



Leading Businesses

Leading Communities



Chamber Mission

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



Sharon Brewster, Brewster Branding • Page 7



Jina Kim, North Easton Savings Bank • Page 7

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Commuter Rail Expansion Coming 2023; featured at Good Day Luncheon

Friday, April 29 | 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM | Massasoit Community College | One Massasoit Blvd., Brockton



Jean Fox, Project Manager, South Coast Rail, MassDOT



Ray DiPasquale, Massasoit Community College President

Please join us on **Friday, April 29th for a Good Day Metro South luncheon event hosted by Massasoit Community College at One Massasoit Blvd in Brockton from 11:45 am - 1:30 pm.** This event will feature Jean Fox, project manager of the new South Coast Rail at MassDOT, and an interview with Massasoit Community College president, Ray DiPasquale.

Jean Fox is the manager of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation's South Coast Rail project. Jean also serves on the Bristol County Commission on the Status of Women, the Freetown-Lakeville Regional School Committee, and UMass Dartmouth's Center for Policy Analysis.

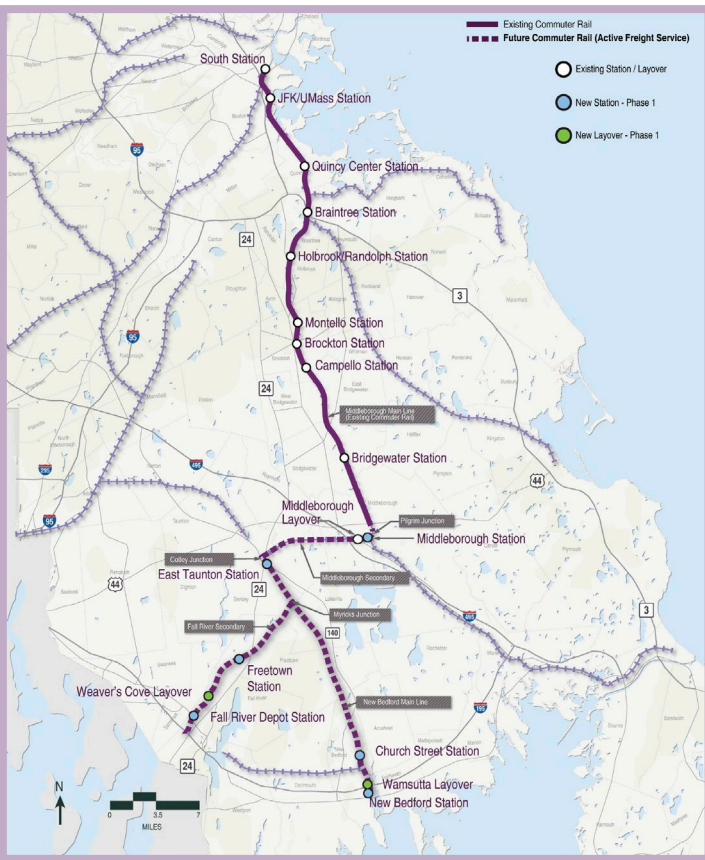
Contact Cathryn Schofield at [CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x 231 for assistance. Register online at [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events).



Community Navigator



MASSASOIT COMMUNITY COLLEGE



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

METRO SOUTH

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Metro South Chamber and Bank of America recognize the achievements and contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in creating new jobs and economic opportunities in the Metro South region. We welcome you to nominate businesses for the 2022 Small Business of the Year and Entrepreneur of the Year awards.

You may nominate your own business or any other business you deem worthy. For nomination forms, call Cathryn at (508) 586-0500 x 231. *More on page 8.*

Marvelous Marvin Hagler's Family Attends Groundbreaking



April 4th groundbreaking at 28 Petronelli Way, historic building to be redeveloped into 18 units of housing, story *continued on page 5.*



## Commuter Rail Expansion Coming in 2023 & New Massasoit President at April Luncheon

Friday, April 29 | 11:45 AM - 1:30 PM | Massasoit Community College | Brockton



Jean Fox, Project Manager,  
South Coast Rail, MassDOT

**More about Jean Fox:** A former Freetown Selectman, Jean has participated on numerous educational boards and committees in the Southcoast, was a founding board member of the Alma del Mar Charter School and a SMILES mentor for three years.

Prior to joining MassDOT in 2011, Jean was the Youth Council Director and LiteracyWorks Entrepreneur at the Greater New Bedford Workforce Investment Board. Jean also served on the Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District (SRPEDD) Commission, the Metropolitan Planning Organization, and the SRTA Advisory Board. She has been active in bringing much-needed attention to the transportation needs of the region, working on a Transit Development Plan in New Bedford, advocating for reliable transportation for women and students to get to and from work, jobs, education, healthcare, and childcare.

Fox earned her B.A. from the University of New Mexico and M.B.A. from George Washington University. She lives in Freetown with her husband, Lou, and has three grown children. In addition to the Freetown Board of Selectmen, she has served on the Bristol County Commission on the Status of Women, the South Coast Education Compact, as well as a number of school and education advisory boards in New Bedford.

Jean has been recognized by several regional organizations for her commitment to the area, to her community, to women and girls, as well as education and workforce development. She was named a Woman of Distinction by the YWCA of Southeastern Massachusetts in 2013. She received the Lifelong Achievement Award from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees in 2010. She was named Commissioner of the Year in 2010 by SRPEDD. In 2006, Jean was recognized as an "Unsung Heroine" by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women for her volunteerism. Jean was named Freetown Woman of the Year in 1999.

Visit [www.mbtta.com/projects/south-coast-rail](http://www.mbtta.com/projects/south-coast-rail) to read more about South Coast Rail and the activity surrounding the project.



Ray DiPasquale, Massasoit  
Community College President

**About Massasoit Community College's President:** Ray DiPasquale began his presidency at Massasoit Community College in August 2021. Prior to his appointment, he served as President of Clinton Community College in New York. Additionally, Mr. DiPasquale was a consultant for the Rhode Island Board of Education and served as President of the Community College of Rhode Island from July 2006 to January 2016; served as commissioner of higher education for the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education

(now the Rhode Island Board of Education); as Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs at the SUNY College at Brockport; and in a number of leadership positions at Springfield Technical Community College. He began his career in higher education at Middlesex Community College.

Mr. DiPasquale holds a master's degree from Northeastern University and a bachelor's degree from Arkansas Tech University. He also received an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters bestowed by the New England Institute of Technology.

To learn more about Ray and Massasoit Community College, please visit [massasoit.edu](http://massasoit.edu)

## Save the Dates! Upcoming Ribbon Cuttings & After Hours

Friday, April 22 | 2:00PM | Live Virtual Event via Zoom

**BUSINESS ASSISTANCE**  
**Zoom Call - APR. 22**  
**Recovery & Resilience Resources**

Updates on COVID-19 Economic & Business Recovery

Join us for an update from the Metro South Chamber, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, the Massachusetts Office of Business Development, Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), featuring resources to help you and your business recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM via Zoom.

SBA U.S. Small Business Administration | METRO SOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | BROCKTON NEIGHBORHOOD HEALTH CENTER

Please join us on Friday, April 22nd for a COVID-19 Economic Recovery Update at 2PM. Register online: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

This virtual event features exciting guest speakers from the MA Office of Business Development (MOBD), MA Small Business Development Center, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center, and the SBA. Topics include city, state, and national resources to help you, your business, and your community respond to COVID-19. Zoom into this special forum to raise awareness and have your questions answered.

