

Actionreport

January
2008

www.metroouthchamber.com

Leading Businesses
Leading Communities



CHAMBER MISSION

To serve the interests of member businesses while providing community leadership to ensure the economic advancement of the Metro South region.



Karen Rodrigue, page 2



Dr. Mitra Ghasemi, page 5



Nick Palantzas, page 8

CONTENTS

Calendar of Events	3
Good News	4
Renewing Members	10
New Members	10

New Publisher of Enterprise at Next Breakfast

Join us at the next Good Morning Metro South Breakfast on Wednesday, January 16 from 7:30am-9:00am at the Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton. The featured speaker will be **Richard Daniels, Chief Operating Officer of Gatehouse Media New England.**



Richard Daniels

Richard Daniels, COO of Gatehouse Media New England has recently been appointed the new publisher of The Patriot Ledger and The Enterprise. Gatehouse Media, which acquired the Ledger and The Enterprise in June 2006, also produces six other dailies and nearly 120 weeklies in Massachusetts. Rick began his duties with Gatehouse in July, 2007.

Prior to joining Gatehouse, Rick served as President of the Boston Globe (2001-2005) and Boston Globe Media (2006), wholly-owned subsidiaries of the New York Times Co. Rick spent his 23 years at the Globe founding, leading and investing in business that continue to play a key role in the future of the Globe and the New York Times Co. These initiatives include: the founding of boston.com, BostonWorks, Globe Direct, The Worcester Telegram and Gazette, Metro Boston and The New York Times Co's investment to become the second largest owner of the Boston Red Sox and NESN. He also served as the executive charged with the day-to-day operations of the Boston Globe and Boston Globe Media. In adapting to the new media models brought forth by digital technologies and structural shifts in advertising models, Rick oversaw



a series of major productivity initiatives that reduced staffing by over 1,000 full-time equivalents.

Also speaking is **Nick Paleologos, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Film Office (MFO).** Nicholas Paleologos, founder and Producing Director of Boston's Stuart Street Playhouse is a two-time Tony Award winning producer, and the recipient of an Emmy Award nomination for the HBO film In the Gloaming. Feature films include HurlyBurly and Ghosts of Mississippi. Paleologos is also a producer of both the London and Broadway productions of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. Prior to his career as a Producer, Paleologos was a member of the Massachusetts House of Representatives where he served for 14 years.



Nicholas Paleologos

Good Morning Metro South is being sponsored by the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board (BAWIB). BAWIB oversees and implements workforce development activities in the region. It also connects employers with job seekers and provides current members of the workforce, and those seeking employment, with the training they need.

As always, the GMMS 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. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members.

The Enterprise

Chamber Sets Business Priorities

- Ensure a sustainable alternative water source for the city and region;
- Support the creation of a regional wastewater plan;
- Create a Higher Education Center/Allied Health Center to serve the region
- Encourage the creation of a Main Street Manager position in Brockton;
- Promote the city/region as a central location for business/leisure travelers;
- Oppose burdensome tax and government policy that hurts small business;
- Reduce the number of workers waiting to learn English and new skills;
- Enhance and expand worker housing stock;
- Support the Health Care Industry, our regions largest employer;
- Encourage and assist small businesses in their growth and development;
- Maintain the economic development momentum we have fostered throughout the region.

To join the Chamber, call Lisa Keene at 508.586.0500 x 225

Metro South "Taste" Event- March 19

The Chamber will celebrate the 16th Annual "A Taste of Metro South" on Wednesday, March 19 at the Shaw's Center, adjacent to Campanelli Stadium in Brockton. The event will run from 5:30 - 8:00 pm.



This Annual Event is a celebration of living and working in the Metro South region. It is a great opportunity to sample tastes from area restaurants, discover cultural and community service organizations and enjoy live entertainment from local performers.

"A Taste of Metro South" is a great opportunity to celebrate the wonderful treasures this region has to offer. Event Coordinators expect over 700 guests based on past attendance. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

Any restaurants, cultural or community organizations interested in participating in "A Taste of Metro South" should contact Kim Bewsher at 508.586.0500 ext. 231.

Chamber Action Report Available

The Action Report is published eleven times each year by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. It is currently available as an insert in the Enterprise or it can be downloaded and printed at www.metroouthchamber.com/reportlist.html.

MEMBERProfile



Karen Rodrigue, The Cleaner Spot

packaging. We also offer the strongest guarantee in the industry... It's Ready, It's Right or It's Free! All our locations are chosen for convenience, are 100% environmentally friendly and are open 7 days a week, providing same day service Mon - Sat. In addition, each new customer receives a free New Customer Gift just for giving us a try.

Please list awards or special recognition that your firm has received.

Cleaner Spot has been voted the number 1 dry cleaner by the Reader's Choice Awards and our unique "Owner behind the Counter" concept has been recognized in several industry publications, local newspapers and magazines as far away as Florida. In addition there have been several stories on the web highlighting our superior customer service and quality.

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

Our main business objective is to become our communities neighborhood dry cleaner. We want to support local business and establish relationships with our customers. Our goal is to earn the trust and confidence of our customers in providing a consistent quality product at a fair price.

Members profiles in the Action Report are selected randomly from those in attendance at the Good Morning Metro South (GMMS) breakfasts.

Address:

531 Pleasant St, Brockton, MA 02301

Phone: 508-588-2020

Website: www.thecleanerspot.com

Year Established: Brockton Store - November 7, 2007

Number of Employees: 5

Products or Services:

Full service drycleaner includes alterations, Leather & Suede, Wedding gown preservation and area rugs

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

The Cleaner Spot is a full service dry cleaning, laundry and tailoring firm. Our primary distinction is what we call "The Owner Behind The Counter" concept. Simply stated, no one will ever care more or try harder than an owner. No one will ever treat their customers better or insure the highest level of quality that only an owner can. The "Owner" personally inspects each garment to assure perfection prior to

MEMBER-LED Workshop

Cash Flow - Life Blood of Your Company

Thursday, January 24, 2008

9:30am - 11:30 am

at the Chamber of Commerce Office
60 School Street, Brockton

This workshop is intended to assist new business owners by helping to understand and utilize the cash flow system.

The presenter is Joseph Kameese. Mr. Kameese is the owner and founder of the management consulting firm American Business Connections. He

has been operating for thirty years in the consulting field, helping small business to grow through the use of financial and accounting models.

To register please call the Chamber at 508-586-0500 x231 by January 11.



Joseph Kameese, Owner,
American Business Connections

Business Issues Breakfast

Human Resource Management Council

The next **Human Resource Management Council (HRMC)** meeting will take place on Wednesday, **February 27** at the Holiday Inn in Brockton.

Our featured presenters will be Peter J. Moser, a partner with the law firm of Robinson & Cole LLP.



Peter J. Moser,
Robinson & Cole LLP Partner

Mr. Moser concentrates his practice in the areas of labor and employment law, representing management-side clients in a wide variety of matters. His employment practice focuses on litigation, counseling, and training. In the labor arena, Mr. Moser helps non-union companies defend against union organizing campaigns and represents unionized companies in collective bargaining, arbitration proceedings, and the defense of unfair labor practice charges before the National Labor Relations Board. Mr. Moser is actively involved in the Labor and Employment Section of the Massachusetts Bar Association, and is a past co-chair of the Employee Rights and Responsibilities Committee. Mr.

