

Actionreport

April
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.



Lisa Lankiewicz, page 8



Paul & Paula Ridley, page 9



Business Expo, Page 11

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Legislative Luncheon to Feature First Woman Attorney General

Martha Coakley to Address Chamber- Friday, April 17

The 2009 Legislative Luncheon is scheduled for **Friday, April 17 at 12pm**. The event will be held at the **Massasoit Conference Center** on Crescent St. in Brockton. The Featured Speaker will be Attorney General Martha Coakley.

Martha Coakley has dedicated the last 20 years of her life to a career in public service. Coakley has a strong history as an advocate-not only for individuals and communities, but also for the best interests of the Commonwealth.



Attorney General Martha Coakley

Attorney General Coakley began her legal career in 1979, practicing civil litigation. In 1998, Coakley was elected Middlesex District Attorney. During her 8 years as District Attorney, Coakley established herself as a passionate advocate for public safety, not only bringing justice to crime victims and their families, but also emphasizing the importance of working with community leaders, schools, and law enforcement in a variety of diverse and multifaceted prevention efforts.

In January 2007, Coakley took office as the first female Attorney General of Massachusetts. Since taking office, she has focused on a variety of issues affecting the citizens of the Commonwealth, including cyber crime, identity theft, home foreclosures,

access to affordable healthcare, and environmental protection.

Attorney General Coakley has been involved in a number of community and professional organizations and boards, including the Women's Bar Association, the Dana Farber Cancer Institute, and Middlesex Partnerships for Youth, Inc. She has been honored by organizations statewide, including Mothers Against Drunk Driving, the Massachusetts Association of School Committees, and the Victim Rights Law Center.

Participants will also have the opportunity to interact with their local legislators and learn about upcoming legislative initiatives on Beacon Hill.

The Legislative Luncheon is a great networking opportunity so don't forget your business cards. To register or for further information, call the Chamber at **508.586.0500 ext. 225** or register online at metroouthchamber.com/register.html. The cost to attend is \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members.

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More information on page 9

Small Biz Luncheon & Expo to Feature Monster.com Creator

May 13, 2009, Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton



Jeffrey Taylor, Monster.com and Eons Founder

Monster.com Creator and Eons CEO and founder Jeffrey Taylor, is slated to speak at the Small Business Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, May 13, 2009, 12pm at the Shaw's Center, Brockton.

Recognized as an innovator and visionary in both the Internet and career industries, Taylor has reinvented the way job hunters seek employment. His "monster idea," conceived at the dawn of the World Wide Web, quickly became one of the first dot-com companies (454th registered domain on the Web) and has since become the world's leading online career site. Today, the Monster global network consists of 22 local content and language sites in 20 countries and serves 20 million unique visitors monthly.

Taylor is a frequent speaker and serves as an expert at technology, advertising and human capital confer-

ences. Taylor co-authored the book, *Monster Careers*, which hit bookstores nationwide in April 2004 and offers job seekers a step-by-step plan for finding the job of their dreams.

Taylor left Monster.com in 2005 to pursue a new unprecedented venture, becoming the CEO and founder of Eons.com. Eons is an online social community targeting baby boomers, those 50 years old or older. It allows users to create profiles, join groups based on their passions and interests, build friends, play games, and share photos and videos with friends and family.

At the Luncheon, the Small Business and Entrepreneur of the Year Awards will be presented. Tickets are \$35 for members and \$45 for non-members. Register by calling Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231 or online at www.metroouthchamber.com/register.html.

The Small Business Luncheon is presented in conjunction with the Business EXPO which will run from 10:00 am - 3:00 pm.

~ To nominate someone for a
Business Award, see page 6
~ To learn more about the
Business EXPO, see page 11

Chamber Urges Restraint on Business Ban

The Brockton City Council is considering a ban on conducting business in the city of Brockton between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m...
See page 2 for full story

Congress Take Note: Card Check Opposition Grows

In a recent opinion poll of Massachusetts residents, 71% opposed the elimination of the secret ballot during union elections...
See page 9 for full story

Program to Provide Hotel Leads

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is generating hundreds of new leads for local hotels through a coordinated promotions program in partnership with GBCVB, PCCVB and MOTT...
See page 9 for full story

Rockland Trust Supports Small Business



Mike Savage of Rockland Trust presents Christopher Cooney, Chamber President and CEO with a check in support of the Metro South Business Assistance Center and Edison Business Incubator located at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is located in a designated "New Markets" area where Rockland Trust has been instrumental in providing financing for economic development projects.

Friends are Free at Fool Proof Marketing Event

April 30, 2009, The Shaw's Center

The Brockton ROX will host a Business After Hours at the Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton, on Thursday, April 30, 5:30 pm- 7:30pm.

In this special edition of the the Business After Hours season, members are encouraged to "bring a friend" free of charge. In addition, from 4-5pm Jay Wallus from Street Smart will present a marketing workshop on how businesses can use certain techniques to get their foot in the door of new accounts, especially in a down economy. Learn how Jay used birthday candles, a cookie monster costume and old bread to turn a business into a thriving cash machine, what a local jeweler did to generate 1711 phone calls in 3 days and how to sell a Unique Selling Proposition for businesses.



This is a casual event that presents a great way to make business contacts so bring plenty of business cards! The event is \$5 for Chamber members and \$10 for non-members. To register call Kim Prosper, 508-586-0500 x231.

The ROX open the 2009 season on Thursday, May 28 against Can-Am League champion Sussex Skyhawks at 7:05 pm. Season tickets, mini-plans, flex packs and group outings are available by calling 508-559-7000. For more information, visit brocktonrox.com

It's a Great Time to Join the Chamber

May 5 & 6, 2009



Chamber members call prospective members at the 2008 Membership Drive



Kelly Le, Bridgewater Savings Bank

Becoming a member of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce provides your business opportunities to accelerate its growth. When you join the Chamber, you become a leader within the business community and a member of the region's most dynamic advocacy organization. Membership means potential new business prospects, new savings, access to valuable resources and information, access to health and dental plans, a variety of marketing opportunities and more, for you and your business.

On May 5 and 6, many community

and business leaders, currently benefiting from membership in the Chamber, will contact businesses that could benefit from membership in the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. This year's drive will feature many exciting incentives for small businesses to join the Chamber, including free radio and print advertising, free admission to several Chamber events, amazing discounts and more.

If you are not currently a Chamber member, take this opportunity to listen to someone who is. Chamber membership is affordable no matter how small your business - 70% of our members have 10 or fewer employees - and it provides your business with tremendous opportunity.

