

Actionreport

January
2009

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.



Donna Toma Lawlor &
George Anthony Toma, page 2



Andre Porter, page 10



Eydie Silva, page 10

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Resolution: Attend Business Breakfast Meetings

Thursday, January 15, 2009

Join us at the next Good Morning Metro South Breakfast on Thursday, January 15 from 7:30 am-9:00 am at the Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton. The featured speakers are Jane Callahan, HR Alternatives/Primary Vision Consulting, and Attorneys Peter Moser and Catherine Reuben of Hirsch Roberts Weinstein LLP, a premier litigation, labor and employment law firm.



Jane Callahan



Peter Moser



Catherine Reuben

Jane, Peter and Catherine will take part in a human resource panel discussion. Topics include the Employee Free Choice Act and other Labor Law Developments, the new FMLA regulations that take effect January 16th and the Massachusetts Data Security and Privacy Breach Laws which will go into effect in May.

Jane Callahan has over 11 years of practical

Sponsored by:



Human Resources management experience along with a degree in Industrial Personnel Psychology. Peter 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. Peter received his

Continued on page 2

Save the Date!

February Good Morning Metro South
Tuesday, February 10, 2009

7:30 am - 9:00 am
Holiday-Inn Brockton

Featuring

James Harrington, Mayor of Brockton
Michael G. Olivieri, Publisher, Boston
Business & Mass High Tech Journals

Sponsored by
Mansfield Bank

For more information, see page 6

Great Restaurants at "Taste" Event- March 18

The Chamber will celebrate the 17th Annual "A Taste of Metro South" on Wednesday, March 18 at the Shaw's Center, K. Feinberg Way 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 \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.

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

Action Report Subscription Notice

The Chamber's Action Report publication is now available online. Visit www.metroouthchamber.com/reportlist.html to print this month's copy of the newsletter.

Circulation of the Action Report newsletter is through the Enterprise newspaper. It is printed the first Tuesday of each month.

Chamber Priorities for New Year

Vision: To be the organization of choice for Metro South business professionals

Mission: To ensure the economic advancement of the Metro South region

Lead on Issues of Regional Economic Infrastructure Importance



- Endorse - Wastewater Treatment Capacity/Coordination
- Gauge - Impact of Commuter Rail Expansion Implementation
- Promote - Desalinated Water Supply as Alternative Source
- Facilitate - Economic Target Area Expansion and Coordination
- Create - Awareness Around Impact of "Creative Economy Designation"

Attract, Train and Retain a Competitive Workforce



- Connect - Competitive Workforce/Economic Development
- Pursue - English For All Workers Initiative to Reduce Backlog
- Expand - Higher Education Initiative Involvement and Support
- Support - Quality Housing, Education and Health Care Entities
- Sponsor - Sloan Workforce Flexibility/Human Resources Seminars

Collaborat for a Climate Conducive to Competitive Commercial Development



- Endorse - Gateway Cities Incentives for Sustainable Development
- Advocate - Attractive Commercial/Industrial Tax Rate Implementation
- Operate - Business Assistance Center and Edison Small Business Incubator
- Present - Small Business Seminar Series to Strengthen Business Start-ups
- Attract - Green/Clean Production and Energy Industries

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

Chamber Networking at IKEA



IKEA, located at 1 IKEA Way, Stoughton

Thursday, January 22

Please join us for the Chamber's next Business After Hours networking event on Thursday, January 22 from 5:30-7:30 pm at IKEA, located at 1 IKEA Way in Stoughton.

IKEA is filled with smart and affordable ideas to furnish your dream home. The vision of IKEA is to create a better everyday life. IKEA Stoughton believes in supporting the communities it

serves. For more information on IKEA, visit their website www.ikea.com or call (781) 344-IKEA (4532).

This is a great way to make business connections in a casual setting. Exposure for your business is your competitive edge, so make sure to bring plenty of business cards. The event is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. To register, please call Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, email kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com, or register online at www.metroouthchamber.com/register.html.

Brockton Holiday Parade Photos



GMMS January, continued from page 1

J.D. from Boston College Law School. Catherine Reuben received her J.D. from Harvard Law School and currently serves as co-chair of the of Massachusetts Bar Association's Labor and Employment Law Section.

Good Morning Metro South is being sponsored by St. Joseph Manor. St. Joseph Manor is a 118 bed non-profit nursing home located on a 26 wooded acre campus. St. Joseph Manor attends to the needs of the whole persons' mind and spirit. They welcome and respect people of all faiths and traditions. The campus also features the Mater Dei Adult Day Health program which serves 60 clients a day offering relief to caregivers. For more information, call 508.583.8313 or visit www.sjmbrockton.org.

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.

MEMBERProfile



Donna Toma Lawlor, Store Manager of the Brockton location and brother George Anthony Toma, President of George Washington TV and Appliance stand outside the Brockton location during the Grand Opening in June

before, during, and after the sale, striving for 100% customer satisfaction. The company is family owned and operated and runs by the motto "Where There Is Always a Toma To Talk To." George Washington Toma also has its own in house delivery and service staff. They are a member of the largest appliance buying group in the country and is one of, if not the largest independent TV and appliance dealers South of Boston

What is your market area: Boston and Southeastern Massachusetts

What markets do you serve:

Commercial and residential buyers of HDTVs and Appliances.

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

Reader's Choice Award "Best Place to Buy Appliances" for the area of Southeastern Massachusetts for 9 years in a row!

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

George Washington TV and Appliance's main business objective is to support and promote their customers. Team Members are an important component of why George Washington TV and Appliance has become a leader in the community.

