

One SouthCoast

NAVIGATOR

CHARTING SUCCESS FOR SOUTHCOAST BUSINESS

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BUSINESS NEWS FOR AND ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE ONE SOUTHCOAST CHAMBER

MAY 2023

Spring Has Sprung and All is Well



I don't know what spring means to you, but to me it means a rebirth – some of which requires yard work, but I will stick to the positive. Spring means basketball and hockey playoffs, flowers in bloom, a return to optimism regarding my golf game and to a busy Chamber with events, educational programs, networking and advocacy.

One SouthCoast Chamber, as it refines its long range planning process has settled on the important pillars of our organization, four legs that hold up a strong stool to serve the business community. Those pillars are: Connect, Learn, Grow and Advocate. We exist to do many of the things that small businesses have challenges doing for themselves and to do so in ways that make it easy for the business community to engage.

Connect: One of the hallmarks of all chambers is networking, helping businesses meet each other with the purpose

of building their books of business and forging friendships that turn into referrals. Ask any Chamber member who attends networking events whether they have met new people who can help them do their business better or gain more customers and the answer is always the same resounding “Yes”. And we have members that for whatever reason cannot attend those events, and they reap benefits too. 80% of individuals polled nationally think better of a company if it is a chamber member, and our member directory is second only to our events page in searches.

Learn: One of the hardest things for any small business person is to find time to learn new and important skills to help them grow their businesses. We schedule online webinars with useful information about important topics at least monthly, recording each for later viewing on our YouTube channel. Whether it is marketing, social media, cybersecurity, human

resources issues, marijuana in the workplace or improving sales, these workshops and seminars provide useful tips available 24/7. And often these free seminars are led by members for members.

Grow: In this context, the Chamber is looking at the business community as a whole and the development of a positive ecosystem for growing the depth, breadth and success of the region. Whether big things like working for South Coast Rail, talking with prospective business owners, working with our partners at EforAll to engage entrepreneurs and helping them find the help they need to get started or educational improvements that benefit the entire region's residents and economy, the Chamber is committed to growing the economic base of this region and is the only entity engaged in this work.

Advocate: One SouthCoast Chamber, along with the nine other large chambers in Massachusetts, has helped form the Chamber Policy Network, a consortium designed to allow all parts of the Commonwealth business community speak with one voice on issues of importance at the state and federal level. We work together to advocate for business-friendly legislation, for reduced regulation where called for and for positive outcomes for our entire state. We advocate separately as well, working to ensure that our region has the attention and resources it needs to thrive economically.

So, as we look optimistically at our beautiful South Coast spring, please know that your Chamber stands with you in every way, even if the optimism for my golf game is a bit misplaced.


Mike O'Sullivan
CEO



SouthCoast Business Builders Breakfast
Thursday, May 11, 2023
8:30 AM - 10:30 AM
Diman Regional Vocational
Technical High School
251 Stonehaven Road
Fall River, MA

Business After Hours
Sponsored by: BankFive
Thursday, May 18, 2023
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
BankFive Somerset Branch
54 County Street
Somerset, MA

May 2023 Women's Power Lunch
Friday, May 19, 2023
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM
Pub 6T5
736 Ashley Boulevard
New Bedford, MA 02745

One SouthCoast Women's Forum - 2023
Wednesday, May 24, 2023
11:30 AM - 12:00 PM
White's of Westport
66 State Road
Westport, MA

Legislative Luncheon 2022
Friday, June 9, 2023
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
Rachel's Lakeside
950 State Road
Dartmouth, MA

For additional information and/or to register for events please visit:

www.members.onesouthcoast.com/events/

One SouthCoast Navigator is the official news publication of One SouthCoast Chamber

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New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 999.5231 • fax (508) 999.5237

Fall River Office:

200 Pocasset Street
Fall River, MA 02721
(508) 676.8226 • fax (508) 675.5932

General inquiries: info@onesouthcoast.com

Chamber Staff:

CEO, Michael O'Sullivan
Chief Operating Officer, Rick Kidder
Vice President of Finance & Operations, Dorothy Botelho, IOM
Vice President of Corporate Member Engagement & Sponsorships, Kimberly Coroa Moniz
Director of Events & Programs, Katie Greene
Director of Marketing & Communications, Jennifer Lourenco
Patti Rego, Executive Director, Viva Fall River
Ashley Occhino, Executive Director, Fall River Arts and Culture Coalition (FRACC)
Photographer, Sergio Dabdoub, BadMonkeyPics

2023 OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Executive Committee:

- Chair: Eileen Danahey, St. Anne's Credit Union
- Immediate Past Chair: Kim Perry, Waring-Sullivan Funeral Home
- Chair-Elect: Rose Lopes, Sylvia Group
- Treasurer: Matthew Schondek, Fall River Municipal Credit Union
- Vice Chair-Government Affairs: William Burns, Southcoast Health System
- Vice Chair-Small Business: Curtis Nelson, Nelson Insurance & Financial Services
- Vice Chair-Governance Committee: Doug Glassman, SERVPRO
- Vice Chair-One SouthCoast Chamber Foundation: Nicholas Christ, BayCoastBank
- Vice Chair-Diversity, Equity & Inclusion: Gail Fortes
- At Large: Paul Chasse, REALTOR® Association of Southeastern Massachusetts

