

# Actionreport



*October* **2024** 

www.metrosouthchamber.com

#### 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.





September Chamber Programming · Page 6



U.S. Chamber Economist Predicts Economy in New Year Under New U.S. President; Come Hear His Thoughts @ Chamber Annual Meeting, Nov. 20

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## Secretary of Transportation, MassDOT on Housing & Transit Panel Oct. 17

Thursday, October 17 | 8:30AM - 11:30AM | Showcase Cinema de Lux | 73 Mazzeo Drive, Randolph

Please join us on Thursday, October 17th at Showcase Cinema de Lux, 73 Mazzeo Drive in Randolph for a Metro South of Boston Summit with the New England Real Estate Journal. The Chamber is partnering with NEREJ to bring you an engaging event discussing topics such as Opportunity Zones, new housing and redevelopment, transportation, improving infrastructure, and building the future of the Metro South region. Regional leaders participating include Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt from MassDOT; Rachel Heller, CHAPA; Mike Lambert, Brockton Area Transit; Peter Lewis, Schochet; Paul Mahoney, Hajjar Management; and Stephen DiPrete, South Shore Bank. The panel will be moderated by Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University



TRINITY MANAGEMENT

President. This event is sponsored by Trinity Development and Management. Cont. on page 2.

# Oct 24: Business Panel & After Hours Networking at BSU

Thursday, October 24 | 4-7:15PM | Bridgewater State University





Learn more on page 2 or scan the QR code above to register for one or both segments!

# Nov 20: 111th Annual Meeting & Expo with U.S. Chamber Economist

Adult & Teen Challenge Center | 1315 Main Street, Brockton



What will the new administration and new year bring for the economy? Find out either way, join us November 20th in Brockton to hear predictions from U.S. Chamber Chief Economist, Curtis Dubay. See page 5 for details.



REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!





Annual Meeting Guest Speaker: Cheif Economist U.S. Chamber of Commerce - Curtis Dubay

# Gather Health Ribbon Cutting October 10 in Brockton





#### Ribbon Cutting Ceremony 179 Quincy St, Brockton, MA

Meet the Gather Team
 Special Guest:
 Mayor Robert Sullivan

- Community Leaders
   Tour our new facility
- Tour our new facilityRefreshment

Join us Thursday,
October 10 from
11:30AM-1:30PM as we
welcome Gather Health

to Metro South! With locations in Quincy, Lynn, and Dorchester, Gather Health has recently expanded their community of care providers to a new location at 179 Quincy Street in Brockton. Scan the QR code to register and learn more!

## Election Day is November 5

Local elections will take place on Tuesday, November 5. Show your support for your local community and candidates by performing this important civic duty. To learn about your polling locations, visit www.sec.state.ma.us/WhereDoIVoteMA/WhereDoIVote or scan code below.





**ACTION Report October 2024** www.metrosouthchamber.com

Thursday, October 24 | 4-7:15PM | Bridgewater State University, Rondileau Student Center



Please join us on Thursday, October 24th for an entrepreneurial business panel followed by an evening of networking at Bridgewater State University! The panel afterhours are separate segments, please register for one or both online. Contact Hannah McGuire at events@metrosouthchamber. com for assistance.

The business panel will take place from 4-5PM in Rondileau Student Center (RSU) Room 119 and feature Dan Evans, Evan's Machine Company; and Jeni Mather,

JM Pet Resort & Veterinary Clinic with support from Jay Pike, CPA, Citrin Cooperman. (Additional panelists TBA). After hours networking will follow from 5-7:15PM in RSU Room 201 where attendees will enjoy complimentary hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

Rita Mendes, Founder Mendes Law Group: By all accounts Rita Mendes has a remarkable story, one which I look forward to hearing first hand. Arriving in the Boston area at a young age, she made heroic and challenging decisions to stay in this country to better her future, and she certainly made the most of her opportunities. She is now an Attorney, State Representative, and the Founder of the Mendes Law Group designed to serve the people of Massachusetts who need her services the most. She is now making a better future for all in Massachusetts.

Dan Evans, Owner EMI: Evans Machine, Inc. has an expansive facility in Brockton. I had the pleasure of visiting EMI's location in the heart of the City recently and it is full of state of the art equipment. To call it a machine shop is less than a fair characterization. If I counted, there were close to 75 machines, many the size of a large truck with costs in the millions. I was also impressed by the pleasant work culture as evidenced by the over 75 employees, many who count their time at EMI in years.

Jeni Mather, Owner of JM Pet Resort & Veterinary Clinic: Located in Brockton, JM Pet Resort & Veterinary Clinic has a recently expanded facility on the outskirts of Brockton. When I last visited JM Pet Resort, the place was over flowing with an energetic staff and many happy pets in their care. Anyone familiar with Jenni or JM Pet knows they are continuously winning awards for their remarkable standards of care and best in class status.

Vanessa Rios, Owner VR Tailoring & Dry Cleaners: Like many business owners, Vaness Rios traveled a difficult road on her way to success. From watching her family work as stitchers & tailors, she has successfully built a niche business in Easton while leaning on several key mentors, including her father. While on the surface VR Tailoring & Dry Cleaners may appear as an ordinary dry cleaner, Vanessa and her team have transitioned the business from start-up just over 5 years ago into the premier resource for tailoring & alterations in the area.

Please scan the QR Code above to register and for a map of BSU's campus, we recommend planning to arrive early to accommodate for time to locate reserved parking.