Address/Phone

- 1353 Commercial Street, Weymouth, MA 02189
781-335-6435
- 5 Westgate Drive, Brockton, MA 02301
508-586-9508

Website: www.gwtoma.com

Year Established: Weymouth: 1953
Brockton: 2008

Number of Employees: 60

Products or Services:

Sales and Service of major appliances and HDTV's

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

George Washington TV and Appliance has been in operation for over 55 years in Weymouth and has recently opened a new store in Brockton. They offer personalized service, taking care of customers

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

AD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**OFFICERS**

Chair of the Board
Scott Sanborn
Sovereign Bank

President and CEO
Christopher Cooney
Metro South Chamber of Commerce

Chair-Elect
John Holiver - *Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center*

Treasurer
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Gary R. Oman, P.C.

Vice Chair Community Affairs
Rick Colon
Verizon

Vice Chair Economic Development
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Christine Karavites
Proteas Customized Consulting

Vice Chair Membership Development
Daniel Trout
The Community Bank

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Reinald G. Ledoux, Jr.
Brockton Area Transit Authority

CHAMBER STAFF

508-586-0500 Front Desk x 221

Christopher Cooney
President and CEO x 223

Kim Bewsher
Program Director x 231

Lisa Keene
Membership x 225

DIRECTORS

Pasquale Caramella -
Old Colony Planning Council
Jack Conway - *Jack Conway & Company, Inc.*
John Costa - *B C Tent & Awning Company*
Loretta DeGrazia - *East Coast Petroleum*
Jeffrey Dukess - *Frenette & Dukess, PC*
Susan Joss -
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center
Fred Mason - *National Grid*
Dana Mohler-Faria -
Bridgewater State College
Mark Moreau - *TD Banknorth*
William Morse - *Mutual Bank*
Basan Nembirkow - *Brockton Public Schools*
Peter Neville - *Concord Foods*
David Orloff - *Sharkansky & Co., LLP, CPA's*
Andrea Papadopoulos - *Arista Associates, Inc.*
Lester Schindel -
New England Sinai Hospital
Andrew Schwartz
Law Office of Andrew h. Schwartz, LLC
Larry Siskind -
Siskind and Siskind Attorneys at Law
John Vlaco - *Brophy & Phillips Co., Inc.*
Charles Wall - *Massasoit Community College*
Patricia Williams - *HarborOne Credit Union*

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

JANUARY Calendar

7	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
13	SEED Workshop	8:00am
13	Executive Committee	3:00 pm
15	Good Morning Metro South <i>Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton</i>	7:30 am
16	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - Chamber Closed	
20	2009 Inauguration	
22	Business After Hours <i>IKEA, 1 IKEA Way, Stoughton</i>	5:30 pm
28	Board Meeting	12:00 pm

Coming Up February

4	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
10	Good Morning Metro South <i>Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton</i>	7:30 am
13	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
16	President's Day - Chamber Closed	
26	Business After Hours <i>Crazy Chef/Loco Tapas Bar, 520 Foundry Street, Easton</i>	5:30 pm

Save the Date**March**

4	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
10	Executive Committee	3:00 pm
13	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
18	Taste of Metro South <i>Shaw's Center, K. Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	5:30 pm
23	Board of Directors	12:00 pm

Note: All meetings are held at the
Metro South Chamber Office unless other wise indicated.



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Metro South Chamber of Commerce
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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
Photo and print production by Mark Mahoney, The Enterprise

GOODNews

Celebrate the great things going on!

Caritas Opens New Cancer Center

With native Brocktonian Mark Sinesi, MD, PhD., at the helm as medical director, Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center has opened its new cancer center. The new cancer center, which will specialize in radiation treatment, is located at 818 Oak Street on the main medical center campus, and offers state-of-the-art technology in a convenient setting close to home.

Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center offers a multidisciplinary, full range of services for the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation, and follow-up of cancer. The medical center also offers a hematology clinic for the diagnosis and management of various benign and malignant conditions of the blood.

Dr. Sinesi has been recognized as one of the top doctors in his field. He has dedicated his career to radiation oncology and to providing patients with compassionate care. Working with Dr. Sinesi will be G. Stephen Brown. For more information, visit www.caritas-goodsam.org.

Shoe City Contract Open House

Shoe City Contract Company, a Brockton Area Arc (BAArc) company, is inviting representatives from area businesses to an Open House on Wednesday, February 4, 2009, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Open House will take place at our work center and warehouse, located at 1250 West Chestnut Street, Brockton. Refreshments will be served. Visitors will be able to see our work force engaged in a variety of contract work: mailing operations, assembly, packaging, heat sealing, shrink wrapping, and other operations.

For more information, call Steven Petluck, Marketing Director, at (508) 583-8030, ext. 215; or email: captsteve1@comcast.net

MSBDC Welcome Tricia White



Tricia White

The MA Small Business Development Center (MSBDC), Southeast Regional Office in Fall River is pleased to announce that Tricia White has joined their staff as a Senior Business Advisor.

Tricia will be counseling small businesses in areas of start-up, financial planning, marketing, and strategic planning. The MSBDC provides FREE and confidential business advisory services to existing or

prospective small business people.

For the past year, Tricia has worked as a Marketing Specialist for NationsHeritage Federal Credit Union in Attleboro. Prior to working at NHFCU, she served as the Executive Director of the Tri-Town Chamber of Commerce in Mansfield.

For more information on the MSBDC and the services they provide, please call 508-673-9783 or on the web at www.msfdc.org/semass.

Dr. Naparstek Honored at Gala

Robert P. Naparstek, MD, medical director of the Caritas Good Samaritan Occupational Health Services, was honored at a gala held by the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety & Health.

The MassCOSH organization protects tens of thousands of workers and communities from potential dangers in the workplace as part of its mission. This year the organization celebrated 32 years as a leader in promoting workplace health and safety through training, education and policy development.

