

# Actionreport



October  
2026

www.metroouthchamber.com

## Housing Secretary Matias, Economic Development Panel with NEREJ

Friday, October 16 | 9:00AM - 12:00PM | The Shaw's Center | One Feinberg Way, Brockton

Please join us on Friday, October 16 at The Shaw's Center in Brockton for a New England Real Estate Journal & MSCC Summit, "Developments & Re-Developments from Brockton to Taunton".

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. This event is sponsored by Trinity Development and Management.

Our keynote speaker is Juana B. Matias, Secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities. Regional leaders participating in the panel include Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University; Eric Shupin, CHAPA; Andrew Mikula, Legalize Starter Homes; Dr. Eliza Wilson, City of Brockton; Rob Corley, Neighborworks Housing Solutions; Jay Pateakos, City of Taunton; and Erin Corcoran, Greystar Developers. *Continued on page 8.*

## Oct 30: Dental Essence Ribbon Cutting in Bridgewater

Friday, October 30 | 11AM-1PM | 233 Broad Street, Bridgewater

**DENTAL ESSENCE**  
**Grand OPENING**  
You're invited to a ribbon cutting celebration at Dental Essence!  
**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 | 11:00AM - 1:00PM**  
233 BROAD STREET, UNIT 15, BRIDGEWATER, MA 02324  
FREE EVENT!  
RSVP

Join us for a Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening Ceremony at Dental Essence on Friday, October 30, 2026 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM! Located at 233 Broad Street, Unit 15 in Bridgewater, MA 02324. *Continued on page 2.*

**2026 NEW ENGLAND REAL ESTATE JOURNAL SUMMIT**  
**Developments & Re-Developments from Brockton to Taunton**  
**OCTOBER 16, 2026**  
The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way Brockton, MA  
**SPEAKERS**  
Juana B. Matias, Secretary of Housing  
Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University  
Eric Shupin, CHAPA  
Andrew Mikula, Legalize Starter Homes  
Dr. Eliza Wilson, City of Brockton  
Rob Corley, Neighborworks Housing Solutions  
Jay Pateakos, City of Taunton  
Erin Corcoran, Greystar Developers

## TRINITY MANAGEMENT

## Nov 18: 113 Annual Meeting & Expo Feature Meehan, WB Mason CEO

Adult & Teen Challenge Center | 1315 Main Street, Brockton

**METRO SOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**113th ANNUAL meeting**  
November 18, 2026  
featuring the:  
Business 2 Business GO TO GET TO IT Expo 2026

**Featured Speaker: Leo J. Meehan, President and CEO of W.B. Mason Company, Inc. See page 5 for more details - expo space available.**

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UMassAmherst

Donahue Institute

Lead Expo  
Sponsor



W.B. Mason President & CEO, Leo J. Meehan



## Meet Your Legislators! October 8 at Stonehill

**METRO SOUTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
**LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION**  
**OCT 8, 2026**  
DONAHUE HALL  
STONEHILL COLLEGE  
NORTH EASTON  
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM  
An opportunity for business leaders, elected officials, and candidates for public office to connect.

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce cordially invites members of the business community, candidates for public office, and state, federal and local elected officials to gather on Thursday, October 8 for the 36th Annual Legislative & Candidates Reception. The reception will be held at Donahue Hall, at Stonehill College, 320 Washington Street in Easton from 5:00 - 7:30pm. This event is free and open to the public, but please register in advance at [metroouthchamber.com/events](https://metroouthchamber.com/events). *Continued on page 2.*

## Election Day is November 3

State elections will take place on Tuesday, November 3. 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/](https://www.sec.state.ma.us/WhereDoIVoteMA/) or scan code below.

**VOTE**

# 36th Annual Legislative Reception - You're Invited!

Thursday, October 8 | 5-7:30PM | Donahue Hall, Stonehill College | 320 Washington St., Easton



SCAN TO REGISTER

Program Sponsor:

SCU  
CREDIT UNION

Host Sponsor:

LUX ET SPIES  
STONEHILL COLLEGE

The Metro South Chamber of Commerce cordially invites members of the business community, candidates for public office, and state, federal and local elected officials to gather on **Thursday, October 8 for the 36th Annual Legislative and Candidates Reception. The reception will be held at Donahue Hall, on the campus of Stonehill College in Easton from 5:00 - 7:30PM.**

The reception is a casual event at which business leaders, elected officials, and candidates for public office can renew contacts and discuss issues of importance to them and the business community while enjoying complimentary refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. Legislative actions at municipal offices, on Beacon Hill and in Washington are having far greater impact on Metro South area businesses than ever before. As a result, there is a greater need for our business community to speak out and be heard on regulations affecting commerce and industry.

As a member of the Metro South Chamber, your organization has a vested interest in helping foster stronger relationships with local officials. The Legislative Reception is an excellent and cost-effective way for you, your key staff, and colleagues to initiate or renew contacts at the state, federal and local level. *Tickets to this event are complimentary, but please RSVP in advance at [metrosouthchamber.com/events](https://metrosouthchamber.com/events). Questions? Contact Hannah McGuire at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x 231 for assistance.*

|                                                           |                                                   |                                                           |                                                  |                                                        |                                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <br>Plymouth County District Attorney<br>Timothy J. Cruz  | <br>Senator Mike Brady,<br>2nd Plymouth & Norfolk | <br>State Representative<br>Bridget Plouffe, 9th Plymouth | <br>Jack Lally, Brockton City Council President  | <br>Jeff Charnel, Brockton City Councilor-At-Large     | <br>Shirley Asack, Brockton City Council Ward 7      |
| <br>Susan Nicastro, Brockton City Council Ward 4          | <br>Joyce Asack, Brockton School Committee Ward 6 | <br>Lisa Green, Hanson Town Administrator                 | <br>Sabrina Chilcott, Whitman Town Administrator | <br>Dawn Byers, Town of Whitman Select Board           | <br>Justin Evans, Town of Whitman Select Board Chair |
| <br>Dan Salvucci, Town of Whitman Select Board Vice Chair | <br>Liz Dennehy, Town of Easton Administrator     | <br>Dottie Fulginiti, Town of Easton Selected Board Chair | <br>Mayor of Brockton,<br>Moises Rodrigues       | <br>State Representative<br>Rita Mendes, 11th Plymouth |                                                      |

Partial list of officials registered and/or anticipated to attend the event.

# Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Dental Essence in Campus Plaza, Bridgewater

Friday, October 30 | 11AM-1PM | Dental Essence | 233 Broad Street, Bridgewater, MA 02324

Dental Essence was born from a simple belief — that great dentistry begins with compassion. We saw too many patients feel rushed, unheard, or anxious at the dentist, and we knew there was a better way.

So we built a practice where every patient is treated like family — with honest communication, gentle care, and the time to truly listen. No pressure. No rush. Just real care.

Backed by modern dental technology and a patient-first philosophy, we're here to help you achieve a healthy, confident smile — and feel genuinely valued at every visit.