To discuss how the Chamber can help you build a stronger business, or if you are a current member and wish to become a drive volunteer, call Lisa at (508) 586-0500 ext. 225, or email lkeene@metrosouthchamber.com.

Chamber Urges Restraint on Business Ban

The Brockton City Council is considering a ban on conducting business in the city of Brockton between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. Chamber President Christopher Cooney, in discussions with City Councilor Tom Brophy, Police Chief Bill Conlon and Mayor James Harrington, is urging the city to address any issues they have with specific businesses on a case by case basis. "Brockton is one of Massachusetts largest cities with a critical mass of people and businesses. Let's find a solution that addresses the concern without restricting the flow of commerce or placing another level of permitting on Brockton businesses," said Christopher Cooney, Chamber president and CEO.

New Member Orientation at Chamber



Front Row: Don Karp, George Toma, Deb Toma, George Washington Toma TV & Appliance; Carla Ganter, Mark Kay Cosmetics. Back Row: Rocky Ostroff, Ocean Real Estate Investment, LLC; Lanelle Cox, Your Local Office



Alex Perez, Burrito Wraps; Angel Nieves, Aflac



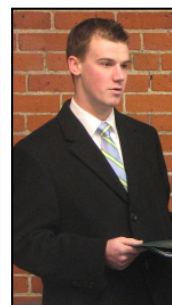
Dermot Jinks, Brown Chiropractic; Jeni Mather, JM K-9 Training; William Murray, Economize Plumbing & Heating



Front Row: Joe Maniglia, MetroPCS; Lindsay Parker; Lindsay Parker Media; Ellen Belli, Belli Strategic Marketing. Back Row: Louise O'Shea, Irish Cultural Center; Ted Burgess and David Flynn, Burgess and Capeway Pest Management



Christopher Anzuoni, Plymouth & Brockton Street Railroad Co.; Jim Long, Controller Service & Sales Co.; Russ Allen, Sign-A-Rama



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President and CEO x 223

Lisa Keene
Business Development x 225

John Nesti
Member Services x 229

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William Morse - *Mutual Bank*

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Siskind and Siskind Attorneys at Law

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

Charles Wall - *Massasoit Community College*

Patricia Williams - *HarborOne Credit Union*

Kimberly Prosper
Program Director x 231

Kathryn Sayles
Competitive Workforce x 227

Kerry Sullivan
Finance x 230

Alison van Dam
Director of Communications x 222

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

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

Networking at Events

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

APRIL Calendar

7	Business Tactics in a Troubled Economy	8:00 am
13	China Trip Info Session <i>New England Sinai, 150 York Street, Stoughton</i>	3:00 pm
13	China Trip Info Session <i>Stonehill College Alumni Hall, Easton</i>	5:30 pm
17	Legislative Luncheon <i>Massasoit Conference Center, 770 Crescent St., Brockton</i>	12:00 pm
20	Patriot's Day - Chamber Closed	
25	Keep Brockton Beautiful Day (See page 11)	9:00 am
29	The Enterprise Career Day (See page 11)	9:00 am
30	Street Smart Workshop <i>Shaw's Center, K. Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	4:00 pm
30	Business After Hours/ Street Smart <i>Shaw's Center, K. Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	5:30 pm

**Coming Up
May**

5,6	Membership Drive <i>Stonehill College Alumni Hall, Easton</i>	8:00 am
7	Affirmative Market Program	1:00 pm
7	Government Affairs (State Representative Galvin)	12:00 pm
12	Executive Committee	3:00 pm
13	Small Business Awards and Expo <i>Massasoit Conference Center, 770 Crescent St., Brockton</i>	10:00 am
20	QuickBooks for Beginners	8:30 am
21	So, You Want To Be A Consultant	8:00 am
21	Business After Hours <i>Caritas Good Samaritan, Radiation Center, 818 Oak St., Brockton</i>	5:30 pm
25	Memorial Day - Chamber Closed	
27	Board of Directors	12:00 pm

**Save the Date
June**

3	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
4	Business After Hours - Ice Cream Social <i>Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, 63 Main Street</i>	5:30 pm
12	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
17	ATHENA Awards Program <i>Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	7:30 am

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



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GOODNews

Celebrate the great things going on!

National Coin Week at Brockton Library

The Brockton Main Library will host National Coin Week on Saturday, April 18, 2009 beginning at 2:00 p.m. at 304 Main Street, Brockton in the multi-purpose room. Everyone is welcome; children over the age of seven will particularly enjoy the commemoration of the 200th anniversary of Abraham Lincoln. Prizes to be won, coins reviewed by Richard Hand, Jr. American Numismatic Association registered and certified. For more information please call 508-580-7890 ext 301 or sign up in the Children's Room.

FREE Children's Museum Membership

Earn a free membership for your family or to give as a gift by helping out the Children's Museum staff with spring cleaning chores. Spruce-UP volunteers who are willing to clean, paint, and organize Museum materials and supplies will earn a free membership for volunteering.

Spruce-UP volunteers must be available during the day on Mondays during April and May. For more information or to put your name on our on-call list call the Children's Museum at 508-230-3789.

"Brockton City Lights" Cultural Event



The Brockton Library Foundation, working together with the Brockton Historical Society and the Greater Brockton Society for Poetry and the Arts, will host Brockton City Lights on Saturday, June 20, 2009, from 8:00 p.m. to 12 a.m. The benefit event will be held at the Brockton Public Library, 304 Main Street. Brockton City Lights will feature an evening of live music, great food, jazz, elegant company and engaging performances with overtones of the beat generation.

Proceeds from this event will be used to continue the ongoing mission of the Brockton Library Foundation, the Brockton Historical Society, and the Greater Brockton Society for Poetry and the Arts. Tickets may be purchased online at www.brocktoncitylights.com or by contacting Barbara Lutz at 508.583.4987.

Caritas Christi to Bring Quality to the People

Caritas Christi Health Care has launched a print and online campaign throughout Greater Boston that pledges to bring "Quality to the People." These four words underscore a commitment shared by the system's family of 12,000 employees and 2,300 doctors to deliver

world class medical care to people, where they live. Under the umbrella of "Quality to the People," Caritas is launching system-wide initiatives, marked by the unveiling of a unique new brand campaign and community events across the region.

In addition, A group of "on-the-street brand ambassadors" have engaged friends and neighbors in the community with free coffee and the morning paper at all of the system's six hospitals.

\$20 Million Mortgage Solution Fund

Mutual Bank has announced a new initiative to help homeowners cope with the current mortgage crisis. The bank has launched its new \$20 Million Mortgage Solution Fund, designed to help homeowners and prospective homeowners.