Moser has served as an adjunct professor at Boston College, and is a frequent speaker and author

on employment topics. His recent articles concern the impact of the AFL-CIO split for non-unionized employers, the enforceability of non-competition agreements, and military leave rights and obligations.

Labor and Employment remains a dynamic and constantly developing area of the law. It can be a challenge to keep abreast of the many judicial decisions, new laws and regulations, agency guidances, etc. Please join us on February 7th for a Labor and Employment update. Attorney Peter J. Moser will discuss such topics as: "Family Responsibilities" discrimination, Non-competition agreements and other restrictive covenants, possible changes to federal labor laws such as union organizing by card check, and other possible trends for 2008.

Pre-register for this event by calling 508.586.0500 ext. 231. The cost is \$18 for members and \$28 for non-members. A hot breakfast buffet is included.



Need help starting your business? Searching for money to start your business?

The Metro South Business Assistance Center can help!

The Metro South Business Assistance Center (BAC), a partnership of over twenty organizations, is a high-tech, one-stop business resource center that offers counseling, technical assistance, and financing to potential, existing and expanding businesses.



FREE services offered

- Business Related Software
- Access to Computers & Online Resources
- Comprehensive Reference Library
- Informational & Instructional Videos
- Professional Counseling (by appt.)
- Workshops & Seminars (fees may apply)

Research, Consultation, Education, and Advocacy

PREMIER SPONSOR

Bank of America



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Dotun Diyaolu - *Pharmacist*

Jeffrey Dukess - *Frenette & Dukess, PC*

John Holiver - *Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center*

Brenda Hunter - *Shaw's Supermarkets, Inc.*

Susan Joss -
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center

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Dana Mohler-Faria -
Bridgewater State College

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New England Sinai Hospital

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Siskind and Siskind Attorneys at Law

Lydie Ultimo - *TERI*

John Vlaco - *Brophy & Phillips Co., Inc.*

Charles Wall - *Massasoit Community College*

Patricia Williams - *HarborOne Credit Union*

Kerry Sullivan
Finance x 230

Alison van Dam
Communications x 222

Networking at Events

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

JANUARY Calendar

9	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
10	SEED Workshop	8:30 am
11	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
15	Executive Committee	3:00 pm
16	Good Morning Metro South <i>Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton</i>	7:45 am
21	Martin Luther King Jr. Day- Chamber Closed	
23	SBA Express Lenders Seminar	10:00 am
24	Cash Flow Seminar with Joe Kameese	9:30 am
25	New Member Orientation	8:00 am
30	Board Meeting	12:00 pm

Coming Up February

6	Ambassador's Meeting	8:00 am
7	Business After Hours <i>St. Joseph Manor, 216 Thatcher Street, Brockton</i>	5:30 pm
13	Good Morning Metro South <i>Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton</i>	7:45 am
15	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
27	Human Resource Management Council	8:00 am

Save the date March

5	Ambassador's Meeting	8:00 am
12	Executive Committee	3:00 pm
14	Legislative Affairs	12:00 pm
19	Taste of Metro South <i>Shaw's Center, K. Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	5:30 pm
28	Board Meeting	12:00 pm

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

Photo and print production by Mark Mahoney, The Enterprise



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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.

Photography by Rich Morgan
www.richmorganphotography.com

GOODNews

Lois Martin - National Teaching Award Recipient

Massasoit Community College Professor Lois Martin was honored with a national 2007 Mathematics Teaching Excellence Award at the Thirty-third Annual Conference of The American Mathematical Association of Two-year Colleges (AMATYC) held in Minneapolis, MN.



Lois Martin

Professor Martin has been a full-time member of Massasoit's mathematics department since 1982, where she has served as department chair and as the mathematics CONNECT co-facilitator. In addition, Professor Martin is the faculty advisor of the Massasoit Community College Math Team, capturing the Northeast Region Championship in 2003, 2004 and 2006. Teaching excellence, the main focus of the award, is determined by the selection criteria of instructional excellence and support of students, innovative teaching strategies, creating a learning environment for all students, being accessible to students in and out of the classroom, active participation in professional organizations, sharing and discussing ideas with colleagues, and contributing to the college community.

Professor Martin is the first winner from New England of this prestigious teaching award.

Brockton Hospital Becomes SIGNATURE



Brockton Hospital officials announced the renaming of its parent organization this evening during the hospital's annual Ring of Champions dinner. Formerly known as the Brockton Health Corporation, the new name, SIGNATURE HEALTHCARE, better represents the vision of what is fast becoming the premier integrated healthcare delivery system in southeastern Massachusetts. Signature Healthcare is now the parent company of Brockton Hospital and its affiliated physician practice groups.

Signature Healthcare will combine the strengths of Brockton Hospital, its affiliated physician practice groups (Primary Care Affiliates, Women's Health Affiliates, and Brockton Hospital Specialty Physician Group), the Brockton Hospital Foundation, the Ambassadors Club, and the Brockton

Hospital School of Nursing.

It was also announced that Bridgewater Goddard Park Medical Associates, the region's largest multi-site, multi-specialty physician group practice, intends to join the Signature Healthcare family in early 2008.

Lincoln Tech Offers Criminal Justice Classes

Lincoln Technical Institute in Brockton is proud to introduce a new Criminal Justice Program

The Criminal Justice program will prepare students for a career in the criminal justice and private security industries at the federal, state, and local level. Coursework will introduce students to the criminal justice system, and the field of private security. Criminal Justice and Private Security are among some of today's fastest growing employment areas*.

This program will prepare students for jobs such as: Border Patrol Agent, Crime Scene Technician, Corrections Officer, Prison Guard, Jailer, Transportation Security Administration Officer, Juvenile Specialist, Detention Officer, Customs Inspector, Loss Prevention Manager, Crime Prevention Specialist, and security specialist.

For more information, email kminiutti@lincolntech.com, or call 508-941-0730 x 43504

Mutual Bank Offers Online Banking

Mutual Bank, a community bank with eight branches throughout Southeastern Massachusetts is now offering the availability of electronic banking statements, thereby helping to reduce the paper stream for both the Bank and customers.

Mutual Bank's online banking services allow customers to bank from home or from a personal computer with Internet access. The easy to use system provides state-of-the-art security, allowing customers to view information about their Mutual Bank checking, savings, money market, CD and loan accounts. It also allows customers the option of paying bills online, and the ability to check the status of pending and completed payments, schedule automatic monthly payments and cancel or change scheduled payments at any time.

Now, with the availability of electronic banking statements, customers can download their statements through the same secure website.

Students Help Toys For Tots Campaign



Rockland Trust has enlisted students at Whitman-Hanson High School to collect toys for the 2007 Marines Corps Toys for Tots campaign. (Rockland Trust operates a bank branch in the high school, staffed by students.) Whitman-Hanson students collected over \$4,000.00 through a penny drive at the school during the past several weeks, and were looking for a charity to support for the holidays. When Rockland Trust told officials at the school about their Toys for Tots campaign, students decided to use the money they collected to purchase toys for Toys for Tots, in memory of Bill Callahan, a 1997 graduate of Whitman-Hanson High School and Marine, who tragically lost his life in Iraq last year. Rockland Trust placed Toys for Tots donation boxes in five of their branches. Bank customers and employees filled the boxes in each branch with toys.