Known for her gentle approach and warm personality, Dr. Sopariwala is dedicated to making every dental visit comfortable and stress-free. With advanced training in Invisalign and implants, she combines expert clinical skill with genuine, family-like care. She earned her DMD from Boston University in 2022, is a fellow at the American Academy of Implant Prosthodontists, Invisalign Certified, and speaks English, Hindi, and Gujarati. Visit [thedentaessence.com](https://thedentaessence.com) to learn more.



Dr. Khushbu Sopariwala, DMD



SCAN TO REGISTER

# New UMass Head at Dec. Holiday Better Business Lunch

Friday, December 18 | 11:45-1:30PM | Fuller Craft Museum | 455 Oak Street, Brockton

Program Sponsor:

arise  
financial  
Formerly known as Rockland Federal Credit Union

Host Sponsor:

Fuller  
Craft  
Museum



UMass Amherst Chancellor, Javier Reyes



SCAN TO REGISTER

You're invited to a special holiday edition of the Chamber's Good Day Metro South luncheon series! **Join us Friday, December 18 at the beautiful Fuller Craft Museum for holiday networking facilitated by Rob Peters Entertainment, photos with Santa, delicious food and an interesting presentation from our guest speaker - UMass Amherst Chancellor, Javier Reyes.**

Javier A. Reyes, PhD, became the 31st leader of the University of Massachusetts Amherst on July 1, 2023, following his selection as chancellor of the commonwealth's flagship campus by the UMass Board of Trustees.

Reyes is an economist who has devoted his career to the cause of public higher education, holding leadership positions at the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC), West Virginia University, and the University of Arkansas. He most recently served as interim chancellor of UIC, Chicago's largest university campus. Born and raised in Mexico, Reyes is the first Hispanic to serve as chancellor of UMass Amherst.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS, OFFICERS

|                                                                                           |                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chair of the Board<br>George Spiliotis, Crown Uniform & Linen Service                     | Vice Chair Economic Development<br>Fred Clark, Bridgewater State University        |
| President and CEO<br>Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM, MPA<br>Metro South Chamber of Commerce | Vice Chair Government Affairs<br>Sue Joss, Brockton Neighborhood Health Center     |
| Chair-Elect                                                                               | Vice Chair Community Affairs<br>Doug Smith, Stonehill College                      |
| Treasurer<br>Gregory Hart, CPA, Summer St Financial Advisors                              | Vice Chair Membership Development<br>Mike Lambert, Brockton Area Transit Authority |
|                                                                                           | Immediate Past Chair<br>Richard Hynes, Barbour Corporation                         |

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|
| Carol Chin - McDonald's Franchisee          | Jay Pike, CPA - Citrin Cooperman                       |
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| Robert Haffey - Signature Healthcare        | Albert Senesie - Victory Human Services                |
| Kelly Mallory - Mallory Headsets, Inc.      | Rich Spencer - North Easton Savings Bank               |
| Bill Mitchell - Massasoit Community College | Andrew St. Pierre - Brockton Plumbing & Heating Supply |
| Matthew Osborne - Eastern Bank              |                                                        |

| CHAMBER STAFF                                                      | (508) 586-0500                                            | Front Desk x 221 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Christopher Cooney, CCE, IOM, MPA<br>President and CEO x 223       | Development & Retention - NOW HIRING!<br>Membership x 229 |                  |
| Emma Penardi, IOM<br>VP of Communications & Special Projects x 222 | Finance x 230                                             |                  |
| Hannah McGuire<br>Programs & Events Coordinator x 231              |                                                           |                  |

Newsletter Written & Designed by Emma Penardi.  
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**  
Sixty School Street, Brockton, MA 02301-4087  
tel: (508) 586-0500  
info@metrosouthchamber.com  
www.metroouthchamber.com

**ACTION Report**      **Volume 25 - Issue 10**  
(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!

October

|    |                                                                                                          |         |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 07 | Ambassador Meeting<br>Virtual Meeting via Zoom                                                           | 9:00AM  |
| 08 | Legislative Reception<br>Stonehill College, Donahue Hall: 320 Washington Street, Easton                  | 5:00PM  |
| 16 | New England Real Estate Journal / MSCC Summit<br>The Shaw's Center: One Feinberg Way, Brockton, MA 02301 | 9:00AM  |
| 30 | Ribbon Cutting: Dental Essence<br>Campus Plaza: 233 Broad Street, Unit 15, Bridgewater, MA 02324         | 11:00AM |

November

|    |                                                                                                                                                                                            |         |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 18 | 113th Annual Meeting & B2B Expo<br>B2B Expo: 10:30AM-12:00PM & 1:30PM-3:00PM<br>Luncheon 12:00PM-1:30PM<br>Multipurpose Auditorium @ Adult & Teen Challenge:<br>1315 Main Street, Brockton | 12:00PM |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|

December

|    |                                                                                                  |         |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| 18 | Good Day Metro South: Holiday Edition<br>Fuller Craft Museum: 455 Oak Street, Brockton, MA 02301 | 11:45AM |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|

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 Ian Abreu at membership@metrosouthchamber.com or call (508) 586-0500 x229 to get involved.



**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.metroouthchamber.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

**MSBDC Online Training Calendar - visit [msbdc.org/training](http://msbdc.org/training) to register**

- 10/7: How to Start a Business
- 10/8: Country of Origin as a Tariff Mitigation Strategy in the Current Trade Environment
- 10/8: Understanding Cash Flow and How It Affects Your Business
- 10/16: AI and Export Compliance: Going Beyond the Consolidated Screening List
- 10/21: Search Engine Optimization (SEO) for Beginners
- 10/24: Compliance Clinic
- 10/28: Google Analytics Made Simple: Unlock the Key Insights for Your Business
- 10/30: Traveling Resource Tour (Brockton)
- 11/4: First Employee Essentials: An Overview for Small Business Hiring
- 11/5: Tech Talks with Rob
- 11/7: Mastering Tariff Management: The Essential Tools
- 11/13: Exploring the Government Marketplace
- 11/19: Cybersecurity Basics: Protecting Yourself and Your Business
- 12/3: Tech Talks with Rob
- 12/10: Finding Government Contracting Opportunities
- 12/10: Government Contractors

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

*Sponsored by: Boston Medical Center - South*

and Tariff Challenges: Strategies for Success

**The Brockton Farmers Market is Back! Through Oct.**



Visit the Brockton Farmers Market on Fridays, 10AM-2PM on City Hall Plaza, 45 School Street in Brockton. Vendors include Freitas Farm, Barbosa Family Farm, Souza Family Farm, LaFleur's Wildflower Honey, Roxanne's Garden Center, Mai Asia Vegetables, Mig's Dogs, Nurcha Foods, and Glorify Glow. Cooking Demos and Summer Food Service Programs available. Visit [brocktonfarmersmarket.com](http://brocktonfarmersmarket.com)