Dr. Naparstek was also recently re-appointed to an additional 2-year term as one of the Department of Industrial Accidents Physician Representatives of the Health Care Services Board by Commissioner Paul Buckley. The commissioner also took the opportunity to acknowledge Dr. Naparstek's leadership, dedication and assistance in improving the health care that injured workers receive.

Treat Breast Cancer in 5 Days?

Women of Eastern Massachusetts with early stage breast and endometrial cancers now have a new treatment option available to help reduce the chances of recurrence. Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital Radiation Therapy Center and Vantage Oncology announced that they will offer Axxent® Electronic Brachytherapy, which uses a miniaturized X-ray source that can deliver localized and targeted radiation treatments under the supervision of a radiation oncologist.

Approved by the U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of early stage breast and endometrial cancers, the Axxent Electronic Brachytherapy System is designed to deliver radiation therapy directly to cancer sites with minimal radiation exposure to surrounding healthy tissue and structures. In

addition, the system reduces the time required for radiation therapy for early stage breast cancer from seven weeks for external radiation therapy to five days.

For more information about the Axxent Electronic Brachytherapy System, please contact Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital Radiation Therapy Center at 508-941-7450 or visit www.signatureradiationoncology.org.

Martin Luther King Portrait

In honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, a portrait of the famous civil rights leader by Hilton Parnham, Jr. will be unveiled and dedicated at the Brockton Public Library's Main Branch, on Thursday, January 15, at 3:00 p.m. Hosted by library director Harry Williams III, the ceremony will include a speech by John Williams and a performance by the Hallelujah Voices choral group led by Reverend Dyan Johnson.

The portrait of Martin Luther King, Jr. was purchased for the library by Jeanie Martins of Martins & Associates Real Estate, Inc. Works by Hilton Parnham, Jr. have been exhibited at the library, the Fuller Art Museum, Stonehill College, and many other Massachusetts institutions.

The dedication ceremony is free. All are welcome. The Main Library is located at 304 Main St., with parking off of White Avenue. Brockton Public Library. Call 508-580-7890 x201 for more information.

Foreclosure Clinics

The Neighborhood Housing Services is offering several foreclosure clinics and counseling, along with first time homebuyer workshops and closing cost assistance.

The foreclosure clinics will be held January 21st, February 4th, February 18th,

March 4th, March 18th and April 1st, 2009.

The first time homebuyer workshops are two sessions each and there is a \$15.00 fee. They will be held January 5th and 7th (Rockland Trust), January 26th and 28th, February 23rd and 25th, and March 23rd and 25th, 2009.

All will be held at the HarborOne Credit Union, 68 Legion Parkway unless otherwise specified.

For more information, contact Lynne DeNapoli, 508-580-7123, or email ldnapoli@ci.brockton.ma.us.

Take the Plunge for Special Olympics

The 11th Annual Passion Plunge to benefit Special Olympics Massachusetts will be held on Saturday, January 31 at Revere Beach in Revere and Old Silver Beach in Falmouth. On Saturday, February 14, the plunge will take place at Nantasket Beach in Hull and Lake Quinsigamond in Worcester.

Those who wish to take the plunge in the ocean may register at www.passionplunge.org or by calling 978-774-1501 x 212. On-site registration is welcome if plungers have collected pledges. Plungers are asked to raise a minimum of \$250. Each registered plunger receives a web site where they may accept plunges on the page. Registration will take place on the day of the plunge at 10am. At 11:15 plungers will take to the ocean. A post party will take place under a heated tent. All plungers and guests are invited free of charge. It will feature music, food, and prizes.

Jack Conway Launches Blogging Site

Jack Conway and Company has introduced a real estate community blog all about Cape Cod. The site, guidemehome2capecod.com was launched as part of an innovative national blog platform known as Propopoly, which fea-

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Do You Have an HR Question?

Try the Human Resource Hotline

Does your business have Human Resource questions? Do you know where to turn for the answers?

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce has developed a hotline for your business to receive professional advice from experts in the HR field.

Simply e-mail your questions to the HR hotline at hrhotline@metroouthchamber.com or log onto www.metroouthchamber.com.

For more information contact **The Chamber** at 508.586.0500 x 231.

tures blogging microsites with highly-specific real estate information and conversation. These blogging web sites give affiliated agents an effective way to communicate with homebuyers and sellers in this increasingly popular medium.

Plans are underway for Conway to launch another blog for the South Shore early in 2009.

Jack Conway Co. is celebrated its 52nd anniversary as the largest independently owned real estate company in Massachusetts.

Fuel Assistance Fund Raiser

East Coast Petroleum, Allied Home Mortgage Capital Corporation, Quincy Council on Aging and the River Bay Club will hold a Fuel Assistance Fund Raiser on Wednesday, January 28, 2009 from 5:30-7:30 pm at the River Bay Club, 99 Brackett Street, Quincy. Proceeds will help Quincy seniors in need of fuel assistance for the winter season. Funds will be distributed confidentially through the Quincy Council on Aging and the Fuel Partnership Program.

Please Join us for a night of networking with senior service providers and other professionals while enjoying hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

The suggested donation is \$30 per person. Please RSVP by January 14 by calling David Tourtillot, Allied Home Mortgage Capital Group at 781-871-7400 x 21.

Prime Time Player Award

Brockton High School Senior Khalil James-Offley has been nominated for Fox 25 2008 "Prime Time Player" of the year award. Ten Players who appeared on Fox 25 throughout the season and shined above all the rest on the football field are in contention for the top honor. The winner will be presented live in the Fox 25 Studio on January 9th during the 5:00 pm news.