## Business Panel, After Hours Networking at BSU 10/24 Transportation Secretary Tibbits-Nutt, CHAPA, BSU, BAT, Schochet, Hajjar Mamt, and more 10/17 in Randolph

Thursday, October 17 | 8:30AM - 11:30AM | Showcase Cinema de Lux | 73 Mazzeo Drive, Randolph









Clark, President of Bridgewater State University





Peter Lewis, The Paul Mahoney, Schochet Companies Hajjar Management South Shore Bank



Stephen DiPrete,



Brockton Area









Registration required this event. In-person attendance is \$99 and includes breakfast plus time for networking. Visit metrosouthchamber. com/events/chamber to register, or scan the QR code above. Questions? Contact Hannah McGuire at events@ metrosouthchamber.com or call (508)

586-0500 x231 for assistance.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS: Visit metrosouthchamber.com/events/ chamber for full bios on each speaker.

Monica G. Tibbits-Nutt is the Secretary of Transportation and CEO of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT).

As Secretary, she is responsible for the four divisions of MassDOT: Highway, Rail and Transit, the Registry of Motor Vehicles, and Aeronautics. In this position, she also serves on the Massport and MBTA Board of Directors.

Tibbits-Nutt was previously appointed Undersecretary of Transportation by Governor Healey in January 2023, before being sworn in as Acting Secretary for Transportation in September. As Undersecretary, she led the effort to stand up the first-ever Office of Transportation and Climate Planning and Policy. Tibbits-Nutt previously served on both the MassDOT Board of Directors and as the Vice-Chair of the Fiscal Management and Control Board (FMCB) that oversaw the MBTA from 2015-2021.

Areas of specialty include regional and transportation planning, urban design, and transit equity. In both her work and research, she is particularly interested in capitalizing upon every opportunity to better educate transportation stakeholders and the public about all aspects of the planning process. As part of this focus on education, she serves as the Vice President of the non-profit Youth Engagement Planning (YEP!), which brings urban planning and community advocacy into K-12 environments. (Continued on...metrosouthchamber.com/ event/housing-transit-summit-with-nerej)

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS**

Chair of the Board
Richard Hynes, Barbour Corporation

President and CEO
Christopher Cooney, CCE, MPA, Metro South
Chamber of Commerce

Chair-Elect

Dan Evans, Evans Machine Co., Inc.

Treasurer
Gregory Hart, CPA, Summer St Financial Advisors

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carol Chin - McDonald's Franchisee

Todd Copeland - Copeland Auto Group

Donald Donnalson - Beantown Builders, Inc.

Nelson Fernandes - Nvidius Consulting

Robert Haffey - Signature Healthcare

Chuck Jones - Harbor Health

Kelly Mallory - Mallory Headsets, Inc.

Matthew Osborne - Eastern Bank

#### **CHAMBER STAFF**

Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM, MPA President and CEO x 223

rresident and CEU X 223

Emma (Stratton) Penardi
VP of Communications & Special Projects x 222

Hannah McGuire Programs & Events Coordinator x 231

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**

Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087 tel: (508) 586-0500 info@metrosouthchamber.com www.metrosouthchamber.com Vice Chair Economic Development

George Spilios, Crown Uniform & Linen Service

Vice Chair Government Affairs
Sue Joss, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center

Vice Chair Community Affairs Jeni Mather, JM Pet Resort

Vice Chair Membership Development
Mike Lambert, Brockton Area Transit Authority

Immediate Past Chair Joseph Casey, HarborOne Bank

Jay Pike, CPA - Citrin Cooperman

Albert Senesie - Victory Human Services

Doug Smith - Stonehill College

Rich Spencer - North Easton Savings Bank

Andrew St. Pierre - Brockton Plumbing & Heating Supply

**David Teixeira-** The Mattress Maker of New England

(508) 586-0500 Front Desk x 221

**Development & Retention - NOW HIRING!** Membership x 229

Theresa Lobo-Albin Finance x 230

Newsletter Written & Designed by Emma Penardi. Printing Provided by The Enterprise.

#### ACTION Report Volume 24 - Issue 9

(USPS-410630) is published monthly except for combined July/August for \$5.00 per year by the Metro South Chamber of Commerce, Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087. Periodical Postage Paid at Brockton, MA.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Action Report, Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087

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 SPACE AVAILABLE

## CHAMBER Calendar



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

3:00pm

12:00pm

## **October**

80

This is a virtual meeting

**O9** Chamber Ambassador Meeting 9:00am *This is a virtual meeting* 

**Ribbon Cutting: Gather Health** 11:30am 179 Quincy Street, Brockton

17 Housing & Transit Summit with NEREJ 8:30am Showcase Cinema de Lux: 73 Mazzeo Drive, Randolph

**23** Board Meeting 12:00pm Metro South Chamber: 60 School Street, Brockton

**24** Business After Hours & Entrepreneur Panel 4:00pm Bridgewater State University: 131 Summer Street, Bridgewater

## **November**

20 111th Annual Meeting & B2B Expo

**Executive Board Meeting** 

B2B Expo: 10:30am-12:00pm & 1:45pm-3:00pm Adult & Teen Challenge: 1315 Main Street, Brockton

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 events@metrosouthchamber.com

METRO Leading Businesses.
SOUTH
CHAMBER OF Leading Communities.

#### Impact.

It takes the right tools to start or grow a business. And it takes customers to keep business growing.

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce builds strong businesses and communities by connecting you to new customers and suppliers, as well as to those who influence the local economy and quality of life.

Access to the right tools. One more way the Chamber makes an impact.