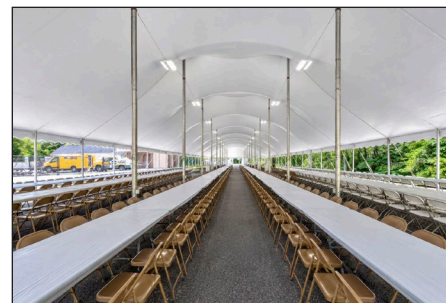
**Brockton Symphony Orchestra Presents "Fire Dance" October 19**



We open our 100th Anniversary Season with a nod to where it all began – Charles Gounod's regal March from The Queen of Sheba, the very first piece performed by the BrSO in 1925. From there, the temperature rises with the tropical rhythms of Louis Moreau Gottschalk's A Night in the Tropics, followed by the hauntingly

beautiful El Amor Brujo by Manuel de Falla, rich with flamenco and fiery emotion. Celebrated mezzo-soprano Janna Baty, known for her "viola-like tone," brings passion and depth to this sultry masterpiece. We close with George Gershwin's bold and jazzy Piano Concerto in F, the 1925 classic that defined this era. Acclaimed pianist Vijay Venkatesh takes the stage to bring this brilliant work to life in a grand finale worthy of a century in the making. This concert is generously underwritten by Kenneth Feinberg. Visit [brocktonsymphony.org](http://brocktonsymphony.org) to get tickets.

**Chamber members Annunciation Greek Church and BC Tent Rentals & Awning Co of Boston collaborated recently on celebrating wonderful Greek food, festivities and fun under the largest tent in the region.**



*Tent photos by Rich Morgan Photography*

**Fall Festivities Across Metro South**

**Nihtila Farm, Holbrook:** Pumpkin picking, hay rides, farm animals, cider donuts

**C.N. Smith Farm, East Bridgewater:** "Harvest Hoedown", live bands, pony rides, pick-your-own pumpkins, hayrides

**Langwater Farm, Easton:** PYO pumpkins, corn maze, farm store, produce & other fall farm activities

**Vineyard Farm, West Bridgewater:** seasonal produce, sunflower fields, corn maze, farm animals, fall farm scenery & experiences

## Health Care Matters

**Boston Medical Center - South**

**235 North Pearl Street, Brockton, MA 02301**

**508-427-3000**

**[www.bmchealthsystem.org/bmc-south](http://www.bmchealthsystem.org/bmc-south)**

**Boston Medical Center Health System Unveils New Names for Good Samaritan and St. Elizabeth's Medical Centers**

**The shared brand identity will help patients easily recognize and access trusted, clinically excellent care across BMC Health System hospitals.**

Boston Medical Center Health System is proud to announce the renaming of two of its hospitals, as the system advances its vision of high-quality, accessible, and sustainable healthcare in the region.

Good Samaritan Medical Center in Brockton is now Boston Medical Center

– South (BMC South) and St. Elizabeth's Medical Center in Brighton is now Boston Medical Center – Brighton (BMC Brighton). St. Elizabeth's and Good Samaritan's associated offsite physician practices will transition to BMC Health.

"Our vision for a unified health system, rooted in expert care and access for our communities, is steadily taking shape," said Alastair Bell, MD, MBA, President & CEO of BMC Health System. "We are creating a shared identity across all of our hospitals that stands for clinical excellence, trust, accessibility, and compassionate patient care."

Consistent branding across BMC Health

System hospitals ensures patients know they will receive high-quality, equity-led care. BMC Health System gathered input from patients, employees, and community members to help shape the new names.

"We're honored to work alongside our system hospitals who are also devoted to mission-driven care. Bringing our hospitals under one brand sends a strong signal about that shared commitment," said Paul C. Smith, President of BMC Brighton. "We look forward to building on our more than 100-year legacy in Brighton as the foundation of an even brighter future."

"Today is a proud day for our hospital as we take this next integration step into BMC Health System," said Matthew Hesketh, President of BMC South. "We are incredibly proud of our long history in Brockton and look forward to expanding patient care access to more than 20 other communities along the Route 24 corridor."

Over the next weeks and months, the new names and logos will be incorporated into digital and physical touch points across BMC Brighton, BMC South, and associated BMC Health practice locations.

BMC Health System assumed operations of the two hospitals on October 1, 2024.



Premier Sponsor  
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**Bring Your Team - Be Inspired!**

Lead Expo Sponsor  
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SCAN TO REGISTER



# 113th ANNUAL meeting

November 18, 2026

**Bring Your Team!**  
**Gain Insight, Be Inspired**

**Expo will sell out!**  
**Reserve your space now**

Wednesday, November 18 | 10:30AM - 3:00PM | Adult & Teen Challenge Center | 1315 Main Street, Brockton

Join us on **Wednesday, November 18 at the Adult & Teen Challenge Center, located at 1315 Main Street in Brockton**, for the 113th Annual Meeting and B2B Expo. Meet other businesspeople & community leaders by attending the Annual Meeting to celebrate businesses working together for the future of the Metro South Region. The Annual Meeting will include networking, awards, and giveaways.

The Annual Meeting will feature **Leo J. Meehan, President and CEO of Brockton's Billion-Dollar Company, W.B. Mason**, as well as networking, awards, and giveaways.

Leo J. Meehan III is President and CEO of W.B. Mason Company, Inc., the Brockton-based, family-owned business founded in 1898. After graduating from Stonehill College, he joined W.B. Mason as a sales representative and rose through its leadership ranks before becoming CEO in 1994. Since taking the helm, Meehan has transformed the regional office products dealer into the largest privately held business products company, guiding its national growth while keeping its headquarters in Brockton and maintaining a strong commitment to customer service, education and the community.

Beyond his business leadership, Meehan has played an active role in education and the broader community. A longtime trustee of Stonehill College, he joined W.B. Mason in making a \$10 million commitment that helped establish the Leo J. Meehan School of Business. He has also supported initiatives connecting education, business and workforce development, helping create career opportunities for generations of graduates.

After more than three decades at the helm, Meehan's career represents a distinctive Brockton business success story. Under his leadership, a family-owned company founded in the city more than a century ago grew from a small regional operation into a multi-billion-dollar national enterprise while remaining rooted in the community where it began.

**WHO BUT  
W.B. MASON**



Leo J. Meehan III, President and CEO,  
W.B. Mason Company, Inc.

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 register, contact Hannah McGuire at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x 231 or visit [metrosouthchamber.com](http://metrosouthchamber.com)

## Contributing Sponsors & Partners:



## Business-2-Business Expo Past Participants:

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

Adult & Teen Challenge  
Massachusetts  
Brewster Ambulance Service  
Brick Marketing  
Bridgewater State University  
Brockton Area Transit Authority  
Brookmeadow at Blue Hills  
Burgess Pest Management  
Cruise Planners by Jojo  
Eastern Bank  
Father Bill's & MainSpring  
House of Possibilities  
Hub Technical Services  
Hutcheon's Flowers

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

## Corporate Table Sponsors + Past Attendees:

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Brockton Housing Authority  
City of Brockton  
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Father Bill's & MainSpring

Hub Technical Services  
JM Pet Resort  
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Massasoit Community College  
MassHire Greater Brockton  
National Grid  
North Easton Savings Bank  
Old Colony YMCA  
Rockland Trust Company  
SCU Credit Union  
South Shore Bank  
Stonehill College  
UMass Donahue Institute



# Good Day Metro South Highlights New Regional Leaders, Energy Solutions and Brockton High School Project

In September, the Metro South Chamber hosted Good Day Metro South on September 24 at Thorny Lea Golf Club, sponsored by Rockland Trust and emceed by Chamber Chair George Spilios.