Friday, May 6 | 4:00PM | Live Well Nutrition, LLC | 603 Centre Street, Brockton

**RIBBON CUTTING**

Live Well Nutrition  
603 Centre Street  
Brockton  
05/06 @ 4:00PM

Celebrate their One Year Anniversary with free food and drink samples, networking, photo-op, and more!

Please join us on Friday, May 6th at 4PM for a One Year Anniversary Celebration with Live Well Nutrition at 603 Centre Street in Brockton. There will be food and drink samples, opportunity to network with other Metro South business people, photo-op, and more! Register online at

[metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events), or contact Cathryn Schofield for assistance at (508) 586-0500 x 231 / [CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com)

Wednesday, May 25 | 5:00PM | Abington Bank | 95 N. Franklin Street, Brockton

**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

MAY 25

**AbingtonBank**  
95 N. Franklin Street, Holbrook

**NETWORKING event**

METRO SOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Please join us on Wednesday, May 25th at 5PM for a Business After Hours at Abington Bank's Holbrook branch on 95 N. Franklin Street. Enjoy delicious food and beverages while connecting with potential customers, existing chamber members and friends in the Metro South community.

Tickets to this event are complimentary, but please register online at [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events), or contact Cathryn Schofield for assistance at (508) 586-0500 x 231 / [CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com)

Wednesday, June 22 | 5:00PM | Luke Jackson Corp. @ The Children's Museum in Easton

**BUSINESS AFTER HOURS**

JUNE 22

**LUKE JACKSON**  
Benefit and HR Solutions

Hosted @ The Children's Museum in Easton  
9 Sullivan Avenue, North Easton

**NETWORKING event**

FARMER'S DAUGHTER CHILDREN'S MUSEUM EASTON

Please join us on Wednesday, June 22nd at 5PM for a Business After Hours with Luke Jackson Benefit & HR Solutions, hosted at The Children's Museum in Easton at 9 Sullivan Ave, North Easton w/food catered by The Farmer's Daughter. Register online at [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events),

or contact Cathryn Schofield for assistance at (508) 586-0500 x 231.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS

Chair of the Board <b>Joseph Casey, HarborOne Bank</b>	Vice Chair Economic Development <b>Dan Evans, Evans Machine Co. Inc.</b>
President and CEO <b>Christopher Cooney, CCE, MPA, Metro South Chamber of Commerce</b>	Vice Chair Government Affairs <b>George Spilios, Crown Uniform &amp; Linen Service</b>
Chair-Elect <b>Richard Hynes, Barbour Corporation</b>	Vice Chair Community Affairs <b>Mahsa Khanbabai, Khanbabai Immigration Law</b>
Treasurer <b>Gregory Hart, CPA, Summer St Financial Advisors LLC</b>	Vice Chair Membership Development <b>Friend Weiler, Consultant</b>
	Immediate Past Chair <b>Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University</b>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, DIRECTORS

Paul Anghinetti - Bank of America	Mike Lambert- Brockton Area Transit Authority
Carol Chin - McDonald’s Franchisee	Kelly Mallory - Mallory Headsets, Inc.
Michele Cinquegrano - Verizon	Jeni Mather - J.M. Pet Resort
Todd Copeland - Copeland Auto Group	Matthew Osborne - Eastern Bank
Donald Donnalson - Beantown Builders, Inc.	Jay Pike, CPA - Citrin Cooperman
Nelson Fernandes - JJ’s Caffè	Albert Senesie - Victory Human Services
Rick Fisher - Bluestone Bank	Rich Spencer - North Easton Savings Bank
Matthew Hesketh - Good Samaritan Medical Center - Steward Health Care	Andrew St. Pierre - Brockton Plumbing & Heating Supply
Chuck Jones - Harbor Health	Lisa Stratton - The Enterprise
Sue Joss- Brockton Neighborhood Health Center	David Teixeira- The Mattress Maker of New England

CHAMBER STAFF

<b>Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM, MPA</b> President and CEO x 223	<b>Marcy Venezia, Nightingale Group LLC</b> Membership Sales x 229
<b>Emma Stratton</b> Director of Communications x 222	<b>Theresa Lobo-Albin</b> Finance x 230
<b>Cathryn Schofield</b> Programs & Events Coordinator x 231	Newsletter Written & Designed by Emma Stratton.  Printing Provided by The Enterprise.



ACCREDITED  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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

**Metro South Chamber of Commerce**

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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 universal access to all programs. If you or your employees require assistance in this area, please let us know by calling the Chamber at (508) 586-0500 at least 48 hours in advance.

Calendar  
Sponsor:



April

06

**Ambassador Meeting** 9:00 am  
*Zoom Virtual Meeting*

12

**"Business Fundamentals"** 10:00 am  
*Basic Entrepreneurial virtual workshop, offered by SEED Corp.*

14

**"Understanding Business Financials"** 10:00 am  
*Basic Entrepreneurial virtual workshop, offered by SEED Corp.*

21

**"Apply for Diversity Certification as a Massachusetts-based Business"** 10:00 am  
*Virtual workshop, offered by MA Supplier Diversity Office*

22

**Business Assistance Zoom Call: COVID-19 Recovery & Resilience** 2:00 pm  
*Zoom Virtual Meeting*

29

**Good Day Metro South** 11:45 am  
*Massasoit Community College, One Massasoit Blvd, Brockton*

May

04

**Ambassador Meeting** 9:00 am  
*Zoom Virtual Meeting*

06

**One Year Celebration: Live Well Nutrition** 4:00 pm  
*Live Well Nutrition @ 603 Centre Street, Brockton*

13

**Small Biz & Entrepreneur of the Year Awards** 12:00 pm  
*Location TBA*

25

**Board of Directors Meeting** 12:30 pm  
*Zoom Virtual Meeting*

25

**Business After Hours: Abington Bank** 5:00 pm  
*Abington Bank @ 95 N. Franklin Street, Holbrook*

The Ambassador Team meets on a monthly basis to serve fellow members by providing information, resources, member-to-member support, increasing awareness and promoting active participation in Chamber programs and services. To learn more, please email Cathryn at CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com.

Note: All meetings are held at the Metro South Chamber Office (via Zoom) or Metro South Business Assistance Center (BAC), Sixty School Street, Brockton unless otherwise indicated.



# UP-TO-DATE News



## MassDevelopment Monthly Office Hours at the Chamber with Jay Pateakos

Jay Pateakos, Vice President of Business Development for the South Region of MassDevelopment will host a series of virtual office hours through the Metro South Chamber of Commerce.

Pateakos will be available to provide information and answer questions about how the organization can help businesses, financial institutions, and municipalities in southeastern Massachusetts.

For more information, email Jay at [jpateakos@massdevelopment.com](mailto:jpateakos@massdevelopment.com) or call (508) 678-0533 x 1201.

## Exclusive Staples Discounts for Chamber Members

Members of the Metro South Chamber of Commerce have access to special partner discounts, 10% off in-store regularly priced purchases and 20% off Printing and Marketing Services, every time they shop in store. They can save on an assortment of products, from signage, to PPE, to business essentials, and more! Visit [www.metroouthchamber.com/membership/savings/](http://www.metroouthchamber.com/membership/savings/) to learn more.