The bank is offering to help well-intentioned homeowners who may have obtained mortgages elsewhere, and now are under pressure. White said that the program is also appealing to prospective buyers, especially first-time buyers, who would like to take advantage of unprecedented low real estate prices and mortgage rates. The bank has set up a special toll-free number for people interested in the Mortgage Solution Fund: 866-88-MYBANK (866-986-9226).

Role of Hospitals in the 21st Century

The 18th annual Peter Mareb Memorial Lecture will feature a powerhouse of healthcare executives who will examine the most prominent issues facing the industry today.

The Mareb Lecture will be held on April 16 at The Joseph W. Martin Jr. Institute for Law & Society at Stonehill College. The focus of this year's lecture is "The Role of Community Hospitals in the 21st Century. What Role Will They Play?" A reception will be held from 6-7:15 p.m. followed immediately by the panel discussion.

This year's panel members are leaders on the frontlines of healthcare and bring a unique perspective to the shifting expectations of quality of delivery of services as medicine and science advance and what needs to be done to meet these challenges in an era of skyrocketing costs and where transparency is a priority.

Realtor's Real Estate "Dialogue" Series

John Davison of Rockland Trust spoke in front of a packed house at Jack Conway, Realtor's Real Estate "Dialogue" series recently. He spoke about the process of securing commercial loans, and the steps both the bank and businesses take.

As the largest independent Realtor in Massachusetts, Conway is offering the "Dialogue" program as part of a continuing effort to educate its agents in all aspects of the real estate business. For more information on the "Dialogue" series, or to join Conway, call Marie Battles at 781-871-0080.

Mutual Bank Support Troops

Mutual Bank recently made a donation in the amount of \$500 to the Pilgrim Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol to be used to pay the cost of shipping snacks, toiletries and other supplies to American troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Dalia Cardoso, Manager of Mutual Bank's Plymouth branch location, presented the check to Cadet Airman 1st Class Thomas Lentini and Cadet Senior Airman Alyssa Goodall of the Civil Air Patrol, saying, "We appreciate being given the opportunity to contribute to such a worthwhile cause."

Good Sam Medical Center New COO

Donna L. Rubinate, of Warwick, R.I. has been appointed as the Chief Operating Officer at Good Samaritan Medical Center.

Rubinate previously was the vice president, clinical operations, and chief nursing officer at Saint Anne's Hospital in Fall River, a member of the Caritas Christi family of hospitals. She also served as the vice president, patient care services at Saint Anne's during her three-year tenure there. Quality patient care has been her hallmark throughout her career and a focus she brings to Good Samaritan.

Brockton Area ARC \$10,000 Drawing Event

On May 22, 2009 at the Shaw's Center, Brockton from 7:30pm-11:30pm, the Brockton Area ARC will host a \$10,000 Drawing Event. For a \$100 ticket you will get a 1 in 3 chance to win \$10,000. Each ticket admits 2 people.

The evening will include all the excitement of live musical entertainment by Boston legend Jim Plunkett, dancing, hors d'oeuvres, pasta station and more, cash bar, other raffle tickets for sale and contests all night long for additional cash prizes! Participation will help children and families whose lives are affected by disabilities. For tickets and information, call 508-583-8030 x 200.

SEED Corp. Small Business Micro Loans

The South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation has secured \$1 million from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) for micro loans up to \$35,000 for small businesses in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

Micro loans up to \$35,000 are available

for existing and start-up small businesses including home based businesses. Loan funds can be used for: working capital, inventory, machinery and equipment, furniture and fixtures, leasehold improvements and refinancing business credit card debt with high interest rates. The term on the loans is up to six years and the current rate is 6.5 percent fixed. Small business owners need to have at least a 600 credit score and be able to explain delinquencies. She added that SEED will also be reviewing the small business owner's entire household income to see if there is enough income to repay the loan.

For more information about the SBA Micro Loan Program, the free entrepreneurial workshop and other SEED loan programs, please call 508-822-1020 or visit SEED at www.seedcorp.com

HarborOne Bank "Close to Home"

HarborOne Credit Union has launched a new advertising campaign focused on the benefits of working with a locally based financial institution. The campaign, which includes television, print, radio and online, touts HarborOne's roots and commitment to the local community. The print ads highlight the fact that nearly 28 percent of all Massachusetts deposits are with foreign-owned banks, as opposed to the national average of 6 percent.

The ads focus on HarborOne's local commitment and emphasize that all of HarborOne's lending and charitable giving occurs here in Massachusetts. The ads also note that depositors' money is invested in the local community, helping people buy homes, build businesses and help support non-profit organizations.

To view the television commercial, please visit www.harboronecu.com.

B.C. Tent Names Logistics Manager

B.C. Tent & Awning Company, Inc., the area's premier supplier of custom tents and awnings for outdoor occasions, has named Debra Carriuolo to the position of Logistics Manager.

A native of Stoughton, Carriuolo will be responsible for determining which jobs require town permitting. With a thorough knowledge of permitting regulations Carriuolo processes all of the building and fire permits required in the many towns and municipalities where B.C. Tent and Awning works.

Children's Museum Road Race

The Children's Museum in Easton is searching for interested adult volunteers to serve on the planning committee for the Museum's 15th Annual Father's Day Road Race, scheduled for

GOODNews

Sunday June 21, 2009 at 9:00 AM.

This annual 5-mile road race benefits the programs and exhibits of the Children's Museum in Easton. The race hopes to attract 500 entrants from communities in southeastern Massachusetts this year. It also includes a 2-mile fun walk so non-runners that want to experience the day with their families can get involved. The Museum offers childcare and activities for the children of competitors and volunteers.

For more information on how to volunteer, please contact Paula Peterson at the Children's Museum in Easton, (508) 230-3789.

N.E. Sinai Opens HBOT Program

With the opening of the Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) Program at New England Sinai Hospital Wound

Center patients gain access to a treatment regimen proven effective in promoting the healing of diabetic foot ulcers, bone infection, radiation related injuries, and other serious wounds associated with poor circulation and reduced oxygen supply. The new HBOT Program is under the medical direction of Signature Health Care's Aqeel Siddiqui, MD.

The HBOT Program is an outstanding addition to the Wound Center, which has achieved a reputation for healing patients with even the most hard to heal wounds. Sinai is the only hospital in the Boston area to house this particular hyperbaric chamber, which has an advanced design that makes it uniquely adaptive to provide individualized patient comfort.