Save a Life- Donate Blood

On Friday, January 9 from 12pm-6pm, New England Sinai Hospital's Women's Auxiliary is sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive at the Hospital at 150 York Street in Brockton. January is National Volunteer Blood Donor Month. All Donors will receive a coupon for a free pound of Dunkin Donuts coffee. Make an appointment by calling 1-800-GIVELIFE or visit www.givelife.org.

CHAMBER MEMBERS:

Want to celebrate and promote your Good News to over 40,000 readers?
Send your press releases to avandam@metrosouthchamber.com.

Young Professionals Network & Explore Art



Erryn Garnett, Declan Halpin, Troy Hines,
Lauren Garnett and Megan O. Kenealy.



Maggie MacDonald, Kevin Teller, Brian Mitchell,
Jay Santoro and Craig Casey.

Contemporary Studio Members and the event: A diverse group of young professionals (20s, 30s and 40s), the Contemporary Studio Members support and promote the Museum through innovative social, educational and fundraising events. On December 3, Fuller Craft Museums' Body Bazaar, a craft wearables extravaganza which offers innovative jewelry and unique fashion items, was combined with the Contemporary Studio's Craft and Cocktails. Craft and Cocktails brought together live music, distinctive cocktails, food for the senses and young professionals from Brockton, Boston, Providence and all areas in between. Body Bazaar will be on exhibit until January 19. For more information and to join the Contemporary Studio Members Group at the Fuller Craft Museum, please call 508.588.6000 or visit www.fullercraft.org.

Beware Unlicensed Health Insurance Plans

Article from www.mass.gov

If you are trying to purchase health insurance on your own, make sure the plans you are considering are actually insurance. Some businesses and individuals will try to take advantage of the requirement that everyone in Massachusetts have health insurance by using unfair or deceptive advertising practices or by operating scams.

All legitimate health insurance companies are licensed by the Massachusetts Division of Insurance. You can call the Division of Insurance at (617) 521-7794 to verify that a company is a licensed insurer.

Health Plan Promises

Beware of health plan promises that seem too good to be true. Don't be fooled by bogus health plans that seek unsuspecting consumers on the internet and through unsolicited faxes and phone calls, or that advertise a limited time offer.

Discount Plans/Cards

Don't buy a discount plan or card as an alternative to health plan coverage. Discount plans/cards may allow you to get a discount on some of

your medical expenses but they do not pay anything toward your medical claims. They are not health insurance and they do not meet your Massachusetts "individual mandate" requirement for health coverage.

Read the Fine Print

Read the fine print before choosing a health plan. Make sure you understand what the plan covers and does not cover. And remember to add up how much you will have to pay out of your pocket for deductibles and co-payments and items that are not covered. High out-of-pocket costs can soon wipe out the savings of lower monthly premiums.

For More Information

Choosing a health plan is one of the most important decisions you will make. Make sure you get what you pay for. If you think you may have fallen victim to a scam or if you have questions about a health plan or insurance company, please call the Attorney General's Health Care Hotline at 1-888-830-6277, or the Division of Insurance Consumer Service Section at (617) 521-7794.

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



Bank of America

Palo Alto Software



February Breakfast; Mayor and Technology

Join us at the next Good Morning Metro South Breakfast on **Tuesday, February 10** from 7:30am-9:00am at the **Holiday Inn, 195 Westgate Drive, Brockton**. The featured speakers are **James Harrington**, Mayor of Brockton and **Michael G. Olivieri**, Publisher of the Boston Business Journal & Mass High Tech Journal.



Mayor James Harrington

Mayor James Harrington began his professional career as a Computer Field Service Engineer and a Field Service Manager for Wang Laboratories, Inc. In 1990, he established Harrington's Insurance now Bayside Financial Insurance Agency and in 1996, Mayor Harrington opened Centre Street Financial Services, Inc.

The Mayor ran for Councilor of Ward Five in 1986 and later pursued a successful bid for Councilor-At-Large, a position he held until 2005. The Mayor was also elected by his colleagues to serve as City Council President.

Michael Olivieri has been with American City Business Journals for 14 years. American City owns and operates local business journals in 42

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MANSFIELD BANK
BANKING YOUR WAY



Michael Olivieri

cities in the United States. In addition to being Publisher of the Boston Business Journal, Mike is also responsible for publishing Mass High Tech, The Journal of New England Technology. MHT Specializes in covering the region's incubation of next generation technologies and the people and companies behind our innovation economy.

The breakfast is being sponsored by Mansfield Bank. At over \$280 million in assets, Mansfield Bank is dedicated to offering the best products to the community. It was established in 1883 to provide personal and commercial banking products to the towns of Mansfield, Norton, Plainville, Attleboro, North Attleboro and West Bridgewater as well as the surrounding communities. For more information, visit www.mansfieldbankonline.com

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.

Local MLK Celebrations Planned



Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Article from the www.thehokingcenter.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: Monday, March 19, 2009

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

2009 Inauguration Day: January 20, 2009

Workers May Qualify for EITC

Metro South Chamber of Commerce is proud to partner with Mayor James Harrington's Earned Income Tax Campaign for 2009. Free electronic tax preparation and filing is available at the Harbor One Multi Cultural Center, 68 Legion Parkway in Downtown Brockton on Monday evenings from 4-7 pm starting Feb. 2nd.

Assistance on Saturdays will be provided from 9-3 at the Self Help Fuel assistance site, 1362 Main Street in Campello beginning Jan. 31st.

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

This program is designed to help 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. Your 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, 2008, and had income below \$12,590 (or \$14,590 for married workers) can get an EIC up to \$428.



