

Actionreport

April
2011

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.



Veronica Carvalho Martins,
page 5



Tony Muscolino at the Taste of
Metro South, page 6



Cellular Connection
Ribbon Cutting, page 10

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Delahunt to Speak at Legislative Luncheon

Friday, April 29, 12:00 pm, The Conference Center @ Massasoit



Bill Delahunt



Cedric Cromwell

Sponsored by:



The Metro South Chamber of Commerce's Annual Legislative Luncheon will be held on **Friday, April 29th** at 12:00 p.m. at **Massasoit Conference Center**, 770 Crescent Street in Brockton.

The keynote speaker for the event is **former U.S. Congressman William Delahunt** from The Delahunt Group. Also present will be **Chief Cedric Cromwell**, Chair of Wampanoag Council Board.

Mr. Delahunt, a seven-term Congressman, recently founded The Delahunt Group, LLC, a premier public policy and government affairs consulting firm. William Delahunt arrived in Congress in 1997 with a distinguished career in public service and law enforcement. While in Congress he served as a member of the House Judiciary Committee and the House Foreign Affairs Committee and also served as co-chair of the bipartisan Coast Guard Caucus, House Older Americans Caucus, and the

Congressional Working Group on Cuba. He played a pivotal role in the passage of several legislative proposals, including the Justice for All Act and the Travel Promotion Act and legislation streamlining international adoptions. Mr. Delahunt also introduced the first House proposal to establish the Consumer Financial Protection Agency, which was eventually incorporated into the final Financial Reform law enacted in 2010.

Closer to home, Mr. Delahunt was instrumental in working towards the redevelopment of the South Weymouth Naval Air Station, expanding marine transportation services, and promoting economic development in areas such as renewable energy, "bio-fuels" and ocean technology. He was a strong booster of heritage tourism, wetlands restoration, and a defender of the region's ocean sanctuaries and National Parks.

Continued on page 2

Small Biz Awards & EXPO

Wednesday, May 18 • Shaw's Center



Stephen Michon,
FutureWorks



2011 Business Expo
to feature over 30 table top booths

Stephen Michon of Future Works is slated to speak at the Small Business Awards Luncheon on **Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 12pm** at the **Shaw's Center**, Brockton.

Stephen Michon is Vice President at FutureWorks where he leads strategic planning for regional economic development. Stephen directs several projects for the firm, one of which has been the Fellowship for Regional Sustainable Development, a five-year network of high-level executives of business-civic organizations across the country pursuing growth strategy.

Continued on page 8

ATEHNA Awards & EXPO

Thursday, June 16 • Shaw's Center



Carol Hardy-Fanta



ATEHNA Award

On **Thursday, June 16**, at the **Shaw's Center**, Brockton, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and HarborOne Credit Union will present the 13th Annual **ATEHNA Award** during a special breakfast to an exceptional individual who has achieved excellence in his/her business or profession, has served the community in a meaningful way, and has assisted women in reaching their full leadership potential.

The ATEHNA Awards Program was created in

Continued on page 8

Chamber Earns Accreditation at Highest Level



Of the more than 6,900 Chambers of Commerce nationwide, a mere 67 have earned the United States Chamber of Commerce 5-Star Accreditation.

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is among that number. "Fewer than 1 percent of Chamber's nationwide earn this designation. We are fortunate to have consistent and quality leadership, staff and membership," said Chamber Chairman, Peter Neville of Concord Foods. A chamber's accreditation is reviewed by the U.S. Chamber every five years. Neville extended his congratulations to Chamber President and C.E.O. Christopher Cooney, the chamber staff and the board of directors. He also acknowledged the many

Continued on page 11

Regional Assets = Value

Abington, Avon, Brockton, Easton, East Bridgewater, West Bridgewater, Whitman

The Chamber is advocating for a sustainable and cost-effective water supply and wastewater treatment strategy for the greater Brockton region. More than 170 million dollars in the past 7 years was spent on the construction of a regional desalinization plant in Dighton and the redevelopment of the regional wastewater treatment plant in Brockton. These facilities, according to recent studies can accommodate projected growth for the entire region through at least the year 2030. Both facilities are tremendous regional assets that will produce exceptional value to any participating partner community (think less cost and lower taxes). The Chamber has recently lead tours of both facilities. The Chamber has approved a resolution calling on all public agencies and officials to maximize use of these facilities for maximum regional and sustainable benefit.

Business After Hours at Brockton VNA

April 13, 2011, 5:30 - 7:30 pm



Sponsored by:



Please join us on April 13 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm for a Chamber Business After Hours networking event at Brockton Visiting Nurse Association located at 500 Belmont Street, Suite 200, Brockton. This event is being co-sponsored by Old Colony Hospice.

The Brockton Visiting Nurse Association and Old Colony Hospice have joined in a partnership to work together to bring health care into patient's

homes, teach them how to manage chronic conditions, and control pain or unpleasant symptoms at the end of life. They also work to ensure that patients and their families receive the highest quality of care available, focused on patient's ongoing medical or rehabilitation needs. For more information, visit www.brocktonvna.org or www.oldcolonyhospice.org

This event is free to attend and includes refreshments and a chance to win Red Sox Tickets in a raffle. Register by calling Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231, or email kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com. As always, don't forget your business cards!

Friends Network Free at the Rox After Hours

April 28, 2011, The Shaw's Center



The Brockton ROX and The Shaw's Center will host a Business After Hours at the Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton, on Thursday, April 28, 5:30 pm- 7:30 pm.

In this special edition of the the Business After Hours season, members are encouraged to "bring a friend" free of charge. 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 \$15 for future-members. To register call Kim Prosper, 508-586-0500 x231.

The ROX open the 2011 season on Thursday, May 26 against the Worcester Tornadoes at 7:05pm for 4 consecutive days at home. Season tickets, mini-plans, flex packs and group outings are available by calling 508-559-7000.

May Membership Month Kicks Off With Drive, May 4



May is membership month at the Chamber. The month-long campaign will kick off on **Wednesday, May 4** at Stonehill College with a focused call drive to area businesses that can benefit from joining the Chamber's network. The **Membership Drive** will take place at Merkert Tracy Hall at **Stonehill College from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm**. If you are a Chamber member who would like to participate in the drive in order to form a stronger business community and express to others what Chamber membership has meant to you, please contact John Nesti at 508.586.0500 x 229 or email jnesti@metrosouthchamber.com. We are also accepting prize donations for drive participants.

Join the Chamber Today!

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.

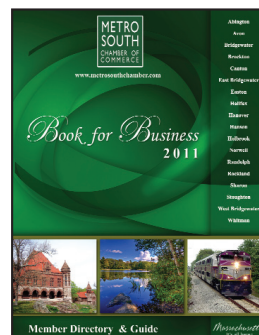
If you are not currently a Chamber

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.

There are many exciting incentives for joining today, including free radio and print advertising, free admission to several Chamber events, amazing discounts and more. To discuss how the Chamber can help you build a stronger business, call **John at (508) 586-0500 ext. 229**, or email jnesti@metrosouthchamber.com.

Book for Business Arriving This Month

Look for the Chamber of Commerce **2011 Metro South Book for Business** in April. The book features area dining, lodging, public golf courses, recreation, legislative leaders, community demographics, regional and economic data and a complete membership listing. The book also includes a full color map of the Metro South region and highlights hotels, golf courses, industrial parks, town halls and other points of interest.