Members - send Good News to [estration@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:estration@metrosouthchamber.com)

Sponsored by: Good Samaritan Medical Center

**Brockton Symphony Orchestra Presents: "All-American Concert" 3/6, "Romantic Fire" 4/24**  
"Romantic Fire" Sunday, April 24, 2022 - 3:00PM @ Chris Congregational Church in Brockton. Adam Kerry Boyles conducts a romantic full-length season finale, featuring our 2019 Vasconcellos Youth Competition co-winner, Meihui An, performing the dramatic Piano Concerto in A minor by Edvard Grieg. We also present the vivid Faust Overture by composer Emilie Mayer and Schumann's passionate Symphony No. 4 in D minor. Order tickets and learn more at: [brocktonsymphony.org](http://brocktonsymphony.org)

## MSBDC Calendar - Online Training

Visit [msbdc.org/training](http://msbdc.org/training) to register

- 4/5: Writing a Business Plan Part 4 - Market Research
- 4/6: Hiring Employees - Thinking Outside the Box
- 4/8: Managing Trade Compliance when Doing Business with Distributors
- 4/12: Writing a Business Plan Part 5 - Management & Personnel
- 4/13: New License Exception ACE and License Exception Update
- 4/13: The Right Bank for Small Business
- 4/13: Government Contracting 101
- 4/19: Writing a Business Plan Part 6 - Financial Information

- 4/21: Basics of Starting Your Business
- 4/26: How to Open a Business in Massachusetts Legally
- 4/27: Building an End-User Statement that Meets Your Specific Needs
- 4/27: Into to Doing Business with the Federal Government
- 4/28: Transforming Your Product Idea into a Successful Venture
- 4/28: Instagram Reels
- 4/28: 13 Must-Have Canva Hacks
- 4/28: Using Financial Statements to Manage Your Business

## Fuller Craft Museum Presents: "Interpreting Change: Weavers' Guild of Boston - 1922 - 2022" Opens 5/14

Interpreting Change: Weavers' Guild of Boston - 1922-2022 is a juried exhibition produced as a collaborative effort between Fuller Craft Museum and Weavers' Guild of Boston (WGB) - the oldest weaver's guild in the U.S - to celebrate WGB's centennial anniversary and its members creative accomplishments. These exquisite works were created specifically for this exhibition and highlight developments in materials, artistic taste, and the nature of process-oriented craft. This exhibit will be on display at Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street in Brockton through October 16, 2022. The Fuller Craft Museum is FREE to all Brockton residents. Hours of operation are Tuesday-Sunday, 10AM-5PM. To learn more, visit [fullercraft.org](http://fullercraft.org).

## Kids' Road Race to Resume, April 30th

Dave Gorman's Kids Road Races will kick-off their 45th season on Saturday, April 30, 2022 at D.W. Field Park in Brockton at 9:30 a.m. registration. Yes, it is still \$1.00 to run. Ages 4 to 14 boys and girls for eight weeks can participate. For more information or to pre-register contact Dave Gorman at [irishdaveg@aol.com](mailto:irishdaveg@aol.com), call 508-588-3148, or visit [kidsroadraces.org](http://kidsroadraces.org) for more information.

## "Bollywood and Beyond" Indian Culture, Music and Movies, April 25th @ Brockton Library

The Brockton Public Library, 304 Main Street, will host Dr. Rekha Menon, Berklee College of Music professor, on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. in the multi-purpose room. This free event will present an interesting dialogue on modern India, movies, music, culture and more. Parking is available in the lot behind the library on White Ave. For more information contact Zoe Rath at 508-894-1411 or [zrath@cobma.us](mailto:zrath@cobma.us).

## A Grand Concert to Save a Grand Piano 4/21

The First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 900 Main Street in Brockton, is holding a Grand Piano Concert with Internationally Renowned Artist David Briggs on 4/21 @ 7PM. This free concert is open to all. For more information please visit [www.firstevlutheran.org](http://www.firstevlutheran.org) or call 508-586-9021.

# Health Care Matters

Sponsored by: Good Samaritan Medical Center

235 North Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301

508-427-3000

[www.goodsamaritanmedical.org](http://www.goodsamaritanmedical.org)

**Good Samaritan Medical Center**

A STEWARD FAMILY HOSPITAL



## Good Samaritan Medical Center to Host Job Fair on Friday, April 29, 2022

Good Samaritan Medical Center is hosting an in-person Job Fair on Friday April 29, 2022. If you are seeking a fast-paced, challenging position in an organization

committed to achieving and maintaining a standard of excellence in all that we do, our organization may be good fit for you.

Join our Team! We are hiring Registered Nurses, Imaging Techs,

Nursing Assistants, Phlebotomists, Social Workers-LCSW, Medical Techs, Pharmacy Techs, Clinical Transporters, Security Officers, Housekeepers and more.

Our Job Fair is Friday, April

29, 2022. Drop-in hours are 10 am to 2 pm and 3 to 6 pm at Good Samaritan Medical Center, Moakley Conference Center, 235 North Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301. Please bring copies of your resume. Dress is business casual.

To RSVP for the event, please "Apply" through this link: <https://pm.healthcaresource.com/cs/steward/#/job/79411>

Questions? Contact Human Resources at 508-427-2895. Visit [goodsamaritanmedical.org](http://goodsamaritanmedical.org) for more.



## Free & Affordable Business Workshops



Grow with Google



**\*See page 4 for a calendar of MA Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) workshops, and check page 11 and 12 for additional workshops offered by SCORE, South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, MA Supplier Diversity Office, and more!**

### Grow with Google: Power Your Job Search with Google

**Date & Time:** April 13, 2:00pm (webinar)

**Register:** [register.gotowebinar.com/register/2192516767484270350?source=MCC](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2192516767484270350?source=MCC)

**Description:** Join Bryan Caplan, Speaker for Grow with Google, for an info-packed webinar dedicated to helping you find your dream job. In this 60-minute session, you will learn to discover new job opportunities using Google Search, and learn how to organize and enhance your job search experience using Google tools. In this session we'll discuss best practices for:

- Discovering career opportunities using Job Search on Google
- Using Google Sheets to track the progress of job applications
- Creating a resume using Google Docs

### SCORE: Plan Your Website for Online Success

**Date & Time:** April 20, 7:00pm (webinar)

**Register:** [sema.score.org/event/plan-your-website-online-success-17](https://sema.score.org/event/plan-your-website-online-success-17)

**Description:** First, you need to have a solid plan in place. Fortunately, this webinar will help with exactly that! After this webinar you'll have a better understanding of:

- Your website's audience
- Feature and functionality needs
- Content planning
- How to choose the right platform
- Best practices for online success

After this webinar, you'll have a comprehensive plan in place for your business's website. Attendees may also request the free workbook upon completion of the webinar.