Helping You Buy Your "Home Sweet Home"



- For properties in Brockton that are bank owned, in foreclosure or being sold in a short sale
- Single family house or condo priced at \$417,000 or below
- Up to \$2,500 in closing cost assistance
- 30 year fixed rate loan
- Discounted interest rate and closing cost
- Maximum loan-to-value of 100%
- Mortgage Insurance from MassHousing
- Unemployment benefits via mortgage insurance



Mayor James Harrington



www.buybrockton.org

Call 508.586.7890
for more information

Metro South Partnership Recognizes Employers

The Metro South Connecting Activities Partnership is a collaboration of the City of Brockton Office of Mayor James E. Harrington, the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board, and the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

Connecting Activities is a unique program that creates a competitive workforce linking employers with students by providing young people with business experience. Through this program, employers provide a meaningful worksite learning experience that builds academic, technical, and workplace skills.

High School seniors participate in workplace structured internships that assist students in making more informed decisions about the education that they will need to be successful in a variety of career paths, including college, technical training, apprenticeships, and more.

51 Metro South Region Employers who provided internships to high school seniors during the 2007 - 2008 Academic Year are being recognized with special gratitude for their commitment to the region's youth and the future workforce by the Connecting Activities Partnership.

Metro South Connecting Activities Partnership Employer Honor Roll



AccuRounds
Ace Surgical Supply Company
AGM Industries, Inc.
Allegra Print & Imaging
Brockton Cape Verdean Assoc.
B.N. Yanow Company
Back Bay Bagel
Battles Farm Village
Baynes Electric Supply Co., Inc.
Baypointe Rehabilitation
Beace Insurance Agency, Inc.
Beaver Woodworking Supplies
BKA Architects, Inc.
Boys & Girls Club of Brockton
Bridgewater State College
Brockton Area Multi-Services, Inc.
Brockton Area Transit Authority
Brockton Community Access
Brockton Day Nursery
Brockton Housing Authority
Brockton Neighborhood Health Ctr
Brockton Rox
Brockton Visiting Nurses Assoc.
Brophy & Phillips Co., Inc.
Butler Built Pavements
Cape Cod Cafe, Inc.
CareerWorks
Caritas Good Samaritan
Central Glass Company, Inc.
Christo's
City of Brockton - Mayor's Office
Columbia Electric Supply

Concord Foods
Copeland Toyota
Council on Aging
Crescent Credit Union
CRT Recycling
Crystal Cleaners
Cushman Insurance
Eastern Bank
Edible Arrangements
Embassy House Skilled Nursing
Emmanuel House Residence
Everett's Auto Parts
Father's Bill & Mainspring
Fuller Craft Museum
Gourmet Café
Hanson Printing Company, Inc.
Harbor One Credit Union
Hawkeye Fence LLC
Health Care of Southeastern Mass, Inc.
Heights Crossing
Hercules Building Wrecking
Holiday Inn Boston-Brockton
Holmes Mc Duffy Florists Inc
Home Health Resources Inc
Hospice of Greater Brockton
Infinity Data Corporation
Irving's Home Center
J. Frank Conley, Inc.
Jack Conway & Company, Inc.
Jls Mailing Svc
Jmk-9 Training
Joseph Stadelman Electrical Contractors

Juliano Enterprises
Landerholm Electric
Liberty Tax Service
Lutheran Community Services
Maintenance Chemical Suppliers
Massasoit Community College
Modern Autobody
Montello Heel Manufacturing, Inc.
National Grid
Old Colony Elder Services, Inc.
Old Colony Planning Council
Old Colony YMCA
Park Air
Roger Keith & Sons Insurance
Romm & Company, Inc.
Sharkansky & Company, LLP; CPA's
Sheilds Health Care Group
Sign Design, Inc.
Signature Healthcare
Sovereign Bank
St. Joseph Manor Health Care, Inc.
Stonebridge Cafe
Stonehill College
Tambou Bistro
The Enterprise
Thorny Lea Golf Club
Training Resources of America
Trans-Courier Systems Inc
United Way of Greater Plymouth County
US Post Office
Victor, Raphael & Griswald
W.B. Mason Company, Inc.



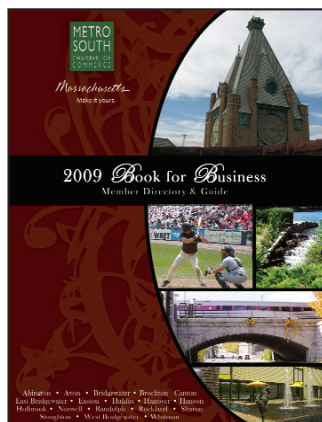
For a full list of employers, visit www.metroouthchamber.com/connect.html

Participating Area High Schools:

Brockton High, East Bridgewater High, Stoughton High, Whitman-Hanson Regional High School

For information and to become a participating employer in the Connecting Activities Initiative contact: Kathryn, Competitive Workforce Coordinator, Metro South Chamber of Commerce, (508) 586-0500 ext.229, ksayles@metroouthchamber.com

Book For Business Arriving Soon



The Chamber of Commerce will soon be distributing the **2009 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.

Go LOCO for February Business After Hours



LOCO's Tapas located at 520 Foundry Street, Easton (Rt. 106 and 123)

Please join us for the Chamber's next Business After Hours networking event on Thursday, February 26 from 5:30-7:30 pm at Loco Tapas and Wine Bar located at 520 Foundry Street in South Easton at the intersection of routes 106 and 123.

Loco's is known for upscale, yet non-pretentious dining & cocktails, with a unique copper bar & ultra lounge! Loco's provides the finest Spanish dishes and an extensive wine list. Loco's Tapas and Crazy Chefs, voted Boston's best caterer in 2006, are under joint management of Chef James Messenger.

For more information on Loco's Tapas, visit their website www.locotapas.com or by calling (508) 230-LOCO (5626).

This is a great way to make business connections in a casual setting. Exposure for your business is your competitive edge, so make sure to bring plenty of business cards. The event is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members. To register, please call Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, email kprosper@metroouthchamber.com, or register online at www.metroouthchamber.com/register.html.

