

One SouthCoast NAVIGATOR

CHARTING SUCCESS FOR SOUTHCOAST BUSINESS

Upcoming Events.....	4
Good News.....	6
Recent Events.....	8
Welcome New Members.....	10
Member Discounts.....	18

BUSINESS NEWS FOR AND ABOUT MEMBERS OF THE ONE SOUTHCOAST CHAMBER

NOVEMBER 2023

November is Small Business Month!



From the Chamber's perspective, every month should be Small Business Month! The small businesses of our region are the backbone of our economy, and the vast majority are home-grown enterprises that employ the vast majority of our residents.

Every small business in our region is led by a risk-taker, someone who puts their time, talents and treasure on the line every day to employ people, serve the clientele and their employees well, and contribute the lion's share of the economic activity that makes the South Coast so vibrant and successful.

Chamber member companies employ roughly 50,000 individuals who take care of their families, pay taxes every year and perhaps also dream to one day own their own company. Talk with any small business person and he or she will tell you that it is never easy and it is never a sure thing. Throughout the pandemic, some companies failed. Still others, the vast majority, got through,

found ways to change and adapt and are still with us today.

In order to support our small business members, the Chamber offers an array of programs and services designed with the small business in mind. Our recent panel discussion on family-owned businesses was a sell-out, and we expect the same for our November panel discussion on women-owned and women-led compa-

nies. These leaders are impressive and have much to offer from their successes and challenges.

We also have partners without whom we would not be able to execute on our mission to support small businesses. The Massachusetts Small Business Development Centers are a significant partner who, along with SCORE, are dedicated to helping people go from a great idea to a great business, and they are a source of tremendous expertise and access to wisdom and often guide their clients toward access to capital and the development of a solid business plan.

EforAll is a substantial and important partner for the Chamber as well. This program is a boot camp for getting a business started, a program that helps individuals learn the language of business, develop skills in the parts of operating and funding a business and provides a deep dive from idea to real-

ity. Their pitch contests provide funding for some of those businesses, providing seed money to these dedicated individuals. Chamber members have served for many years as mentors in the program, helping guide individuals, many of who are from underserved populations to execute their ideas and make them real businesses.

Our Federal partner is the Small Business Administration, the national clearinghouse for all things small business, and we rely on their expertise and their funding mechanisms to help businesses succeed. SEED is an SBA lender, allowing banks to spread their risk through this important piece – access to capital.

Our education partners, Bristol Community College and UMass-Dartmouth do a masterful job of supporting workforce development by educating and training our workforce, and the Chamber supports their important efforts, not just as trainers, but as means to improve educational attainment in our region and raise our standard of living. Many of their students are the first in their families to engage in higher education, and studies show that the key to uplifting the economy for all is a strong education. All of this begins with preschool to grade 12 excellence, and the Chamber works with school districts to support their mission.

Small Business Month may be November officially, but for One SouthCoast Chamber, celebrating small business is a 12 month priority. Happy Small Business Month, and please support your local small businesses!


Mike O'Sullivan
CEO



OSC HR Council/DEI Committee
Women-Owned Business Panel
Tuesday, November 28
11:30 AM
Fall River Country Club

Holiday Business After Hours
Sponsored by: Carl's Collision and
Lafrance Hospitality
Thursday, December 7
5 PM - 7 PM
White's of Westport

One SouthCoast Annual Meeting
Brayton & Apex Awards Breakfast
Wednesday, December 13
7:30 AM - 9:30 AM
Whites of Westport

December Women's Power Lunch
Friday, December 15
12 PM - 1:30 PM
222 Union Restaurant and Bar

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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Chief Operating Officer, Rick Kidder
Vice President of Finance & Operations, Dorothy Botelho, IOM
Vice President of Corporate Member Engagement & Sponsorships, Kimberly Coroa Moniz
Vice President of Marketing & Events, Katie Greene
Vice President of Public Policy, Ian Trombly
Director of Membership & Retention, Clifford Athouriste
Marketing & Communications Coordinator, Hunter Tackett
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.

