice Chair Economic Development; Mary Waldron, Bridgewater State University; Ray Ledoux, BAT, Vice-Chair Government Affairs; Ron San Angelo, Town of Hanson

## **Regional Branding Study:**

- Commissioned Connelly Partners (agency also contracted by the state) to establish Metro South as recognized entity with positive perceptions
- Region benefits by combining strengths of each community, i.e. resources, attractions

• Towns encouraged to adopt brand, replacing "Metro South", with their town name (used in conjunction with Metro South logo)

• Marketing ideas: post cards, maps, advertisements, radio & tv spots, speeches



## Water/Sewer Study:

• Chamber commissioned UMass Donahue Institute to conduct a study on the creation of a regional water/sewer authority

· Goal to increase competitiveness and sustainability, achieve greater water-rate stability, make

rates consistent among communities, and improve infrastructure & water quality · Phase I - Complete: Includes key findings from interviews with local experts, regional water and sewer data for the Metro South region, and similar case studies

 Phase II - Underway: Will focus observations and policy recommendations regarding Metro South water and sewer collaborations



### CSX Railyard Study:

 Commissioned UMass Donahue Institute to conduct study of underutilized 35 acre rail yard site in downtown Brockton to determine its best potential use

• Referred to developers & City

 Redevelopment of land will lead to job creation, tax revenue and revival of the area



T. Crimmins, Jr., Town of Avon

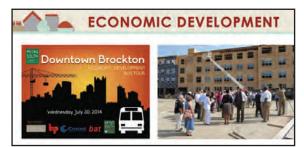


ments 2) Search through properties by criteria such as town, size, purpose, etc 3) Submit information on type of property being sought and Chamber will match you • Towns encouraged to promote website by posting properties, promoting to developers, and posting sitefinder button with link on town website

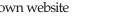


• Initiatives include connecting manufacturers with artists; Focus on Job Creation

 Metro South towns encouraged to get involved-submit lists to Chamber of artists and gallery space for collaborative events, promotion, & tourist/business attraction.



highlight new developments and buildings, with additional tours planned



- **Creative Economy:**  Designation received by MA Office of Housing & Economic
- Promote arts as a vehicle for

Development

economic development through exposure, access to space, access to capital, growing talent, and business support

# **Economic Development:**

 Supported developments that affect the region, including Downtown Brockton Regional Higher Education Facility and redevelopment of Brockton Enterprise Block. Organized tour of Downtown Brockton to





Francis T. Crimmins Jr., Town of Avon; Robert Brady, Town of Avon; Mayor of Brockton Bill Carpenter; Christopher



Gregory Enos, Town of Whitman; Robert Jenkins, Brockton Redevelopment Authority; Paul Meoni, Town of Randolph; Nancy Maloney, Town of West Bridgewater



· Created to connect developers with available commercial properties within the Metro South region. Also lists

1) Submit a property with full listing info, photos and attach-



Terry Schneider, Stoughton Chamber of Commerce; Bob Costa, Avon Industrial Park Association; Francis

# Cooney, Chamber President & CEO Valuation, Metro South Chamber Treasurer; Bill Morse, Immediate Past Chairman, Mutual Bank

# **WELCOME** New Members

# Making an Investment in Our Community

DJ Dream Fund, Inc.

Ms. Angella Henry P.O. Box 1112 Easton, MA 02334 (508) 667-1755 www.djdreamfund.org Advertising

# McCaul Land Title Company

Mr. Timothy S. McCaul 251 North Pearl Street Brockton, MA 02301 (508) 272-9705 www.mccaultitlecompany.com Land Title

SERVPRO of Milton/Braintree Mr. Christopher Sheehan 260 Centre Street, Unit B Holbrook, MA 02343 (781) 341-7007 www.servpromiltonbraintree.com Restoration

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 !

Artco Inc. Associação Caboverdiana De Brockton, Inc. Battles Farm Company Baynes Electric Supply Co., Inc. Bearce Insurance Agency, Inc. **BKA Architects-Accounts Payable** Bob's Ski-Doo, Inc. Boys and Girls Club of Brockton, Inc. Bridgewater Square Chiropractic - A **Creating Wellness Center** Brockton Community Schools Canoe Club Ballroom, Inc. Chapel of New Hope, Inc. Coaching for Change Collins Crane & Rigging Service, Inc. Crown Uniform & Linen Service Dahlborg-MacNevin Funeral Home Direct Media Eagle Elevator Company, Inc. Eastern Bank

Extreme Limo & Shuttle Service Fuller Craft Museum G.T. Reilly & Company Happy Bear Auto/Midas HarborOne Bank Independence Insurance Agency Law Office of Mark D. Petti Loureiro Engineering Manny's Night & Day Cleaning Service Mutual Oil Company, Inc. Porter and Chester Institute Pressure BioSciences, Inc. Print Synergy Solutions/Hanson Printing Prophett- Chapman Cole & Gleason Funeral Homes & Cremation Serv School on Wheels of MA Signature Healthcare Tufts Health Plan - Network Health United Way of Greater Plymouth County, Inc.