Copies of the Book are being distributed throughout the region to banks, real estate offices, town hall offices, all Chamber members, area colleges, libraries, and sent to all relocating businesses and families interested in the Metro South area. 4,000 copies of the Directory will also be mailed out to additional Metro South businesses.

For more information on the Book, contact Alison van Dam at 508.586.0500 x 222.

Open Enrollment for Health Insurance

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.



If you are self-employed or a small business owner, this is also an opportunity to enroll in a health insurance program best suited to your business needs.

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 Debbie or Steve at **Health Services Administrators** at the following toll free number: 1.877.777.4414.

MSBDC Marketing Workshop at the Chamber

Leave Your Competition in the Dust!

Tuesday, May 24, 2011

8:30 a.m. Registration, Workshop 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Metro South Chamber of Commerce, 60 School Street, Brockton



Times are tough. But this is not the time to cut your marketing efforts and budget. Come and learn low cost ways to actually increase your market penetration and sales revenue at this **FREE** workshop. We will be discussing marketing and sales tactics including: branding, promotion, pricing, networking and e-tools.

For Registration contact Alison Moriarty at the MSBDC @ 508-673-9783 or register online @ www.msbdc.org/semass under Event Calendar.

LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON Continued From Page 1

Prior to his service in Congress, Mr. Delahunt was the Norfolk County District Attorney for 22 years where he pioneered programs to combat violence against women that have become national models.

Mr. Delahunt will reflect on his recent transition and comment on current political events. Mr. Cromwell chairs the 2,000-member Mashpee Wampanoag tribe, which has long been mentioned as a

potential casino developer, at the federal and state levels.

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 by registering online at metrosouthchamber.com/register.html. The cost to attend is \$39 for members and \$49 for future-members. Tables of 10 available.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**OFFICERS**

Chair of the Board
Peter Neville
Concord Foods

President and CEO
Christopher Cooney
Metro South Chamber of Commerce

Chair-Elect
William Morse
Mutual Bank

Treasurer
David Orloff
Sharkansky & Co., LLP, CPA's

Vice Chair Community Affairs
Andrea Papadopoulos
Arista Associates, Inc.

Vice Chair Economic Development
Pat Ciaramella
Old Colony Planning Council

Vice Chair Government Affairs
Susan Joss
Brockton Neighborhood Health Center

Vice Chair Membership Development
Patricia Williams
HarborOne Credit Union

Immediate Past Chair
Scott Sanborn
TD Bank

CHAMBER STAFF

Christopher Cooney
President and CEO x 223

Lisa Keene
Business Development x 225

Kathleen Lynch
Connecting Activities x 227

John Nesti
Member Services x 229

DIRECTORS

Jane Callahan - HR Alternatives
Richard Colon - Verizon Communications

John Costa - Backstage Hardware
& Theatre Supply
Loretta DeGrazia - East Coast Petroleum
Peter Dello Russo - Bridgewater Savings Bank
Anne DeMinico - St. Joseph Manor
Francis Dillon - Stonehill College

Jeffrey Dukess - Frenette & Dukess, PC
Sheila Gonzalez - Bank of America
Steve Hall - National Grid

John McGovern - Rodman & Rodman,
PC, CPA's

Edward Minnock -
Bridgewater State University

Jim Murphy - Wheatstone Engineering
& Consulting, Inc.

Gerald Nadeau - Rockland Trust Company

Bill Scanlon - Community Newspapers
(The Enterprise)

Andrew Schwartz
Law Office of Andrew H. Schwartz, LLC

Larry Siskind -
Siskind and Siskind Attorneys at Law

Art Sullivan - Consultant

508-586-0500 Front Desk x 221

Kimberly Prosper
Program Director x 231

Kerry Sullivan
Finance x 230

Alison van Dam
Director of Communications x 222

*Newsletter Designed by
Alison van Dam*



ACCREDITED
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

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

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

Networking at Events

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

APRIL Calendar

6	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
12	Enterprise Career Day <i>The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	8:15 am
13	Business After Hours at the Brockton VNA <i>500 Belmont Street, #200, Brockton (co-sponsored by Old Colony Hospice)</i>	5:30 pm
18	Patriot's Day - Chamber Closed	
20	Marketing Strategies Using Social Media <i>Crescent Credit Union, 115 Commercial Street, Brockton</i>	9:00 am
28	Employment Law Update <i>Irish Cultural Centre of NE, 200 New Boston Drive, Canton</i>	8:00 am
28	Business After Hours with the Brockton Rox <i>The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	5:30 pm
29	Legislative Luncheon <i>Massasoit Conference Center, 770 Crescent Street, Brockton</i>	12:00 pm

Coming Up

May

4	Membership Drive <i>Merkert Tracy Hall, Stonehill College, Easton</i>	8:30 am
10	Executive Board Meeting	3:00 pm
11	LinkedIn and Facebook Workshop <i>Crescent Credit Union, 115 Commercial Street, Brockton</i>	9:00 am
12	Business After Hours at BAWIB <i>34 School Street, Brockton</i>	5:30 pm
13	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
18	Small Business Awards & EXPO <i>The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	10:30 am
24	Leave Your Competition in the Dust <i>The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	8:30 am
24	Open House at Abington Bank <i>6 Harrison Avenue, Abington</i>	5:30 pm
25	Board Meeting	12:00 pm
30	Memorial Day - Chamber Closed	

Save the Date

June

1	Ambassador Meeting	8:00 am
8	Tweets & Blogs Workshop <i>Crescent Credit Union, 115 Commercial Street, Brockton</i>	9:00 am
10	Government Affairs	12:00 pm
16	ATHENA Awards Program & EXPO <i>Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton</i>	8:00 am

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

GOODNews

Send your Good News to avandam@metrosouthchamber.com

Celebrate the great things going on!

ABC Specialties New Website

ABC Specialties has launched their new website. Please log on to www.abcspecialties.com. Since 1995, ABC Specialties has been a family owned and operated company offering custom apparel and promotional products. Our new website will show you all the new great promotions that will help you market your company.

Transition to College Panel Discussion

Transition from High School to College Writing Panel Discussion, Thursday, April 28th, 3:30-5:30, Moakley Auditorium, BSU. The panel features: Evan Dardano, a BSU undergraduate who tutors at BSU's writing center William Dow, head of English at Bourne High School, Dr. Anne Doyle, the director of BSU's First Year Writing Program, Dr. John Kuch, an English Education specialist, Andrea Shedlock, English teacher at Harwich High School, David Smokler, Assistant Principal of Pembroke High School and author of Making Learning Come Alive: Interactive Learning Experiences for the Secondary Classroom and Interactive Learning Experiences, Grades 6-12: Increasing Student Engagement and Learning, Dr. Susan Szachowicz, principal of Brockton High School, whose Writing Across the Curriculum program was highlighted in a NY Times article. This is a public event. Please RSVP to Maria Schaaf, maria.schaaf@bridgew.edu, or 508-531-2627.