The program featured a New Faces Panel moderated by Chamber Board Director Scott Sanborn, with Elijah Romulus of the City of Brockton, Juan Osorio of Mayflower Council, Scouting America, and Carole Martyn of United Way of Greater Plymouth County.

Attendees also heard about on-site battery storage and energy cost savings from Powertown, Crown Uniform & Linen Service, and Vineyard Farm/North Star Distributors.

Rockland Trust's Matt Collins, Vice President, SBA Development Officer, discussed small business financing and growth, followed by an update on the Brockton High School building project from Kevin Sullivan of LeftField, LLC.



(L-R) Chris Cooney, Metro South Chamber of Commerce; Rich Hynes, Barbour Corporation; George Spilios, Crown Uniform & Linen; Juan Osorio, Mayflower Council Scouting America; Elijah Romulus, City of Brockton Economic Development Office; Scott Sanborn, TruNorth Bank; Dottie Fulginiti, Town of Easton, MassDevelopment; Doug Smith, Stonehill College.

Read the full event recap on the Metro South Chamber blog. More photos, slides, and video available online. Scan the QR code or visit [metrosouthchamber.com/blog/](http://metrosouthchamber.com/blog/)

## Program Sponsor



Where Each Relationship Matters®

## Panel Sponsor



## Panel Participants



Program Sponsor, Rockland Trust interview with Matt Collins, SBA Officer



Carole Martyn, Interim President & CEO, United Way of Greater Plymouth County



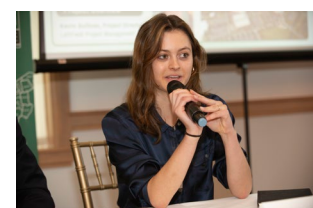
Elijah Romulus, Interim Director of Planning & Community Development for the City of Brockton



Juan F. Osorio, Scouting Executive/CEO, Mayflower Council BSA, Scouting America



Kevin Sullivan, Project Director for the Brockton High School Building Project, LeftField, LLC



Elson Bankoff, Powertown



Joe Mulvey, Crown Uniform & Linen



Elio Silva, North Star Distributors

# Food Basket International Celebrates Grand Opening in Brockton



Food Basket International is located at 683 Belmont Street in Brockton, the former Stop & Shop location near Brockton High School.



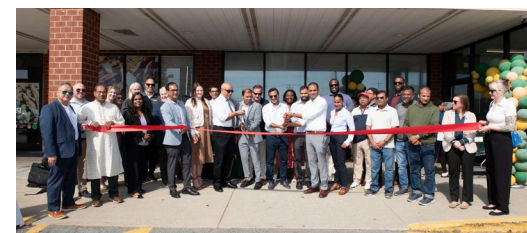
Official City of Brockton Citation presented to Food Basket International. (L-R) Chris Cooney, Metro South Chamber, Alauddin Chowdhury, Food Basket Intl, and Mayor of Brockton Moises Rodrigues.



Food Basket Intl also received Official Citations from the Office of Senator Mike Brady and State Representative Bridget Plouffe.



City of Brockton Director of Youth Affairs and Special Projects Clayton Barros; Brockton City Councilor-At-Large Jeff Charnel; and Chief of Staff to Mayor Moises Rodrigues, Nelson Fernandes.



The Metro South Chamber of Commerce joined Food Basket International, community members, and supporters on October 2 to celebrate the grand opening and ribbon cutting of the international supermarket's new Brockton location at 683 Belmont Street, the former Stop & Shop site near Brockton High School.

Building on the success of its Lowell location, Food Basket International offers international groceries, fresh produce, seafood, premium halal meats, and everyday essentials, with products representing South Asian, Middle Eastern, African, Caribbean, and Latin American cuisines. The Brockton location also features a full-service halal butcher shop, seafood department, and fast-casual kitchen serving prepared halal meals.

State Representative Bridget Plouffe, representatives from the Office of Senator Michael D. Brady, and Brockton Mayor Moises Rodrigues presented citations to the business in recognition of its grand opening. Chief of Staff Nelson Fernandes, City Councilor-at-Large Jeff Charnel, Dr. Eliza Wilson and Elijah Romulus of the Brockton Economic Development Office, also joined the celebration.

The new store brings activity and investment to a previously vacant commercial space while expanding access to culturally diverse food options for Brockton and the surrounding Metro South region.

"We try to bring food from different parts of the world," Food Basket International team member Alauddin Chowdhury told The Enterprise, highlighting the company's goal of creating a unique shopping experience

with something for everyone.

To learn more, scan the QR Code to visit or go to [metrosouthchamber.com](http://metrosouthchamber.com). Or, visit [foodbasketintl.com](http://foodbasketintl.com). Visit them in person - open 7 days a week from 7AM-9PM at 683 Belmont Street in Brockton.



## Workforce in Demand Across Metro South



### HOT JOBS: ROUND UP



SCAN ME

Metro South employers continue to demonstrate strong hiring momentum across a range of industries, reflecting the region's economic vitality and business growth. From entry-level roles to specialized professional positions, Metro South companies are actively seeking talent to support expansion, innovation, and long-term success. Explore the opportunities below and discover how local businesses are investing in the workforce that drives our regional economy forward. Visit [masshiregbbc.org/jobseekers/hot-jobs](http://masshiregbbc.org/jobseekers/hot-jobs) for a complete, up-to-date list.

**MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board, Brockton, MA**  
Staff Accountant & Payroll Specialist, 24535758

**Brockton Housing Authority, Brockton, MA**  
Chief Financial Officer, 24888727 Van Driver – Per-diem, 24888731 Police Cadet (Civilian Position), 24888735 Clerk Typist, 24888903 Family Self Sufficiency Coordinator, 24865586

**Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, MA**  
Admin Asst II, Field Experience Coord., 24888694  
Admin Asst I, Ctr for Adv of STEM(CASE), 24888710  
Web Content Creator, Staff Assistant, 24887650  
Photographer, Staff Assistant, 24887669

**Southeast Rehab & Skilled Care Center, North Easton, MA**  
Dietary Aide, 24887652  
Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN), 24887653  
Registered Nurse (RN), 24887655  
Nursing Home Cook, 24887657  
Physical Therapist, 24887659  
MDS Coordinator, 24887660  
Smoking Attendant, 24887663  
Resident Care Coordinator Assistant, 24887667