- 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
- 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, Venus de Milo
- 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.msdbc.org
www.facebook.com/msdbc

Mallard



Women's **POWER LUNCH**

AT 222 UNION RESTAURANT & BAR
inside the New Bedford Harbor hotel

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 | 12 -1:30 PM

Bring an unwrapped toy to be entered into the raffle


ONE SOUTH COAST
CHAMBER

**ANNUAL
MEETING,**
BRAYTON & APEX AWARDS

Wednesday, December 13, 2023
7:30 AM | White's of Westport

Tickets available online at
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Good News!

Bristol County Savings Bank Promotes Five to Senior Vice President

Bristol County Savings Bank (BCSB), headquartered in Taunton, Massachusetts, announces it has recently promoted Jeffrey Bradley, Michael E. Coppolino, Jessica A. Krywosa, Elizabeth Soares and Renee Vallee to the position of Senior Vice President.



In his new position as Senior Vice President/Community Relations, **Jeff Bradley** is responsible for the day-to-day management of the Bristol County Savings Charitable Foundation and the Bank's community involvement efforts, as well as outreach to community leaders, centers of influence and community agencies to build/strengthen relationships, identify community needs and to seek out opportunities for investment and support. Prior to his new position, Bradley held several positions at the Bank, including VP/Community Relations, VP/Marketing Officer and Digital & Event Marketing Manager. Previously, Bradley served as Director of Community Relations for the Pawtucket Red Sox.

Active in the community, Bradley is currently a Board Member for HopeHealth in Providence, Rhode Island and the Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket, Pawtucket, Rhode Island; Foundation Member of the Sturdy Health Foundation, Attleboro, Massachusetts; Incorporator for the Hockomock Area YMCA, North Attleboro, Massachusetts; and a Community Impact Committee member for United Way of Massachusetts Bay. He also serves as a volunteer with One SouthCoast Chamber, Fall River, Massachusetts; SouthCoast Community Foundation, New Bedford, Massachusetts; the Old Colony YMCA, Taunton, Massachusetts; and the Massachusetts Bankers Association. Bradley earned his bachelor's degree in Finance from Providence College and is also a graduate, with honors, from the New England

School for Financial Studies at Babson College, Wellesley, Massachusetts. He is currently enrolled in the American Bankers Association's Stonier Graduate School of Banking at the Wharton School, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Bradley resides in Attleboro, Massachusetts.



As Senior Vice President, Chief Risk Officer, **Michael Coppolino** is responsible for the Bank's Enterprise Risk Management program and the second line risk management functions at the Bank. Previously, Coppolino had served as the Bank's Vice President, Risk Manager since November 2018. Prior to his tenure at Bristol County Savings Bank, Coppolino held the positions of Director, Risk Management at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island in Providence, Rhode Island and Vice President, Business Unit Risk Manager at RBS Citizens NA in Cranston, Rhode Island. Active with several professional organizations, he has served on the Board of Directors for the Massachusetts Chapter of the Risk and Insurance Management Society (MRIMS) and is a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) and the Project Management Institute (PMI).

Coppolino, who earned his Master of Business Administration (MBA) from Bryant University, Smithfield, Rhode Island, is also a certified internal auditor (CIA), Project Management Professional (PMP) and has a Masters Certificate in Information Security Management. Coppolino resides in North Attleboro, Massachusetts.



Jessica A. Krywosa, new Senior Vice

President/Digital Strategy, oversees digital analysis, planning and strategy, including overall digital experience and enhancement for the Bank. Prior to her promotion, Krywosa served as VP/Digital Strategy and VP/Digital Marketing Strategist for the Bank. Previously, she held the position of Marketing Director for DockYard, Inc. in Boston, Massachusetts while also running her own marketing consulting business, Krywosa IMC. She also served as Director of Digital Marketing at Wellesley College, Wellesley, Massachusetts; Director of Social Media for Hamilton College, Clinton, New York; and Director of Web Communications at Suffolk University in Boston. In 2020, Krywosa received the Emerging Leader Award from the Mass Bankers Association – Women in Banking. She earned her bachelor's degree in Communication Studies from Northeastern University and her master's degree in Integrated Marketing Communications from Emerson College, both in Boston.