Members of the Board of Directors:

Terms to Expire in December 2023:

- William Burns, Southcoast Health System
- Mike Bushell, St. Anne's Hospital
- Nicholas Christ, BayCoast Bank
- Stephen W. Connulty, Paul & Dixon Insurance
- Catherine Dillon, BankFive
- Charlie Fellows, LaFrance Hospitality
- Jeffrey Glassman, Darn It, Inc.
- Melody Lavoie, Medeiros, Lavoie & Wilson, Inc.
- Jeff Pagliuca, Bristol County Savings Bank

- Derek Santos, New Bedford Economic Development Council
- Matt Zenni, Liberty Utilities

Terms to Expire in December 2024:

- Nathan Araujo, Advance Career Services
- Kevin Carando, Acushnet Company
- Barbara Casagrande, AHEAD
- Ronald Ellis, Edward Jones
- Rose Lopes, Sylvia Group
- Lynne Mastera, Precix
- William Rocha, Gold Medal Bakery
- Douglas Rodrigues, D. E. Rodrigues & Company, Inc.
- Carl Sawejko, Sawejko Communications
- Matthew Schondek, Fall River Municipal Credit Union
- Bernadette Souza, Youth Opportunites Unlimited
- Michael Tavares, Horacio's, Inc.
- John Williams, UMASS-Dartmouth

Terms to Expire in December 2025:

- Dugan Becker, SouthCoast Wind
- Paul Chasse, REALTOR® Association of Southeastern Massachusetts
- Jenifer Cullen, Vineyard Wind
- Peter Daley, People Incorporated
- Eileen Danahey, St. Anne's Credit Union
- Dr. Laura Douglas, Bristol Community College
- Monte Ferris, RDA Insurance
- Gail Fortes, YWCA of Southeastern Massachusetts
- Doug Glassman, SERVPRO of Dartmouth/New Bedford & Marion / Middleboro
- Gary P. Howayeck, Esq.
- Anthony Medeiros, Mechanics Cooperative Bank
- Curtis Nelson, Nelson Insurance & Financial Services
- Arti Pacheco, New York Life
- Kim Perry, Waring-Sullivan Funeral Home

The Massachusetts Small Business Center (MSBDC) Network provides one-to-one free comprehensive and confidential services focusing on, business growth and strategies, financing and loan assistance as well as strategic, marketing and operational analysis. In addition, low cost educational training programs are offered across the state targeted to the needs of small business.

Massachusetts Small Business Development Center Network

200 Pocasset Street, Fall River, MA 02721
Phone: (508) 673.9783 Fax: (508) 674.1929
www.msbdc.org
www.facebook.com/msbdc



A graphic for the Women's Forum 2023. The word "WOMEN'S" is written in large, bold, red, sans-serif letters. The letter "O" is significantly larger than the others and is held up by a woman in a blue dress. Other women in various outfits are standing around the letters, some with their arms raised. Below this, the words "FORUM 2023" are written in a smaller, bold, red, sans-serif font.

Wednesday, May 24th
@ White's of Westport
66 State Road, Westport, MA
11:30 AM - 1 PM

\$40 for Chamber Members
\$55 for non Chamber Members
\$400 Tables of Ten

Keynote Speaker :
Danielle North



BUSINESS

AFTER HOURS

Thursday, May 18th
5pm - 7pm

BankFive Somerset Branch
54 County Street, Somerset MA

An illustration of a hand with the index finger pointing to a business card. The card is tilted and contains the text: "Bring your business card for a chance to win a YETI cooler!".

Bring your business
card for a chance to win
a YETI cooler!



Mallard Printing would like to introduce you to another new member of our team!

Say hello to EFI Pro 16h (We call him Eddy for short).

Along with Rick (Our new RICOH ProC9210 Digital Press) who you met last month. Eddy is our newest large format printer in our expanding large format department. This addition will increase our productivity allowing us to do more for you, our clients!

Like to meet Eddy or Rick? Give us a call to schedule a tour and formally be introduced!



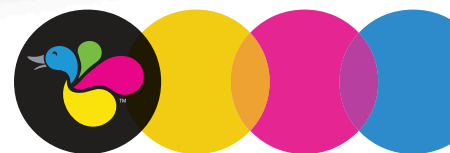
Howdy!



508.675.5733
mallardprinting.com



Mallard
PRINTING^U



AMBASSADOR

Spotlight



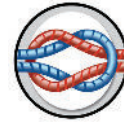
BETH ANDRE

Admissions Representative, Rob Roy Academy

Beth has over 10 years' experience of helping others to reach their career aspirations in the Cosmetology, Barber, and Esthetics field. As a licensed Cosmetologist herself and a graduate of Rob Roy Academy, every day is an opportunity to share her passion with the next generation of graduates in this rapidly growing industry

Beth serves as an Ambassador for One Southcoast Chamber of Commerce and on the Fall River Planning Board. She is very active at chamber events, women's business luncheons, and ribbon cuttings for new businesses.

As a lifelong resident, she is a lover of all things Fall River from local dining as an avid foodie, to community events, and she loves to dance. She values her friendships and loves to help and serve people as she takes pride in her many roles personally and professionally.