To join the chamber call 508.586.0500 or visit www.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

Members - send Good News to estratton@metrosouthchamber.com

Sponsored by: Good Samaritan Medical Center

#### MSBDC Online Training Calendar - visit msbdc.org/ training to register

- 10/16: Effective Networking for Entrepreneurs
- 10/17: How to Start a Business 101: The Basics

#### Cultural Affairs and Tourism Meeting - Oct 10

The Brockton Cultural Affairs and Tourism meeting will be held on Thursday, October 10, 2024 beginning at 6:00 p.m. at North Baptist Church, 899 N Main Street. The meeting is also held on ZOOM. Come learn about what is going on in the city or make your announces known. This meeting is recorded and played on Brockton Community Access. For more information please contact Anne at 74-297-4939 or ambeauregard@ outlook.com

#### **Brockton Garden Club Meeting - Oct 28**

The Brockton Garden Club will hold their October meeting on Monday, October 28, 2024 with doors opening at 6:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, intersection of West St and Torrey St. The speaker this month is Blake Dinius (we were blessed to have him before) on mosquitoes and Triple EEE. Also, we will have soil testing available for those interested, for more details on what is required for your sample contact Claire at clacla@aol.com. These meetings are always free to the public and begin about 7 p.m. For more information please contact Anne at 74-297-4939 or ambeauregard@outlook.com

#### Cybersecurity Awareness Month - Webinar Oct 10



Protect your business from increasing cyber attacks; learn strategies to be resilient and secure. Learn cost-

effective strategies to protect your business, get expert advice on compliance and incident response, network with MA Small Business Development Center and other small business owners.

#### **Brockton Farmers Market Continues through** October 25



Visit the Brockton Farmers Market through now October at their NEW LOCATION City

Hall VFW Parkway in downtown Brockton, Fridays 10AM-2PM.

#### In 2025, Merrimack Valley Credit Union & Bridgewater Credit Union will rebrand as "BrightBridge Credit Union"







"The Merrimack Valley Credit Union name is

very specific to one region, one part of our history. It does not reflect the many communities that we now serve—which has grown significantly over the last several years! Currently, our credit union family includes 115,000 members primarily Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island. Our new name will unify our membership, branches and team members and strengthen our credit union family." Visit mvcu.com/ brightbridge to learn more.

#### Brockton Symphony Orchestra presents "Primal Power" - Oct 20



Our season opener, Primal Power, juxtaposes the raw strength of Beethoven's Prometheus the lush fjords of Sibelius' Third Symphony and the pyrotechnics of Vieuxtemps' Fourth Violin Concerto. October 20th, 3PM @ Christ Congregational Church in Brockton. Get tickets at brocktonsymphony.org

#### Honoring Vincent Macrina's Lifetime Commitment to the Arts - Oct 19, Rotary Club & BPS Music The Brockton Rotary Club, in

conjunction with the Brockton Public School's Music Department, cordially invites you to a night honoring Vincent lifetime commitment Macrina's to the arts. Join us in appreciating



his invaluable contributions to the artistic community. The evening will feature life music performances.



Proceeds to benefit a scholarship in Vincent Macrina's name.

#### Massasoit Theatre Company Student Ensemble presents "Lizzie Borden of Fall River" Oct 25-27





The Lizzie Borden case is without parallel in the criminal history of America, and it divided public opinion as no

murder trial had ever done. Did the strong-willed, intelligent Lizzie dispatch her father and stepmother with an axe one fateful August morning, or was she the innocent victim of circumstance? The setting of the play is the Borden residence in Fall River, Massachusetts. The fascinating cast of characters are each involved, in some way, with the tragedy. All along the way, the audience is gripped by suspense as clues fall in and out of place. This American mystery favorite will run for one weekend only for three shows October 25-27th at the Buckley Performing Arts Center on the Brockton campus of Massasoit Community College.

#### Oct 13 is Your Last Chance to See "Brockton Youth Creates 2024" at Fuller Craft Museum

View the creativity and artistic excellence of Brockton High School students as part of the Fuller Craft



Museum's biennial. With pieces representing grade

levels, this group of work highlights the power of young voices, celebrating their individuality and reflecting on the wider world. From whimsical teapots to dystopian illustrations, this exhibition offers insight into the joys, anxieties, and goals of the next generation of makers. Brockton Youth Creates exhibition is on display through October 13, 2024. Visit fullercraft.org for details.

#### Pick Your Own Apples, Pumpkins, Corn Mazes and more fun Fall festivities in and around Metro South!



Smith C.N.Farm: 325 South St, East Bridgewater. Langwater

Farm: 215 Washington St, North Easton. Vineyard Farm Corn Maze: E Center St #175, West Bridgewater. Pakeen Farm: 109 Elm Street, Canton. Nihtila Farm: 12 Nihtila Lane, Holbrook. Elliot Farm: 202 Main St, Lakeville. Sauchuk's Corn Maze & Pumpkin Patch: 200 Center St, Plympton.

#### Oct 23 - Knocktoberfest with New England Knockouts @ Campanelli Stadium in Brockton



**□**₩₩ Join the Knockouts for an evening at the ballpark with networking with local businesses:

beer, classic ballpark food, meet & greet, stadium tour, and more.





## **UMassAmherst**

Donahue Institute

## 111th ANNUAL meeting

November 20, 2024







Reserve your space now **SCAN TO REGISTER** 

Bring Your Team!
Gain Insight, Be Inspired

Wednesday, November 20 | 10:30AM - 3:00PM | Adult & Teen Challenge Center | 1315 Main Street, Brockton

Join us on Wednesday, November 20th at the Adult & Teen Challenge Center, located at 1315 Main Street in Brockton, for the 111th Annual Meeting and B2B Expo. Meet other business people & community leaders by attending the Annual Meeting to celebrate businesses working together for the future of the Metro South Region. The Annual Meeting will feature Curtis Dubay, Chief Economist for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, as well as networking, awards, and giveaways.