Signature Healthcare New Board Members

Signature Healthcare welcomes two new members to its Board of Trustees, Robert J. McMahan and Patricia Tortorella. Mr. McMahan is currently the Chief Clinical Officer at Radius Management Services, a provider of facility operations for long term care and skilled nursing facilities. Ms. Tortorella is currently RGM/VP at MobilexUSA, a national provider of mobile imaging services, where she is responsible for the overall direction of the laboratory, radiology and ultrasound operations in the six New England states. The Signature Healthcare Board of Trustees are recognized leaders in their professions and their communities. The 16-member board works closely with Signature Healthcare President Kim Hollon to set the overall course and direction of Signature Healthcare, instituting and funding new programs and services, and assuring high quality health care.

Mansfield Bank Donates

The Mansfield Bank Charitable Foundation has donated \$750.00 to the Charitable Guild Inc. The Charity Guild, which is a Food Pantry and a Thrift Shop serves the city of Brockton and 8 nearby towns, including Easton and West Bridgewater, where branches of Mansfield bank are located.

Lynch Named to Board

James W. Blake, President and CEO of HarborOne Credit Union, recently announced the election of Dr. Timothy R. Lynch to the Board of Directors. Dr. Lynch has been an internal medicine consultant on the staff of Signature Healthcare-Brockton

Hospital for more than ten years. In 1996, he co-founded Primary Care Affiliates, the first Brockton Hospital Affiliated Group Practice. He has been actively involved with other health organizations throughout his career, including teaching and consulting at New England Sinai Hospital, as well participation on the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine.

Blessing Rogers Makes Who's Who List

Blessing Rogers, President and Chief Executive Officer of Hope for Children International, Inc., has been recognized by Cambridge Who's Who for demonstrating dedication, leadership and excellence in non-profit services. With an ambition to help and empower children, Ms. Rogers has served as the president and CEO of Hope for Children International, Inc. for the past four years. The organization provides assistance to children living in impoverished conditions. Ms. Rogers oversees the day-to-day operations of the organization and handles budgeting, networking, and volunteer recruitment. Ms. Rogers has 10 years of professional experience and is the author of two children's books and a poetry book. Furthermore, she is a talk show host for Afrik Express, an international show available through YouTube, Channel 3, and cable access channels throughout the United States.

BSU and BAT Announce Partnership

Bridgewater State University (BSU) and Brockton Area Transit Authority (BAT) jointly announce a new partnership geared towards an effective launch of BAT's new electronic fare system. Working through the University's Office of Regional Outreach, BSU faculty and students will perform three vital tasks to complete and launch the program: developing electronic tools for information sharing within the agency, analyzing the new system's performance, and creating marketing and promotional pieces to announce the program improvements and changes to passengers. BAT's new electronic fare system, featuring Charlie Card capabilities and expanded discounts, will launch on March 28, 2011. The Authority will start promoting the system-wide changes via a BSU generated marketing campaign in early March.

Children's Museum Accepting Registrations

Registration is now open and spaces are still available for the Museum's Summer Mini Camp program. Designed to meet the developmental needs and interests of children ages 3-8, Museum camps offer creative, fun-filled activities that immerse campers in the theme of the session. Each day will include outdoor time and time to enjoy the Museum's interactive exhibits! Each session is \$145 for members, \$160 for non-members, including a t-shirt! The camps run 9-12 Mondays-Wednesdays for consecutive 2-week sessions. For more information, click "Summer Camp" at www.childrensmuseumineaston.org or call us at (508) 230-3789.

Asphalt Paving Receives Recognition

For the second consecutive year, I am pleased

to announce that Asphalt Paving by J.A. Cooper has been voted the 2010 Best of Brockton and surrounding communities in the Surfacing & Paving category by the U.S. Commerce Association (USCA) www.usca.org. Nationwide, only 1 in 70 (1.4%) 2010 Award recipients qualified as 2010 Award Winners. Your selection as a 2010 Award In recognition of your achievement, a special 2010 Best of Brockton Award has been designed for display at your place of business

Morse Re-elected

William J. Morse, president and chief operating officer of Mutual Bank, has been re-elected to a three-year term on the board of directors of the Bank. In this role, he will help guide the policy and direction for the mutually-owned bank. He also serves on the board's executive committee. Morse formerly was president and chief executive officer of Security Federal Savings Bank, and oversaw that bank's merger with Mutual Bank in 2006. Morse serves as chairman of the board of School on Wheels of Massachusetts, an organization that provides tutoring services to children experiencing homelessness. He is a director of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and a member of Bankers' Mutual Resource. He is a past chairman of trustees of Massasoit Community College, and past chairman of Massasoit's Financial Institutions Training program.

South Shore Networking Group Event

Join us for an evening of networking, while supporting a great cause - finding a cure for blood cancer. On Tuesday, April 19th, the South Shore Networking Professionals Group will hold their monthly networking event at South Coastal Bank, 279 Union Street in Rockland. South Coastal Bank is generously hosting this event. Admission for this event costs \$10, and includes hors d'oeuvres, and cocktails. All proceeds from ticket sales will go to The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society for cancer research. The event will feature raffle prizes, a 50/50 raffle, and auction items. **Andrew Milian, of Liberty Mutual, has been nominated Man of the Year for the Massachusetts Leukemia/Lymphoma organization.** Please come and help support our Metro South Chamber members in their efforts to raise money for this outstanding charity. For further information, call Cheryl Brady at 781 681 7820.

Patti Plummer-Wilson Receives Fellowship

Patti Plummer-Wilson, Executive Director of Director of the Brockton Day Nursery, was one of 120 early childhood educators in the state of Massachusetts to be selected as a Fellow for the Early Educators Fellowship Initiative through a joint effort between The CAYL Institute and The Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. "The work that Patti Plummer-Wilson is doing with the CAYL Institute is a first in Massachusetts. We are bringing together all of the educators who serve young children including elementary schools, head start and family child care" stated Dr. Valora Washington, President of the CAYL Institute. "Patti Plummer-Wilson will have the opportunity to work closely with national leaders who will join Massachusetts educators as we

explore issues of child growth and development, literacy and English language learners."

Edinburgh Honored with "Patients Choice"

Good Samaritan Medical Center David Edinburgh, MD, of Sharon, has been recognized with a "Patients' Choice" physician award for the third year in a row. Dr. Edinburgh specializes in obstetrics and gynecology. Every month, more than 100,000 patients across the United States provide online feedback about their experiences with their doctors. They rate various components such as bedside manner, doctor-patient face time, degree of follow-up, courtesy of office staff and overall opinions. According to MDx Medical, Inc., less than 6 percent of the nation's 720,000 active physicians were accorded this honor by their patients in 2010. The recognition means that Dr. Edinburgh's patients think highly of him and consistently select him as a top choice physician.

YMCA Presents Charlotte's Web

Sunday, April 10: Easton YMCA presents Charlotte's Web at 2pm at the Oliver Ames High School Auditorium in N. Easton. This 60 minute live production is recommended for audiences age 5 and up. All proceeds to benefit the Y's Strong Kids Campaign. The show will be performed by Theatreworks USA, America's largest professional not-for-profit theatre for young and family audiences. Tickets now on sale- 508-238-9758. \$15 front orchestra, \$10 mezzanine.