Goguen Joins Bridgewater Savings

June D. Goguen has joined Bridgewater Savings' Raynham branch office as Vice President and Commercial Loan Officer.

June has had a variety of experiences over the last 22 years. Prior to joining Bridgewater Savings, June Goguen was Vice President, Commercial Loan Officer for Eastern Bank in Middleboro, MA and Vice President, Relationship Manager at First Federal Savings Bank of America, New Bedford, MA.

A resident of New Bedford, Massachusetts, Ms. Goguen is currently the Board Chair for the International Trade Assistance Center, a member of SEED Corporation and past board member of numerous other local organizations including the New Bedford Art Museum.

Burgess Joins Mutual Bank

Mutual Bank, a community bank with eight branches throughout Southeastern Massachusetts and on Cape Cod, has



Julie Burgess

named Julie A. Burgess of Plymouth, Assistant Treasurer.

Burgess serves as Branch Manager of Mutual Bank's Halifax location.

Burgess has diverse experience in the banking and customer service industries, beginning her career as a teller and intern at Mutual Bank while attending Salve Regina University in Newport, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. Prior to returning to Mutual Bank, she served as an Account Executive in the Advertising/Sales division of Comcast and a Client Services Analyst with Bisy's Retirement Services.

Sinai Men's Associates Dinner

Former House Speaker Thomas M. Finneran, Former Massachusetts Attorney General Robert Quinn and, Boston Municipal Court Retired Chief Justice Michael F. Flaherty will be the featured speakers at a dinner program, "Inside Massachusetts Politics," hosted by the New England Sinai Hospital Men's Associates Speaker Series on Thursday, January 10, 2008 at 6pm. Each speaker will offer an insider's view and seasoned perspective into the world of Massachusetts politics. A full Chinese Buffet dinner will be provided by China Town of Stoughton and tickets are \$20 for both dinner and the program, which is open to residents of Stoughton and nearby communities. To purchase a ticket, please call (781) 297-1333 by January 8, 2008.

The Sinai Men's Associates was founded by a group of men interested in providing volunteer and financial support to the hospital and its patients. Members serve as ambassadors to the community, and are involved in a variety of fund raising activities and the sponsorship of patient/family programs.

Caritas Hosts SAD Discussion

A discussion on "Winter Blues," also known as SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder), will be held on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the J. Joseph Moakley Center, 235 North Pearl St., Brockton.

The program is free, but pre-registration is required by calling 508-427-3547. Presented by Harry Young, LADC, M.Ed, Ph.D, psychotherapist, life coach and

Celebrate the great things going on!

mediator from Brockton, the lecture will explain what SAD is as well as the signs and symptoms.

The lecture will also explain how the neurotransmitter serotonin affects moods, and will also review treatment options such as phototherapy and talk therapies.

SAD is Seasonal Affective Disorder, known often as "winter blues." The symptoms usually occur in the winter, beginning in late fall and ending in either spring or early summer. SAD is the result of a biochemical imbalance due to decreased daylight hours and lack of sun during the winter months. Most cases of SAD occur in young adulthood, and rarely in anyone younger than 20.

Children's Museum : Mardi Gras

On Saturday, February 9th, help support Brockton Day Nursery and the Children's Museum in Easton by assisting with the annual Mardi Gras Madness celebration! This event needs lots of planning committee volunteers, and folks to work the day and evening of the event.

An evening filled with food stations, music, entertainment, raffles and auctions, Cajun cooking demos, beads, dancing, contests and so much more serves to benefit local educational programs for children.

Located at the Shaw's Conference Center in Brockton, MA, tickets cost \$60 per person and recommended dress is casual and fun.

Please contact the Children's Museum in Easton at (508) 230-3789 or Brockton Day Nursery at (508) 588-2700 to make donations or sponsorships, or if you would like to volunteer with this exciting event

Helping Elderly Loved Ones

Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center is hosting a free seminar entitled: "Mom, Dad - Can We Talk?" focusing on helping elderly loved ones.

The lecture will be held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the J. Joseph Moakley Center Conference Room, 235 N. Pearl St., Brockton.

Presented by Marilyn Lynt, Family Caregiver Specialist with the Old Colony Elderly Services of Brockton, the lecture will discuss how to recognize the warning signs that an elderly loved on needs help and explain why talking with an aging loved one about sensitive issues is both difficult but also crucial. The seminar will also explain the best time for conversations, while aging loved ones are still healthy and capable of expressing their wants, needs and preferences. Tips and strategies for

communicating will also be provided in addition to sample conversations about general, medical and financial and legal concerns. Necessary resources needed to address aging loved ones will be discussed, and a question and answer period will also be included.

This is a free program, but pre-registration is required by calling 800-427-5959 extension 27.

Cardio-Pulmonary Enhanced at Caritas

The recent addition of Mitra Ghasemi, MD, of Cambridge, a pulmonary and critical care specialist, to Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center's medical staff

follows the arrival earlier this summer of cardiologist Cathy Jeon, MD, MSc, to enhance the hospital's growing cardio-pulmonary services, particularly in the area of women's health.



Dr. Mitra Ghasemi Board-certified in internal medicine and pulmonary medicine, Dr. Ghasemi is a member of the American College of Chest Physicians, American Thoracic Society and Society of Critical Care Medicine. Her clinical interests include treatment of interstitial lung disease, pulmonary hypertension and lung cancer. Dr. Ghasemi, who also speaks Farsi, will practice from her office in Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center's Medical Office Building, 830 Oak St., Ste. 105 W, Brockton, MA 02301. Appointments may be made with Dr. Ghasemi by calling 800-488-5959, ext. 775.

East Coast Petroleum

East Coast Petroleum is a team of energy professionals dedicated to being a reliable Fuel Delivery and Service Company, servicing its customers with high quality heating, air conditioning and refrigeration products.

East Coast Petroleum prides itself to be a good neighbor and corporate citizen. Besides our products and services, we are also involved in supporting local community groups and organizations. When purchasing from us, we will give you an additional \$.10 off per gallon of our home heating oil already competitive prices, pay less and give more with our gift certificates!

We serve all citizens energy/ Joe's for Oil and self-help customers with additional free oil. May it be our privilege to continue to serve our friends, neighbors and those in need in our community. Visit www.eastcoastpetroleum.com

Learn About Alternative Energy

On Tuesday, January 29, Massasoit will present "Go Green and Watch Your Business Grow," 8:30am-9:30am at the Student Center-Brockton Campus. Come learn why companies need to start thinking about energy costs and what can be done for cost savings now in the future. Investigate Small Wind and Solar Energy for your establishment, learn about case studies of companies who have implemented these savings, hear about tax breaks and state rebate programs, and receive a list of resources to assist and programs for reimbursement costs. Call the Professional Development Center at 508-588-9100 x 2011 to register. Cost is \$15. Continental Breakfast is included.

Massasoit Spring Workshops

From January 24- March 29 the Massasoit Professional Development Center will hold spring workshops at the Canton campus. Day long workshops include Quickbooks, Land Surveyors, Managing Your Excel Database, Creating Tables in Word, Advanced Excel Formulas, Sales and Service, and How to Deal with Customers. Call 781-821-2222 x

2011 or 2013. for a schedule and for information. Space is limited.