Chief Economist, U.S. Chamber of Commerce - Curtis Dubay

Curtis Dubay, chief economist in the Economic Policy Division at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, tracks the condition of the economy, analyzes the impact of public policy on economic growth, and runs the Chamber's Chief Economists Committee. The committee consists of chief economists from member businesses. It helps the Chamber formulate economic policies and provides analysis to policymakers in Washington, D.C.

Previously, Dubay was senior economist at the American Bankers Association where he worked on tax issues and followed the economic trends affecting the banking industry. Prior to ABA, he was a research fellow in tax and economic policy where he researched and published on tax and economic policy issues.

Earlier in his career, Dubay worked at PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) in the firm's transfer pricing division structuring international transactions, and before that at the Tax Foundation where he authored three widely recognized and cited reports: Tax Freedom Day, State-Local Tax Burdens, and The State Business Tax Climate Index.

Dubay received his master's degree in economics from the University of Connecticut and his bachelor's degree in economics and leadership studies

## 10 Businesses Recognized with Economic Impact Awards

- 1. Air Energy Group 105 Industrial Blvd, Brockton
- 2. Egan Development "Hanson Crossing" @ 999 Main Street, Hanson
- 3. Giana Restaurant and Bar 3 Roosevelt Circle, South Easton
- 4. Kids and Company 647 Main Street, Randolph
- 5. Massasoit Community College 230 Main Street, Brockton

- 6. Natural Agricultural Products 1437 Bedford Street, Abington
- 7. New England Knockouts 1 Feinberg Way, Brockton
- 8. Salo Bar and Grill 810 Main Street, Brockton
- 9. Signature Medical Group 1 Compass Way, East Bridgewater
- 10. Stoneridge Mutual Properties "Centre Station" @ 127 Centre Street, **Brockton**

from the University of Richmond. He resides in Washington, D.C., with his wife and three sons.

The cost to attend is \$129 for members and \$159 for future members. Tables of 10 are available for \$1290/members and \$1590/non-members. Expo booths are available for \$499/members and \$599/non-members. For information and to reserve your ticket, contact Hannah McGuire at events@ metrosouthchamber.com or call (508) 586-0500 x 231.

#### Contributing Sponsors & Partners:



















#### Business-2-Business Expo Participants:

#### Expo Tables WILL SELL OUT! Reserve your space now. Email Hannah to be added to the waitlist events@metrosouthchamber.com

Better Business Bureau Brewster Ambulance Service **Bridgewater State University Brockton Area Transit Authority** Brookmeadow at Blue Hills **Burgess Pest Management** Cruise Planners by Jojo Eastern Bank Father Bill's & MainSpring HarborOne Bank House of Possibilities **Hub Technical Services** Luke Jackson Beneift & HR Solutions **IM Pet Resort** 

Massasoit Community College MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane Norfolk County Sheriff's Office North Easton Savings Bank OCES - Old Colony Elder Services Rockland Federal Credit Union **SCORE** SCU Credit Union South Shore Bank **UMass Donahue Institute** U.S. Small Business Administration

#### Corporate Table Sponsors:

Abington Bank Bank of America **Barbour Corporation** Bluestone Bank **Bridgewater State University** Copeland Toyota Crown Uniform and Linen Service Eastern Bank The Enterprise Father Bill's & MainSpring HarborOne Bank **Hub Technical Services** 

**IM Pet Resort** Massasoit Community College MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board Norfolk County Sheriff's Office North Easton Savings Bank OCES - Old Colony Elder Services Rockland Trust Company SCU Credit Union South Shore Bank **UMass Donahue Institute** 

## Access to Financial Education and Business Resources 34th Annual Legislative Reception at Stonehill Highlighted by Treasurer's Office at Chamber Luncheon









Rockland Trust helped us kick off the Good Day Metro South season at Grow Associates in Randolph with special

guest speaker Massachusetts State Treasurer & Receiver General, Deborah B. Goldberg.

Maria Celli, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center Duputy CEO interviewed our event sponsor, Rockland Trust's Jeff Hansel, First VP, SBA Market Executive / SBA Director; as well as our host sponsor, Grow Associates' client and Randolph High School graduate, Tara who through Grow's Supported Employment Program, has worked at Shaw's Supermarket for over 20 years.

Treasurer Goldberg provided an overview of programs offered and supported by the Office of the Treasurer, including the Office of Economic Empowerment, BabySteps Savings Plan, Financial Education, Veterans' Bonus Division, and the Small Business Resource Toolkit.

Small businesses are essential to our economy. The Small Business Resource Toolkit is a comprehensive platform designed to support planning, management, and growth of a company. Entrepreneurs can find valuable tools and resources to achieve economic stability and contribute to the flourishing landscape in Massachusetts. The toolkit includes features such as grant opportunities, training tools, strategies for growth, and accounting resources. Visit masstreasury.org or smallbusinessma.org to learn more.

Photos courtesy of Rich Morgan Photography. Please visit metrosouthchamber.com/news-media/blog/ to view more photos and a video recording from this event courtesy of BCA - Brockton Community Access.