Brockton Symphony Concert

Brockton Symphony Orchestra concert on Sunday, May 1, 3:00 pm at West Middle School in Brockton. The spring concert will offer a smorgasbord of musical treasures featuring Schumann's Rhenish Symphony. Violinist Noah Lewis, 2009 Feinberg Youth Competition winner, plays Saint-Saens' showpiece Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso. Including Mussorgsky's Khovanshchina Prelude and Tchaikovsky's Suite from Swan Lake. Visit www.brocktonsymphony.org.

Costco News & Events

Please join us on April 26, 11:30 am-2pm for our Luncheon for Business Owners, Office Managers and Human Resources Managers. Call 508-232-4016. During the month of May, Costco will conduct its annual Children's Miracle Network Fundraiser with 100% of the proceeds benefiting Children's Hospital in Boston. Last year, Avon Costco Warehouse was able to raise \$29,000. We are also asking businesses and individuals to donate sports memorabilia, craft items, or gift certificates into the drive. For more info, contact Mark at 508-232-4016. Finally, Costco Wholesale/Avon will hold its "Fourth Annual Restaurant Expo" on May 1 from noon-3pm. A free shopping pass is available at the Chamber office, 60 School Street Brockton, or at the Costco membership desk, 120 Stockwell Drive, Avon. Each year, over 1500 attend this event. Local restaurants provide samples of their products. If you are a restaurant or want more info, call Mark at 508-232-4016.

Chamber Trip to Hong Kong & Thailand



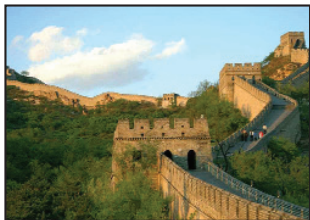
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November 1 - 9, 2011
Only \$2,749

Featuring: Golden Palace, Emerald Buddha, Anata Samakhom Throne Hall, Klong Tour Thonburi Canal trip, National Snake Farm & Leather Shop, Four Face Buddha, Coral Island beach, Nong Nooch, elephant ride, Pattaya Four Regions Floating market, Temples of Wat Yai Chai Mongkol, Wihan Phra Mongkhon Bophit, and Wat Phra Si Sanphet, Tsing Ma Bridge, Avenue of Arts, The Peak, Victoria Harbor, Peak Tram, Ngong Ping 360 cable cars, Repulse Bay and Stanley, a former fishing village.

Prices includes roundtrip airfare, transportation to and from JFK, most meals, 4 and 5 star accommodations, deluxe bus tours, fluent English-speaking tour guides and entrance to attractions. \$200 deposit due April 15. Pay by cash or check and save \$100. For more information, contact **Alison van Dam** at 508.586.0500 x 222 or email avandam@metrosouthchamber.com

3rd Annual Chamber Trip to China



Beijing • Shanghai • Suzhou • Hangzhou

November 1 - 9, 2011
Only \$2,130

Featuring: Tiananmen Square, Temple of Heaven, Forbidden City, Summer Palace, Kunming Lake, Longevity Hill, Seventeen-Arch Bridge Great Wall, Ming Tombs, Lingering Garden, Tiger Hill, National Embroidery Institute, boat cruise on West Lake, Lingyin Temple, Economic Development Zone of Hangzhou, Yu Garden, the Bund, Pudong Economic Development Zone and Shanghai Carpet Mill.

Prices includes roundtrip airfare, transportation to and from JFK, meals, 4 and 5 star accommodations, deluxe bus tours, fluent English-speaking tour guides and entrance to attractions. \$200 deposit due April 15. Pay by cash or check and save \$100. For more information, contact **Alison van Dam** at 508.586.0500 x 222 or email avandam@metrosouthchamber.com

Disney Institute for Business Owners

June 6-8, 2011

Disney's Yacht & Beach Club Resort, Walt Disney World® Resort

Conference Registration: \$1,395 Members / \$1,595 Future Members
Accommodations: \$699 Members / \$799 Future Members



Business Owner & Management Conferences feature Disney Institute business improvement seminars. You'll benchmark your business to Disney's and discover the leadership strategies and people management practices that contribute to Disney's world renowned success. You'll also see how to adapt their "best practices" to your own business. At this exclusive event, you'll literally step into Disney's "living laboratory" of Theme Parks and Resorts for exclusive field experiences and a private "Business Excellence: Behind-The-Scenes" tour.

In addition, event scheduling provides time to enjoy your Walt Disney World® Resort. Starting each day early, and adjourning in the early afternoon, gives you time to enjoy Disney's Theme Parks, PGA championship golf courses and other attractions. Attendees can also benefit from exclusive discounts and a special "Extend Your Stay" savings. Hurry, "Extend Your Stay Savings" end April 8th.

For more information, contact Lisa Keene, Director of Business Assistance at 508-586-0500, ext. 225 or email lkeene@metrosouthchamber.com or visit: <http://www.northpointerservices.com/disney/metrosouthchamber>

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Connecting Activities SPOTLIGHT

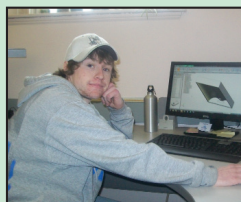
The Metro South Connecting Activities Partnership spotlights youth involved in structured internships with local employers. To learn more about this and other competitive workforce programs, contact Kathleen Lynch at the Chamber by calling (508) 586-0500 ext. 227 or via e-mail klynch@metrosouthchamber.com.



Kelly Travers, a student at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School with Lt. Timothy Clancy Jr.

"Kelly was one of three interns this past semester at Whitman Fire Rescue & Emergency services. Kelly has a strong family history of public service dating back to her grandfather who was Chief of Police, her father retired Chief Travers of Whitman Fire Rescue and her brother Pat who is a firefighter/paramedic at Whitman Fire Rescue. Her strong background in public service truly showed while performing duties around the station and out in the community providing emergency services to the citizens of Whitman. Kelly's desire to provide the highest level of care and to provide service above and beyond what was expected of her showed throughout her internship. We wish Kelly the best of luck in her future endeavors and feel with her strong work ethic she will be successful in whatever field she chooses."

- Lt. Timothy Clancy, Jr., Whitman Fire Rescue & Emergency Services



Chris Mulrey, a student at Whitman-Hanson Regional High School interns at Litecontrol Corporation.

"Litecontrol Corporation is a company located in Hanson, MA that designs, develops and manufactures linear architectural lighting for use in commercial and industrial buildings. Chris' internship was in the Applications Engineering department, which is responsible for taking information from a buildings' electrical plans and using it to develop layouts, drawings and submittals for custom light fixtures. The first day Chris started it was obvious that he would be a strong addition to the Applications team. He is a highly capable, energetic, intelligent and cooperative young man who needed little guidance and exhibited good problem solving skills. He was always focused on his responsibilities, well prepared and eager to take on any task assigned to him. Some of his responsibilities included competitor product research, making revisions to fabrication drawings and 3D modeling. He also cross-checked lighting layouts, fixture counts and reviewed customer floor plans for lighting adequacy. Chris' time at Litecontrol was certainly a positive learning experience for him and there is no doubt Chris will be a future success within the Engineering industry."

- Shari Goscinak, PHR, Litecontrol

Chamber Works With Consulate of Cape Verde



Veronica Carvalho Martins, Commercial Attache Consulate General of Cape Verde and Christopher Cooney, Chamber President met to discuss current and future partnerships. The meeting follows a recent visit from Cape Verde Prime Minister José Maria Neves to Brockton where he toured Concord Foods.