ONE SOUTH COAST
C H A M B E R
THE VOICE OF BUSINESS

2023 LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON



**FRIDAY, JUNE 9TH
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**

**RACHEL'S
LAKESIDE
DARTMOUTH, MA**

**\$50: Members
\$500: Member Table of ten
\$65: Non-Members
\$650 Non-Member Table of Ten**

**CONFIRMED TO BE
PRESENT:**

**STATE SENATOR
MICHAEL RODRIGUES**

**STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
TONY CABRAL**

**STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
CAROLE FIOLA**

**STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
PAUL SCHMID**

**STATE
REPRESENTATIVE
STEVEN HOWITT**

Premier Sponsors:

 **Southcoast Health**
More than medicine.



Good News!

FRACC Ignition Fund Awards 10 Mini-Grants to Fall River Creatives



The Fall River Arts & Culture Coalition (FRACC) has announced the recipients of the Ignition Fund mini-grants. The Coalition awarded a total of \$25,000 in mini-grants to ten individual creatives. Funds will be used to sustain, create and restore pandemic-impacted arts-related jobs and arts programming in Fall River, Massachusetts.

The Ignition Fund is a pilot grant program that brings a multifaceted approach to advancing the City's creative economic recovery and accelerated growth from the pandemic to "build back better". This grant's cash award encourages recipients to be entrepreneurial. Starting May 13th with "Nothing But Good Vibes" and running into early fall, each of the ten artists will implement a public-facing project to benefit and activate the City and the small businesses adjacent to the place-making sites.

The Ignition Fund also delivers technical assistance through four free virtual workshops led by professional artists and creative entrepreneurs, and registration is open to all. These workshops address the current needs of artists recovering from the ongoing pandemic and inform placemaking projects - including project planning, grant writing, marketing, and handling taxes/grants. Enrollment is now open for Essential Marketing for Creatives, which will be held on zoom June 7th from 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Register online and for more information visit thefracc.org/ignition-fund. Past workshops - providing project planning and grant writing - are available to watch for free online.

The Ignition Fund mini-grant recipients and projects include:

Mark Almeida
Traditional Native American Pow Wow

Workshop: Educate the community through traditional Native American storytelling and drumming performance.

Brooke Mullins Doherty
Orange Billows: A permanent installation of three wire and fabric sculptures suspended from the entryway of the DCR Fall River Heritage State Park Visitor Center. This artwork will create an ever-changing collaboration of sunlight and art.

Silvana Melo
Incantation: An artist showcase and creative writing workshop. Four current and former Fall River artist residents will speak about their creative process and invite audience participation to investigate creative practice.

Theloni Coleman
Asylum: An exhibition of paintings, drawings, and sculptures to present the emotions and physical appearances of abandoned buildings (i.e., state hospitals) in human form. Artworks intend to evoke public awareness to the condition of abandonment in the hopes of promoting restoration of various buildings left standing in decay.

Stephanie Enloe
Free Art Fridays: This project will provide five free, once-monthly arts and crafts engagements for the youth of Fall River from June to October.

Keith Silva/Rebekah Pontes
KS Choreography Mentorship Event: Providing a series of dance classes implemented by active, relevant, professional choreographers in Fall River. This project will give youth opportunities to overcome the financial burden associated with dance training.

Wendy Robitaille
Prints of Diversity: Community members will have their shoe or hand prints painted on the sidewalk at Kennedy Park by local artists. This display will attract public attention, brighten the park, educate, and ignite conversations about diversity.

Chandler Hearn
Olmsted Mural: A mural to honor Frederick Law Olmsted, the father of

landscape architecture and the nation's foremost parkmaker, on the side of the maintenance building in Kennedy Park.

Vania Marie Noverça Viveiros
"Nothing But Good Vibes" Second Saturdays Open Studio Event: This project will bring art, culture, and music together during an open studio artist event in May at the Narrows Center from 10-4.

The Ignition Fund is facilitated by FRACC, a committee of the One SouthCoast Chamber. The Ignition Fund is supported by TDI Creative Catalyst Grant Program which is administered by MassDevelopment and funded by the Barr Foundation.



BayCoast Bank Announces Promotions Within Cash Management Solutions Division

BayCoast Bank (baycoast.bank) is pleased to announce the promotions of four members of its Cash Management Solutions Division.

Diane Medeiros has been promoted to Vice President Cash Management Relationship Officer; Jordan Abat and Edmund Moniz have both been elevated to the position of Cash Management Relationship Officer; and Ryan Matteson now holds the title of Cash Management & Government Banking Relationship Officer.

The promotions will further strengthen the Cash Management Solutions Division which offers a full range of commercial client services, including business online banking, merchant services, positive pay/account reconciliation, remote deposit capture, lockbox services, and government banking - all services designed to complement and enhance the client experience.

"Our Cash Management Solutions team makes processes seamless," said David Hutchinson, First Vice President

of Business Development. "The entire BayCoast Bank family congratulates Diane, Jordan, Edmund, and Ryan on their promotions."



Diane Medeiros



Edmund Moniz



Ryan Matteson



Jordan Abat



NBSO Season Finale on May 20



On Saturday, May 20, the New Bedford Symphony Orchestra presents Korsantia Plays the "Emperor" at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center. Under the direction of Music Director Yaniv Dinur, the orchestra will perform works by Ludwig van Beethoven, Dimitri Shostakovich, and Valerie Coleman. The guest soloist for this concert is pianist Alexander Korsantia.