Vistage - A CEO Peer Organization



Left: Laurence Allen, Massachusetts Vistage Chair and Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO

Vistage is a CEO peer organization in 16 countries with nearly 14,500 members. Vistage CEO members have access to expert resource speakers and receive monthly one-to-one coaching from a mentor. Vistage members generate nearly \$300 billion in annual revenue and have more than 2.1 million employees around the world making it the world's largest CEO membership organization based on revenue. Vistage is dedicated to increasing the lives of chief executives. Member companies are better run and grow their revenues, on average, at twice the percentage growth rate after joining Vistage. For more information, visit www.vistage.com



Vistage Presents: Make Your Business Thrive, Not Just Survive
Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Breakfast Workshop: 7:30-9:30am ~ Lunch Workshop: 12:00-2:00pm
Holiday Inn, Boston South, 929 Hingham Street, Rockland

The uncertainty in the economy is changing the ways we do business. What are you doing to anticipate roadblocks so you can keep your company moving in the right direction despite this unstable economy? Learn how Vistage can be an indispensable partner in helping you grow your company in any market. RSVP by April 21st to 508.888.0500 or email laurence.allen@vistage.com

Rock Reunion Clothing Open for Business



Pictured Left: Meridith L. Thorson of Rock Reunion Clothing

Rock Reunion Clothing is a premier fashion boutique for women and men dedicated to bringing the newest and hottest fashion trends South of Boston. With 1,700 sq ft of retail space, Rock Reunion Clothing fills its racks with the most desired names in luxury streetwear, premium denim and accessories.

Rock Reunion Clothing is located in Michael's Plaza at 1280 Belmont Street, Brockton. For more information, call 508-436-4852 or visit www.rockreunionclothing.com.



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**To Join the
Chamber,
Call John Nesti,
508.586.0500 x 229**

Upcoming Workshops at the Chamber

AMP Workshop for SOMWBA



Thursday, May 7, 2009, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street, Brockton

The Commonwealth's Affirmative Market Program (AMP) invites all Minority- and Women-Owned Businesses (M/WBES) who are new to state procurement and are interested in learning:

- How to maximize your M/WBE status;
- How to find opportunities for AMP partnerships; and
- How to market as an AMP participant to state entities.

These trainings are designed as an introduction to the services that AMP provides and what it means to be a certified vendor. All M/WBES in all fields including goods, services, construction and design are welcome to join us. To register, call Lisa, 508-586-0500 x 225 or email lkeene@metrosouthchamber.com. This workshop is free to attend.

QuickBooks Workshop

Wednesday, May 20, 2009, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street, Brockton

8:30 am - 12:30 pm: QuickBooks for Beginners.

Gain the tools you need to successfully operate your business. You will receive a quick overview of QuickBooks, learn key setup features and understand the basics of recording income, expenses and reconciling bank accounts.

1:00 pm - 3:00 pm: How to Use QuickBooks to Manage Difficult Times

Learn to use QuickBooks to manage your business more effectively during these difficult economic times. Learn about budgeting and advanced reporting features that allow you to dig deeper into QuickBooks data and go beyond the standard Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet. After this workshop, you will be able to isolate and intelligently analyze out of control expenses or sagging sales.

Instructor Frank Guinan has owned his own business, Integrity Business Solutions for 8 years. Through his business he provides CFO services including internal system review, financial report analysis, and strategic planning. He is also a "QuickBooks Guru" providing setup, maintenance and troubleshooting as a Certified ProAdvisor.

To register for this workshop, please call Lisa at 508.586.0500 x 225 or email lkeene@metrosouthchamber.com. This workshop, co-sponsored by Coastal Community Capital, is free to attend.



So You Want To Be A Consultant!

Thursday, May 21, 2009, 8:00 am - 10:30 am

Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street, Brockton

If you're thinking about taking your expertise and experience to become a consultant, join us for a free workshop on How to Start a Consulting Practice. Let us give you the tools to help you build a successful consulting practice in these difficult economic times.

The workshop will focus on the following topics:

- Legal and start up issues
- Management and financial issues
- Marketing and identity issues

The panelists will include Kate Archard at BSC, Trish White, Senior Management Advisor at MSBDC and Melinda Ailes, Regional Director at MSBDC. To register, please call Lisa, 508-586-0500 x 225 or email lkeene@metrosouthchamber.com.

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Do You Know A Business That Deserves Recognition?

Small Biz & Entrepreneur Awards

Recognizing the achievements and contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in creating new jobs and economic opportunities in the Metro South region.

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Bank of America



Nominating someone is easy...

You may nominate your own business or any other business you deem worthy (maximum of one nomination per category). Submit a summary of your reasons for the nomination, based on the criteria listed below. Call or fax the Chamber office for nomination forms. You may include any additional documentation that will help illustrate why the business is deserving of the award. Nominees do not need to be members of the Chamber. Nominees must be a for-profit business.

Criteria...

Employment/Staying Power. The Small Business of the Year nominee must have been in business for a minimum of three consecutive years under the current ownership, and have less than 50 full-time equivalent employees. The Entrepreneur of the Year nominee must have been in business less than three years, and have fewer than 10 full-time equivalent employees.

Growth. The nominee should demonstrate growth in employees, revenues, and profitability.

Innovation. The firm should

demonstrate creativity and imagination in the development of its business or in its product or service.

Social Responsibility. Nominees should reflect internal and external social responsibility, which may include one or more of the following points: strong, comprehensive employee relations programs; efforts by the company and its staff to aid or benefit the community through personal involvement and/or donations of other company resources; efforts to encourage diversity in its workforce and management; activity in the business community through involvement in industry or professional organizations; and development of other programs relating to social and community betterment.

Nominations are due by April 13, 2009. Call the Chamber office at 508-586-0500 ext 231 to request an easy-to-complete nomination form. Winners will be selected by the Chamber's Award Selection Committee and will be announced at the **Small Business Awards and Expo on Wednesday, May 13.** Award recipients will receive an engraved plaque and extensive promotion honoring their business and achievements.

11th Annual Athena Awards

Honoring the highest level of professional excellence, a devotion to the community, and the opening of doors of leadership opportunity for women

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce and Sovereign Bank are pleased to announce the 2009 ATHENA Awards program. The program was created in 1982 and has expanded to over 350 cities in the United States, Russia, and Canada. It is presented in the form of a hand-cast bronze sculpture, symbolizing the strength, courage and wisdom of the recipient.

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce believes in the values underlying the ATHENA Foundation's philosophy of incorporating the talents and expertise of women into the leadership of our businesses, our communities, and our government. The spirit of the ATHENA Program is captured in the following quotation from Plato: "What is honored in a country will be cultivated



there." By honoring exceptional leaders, others will be encouraged to excel.