Economic Development/Real Estate Featured at Breakfast



Kimberly Allard-Moccia, Plymouth & South Shore Association of Realtors (PASS)



New Members: Ellen Belli, The Belli Group Strategic Marketing, LLC, and Aaron Duke, Duke Profit Plan



Attendees at the Breakfast enjoy networking opportunities at their tables



Emcee for the event Christine Karavites, Proteas Consulting

Sponsored By:



Don Walsh, President of Brockton 21st Century Corporation and Building a Better Brockton



Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO, Christine Karavites, Proteas Consulting, Kimberly Allard-Moccia, PASS, Dan Trout, The Community Bank, John Holiver, Caritas Good Samaritan, Don Walsh, Building a Better Brockton



Breakfast sponsor John Holiver, Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center

Brockton Hosts Governor's Workforce Board



Over 75 business and community leaders attended a recent meeting of the Governor's Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board held at the Shaw's Center. Joseph G. DiLorenzo, CFO & Government Relations for Plymouth Rock Studios (above) gave a presentation about increasing workforce opportunities within the state with the development of Plymouth Rock Studios

The Massachusetts Workforce Investment Board is a business led organization appointed by Governor Deval Patrick. The board conducts timely labor market analysis, brokers relationships between business and industry providers of education and training programs and sets policy concerning state workforce development resources to serve job seekers and employers.



Senator-Elect Kennedy Speaks to Chamber



Tom Kennedy, Senator Elect for Second Plymouth and Bristol District, spoke at a recent Government Affairs Meeting. For information on January's Government Affairs Meeting, see next page.



Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO, State Representative William Galvin, Senator-Elect Tom Kennedy, State Representative Louis Kafka and Christine Karavites, Vice Chair of Government Affairs. Also in attendance, State Representative Allen McCarthy, Frank Lyman, Selectman of Whitman, and Michael Yunits, Selectman of Holbrook.

Global Workshop Held at Chamber



More than 12 people attended a recent Global Business Management Workshop at the Chamber. The workshop, sponsored by Bridgewater State College and presented by communications professional Kate Archard, taught attendees to communicate effectively in the workplace and learn about cross-cultural communication styles.

Calling all Restaurants: Taste of Metro South, March 18, 2009!!
Call Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231 for more information



Metro South Region Offers Wonderful Winter Fun



Glide at the Ice Rink

Asiab Skating

702 Belmont St., Brockton (508) 583-6804

Bridgewater Ice Arena

20 Bedford Pk, Bridgewater (508) 279-0600

Rockland Ice Rink

599 Summer St., Rockland (781) 878-7500

Catch a Movie

Hoyts Cinemas: Sharon 8

111 S. Main St., Sharon (781) 784-9300

Showcase Cinemas

13 Mazzeo Dr., Randolph (781) 963-5600

Experience the Slopes

Blue Hills

4001 Washington St., Canton (781) 828-5070



Eat at a Chamber Member Restaurant

Cameron's On The Green

436 Oak St., 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) 588-4200

Good Days Restaurant, Inc.

99 So. Main St., W. Bridgewater (508) 584-0077

Gourmet Cafe

245 Main St., Brockton (508) 580-0966

Stonebridge Cafe

1285 Belmont St., Brockton (508) 584-5200

Supreme House of Pizza

376 Centre St., Brockton (508) 588-0044

Tamboo Restaurant

282 Main St., Brockton (508) 584-8585

Texas Roadhouse

124 Westgate Dr., Brockton (508) 427-6244

The Charlie Horse Restaurant

674 Old W. Ctr. St., W. Bridgewater (508) 583-7252

Tiki Garden

201 North Quincy St., Abington (781) 857-1300

Westgate Lanes and Pub

64 Westgate Dr., Brockton (508) 583-1296

X & O Restaurant

217 Washington St., Stoughton (781) 344-1800



Go Bowling or Play at the Arcade

Carousel Family Fun Center

1055 Auburn Street, Whitman (781) 857-1286

The Charlie Horse Restaurant

674 Old W. Ctr. St., W. Bridgewater (508) 583-7252

Timber Lanes, Inc.

459 Bedford St., Abington (781) 878-0218

Viking Recreation Center

607 Bedford St., E. Bridgewater (508) 378-9830

Westgate Lanes and Pub

64 Westgate Dr., Brockton (508) 583-1296

Visit a Museum

Brockton Historical Society Museum

216 N. Pearl St., Brockton (508) 583-1039

Fuller Craft Museum

455 Oak St., Brockton (508) 588-6000

The Children's Museum in Easton

PO Box 417, North Easton (508) 230-3789

Relax at the Spa

Makeovers Salon & Spa

574 Washington St., S. Easton (508) 238-2201

For more recreation and business information,
look for the 2009 Chamber Book for 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 (MSBDC)
- * Business Information Center
- * SBA Guaranty Loan Programs: 7(a) Micros Loans, Express & 504's
- * Government Contacting Opportunities: 8(a) Business Development, HUB/Zones, Small Disadvantaged Business Assistance, Surety Bonding
- * Disaster Assistance

Location: Career Works, 34 School Street, Brockton

Wednesdays:	January 21	May 20	September 16
	February 18	June 17	October 21
	March 18	July 15	November 18
	April 15	August 19	December 16

Time: 2:00pm - 4:00 pm

RSVP: 508.513.3400

GRO-N-THINGS, INC.