Homeownership Center Opens in Brockton

Former Chamber Chairman, Jim Blake of HarborOne Credit Union addressed a very large crowd on-hand to celebrate the opening of the Neighborhood Housing Services Homeownership Center, a partnership between NHS and HarborOne. The facility received renovation funds from the Fireman Foundation. It is located at the HarborOne Multicultural Banking Center.



"Taste" Featured U.S. Navy Bank, Two Stages, 55 Restaurants, Big Top

The 2011 "A Taste of Metro South" entertained a crowd of over 700 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. *Photos by CJC Photography. Visit www.cjc-photography.com to download all photos from the event.*



Shane Holland, Chuck Blanchette, Tracy Goulet,
Bertucci's



Lisa Stinson, Derek Barber,
Fresh Catch



Rayna Bruce, Barbara Bruce, Robbie DeBarros,
Josephine's Famous Foods



Casey McNamara, Angela Breese, Kim Johnston,
Texas Roadhouse



Tony Muscolino, Amy Ramsey,
Bella's Pizzeria II Seafood & Grille



Paul and Joann Daley,
Skinners Sugar House



Steve Stathis, Matthew Stathis and Sarah Stathis,
Freda's Fine Food & Spirits



Gwendolyn Garvin, WXBR 1460 AM,
James Wade, Costco, Mark Ofstein, Costco



Brockton High School Jazz Band



U.S. Navy Band Northeast



Karen Dost, Jim Morris, Malinda Candora, Baypointe Rehab



Annette Harnett, Neil Midman, Pinches & Pounds



Neil Morris, A Perfect Taste/ NRM Catering



Brendan Ryan, Halfway Cafe



John Reis,
Stoneforge



Andy Heinstadt,
The Shaw's Center



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Business EXPO - Reserve Your Booth Now!



Wednesday, May 18, 2011

10am - 12pm: Business Expo

12pm - 1:30pm: Small Business Luncheon

Featuring Stephen Michon of Future Works
and Small Business & Entrepreneur of the Year
Awards

1:30pm - 3pm: Business Expo

Promote your company to prospective clients at the 2011 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 3rd and secure an early bird rate of \$259 for members and \$359 for non members. After May 3, 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.

Small Business Awards

Stephen Michon, Vice President at Future Works is slated to speak at the Small Business Awards Luncheon on **Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 12pm** at the **Shaw's Center, Brockton**.

Stephen Michon is Vice President at FutureWorks where he leads strategic planning for regional economic development. Stephen directs several projects for the firm, one of which has been the Fellowship for Regional Sustainable Development, a five-year network of high-level executives of business-civic organizations across the country pursuing growth strategy. He is also directing the City of Portland, OR's economic development strategy, the Talent Dividend Network - a 23 city effort to realize the economic gains of "grow-your-own" talent strategies - and an evaluation of small business lending strategies in Maine. Prior to FutureWorks Mr. Michon worked in a senior position at Mt. Auburn Associates, a national economic development firm, and served as a senior director of a non-profit community development corporation in



Stephen Michon,
FutureWorks

Massachusetts. He served twice as an elected member of the New Hampshire legislature, led the Mayor of Nashua's 2008 economic development transition team, currently serves as a committee member for the city's Revolving Loan Fund and has been a five year appointed member to the Nashua Business and Industrial Development Authority. He graduated with a master's degree from Tufts University's Graduate School of Urban & Environmental Policy and Planning. He is also the author of several reports, one of which was It Takes a Region to Raise a New Economy: How Business Leadership is Driving Regional Prosperity.

At the Luncheon, the Small Business and Entrepreneur of the Year Awards will be presented. Tickets are \$35 for members and \$45 for future-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.

McGuiggan's Flag Ceremony



On March 17th Lieutenant Governor Timothy P. Murray greeted a large crowd, which gathered outside McGuiggan's Pub in Whitman on St. Patrick's Day to witness the unfurling of one of the largest Irish embassy flags in the world. This enormous flag, which weighed 300-pounds and measured 45 by 90 feet was carried by over 30 people.

Career Day at Shaw's Center



The Enterprise Newspaper In Education (NIE) program is proud to announce its 14th Annual Career Day sponsored by The Enterprise, Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board, Rotary Club of Brockton, Brockton Public Schools and the Metro South Chamber of Commerce. This event will be held on **Tuesday, April 12th** at The **Shaw's Center in Brockton** from 8:15-11:45.

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.

Dr. Carol Hardy-Fanta to Speak at ATHENA Awards

Thursday, June 16, 2011, The Shaw's Center, Brockton

On Thursday, June 16, at the Shaw's Center, Brockton, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and **HarborOne Credit Union** will present the 13th Annual **ATHENA Award** during a special breakfast to an exceptional individual who has achieved excellence in his/her business or profession, has served the community in a meaningful way, and has assisted women in reaching their full leadership potential.

The ATHENA Awards Program was created in 1982 and has expanded to over 500 cities in the United States, Russia, Canada, China, The United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom. The Metro South Chamber of Commerce believes in the values underlying the ATHENA Foundation's philosophy of incorporating the talents and expertise of women into the leadership of our businesses, communities and government.

The featured speaker is Dr. Carol

Hardy-Fanta, Director of the Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy at UMass Boston's John W. McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies. Dr. Hardy-Fanta is a nationally recognized scholar on Latina/o politics and has published widely on the intersection of gender, race and ethnicity in politics and public policy. Her public policy focuses on benchmarking women's economic and political progress.



Carol Hardy-Fanta

The breakfast awards program will run from 9am-10am with the ATHENA Woman's Expo running from 8am - 11am. Tickets are \$25 for members and \$35 for future-members, and expo tables are \$99. To register or to nominate an individual for an ATHENA award, please call Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, or visit www.metroouthchamber.com.

Sponsored by the Shaw's Center and the Brockton Rox.

SCORE QuickSTART Series Workshops

Is Starting a Business Right for You?

The SCORE QuickSTART™ Series Workshops will help you: Define and evaluate your ideas, Develop a marketing strategy, Identify the best ways to fund your business, Turn your idea into action with tools and templates, Get useful and helpful mentoring sessions, Connect with other entrepreneurs.

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Business Concept	4/23
Marketing Plan	4/30
Financial Projections	5/7
Funding Sources	5/14

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For course descriptions and to register visit www.massasoit.mass.edu. Use the Quick Course Search and select Fall 2010, Brockton Campus, non-credit, business) or call Community Education Director Rose Paquette at 508-588-9100 x1307 rpaquette@massasoit.mass.edu. Start-up Basics is \$15. The other four workshops can be purchased as a series for \$100. Sponsored by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and South Shore Savings Bank.

Do You Know A Business That Deserves Recognition?

Small Biz & Entrepreneur of the Year Awards

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

Awards Presentation
Sponsored by: **Bank of America**



Nominating someone is easy...

You may nominate your own business or any other business you deem worthy. 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.

Nominations are due by April 22, 2011. Call the Chamber office at 508-586-0500 ext 231 for more information. Winners will be announced at the **Small Business Awards and Expo on Wednesday, May 18, 10:30 am - 3:00 pm** at the Shaw's Center in Brockton. Register for this event online: www.metroouthchamber.com/register.html.