**Elder Service Plan-PACE Day Ctr., Brockton, MA Community**

Marketing&Enrollment Specialist, 24887615

**The Salvation Army Brockton, MA**  
Custodian, 24846259  
Red Kettle Bell Ringers, 24828718

**Smash My Trash, Foxboro, MA**  
Smash Truck Operator, part time, 24851370

**Complete Labor & Staffing, Brockton, MA**  
Construction Materials Testing Tech I, 24865587

**Waste Management, Southeastern, MA**  
Avon Senior Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, 3rd shift, 24884203  
Small Equipment Operator, 2nd shift, 24884204  
Industrial Maintenance Mechanic, 3rd shift, 24884205  
Norton Operations Manager Trainee, 24884212  
Diesel Mechanic Weekly Travel Required, 24884214  
CDL Driver, 24884215

**Barbour Corp., Brockton, MA**  
Maintenance Technician, 24851711  
Shipping/Receiving Clerk, 24857934

**Avedis Zildjian, Norwell, MA**  
Maintenance Mechanic, 24851612  
Rolling Mill Assistant, 24851687  
Buffer, 24851684

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



The new season of Metro South Chamber events is about to begin, and we want you to be there! Reserve your 2026 - 2027 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)



### SEASON TICKET AND ADDITIONAL SAVINGS OPTIONS

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

Contact Hannah McGuire at [events@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:events@metrosouthchamber.com) or call (508) 586-0500 x 231 for more information.

## Jobcase FIND THE BEST TALENT TODAY!

Your one-stop-shop  
for posting local and  
national jobs.

Get started at  
[jobs.usatoday.com](http://jobs.usatoday.com)



# Housing Secretary Matias & Economic Development Panel Oct. 16 in Brockton with New England Real Estate Journal

Friday, October 16 | 9AM-12PM | The Shaw's Center | One Feinberg Way, Brockton

## 2026 NEW ENGLAND REAL ESTATE JOURNAL SUMMIT

**METRO SOUTH**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

New England Real Estate Journal  
**nerej**

## Developments & Re-Developments from Brockton to Taunton

**OCTOBER 16, 2026**

The Shaw's Center, 1 Feinberg Way  
Brockton, MA

### TOPIC DISCUSSIONS

Housing, new multi-family projects, and the re-development of multi-family properties from Brockton to Taunton.

### AGENDA

8:00AM-9:00AM:  
Registration, Networking & Light Breakfast  
9:00AM-9:30AM: Keynote Speaker  
9:30AM-11:00AM:  
Panel Discussion  
11:00AM-12:00PM:  
Networking & Conclusion

### SPEAKERS



**MODERATOR**  
FRED CLARK  
BRIDGEWATER STATE  
UNIVERSITY



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
JUANA MATIAS  
SECRETARY  
OF HOUSING



JAY PATEAKOS  
CITY OF TAUNTON



ERIN CORCORAN  
GREYSTAR



ERIC SHUPIN  
CHAPA



ELIZA WILSON  
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT



ANDREW MIKULA  
LEGALIZE STARTER  
HOMES

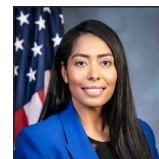


ROB CORLEY  
NEIGHBORWORKS  
HOUSING

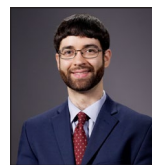
Please join us on Friday, October 16 at The Shaw's Center in Brockton for a New England Real Estate Journal & MSCC Summit, "Developments & Re-Developments from Brockton to Taunton".

The Metro South Chamber is partnering with the New England Real Estate Journal (NEREJ) to bring you an engaging event. This event is sponsored by Trinity Development and Management. Registration is required, RSVP at the QR Code above or visit [metrosouthchamber.com/events](https://metrosouthchamber.com/events). Use promo code "MSCC" to access \$49 ticket option.

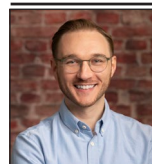
**Keynote Speaker: Juana B. Matias** serves as Secretary of the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, where she leads the Commonwealth's efforts to create more housing, lower housing costs, and support community development, public housing, homelessness prevention, and housing stabilization. She was appointed by Governor Maura Healey in April 2026. Prior to joining the Healey-Driscoll Administration, Matias served as Regional Administrator for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, overseeing federal housing programs across New England. She previously served as Chief Operating Officer of MassINC and Commonwealth Magazine and represented the 16th Essex District in the Massachusetts House of Representatives. An attorney, Matias began her career advocating for low-income immigrant children and families. She holds a bachelor's degree from UMass Boston and a Juris Doctor from Suffolk University Law School.



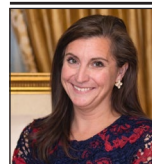
Juana B. Matias,  
Secretary of the MA  
Executive Office of  
Housing and Livable  
Communities



Andrew Mikula,  
Chief Housing  
Economist, Pioneer  
Institute for Public  
Policy Research,  
Legalize Starter  
Homes / "Yes on 7"



Eric Shupin, Chief  
Executive Officer,  
Citizens' Housing  
and Planning  
Association (CHAPA)



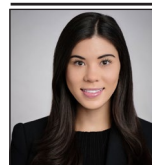
Dr. Eliza Wilson,  
Ed.D., Director  
of Economic  
Development, City  
of Brockton



Rob Corley, CEO,  
NeighborWorks  
Housing Solutions



Jay Pateakos,  
Executive Director  
of Economic  
& Community  
Development, City  
of Taunton.



Erin Corcoran,  
Development  
Manager, Greystar

**Andrew Mikula** is Chief Housing Economist and Senior Housing Fellow at the Pioneer Institute for Public Policy Research, where he focuses on housing policy, real estate, and urban development. He also chairs the Legalize Starter Homes campaign, which advocates for changes to local zoning regulations to expand opportunities for starter-home development in Massachusetts. Mikula has a background in real estate and urban development, including graduate study at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design.

**Eric Shupin** is the Chief Executive Officer of Citizens' Housing and Planning Association (CHAPA), where he leads the organization's efforts to advance housing affordability and access across Massachusetts. He previously served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, helping establish the cabinet-level housing secretariat and leading the development and implementation of the \$5.2 billion Affordable Homes Act. Shupin previously served as CHAPA's Director of Public Policy, where he shaped state and federal housing advocacy and coalition-building efforts.

**Dr. Eliza Wilson, Ed.D.** is Director of Economic Development for the City of Brockton and Chair of the Brockton Redevelopment Authority. She brings experience in workforce development, higher education, fundraising, finance, and project management. A Brockton resident, Wilson holds a bachelor's degree from UMass Boston and a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.).

**Robert Corley** serves as CEO of NeighborWorks Housing Solutions, a nonprofit community development organization serving southeastern Massachusetts. Corley has been with NeighborWorks since 1997 and previously served as Director of Real Estate, overseeing the organization's housing development activities. Under his leadership, NeighborWorks has developed and preserved affordable housing throughout the region, including multifamily, senior, and special-needs housing. Corley is a graduate of Wentworth Institute of Technology's Construction Management program and holds a master's degree in Community and Economic Development from Southern New Hampshire University.