Grow Associates, located at 68 Mazzeo Drive in Randolph



Susan Daileader, Rockland Trust and Marie Fred Fleurime, Holiday Inn Express



Karen Dayton and Jim Murphy, South Shore Bank



Reiko McNeil, Bluestone Bank: Joanne Denver Gibbs: Gibbs Software Solutions: Tully, South Shore Bank; and Marge Paul Meoni, Randolph DEI; and Jim Cycan, Grow Associates Breton, Office of Senator Mike Brady



Massachusetts State Treasurer & Receiver General, Deborah B. Goldberg



Maria Celli interviewed Grow Associates'

client Tara, who works at Shaws through

**Grow's Supported Employment Program** 

Maria Celli interviewed our sponsor, Rockland Trust's Jeff Hansel



## LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION



Sponsors & Partners:







Stonehill College hosted the Metro South Chamber's 34th Annual Legislative Reception in October. Photos courtesy of Rich Morgan Photography. Please visit metrosouthchamber.com/news-media/blog/ to view more photos and a video recording from this event courtesy of BCA - Brockton Community



State Representiive Gerry Cassidy; and John Buckley Jr. Esq. Registrar, Plymouth County Register of Deeds



Joanne Schneider, Eastern Bank; Jorane Joseph, Jessie Duterrier, and Rosalinde Joseph, Sother Divine Care



Richard Hooke, SCU Credit Union; Emma Penardi, Metro South Chamber; and Rich Hynes, Barbor Corporation



Ann Rein, Hanson Select Board; Lori Childs, Rockland Select Board; and Laura FitzGerald Kemmett, Hanson Select Board



Marina Oliveira, South Shore Bank: Felicita Sepulveda, Cape Verdean Association Brockton; Marcy Venezia, GleeWorks Holistic Coaching



Jeff North Easton Savings Bank; State Rep Ted Philips; State Rep Gerry Cassidy; Sue Joss, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center



Olivia Teixeira and Jonathan Creque, Office of U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren Barbor Corporation



Senator Mike Brady; and Rich Hynes,



Frank Lyman, Town of Whitman; Stonehill President John Denning



Connor Read, Easton Town Administrator; and Chris Cooney, Metro South Chamber of Commerce



Eric Beckerman and Shanna Faro, Town of Avon; Lisa Green, Town of Hanson Administrator



Doug Smith, Stonehill College; Bill Callahan (Realty); and Kevin Bower, **SCU Credit Union** 



Tompkins, Grow Associates; Jim Breton,

Rockland Trust; Marie Celli, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center; and Chamber Chair Rich Hynes, Barbour Corporation

## Gain Exposure with Information Boards, Space Limited Chamber Hosts United Way Awareness Session

Gain business exposure while supporting the revitalization of the city of Brockton by sponsoring a space on the Brockton Information Boards!

The Brockton Information Boards (BIBs) feature local attractions such as the Fuller Craft Museum, Campanelli Stadium, Brockton Historical Society and History Trail, Fairgrounds, City Hall Plaza, and important monuments within the city. At the center of the boards is a map of Brockton containing major routes, transportation services,

schools, and train stations.

realize the "hidden gems".

BIBs

growth in Brockton.

locations on left!)

Downtown

to recent

For

while

The

The BIBS were created to

provide an appealing and

practical way to assist people in their navigation of Brockton

showcasing

Champions" by promoting area

logo, contact information, and

Brockton

0500 x 222, estratton@

metrosouthchamber.

information,

and

developments such as Enterprise Block, and City Hall Plaza, the Boards are sure to receive increased attention.

more contact Emma Penardi (508) 586-

com.

support

local

#### **BOARD LOCATIONS**

\*2 NEW BOARDS ADDED!



BAT Bus Stop at Westgate Mall near Market Basket 200 Westgate Drive



**Brockton Historical Society** 216 North Pearl Street/Route 27



Fuller Craft Museum 455 Oak Street



BAT Intermodal Centre (2 Boards), Corner of Commercial & Centre Street





Metro South Chamber & City Hall School Street



Downtown Parking Garage Corner of Main & Crescent Street



Downtown Commuter Rail, Commercial Street, Police Station





Attendees were treated to lunch and a musical moment with United Way GPC President & CEO. Dennis Carman.



Way 👺 United Way of

Chamber members United Way of Greater Plymouth County held a Lunch & Learn at the MSCC last

month. Folks from the community tuned in to hear from UWGPC President & CEO Dennis Carman, and Resource Development Director Jared Rogers as they outlined United Ways mission and current and future community goals.

The United Way is actively seeking interested businesses to participate in investing in the community and furthering their mission of providing access to housing, health and youth services, and more. Visit www.uwgpc.org to learn more.

Want to host a workshop of your own at the Chamber? Contact Hannah McGuire at events@ metrosouthchamber.com or call (508) 586-0500 x231.

U.S. Chamber **Economist Predicts Economy in** Under New President; Come Hear His Thoughts @ Chamber Annual Meeting, November 20





# Brockton Area Transit Celebrates 50 Years of Service with Customer Appreciation Day, Electric BAT Bus Unveiling!

Please join Brockton Area Transit's riders, friends, and staff in celebrating BAT's 50th Anniversary at the upcoming Customer Appreciation Day. In addition BAT will be unveiling their new battery electric bus – generously funded by our partners at the Federal Transit Administration, MassDOT, and member communities. All are invited to attend!

The event will take place outdoors at 155 Court Street in Brockton on Friday, October 18th from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM and feature fresh apple cider doughnuts, food, music, bus walk-throughs, and giveaways. Visit ridebat. com to learn more.



## **New Metro South Guide Now Available!**



The Metro South Chamber's 2024/2025 Regional Guide and Member Directory is here! Designed to encourage in-state support for our local businesses, especially those effected by the COVID-19 pandemic; shop local, and support small businesses!