Dubbed "a major artist" by the Miami Herald and a "quiet maverick" by the Daily Telegraph, pianist Alexander Korsantia has been praised for the "clarity of his technique, richly varied tone and dynamic phrasing" (Baltimore Sun), and a "piano technique where difficulties simply do not exist" (Calgary Sun). Ever since winning the First Prize/Gold Medal at the Artur Schnabel Piano Master Competi-

tion and the First Prize at the Sydney International Piano Competition, Korsantia's career has taken him to many of the world's major concert halls, collaborating with renowned conductors such as Christoph Eschenbach, Gianandrea Noseda, Jansug Kakhidze, Valery Gergiev, and Paavo Järvi, with such orchestras as the Chicago Symphony, Kirov Orchestra, RAI Orchestra in Turin, The City of Birmingham Symphony, Cincinnati Symphony, and Israel Philharmonic.

The evening's program features three composers who, each in their own way, call for unity and peace. American composer Valerie Coleman writes an anthem for kindness and humanity that fights injustice and racism. Alexander Korsantia returns to the NBSO to perform the majestic Fifth Piano Concerto of Beethoven – perhaps the most famous humanist composer. The NBSO concludes the 2022-2023 season with Shostakovich's 10th Symphony, the piece that passes through pain and terror to finally reach immense joy. Using his own initials translated into musical notes, Shostakovich signifies the triumph of the individual over a terrorizing and dehumanizing regime.

Korsantia Plays the "Emperor" will take place on May 20, 7:30 p.m., at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center in downtown New Bedford. Please join Maestro Dinur and Mr. Korsantia for the pre-concert talk in the theater at 6:30 p.m. Doors to the theater will open at 6 p.m. for the talk and 7 p.m. for the concert.

Tickets are \$10-\$65, with \$5 student tickets (available at the box office only with student ID). Purchase tickets through the Z box office, 508-994-2900, or online at www.nbsymphony.org. Convenient concert parking is available in the Z garage for a \$4 cash fee and free parking is available on the streets surrounding the theatre.

There will also be an open rehearsal for this concert on Friday, May 19, from 3:00 to 5:30 PM at the Zeiterion Performing Arts Center. Admission is free but donations will be gladly accepted at the door. Seating is general admission, enter and leave as you please. No tickets or RSVP required. Please note that

this is a working rehearsal, and pieces may not be played in their entirety. A 20-minute break usually occurs sometime between 4 and 4:30 pm.



Vineyard Wind will begin delivering clean energy to Massachusetts in 2023



Vineyard Wind recently released an analysis compiled by UMass Dartmouth and Springline Research Group, that measures Vineyard Wind's job and economic progress. The report found that Vineyard Wind's reported numbers double the initial projections in both jobs created and economic output.

We are proud of the progress we are making not only for our project, but also for the growth of this new industry in the Commonwealth. 75.8% of Vineyard Wind employees and 65.2% of Grade 1 contractors are Massachusetts residents.

"For years, we've talked about the tremendous potential for positive job growth and economic impact that the offshore wind industry will have in Massachusetts. This report is proof that we are turning that potential into reality," said Vineyard Wind CEO Klaus S. Moeller.

Last year, our onshore construction team began working on the onshore infrastructure to connect the electricity generated offshore to the substation. The report states that "a total of 199 workers have been employed in 2022 thus far, with 105 of those workers being union employees," fulfilling a key component of the Project Labor Agreement (PLA) that was signed in July of 2021.

Additionally, we have hired local fisher-

men to support offshore construction activities.

Vineyard Wind will begin delivering clean energy to Massachusetts in 2023.

Our team is committed to delivering significant economic and environmental benefits to the Commonwealth and we look forward to continue working collaboratively with local stakeholders.



Mother's Day Tea at the Rotch-Jones-Duff House

Celebrate spring and mothers with a tea party in the historic garden of the Rotch-Jones-Duff House & Garden Museum (RJD) on Saturday, May 13, at 1 p.m. Parties of up to eight can enjoy classic tea party fare (tea, sandwiches, scones, and desserts) on the tented patio of the Museum. Spring hats and dress are encouraged!

The Museum gardens include a formal boxwood rose parterre garden, a boxwood specimen garden, a woodland area as well as a lovely 19th century wooden lattice pergola. Guests are encouraged to linger in the garden before

or after their luncheon.

Tickets are \$25 per person and must be purchased by Friday, May 5. Admission to the historic house is included in the ticket price. To purchase tickets, go to <https://rjdmuseum.org/> or call the Museum at 508-997-1401. A 48-hour notice is required to receive a refund for canceled reservations.



Do you have good news?
Please email information to:
info@onesouthcoast.com



LW LightWorks Productions Inc.
Event Sound & Lighting Services

- Indoor/Outdoor
- Weddings
- Festivals
- Corporate Events
- Theatre
- Concerts
- Speeches
- Parties

www.lightworksproductions.net 508-993-1085

NBCU ANNOUNCES NEW CFO



NBCU is pleased to announce Eric Schiffrine as the new Chief Financial Officer. He is responsible

for overseeing the Credit Union's financial operations including accounting, reporting, investments, treasury, asset and liability management.