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

To nominate an individual, please contact Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 ext 231. An ATHENA Award nomination form will be mailed upon request. **Nominations are due by Friday, May 8.**

Prior ATHENA Recipients

- 2007 Susan Szachowicz, Brockton High Principal
- 2006 Loretta Degrazia, East Coast Petroleum
- 2005 Marianne Wroble Cox, WXB 1460am Radio
- 2004 Shailah Stewart, Brockton Public Schools
- 2003 Linda Faria Braun, The Adult Learning Center
- 2002 Christine Karavites, Proteas Consulting
- 2001 Barbara Duffy, My Turn, Inc.
- 2000 Noelle Foye, Brockton Elementary School Nurse
- 1999 Janice Cunningham, East Bridgewater Police



2008 ATHENA Award Recipient Vanessa Tierny, Brockton Area Multi-Services Inc.

Open Enrollment-Health Insurance Begins April 1

This is an excellent opportunity for Chamber of Commerce members to review their benefit options, to make changes to their health coverage plans, and to enroll any eligible employee who may have previously waived coverage. This open enrollment is also an opportunity to learn about the various products Health Services Administrators offers to members, such as health savings accounts (HSA) health plans; a new Health Reimbursement Account (HRA) arrangement, and a Flexible Spending Account (FSA) which provides a pre-tax benefit to both employers and employees.

Health Services Administrators offers access to Harvard Pilgrim, Tufts and Delta Dental Insurance. For more information, or to answer any questions you may have, please call **Health Services Administrators** at the following toll free number: **1.877.777.4414**.



Health Services Administrators



2008 Entrepreneur of the Year Award Recipient Robert Monahan, UPPAbaby



2008 Small Business of the Year Award Recipient Peter McConnell of Heights Crossing Assisted Living

Prior Entrepreneur of the Year Recipients

- 2007 Howard Wright, Wright Technology
- 2006 Rob Peters of Rob Peters Entertainment
- 2005 Jeffrey Chranowski of Spark Street Autobody
- 2004 Charles Bernard of The DJ Experience
- 2003 James Messinger of The Crazy Chefs Caterers
- 2002 Jerome Offutt of Top Quality Staffing
- 2001 Randy Yanoff of Eye of the Tiger Karate

Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients

- 2007 Westgate Lanes
- 2006 Cindy's Kitchen
- 2005 Northeast Wholesale Nail & Fastener Supply Co.
- 2004 Dupliron, Inc.
- 2003 Modern Auto Body
- 2002 United Furniture, Inc.
- 2001 Robert Sharkansky & Company, CPA

Save the Date:

Small Business Awards and Expo Program
Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Featuring Monster.com and Eons Creator Jeff Taylor



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Join us in our fight against cancer. Celebrate a decade of success in our community.

This is our 10th Annual Champions Fighting Cancer walk across Brockton. Join in as a walker, a volunteer or a donor. It's great fun, for a great cause. Celebrate the lives of cancer survivors and their families who walk with us. Honor the memory of those who have gone before.



SUNDAY, MAY 3

Rain or Shine!

Walk Registration at Brockton High School 8:00-10:00am
Mid-Point Festivities at the Old Colony YMCA Central Branch
Walk Finale Celebration at Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital
Gala Celebration ☆ Cookout ☆ Fun ☆ Entertainment

With your generous support, we are on track with this year's Walk to break the \$2 million mark in our fight against cancer. All proceeds from the Champions Walk stay in this community, helping us expand diagnostic services and treatment programs. The Women's Imaging Suite at Signature Healthcare Brockton Hospital is one of the most recent beneficiaries of funds raised by the Walk. Please join with Signature Healthcare and the Chrystine M. Sullivan Memorial Foundation to raise the all-important funds to fight cancer in our community. Together, we can make a difference.

For more information,
call the Signature Healthcare Foundation at 508.941.7079
or visit www.signature-healthcare.org ☆ www.chrystinesullivan.com

"Taste" Featured Air Force Band, Over 45 Restaurants, Heated Big Top

The 2009 "A Taste of Metro South" entertained a crowd of over 750 people with food, music, and fun. The evening promoted many of the positive aspects of living in the Metro South Region. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Metro South Chamber of Commerce Foundation for Education.



Gigi Johnson and Kristen Barnes of Christo's



Montilio's Baking Company; Racks; Stoneforge Grill



United States Air Force Liberty Big Band



Lisa Lankiewicz, Lambert's



John Murray, All Seasons Bar & Grill

Photos by Rich Morgan, www.richmorganphotography.com

For coupons & to sign the Taste Guestbook, visit metrosouthchamber.com/taste09.html



Brockton Community Access films Laurie Gowell of Gowell's Candy



The Hinostrza Family, the Peruvian Place



A crowd enjoys the live entertainment



Brockton High School Jazz Band

Brockton Police Increase Communication



John Hallisey, Steven Williamson, Robert DiBari, William Conlon, Kevin Brauer, Al Gazerra

Police Chief, William Conlon, announces new developments in fighting crime in Brockton. He attended a Downtown Brockton Association meeting held at the Metro South Chamber of Commerce where he described some enhanced communication systems that will provide Brockton Police with an edge against criminals while increasing awareness within the department and community. Brockton police services will be provided by district, with the city containing three districts. Officers, Robert DiBari (508.844.8926), Steven Williamson (508.897.5258) and John Hallisey (617.719.2331) will head up the three districts, roughly divided along Montello and West Elm Streets. To learn more go to www.BrocktonPolice.com.

ABC World News Tracks Brockton Economy

Brian Gibson, of ABC World News, announced recently that Brockton is one of three U.S. communities that will be featured periodically throughout the next eighteen months in an effort to gauge the impact of the recent

economic downturn. The Chamber has been assisting ABC news with their research and providing them with promotional materials including photographs and sources for their story ideas.

MetroPCS Open For Business!



Phillip Nassralla, Megan Panicucci, Peggy Scanlon, and Joe Maniglia, Store Manager of the Belmont Street location.