**Jay Pateakos** serves as Executive Director of Economic & Community Development for the City of Taunton, leading economic development and redevelopment efforts. He has helped advance major projects including downtown revitalization and redevelopment of the 42-acre former Whittenton Mills site. Pateakos also serves as Executive Director of the Taunton Redevelopment Authority and the Mayor's designee to the Taunton Affordable Housing Trust.

**Erin Corcoran** is a Development Manager at Greystar, a global real estate development and investment management company. Corcoran is part of the team behind the redevelopment of Whittenton Mills in Taunton, a 42-acre former mill site being transformed into a multifamily community with new housing, commercial space, and amenities. Her work on the project provides a private-sector perspective on the challenges and opportunities involved in redeveloping a large, historic industrial property.

# Eastern Bank Foundation Honors Deval Patrick With 2026 Social Justice Award, and Recognizes Non-profit Just A Start With Inaugural Collaborative Impact Award



Pictured at the 2026 Celebration of Social Justice are, left to right: Bob Rivers, Executive Chair and Chair of the Board of Directors of Eastern Bank; Deval Patrick, 2026 Social Justice Award Honoree; and Turahn Dorsey, President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Foundation. Photo Credit: Nathan Fontes-Fried

Eastern Bank Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Eastern Bank, honored Massachusetts' 71st Governor, Deval Patrick, with its 2026 Social Justice Award at its annual Celebration of Social Justice. The event also recognized the nonprofit Just A Start with the inaugural Nancy Huntington Stager Collaborative Impact Award, in recognition of a collaborative, integrated model they and their partners have created to advance economic and social change through housing, workforce development, and two-generation supports. Hundreds of business, philanthropic and community

leaders gathered to honor these outstanding leaders and their contributions.

"Each year, the Celebration of Social Justice is an opportunity to recognize the people and organizations whose courage and persistence make our communities more just and inclusive," said Bob Rivers, Executive Chair and Chair of the Board of Directors of Eastern Bank. "Deval Patrick has devoted his career to expanding opportunity and defending civil rights. Just A Start has spent decades opening doors to housing, education and careers for families across Cambridge and Greater Boston. Both show us that lasting change is built together, and we could not be prouder to celebrate them this year."

## 2026 Social Justice Honoree: Deval Patrick

Deval Patrick served as the first African American governor of Massachusetts from 2006 to 2015, dedicating his time in office to social equity, education, and economic development. Patrick led the expansion of affordable health care coverage to over 98% of state residents and championed public school funding. As Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights under President Bill Clinton, Patrick tackled enforcement of fair housing, employment discrimination, and hate crime laws, and coordinated a federal investigation into the arsons of predominantly Black churches.

The former governor now serves as a Senior Partner at Vistria Group. He is a Hauser Leader at Harvard's Center for Public Leadership, and previously served as the David R. Gergen Professor of the Practice of Public Leadership at the Harvard Kennedy School, where he was co-director of the Center for Public Leadership from 2022 to 2024. He is the founder and a former Managing Partner of Bain Capital Double Impact, a Rockefeller Fellow, a Crown Fellow of the Aspen Institute, and the author of two books.

"Deval Patrick's career-long dedication to civil rights leadership speaks for itself – leading by example as Governor of Massachusetts, fighting for voting rights, prosecuting hate crimes, advocating for same-sex marriage equality, and carrying forward his long-standing dedication to impact through his work across multiple sectors. We are proud to honor his extraordinary commitment and achievements and continue to follow his lead," said Turahn Dorsey, President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Foundation.

## Nancy Huntington Stager Collaborative Impact Award Honoree: Just A Start and the Rindge Commons Partners

Recognizing that collective action, collaborations, and coalitions of partners across sectors working together to create innovative solutions are essential to strengthening communities, the award in its inaugural year

was presented to Just A Start, a Cambridge-based nonprofit that expands opportunity and economic mobility for individuals and families in Cambridge, MA and Greater Boston's Metro North region. The award is named after former Eastern Bank Foundation leader Nancy Huntington Stager, who during her 25 years leading the Foundation, redefined its focus, transforming it from a model of charitable giving to one of advancing economic inclusion and mobility through collaborative approaches across the communities Eastern serves.

Housing instability, limited access to workforce opportunities, and a lack of affordable early childhood education are interconnected barriers to economic mobility. Just A Start convened a cross-sector coalition to address them together, resulting in the Rindge Commons Economic Mobility Hub: a 70,000-square-foot mixed-use development that integrates affordable housing, workforce training, and early childhood education under one roof.

"We're thrilled to announce the Collaborative Impact Award to honor the kind of partnership and cooperation that creates lasting social and systemic change in the communities we serve," said Turahn Dorsey, President and CEO of the Eastern Bank Foundation. "There is no more fitting first recipient than Just A Start and its partners. At the center of their work is colocation: the idea that housing, education, and workforce training are most effective when delivered together, in response to the full scope of a family's needs. By combining all of the elements they have, these partners created a model none of them could have alone. Forging cross-sector partnerships to drive systemic change is exactly the effort and impact this award celebrates."

## About Eastern Bank Foundation

Eastern Bank Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Eastern Bank, supports grassroots community solutions and collaborates with community-led organizations working to build economic inclusion, mobility, and social justice in four focus areas: advancing equity in the small business ecosystem, enriching early childhood development, securing safe and affordable housing, and promoting workforce development. Because the roots of social and economic injustice run deep, we employ a variety of levers – including Philanthropy, Employee Volunteerism, and Collaboration – to strengthen the communities we serve. Learn more at [www.easternbank.com/eastern-bank-foundation](http://www.easternbank.com/eastern-bank-foundation)



Hundreds of business, philanthropic and community leaders gathered to honor the outstanding contributions of the Eastern Bank Foundation 2026 Social Justice Award honoree, Massachusetts' 71st Governor, Deval Patrick. The Celebration of Social Justice is an opportunity to recognize the people and organizations whose courage and persistence make our communities stronger. Pictured at the celebration are, left to right: John Yazwinski, President and CEO, Father Bill's & MainSpring; Marie Kelly, Director, Office of Corporate Foundation and Donor Relations, Stonehill College; Maxine Depina, Resource Development Director, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions; Robert Corley, CEO, NeighborWorks Housing Solutions; and Doug Smith, Vice President for Advancement, Stonehill College. Photo Credit: Nathan Fontes-Fried.



## MEMBER Profile - Fine New England Living



**COLDWELL BANKER**  
REALTY

*Fine New England Living*  
— AT COLDWELL BANKER REALTY —

**Company Name:** Fine New England Living at Coldwell Banker Realty

**Address:** 1775 Massachusetts Ave, Lexington, MA 02420

**Year Established:** 27+ (1998)

**Products or Services:** Real estate sales - buyer and seller representation

**Number of Employees:** South Shore Division: 1

**What is unique or special about your firm and the products and services you offer?** We believe every client deserves a tailored real estate experience. Our boutique team is known for building lasting relationships through integrity, meticulous attention to detail, and local expertise, while leveraging Coldwell Banker's global network to maximize every opportunity.