### Grow with Google: Sell Online with E-Commerce Tools

**Date & Time:** May 12, 10:00am (webinar)

**Register:** [register.gotowebinar.com/register/5621007327973400846?source=Metro](https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/5621007327973400846?source=Metro)

**Description:** Join Bryan Caplan, Speaker for Grow with Google, as he walks you through how to sell your products online. We'll walk through listing your products for free with Google Business Profile and Merchant Center. And we'll show you one way to sell on your website, using an E-Commerce store built with Shopify. Plus, learn about more helpful tools to stand out online, such as Local Opportunity Finder and Grow My Store. In this workshop, we'll:

- Discuss the Products tab in Google Business Profile
- Introduce Google Merchant Center and the basics of creating a free account and a product feed
- Show you set up an E-Commerce website using Shopify

## Groundbreaking @ 28 Petronelli, 18 Apartments



28 Petronelli Way is a historic four story brick building in the center of downtown Brockton, with an elaborate Romanesque Revival façade. It was built in 1890 as the St. Patrick's Total Abstinence Society Building, and included a theater on the upper floor with a full balcony. It had other community oriented meeting rooms on the second and third floors, and four

retail spaces on the street level. In the 1980s it housed the Petronelli Brothers' boxing gym where World Champion Marvin Hagler trained. 28 Petronelli LLC, an affiliate of Concord Square Planning & Development, Inc., purchased the property in March 2019 from the City of Brockton. Extensive work was immediately carried out to stabilize the building, cover the roof, and remove debris. It is planned to be renovated into 18 market rate apartments including 6 studios, 9 one-bedroom, and 3 two-bedroom units. Project financing includes Historic Tax Credits, HDIP Tax Credits, a tax exemption agreement with the City, a construction loan, and Opportunity Zone eligible equity investment. Visit [www.concordsqdev.com/28-petronelli-way/](https://www.concordsqdev.com/28-petronelli-way/) to learn more.



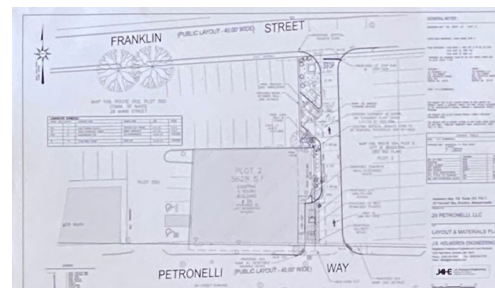
Mayor of Brockton, Robert F. Sullivan.



Plans being reviewed by City Officials.



Ted Carmen, Concord Square Dev.



Homage to World Champion Marvin Hagler & Petronelli boxing gym where he trained.



On the new roof of 93 Centre, also being redeveloped by Concord Square. L-R: Jeff Schlossberg, Planning & Development Manager, Concord Square Planning & Development; Ward 5 Brockton City Councilor Atty. Jeffrey A. Thompson; Jack Lally, Brockton City Council President; Chris Cooney, Metro South Chamber; Robert Jenkins, Brockton Redevelopment Authority; Suzanne Fernandes, North Easton Savings Bank & BRA board; and Rob May, City of Brockton Planner.



## Empower Small Biz: MGCC Grants & Resources



### EMPOWER SMALL BUSINESSES: Additional COVID Business Resources and Grants from Mass Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC)

Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) functions as a one-stop resource for debt financing for small businesses.

The purpose of MGCC is to create and preserve jobs at small businesses, inclusive of those owned by women, minorities, immigrants and veterans. MGCC also works to promote economic development throughout the Commonwealth, with special paid attention to business needs in underserved areas, Gateway Cities and low to moderate income communities. Visit [www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org](http://www.empoweringsmallbusiness.org) to learn more and apply for the follow grants:

**BIZ-M-POWER GRANT:** This program is focused on assisting low-income and moderate-income entrepreneurs with their acquisition, expansion, improvement or lease of a facility, purchase or lease of equipment, or with meeting other capital needs of a business through crowdfunding. The objective is to provide entrepreneurs with new knowledge and skills for growing their business and advancing toward innovative approaches to obtaining capital through the earned support of local residents, neighborhoods, community members, and stakeholders alike.

**EMPOWER DIGITAL GRANT:** This program seeks to support the development of digital capabilities and consequent growth of small businesses of socially and economically disadvantaged individuals with the support of our Small Business Technical Assistance (SBTA) providers.

**SMALL BIZ. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GRANT:** MGCC is seeking proposals from not-for-profit organizations that provide technical assistance to underserved small businesses and start-ups in Massachusetts for FY2022.

## MassHire: Connecting Activities Partnership (CAP) Career Day, April 14th in Brockton



MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board is very pleased to announce the **25th Annual Connecting Activities Partnership (CAP) Career Day** being held on **Thursday, April 14th, 2022, from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** in the Multipurpose Auditorium at Teen Challenge in Brockton, MA! Co-sponsored by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, this event with MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board's Connecting Activities Program is designed as an opportunity to build stronger connections between schools and the community. By connecting schools with area businesses and organizations, students can see the relevance and authenticity of what they are learning in school, invigorating the school culture and the classroom, while they begin to consider their potential careers.

Currently, we are looking for businesses or organizations to participate in this event by hosting and exposing youth to their particular career path. If your interested in participating please contact David Edwards by email at [dedwards@masshiregbwb.org](mailto:dedwards@masshiregbwb.org) or by phone at 508-584-3234 Ext14.

## Baker-Polito Administration Launches "HireNow" Hiring and Training Employer Grant Program

### \$4,000/Employee Program Aims to Boost Hiring with Labor Force Participation Rates Still Lower than Pre-Pandemic



The Baker-Polito Administration has launched a new hiring and training employer grant program, "HireNow," which will help employers quickly hire and train new workers and get more people back to work. The new program provides eligible employers with a \$4,000 per employee grant, which can be used to cover training costs or as a signing bonus for new employees. By providing employers with these flexible funds to facilitate quick hiring, the Administration is focusing on addressing continued hiring challenges faced by employers and increasing labor force participation. Employers can learn more about the program and apply at [mass.gov/HireNow](http://mass.gov/HireNow).

The program is open to all Massachusetts employers, including both for-profit and non-profit entities (excluding federal, state, and municipal governments). Governor Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito and Labor and Workforce Development Secretary Rosalin Acosta announced the launch of the program today at LabCentral, a Cambridge non-profit that provides support and working space for start-ups in the biotech and life sciences sectors. LabCentral plans to hire lab operations and other technical and administrative staff this year and will use funds from HireNow to support training costs.

HireNow aims to address hiring challenges faced by employers that have been brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic. According to a recent analysis of Bureau of Labor Statistics data, there are over 85,000 workers not participating in the labor market compared to pre-pandemic levels. Meanwhile, employers' need for workers has continued to increase, with unfilled job postings up 20% compared to pre-pandemic levels and approximately 200,000 open jobs available across the Commonwealth.

### Program Details:

- **Employer Eligibility:** Any Massachusetts employer who is in good standing with Department of Unemployment Assistance and Department of Revenue obligations and is not de-barred by the state is eligible (excluding federal, state, and municipal governments). Applications must be submitted by the employer, not an education or training partner.

- **Application Process:** Employers must pre-register online at [Mass.Gov/HireNow](http://Mass.Gov/HireNow) by providing employer information. Following the employee's hire and 60-day retention period, employers will submit a final application for funding. The Commonwealth will also approve the planned use of the funds (training costs, signing bonus, etc.) when approving the application.

- **Eligible Hires:** Hires must be made after March 23, 2022, be retained for a minimum of 60 days, and be placed in jobs that are at least 30 hours per week. New hires need to be Massachusetts residents employed in Massachusetts. There are also limits on compensation:

- Minimum eligible compensation: \$14.25 / hr (minimum wage)
- Maximum eligible compensation: \$42.50 / hr (~\$85K annualized)

- **Funding:** up to \$4,000 for each eligible employee hired, with a limit of \$400,000 per employer. Funds will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis.