The new MetroPCS located at 1280 Belmont Street, Brockton in the Michael's Plaza

Metro PCS recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony at their new location, 1280 Belmont Street, Brockton. The wireless company provides unlimited plans with flat rates as low as \$30/month, no activation fees, and no contracts. Launched in 2002, more than 5 million people are now part of the MetroPCS network with thousands more joining everyday. For more information, call 508.427.5855 or visit www.metropcs.com

"Welcome to Brockton" on AM Radio 1620



Welcome to Brockton signs now remind visitors to tune into AM radio 1620 to hear all about the City of Champions and its rich history. The signs also feature Lions Club, Rotary International, the Masons and the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

Legislators Attending Legislative Luncheon

April 17, 2009 at 12:00 pm



State Representative
Geraldine Creedon



State Representative
Christine Canavan



State Representative
Joseph R. Driscoll



State Representative
Thomas Calter



Senator
Thomas Kennedy



Brockton Mayor
James Harrington



Plymouth County DA
Timothy Cruz



State Representative
Michael Brady

Congress Take Note: Card Check Opposition Grows

In a recent opinion poll of Massachusetts residents, 71% opposed the elimination of the secret ballot during union elections (EFCA; AIM research conducted by Opinion Dynamics of Cambridge). The proposal to strip workers of their right to vote in

private elections is a move away from traditional American democracy. To contact your member of Congress in opposition to the proposed Card Check proposal, visit the Metro South Chamber of Commerce website at www.metroouthchamber.com/gaffairs.html

Backbone of America: Business, Jobs

A recent poll of Massachusetts adult residents showed a comprehensive understanding of the importance businesses play in the health of our communities. (Polling data from AIM and Opinion Dynamics of Cambridge.)

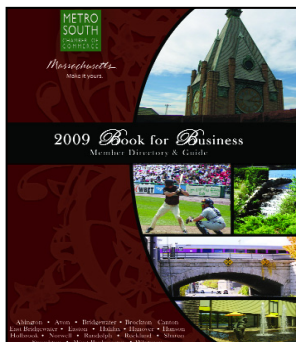
88% of respondents identified the importance of steps to control job costs such as business taxes, health care, and unemployment insurance

taxes as important to the state's economic future.

63% of the respondents - voters - expressing dissatisfaction with the way state government is working.

Substantial public support for the top public policy priorities of the business community - jobs/employment (36%), education (27%), taxes (21%), and the economy (20%).

Business Book Reaches 4,000 Companies



The Metro South Chamber of Commerce delivered 2009 Book for Businesses, containing our region's very best businesses, to over 4,000 addresses this past week. The book highlights our best businesses while reminding people of all the positive aspects of living and working with in the greater Brockton area. Additional copies of the Book for Business are also available at the Chamber by contacting Kathryn Sayles at ksayles@metrosouthchamber.com or 508.586.0500 x227.

MEMBERProfile

Bob's Auto Body



Paul & Paula Ridley, Bob's Auto Body

What is unique about the business and that products/services you offer?

We are the oldest auto body repair shop in the greater Brockton area. We provide auto collision repair, brakes, struts, suspension, towing, and tires.

What is your market area?

Greater Brockton

What markets do you serve?

Brockton and South Shore

Please list awards, honors, or special recognition your firm has received.

Runner up for Small Business of the Year by the Metro South Chamber in 1999.

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

To provide quality service and repair at a fair price.

Address:

1489 Main Street, Brockton 02301

Phone: 508.583.8891

Year Established: 1960

Products or services:

Complete auto body and repair & service

Number of employees: 6

Chamber Board Hosts Secretary of Transportation

The Chamber Board hosted a productive meeting with the new Massachusetts Secretary of Transportation, Jim Aloisi at the Chamber's regular Board meeting. The Board highlighted the importance of transit oriented development by showing the Secretary recent private development around the downtown MBTA/BAT Intermodal Centre. The Secretary pledged his support of transit oriented development and encouraged the Chamber and Mayor Harrington to participate as a model site when the National Railvolution Conference comes to Boston this summer. The Chamber has offered to host the Secretary again this fall to show him additional progress around the rail stations within the region.



Christopher Cooney, Chamber President & CEO; Jim Aloisi, Secretary of Transportation; James Harrington, Mayor of Brockton; Scott Sanborn, Chamber Chair of the Board

Program to Provide Hotel Leads

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is generating hundreds of new leads for local hotels through a coordinated promotions program in partnership with the GBCVB, PCCVB and MOTT. The Chamber, through marketing in publications and on-line, is generating leads from people inter-

ested in visiting the Metro South region. All information is gathered and forwarded to member hotels within the region so that additional information can be shared. The promotions focus on the greater Brockton area and are targeted toward hub and spoke, economy and business travelers.

Chamber Taps into Online Social Networking

The Chamber is online in a number of social networking and discussion board groups. Please feel free to visit, join, friend request, and leave comments!

Wiki Site: www.metroouthchamber.wikispaces.com

Facebook Profile: Facebook.com (search for MetroSouth Chamber)

Facebook Page: Facebook.com (search Metro South Chamber of Commerce)

Myspace Page: myspace.com/metrosouthchamber

Twitter: www.twitter.com/MetroSouth

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com (Search for Metro South Chamber of Commerce)

BlipTV: metrosouthchamber.blip.tv

WELCOME *New Members*

Making an Investment in Our Community

AppleGateProperty Mgt., Inc.

Mr. Calvin Butner
111 Main Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324
508-326-2126

Real Estate/Property Management

Bay State Millwork

Mr. Steve Jankins
509 Montello Street
Brockton, MA 02302
508-586-0001
www.baystatemillwork.com

Manufacturers

Dennis Walsh, Public Insurance Adjuster

Mr. Dennis M. Walsh
9 Prospect Road
Mattapoisett, MA 02739
508-758-4326

Insurance Adjusters

Fastteks

Mr. Stephen Wedge
28 Partridge Circle
Brockton, MA 02301
508-588-3278
www.fastteks.com

Computers Printers Sales/Services

First Evangelical Lutheran Church

Mr. James Benson
900 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508-586-9021
www.firstevlutheran.org

Human Service Organizations

Irish Cultural Centre of New England

Ms. Louise O'Shea
200 New Boston Drive
Canton, MA 02021
781-821-8291
www.irishculture.org

Agencies/Associations

JCN Builders

Mr. John Nessralla, Jr.
162 Moraine Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508-654-6518

Contractors Remodeling

Lindsay Parker Media

Ms. Lindsay Parker
36 Heritage Drive
North Easton, MA 02356
508-238-7715
www.lindsayparkermedia.com

Marketing/Public Relations & Media

Mary Kay - Brockton

Ms. Carla Ganter
253 Jon Drive
Brockton, MA 02302
508-583-7419
www.marykay.com/carlaganter

Beauty Salons/Supplies

Moonlight Ltd.