Left: Patricia Winberg, Topnotch Design Studio, 2010 Entrepreneur of the Year. Right: Stephen Prisco, Prisco's Market, 2010 Small Business of the Year



Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients

2009 MCG Partners
2008 Heights Crossing
2007 Westgate Lanes
2006 Cindy's Kitchen
2005 Northeast Wholesale Nail & Fastener Supply Co.
2004 Duplitrone, Inc.
2003 Modern Auto Body
2002 United Furniture, Inc.
2001 Robert Sharkansky & Company, CPA

Prior Entrepreneur of the Year Recipients

2009 Michelle Cully, XPressman Trucking & Courier
2008 Robert Monahan of UPPAbaby
2007 Howard Wright of Wright Technology
2006 Rob Peters of Rob Peters Entertainment
2005 Jeffrey Chrzanowski of Spark Street Autobody
2004 Charles Bernard of The DJ Experience
2003 James Messinger of The Crazy Chels Caterers
2002 Jerome Offutt of Top Quality Staffing
2001 Randy Yanoff of Eye of the Tiger Karate

13th 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 HarborOne Credit Union are pleased to announce the 2011 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.



2010 ATHENA Award Recipient Anne DeMinico, Executive Director, St. Joseph's Manor

Sponsored by:



On Thursday, June 16, 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. The speaker is Carol Hardy-Fanta from the Women in Politics and Public Policy at UMass Boston.

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 May 6.**

Prior ATHENA Recipients

2009 Sue Joss, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center
2008 Vanessa Tierny, Brockton Area Multi-Services
2007 Susan Szachowicz, Brockton High Principal
2006 Loretta Degrazia, East Coast Petroleum
2005 Marianne Wroble Cox, WBR 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

Employment Law Update, What You Need To Know



Thursday, April 28, 2011, 8:00 am - 11:30 am
Irish Cultural Centre, 200 New Boston Drive, Canton

The experienced attorneys of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & LeHane, LLP, will provide an overview of major developments in employment law over the past twelve months. Emphasis will be placed on the implications of these legal developments for day-to-day HR administration and tips for minimizing liability. In addition, attorneys will be discussing topics in greater detail including:

- Health Care Reform
- Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Reform
- Legal Issues Regarding Social Networking
- Wage and Hour Law
- Privacy Issues

Registration and networking will begin at 8:00 am. The cost of this workshop is \$49 for members and \$69 for non-members and includes coffee, full breakfast, and extensive handouts including best practices. RSVP for this event by contacting Kim Prosper at 508.586.0500 x 231, email kprosper@metroouthchamber.com, or register online at metroouthchamber.com/register.html.

Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & LeHane, LLP is a multi-service law firm based in Quincy, Boston and Springfield. One of the 50 largest firms in Massachusetts, their years of experience and resources offer clients a wide range of legal services while maintaining a "hands-on-touch" that is important in Client-Attorney relationships. For more information about Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & LeHane, visit www.mhll.com.



Diversity THRIVE Award to Alex Perez



Ward 2 Councilor Tom Monahan watches as Alex Perez of Burrito Wraps accepts the THRIVE Award at the Diversity Business Celebration.

On Thursday, March 3rd Brockton 21st Century Corporation and the City of Brockton in partnership with various local, state and federal agencies celebrated its first annual "Diversity Business Celebration" event. The event was well attended with over 100 business owners and special guests. "The event far exceeded our expectations, further suggesting the need to recognize, promote, and assist woman and minority-owned businesses in the City of Brockton" as quoted from Mary Waldron, Executive Director of the Brockton 21st Century Corporation.

Attendee survey statistics substantiate the success of the event:

- The event achieved an attendance rate of: 71.6% or two-thirds of the invite list attended the event.
- 73% stated the event was well advertised.
- 82% stated the event was conducted efficiently and effectively.
- 99% stated they were pleased to know of all the resources available.
- 91% stated they would participate again.

The Brockton 21st Century Corporation acknowledges the value that woman and minority-owned businesses bring to Brockton and reaffirms its commitment to offer you assistance that can help your business thrive, not just survive. Should you be interested in discussing your business aspirations, please feel free to contact our **Small Business Consultant, John Lloyd**. Mr. Lloyd can be reached by way of phone at (508)586-0021 or e-mail at smallbusiness@brockton21.com.

WELCOME *New Members*

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Fairhaven, MA 02719
(508) 992-7772
www.certaproainting.com
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Mr. David Garfield
28A Marshall Street
Canton, MA 02021
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www.garfieldplumbing-LLC.com
Plumbing & Heating

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49 South Elm Street
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Mr. Christopher Onyango
53 Spark Street
Brockton, MA 02302
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www.theusedcomputers.com
Computer Sales/Services

Weichert Realtors / Briarwood Real Estate

Mr. Bernie Hassan
31 Belmont Street
South Easton, MA 02375-1103
(508) 230-8200 Ext:314
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Real Estate/Residential

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

RENEWING *Members* Thank You !

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Alphonse Leduc - Robert King, Inc.
Associação Caboverdiana De Brockton, Inc.
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Bertucci's Brockton
Big Brother/Big Sister Foundation, Inc.
Brian Gibbs
Bridgewater Savings Bank
Caritas Good Samaritan Occupational
Health Services
Chapel of New Hope, Inc.
Citizens Bank of Massachusetts
Comcast
Comcast Spotlight
Copeland Toyota
Country Inn & Suites
Douglas A. King Builders, Inc.
Drain Shooters, Inc.
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Everett's Auto Parts
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Good Samaritan Medical Center
Hennessey & MacInnis, Inc.
James E. Holmgren, CPA
John E. McCluskey, Esq. PC
Koso America

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Morse Insurance Agency, Inc.
Motorcars International, Inc.
National Athletic Training & Fitness Institute
Old Colony Hospice
Packard Paper Corporation
Poyant Signs, Inc.
Randstad USA
Raynham Taunton Greyhound Park
Rich Morgan Photography
Rockland Ice Rink
Shaw Glass Company, Inc.
Sign Design, Inc.
South Shore Rehab & Skilled Care Center
Super 8 Metro South
The Children's Museum in Easton
The Community Bank
The Enterprise
The Guardian Center for Skilled Nursing,
Rehabilitative Service
The Victorian House at TJ Smith's
Tosca-Brady Insurance Agency
of Randolph Inc.
TWB Associates, Inc.
VHS Transportation Company, Inc.
Westgate Lanes and Pub
Wheatstone Engineering & Consulting, Inc.
Yankee Sprinkler Company Co.

Cellular Connection Celebrates Abington Opening



The Cellular Connection, located at 371 Centre Avenue in Abington (in front of Target) held a grand opening / ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, March 18th. In celebration of the grand opening a generous donation was made to the United Way on behalf of the Cellular Connection. For more information, call 781-261-9747.



Join the Chamber at Abington Bank Open House

Tuesday, May 24, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Abington

**BUSINESS
OPEN HOUSE**

Join the
Chamber for
an Open House
at Abington Bank, 6
Harrison Avenue,
Abington on May 24 from 5:30 pm -
7:30 pm.