To read the full press release, visit <https://www.mass.gov/news/baker-polito-administration-launches-hirenow-hiring-and-training-employer-grant-program>.

# Multicultural Women & Minority Owned Business Forum & Business Resource Expo Draws 140+



Mike Vlachich, Regional Administrator, SBA



Jina Kim, North Easton Savings Bank, premier sponsor of the event



Ed Cabellon, Brockton Beer Company



Shaleah Gilmer, Black Owned Brockton



Sharon Brewster, Brewster Branding

The Chamber's recent 7th Annual Multicultural Business Forum & Business Resource Expo drew over 140 attendees who convened at Thorny Lea Golf Club to gather regional business resource information and hear from a panel of women and minority small business owners and entrepreneurs.

We were joined by Mike Vlachich, Regional Administrator for the SBA and Jina Kim, NESB's SVP Chief Culture Officer. Mahsa Khanbabai, Khanbabai Immigration Law and MSCC Vice Chair of Community Affairs moderated the event and panel, which featured Ed Cabellon, Brockton Beer Company, Shaleah Gilmer, Black Owned Brockton, and Sharon Brewster, Brewster Branding.

Many City, State, and Federal officials also joined us, representing several business assistance organizations including MA Office of Business Development (MOBD), MA Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), and more.

Expo participants included: Brewster Branding, Bridgewater State University, Brockton Area Transit Authority, Brockton Beer Company, Brockton Redevelopment Authority, the City of Brockton, Curry College, Eastern Bank, Family and Community Resources, Greater Brockton Young Professionals, HarborOne Bank, Hart Design DBA Edible South Shore, MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board, Massasoit Community College, Neighborworks Housing Solutions, North Easton Savings Bank, Old Colony Planning Council, PAM Health Specialty Hospital of Stoughton, SCORE, South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation, Sevita Health, South Shore Women's Business Network, Rotary Club of Brockton, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Photos courtesy of Rich Morgan Photography, visit the Chamber's Flickr at flickr.com/metrosouthchamber/albums to view the full set of event photos!



Brockton Redevelopment Authority.



Shawn Flynn, Bridgewater State Uni.



Kelly Forrester, Brockton Area Transit.



Carrie Cokely, Ellen McLean, Curry College.



Mateus Barbosa, OCES and Tom Andrade, Cabo Vegan.



Odete Luiz, and Anildo Monteiro, Sevita Health.



Jessica Mello, SEED Corp.; Norman Eng, U.S. Small Business Administration.



Premier Sponsor: North Easton Savings Bank (L-R) Megan O'Brien, Teresa Pina, Aida Monteiro, and Chris Benoit.



Mahsa Khanbabai, Khanbabai Immigration Law; Fred Fontaine, The Perfect Place, Nadia Clancy and Paul Clancy Jr., Law Office of Paul E. Clancy Jr.

Drive smarter local marketing with insights and solutions from the USA TODAY NETWORK.

The power of knowing you are doing things right.



## Bridgewater State U. 2022 Virtual Career Fairs



During Spring 2022, Bridgewater State University's Career Services will be hosting all career fairs and recruiting events in a virtual format through our Handshake platform. Register and learn more at [bridgew.edu/office/career-services/career-events](http://bridgew.edu/office/career-services/career-events), or call (508) 531-1328 with questions. Below is the current programming list:

### Spring Virtual Campus Interviews: through April 29, 2022

Employers can submit their interview request on Handshake. Students will apply by your due date giving you the chance to review resumes and make your selections of interview candidates. You can then schedule your one-on-one interviews via Handshake providing your virtual interview link (Zoom, Teams, etc.) as the "room location" for students.

### Virtual Job & Internship Fair | Thursday, April 7th, 2 - 5:30 pm

The BSU Virtual Job & Internship Fair hosted on Handshake will allow you to setup virtual information sessions and one-on-one video chats with interested candidates. This event will be open to all students and alumni, so you can expect to meet with a wide variety of candidates. Organizations attending must have full-time, professional and/or internship opportunities to participate. You are welcome to feature any other roles such as part-time, volunteer, networking events, etc.

### Virtual Education Career Fair | Wednesday, May 4th, 3 - 5:30 pm

The BSU Virtual Education Career Fair is a recruiting opportunity for educational organizations including public school districts, charter schools, private and independent schools, and non-profits. This fair allows school hiring personnel to network with top-caliber teacher, counselor, and administrator candidates from Bridgewater State University. With dozens of school districts and 100+ students and alumni in attendance, this is a can't miss recruiting event!

Please note that registration for all interviews and events will be on BSU's Handshake platform with registration opening in late January. If you are not already using Handshake, create your company and profile. Once approved, you will be able to post your opportunities and submit interview and/or event requests. Details regarding setting up and operation of virtual events will be provided in your confirmation email. If you have questions about these events, contact Career Services at: (508) 531-1328.

## ATHENA Award - Honoring & Empowering Women Leaders: Call for Nominations

This June, the Metro South Chamber of Commerce and Eastern Bank will present the 24th Annual **ATHENA Award** to an exceptional individual who has achieved excellence in their 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, Canada, the United Kingdom, the United Arab Emirates, Russia, and China. The Metro South Chamber of Commerce believes in the values underlying the ATHENA Foundation's philosophy of incorporating the talents and

expertise of women into the leadership of our businesses, communities, and government.

To nominate an individual for an ATHENA Award, or for more information please contact **Cathryn Schofield** at (508) 586-0500 x 231 or email [CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com). Learn more online at [metrosouthchamber.com/annual-monthly-events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/annual-monthly-events). Nomination deadline: May 1st

Sponsored by:



## Call for 2022 Small Biz Award Nominations



The Metro South Chamber and Bank of America recognize the achievements and contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in creating new jobs and economic opportunities in the Metro South region. We welcome you to nominate businesses for the 2022 *Small Business of the Year* and *Entrepreneur of the Year* awards.

You may nominate your own business or any other business you deem worthy. For nomination forms, call Cathryn at (508) 586-0500 x 231. 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.

**Small Business of the Year Criteria:**  
50 or less full-time employees (or equivalent); in business more than 3 consecutive years under the current ownership; for-profit business.

**Entrepreneur of the Year Criteria:**  
10 or less full-time employees (or equivalent); in business less than 3 years; a for-profit business.

Companies will be rated on their creativity and imagination in the development of their business, demonstration of growth, and a reflection on internal and external social responsibility.

Nominations are due to the Chamber by April 15, 2022. Recipients will be announced at the Small Business and Entrepreneur Lunch in May of 2022.

Sponsored by:



### Prior Small Business of the Year Recipients

2021 Mallory Headsets, Inc.  
2020 South Shore SoftWash, LLC  
2019 Immerse Agency  
2018 Just Desserts Bakery & Cafe  
2017 Wood Palace Kitchens  
2016 Strange Planet Printing  
2015 Maguire's Bar & Grill  
2014 J.M. Pet Resort  
2013 Solex Payroll Systems, Inc.  
2012 Vincente's Tropical Grocery

### Prior Entrepreneur of the Year Recipients

2021 Fusion Dolls  
2020 Empower Nutrition  
2019 LAUNCH Web Marketing  
2018 Shovel Town Brewery  
2017 Epicure Wine & Jazz Bar  
2016 Elvera's Cafe  
2015 The Sound Lab  
2014 JJ's Cafe  
2013 James Tran, Sky8 Shrimp Farm, LLC  
2012 Billy Michaud, Sparky's Import Repair

"We develop, support and honor women leaders from the classroom to the boardroom."