Eric is a highly experienced finance professional with over 20 years of experience working for large financial institutions. He began his career at AXA, one of the world's largest insurance and banking companies where he worked in a variety of leadership positions in France and the United States across corporate finance, treasury, M&A, risk management, accounting, FP&A and audit. Prior to joining NBCU, Eric served as a senior corporate finance advisor to Maestro Health. He also served as a vice president of internal audit for Equitable

(NYSE: EQH) and head of corporate development leading major strategic growth initiatives including acquisition projects ranging from \$80 million - \$1.0 billion.

Eric holds a Master of Science degree in Finance from one of Europe's leading business schools, Institut Supérieur de Gestion (ISG) School of Management. He currently resides in Rhode Island with his spouse and three children and is an avid sailor and marathon runner.

###

About NBCU

NBCU membership extends into many communities and is open to those who are employees of the City of New Bedford includ-

ing pensioned employees of the Credit Union, or family members of such employees. Also eligible in this membership are persons who live, work, or attend school in Bristol County, the towns of Rochester, Marion, Mattapoisett, Wareham, Lakeville, Middleboro, Carver, Plymouth, Raynham and Bridgewater in Plymouth County, the towns of Bourne, Buzzards Bay, Falmouth, Mashpee, Sandwich, Barnstable and Yarmouth in Barnstable County, and the towns of Little Compton and Tiverton in Newport County, Rhode Island, and the family members of such persons. For more information on NBCU visit nbcu4u.com or call 508.994.6546.

WOMEN'S POWER LUNCH

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Friday, May 19, 2023
12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Limited
to 30
attendees



Come Join Us!



Pub 6T5
BAR & GRILL

Pub 6T5
736 Ashley Blvd
New Bedford, MA 02745

Join us for breakfast and networking!

Business Builders

\$15 PER PERSON

8:30 - 10:00 AM

BREAKFAST

@ HEALTHFIRST
387 QUARRY ST.
FALL RIVER

HealthFirst
Family Care Center, Inc.
Heart of Our Community



**Fall River State of Business
with Mayor Paul Coogan
McGovern's
Fall River, MA**



**Fall River State of Business
with Mayor Paul Coogan
McGovern's
Fall River, MA**



**Grand Opening/Ribbon
Cutting
The Current Healing Arts
New Bedford, MA**



RECENT EVENTS



**Chamber Ambassador Luncheon
Barcellos Family Restaurant
Tiverton, RI**



**One SouthCoast Job Fair
White's of Westport
Westport, MA**

Gaspar's Sausage Company Celebrates 100 Years



One of the largest manufacturers of Portuguese sausage in the country, Massachusetts-based Gaspar's Sausage Company, Inc. is hitting a milestone this year few other food brands ever achieve—its 100th-year anniversary as a family-owned business.

"It is a symbol—the traditional sausage carried on for five generations. More than a way of living, it is a legacy, part of our Portuguese heritage," says Robert ("Bob") Gaspar, who runs the business along with his cousin Charles ("Charlie") Gaspar and fourth-generation sons of Charlie, Chuck and Randy. Also involved in the business are fifth-generation brothers Jeffery and Billy Gaspar.

The company's mainstay products are linguça, a mild smoked sausage, and its spicier cousin, chouriço. These are readily available in supermarkets up and down the East Coast, particularly in areas having Portuguese-American populations—including parts of New England, Virginia, the Carolinas, Florida, and New York-New Jersey—where Gaspar's sausages can be found in major chains such as Stop & Shop, Shaw's, Market Bas-

ket, Hannaford, ShopRite, Trucchi's, Publix, and Dave's Market in Rhode Island among many others.

Gaspar's products can even be found in Bermuda. The company also operates a retail store at its headquarters and has a thriving mail-order/online business, bringing its products to nearly every state and overseas to U.S. military.

The family's sausage-making legacy began in 1923 in New Bedford, Massachusetts, in the backyard garage of Manuel A. and Justina Gaspar, who had emigrated from Portugal in 1912. Like many immigrants, they came to the U.S. in search of a better life, and Justina's family recipes for Portuguese sausage became the means to that end. Instead of working for low wages in the area's textile mills, Manuel turned to sausage-making, drawing on his own vision and skills and the formulas that, unbeknownst to him at the time, would secure his family's future for more than four generations.

In the beginning, Manuel himself would grind the pork, add the spices, and stuff the mixture into casings, which were hung and then

smoked by fires lit by hand. His sons—Alfred, Joseph, Charles, Tobias and Fernando—would help out after school chopping garlic, hanging the sausage, or later, making deliveries around New England in a Model T Ford.

Manuel passed away in 1955 after seeing his little family business grow into a larger, more successful company than he probably would have imagined. By the time of his death, with the company thriving, operations had moved to a larger facility in New Bedford with four of his sons at the helm.

A staple in Portuguese cooking, Gaspar's sausages had always been well suited for a mail-order business, which provided an easy and economical way for the company to distribute its sausages to Portuguese-Americans scattered around the country. But the Gaspar family was ready for more.