Interior Plant Maintenance and Design Service

P.O. Box 1246
Middleboro, MA 02346
508.947.8433 (p)
781.767.2244 (f)



Shelley Tierney
OWNER

SERVING AREA BUSINESS SINCE 1975



GOVERNMENT Affairs

Friday, January 16, 2009, 12:00 pm
60 School Street, Brockton

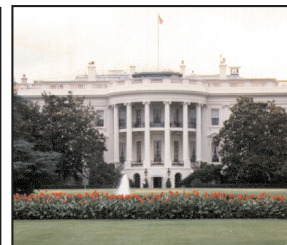
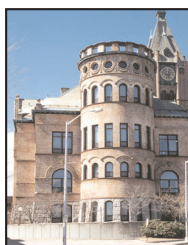
The next Government Affairs meeting will be held at the Chamber Office on Friday, January 16, 2009 at 12pm.

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. Government affects your life every day.

Legislative actions at municipal offices, on Beacon Hill, and in

Washington D.C. affect your organization's continued ability to prosper. With widespread concern over the status of the national economy, now more than ever is the time to speak out and be heard on taxes, regulations, and other issues that affect your bottom line.

If you would like to attend the Government Affairs meeting on January 16, meeting, please contact Lisa at 508.586.0500 x 225. Lunch will be provided.



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 7** and **February 4** from 8:00 - 9:00 am at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

To become an Ambassador, call the Chamber at 508.586.0500 ext. 221

RENEWING Members Thank You !

Abington Family Dental Care
Advanced Business Concepts
Berish Properties, Inc.
BKA Architects-Accounts Payable
Bridgewater Trophy
Brockton Education Association
Brockton Visiting Nurse Association
Campanelli Companies
Caritas Good Samaritan Medical Center
Caritas Good Samaritan Occupational Health Services
Clearpoint Communications, Inc.
Douglas A. King Builders, Inc.
Eagle Elevator Company, Inc.
East Coast Petroleum Corp.
Edward C. Hayden CPA PC
Frenette & Dukess
Gerald S. Derochea, CPA
Hampden Technologies
Home Health Resources, Inc.
HR Alternatives/Primary Vision Consulting
HWO Investment Advisory
Independence Insurance Agency
John F. Mack Distributors

Law Office of Mark D. Petti
Law Office of Victor and Goldman
Margaritelli USA, Inc.
McCormick & Sons Insurance Agency, Inc.
National Grid
Parent, McLaughlin & Nagle
Pierce Refrigeration, Inc.
Rockland Trust Company
Roger Keith & Sons
Romm Diamonds
S & M Painting and Remodeling, Inc.
Signature Healthcare
Smith, Buckley & Hunt Insurance Agency
Stoughton Motel
Texas Roadhouse
The Community Bank
Timber Lanes, Inc.
Trans Courier Systems
Tufts Health Plan
Turner Brothers, LLC
United Way of Greater Plymouth County, Inc.
Waste Management of MA
Willwork Inc., Exhibit Services

WELCOME New Members

Making an Investment in Our Community

The Belli Group Strategic Marketing LLC
Ms. Ellen Belli
14 Violet Circle
Sharon, MA 02067
781-784-3200
www.thebelligroup.net
Marketing/Public Relations

Cape Cod Central Railroad
Mr. John Kennedy
252 Main Street
Hyannis, MA 02061
508-771-3800
www.capetrain.com
Transportation

Prophett-Chapman Cole & Gleason Funeral Homes
Mr. Mark L. Chapman
98 Bedford Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324
508-697-4332
www.ccgfuneralhome.com
Funeral Directors

Televisuals
Mr. Ron van Dam
620 Washington Street (Rt. 138)
South Easton, MA 02375
508-846-4556
www.televisuals.com
Videography

Wizard Computer Services
Mr. Matt Geaney
421 Page Street
Stoughton, MA 02072
781-341-2222
www.wizardcpu.com
Computer Software/Services

**To Join the Chamber,
Call Lisa at
508.586.0500 x 225**

Mass Office of Small Business Speaks to Chamber



The Massachusetts Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (OSBE) along with the State Office of Minority and Women Business Assistance (SOMWBA) visited the Chamber as part of their "Listening Tour." The tour targeted Chambers of Commerce and Businesses identifying the opportunities and challenges facing small business in Massachusetts. Among the issues raised by Brockton small businesses was streamlining the amount of filing paperwork.

Small businesses represent 85% of all Massachusetts companies and employ over a quarter of the workforce. The OSBE works with the Commonwealth's many service providers of technical assistance and financing as well as directly with the small businesses to provide an atmosphere of success.

For more information, visit www.mass.gov or call the **Business Resource Team** at 1-877-BIZTEAM

Left to right: Ray Ledoux, Past Chamber Chair, Andre Porter, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Office of Small Business and Entrepreneurship (OSBE) and Eydie Silva, Executive Director of SOMWBA.

Morgan Stanley Holds Workshop



At a recent Morgan Stanley member-led workshop, attendees learned about choosing the best retirement plan.

Since 1935, Morgan Stanley has served as the preeminent financial advisors to companies, governments, and investors around the world. For more information, contact Matthew McLaughlin at 800-326-5951.

Pictured Left: Matthew J. McLaughlin, Financial Advisor at Morgan Stanley and Brian P. Bouchard, Vice President, Retirement Plan Consultant and Eastern Team Leader for Morgan Stanley's Retirement Group.

Chamber Staff - Ready to Assist You in 2009



Standing: Kerry Sullivan, Controller, x 231; Lisa Keene, Director of Business Development, x 225; Alison van Dam, Director of Communications, x 222; Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO, x 223

Seated: Kimberly Prosper, Program Director, x 231; Kathryn Sayles, Competitive Workforce Coordinator, x 229

General questions: 508.586.0500

Whelan Associates Cuts Ribbon in Easton



Representatives from Whelan Associates, Brockton Urology and South Shore Dermatology took part in the ribbon cutting



Two Washington Place, located on Roche Brothers Way off of Route 138 in Easton

Whelan Associates, LLC, recently held a ribbon cutting for their newest medical office building at Two Washington Place, located at 31 Roche Brothers Way off rt. 138 in Easton. The 42,000 square foot building is the second in the Washington Place development. It was strategically designed to accommodate the latest medical technologies making it a perfect fit for tenants which currently include Brockton urology and South Shore Dermatology Physicians.