Old Colony Hospice Fundraiser- A Success

Good friends and many area businesses helped raise over \$40,000 for the programs and services Old Colony Hospice provides to patients, their families and the community. Randolph Savings Bank sponsored a table at the event and HarborOne Credit Union, a major corporate supporter of Old Colony Hospice were there to lend their support.

There was something for everyone at the recent fall fundraiser called "On the Town" - a silent auction with an array of fabulous prizes including get-away weekends, sports memorabilia, Patriots tickets, golf outings and more. There were tarot card and astrological readings, casino games and delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts provided by The Shaw's Center.

More than 200 guests enjoyed wines from all over the world. Music was a cornerstone of the evening as the featured performers shown above included The Brockton High School Show Choir and the Berklee College of Music Israeli Jazz Quartet.

Workforce Training Fund Workshop

Grant money is available to train your employees through the Massachusetts Workforce Training Fund. Find out more by attending this two day workshop hosted by the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board in partnership with Massasoit Community College, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and the Brockton 21st Century Corp.



Day 1: Thursday, January 24, 8am-11am

This session will feature an overview of the Workforce Training Fund grants available to employers as well as a brief overview of how the Workforce Board can assist employers in the application and grant management process. A final assignment will be for participants to bring back ideas to the next session, on training needs they have for their organizations' employees.

Day 2: Thursday, February 7, 8am-11am

Day two will provide hands-on practical experience, led by Commonwealth Corporation's applicant assistance program, in the Massasoit Conference Center's Computer Lab, actually filling out an application for funding!

Workshops will take place at the Massasoit Conference Center, 770 Crescent Street in Brockton. A continental breakfast will be provided. The cost is \$20 per person, which covers both dates. Your participation in these sessions is essential to ensure you are well informed about the opportunities available to fund training for your new hires or incumbent workers. Please pre-register by Monday, January 14, 2008, by calling Rachel Cherry-Adams at BAWIB, 508-584-3234.

SOMWBA Workshop Offered at Chamber

WHAT ARE THESE WORKSHOPS...

The State Office of Minority and Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA) reviews the eligibility of minority and women business enterprises, and minority and female controlled non-profits, to participate in affirmative purchasing and contracting opportunities.

- Workshops are required for all interested principals of minority and women businesses or nonprofit organizations applying for certification through the State Office of Minority & Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA).

- Business that are at least 51 percent owned and controlled by minority or female principals, or non-profits that are at least 51 percent controlled by minority or women board members may be eligible for SOMWBA certification.

- If you need an accommodation for a disability please notify us at least ten business days in advance.

WHAT THE WORKSHOP WILL COVER...

- Business Affirmative Market Programs
- SOMWBA's certification application
- Explanation of regulatory language & criteria necessary to be certified
- Required documentation for certification
- Explanation of the certification process

WHO SHOULD ATTEND...

- The eligible owner/principal of any minority or women business enterprise.
- All those assisting in the SOMWBA certification process (such as your attorney, business advisor, or accountant)

HOW DO I REGISTER...

- Pre-registration is required.
- Electronically on the Internet at www.somwba.state.ma.us (please register by 12 noon of the preceding day)
- By Fax or mail using the form found on website (please register 5 business days in advance)

For changes and updates to this schedule, or to register, please visit our website: <http://www.somwba.state.ma.us>.

Non-profit organizations should not register for these workshops. Instead, please contact SOMWBA at 617.973.8692.

For more info go to
<http://www.somwba.state.ma.us>

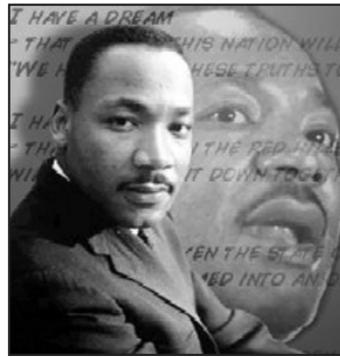
BROCKTON

February 9

10:30 am - 1:30 pm

Metro South Chamber
of Commerce,
Sixty School Street

Local MLK Celebrations Planned



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Article from the www.thekingcenter.com

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday celebrates the life and legacy of a man who brought hope and healing to America. We commemorate as well the timeless values he taught us

through his example -- the values of courage, truth, justice, compassion, dignity, humility and service that so radiantly defined Dr. King's character and empowered his leadership. On this holiday, we commemorate the universal, unconditional love, forgiveness and nonviolence that empowered his revolutionary spirit.

We call you to commemorate this Holiday by making your personal commitment to serve humanity with the vibrant spirit of unconditional love that was his greatest strength, and which empowered all of the great victories of his leadership. And with our hearts open to this spirit of unconditional love, we can indeed achieve the Beloved Community of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s dream.

Area MLK Day Events

Please contact the following organizations for further information on Martin Luther King Day celebrations:

- Bridgewater State College at 508.531.2446
- Brockton Area NAACP at 508.587.0502
- The Children's Museum in Easton at 508.230.3789

Workers May Qualify for EITC

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with Mayor James Harrington's Earned Income Tax Campaign for 2008. Free electronic tax preparation and filing is available at Brockton's Main Branch Public Library, 304 Main Street, beginning Saturday, January 20 and continuing through Saturday April 14th.

Hours of operation are Monday and Tuesdays from 4 pm to 7 pm and Saturdays from 10 am to 1 pm. Sign in and flyers will be available at the entrance on the first floor on White Avenue.

Preparation and filing will be done on a first come first serve basis. Please bring a photo ID; Social Security Cards for you and your dependents as well as all earned income statements, i.e. W-2's and 1099s.

This program is designed to assist working families and individuals with low and moderate income take advantage of the Earned Income Credit (EIC) as well as the Child Tax Credit (CTC). With both the federal and state tax credits, workers may get up to

\$4,700 in refunds. 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.

Who Is Eligible?

- Workers who were raising one child in their home and had income of less than \$33,241 (or \$35,241 for married workers) in 2007 can get an EIC of up to \$2,853.

- Workers who were raising more than one child in their home and had income of less than \$36,348 (or \$39,783 for married workers) in 2007 can get an EIC of up to \$4,716.

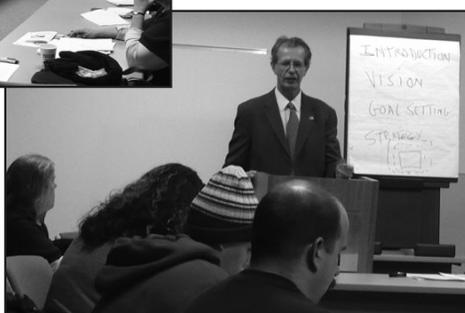
- Workers who were not raising children in their home, were between ages 25 and 64 on December 31, 2007, and had income below \$12,590 (or \$14,590 for married workers) can get an EIC up to \$428.