By the company's 50th anniversary in 1973, Gaspar's products had made their way into the American consumer market. Before long, linguça and chouriço found their way into traditionally Anglo-American and international cuisine, in every-

thing from breakfast omelets to dinner entrees. Regionally, Gaspar's sausages added smoky flavor to New England clam boils, linguça franks were on the grill at Fourth of July barbecues, and thin-sliced linguça was giving pepperoni a run for its money as a favorite pizza topping.

As business continued to boom, the company moved again in 1981 to a larger, 36,000-square-foot facility in nearby Dartmouth, its current location. Bob and Charlie Gaspar, Manuel's grandsons, led the company through the expansion and still run the business today.

A household name in some geographic areas, Gaspar's today employs a staff of approximately 60, including fifth-generation family members. Producing well over three million pounds of sausage each year, the company has expanded its facilities yet again, along with its product line. In addition to pork and turkey linguça and chouriço sold in links, franks, slices, patties, ground, loaves, and bite-sized pieces, Gaspar's now offers Mexican chorizos, Andouille, and kielbasa.

It's no easy feat staying true to family tradition while keeping a business afloat, and consistently growing, through more than 100 years in the food industry. As Robert Gaspar has said, "We maintain a family atmosphere...It isn't only a business, it's a tradition."

While the technology has advanced—the company's manufacturing and packaging processes utilize state-of-the-art equipment—Gaspar's still uses the same ingredients it has always used, and retains the same focus on family, community involvement and customer service that are the hallmarks of the business. Clearly, it's a winning formula for success.



Bottom Line Concepts
PO Box 1682
Eastham, MA 02651
(617) 359.0000

Altus Dental Insurance Company
10 Charles Street
Providence, RI 02904
(401) 457.7226
www.altusdental.com

Whaling City
Title & Closing, LLC
72 N. Water St., 3rd Floor
New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 858.5725
www.facebook.com/walshtitleandclosing

Brookdale Sakonnet Bay
1215 Main Road
Tiverton, RI 02878
(401) 624.1880
www.brookdale.com/en/communities/brookdale-sakonnet-bay.html

A&J Auto Group
1025 County St.
New Bedford, MA 02746
(774) 202.7440
<http://ajautogrouppnb.com>

Homebridge Financial Services, Inc.
600 Main Street Suite 1
Walpole, MA 02081
(774) 294.6525
www.Homebridge.com/loan-originator/casey-bachli/

Lavish Nails Creation by Ashley
1792 Pleasant St.
Fall River, MA 02723
(508) 723.6578

WHALE - Waterfront Historic Area League
15 Johnny Cake Hill
New Bedford, MA 02740
(401) 835.8508
www.waterfrontleague.org

Sisters of Solace Holistic Healing Center
700 American Legion Hwy
Westport, MA 02790
(508) 636.4668
<http://sistersofsolace.net>


Venus de Milo Restaurant
75 GAR Highway
Swansea, MA 02777
(508) 678.3901
www.venusdemilo.com

New Bedford Ocean Cluster
1213 Purchase Street
New Bedford, MA 02740
(508) 474.8902
www.newbedfordoceancluster.org


Origen Bar and Grill
159 South Main St.
Fall River, MA 02721
(774) 955.2994

New England Farms
2201 Cranberry Hwy
W. Wareham, MA 02576
(781) 475.8801
www.ne-farms.com

Turowski2 Architecture, Inc.
227 Union St, Suite 301
New Bedford, MA 02740
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Commonwealth Utilities Federal Credit Union's Members Approve Merger



On Friday, March 31, 2023, members of Commonwealth Utilities Federal Credit Union (CUFCU) voted to approve a merger with Taunton Federal Credit Union (TFCU). The merger will bring enhanced operational efficiency to CUFCU and further expand TFCU's footprint into the Plymouth County area.

Founded in 1947, TFCU is a federally chartered credit union serving Bristol, Plymouth & Barnstable Counties in MA, as well as the majority of Rhode Island. TFCU has \$284 million in assets, 17,500 members and 5 locations. TFCU is excited for the opportunity to bring its exceptional member service and vast range of products and services to Marion and the surrounding areas.

CUFCU was established in 1926 by New Bedford Gas and Edison Light Company employees, with an expanded charter approved in 1934 to include employees of other local utility companies.

CUFCU has \$49 million in assets, 1,600 members and 1 location. The merger provides CUFCU members with access to 5 additional branch locations and an expanded offering of products and services.

The existing CUFCU office on 312 Wareham Road in Marion will be re-branded as a full service TFCU branch. The combined Credit Union now has assets in excess of \$333 million, serving nearly 19,000 members with 6 branches across Southeastern Massachusetts. TFCU expects to fully complete the operational merger by the 3rd quarter of this year, but with the addition of COOP Shared Branching, CUFCU members may begin taking advantage of TFCU's products, services and locations now.

"It is with great pride that TFCU announces this momentous occasion. The addition of Commonwealth Utilities Federal Credit Union to TFCU, not

only combines our financial strengths and introduces enhanced operational efficiency, but it links two organizations with similar cultures and goals. We'll now be working together to continue building the Credit Union Movement across Southeastern Massachusetts. On behalf of The TFCU Team and the Board of Directors, we welcome our new TFCU Members, and we look forward to providing you with the banking products and service you expect" said Nelson Tavares, President & CEO of Taunton Federal Credit Union. "I'd like to also extend a warm welcome to the entire CUFCU Staff as they join the TFCU Family, we're so pleased that they will continue on with us at the former CUFCU office to continue servicing you. Thank you to Brenda Mahoney (CUFCU Board Chair), Gloria Camara (CUFCU Manager), and the entire board and staff of CUFCU for their efforts through this process and I look forward to continued success for our collective credit union".