- ATHENA International





## Real Estate Spotlight: 163 Clinton St, Brockton



Opportunity to purchase a commercial property with a 700 sqft building, a vehicle scale and .53 acres of land. The property owner will transfer a Junk Collectors License (Email Listing Broker for a Copy). Buyer, at Buyers sole cost and expense, is responsible for all due diligence. Contact Brian Droukas, [brian@droukasrealestate.com](mailto:brian@droukasrealestate.com) (781) 844-0755

## Real Estate Spotlight: 85 & 93 Mill St, Brockton



A 44,000 sqft property located in Brockton. Please contact me for additional information or to schedule a showing. HIGHWAY VISIBILITY & ACCESS ON ROUTE 24!! About 25 miles south of Boston. Approx 100,000 Vehicles Per Day on Route 24. High Ceiling, Heavy Power, City Water/ Sewer, Natural Gas. Contact Brian Droukas, [brian@droukasrealestate.com](mailto:brian@droukasrealestate.com) (781) 844-0755

## Real Estate Spotlight: 88 Lincoln St, Brockton



FULLY LEASED 30,000 SF OFFICE BUILDING, fully Renovated in 2015, handicap accessible, private off-street parking, adjacent to Commuter Rail & BAT Bus Station, 1.07Acres, City Water & City Sewer, Average NOI \$400,000. View this property on youtube: [https://youtu.be/IYz0Cs7t\\_tE](https://youtu.be/IYz0Cs7t_tE). Contact Donahue

Associates at (508) 588-1717.

## Real Estate Spotlight: 37 Belmont, 221 Main, 227-231 Main Street, Brockton (THREE BUILDINGS)



37 Belmont Street - 221 Main Street - 227-231 Main Street. Handsome older buildings with charm of yesterday and today's updates. Next to local court house, train and restaurants. Walk to bus service. Full sprinkler systems in all buildings. Each building has one elevator. Income \$562,395.00 /

Expense Estimate \$250,752.00. Current NOI \$311,643.00 / Potential NOI when full \$403,352.00. Three separate tax bills. Price: \$5,000,000. Contact Donahue Associates at (508) 588-1717.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

### Reinvesting in Our Community

**Boston Pallet Recycling**  
Norma Aldridge  
80 Skinner Street  
Brockton, MA 02302  
(617) 592-5799  
[bostonpalletsrecycling.com](http://bostonpalletsrecycling.com)  
*Recycling*

**Brewster Branding, LLC**  
Sharon Brewster  
532 Page Street  
2nd Floor Office #1  
Stoughton, MA 02072  
(508) 818-3644  
[brewsterbranding.com](http://brewsterbranding.com)  
*Marketing/Public Relations*

**DaRosa Tax & Business Service**  
Manny DaRosa  
311 Somerset Avenue  
Taunton, MA 02780  
(508) 977-4872  
[darosatax.com](http://darosatax.com)  
*Tax Return Preparation*

**HD Pediatrics, LLC**  
Timothy DiBona  
1524 Turnpike Street  
Stoughton, MA 02072  
(508) 230-9772  
[hdpedi.com](http://hdpedi.com)  
*Medical*

## RENEWING Members

### Thank you!

Allegra Design Marketing Print  
An Improved You  
Anania Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  
Back Bay Bagel  
Bank of America  
Banner Environmental Services Inc.  
Boston Pallet Recycling  
Budge It Drains, Inc.  
Celia Insurance Agency, Inc.  
DaRosa Tax & Business Service  
Elite Health and Fitness  
Everett's Auto Parts  
Exceptional Care  
Father Bill's and MainSpring  
Fitzgerald Appraisals  
Friend S. Weiler  
Greenwoods  
Hart Design DBA Edible South  
Shore & South Coast

**InVastor, Inc.**  
Christopher Esikumo  
55 Knapp Center, #4B  
Brockton, MA 02301  
(774) 296-8985  
[invastor.com](http://invastor.com)  
*Delivery Services*

**Mayflower Council Boy Scouts of America**  
Rick Riopelle  
83 Cedar Street  
Milford, MA 01751  
(781) 828-8360  
[mayflowerbsa.org](http://mayflowerbsa.org)  
*Agencies/Association*

**Route 24 Auto Body Supplies and Service**  
Julian Logan  
345 Belmont Street  
Brockton, MA 02301  
(857) 505-7817  
*Auto Sales & Service*

For membership,  
contact: Marcy Venezia

(508) 586-0500 x 229

[MVenezia@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:MVenezia@metrosouthchamber.com)

Holiday Inn Express  
InVastor, Inc.  
James E. Holmgren, CPA  
KMA Web Design, LLC  
Maplewood Country Day Camp & Enrichment Center  
Mayflower Council Boy Scouts of America  
McGuigan's Pub  
Michael Haikal Real Estate  
Montello Heel Manufacturing, Inc.  
Morse Insurance Agency, Inc.  
National Grid  
Old Town Real Estate LLC  
Pristine Engineers, Inc.  
R.E. Lyons & Son Fire Equipment Corp  
Super 8 Metro South  
Torrey & Associates  
Westfield Child Center  
Wood Palace Kitchens Inc.

## Federal, State & Regional COVID-19 Resources



The Metro South Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to providing support for our business community now more than ever - we're here for you. Below, please find an extensive list of federal, state, and regional resources available to you during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Brockton Redevelopment Authority

Contact: Robert Jenkins  
(508) 586-3887

### Center for Women & Enterprise

Contact: Carla Akalatian  
(617) 532-0244

### Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD)

Contact: Margaret Laforest  
617-939-3097  
Contact: Susan Whitaker  
617-620-1005

### MA Small Business Development Center Network (MSBDC)

Contact: Jill Beresford (508) 673-9783

### Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO)

Contact: John Fitzpatrick  
(617) 720-3300

### MassDevelopment

Contact: Jay Pateakos  
(508) 678-0533

### MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board (MassHire GBWB)

Contact: Sheila Sullivan-Jardim  
(508) 584-3234

### MassHire Greater Brockton Career Center (MassHire GBCC)

Contact: John Murray  
(508) 513-3400

### Old Colony Planning Council

Contact: Mary Waldron  
(508) 583-1833 ext. 202

### SCORE Business Counselors

Contact: Peter Smith  
(508) 587-2673

### South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation

Contact: Sue Murray  
(508) 822-1020

### U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)

Contact: Susan Lourie  
(617) 565-5564

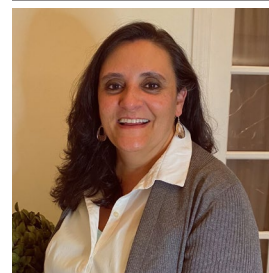
## RAFT Program Offers \$10K Grants for Housing



The state-funded RAFT (Residential Assistance to Families in Transition), and ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program) programs are tools used by the Housing Consumer Education Centers team to provide eligible households or individuals funding that can be used to help keep their housing, obtain new housing, or otherwise avoid becoming homeless. Funds provides short-term emergency financial assistance to help eligible tenants, landlords, or homeless by assisting with mortgage payments, rent, utility bills, and other costs. This special program targets households facing instability as a result of a COVID-19 (Coronavirus) related housing crisis due to a loss of wages or increase in expenses (e.g., medical expenses). Visit [nhsmass.org/apply-for-raft](https://nhsmass.org/apply-for-raft) to learn more.