# **Enterprise News Panel at February Breakfast**

## Continued from page 1

The DJ Dream Fund is a non-profit 501 [c] 3 organization dedicated to the mem-



ory of Danroy "DJ" Henry. Our mission is to share DJ's love of sports by providing the financial resources to enable children and young adults to say "YES" to healthy lifestyles through athletics, wellness, and arts programs. Our support is more than a scholarship. It is designed to empower

young people to be the best that they can be. Visit djdreamfund.org for more information. Attend the Good Morning Metro South breakfast program on Thursday, February 12 to learn more about the DJ Dream Fund.

Join us for breakfast, networking, and informative speakers. Additional speakers will be announced. The cost to attend is \$25 for members and \$35 for future-members and includes breakfast, networking, and raffle drawings. As always, don't forget your business cards! Please register in advance by contacting Athena Lavoie, alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com, 508.586.0500 x231, or register online at metrosouthchamber.com/calendar-registration.



Stay up to date with Metro South Chamber events and news by signing up for the Chamber E-update list. Visit www.metrosouthchamber.com/news-media/e-update to be added to our email list.

# **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.* 



The Bridgewater Business Association (BBA) will hold its monthly meeting on Thursday, February 19, 6:30 pm, at BBA member business Bridgewater Art & Custom Framing, located at 50 Central Square, Bridgewater. Visit bridgewaterbiz.biz for more information.

The Stoughton Chamber of Commerce will hold a "Meet the Candidates" event on Monday, March 2 from 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm hosted by Copley at Stoughton, 380 Sumner Street in Stoughton. The cost to attend is \$15 for members and \$25 for non-members. Visit stoughtonma.com for more information and to register.





The Norwell Chamber of Commerce will hold their Annual State of the Town Breakfast on Thursday, February 5 from 7:30 am - 9:30 am at the United Church of Christ in Norwell. Meet town officials and hear them recap the year's events. Cost to attend is \$20 and

includes breakfast and networking. Register: norwellchamberofcommerce.com

The East Bridgewater Business Association (EBBA) exists to promote a healthy and ethical 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 mem-Industrial Park Association bers 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 mission of The Randolph Chamber of Commerce is to promote, enhance and strengthen the business interests of its members and to maintain and unify a sound and healthy business district and climate while contributing to the well being of the Randolph community. Visit randolphchamberofcommerce.org.





Prolink Networking Group is a category exclusive, non-competi-**Prolink** tive business networking group. Regular meetings are held on alternating Tuesdays at 7:30 am at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street in Brockton. For more information, visit www.pro-

2015

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linknetworking.com or contact Craig Pina at 508-408-1049.

The South Shore Women's Business Network (SSWBN) will hold their February Speaker Breakfast on Thursday, February 26 from 7:30 am - 9:30 am at the Holiday Inn, 929 Hingham Street in Rockland. Visit www.sswbn.com to learn more.



# 2015 Book For Business Arriving Soon

18 🟛

**BOOK** for BUSINESS

The Chamber of Commerce will soon be distributing the 2015 Metro South Book for Business. The book features area dining, lodging, public golf courses, recreation, legislative leaders, community demographics, regional and economic data

and a complete membership listing. The book also includes a full color map of the Metro South region, highlighting golf courses, hotels, 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.

# **MEMBER**Profile Fairway Lawn Care Corporation

28 Renker Drive South Easton, MA

508-230-2433



Deborah Babin Katz

Year Established: 1987, founded by Jim Burns

Products or Services: Fairway is a full service landscape and snow management company for both residential and commercial clients. As part of our snow management services. We also offer TrucBrush® Services, which is a mobile device that runs off the hydraulics of a loader to quickly, effectively and safely remove accumulated snow from the tops of trucks and trailers for our larger commercial accounts.

Number of Employees: Our management team members include Massachusetts Landscape Certified Professionals, Irrigation and Fertilization Certified specialists and Certified Snow Professionals. The number of employees changes with each season.

### What is your market area?

Massachusetts, including Boston, Cape Cod and Nantucket.

### What markets do you serve?

Fairway serves both residential and commercial clients including large homeowner associations, college and corporate campus sites, retail



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 18, 2014 and March 18 2015. Contact CareerWorks at 508.513.3400 for further workshop information.



centers, freight companies, banks, healthcare facilities, hotels and other local businesses. We also have a holiday lighting and décor division for residential and commercial clients.

What is unique or special about your firm and the products and services you offer? We understand the unique challenges these communities face when it comes to their landscape needs and their snow management. I n addition to providing landscape and snow management services, we incorporate best practices including on-going training for our employees by industry veterans and we provide seminars to the community with topics ranging from flower pot design to community orientation on landscapes. We are also proud of our experienced design team who, with our maintenance teams, strives to create outdoor living spaces for our clients that exceed their expectations and delivers on 'the power of environment' mantra we live by at Fairway.