Our member businesses, among the finest in their

respective fields, are featured in this 100 page publication. Their appreciation of you as consumers, employees, and customers has never been greater. In turn, it is so important for us to remember how vital these local businesses are to our American way of life and our great democracy. More than ever, they need our recognition and support!

While you are here, you can visit the extraordinary Fuller Craft Museum, enjoy the acclaimed Brockton Symphony Orchestra, cheer on the Brockton Rox at Campanelli Stadium, and grab a drink at the new Brockton Beer brewery downtown! With plentiful hotel rooms and within easy reach of Boston, Providence, Plymouth and Cape Cod, you will find many fun shopping experiences, peaceful parks, dynamic sporting events and rich cultural activities all within reach. If you are new to this region, we aim to inform you. If you live here, we want to remind you. If you do business here, we wish to thank you.

Want your business or advertisement to be included in the next publication? Call for Membership! (508) 586-0500 x229 or visit metrosouthchamber.com

## Fall 2024 Career & Job Fair - MassHire, Veterans

MassHireGreaterBrockton Career Center, in partnership with the Office of Veterans Services will host a Fall 2024 Career Fair at Massasoit Community College, Thursday, October 17th from 11:00AM-1:30PM at 1 Massasoit Blvd in Brockton. Preference will be given to Veterans and their family members. This is a great opportunity to network with employers and gather community and educational resources as you continue to explore your career path.

Meet recruiters in person, bring your resume and dress for success. Thursday, October 17th 11am – 1:30pm in the Student Union at Massasoit Community College Brockton's Campus.



# Pilgrim Foundation Offers Scholarships in Education to Bridgewater State University Students from Brockton

Developing a home-grown teacher workforce in Brockton Public Schools that represents the diversity of the city is the goal of a new partnership between the Pilgrim Foundation, Bridgewater State University, and the city. A memorandum of understanding has been signed by Reinald G. Ledoux J., president of the Pilgrim Foundation, Frederick W. Clark Jr., president of BSU, and Brockton Mayor Robert F. Sullivan to support city students interested in pursuing an undergraduate degree in teacher education at BSU.

The Pilgrim Foundation, through its Educator Scholarship Program, has committed to supporting BSU students from Brockton with \$5,000 yearly scholarships for four years. Up to five students a year who are eligible will receive a Pilgrim Scholarship. The students will also be supported by Pell Grants and private philanthropy efforts led by the BSU Foundation.

"The Pilgrim Foundation is pleased to partner with President Fred Clark of Bridgewater State University and Mayor Robert Sullivan of the City of Brockton on a new program offering funding for Brockton residents seeking to become teachers of the future," said Mr. Ledoux, foundation president.

As for the city's role, Mayor Sullivan has agreed to identify economically disadvantaged students in the city who are seeking to further their education to become educators of the future. "Inclusion and engagement have always been paramount to the success of Brockton as a city as well as within its school system," said Mayor Sullivan. "Brockton is a majority ALANA (African American, Latinx, and Native American) community and has historically been welcoming to a plethora of ethnicities."

Demographically, the Brockton has 33.7 percent teachers of color and 87.8 percent students of color. "It is critical to the success of our students that they been 'seen' during their educational career. This program is a great step forward in accomplishing our collective efforts, and I am most appreciative to the foundation and BSU." Under the direction of President Clark, BSU has been actively engaged in Grow Your Own Teacher initiatives with other Gateway Cities in Southeastern Massachusetts..." visit www.bridgew.edu/alumni/about/bsu-foundation to learn more.

## South Shore Bank Welcomes Business Banker, Cato





Ren Cato has joined South Shore Bank as a Senior Business Banker. With over two decades of experience in business development and relationship management across various financial institutions, Ren brings a wealth of expertise to his new role.

"We're excited to welcome someone of Ren's caliber and enthusiasm to our business banking team," stated Stephen DiPrete, Chief Commercial Banking Officer. "He truly understands how to work effectively with small businesses through all stages of their growth."

"South Shore Bank is the perfect match for me. Being a locally based bank allows me to leverage local decision-makers

to provide prompt and informed service to my clients," said Ren. "As I build new partnerships and introduce new businesses to the Bank, I am fully confident that, along with our exceptional support team, we will deliver the solutions necessary for their success."

Ren is well-acquainted with the local market, holding an MBA from Curry College in Milton, Massachusetts. He lives on the South Shore and has spent his career serving the South Shore and Metro West regions.

Ren will be primarily based in the bank's Stoughton office where he will focus on the Route 24 corridor and surrounding areas. To learn more, visit southshorebank.com.

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







FOR THE LIFE OF YOUR BUSINESS

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.score.org, www.sema.score.org, www.boston.score.org, or by calling (508) 587-2673. Ahead for the month and beyond...