Mr. Bill Roy
244 Liberty Street, Unit 11
Brockton, MA 02301
508-584-0094

Apparel/ Promotional Products

New York's X'Clusive

Ms. Eva Rodrigues
39 Torrey Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508-588-0028

Apparel

One Communications

Mr. Ben Zalvan
2 Batterymarch Park, Suite 201
Quincy, MA 02169
617-657-6360
www.onecommunications.com

Telecommunications

Punch Kettlebell Gym

Ms. Denise Goldsmith
609 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508-559-9900
www.punchgym.com/brockton

Health and Fitness

Rock Reunion Clothing

Ms. Meredith Thorson
1280 Belmont Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508-436-4852
www.rockreunionclothing.com

Apparel

Southeastern Massachusetts

Convention & Visitors
Mr. Arthur Motta
70 North Second Street
New Bedford, MA 02741
508-997-1250
www.bristol-county.org

Marketing/Public Relations & Tourism

The Wizard of Adz, Inc.

Ms. Sharon M. Fradkin
399 Neponset Street
Canton, MA 02021
781-821-1818
www.wizardofadz.com

Advertising

Vistage/International

Mr. Laurence V. Allen
1429 Old Sandwich Road
Plymouth, MA 02360
781-588-4744
www.vistage.com

Business Coaching

Your Local Office

Mrs. Lynnel Cox
214 Main Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508-588-8330

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Alphonse Leduc - Robert King, Inc.
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Associação Caboverdiana De Brockton
AT&T Advertising Solutions
Bank of America
Beacon Financial Planning, Inc
Beacon Residential Management
Blue Lion Insurance Agency
Bobs Auto Body
Brian Gibbs
Brian Healey Contractor, Inc.
Bridgewater Getty
Bridgewater Savings Bank
Bridgewater Square Chiropractic
A Creating Wellness Center
Brockton 21st Century Corporation/
Building a Better Brockton
Brockton Fair
Brophy & Phillips Co., Inc.
Celia Insurance Agency, Inc.
Cheryl Hodge-Spencer, DMD
Christo's, Inc.
Christy Place LLC
Corporate Realty Associates
Cotter Associates
Creative Extrusion & Technologies
Crystal Cleaners, Inc.
Digi Print
Direct Media
Edward J.Thibeault, C.P.A., P.C.
Embroidme
Energy Conservation, Inc.
Everett's Auto Parts
Executive Advertising
Father Bills and MainSpring
Federal Telephone and Communications
Fitzgerald Appraisals
Gilson Paperhanging & Painting Co.

Gourmet Cafe
IKEA Massachusetts LLC # 158
James E. Holmgren, CPA
Judith A. & Richard Clark
Life Resources, Inc.
Malloy, Lynch, Bienvenue LLP
Massasoit Community College
McB Management, Inc.
Mechanics Cooperative Bank
Medical Skin-Care Associates /
Pediatric Healthcare
Motorcars International, Inc.
Nemo's Carry All Market, Inc.
Northeast Wholesale
Old Colony Council Boy Scouts of America
Old Colony Hospice
Packard Paper Corporation
Pine Craft Signs
Poyant Signs, Inc.
Publicity, Inc.
Randstad USA
Scott Johnson Landclearing
Shaw Glass Company, Inc.
Sign Design, Inc.
Silverstein & Creedon
Southeastern Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons
Spectrum Services Company, Inc.
Super 8 Metro South
Tech Mechanical
Terrie Stone Catering, Inc.
The Children's Museum in Easton
The Enterprise Newspaper
Torrey & Associates
Tosca-Brady Insurance Agency of Randolph
TWB Associates, Inc.
University of Phoenix-
Massachusetts Campus
Westgate Lanes and Pub
William E. Beyer Design
X & O Restaurant

New York Times to Cover FootJoy

The New York Times is covering the closing of FootJoy, the last shoe manufacturer in Brockton. New York Times Sports writer, Dave Anderson, spoke with Chamber President and CEO Christopher Cooney last week regarding the tremendous loss the community feels in losing FootJoy. Mr. Anderson will be in Brockton the first week of April to cover the story. Brockton's economy is far more diversified now than when the city earned the title of Shoe City USA more than 100 years ago. However, our regional economy still benefits today from the tremendous wealth and human resources the industry drew to the region all those years ago. John Learnard of the Brockton Historical Society will be meeting with New York Times reporter, Dave Anderson when he arrives in Brockton to discuss the history of the Shoe Industry in Brockton. FootJoy is located on the site of the former Tarlow Shoe Company that dates to the 1850's.

Hospital Presidents to Run Caritas Hospitals

Chamber Board Members Lester Schindel of New England Sinai Hospital and John Holiver of Caritas Good Samaritan Hospital have each accepted positions with Caritas Hospitals in Methuen and Boston, MA. John Holiver has accepted the position of CEO with St. Elizabeths in Boston and Lester Schindel has accepted the position of CEO with Caritas Holy Family Hospital in Methuen.

State Representative Kafka Speaks to Chamber



State Representative Louis L. Kafka recently addressed the Government Affairs Committee and Chamber members.

5th Annual "Keep Brockton Beautiful" Day

Mayor James Harrington in conjunction with the Brockton City Council, Brockton DPW, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and Brockton 21st Century Corporation will hold the 5th Annual "Keep Brockton Beautiful" Day on Saturday, April 25 from 9am-12pm, rain or shine.

The city-wide clean up has been such a great success in the past that it has now become a part of Brockton tradition. Volunteers are needed to help clean Brockton's parks, school grounds and public spaces. You can participate by donating goods and services, donating funds, adopting a block or park or forming a team. Registration will be at 7:30am at Heights Crossing, Brockton, with the cleanup starting at 9am. A barbeque for all participants will be held at the conclusion of the clean-up. If you would like to participate, contact the Department of Public Works at 508-580-7135. You may also obtain forms and information at www.ci.brockton.ma.us. A kickoff meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15 at the West Branch Library from 6pm-8pm. Come to obtain forms, create teams, and receive additional information.

12th Annual Career Day at Shaw's Center

The Enterprise Newspaper In Education (NIE) program is proud to announce its 12th Annual Career Day sponsored by The Brockton ROX and The Shaw's Center, in collaboration with the Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board, the Rotary Club of Brockton, Community and Schools for Career Success (CS2), and the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. This event will be held on Wednesday, April 29th at The Shaw's Center in Brockton from 9-11:30 am.

This initiative is designed as an

opportunity to build stronger connections between schools and the community. By connecting schools with area businesses, students can see the meaning and relevance of what they are learning in school, invigorating the school culture and the classroom, while they begin to consider their potential careers.

Businesses and/or high schools wishing information on participation can contact Cheryl Showstack, Educational Outreach Manager at 508-427-4010.