Call 508.580.7890
for more information

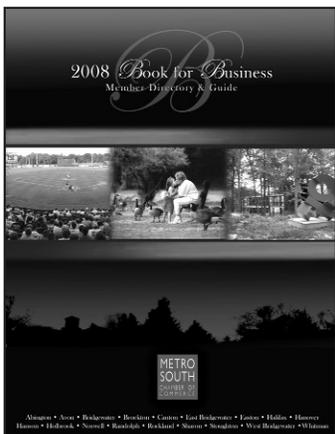
Business Plan Workshop Draws Many



The Brockton 21st Century Corporation and the Metro South Chamber of Commerce recently held a two part workshop aimed at helping Brockton Residents start their own business. The featured speaker, Stanley Ross, Professor at Bridgewater State College's School of Business and Center for Entrepreneurship, drew a capacity crowd.



Book For Business Released in January



The Chamber of Commerce will soon be distributing the **2008 Metro South Book for Business**. The book features area dining, lodging, public golf courses, recreation, legislative leaders, commu-

nity demographics, regional and economic data 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.

"This year's Book for Business features 100 pages of information useful to residents, visitors, and businesses in the Metro South region. It places the entire Chamber membership at your fingertips," said Christopher Cooney, President and CEO of the Chamber.

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.

SBA Express Seminar at Chamber

Wednesday, January 23, 2008, 10 a.m. - 12 noon
 Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street



In order to be a successful SBA lender, you must know the basics! This training session is for existing and prospective SBA Express Lenders. This seminar is excellent for lenders who have Express authority, but who have not used this expedited program.

On January 23 from 10am-12pm at the Chamber Office, learn how to easily grow your loan portfolio and find out why close to 90% of SBA loans in Massachusetts are now being done Express! Also, we will discuss requirements and procedures for becoming an Express Lender, Community Express, Export Express, and the newly announced Patriot Express initiative. In addition, we will discuss ETRAN, a new

Web based loan application solution developed by the agency to save lenders time and resources.

Presenters include Anne Rice Hunt, Lead Lender Relations Specialist, Mary Russell, District Counsel, and Bob Nelson, Springfield Bank Manager.

To register, contact Lisa at the Chamber, 508-586-0500 x 225. Pre-registration is required.

Included Presenters:



Anne Rice Hunt



Bob Nelson

South Coast Rail Makes Tracks Through Metro South

www.southcoastrail.com

The administration of Governor Deval Patrick and Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray is advancing the restoration of passenger rail between the cities of Fall River and New Bedford and downtown Boston as a key economic development initiative for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Governor plans to bring a passenger rail service to the South Coast by 2016. The South Coast area is one of the fastest growing regions of the Commonwealth, home to growing communities for which improved transportation access could be a vehicle for economic development and job creation. In addition, the cities of Fall River and New Bedford are some of the largest municipalities within a 50-mile radius of Boston without rail transit service, service that will provide a much needed link between job opportunities and affordable housing for the residents of the Commonwealth. The existing highway network connecting the South Coast to the Boston area is inadequate for the needs of today, causing traffic congestion, safety concerns, and air quality degradation, with expectations for even greater congestion in the future.

The restoration of passenger rail service to the South Coast region has been extensively studied for almost twenty years. In 2000, the MBTA completed a Draft

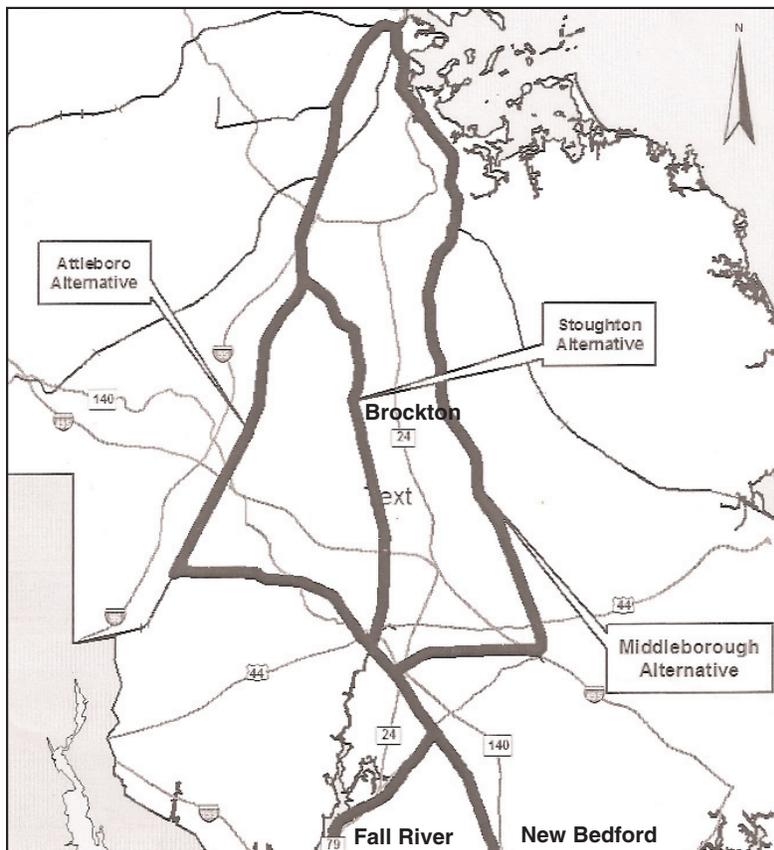
Environmental Impact Report that analyzed six alternative routes for providing improved transportation between downtown Boston and the cities of Fall River and New Bedford, ultimately focusing on the three most viable alternatives: (1) extending the existing MBTA Stoughton Line, (2) extending the existing MBTA Middleborough Line, and (3) extending the MBTA Attleboro Line.

To ensure effective and inclusive public outreach throughout the various stages of project development, EOT is currently engaged in and will be further expanding a comprehensive public outreach campaign for the South Coast Rail project. This will involve all stakeholders, both supporters and opponents of the project. This outreach will build off the efforts of the stakeholder working group developed by the Southeastern Massachusetts Commuter Rail Task Force and will include the corridor municipalities, area legislators, members of the public, and interest and community groups in each potential project corridor. The primary objective of this outreach is to engage stakeholders in a manner that enables EOT and the MBTA to integrate and address concerns of all interested parties.

For more information, contact Nancy Farrell at 617-357-5772 x 11 or visit www.southcoastrail.com.



Three Possible South Coast Rail Alternatives



The three most viable Route Alternatives; extending the MBTA Stoughton Line, Middleborough Line or Attleboro Line. Over thirty alternatives to provide rail service to the south coast are being studied. All of these alternatives have some impact on the Metro South region. The Chamber is monitoring the various proposals with a keen interest in preserving the quality of existing commuter rail service to the Metro South Region. To learn more, visit www.southcoastrail.com

Great Program and Networking at Recent Breakfast



Dr. Clyde Barrow, Director of the Center for Policy Analysis at UMASS Dartmouth and featured speaker at the Chamber Breakfast.