October 8: Loans, Grants and Other Funding Options for Women-Owned Business

October 10: A Business Guide to Reporting Beneficial Ownership Information

October 16: Website Planning 101

**October 17:** Leverage ChatGPT and AI Tools to Increase Productivity

**October 21:** *Intellectual Property: It's More Than Patents* 

October 22: How to Craft a Compelling Sales Message for Your Business

**October 24:** *Mastering Shopify for Small Business Owners* 

**October 29:** The 5 Best Pricing Methods - How to Choose a Pricing Strategy

## **Metro South Commercial Real Estate Spotlight**







Montello Street, Brockton Restaurant bar with full liquor and State Lottery licenses with real estate. Located **Brockton** near Commuter Rail and

Downtown amenities. 2772 sq ft., 2 parking space, 0.08 acres. Contact Steve Damon (508) 962 4255



#### 155 Crescent Street, Brockton

Approx. 10,000 sq. ft. mixed-use development with 6 residential units and 2 commercial units (first floor) in the heart of downtown Brockton. 5 minute walk to the commuter rail. High ceilings with lots of natural light. Project completion expected within 45 days. Great opportunity with

cash flow upwards of \$200k+ per year. Seller may consider partial owner financing on agreed upon terms. Contact Stacy Norrell (855) 722 -9222



#### 23 North Pearl, Brockton

Great income-producing office building with growth potential. Split-level, raised ranch style. The entire ground floor is occupied and rented by DMD with a long and strong rental history. The upper level consists of 3 law offices, 1 conference room, 1 common reception area, one

large file room and 2 bathrooms (total 3 bathrooms). All offices are currently occupied (2 of 3 paying office space rent). Rents are inclusive of office costs. Easily accessible corner lot with ample parking for 21+ cars. Low maintenance exterior. Contact Steve Damon (508) 962 4255





#### \*Opportunity Zone\* 105 Pleasant St, Brockton

Opportunity for a community church in Brockton! Lots of renovations and updates over the past 5 years, including exterior siding, new fencing, the addition of a new music room, full remodel in basement, interior entrance

> redesigned, interior painting and additional support on the ceiling structure. Contact Brian Droukas (508) 458-5000



## Attend Important Business & Community Programs with Your Chamber Season Tickets! Order Ahead

# SECURE YOUR SEAT FOR THE 2024 - 2025 SEASO

The new season of Metro South Chamber events is about to begin, and we want you to be there! Reserve your 2024 - 2025 Season Ticket now and get access to events all year long. The season ticket includes:

- Now including the Legislative Reception
- All Good Morning Metro South Programs (5 Programs, \$195 value)
- All Business After Hours (12, up to \$60 value)
- Annual Legislative Luncheon (\$39 value)
- ATHENA Award Luncheon (\$39 value)
- Small Business Awards Luncheon (\$39 value)
- 1 Taste of Metro South Ticket (\$35 value)

All for just \$299 (Savings of 26% +)

#### SEASON TICKET AND ADDITIONAL SAVINGS OPTIONS

Season Ticket: # Discounted Tickets x \$299 = \$

Contact Hannah McGuire at events@metrosouthchamber.com or call (508)  $586-0500 \times 231$  for more information.

## Now Hiring: Membership Development & Retention



Are you positive, organized, committed to business & community development, and have a love for the greater Brockton area? Join our team as Membership Development Specialist! Email resume and cover letter to info@metrosouthchamber.com.

Job Summary: The Membership Development Specialist is responsible for promoting the Chamber and its products and services to prospective and existing members. Sales of membership to prospects and retention of existing members are the key functions of this position. They will identify prospects, determine their needs, communicate the Chamber's value and establish professional relationships with area businesses and organizations. The Membership Development Specialist must be able to conduct "high-level" business interactions independently and as part of a coordinated team.

This is an excellent opportunity to invite businesses to join and engage in the chamber community by strengthening local ties in Brockton and beyond, while gaining a deep understanding of regional economic progress and the competitive developing future of the Metro South region.

## **RENEWING** Members!

## Thank you!

A Phone Jack Systems, Inc. Anania Plumbing & Heating, Inc. Copeland Chevrolet Copeland Toyota Curtin Bros. Oil **DedhamSavings** Family & Community Resources, Inc. Hajjar Management Co., Inc. Heights Crossing Assisted Living Independence Associates, Inc. Makeovers Salon & Spa

Mayflower Junction HR Consulting MPZ Development LLC Residence Inn by Marriott Boston/Brockton St. Joseph Manor Health Care, Inc. Sulmonte & Frenier, LLP T. White Creations The Charity Guild, Inc. The Ockers Company, Inc. Trufant Real Estate, Inc. Wright Technology Group

## **WELCOME** New Members!

## Reinvesting in Our Community

#### BrightPath Kids USA

Yveberthe George 955 Turnpike Street Canton, MA 02021 (959) 529-4864 brightpathkids.com Child Care

#### CertaPro Painters of Brockton Foxboro

Scott Kachmarik 29 Hampden Drive, Suite 1 South Easton, MA 02375 (508) 404-8447 certapro.com/foxboro Painting & Remodeling/Commercial

#### ConvenientMD Urgent Care

Stephen Munier 1285 Belmont Street, Suite 1 Brockton, MA 02301 (508) 894-7015 convenientmd.com Health Care

#### **Focus Technology**

Andrew Jameson 10 Post Office Square, Suite 1005 Boston, MA 02109 (857) 364-7737 focustsi.com IT Support Services

#### **JK Holmgren Engineering**

Scott Fara 1024 Pearl Street Brockton, MA 02301 (508) 583-2595 jkholmgren.com Engineering

#### For membership, contact:

(508) 586-0500 x 229

membership@metrosouthchamber.com

## SEED Corp. Offers Micro and Small Loan Programs



MORE INFO



7% fixed with flexible terms



Use of funds: Working capital; improvements/builtleasehold outs; inventory/supplies; real estate acquisitions (owned-occupied); furniture, fixtures, and equipment; refinancing business credit card debt

#### Call (508) 822-1020 x 312 or visit www.seedcorp.com





## **Access to Capital for Massachusetts Businesses**



Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) functions as a one-stop resource for debt financing for small businesses. MGCC drives economic growth through access to alternative funding, resources, and individualized services to identify and structure

solutions tailored to each small business in Massachusetts. The purpose of MGCC is to create and preserve jobs at small businesses. MGCC also works to promote economic development throughout the Commonwealth, with special paid attention to business needs in underserved areas and Gateway Cities. Their services include small business lending from \$100,000-\$200,000; microloans from \$5,000-\$100,000; small business technical assistance grant program for non-profit assistance providers; microlending operations support & CDFI lending capital matching funds grant program; and the biz-m-power crowdfunding matching grant program. Visit empoweringsmallbusiness.org to learn more.