The Massachusetts Homeowner Assistance Fund (Mass HAF) is available for homeowners who are behind on their mortgage payments because of the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of HAF is to prevent foreclosures and displacements of eligible homeowners. Mass HAF is funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). These are grants, not loans - you will not have to pay the money back. For more info, visit [nhsmass.org/emergency-homeowner-mortgage-assistance](https://nhsmass.org/emergency-homeowner-mortgage-assistance).

## Small Business Resource; We Speak Portuguese!



Theresa Lobo-Albin, Small Business Assistance



Theresa Lobo-Albin on the chamber staff is fluent in Portuguese. She is available to communicate with businesses that may require help in learning about various business assistance programs serving entrepreneurs, businesses and non-profits throughout the region.

Theresa holds a degree in business and accounting and has worked with many small businesses from numerous industries over her career in accounting.

The Chamber (in partnership with many regional, state, and federal resources) operates the Metro South Business Assistance Center and Thomas Edison Business Incubator in support of business development. Many of the BAC resources can be found online and are being offered remotely,

including one-on-one coaching through SCORE Counselors.

To learn more about business assistance resources in English and Portuguese contact Theresa Lobo-Albin at [finance@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:finance@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x 230. To learn more about the Business Assistance Center (BAC) and available business resources, visit [www.metroouthchamber.com/resources/business-assistance](https://www.metroouthchamber.com/resources/business-assistance). Individual counseling is available by appointment.

## Affordable, Flexible Health Coverage for Small Biz



The Massachusetts Health Connector is here in support of small businesses and employees to make sure you know about the affordable and cost-saving health insurance options

available through [www.MAhealthconnector.org/business](https://www.MAhealthconnector.org/business).

This information session focuses on health insurance options available to small businesses and their employees through Health Connector for Business. A review of options available for individuals and families who are not eligible for coverage through their small employer is also

### Employers' Experience with Health Connector for Business

Groups shopping through the Health Connector for Business receive greater cost savings and flexibility through these benefits:

<b>FLEXIBLE CHOICES</b>	<b>EMPLOYEE CHOICE MODELS</b> Through our flexible employee choice models employers can allow employees to shop for different plans that fit their needs, all while keeping employer costs constant.
<b>REBATES</b>	<b>CONNECTWELL</b> Employers with 1-25 enrolled employees will be eligible for a 15% rebate on the employer's premium contributions if 33% of employees complete one of 30+ approved wellness activities.
<b>TAX CREDITS</b>	<b>SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH CARE TAX CREDIT</b> Only businesses that shop through state marketplaces can be eligible for the Small Business Health Care Tax Credit.
<b>NO FEES</b>	<b>NO FEES OR MEMBERSHIP DUES</b> The Health Connector for Business allows for you to shop for coverage options and enroll in coverage without any fees or dues.

11

included. The agenda includes:

- Coverage options for small employers
- Flexible Employee Choice models
- Exclusive cost-saving benefits such as the ConnectWell rebate program and the Small Business Tax Credit
- Health insurance options for individuals and families not eligible for small group coverage

Visit [bit.ly/34i3AjX](https://bit.ly/34i3AjX) to view the recorded session. The slidedeck is also available at [files.constantcontact.com/969219b8001/61411af4-586e-4d68-a1fe-796f7b812a7e.pdf](https://files.constantcontact.com/969219b8001/61411af4-586e-4d68-a1fe-796f7b812a7e.pdf)



## Chamber Affiliation News & Events

To become an affiliate organization of the Chamber, contact Christopher Cooney at (508) 586-0500 x 223 or e-mail [chris@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:chris@metrosouthchamber.com).

The **Avon Industrial Park Association** is a non-profit group seeking to advance the advocacy and business of its members in public and private affairs. Membership is open to all companies who operate within the confines of Avon Industrial Park in Avon, Massachusetts. For more information please visit [avonindustrialpark.org](http://avonindustrialpark.org).



The **Bridgewater Business Association (BBA)** promotes unity between local government and the business community and is committed to promoting goodwill among business owners, operating in an ethical manner, and supporting the community they serve. Visit [bridgewaterbiz.biz](http://bridgewaterbiz.biz) for more information.



The **Connect 24 Business Alliance (C24BA)**, formerly the Randolph & Stoughton Chambers of Commerce, was formed to increase strength and support for our members and provide more opportunities for our local business community to thrive. Visit [connect24ba.com](http://connect24ba.com) to learn more.



The **East Bridgewater Business Association (EBBA)** was founded in 1993 "to promote a healthy business environment in East Bridgewater and to provide services to assist its members including education, networking and fellowship." Please visit [www.eastbridgewaterbiz.com](http://www.eastbridgewaterbiz.com) for more information.



The **Easton Chamber of Commerce** is a non-profit 501(c)(6) membership organization representing business and professional people. The Easton Chamber of Commerce mission is to unite, guide and support Easton businesses with the goal of increasing economic opportunities and fostering a healthy business climate. Visit [easton-chamber.com](http://easton-chamber.com) to learn more.



The **Norwell Chamber of Commerce's** mission is to promote the civic, economic and social welfare of its members and the Town of Norwell. They actively assist the Chamber members with the challenges of business growth, management and entrepreneurship. Visit [norwellchamberofcommerce.com](http://norwellchamberofcommerce.com) for more information.



The **South Shore Women's Business Network (SSWBN)**, established in 1991, was the inspiration of six women who felt that the needs of women in business were not being met by traditional organizations. They further believed there was a need for an organization that would provide networking opportunities to women and business owners on the South Shore. Visit [sswbn.org](http://sswbn.org) for more information.

## Networking Group USA Partners with Chamber: Easton, Halifax, and West Bridgewater



The Metro South Chamber and Networking Group USA have formed a partnership to engage emerging businesses and help them grow. This is a low cost way to network, and in combination with Chamber membership, is great way to grow your business. Visitors are always welcome.

Networking Group USA has open seats for building your business by referral. Flexible, growth oriented and affordable, meeting are twice a month in person or via zoom.