**What is your market area?** Fine New England Living at Coldwell Banker Realty serves the South Shore, Greater Boston, New England, and beyond.

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

- 2026 REALTrends – Top 1.5% of Small Teams in the USA
- 2026 Boston Magazine Top Producers
- 2025 Coldwell Banker International President's Premier Club – Top 3% of Teams Worldwide
- Top 5 Small Residential Sales Team in New England at Coldwell Banker

**What is your main business objective concerning your customers and the business community?** Whether it's an existing home or new construction, our team understands zoning realities, housing supply dynamics, and local regulatory trends before they show up in the MLS — giving his sellers a sharper pricing edge and his buyers a clearer picture of what they're purchasing and where a neighborhood is headed.

**Anything additional we should know about your company?** <https://www.finenewenglandliving.com/about>



Geoff Diehl, Realtor

## WELCOME New Members!

### Reinvesting in Our Community

#### Grand Flourish Collective

Derek Jesus  
826 Crescent Street  
Brockton, MA 02302  
(508) 971-1603  
[www.GFCO.biz](http://www.GFCO.biz)  
*Art*

#### In-Focus Productions

Darren Sanon  
17 Kathleen Road  
Brockton, MA 02302  
(617) 515-9536  
[infocusprod.com](http://infocusprod.com)  
*Media*

#### KW Commercial Division of Keller Williams Realty

Cesar A. Miranda  
574 Washington Street  
Easton, MA 02375  
(508) 326-8306  
[www.BoxerRealtyAdvisors.com](http://www.BoxerRealtyAdvisors.com)  
*Real Estate/Commercial*

#### Food Basket International

Alauddin Chowdhury  
683 Belmont Street  
Brockton, MA 02301  
(617) 650-3895  
[foodbasketintl.com](http://foodbasketintl.com)  
*Grocers/Deli*

#### Dental Essence

Dr. Khushbu Sopariwala  
233 Broad Street, Suite 15  
Bridgewater, MA 02324  
(774) 251-9113  
[thedentaessence.com](http://thedentaessence.com)  
*Dental*

#### Flow Collective Consulting

Kristina Cecca  
18 Washington Street, Suite 225  
Canton, MA 02021  
(860) 913-5631  
[www.flowcollectiveco.com](http://www.flowcollectiveco.com)  
*Business Consulting Services*

#### J&J Home Improvement

Jennifer McKeon  
250 Matfield Street  
West Bridgewater, MA 02379  
(508) 436-6374  
[jandjhi.com](http://jandjhi.com)  
*Contractors Building*

#### Durra Panel USA, LLC

Maria Giatrelis  
385 Concord Avenue, Suite 201  
Belmont, MA 02478  
(617) 852-5219  
[www.durrapanelusa.com](http://www.durrapanelusa.com)  
*Manufacturing*

#### Keller Williams (Stephen Pace)

Stephen Pace  
70 Charles Street  
Bridgewater, MA 02324  
(508) 577-1877  
[www.teampace.kw.com](http://www.teampace.kw.com)  
*Real Estate/Residential*

#### Thumprint Realty

Alex E. Edwards  
472A Washington Street  
Boston, MA 02124  
(857) 453-0148  
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/alex-edwards-2904bb18/>  
*Real Estate/Commercial*

To promote your business and support your community, contact  
Ian Abreu, Development Director

(508) 586-0500 x 229 • [membership@metrosouthchamber.com](mailto:membership@metrosouthchamber.com)

## RENEWING Members!

### Thank you!

A Phone Jack Systems, Inc.  
Air Energy Group, LLC  
Anania Plumbing & Heating, Inc.  
BAMSI  
Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts  
BrightBridge Credit Union  
BrightPath Kids USA  
Brockton Parking Authority  
CATAX, Inc./Christos Liapopoulos

Copeland Chevrolet  
Family & Community Resources, Inc.  
Farley Funeral Home, Inc.  
Hajjar Management Co., Inc.  
Independence Associates, Inc.  
JM Pet Resort  
John T. Veale, D.M.D.,  
Peter G. Veale, D.M.D. Inc.  
Mayflower Council BSA

Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP  
My Brother's Keeper  
OCES - Old Colony Elder Services  
RedBall Promotions  
Residence Inn by Marriott  
Boston/Brockton  
South Shore Staffing

Sullivan Tire & Auto Service  
The Arc of Greater Brockton  
The Charity Guild, Inc.  
Trufant Real Estate, Inc.  
Webster Park Rehab, a Division of  
Marquis Health Services

## Access to Capital for Massachusetts Businesses



Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation (MGCC) has merged with MassDevelopment as the Growth Capital Division. This functions as a one-stop resource for debt financing for small businesses. MassDevelopment GCD 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 MassDevelopment GCD is to create and preserve jobs at small businesses. MassDevelopment GCD 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 [www.massdevelopment.com](http://www.massdevelopment.com) 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](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 **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 [jointheebba.com](http://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](http://easton-chamber.com) to learn more.

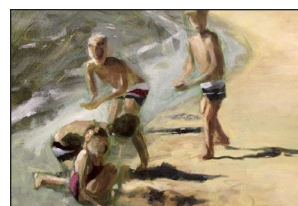


The **Norwell Chamber of Commerce's** mission is to promote the civic, economic and social welfare of its members and the Town of Norwell. They actively assist the Chamber members with the challenges of business growth, management and entrepreneurship. Visit [norwellchamberofcommerce.com](http://norwellchamberofcommerce.com)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

## Current & Future Exhibitions at Fuller Craft Museum



**Brockton Youth Creates 2026** features 30+ student works, on view July 16 through October 18.



**MORE CLAY! The Power of Repetition.** On view through Feb 2027. Pictured Above: David Hicks, Still Life "Nucleus"



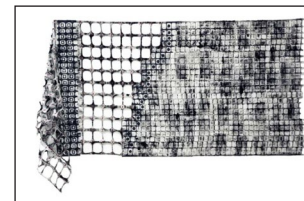
**Molly Hatch: Agency.** On view starting October 17.



**Stories on the Planet:** Asagi Maeda. On view through Nov 8.



**Geranium and Lotus Flowers.** On view through November 1.



**Fiber Forward:** The Judith Stern Weisman Collection. On view through December 2026.

Fuller Craft Museum is a true gem in the region. Open Tuesday-Sunday 10AM-5PM at 455 Oak Street in Brockton, admission is offered on a pay-what-you-can basis. Visit [fullercraft.org](http://fullercraft.org) or call (508) 588-6000.



## Federal, State, and Regional Resources for Businesses

**METRO SOUTH** Regional Economic Development Organization  
The Metro South Chamber 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 everyone interested in business.