Richard Cronin, Sheryl Savage, and Nick Palantzas from Massasoit Community College



Daniel Trout (right) from The Community Bank and interviewer of the event with Rich Morgan (left) of Rich Morgan Photography



Jim Murphy, Wheatstone Engineering and Consulting, Beth Smith, West Bridgewater Public Library, and Klete Squires, Special Olympics



Jay O'Brien, Special Olympics, Lou Russo, Comcast, Daniel Trout, The Community Bank, Clyde Barrow, UMASS Dartmouth, and Chris Cooney, Chamber President

Sponsored By:



Photography By:
Rich Morgan
Photography



Kim Bewsher, Chamber Program Director and Rob Peters, Rob Peters Entertainment



Lou Russo of Comcast served as emcee for the event and Jay O'Brien of Special Olympics Massachusetts was a featured segment speaker



Thomas Rudolph, Jack Conway and Company, Steve Damon of Jack Conway and Company, Joseph Kameese of American Business Connections, and Jim Silverman of Jack Conway and Company



Bridgewater State College Sponsors: Dr. Catherine Morgan, Dean of the School of Business, and Dr. Shannon Donovan, Associate Professor for the Department of Accounting and Finance for the School of Business

Access the Small Business Administration

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:

- * Small Business Counseling (SCORE)
- * Small Business Development Centers
- * Business Information Center
- * SBA 7(a) Loan Guaranty Program
- * 8(a) Business Development
- * HUB/Zones
- * Small Disadvantaged Business Assistance
- * Government Contracting Opportunities



The workshop will be held at CareerWorks, 34 School Street, Brockton from 2 - 3:30 pm on Wednesday, January 16, 2008. Contact CareerWorks at 508.513.3400 for further workshop information.

Network At Winter Business After Hours



The next Business after Hours networking event will take place on Thursday, February 7th from 5:30-7:30pm at St. Joseph Manor, 215 Thatcher Street, Brockton, MA 02302

St. Joseph Manor is a 118 bed non-profit nursing home located on a 26 wooded acre campus. The campus also features the Mater Dei Adult Day Health program which serves 60 clients a day offering relief to caregivers. Call 508-583-8313 or visit St. Joseph Manor for more info.

This is a great way to make business contacts in a casual setting.

Exposure for your business is your competitive edge, so bring plenty of business cards! The event is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. To register call Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231.



St. Joseph Manor
215 Thatcher Street, Brockton

Economic Census Forms Due

More than 4 million American businesses, including 7,500 businesses in Plymouth County have received Economic Census forms. Forms go to all but the very smallest businesses in this tally done once every five years.

The forms ask for basic information like your location, employment, payroll, and sales by type of product or service. Businesses that receive a form are required by law (Title 13, U.S. Code) to respond.

Businesses with more than one location to report appreciate the fact that they can file electronically, copying and pasting information from their own spreadsheets. For more information or help completing the form, see the Census Bureau's



OFFICIAL 5 YEAR MEASURE OF AMERICAN BUSINESS



business help site at www.census.gov/econhelp or call 1-800-233-6136.

Economic indicators we use every day, like the Gross Domestic Product, monthly retail sales, and producer price index, all depend on the Economic Census for continued accuracy. The data are also used by businesses, both large and small. Statistics are published for more than a thousand industries

as well as for states, counties, cities and metropolitan areas at business.census.gov.

**Census Forms Are Due
February 12, 2008
www.business.census.gov**

MEMBEROrientation

Friday, January 25 ~ 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Join us for a Member Orientation at the Chamber of Commerce building on Friday, January 25. The Member Orientation gives new members, prospective members, and new employees of existing member companies an opportunity to network and explore the many programs and services available to Metro South Chamber members.

The orientation will begin promptly at 8:00 a.m. Coffee and refreshments will be provided. Featured will be a presentation on effective marketing led by Ken Cheo of Winfree Business Growth Advisors. This event is free, but pre-registration is required. Please call 508.586.0500 ext. 225 to register or email lkeene@metrosouthchamber.com.

May We Recommend A Great Place To Eat...

Brennan's Blackthorn Tavern 402 Turnpike St., Easton	508-238-3773
Cameron's on the Green 436 Oak St., Rte 14, E. Bridgewater	781-447-7888
Cancun Mexican Restaurant 145 Main St., Kingston	781-585-0060
Cape Cod Cafe, Inc. 979 Main St., Brockton	508-583-9420
Christo's, Inc. 782 Crescent St., Brockton	508-586-4200
D'Angelo Sandwich Shop 1753 Main St., Brockton	508-580-4320
Good Days Restaurant, Inc. 99 South Main St., W. Bridgewater	508-584-0077
Gourmet Cafe 245 Main St., Brockton	508-580-0966
Harry's Pub and Grill at Westgate Lanes 65 Westgate Drive, Brockton	508-583-1297
Hot Stone Pizza 623 Belmont St., Brockton	508-580-0966
Joe Angelo's Cafe & Deli 13 Crescent St., Brockton	508-588-8331
Legal Seafood at Braintree 250 Granite St., Braintree	781-356-3070

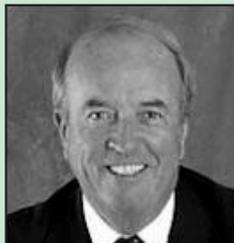
Patty Joe's Po-Boy Cafe 1209 Bedford Street, Abington	781-878-0855
Quiznos Sub 793 Crescent St., Brockton	508-583-0028
Sparkfish 115 South Main St., W. Bridgewater	508-584-4444
Stonebridge Cafe 1285 Belmont St., Brockton	508-584-5200
Stoneforge Grill 10 Roosevelt Circle, S. Easton	508-238-0550
Supreme House of Pizza 376 Centre St., Brockton	508-588-0044
Tamboo Restaurant 282 Main St., Brockton	508-584-8585
Texas Roadhouse 124 Westgate Drive, Brockton	508-427-6244
The Charlie Horse Restaurant 674 Old W. Center St., W. Bridgewater	508-583-7252
Tiki Garden 201 North Quincy Street, Abington	781-857-1300
X & O Restaurant 217 Washington St., Stoughton	781-344-1800

For more information about these great restaurants, look for the 2008 Book For Business. To join the Chamber, call Lisa at 508.586.0500 x 225.



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.



Senator Robert Creedon



Representative Geraldine Creedon

The next Government Affairs meeting will be held at the Chamber Office on Friday, January 11 at 12pm. The featured speakers are Senator Robert Creedon and State Representative Geraldine Creedon.

Robert Creedon has served as a State Senator since 1997. He currently is Chair of the Judiciary Committee and sits on the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Committee, the State Administration & Regulatory Oversight Committee, and the Election Laws Committee.

Geraldine Creedon has been a State Representative since 1995. She currently sits on the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Joint Committee on Education.

This is your opportunity to have an informal discussion with legislators about important issues currently being discussed in the State House.

The February Government Affairs Meeting will be held on February 15. If you would like to attend either of these meetings, please contact Lisa at the Chamber, 508.586.0500 x 225.

Business Goals Outlined



Government Affairs Chair Christine Karavites, Proteus Consulting; Representative Christine Canavan; featured speaker John Regan, Associated Industries of Massachusetts (AIM) and Christopher Cooney, Chamber President at the Government Affairs meeting held in January

At a recent Government Affairs meeting, Associated Industries of Massachusetts (AIM) Executive Vice President of Government Affairs, John Regan, discussed the economy and current AIM priorities. Among the organization's projects are lobbying for the bill to freeze unemployment insurance, the revenue neutral recommendations of the Special Tax Commission, and voicing opposition to a Windstorm Catastrophe Fund (CAT fund)/insurance premiums. Regan also discussed the "10 chemical ban" bill which would restrict or ban the use of legitimate products used by the industries the state is trying to attract: biotech, medical devices, and consumer products. In addition, AIM supports a constructive energy bill and is undertaking a complete review of the costs and benefits of the existing energy efficiency program. For more information about AIM, visit www.aimnet.org.