Looking for great rates? Tired of the "big bank" impersonal service? Then it's time you tried the truly local alternative - Abington Bank. Abington Bank has been quietly meeting the financial needs of families and individuals since 1888. They are proud of their record and proud

to be local. Abington Bank is also involved in many fundraisers and giving back to the community. 24 ATM available. For more information about Abington Bank, call 781-878-0045 or visit www.theabingtonbank.com.

This is a casual event that presents a great way to make business contacts, so bring plenty of business cards! In addition, refreshments will be served. This event is free of charge, but reservations are required. To register, call Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231 or email kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com.

Westgate Mall Announces \$13 Million Expansion

New England Development, the owner of Westgate Mall, is pleased to announce they have filed an application for a building permit for the expansion and redevelopment of the Mall. New England Development, based in Newton, initially purchased the Mall in 2000 and revitalized it by adding a new Sears, Filene's and improving the interior space. New England Development sold the Mall in 2003 and subsequently repurchased it in May of 2010 because of its past positive experience in the City and its belief in the strength of the Brockton region.

After repurchasing the Mall, New England Development began reviewing opportunities for expansion and filed for site plan approval from the City late last year. In January, the Planning Board approved the construction of a 92,000 square foot extension of the main Mall and certain outparcels. The building permit application seeks approval for an approximately \$13 million first phase, with construction of the remainder of the approved space to follow at a later date, dependent on market conditions. Tenants

have not yet been identified.

When notified of the filing, the Mayor applauded the Mall owner's continued investment in the City and noted the \$13 million expansion will add significant value to the City's tax base, in addition to creating a large number and wide variety of construction and permanent retail jobs. It is anticipated that the Mall will create approximately 250 construction jobs and in excess of 150 permanent retail positions for mall tenants. Mayor Balzotti, who has been in constant contact with New England Development during the development process, looks forward to continuing the City's partnership with New England Development to redevelop, improve and expand the Mall.

Ward 7 City Councilor Chris MacMillan, who has also been working with the Mall developers stated that "I am very pleased this project will be moving forward. It will mean an added benefit for the neighborhood, the city, and the region."

Social Media Workshop Series for Business



Marketing Strategies Using Social Media

Wednesday, April 20, 2011

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Join us for this FREE workshop will you will receive a basic overview of social media tools to include: search engine optimization (SEO), social networking (Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, YouTube and Myspace), Blogs and e-newsletters.

Using LinkedIn & Facebook for Your Business

Wednesday, May 11, 2011

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Join us for this FREE workshop where you will learn a basic walkthrough of both networks to include: overview of social networking, setting up personal profiles, identifying business to business (B2B) and business to consumer (B2C) uses, building business profiles on each network, and monitoring results.

Tweets & Blogs: How This Can Help With SEO

Wednesday, June 8, 2011

9:00 am - 11:00 am

Join us for this FREE workshop where you will learn a basic overview of Twitter and blogging, how they work with search engine optimization (SEO), investigating their uses along with three recognized blogging platforms (Wordpress, Typepad and Blogger), Widget and conversion mechanisms, structuring of blogs, ideas for writing and case studies of different types of blogs.

All workshops are free and will take place at Crescent Credit Union, 115 Commercial Street, Brockton. For registration/information, contact Tammi or Alison at the MSBDC at 508-673-9783 or register online at www.msbdc.org/semass and click on Event Calendar. Funded in part through a cooperative agreement with SBA.

Chamber Accredited (Continued from page 1)

Chamber members and the significant contributions they make to the organization and the regional economy. It's our business members and our regional relationships that provide a solid base of success for this Chamber," Neville said.

Accreditation with the United States Chamber of Commerce is the only program of its kind that defines excellence in chamber planning and recognizes chambers for outstanding contributions toward positive change in their communities. The purpose of the U.S. Chamber's Accreditation Program is to facilitate continuing excellence in the chamber industry and to foster a pro-business environment throughout America.

"Accreditation validates a chamber as having programs that benefit their local economy and for positively influencing action in their community," said Tom Donohue, U.S. Chamber President and CEO.

Accreditation is the only national program that recognizes chambers for their effective organizational procedures and community involvement. To receive accreditation, a chamber must meet stringent standards in their operations, finance, programs, marketing, human

resources, governance, government affairs, technology and benchmarking. Christine Karavites of Proteus Customized Consulting earned special recognition for her role in attaining the 5-Star rating. Karavites served as a consultant throughout the process.

The chamber received a perfect score in the Human Resources, Communications and Facilities sections of the application. The chamber board also was commended for its innovative ideas that have produced positive change within the community. The Chamber was also recognized for doing an excellent job of rewarding volunteers for their efforts on behalf of the chamber. Additional areas of recognition include technology plan, strategic plan and political advocacy on local, state and federal levels.

"The Metro South Chamber of Commerce has done an excellent job in many areas and has implemented a wide variety of valuable and successful programs for its membership. The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is proud to accredit the Metro South Chamber with our highest level of recognition, the 5-Star ranking. Congratulations on this remarkable achievement!" ~ U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Affiliation News & Events

To become an affiliate organization of the Chamber, contact John Nesti at 508.586.0500 x 229 or email jnesti@metrosouthchamber.com.

Join the Stoughton Chamber of Commerce for the **Town Manager Roast** on **May 6**, 7-9pm at the Portuguese National Club. Honor (and dishonor) Stoughton's Town Manager and former Stoughton District Court Judge Frank T. Crimmins. Tickets are \$25. A portion of the proceeds will benefit "The Memory Room." For more information, visit www.stoughtonma.com or call 781-297-7450.



Norwell Chamber of Commerce

The Norwell Chamber of Commerce announces the following events. **April 20:** Lunch at Friendship Home. **April 27:** SBA Loan Information, 8am, James Library sponsored by Eastern Bank. **Thursday, May 19:** Citizen of the Year - Barker Tavern, Scituate. **Tuesday, May 24:** 6pm Computer Security, SSNSC. For more info, visit norwellchamberofcommerce.com.

The East Bridgewater Business Association Board Meeting and Networking Event will take place on **Thursday, April 21** at 8am at TJ Smith's Victorian House, 13 Cross Street. At the meeting, BAWIB will review the various programs of the agency. The cost is \$5 to attend. Call Bruce at 508.378.7890



U.S. Small Business Programs Offered

Attend a FREE SBA workshop designed to highlight the various SBA programs and services. 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 20 and May 18, 2011**. Contact CareerWorks at 508.513.3400 for further workshop information.

Annual "Keep Brockton Beautiful" Day

Saturday, April 23, 2011

Mayor Linda M. Balzotti, the Brockton City Council and DPW Commissioner Michael Thoreson invite all the participate in this great event-community groups, religious and civic organizations, crime watch teams, neighborhoods, businesses, schools, etc. For the past 6 years, the City of Brockton and its residents have come together to make sure that our City puts its best foot forward in the Spring. Lets all help "Keep the Scene Clean"! This event has proven to be a great way to meet new people and at the same time, show off your Brockton pride. The city will be providing all of the necessary tools, but if you have your own, feel free to bring them along. Following the event, there will be a barbeque. For more information, call the **Mayor's Office** at 508-580-7123 or visit www.ci.brockton.ma.us.