**MassDevelopment**  
Contact: Kelly Arvidson  
(508) 678-0533

**MassHire Greater Brockton Workforce Board**  
Contact: Jason Hunter  
(508) 584-3234

**Brockton Redevelopment Authority**  
Contact: Eliza Wilson  
(508) 586-3887

**MassHire Greater Brockton Career Center**  
Contact: John Murray  
(508) 513-3400

**Center for Women & Enterprise**  
Contact: Berlhey Narcisse  
(617) 536-0700

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

**Massachusetts Office of Business Development (MOBD)**  
Contact: Alexandra Husted  
(617) 872-9926

**SCORE Business Counselors**  
Contact: Peter Smith  
(508) 587-2673

**Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network**  
Contact: Anne Fenton  
(508) 673-9783

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

**Massachusetts Supplier Diversity Office (SDO)**  
Contact: John Fitzpatrick  
(617) 720-3300

**U.S. Small Business Administration**  
Contact: Shelly Gillis  
(617) 565-5590

Avatons Consulting LLC



(781) 926-0979 • [www.avatons.com](http://www.avatons.com)

Avatons Consulting provides sell-side M&A advisory services for small business owners preparing to sell their businesses. Founded by Leston Welsh, FSA, MAAA, Avatons brings nearly 30 years of executive leadership and more than two decades of M&A experience. The firm provides strategic guidance in business valuation, sale readiness, positioning, deal structuring, negotiation, and transition planning.

Banner Environmental Services Inc.



31 Hayward Street Suite 2A/#205, Franklin, MA 02038  
(781) 934-6873 • [www.bannerenvironmental.com](http://www.bannerenvironmental.com)

Banner Environmental Services, Inc. provides environmental services for residential, municipal, commercial, and institutional projects throughout New England. With over 25 years of experience, the company specializes in asbestos abatement, mold remediation, testing and sampling, water damage cleanup, demolition, and commercial cleaning. Banner is fully licensed in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont and is WBE and DCAMM certified.

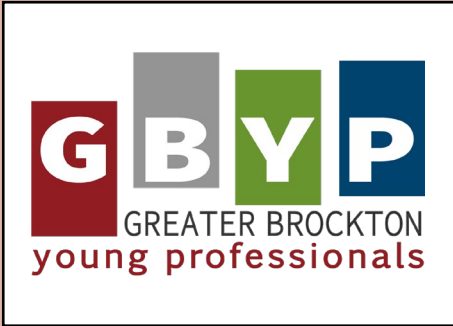
Destiny African Market & Variety Store



502 South Main Street, Randolph, MA 02368  
(508) 527-6322 • [www.destinyafricanmarket.com](http://www.destinyafricanmarket.com)

Destiny African Market is a family-run African grocery store and catering company serving the Randolph and South Shore area with authentic tropical and African foods and goods. The Afro-Caribbean-inspired store makes food products from across the African diaspora accessible, including yam, cassava grain, moin moin, dried fish and African snacks. The company also offers catering and meal preparation services.

Greater Brockton Young Professionals



50 School Street, Brockton, MA 02301  
(774) 428-7393 • [www.gbyp.org](http://www.gbyp.org)

Greater Brockton Young Professionals (GBYP) is a growing network of leaders, creatives, entrepreneurs, government officials, and changemakers committed to shaping the future of Brockton. GBYP provides opportunities to connect, collaborate, and grow through networking events, professional development, and community engagement, while encouraging civic engagement and economic development.

Scituate Light Caregivers LLC



966 Park Street, Stoughton, MA 02072  
(508) 436-3432 • [www.scituatelight.com](http://www.scituatelight.com)

Scituate Light Caregivers provides home health care, healthcare staffing, behavioral health and family counseling, and primary care services. Its mission is to provide quality home health care for seniors who desire to retain their independence at home or in an assisted living situation. The company is committed to creating a team of caring professionals dedicated to supporting its clients and their families.

Plymouth County Commission



44 Obrey Street, Plymouth, MA 02360  
(508) 830-9105 • [plymouthcountyma.gov](http://plymouthcountyma.gov)

Plymouth County has provided services to its citizens for more than 300 years and plays a vital role in the region. The County provides services to residents and its 27 constituent communities, including those mandated by law and others permitted through special legislation. The three-member Board of County Commissioners oversees the County's business and affairs, property, budget, and departments, working with elected officials and department heads.

Steel Hill Plumbing



475 Bedford Street, Abington, MA 02351  
(781) 384-5351 • [steelhillplumbing.com](http://steelhillplumbing.com)

Steel Hill Plumbing and Heating provides professional plumbing and heating services for homeowners and general contractors. The company offers boiler replacement, furnaces, water heater repair and replacement, tankless water heater installation and repair, oil-to-gas conversions, additions, and kitchen and bath remodels. Steel Hill Plumbing is committed to quality, long-lasting craftsmanship and a customer-first approach.

Brockton Post Acute Care



50 Christy's Place, Brockton, MA 02301  
(978) 604-2020 • [brocktonrehabhc.com](http://brocktonrehabhc.com)

Brockton Post Acute Care is a specialized care community providing post-acute rehabilitation and long-term care. The facility combines medical oversight with personalized rehabilitation to help patients heal, rebuild strength, and return to daily life with confidence. Services include physical, occupational and speech therapy, orthopedic rehabilitation, stroke recovery, cardiac and pulmonary care, wound management, and skilled nursing.

BUSINESS EVENTS *Planner*

**October 8**  
**36th Annual Legislative Reception**  
5:00PM - 7:30PM  
Donahue Hall, Stonehill College  
320 Washington Street, Easton

An evening of networking with business leaders, elected officials, and candidates for public office. Connect, exchange ideas, and discuss key issues impacting Metro South businesses at the local, state, and federal levels while enjoying complimentary refreshments and hors d'oeuvres. Sponsored by SCU Credit Union.

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

**October 16**  
**NEREJ/MSCC Business Summit**  
9:00AM - 12:00PM  
The Shaw's Center  
One Feinberg Way, Brockton

Join the Metro South Chamber and New England Real Estate Journal for a timely discussion on development and redevelopment from Brockton to Taunton, featuring insights on housing, transportation, infrastructure, and the future of the Metro South region.

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

**October 30**  
**Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening**  
11:00AM - 1:00PM  
Dental Essence  
233 Broad Street, Unit 15, Bridgewater

Join us for a Ribbon Cutting & Grand Opening Ceremony celebrating Dental Essence, a new patient-focused dental practice in Bridgewater founded by Dr. Khushbu Sopariwala, DMD. Come welcome Dental Essence to the Metro South business community and make new connections!

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)

**November 18**  
**113th Annual Meeting & B2B Expo**  
Expo: 10:30AM - 12PM & 1:30PM - 3PM  
Luncheon: 12PM - 1:30PM  
Adult & Teen Challenge Multipurpose Auditorium  
1315 Main Street, Brockton

Sponsored by NESB. Join us for the Metro South Chamber's 113th Annual Meeting with Guest Speaker, W.B. Mason CEO Leo Meehan. Economic Impact Awards, Giveaways, Recognitions, and more. Sponsorships available.

Register: [metrosouthchamber.com/events](http://metrosouthchamber.com/events)