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 meet on **January 9** and **February 6** from 8:00 - 9:00 am at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

To become an Ambassador, call Lisa Keene at the Chamber, 508.586.0500 ext. 225.

RENEWING Members Thank You !

1-800-GOT-JUNK?

Baynes Electric Supply Co., Inc.
Benner's Camera & Video Shops
Bradford Trailer Sales, Inc.
Bridgewater Goddard Park Medical Associates
Brockton Area Transit Authority
Brockton Visiting Nurse Association
Butler Built Pavements, Inc.
Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center
CASSI
Catholic Charites South
Clearpoint Communications, Inc.
Concord Foods, Inc.
Cushman Insurance
Douglas A. King Builders, Inc.
Federal Telephone and Communications
Fuller Craft Museum
GROW Associates, Inc.
HarborOne Credit Union
Harmony Two Liquor Store
Holmes-McDuffy Florists, Inc.
Home Health Resources, Inc.
Ideal Jewelry & Loan
Jon L. Jenmarc, Inc.
Juliano Enterprises
Koso America
Law Office of Donald Williams
Law Office of Joseph M. Fidler

Law Office of Mark D. Petti
Margaritelli USA, Inc.
Massasoit Community College
McCormick & Sons Insurance Agency, Inc.
Melvyn D. Cohen, Attorney at Law
Mind Over Matter Institute
Modell's Sporting Goods
Mutual Bank
National Grid
Old Colony Hospice
Old Colony YMCA
Paula Coffey Dance Center
R & B Transportation Services, Inc.
Roger Ferguson, Horticulturist
Roger Keith & Sons
Romm & Company, Inc.
Shields Health Care Group, Inc.
Sir Speedy Printing
Smith, Buckley & Hunt Insurance Agency
Sovereign Bank
Stonehill College
Susan Colombo Real Estate
Texas Roadhouse
The Community Bank
Trans Courier Systems
United Way of Greater Plymouth County, Inc.
Wallace H. Peckham III, CPA/CVA PC
Whelan Associates

WELCOME New Members

Making an Investment in Our Community

Abington Family Dental Care

Dr. Michael Thomas
469 Washington Street
Abington, MA 02351
781-878-2190
www.abingtondental.com
Dental

B.E. Peterson, Inc.

Mr. Stephen Peterson
40 Murphy Drive
Avon, MA 02322
508-584-5199
www.bepeterson.com
Manufacturers

Global Gourmet Partners

Ms. Bonnie Sue Myers
102 Pond Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324
508-697-2663
www.globalgourmetpartners.com
Food Suppliers

To Join The Chamber,
Call Lisa, 508.586.0500 x 225

New Development in Bridgewater



The new Home Depot on at 1453 Pleasant Street (Rt. 104) in Bridgewater will open on February 7, 2008

Brockton "Home" To Rocky Marciano



Left: Rocky Marciano statue at the National Italian-American Sports Hall of Fame in Chicago. Right: Rocky Marciano poster

Undefeated world heavyweight boxing champion Rocky Marciano will have his statue erected in Brockton- the city where he was born and grew up.

There are already statues of Marciano in Chicago at the National Italian American Sports Hall of Fame and in the hometown

of his father, Pierino Marchegiano, in Ripa Teatine, Italy.

The third statue was originally planned to be placed in Boston. Boston Mayor Thomas Menino and Brockton Mayor James Harrington stepped in and said that the statue should be built in the boxing champ's hometown. The mayors faced great opposition from the World Boxing Council but have finally won the battle.

Born in Brockton in 1923, Marciano held the heavyweight title for four years in the 1950's is the only champion to have retired undefeated, at 49-0. Marciano died in a plane crash outside of Des Moines in 1969.

Jose Sulaiman, president of the World Boxing Council, said the project should be complete in 2008, and he expects the unveiling to draw visitors from around the world.

What Happens When Work Works?

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is one of 30 communities selected from across the nation for special targeted efforts to share research and practical guidance on workplace flexibility as a critical ingredient of an effective workplace.

For the past several decades, Families and Work Institute (FWI) has been documenting the changes in the American workforce and workplace through its nationally representative studies of employers and employees. The Institute's research finds that today's fast-paced, 24/7 "wired" economy and diverse workforce are far different than in the past. There are four generations in the workforce, the workforce is aging, and values have shifted. In response, employers are looking for new ways to recruit, develop and retain their talent. When Work Works responds to these challenges by sharing research and best practices for managing in new and flexible ways. Creative examples in the participating communities include compressed work weeks to decrease turnover and give employees more concentrated time at work and at home, telecommuting to reduce traffic congestion and pollution, sabbaticals to re-energize employees, and phased retirement to retain the talent of older workers.

In the Metro South region, leadership for When Work Works will be provided by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. They will work in collaboration with the national partners of When Work Works to convene local employers to share research, identify best practices locally and nationally, and provide practical advice about how to implement flexibility as a strategic business tool in response to the changing economy and changing workforce.

When Work Works is sponsored by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, a philanthropic nonprofit institution that funds a variety of projects at the national, state and local levels. The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation has been supporting research projects and other initiatives to address issues faced by working families and their employers in the changing economy.

As members of a participating community in When Work Works, employers in the Metro South region will be encouraged to apply for the prestigious Alfred P. Sloan Awards for Business Excellence in Workplace Flexibility, a premier national recognition program. Last year's recipient was Old Colony Elderly Services, Inc. of Brockton.

The first committee meeting for the Alfred P. Sloan Award will take place at the Chamber office on Tuesday, January 8, 2008.

SouthField Begins To Take Shape

LNR Property Corporation, the nation's premier developer of mixed use communities, and South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation, the authority overseeing redevelopment of the former South Weymouth Naval Air Station are working together to build SouthField, a new master-planned community on Massachusetts' South Shore only 20 minutes south of Downtown Boston and a mile and a half from Route 3.

LNR's pedestrian-friendly master plan for SouthField is based on smart growth design principles with a lively Village Center and Green situated adjacent to a multi-modal transportation center. The full plan calls for 2,850 units of housing and 2 million square feet of commercial and retail space by 2017, including facilities for biotech research and manufacturing as well as traditional and medical offices. The plan also includes 1,007 acres of neighborhood parks and dedicated open space (more than 70% of the site), and a \$30 million indoor/outdoor sports and recreation complex unparalleled in the Northeast.