U.S. Small Business Administration Programs

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 - 4 pm on the third Wednesday of each month. The next workshops will be held on April 15 and May 20, 2009. Contact CareerWorks at 508.513.3400 for further workshop information.

Business EXPO - Reserve Your Booth Now!

**METRO
SOUTH
2009 BIZ
X-PO**

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

10am - 12pm: Business Expo

12pm - 1:30pm: Small Business Luncheon

Featuring *Monster.com* Creator Jeffrey Taylor and

Small Business & Entrepreneur of the Year Awards

1:30pm - 3pm: Business Expo

Promote your company to prospective clients at the 2009 Business Expo presented in conjunction with the Small Business Awards Luncheon. More than 30 businesses will be featured in this table top Expo. Reserve your table by May 1st and secure an early bird rate of \$259 for members and \$359 for non members. After May 1, the cost of a table will increase to \$299 for members and \$399 for non-members. Prices include 1 lunch ticket. Sponsorship opportunities are also available. For more information call, Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231.

Connecting Activities SPOTLIGHT

The Metro South Connecting Activities Partnership spotlights youth involved in structured internships with local employers. To learn more about this and other competitive workforce programs, contact Kathryn Sayles at the Chamber by calling (508) 586-0500 ext. 227 or via e-mail ksayles@metrosouthchamber.com.



Intern, Ashlee McCall, with supervisors, Janine Carroll and Will Silkworth. Ashlee, a student at Brockton High School, is involved in a 10-week internship at Crescent Credit Union located in Brockton.

Since June 2008, Ashlee has been working in the Credit Union's compliance department, reporting to Compliance Manager Janine Carroll. Ashlee supports Crescent's compliance program, per the Federal Bank Secrecy Act and Patriot Act, by monitoring reports to provide quality control. "Ashlee is bright, mature, and dependable," said Carroll, "and always has a smile for everyone. She's been a real asset, and this experience will help Ashlee go far in her future endeavors."

Will Silkworth, Director of Human Resources for Crescent Credit Union, explained that Ashlee is like so many other students sent to Crescent from the Brockton High School program, run by Shailah Stewart.

Typically, three students will participate in the Intern Program each year, and then, like Ashlee, will be asked to stay on at the Credit Union for the rest of the summer. "After school starts in September and the students get settled into their schedules, we bring them back again, as we did in Ashlee's case," Mr. Silkworth added. "It would be truly beneficial for both businesses and the community, if more organizations would participate in this program."



Intern, Dionisio Goncalves, with supervisor, Donald Fongellaz. Dionisio, a student at Brockton High School, is involved in a 10-week internship at the City of Brockton, Information Technology Center.

"I am always overwhelmed by the capabilities of the interns that we sponsor and Dionisio 'Dio' is no exception. He is a very capable and cooperative intern with an outgoing personality and always ready to do any task assigned including some of the less glamorous needs like stocking shelves or recycling old equipment. He has assisted on many projects and has been assigned to several individual efforts with complete success. I believe he will achieve any goal he sets for himself and more. The internship program gives both the employer and intern invaluable real life experiences and establishes a model for learning and sharing in the community." - Donald Fongellaz,

Director, City of Brockton, Information Technology Center

DID YOU KNOW?...

"A student drops out of high school every 29 seconds, translating into 1.1 million students in a single year."

- Cities in Crisis Research Report

Keep a child in school and engaged in the workforce.

Connecting Activities is an initiative through the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and is supported by the Metro South Connecting Activities Partnership, 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.

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Actionreport

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Join the Metro South Chamber of Commerce for the adventure of a lifetime...

CHINA

October 11-19, 2009

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Beijing ~ Shanghai ~ Suzhou ~ Hangzhou

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is chartering an all inclusive travel trip to China in October.

The nine-day, seven-night trip runs from October 11 to October 19, 2009. The trip is priced at \$1,999. per person (based on double occupancy) and includes bus transportation to and from John F Kennedy International Airport, round-trip international airfare, four- and five-star hotel accommodations, all in-country transportation, three meals a day and fluent English-speaking tour guides. Groups registering with a total of 25 will be assigned their own charter bus and travel guide in China.

Attend one of the two Orientation Meetings on April 13 to find out more about the trip and to have any questions answered. A full itinerary and additional information about the trip can be found by visiting the Chamber's website at www.metroouthchamber.com/china.html. Space is limited. Reservations can be made by May 1st by calling Lisa Keene at the Chamber at 508-586-0050 ext. 225.

China Trip Information Meetings

(With Citisline Representative)

Monday, April 13,
3:00 pm - 4:15 pm

Brenner Conference Ctr, New England Sinai
150 York Street, Stoughton

Monday, April 13,
5:30 pm - 6:45 pm

Alumni Hall, Stonehill College
320 Washington Street, North Easton

Open to all business leaders, community leaders and residents. For more information or to reserve your spot on the trip, call Lisa at 508.586.0500 x 225. Space is limited.

For a full itinerary, visa information, accomodation and travel information or to pay the \$200 deposit, visit

www.metroouthchamber.com/china.html.

BUSINESS EVENTS *Planner*

April 17

Legislative Lunch

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Massasoit Conference Center

Rt. 27, 770 Crescent Street, Brockton

Join other Chamber members for this opportunity to interact with legislators and meet Attorney General Martha Coakley

Tickets: \$35 in advance, \$45 at the door.

Call 508.586.0500 x 225 for tickets and info, or register online, www.metroouthchamber.com/register.html

April 30

Business After Hours

4:00 - 5:00 pm - Street Smart Workshop

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

The Shaw's Center with the Brockton Rox

1 Feinberg Way, Brockton

This is a great way to make business contacts in a casual setting. Bring a friend for free! Come from 4-5 for a special marketing and networking workshop.

Tickets: \$5 members, \$10 non-members. Friends are free.

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231 or register

May 13

Business Luncheon & EXPO

10:00 am - 3:00 pm - EXPO

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm - Luncheon

The Shaw's Center

1 Feinberg Way, Brockton

Be a part of a premier venue showcasing products and services. The day is packed with programs, events, speakers and awards. Featuring Monster.com & Eons.com creator Jeffrey Taylor

Tickets: \$35 members, \$45 non-members

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 231 or register online, www.metroouthchamber.com/register.html

IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!

508-586-0500 x 231



508-587-1340



E-mail: kprosper@metroouthchamber.com



Register online at www.metroouthchamber.com

Send reservation and payment to:

MSCC

Sixty School Street
Brockton, MA 02301-4087



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Middleboro, MA 02346
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781.767.2244 (f)



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Names of Persons Attending: _____

Event: _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____

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