**Easton NGU** - meets 8am, 2nd & 4th Weds via Zoom with quarterly social events contact [MarcyVenzia@gmail.com](mailto:MarcyVenzia@gmail.com)

**Waters NGU** - Meets 8:30am 1st & 3rd Thurs at Keeping

Pace with Multiple Miracles in W. Bridgewater Contact [Jane.McCarthy@rate.com](mailto:Jane.McCarthy@rate.com)

**Taunton NGU** meets 9-10am 1st & 3rd Tues Contact Kevin at [QuackSellsHomes@gmail.com](mailto:QuackSellsHomes@gmail.com)

To learn more contact Marcy Venezia at 781-223-8221 and watch this 3 minute video of the Waters Group overview. <https://bit.ly/3LJ1Dh0>

## SEED Corp. Offers Brockton Business Loan Program

South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation focuses on job creation by financing small business in Massachusetts and Rhode Island through:

- **Micro & Small Loans** up to \$250,000 available at 5-6%
- **SBA 504 rate at Loans - Low Fixed Rates for 20 and 25 Years Commercial Real Estate and Fixed Assets**
- Working Capital, equipment, inventory, furniture and fixtures, and leasehold improvements
- **No pre-payment penalties**
- **Technical Assistance**



Contact: call (508) 822-1020 x 312 or visit [www.seedcorp.com](http://www.seedcorp.com)

## Own A Small Biz? Thinking of Starting One? Call SCORE!

To succeed, you have to stay ahead of the competition; whether you're looking for a business direction sheet or working to tap into value creation, connect with a SCORE mentor to help you! If you're just starting a business, SCORE mentors can provide the practical action plan, education and tools you need to open your doors and establish a customer base.

Already own a business? Our volunteer mentors can help identify ways to increase profit, improve employee and customer satisfaction, and achieve work/life balance. With SCORE, you can have the honest, confidential and sometimes tough conversations about raising money, motivating your team, marketing your business, and other topics.

Take advantage of their **free** live webinar series! Learn more by visiting [www.sema.score.org](http://www.sema.score.org) or by calling (508) 587-2673. Ahead for the month...

**April 5:** *How to Get an Investor to Chase You - Understanding the Investing Game*

**April 7:** *Connecting with Customers in the Digital World*

**April 21:** *Volunteering in 2022 - How it Can Help Small Businesses Grow in Your Community*

**April 18:** *How to Create a Product Pitch That Sells*

**April 19:** *Social Media Strategies That Generate Results*

**April 21:** *Volunteering in 2022 - How it Can Help Small Businesses Grow in Your Community*

**April 26:** *Deep Dive into LLCs - Compliance Considerations, Business Liability & Taxation*

**May 12:** *Boom! Explode Your Business by Getting Clients With Bigger Budgets*

**May 17:** *Your Roadmap to Success - How to Create a Business Plan*

**May 24:** *You Created a Business Plan, Now What?*



## Boston Pallet Recycling



80 Skinner Street, Brockton • (617) 592-5799  
www.bostonpalletsrecycling.com

Recycle your old, scrap or used wooden pallets with Boston Pallet Recycling. BPR is one of the most diverse pallet and shipping crate manufacturers in the New England area. Because we are a green privately-owned, independent company, we are able to be more flexible and diverse than other companies, while still offering superior reliability and consistency to our customers. Services include pallet management, pallet recycling, pallet rental program, and we sell pallets!

## Brewster Branding

**Brewster  
Branding**  
A CREATIVE AGENCY

532 Page Street, 2nd Fl #1, Stoughton • (508) 818-3644  
www.brewsterbranding.com

We build your brand, your way. Brewster Branding is a creative agency that helps you build, expand or refresh your brand. We create visuals and develop strategies that are unique to your vision. Our goal is to help you achieve amazing results through print, social media and digital/web design. Beginning with a refresh of your existing brand (or starting from scratch) we'll create a full suite of design products that engage and retain your audience. Schedule a consultation at info@brewsterbranding.com

## DaRosa Tax & Business Service



311 Somerset Avenue, Taunton • (508) 977-4872  
www.darosatax.com

Full Service Accountant - Individual and Business Tax Preparation, Financial Statements, and Bookkeeping. Investment and Retirement Planning with Dave Ramsey ELP Provider. The firm has been practicing in the Taunton/Mansfield/Falmouth area for over 30 years and understands the needs of clients in the region and all over the world. We can and have handled just about any tax issue on the federal and state level. Due to our many years of working in the Private Industry, we have also become experts in small to medium size business management and consulting.

## Join the Chamber!

**YOUR BUSINESS  
PROFILE HERE...**

...When You Join the Chamber.  
Call us at (508) 586-0500,  
info@metrosouthchamber.com

60 School Street, Brockton • (508) 586-0500  
metrosouthchamber.com

Join the Chamber and network your business to success! The Chamber hosts informative meetings, networking events, and puts you in touch with your legislators. We also offer marketing and advertising opportunities, referrals, publicity and exposure. In addition, we offer Health Insurance packages and more. Call to learn more today!



## Starting a Business?

*Need help starting your business?  
Looking for money to start your business?*

**The Metro South Business Assistance Center Can Help!**

**COUNSELING:** Individual counseling is available by appointment for start-up and existing businesses. Counselors are working or retired professionals, highly experienced and willing to share their knowledge in financing, marketing, management, and more.

**REFERENCE MATERIALS:** An outstanding collection of reference materials that include hundreds of fully detailed, step-by-step guides for every aspect of starting and maintaining a small business.

**ACCESS:** To computer and business-related software, including QuickBooks Pro, Business Plan Pro, Loan Builder, Microsoft Office, and more.

**EDUCATION:** Workshops include QuickBooks, Writing a Business Plan, SEED Commercial, Social Media Series, DCAMM Certification, and more.

(508) 586-0500 metrosouthchamber.com/resources/business-assistance.

### Major Sponsors:



## When Metro South is Home, Everything's Within Reach

Hundreds of Dining Options • Great Conference Space  
Over 500 Hotel Rooms • Many Parks & Lakes



The Metro South region offers the best of all worlds; cultural and corporate advantages, natural beauty, and the serenity of historic New England.

The region features **top notch education**, including three institutes of higher education, **exceptional health care** facilities, including four major hospitals. **Rich in culture**, the region is also home to symphonies, a craft museum, children's museum, and various historic museums. It also contains many **recreational activities**, including baseball outings, golfing and many parks and lakes for walking, biking, and fishing. With over 500 hotel rooms, the Metro South region is a **great place to stay** and competitive housing costs offer affordable and varied living opportunities.

Whether for Business or Pleasure, The Metro South region provides exceptional value in the heart of Eastern Massachusetts, centrally located between Boston, Providence, Plymouth and Cape Cod. *Ride the rail to Boston in only 35 minutes!* Call 508.586.0500 for your free map.



**Metro South Regional Economic Development Organization**  
For more info, contact the Metro South Chamber of Commerce,  
508.586.0500 • www.metroouthchamber.com



## BUSINESS EVENTS *Planner*

**April 06**

**Ambassador Meeting**

9:00AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Want to become a Chamber Ambassador and advocate for the Metro South business community? Contact Cathryn at CSchofield@metrosouthchamber.com

**April 12**

**"Business Fundamentals"**

10:00AM

Virtual webinar offered by SEED Corp.

Free "Business Entrepreneurial Workshop" series, learn the fundamentals of planning, preparing for and financing a small business.

Register: seedcorp.com/events

**April 14**

**"Understanding Business Financials"**

10:00AM

Virtual webinar offered by SEED Corp.

Free "Business Entrepreneurial Workshop" series, learn how to read a balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement, and keep on top of business finances.

Register: seedcorp.com/events

**April 21**

**"Apply for Diversity Certification as a MA-based Business"**

10:00AM

Virtual webinar offered by SDO

The Supplier Diversity Office certifies companies as Massachusetts Minority Business Enterprises (MBE), Women Business Enterprises (WBE), Veteran Business Enterprises (VBE), and Portuguese Business Enterprises (PBE)

Register: metrosouthchamber.com/event/sdo-pre-certification/