What is your main business objective concerning your customers and the business community? Fairway's mission is to be an industry leader in innovation and performance for the benefit of our clients. To achieve this we focus on customer service and building lasting, professional relationships. We also pride ourselves in educating our clients on their landscape and snow management requirements so they have the necessary knowledge to make good decisions.

# **Chamber Reps Attend State of City Address**

Mayor Carpenter Announces Brockton Homebuyer Program

Mayor of Brockton Bill Carpenter recently held his State of the City Address at the Brockton War Memorial building. The event was well attended by officials, residents, and Metro South Chamber representatives (pictured below).



Rob May, Brockton City Planner, Ray Ledoux, BAT, Vice-Chair Government Affairs; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO. Photo by Marc Vasconcellos, Enterprise

During his address, Mayor Carpenter summarized accomplishments during his first year in office, including technology that improves city and police searches, reduced crime rate, alternative revenue streams, the formation of a planning team for downtown projects, and more.

Mayor Carpenter also focused on three areas for improvement during his next year in office: restructuring city government, rebuilding safe and clean neighborhoods, and revitillizing the city's economy. One initiative

he introduced within these areas of focus is the Brockton First Time Homebuyer's Program, an incentive for homebuyers that will encourage growth in Brockton:



"...I have assembled the Mayor's task force on housing and neighborhood stabilization, partnering city agencies with the Brockton Redevelopment Authority, Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Attorney General's Office, and Neighborworks. We are actively identifying vacant, problem properties and using city codes and ordinances to get these properties secured and cleaned up while using the threat of receivership to push lenders to complete foreclosures of long time abandoned properties so that they can be auctioned or sold. We will stabilize our neighborhoods by re-occupying vacant homes with owner occupants...not tenants but owners.

Mayor Bill Carpenter; Photo by Marc Vasconcellos, The Enterprise

Tonight, I am pleased to announce the release of the City of Brockton's first time homebuyer program, administered by the Brockton Redevelopment Authority. This program will offer up to \$10,000 of downpayment and closing cost assistance to first time homebuyers to own and occupy their own home in Brockton. We will be able to assist up to 40 families during the first year of the program."







# Buy Local From These Chamber of Commerce Members

**DJ Dream Fund** 



## P.O. Box 1112, Easton

855-211-7733 • www.DJdreamfund.org The DJ Dream Fund is a non-profit organization dedicated to the memory of Danroy "DJ" Henry. The organization's mission is to share DJ's love of sports by providing the financial resources for children and youth to participate in healthy lifestyles through athletics, wellness and arts programs. The fund provides support to those in need who demonstrate a work ethic like DJ's. For more information contact: www.djdreamfund.org



**South Shore Bank** 

### 225 Bedford Street, East Bridgewater 781-337-3000 • www.southshorebank.com

South Shore Bank has the local knowledge and ability to make fast decisions to help you with your business banking needs. We offer compet-itive loans for small and large businesses as well as credit services, cash management, deposit services and the convenience you want with online, mobile and remote deposit banking serv-Member FDIC, Member DIF, Equal ices. Housing Lender



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AVDesigns is a graphic design and full small business marketing company started in 2005, special-izing in websites, print, search engine optimiza-tion (SEO), social media, video production, fine arts/illustration, animation and more. AVDesigns works with you to bring your business identity to life, creating unique and professional designs accompanied by today's top functionality. Your image matters. Contact us to learn more.



**ABC Disposal Services** 

1245 Shawmut Avenue, New Bedford

**508-995-0544** • www.abcdisposal.com ABC Disposal is a 47 year old family business based out of New Bedford Mass servicing most of Mass and all of Rhode Island. Our new 94,000 sq ft state of the art recycling facility in Rochester Mass will enable our customers to convert almost all of their waste to recyclable green energy. For more information or to schedule a summer tour, please call 508-995-0544.



## **Business After Hours**

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm The Charlie Horse 674 West Center Street, West Bridgewater

Join us for networking, refreshments, bowling, and raffles at The Charlie Horse. (see p. 2)

Cost: \$ 5 members, \$15 future-members Please RSVP at 508,586,0500 ext. 231

# February 13

## **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 Shauna O'Connell, State Representative. (see p. 2)

Cost: \$8 members. \$15 future-members Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

# February 10

## Video Surveillance Explained

9:00 am - 10:00 am **Metro South Chamber of Commerce** 60 School Street Brockton

Join us for an informative workshop explaining an overview of today's video surveillance technologies. (see p. 2)

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

# February 26

# **Business After Hours**

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm **Edgewater at Queset Commons** 11 Roosevelt Circle, Easton

Enjoy networking and refreshments at Doug King Builders, Inc.'s newest apartment building. (p.2)

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

# 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 27

# **H&R Block ACA Tax Talk**

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm **Metro South Chamber of Commerce** 60 School Street, Brockton

Learn how the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare) will affect your tax returns this year in this member-led informative workshop (page 2).

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

# **IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!**

508-586-0500 x 231 🚎 508-587-1340 🚔

E-mail: alavoie@metrosouthchamber.com 📩 Online: www.metrosouthchamber.com Send reservation and payment to:

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