Business After Hours at BAWIB

Thursday, May 12, 2011

Please join us on May 12 from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm for a Chamber Business After Hours networking event at Brockton Area Workforce Investment Board located at 34 School Street, 2nd Floor, Brockton

BAWIB is a business-led, policy-setting board that oversees workforce development initiatives in our ten-community region. BAWIB works with employers to bring training resources to the region and to foster collabora-



tions for regional priorities.

This event \$5 for members and \$15 for future-members and includes food provided by **Burrito Wraps**, Brockton. Register by calling Kim at 508.586.0500 x 231, email kprosper@metrosouthchamber.com. As always, don't forget your business cards!

Buy Local From These Chamber of Commerce Members

Weichert Realtors/Briarwood Real Estate



31 Belmont Street, South Easton • 508-230-8200
www.briarwoodrealestate.com

As the largest family owned real estate company in the U.S., Weichert, Realtors has nearly 18,000 sales associates in more than 500 company-owned and franchised sales offices in key markets throughout the U.S. With an office located in Easton, Bernie Hassan is your Metro South contact for Weichert Realtors/Briarwood Real Estate. Bernie is also known to many in the area as the host of "Real Estate Today", each Tuesday from 11a.m. to 1p.m. on AM1460 WXXR and streaming online at www.1460WXXR.com.

Garfield Plumbing & Heating



Dave Garfield • 781.575.0944
www.garfieldplumbing-llc.com

Garfield Plumbing & Heating is a fully insured and licensed company that Dave Garfield has owned and operated for the past 15 years. Dave's experience as a master plumber has enabled him to handle each customers request with ease. Having vast knowledge of both commercial and residential plumbing and heating he and his staff can offer many different options to each individual client.

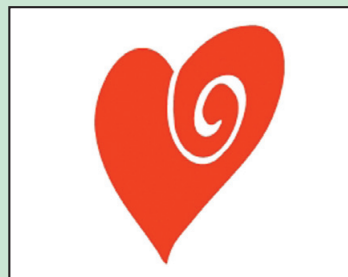
Stoneforge



10 Roosevelt Circle, South Easton • 508-238-0550
www.stoneforge.net

Stoneforge Grill embodies a Global Rustic Cuisine concept featuring a warm and friendly atmosphere. Enjoy the view of our open kitchen. Features: Serving Lunch and Dinner; Stoneforge Signature Steaks, Quality Seafood, Inventive Sauté and Premier Customer Service; Exhibition Kitchen Showcasing Our Stoneforge Chefs; Five Separate Dining Areas; Wireless connection; Fireside & Seasonal Outside Dining; Expansive Bar; 36 Draft Beers; Extensive Wine List

Heartfelt Safety Programs



Contact Julie Amaral @ 774-218-0942
www.heartfeltsafetyprograms.com

Convenient on-site American Heart Association CPR & First Aid certification! Thorough and fun classes are taught at your location by an experienced RN and fulfill the requirements for restaurants, fitness centers, & childcare. Also useful for other businesses as well as individuals who require or are interested in training. Group rates available. Have a heart and save a life! If you need cleanup or restoration services, call us at 781 337-0344.

The Travel Center



779 South Franklin Street, Holbrook
781-767-1160 • www.tvctr.com

Paula Killian has owned The Travel Center in Holbrook for over 13 years. The Travel Center, a member office of Tzell New England and a Signature agency provides a cadre of personal and business travel services to its diverse and demanding clientele who travel the world. Paula along with her team Alyssa Britland, Mike Klau and Ellen McDonough have personally traveled all over the world and know how to choose the right destination for each traveler.

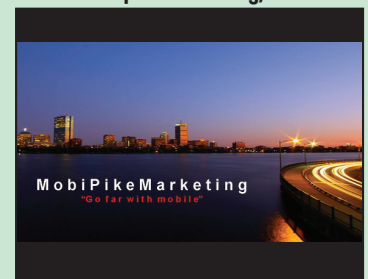
Marathon Commercial Solutions, LLC



448 Turnpike Street, Suite 1-1, South Easton
508-245-9889 • www.marathon-mcs.com

Marathon Commercial Solutions was started with the idea that there was a need to be filled for a versatile, multi-disciplined contractor and construction management company that was the right size to fit today's lean market. With an extensive network of Architects, Engineers, expert consultants, subcontractors and suppliers Marathon can provide a complete solution to your General Contracting, Construction Management, Facilities Services and Retail Fit-Out projects.

Mobipike Marketing, LLC



PO Box 379, Easton
508-500-4888 • www.mobipike.net

Mobipike Marketing provides an affordable, ready to use, mobile advertising system that allows businesses to offer customers' access to their message or special deals, 24/7. Our easy to use "App" puts your information at your customers' fingertips, allowing you to take advantage of consumers' fast growing reliance on mobile devices. Call 508-500-4888 or visit us at www.mobipike.com.

CertaPro Painters



4 Lambeth Park Drive, Fairhaven • 508-992-7772
www.certaproainting.com

CertaPro Painters NE Commercial is dedicated to Delivering Extraordinary Experiences to all those who touch our organization. Services Include: Interior/Exterior Painting; Epoxy Coatings; Specialty & Protective Coatings; Waterproofing; Power Washing; Dry Ice Blasting; Sand Blasting; White Board Applications; Wall Coverings; Maintenance Painting; Acoustical Ceiling Paint; Electro-Static Painting; Line Striping.

BUSINESS EVENTS Planner

April 13

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Brockton Visiting Nurse Association

500 Belmont Street, #200, Brockton

Enjoy networking at a Chamber member business. Refreshments will be served. Do not forget your business cards! Co-sponsored by Old Colony Hospice.

Tickets: \$5 members, \$15 future-members

For more information, call 508-586-0500 ext. 231

April 28

Employment Law Update

8:00 am - 11:30 am

Irish Cultural Centre of New England

200 New Boston Drive, Canton

Receive an overview of major developments in employment law over the past twelve months.

Tickets: \$49 members, \$69 future-members

For more information, call 508-586-0500 ext. 231

April 28

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

The Shaw's Center

1 Lexington Avenue, Brockton

Enjoy networking at a Chamber member business. Refreshments will be served. Do not forget your business cards!

Tickets: \$5 members, \$15 future-members

For more information, call 508-586-0500 ext. 231

IT'S EASY TO REGISTER!

508-586-0500 x 231

508-587-1340

E-mail: info@m^oouthchamber.com

Online: www.metroouthchamber.com

Send reservation and payment to:



Metro South Chamber of Commerce
Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087

Names of Persons Attending: _____

Events: _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____

REMINDER: We accept VISA, MasterCard and AMEX

April 29

Legislative Luncheon

12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Massasoit Conference Center

770 Crescent Street, Brockton

Join other Chamber members for this opportunity to interact with legislators. Speaker: Bill Delahunt

Tickets: \$39 members, \$49 non-members

For more information, call 508-586-0500 ext. 225

May 4

Membership Drive

8:30 am - 4:30 pm

Merkert Hall

Stonehill College, Easton

Join the focused call drive to area businesses that could benefit from Chamber Membership. Prizes will be awarded.

Free to Attend

Please RSVP at 508.586.0500 ext. 229

May 12

Business After Hours

5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

BAWIB

34 School Street, Brockton

Enjoy networking at a Chamber member business. Refreshments will be served. Do not forget your business cards!

Tickets: \$5 members, \$15 future-members

For more information, call 508-586-0500 ext. 231