## **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.

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

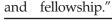
Avon, Massachusetts. For more information please visit avonindustrialpark.org.



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 for more information.



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 Please visit jointheebba.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 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 list norwell chamber of commerce commerce information.

entrepreneurship. Visit 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 for more information.

## 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 or call (508)  $586-0500 \times 230$ . To learn more about the Business Assistance Center (BAC) and available business resources, visit www.metrosouthchamber.com/resources/business-assistance. Individual counseling is available by appointment.

## Federal, State, and Regional Resources for Businesses



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.

# **Brockton Redevelopment Authority** Contact: Nathalie Jean (508) 586-3887

Center for Women & Enterprise Contact: Berlhey Narcisse (617) 532-0225

#### Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD)

Contact: Susan Whitaker (617) 620-1005

## Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network

Contact: Jill Beresford (508) 673-9783

(617) 720-3300

#### Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO) Contact: John Fitzpatrick

MassDevelopment Contact: Kelly Arvidson

(978) 784-2901

#### MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board Contact: Jason Hunter

Contact: Jason Hunter (508) 584-3234

(508) 513-3400

(508) 587-2673

#### MassHire Greater Brockton Career Center Contact: John Murray

**Old Colony Planning Council** Contact: Mary Waldron (508) 583-1833 ext. 202

#### SCORE Business Counselors Contact: Peter Smith

South Eastern Economic Development (SEED) Corporation Contact: Sue Murray (508) 822-1020

## **U.S. Small Business Administration** Contact: Shelly Gillis

(617) 565-5590

#### **BrightPath Kids USA**



955 Turnpike Street, Canton (959) 529-4864 • brightpathkids.com

Everything we stand for revolves around providing the very best care for your child and value to your family. Here at BrightPath, we understand just how tough the decision and transition can be to send your child to daycare. Who is going to look after my child? Will they be safe? What will they do all day? Are they going to be challenged? These are all questions we have wrestled with as parents. We would like you to consider us as an extension of your home; a caring and nurturing place where your child is intellectually and emotionally stimulated by a dedicated team of staff of early childhood educators / genuinely amazing human beings.

#### **Focus Technology**



10 Post Office Square, Suite 1005, Boston (857) 364-7737 • focustsi.com

Focus Technology began in 1997 as a team of skilled IT engineers and consultants with a single vision — helping companies maximize their technology to meet their business goals. Our leadership team continues to drive growth for organizations throughout the Northeast, and we have an ever-expanding trophy case to prove it. Focus Technology strives to be the leading information technology partner and provide customers a new way to consume technology by designing and implementing innovative AI-driven IT solutions through personalized service that results in positive business outcomes to help our customers automate and grow.

#### JK Holmgren Engineering



1024 Pearl Street, Brockton (508) 583-2595 • jkholmgren.com

Are you planning to build a housing development or a new recreational facility for the community? No matter what you're building, an engineer from JKE can help bring your ideas to life. We bring more than 75 years of combined civil engineering, surveying, and design experience to every project. Our attention to detail is like no other, our clients return to us for more projects because we work hard to provide designs that account for every element of your project. We use the latest technology to collect accurate site condition information and construction stakeouts of proposed improvements. We also prepare flood determinations and more.

#### Join the Chamber!



...When Your Join the Chamber! Call us at (508) 586-0500 or email 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.

Call to learn more today!

Visit metrosouthchamber.com/membership/join



## 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 startup 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 Quick-Books 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

Massachusetts\_ It's all here.

natural beauty, and the serenity of historic New England.



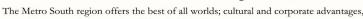












The region features top notch education, including three institutes of higher education, exceptional health care facilities, including four major hospitals. Rich in culture, the region is also home to symphonies, a craft museum, children's museum, and various historic museums. It also contains many recreational 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. SOUTH

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



## BUSINESS EVENTS Planner

## October 10

**Ribbon Cutting: Gather Health** 

11:30AM - 1:30PM **Gather Health** 179 Quincy Street, Brockton

Meet the Gather Team, network with community leaders, tour their new facility, enjoy refreshments

Register: metrosouthchamber.com/events

## October 17

## Housing & Transit Summit w/NEREJ

8:30AM

Showcase Cinema de Lux 73 Mazzeo Drive, Randolph

Speakers from: MassDOT, Bridgewater State University, Citizens' Housing and Planning Association; Brockton Area Transit; Schochet; Hajjar Management; and more

Register: metrosouthchamber.com/events

## October 24

### **Business After Hours & Entrepreneur Panel**

4:00PM

**Bridgewater State University** 131 Summer Street, Bridgewater

Entrepreneurial business panel followed by an evening of networking featuring JM Pet Resort, EMI, Mendes Law Group, and VR Tailoring & Dry Cleaning.

Register: metrosouthchamber.com/events

## November 20

## 111th Annual Meeting & B2B Expo

12:00PM-1:45PM

Adult & Teen Challenge Center 1315 Main Street, Brockton

Over 400 in attendance plus expo. Guest speaker: U.S. Chamber Chief Economist, Curtis Dubay.

Register: metrosouthchamber.com/events