William A. Cormack, CFO Whelan Associates donates a check to Erich Miller of My Brother's Keeper at the event

Whelan Associates is looking forward to future business opportunities in the Easton area, including Three Washington Place, which is fully permitted and now pre-leasing.

Whelan Associates, LLC is a well established real estate company with experience in commercial, medical, and professional office markets throughout Southeastern Massachusetts. For more information visit www.whelanassociates.com

War Memorial: Phase One Complete



Members of the War Memorial Steering Committee, Elected Officials, including Mayor James Harrington, and War Veterans celebrate the marking of Phase One Completion of the War Memorial Restoration Project.

Mayor James E. Harrington and the Steering Committee for the War Memorial Restoration Project recently held a Work-In-Progress Ceremony marking the end of Phase 1 Construction for the War Memorial Building. Included repairs in this phase consist of an elevator tower, handicap access restrooms, and electrical, mechanical and structural upgrades.

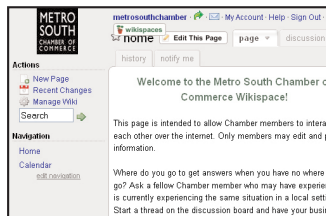
The Ceremony included speeches by Colonel Robert Tripp, Mayor James Harrington and Attorney Kenneth Feinberg and concluded with entertainment provided by the Brockton Symphony Orchestra and a tour of the building.

The War Memorial Building, located at 156 West Elm Street was origi-

nally dedicated in 1930 to the men and women who served our country in time of war. The War Memorial Restoration Project maintains the primary mandate of a war memorial building. A Veterans Memorial Museum is proposed. In addition, the building will fulfill a secondary mandate to community enrichment providing a home to a downtown Performing Arts Center and the Brockton Symphony Orchestra.

For more information and to find out how to contribute through the Stepping Stone Initiative and Dedication Walkway, visit www.brockton-warmemorial.com.

Chamber Launches New Wiki Website



www.metroouthchamber.com.wikispaces.com

The Metro South Chamber has launched a new wiki website allowing Chamber members to interact with each other over the internet.

A wiki is a collection of web pages enabling viewers to contribute and modify content. It allows for a dynamic page through a group collaboration. The best known example of a wiki is Wikipedia.

The Metro South Chamber Wiki currently consists of 2 pages, the homepage and a calendar page. Members are encouraged to click on the discussions tab and start threads about business topics and questions. Other members who may have experienced similar challenges in the local climate may

respond to your questions. In this way, members are anticipated to form tight networking circles and grow their businesses. Members are also encouraged to share their likes and dislikes about Chamber programs and benefits. The staff can then assist and modify programs to help make the most of Chamber membership. Visit the wiki page today and discuss feelings about the Action Report newsletter and its circulation.

The calendar page, accessed on the left column of the wiki site, contains Chamber events for the upcoming year. Click on the discussion tab above the calendar page, and share your thoughts about upcoming events or events past. To post events to the calendar page, contact Alison at avandam@metroouthchamber.com for the access information.

The Chamber is excited to bring the wiki site to its members, and looks forward to growing it with more applications to benefit local businesses. To access the wiki site, visit www.metroouthchamber.wikispaces.com

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

Tuesday, January 13 9am - 12pm < (Session I) >
Tuesday, January 13 1pm-4pm < (Session II) >

LOCATION

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

SPONSOR

Rockland Trust Community Development LLC

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.



2009 Holiday Calendar



		Manufacturing	Retail Stores/ Supermarkets	Liquor Stores	Taverns/Bars	Banks	Stock Markets	State/County Municipal Offices	Schools	Libraries	Mail Delivery
New Year's Day Thursday, January 1	\$	■	■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
M.L. King Day Monday, January 19		■	■	■	■	□	■	●	●	●	No
President's Day Monday, February 16		■	■	■	■	□	■	●	●	●	No
Patriot's Day Monday, April 20		■	■	■	■	□	■	●	●	●	Yes
Memorial Day Monday, May 25	\$	○	■	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
Independence Day Saturday, July 4	\$	○	■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
Labor Day Monday, September 7	\$	○	■	■	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
Columbus Day Monday, October 12	\$	◆	◆	■	■	●	■	●	●	●	No
Veteran's Day Wednesday, November 11	\$	✕	✕	●	■	●	■	●	●	●	No
Thanksgiving Day Thursday, November 26		●	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	No
Christmas Day Friday, December 25		●	●	●	■	●	●	●	●	●	No

- Open
- Closed
- Manufacturers and other non-retailers may not open without local police permit.
- Open at the discretion of the individual bank. Most banks are expected to be closed on Martin Luther King Day.
- ◆ Blue Laws apply before noon. Local police permit is required to operate before noon.
- ✕ Blue Laws apply before 1pm. Local police permit is required to operate before 1 pm.
- \$ Retail stores must pay time and one-half.

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 statutes 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 known 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 15

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 16

Government Affairs

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Metro South Chamber of Commerce

60 School Street, Brockton

This meeting provides an opportunity for Chamber members to discuss issues and topics important to them and their elected officials.

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 225

January 22

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

IKEA

1 IKEA Way, Stoughton

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

Tickets: \$5 members, \$10 non-members

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231

IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!

508-586-0500 x 231 ☎

508-587-1340 📠

E-mail: info@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.

Names of Persons Attending: _____

Event: _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____

REMINDER: We accept VISA, MasterCard and AMEX for dues and special events!