"The CUFCU staff are excited to join the talented group of employees at Taunton Federal Credit Union. Having worked with Nelson Tavares, President & CEO, and his executive management team over the past few months has only confirmed why our Board of Directors decided on TFCU as a viable partner" said Gloria Camara, Operations Manager of Commonwealth Utilities Federal Credit Union. "From day one, their number one priority has been to do what is right for our members and staff, and I believe that they will continue to abide by that. I also believe that our membership will benefit tremendously from their broad range of products and services, as well as their 5 other branch locations. We are happy to expand our field of membership and look forward to continuing to provide superior member service to our existing members. We are honored to join the TFCU family."



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Fall River Celebrates Art & Culture! We HeART Fall River Festival Brings Free Family Fun to Downtown May 13th

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AND MORE!

On Saturday, May 13th the 3rd annual We HeART Fall River Festival will take place in Downtown Fall River from 11am – 3pm. This family-friendly event is free to attend and will take place on the south side of the Government Center along Sullivan Drive and include vendors, food trucks, live entertainment, arts activities, and community resources.

This annual community festival invites attendees to come together in a unified celebration of the power of the arts and culture to make a difference and to change our lives and our City for the better. The event is presented by the Fall River Arts & Culture Coalition (FRACC) and Viva Fall River, in partnership with The City of Fall River, The Narrows Center for the Arts,

and the Fall River Farmers & Artisans Market, with support from the Mass Cultural Council and the Fall River Cultural Council.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS & AREAS

MAKERS MARKET on Old Second Street, pedestrian walkway located between Third St. and Sullivan Dr. Hours: 11am - 3pm

A nod to the maker spirit of the City, this Market will showcase 40 of the area's "artrepreneurs," offering a variety of items for sale. From original artwork and hand-made décor to body care, jewelry and clothing, this Market is the perfect place to get a unique gift for Mother's Day AND support a local

artisan. (Full vendor list attached and posted online.) Local band Roots Run Wild will also perform from 11am - 1pm in the Makers Area.

FALL RIVER EATS! FOOD TRUCK AREA

The event will include a diverse array of local food truck favorites, including What's Up Cupcake, Green Jar Cocina, Pop's Mobile Brick Oven Pizza, JQ Cheesesteaks, and Del's Lemonade Somerset. The area will also showcase 2 of the city's small businesses, Mario's Lebanese Bakery and Hong Meas Restaurant, which will be serving their signature cultural food.

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Fall River's creative and talented community will take center stage on Sullivan Drive with performances from 11am – 12:45pm:

The headlining musical performance will take place from 1-4pm. The Narrows Center for the Arts presents Colby James and the Ramblers. People are free to bring chairs or blankets to watch the performance.

For the 2nd year, Troy City Brewing will be onsite selling their local craft brews from 12-4 pm. 21+ only.

ALL AGES ACTIVITIES

Come and explore the best activi-

ties and organizations that the South Coast has to offer! Learn more about what's going on in your community and engage in free kids Activities, art projects, giveaways, and LOTS of fun things to do!

Local community and arts organizations will also host craft and art activities at their tables; participating organizations include: Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol County, Children's Museum of Greater Fall River, Department of Children and Families, Fall River Arts & Culture Coalition, Fall River Arts Project, Fall River Comprehensive Treatment Center, Fall River Deaconess Home, Fall River Public Library, Fall River YMCA, Mass Audubon, People Incorporated, SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc., SourceHub, South Coast Creative Arts Lab, Southcoast Health, and The Trustees.

More information about the event can be found at www.fallriverartsandculturecoalition.org/we-heart and on Facebook at bit.ly/WHFR2023.

We HeART Fall River is once again pleased to be a part of SouthCoast Spring Arts, a 10-day celebration (May 5-14) of the place and presence of the arts in our communities. Visit southcoastspringarts.org for more information on events around the SouthCoast, from Wareham to Fall River!

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Child & Family Services Names New Chief Executive Officer



We are excited to share the news that Child & Family Services marks its 180th anniversary this year and has just named a new Chief Executive Officer!

Wendy Botelho, a native of Fall River, is a graduate of Durfee High School and UMASS Dartmouth where she earned both her undergraduate and Master's degree. She is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor and was chosen for the post following a 4-month recruitment, vetting and interview process conducted by the Board of Director's Succession Planning Committee.

Wendy Botelho has worked at Child &

Family Services for 17 years – starting as an outpatient clinician and progressing to Vice President of Acute Care Services in 2016. As a member of the Senior Management Team, she was directly responsible for the current acute care programs within CFS: Emergency Services (ESP), now known as Mobile Crisis Intervention (MCI) New Bedford, Fall River and Plymouth locations, Community Crisis Stabilization (CCS), and Youth Community Crisis Stabilization (YCCS), formerly known as Community Based Acute Treatment (CBAT).