Construction of the new Marketing Center at SouthField



The entrance drivewayway to the SouthField Community

South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation Timeline:

- 2005:** •The Tri-Town Development Corporation conducted peer reviews of the Reuse Plan, the Zoning Plan, and the Master Plan, completed host community agreements, and received the votes needed for zoning changes in Abington, Rockland, and Weymouth.
- 2005-2006:** •Tri-Town worked on a notice of project change for Phase 1A of the project, a regulatory framework that would allow developers to seek and receive the necessary permits to build SouthField.
- 2007:** •Tri-Town worked on a financing mechanism that would allow them to build out the water and waste water reclamation facilities. They received the certificate for the Final Environmental Impact Report and have moved forward with an agreement with the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction, Masshighway, and Administration and Finance which will allow the crucial east-west parkway to be constructed in a timely fashion.
 - Shea Drive, the new main road, was under construction. Landscaping, drainage, irrigation, lighting, and stone wall work were all in progress.
- End of 2007:** •The focus was on the enabling legislation. The original legislation had required a blended tax rate and contemplated continuing to use Weymouth water and sewer facilities. The re-filed legislation will require a close working relationship with the Department of Revenue on the method to be used in setting the tax rate, and will provide the means for SouthField to construct its own water piping distribution system and waste water reclamation facilities.
 - Initial plans for the development of Phase 1A have been approved by the Board of Directors and LNR, the Master Developer continues their efforts to market residential the commercial property. The Marketing or Welcome Center is under construction and the new road which will connect Shea Memorial Drive to the Phase 1A residential properties (along with the associated piping infrastructure) is underway.
- Beginning of 2008:** •Tri-town is expected to conclude negotiations with the NAVY on acquiring the rest of the property. This year will also be used to create the longer term host community service agreements, perfect the zoning survey map for the property, implement a housing plan, and incorporate general municipal codes.

Chamber Launches New Website

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce has revamped its website for easier navigation.

The website, created in house, has a new look and provides Metro South businesses and residents, as well as prospective businesses, with a wealth of information on the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and the region. The website, www.metroouthchamber.com, is a portal for all things in the Metro South and includes community economic profiles, demographics, business statistics, a searchable business directory of Chamber members, and complete information about the Chamber and its business benefits.

The redesigned site has been separated into two main categories; Chamber Information and Regional Information. The site also includes an improved Member Directory in which visitors can search for companies alphabetically or by category. Still included on the website are such features as a secure online registration for programs and events, an archive of past Action Reports as well as information for relocation



www.metroouthchamber.com

purposes and for business and leisure travel planning. Website visitors can explore Metro South golf courses, Massachusetts politics, dining, shopping, special events, and museums and cultural attractions to name just a few. The site also contains a variety of links to valuable national and local business resources on the Internet.

The Chamber is excited to continue to work to provide its membership interactive web possibilities and improved form, function, and design in the coming months.

If you would like to sponsor the website or place a banner ad, please contact Alison at 508.586.0500 x 222.

Chamber to Host Business Plan Workshops

The South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation will hold free basic business workshops aimed at assisting potential and existing entrepreneurs. The workshops are co-sponsored by local banks and credit unions, the MA Small Business Development Center (SBDC), METro South Chamber of Commerce, Brockton 21st Century Corporation and SCORE (Service Corporation of Retired Executives).

The first workshop entitled "Learn the Fundamentals in Planning, Preparing For, and Financing Your Business" (Session I) is geared toward helping potential entrepreneurs evaluate and understand the fundamentals of owning one's own business. Information on how to get started, where and how to get financing and the loan application process will be presented. Attendees will also be provided with a free guide to writing a business plan and other materials.

The second workshop "Understanding the Purpose of Financial Statements and How They Can Help Determine the Health of Your Business" (Session II) is focused on helping attendees understand a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement. The workshop also explains how a small business owner can anticipate financial needs in order to operate his/her business more efficiently.

Please call Tamarah Barao at SEED Corporation at 508-822-1020, for more information or to register for a free workshop. Breakfast and lunch will also be provided free of charge to attendees.

DATE

- Thursday, January 10 9am - 12pm < (Session I) >
- Thursday, January 10 1pm-4pm < (Session II) >

LOCATION

Metro South Chamber of Commerce
60 School Street, Brockton, MA

SPONSOR

Rockland Trust Community Development LLC



ROCKLAND TRUST

For more information on SEED and its programs, please call the SEED office at 508-822-1020 or visit SEED's website at www.seedcorp.com.

2008 Holiday Calendar



	Manufacturing	Retail Stores/ Supermarkets	Liquor Stores	Taverns/Bars	Banks	Stock Markets	State/County Municipal Offices	Schools	Libraries	Mail Delivery
\$	■	■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
	■	■	■	■	□	■	●	●	●	No
	■	■	■	■	□	■	●	●	●	No
	■	■	■	■	□	■	●	●	●	Yes
\$	○	■	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
\$	○	■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
\$	○	■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
\$	◆	◆	■	■	●	■	●	●	●	No
\$	X	X	●	■	●	■	●	●	●	No
	●	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
	●	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	No

Summary of State Laws Relative to Legal Holidays Blue Law

- apply until midnight
- on Columbus Day apply until noon
- on Veteran's Day apply until 1 p.m

Work permits for "Blue Law" holidays

- can be obtained at the discretion of local authorities
- should be requested 60 days in advance
- shall not cover more than one day Overtime
- In general, retailers** (with 8 or more employees) are required to pay a minimum of time and one-half to non-professional employees working on all Sundays. All retailers, regardless of size, are required to pay a minimum of time and one-half on New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Independence Day, Veteran's Day and on January 2 in years on which January 1 fall on a Sunday.

Other Holiday Facts

- When January 1 falls on a Sunday, retailers may open for regular hours the following day.
- The provisions of the law relating to overtime, to the stipulation that a person cannot be required to work and to permits concerning the opening of retail stores on restricted holidays, are enforced by the department of Fair Labor & Business Practices.

For further information

- The information contained in this calendar is based on current state statues and regulations. For further information, contact the agencies listed below.
- For questions regarding permit regulations, contact the Executive Office of the Attorney General, Division of Fair Labor and Business Practices at 617-727-2200.
- For all other questions, please contact the Citizen's Information Service at 617-727-7030 or 1-800-392-6090.

When a legal holiday falls on a Sunday, it is observed on the following day. When a legal holiday falls on a Saturday, it is observed on that day.

* Chapter 136, Section 6 of the Massachusetts General Law provides a list of 54 clauses which detail different activities that are not prohibited on Sundays or holidays.

These are know as exceptions to the Blue Laws.

** As defined in Chapter 136, Section 6, Clauses 25, 27, and 50 and in Chapter 138.

To learn more about chamber membership, call Lisa Keene at 508.586.0500 x 225

BUSINESS EVENTS *Planner*

January 16

Good Morning Metro South

7:30 am - 9:00 am

Holiday Inn-Brockton

195 Westgate Drive, Brockton

This breakfast program provides an opportunity for Chamber members to network with other Chamber members and business owners in the region.

Tickets: \$20 members, \$25 non-members

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

January 25

New Member Orientation

8:00am - 9:00 am

Metro South Chamber of Commerce

60 School Street, Brockton

Gives new members, prospective members, and new employees of current member companies an opportunity to network and explore Chamber programs and services

Free of charge but pre-registration is required

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 225

IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!

508-586-0500 x 231

508-587-1340

E-mail: kbewsher@metrosouthchamber.com

Send reservation and payment to:

MSCC
Sixty School Street
Brockton, MA 02301-4087



PREREGISTRATION IS NECESSARY. Individuals registering at the event will be charged a \$5.00 late fee. For companies wishing to be billed there is a \$3.00 billing charge. Cancellations for all events must be received 24 hours in advance of the event, otherwise the company will be charged regardless of attendance.