"In the past 17 years here at Child & Family Services, I have witnessed the growth of the agency and staff and have seen the positive outcomes for the community and our clients," said Wendy. "I am honored at this opportunity to lead an agency with a mission I care deeply about. Relationships, communication, and transparency will be at the forefront of my leadership. My goal is to continue engaging the team to

provide outstanding, accessible mental health and substance use services to the communities we serve."

Wendy will succeed Anne Sampaio who held the post from 2009 to her upcoming retirement in June. Anne has worked at Child & Family Services for 44 years – starting on the programmatic side in the adoption program, progressing to supervisory and management positions. Throughout the years she also held such positions as Clinical Therapist, Community Support Manager, Director of Child Welfare Services and Site Director of the agency's Fall River site before taking on her position as CEO. Anne has successfully led the agency through significant growth in programs and workforce.

"I am thrilled at the choice of Wendy Botelho to lead Child & Family Services," said Anne. "Wendy has a deep understanding of the need for quality and diverse services to treat and support individuals with mental health and

substance use issues across the lifespan. Over the years I have witnessed her exceptional commitment and dedication to our clients, staff, and community. I have every confidence in her ability to lead Child & Family Services."

Carl Taber, CFS Board President, stated "the Succession Planning Committee and the Board of Directors felt that Wendy was the right choice to fill Anne's role as Chief Executive Officer given her vast experience and familiarity with the agency having worked at C&FS for 17 years. Given the ongoing changes in mental health services it was critical that the new CEO be well versed in this aspect of health care and Wendy fit that profile perfectly along with her other qualifications. The Board stands committed to assisting Wendy in her new role and we look forward to working with her to ensure that C&FS continues to provide the high level of social services to children and families that our communities have come to expect."

Digital Tech Partners Expands Impact to Small to Medium Enterprises in Massachusetts



Digital Tech Partners, Inc (DTP), a leading provider of cybersecurity solutions, is pleased to announce the launch of its new comprehensive risk assessment services for businesses of all sizes. With the ever-increasing threats to data and information security, it's imperative for companies to assess their risks and take proactive measures to safeguard their assets. Digital Tech Partners is committed to Detecting vulnerabilities, Transforming business and technical operations, and Protecting our clients' livelihood.

These risk assessment services are designed to identify and evaluate potential vulnerabilities in a company's systems and processes, as well as assess the likelihood and potential impact of a security breach. DTP services are tailored to the specific needs of each client and cover a wide range of areas including mistakes, assumptions, cybercrime, insurance gaps, and compliance.

"We are thrilled to offer our clients a comprehensive risk assessment service that will help them identify and mitigate potential cybersecurity risks," said John Danahey, Partner of Digital Tech Partners, Inc. "Our team of cybersecurity experts have extensive experience in identifying vulnerabilities and assessing risk across a wide range of industries. We understand that each business has unique needs and risks, and we are committed to providing personalized solutions that meet their specific requirements."

DTP's service offerings are based on industry best practices and standards, including the NIST Cybersecurity Framework, ISO/IEC 27001, The Center for Internet Security, HIPAA security rule and other common cybersecurity frameworks. These services are designed to provide clients with a clear understanding of their cybersecurity posture, including recommendations for remediation and risk mitigation.

DTP offers these valuable services with an industry unique way to reduce or eliminate the cost to clients. Please visit digitaltechpartners.com or contact John Danahey at 339.204.5435 or jdanahey@digitaltechpartners.com.

About Digital Tech Partners

Digital Tech Partners, Inc is a leading provider of cybersecurity solutions for businesses of all sizes. It offers a wide range of services, including risk

assessment, penetration testing, threat intelligence, incident response, and compliance consulting. Digital Tech Partners, Inc is committed to helping clients protect their valuable data and assets from cyber threats through innovative and effective cybersecurity solutions.

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United Way of Greater Fall River Welcomes New Marketing & Community Engagement Coordinator



United Way of Greater Fall River (UWGFR) is thrilled to announce that Janine Pohorely has joined their team as the new Marketing and Community Engagement Coordinator. Janine will be responsible for the planning, design, and execution of UWGFR's public relations, promotional programs, and special

events, along with spearheading the organization's community engagement efforts.

Executive Director, Kim Smith is "excited to welcome Janine who comes to us with a strong background in marketing, strategic planning, and events management". Smith "is looking forward to what Pohorely will bring to the role as well as her eagerness to foster new and existing relationships in the communities we serve."

Janine joins the team with an MBA in Events Management from Johnson & Wales University. She grew up in New Jersey and moved to the area to attend Emerson College where

she earned a BS in Marketing Communications. She currently lives in Dighton where she is establishing new roots, and is enjoying exploring the rural community through local trails that highlight the area's natural beauty.

"It is a privilege to be able to share my talents with such an accomplished team at UWGFR as it offers the opportunity to put my experience into action and make a positive impact on the region where I now call home," added Janine.

United Way of Greater Fall River believes that everyone deserves opportunities for a good life: a quality education

that leads to sustaining job opportunities, enough income to support a family, and a good, healthy lifestyle that increases life expectancy.

It takes everyone in the community working together to create a brighter future. To learn more about United Way or how you can get involved, visit www.uwgfr.org or follow @United-WayGFR on social media.



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