In her new position as Senior Vice President/Network Administrator, **Elizabeth Soares** is responsible for the installation, monitoring and ongoing management of the Bank's information systems, network and host security systems, as well as all duties relative to network security and business continuity planning, testing and preparedness. Previously, she served as VP/Information Systems and Technology Network Administrator for the Bank. Prior to her tenure at the Bank, Soares held the positions of Business Analyst-Information Technology for Cambridgeport Bank, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Active in the community, she is fluent in Portuguese and was Past-President of the Prince Henry Society Taunton Chapter and named Portuguese-American of the Year by the organization in 2019. Soares is currently the Secretary for the Prince

Henry Society State Council and is a member of the Heart of Taunton. She earned her associates degree in Business from New England College of Business & Finance, Boston, Massachusetts and received a certificate from the Massachusetts Bankers Association's New England School for Financial Studies at Babson College, Wellesley, Massachusetts. Soares resides in Rehoboth, Massachusetts.



As Senior Vice President/Chief Audit Executive, **Renee Vallee** oversees the activities of the Audit Department. She creates and directs the execution of the audit plan, which tests the Bank's financial information, internal controls, and systems, to provide assurance that key risks have been identified and managed in an effective and efficient manner. Prior to her promotion, she served as VP/Internal Audit Director and AVP/Internal Auditor at the Bank. Previously, Vallee was AVP - Credit Department Manager, as well as Audit Officer, at CompassBank in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Vallee began her career as an Assistant Auditor for St. Anne's Credit Union in Fall River, Massachusetts. A Certified Bank Auditor, she is a member and Past President of the Massachusetts Bank Internal Auditors and a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA), Rhode Island Chapter. Vallee earned her associates degree in Accounting from Bristol Community College, Fall River, Massachusetts and currently resides in Fall River.



HEED Coalition and New Bedford Public Schools Partner to Revolutionize Early Childhood Development

Andrew O'Leary, Interim Superintendent of New Bedford Public Schools, said: "Early education can be simple and can be complex. We simply need nurturing environments where our youngest children can thrive. However, statewide and nationally, there exists a complex array of service delivery models to navigate. Our partnership with HEED is not solely about education; it's about public health and focusing on the well-being of our community's youngest members and recognizing the profound impact of early experiences setting the stage for their lifelong success."

Kelley Rebeiro-Oliveira, Executive Director of the HEED Coalition and leader of The Basics Southcoast, describes the collaboration with the New Bedford Public Schools as a visionary approach to early childhood development. By merging their expertise, these organizations aim to create a comprehensive support system that addresses academic and emotional development.

Rebeiro-Oliveira extolled her excitement in partnering with Andrew O'Leary. "In the world of education, leadership that combines vision, dedication to equity, and a profound understanding of policy and finance is truly a rare find, and Superintendent Andrew O'Leary has already demonstrated these qualities and skills in his first 100 days at the helm of the New Bedford School Department. In today's rapidly evolving landscape, the importance of early childhood development and education cannot be overstated. At HEED, we firmly believe it goes beyond academic preparation. It is about nurturing lifelong success, encompassing both academic achievements and social-emotional well-being, and at its core, it is about fostering positive relationships between parents, caregivers, and children in the home environment."

Key to this partnership is the incorporation of The Basics initiative, founded at Harvard by Dr. Ron Ferguson. The Basics are built on five fundamental principles rooted in neuroscience re-

search that form a common language and strategies for communities to share. "The Basics initiative is now practiced in over 100 cities in the U.S. and four countries," remarked Zoe Hansen-DiBello, Senior Liaison to The Basics Learning Network at The Basics, Inc. "We have been closely observing the remarkable work communities and states are doing to integrate The Basics into their systems, policies, and service delivery. We believe school districts should be at the forefront of these efforts."

Rebeiro-Oliveira and Hansen-DiBello are excited about Superintendent O'Leary's plan to explore the possibility of creating an early childhood center. "A specialized early childhood center could have a crucial impact by providing necessary resources and assistance to children and their families, improving their readiness for school and their life ahead. Increased kindergarten-ready children could have school budget implications and would highlight New Bedford as a city with a strong commitment to infrastructure for early childhood. New Bedford has the potential to become a model for communities across the nation," noted Mr. O'Leary.



People Incorporated announces Dr. Kelly Meehan as Vice President of Children's Services & Community Partnerships



People Incorporated has named Dr. Kelly Hart Meehan as its new Vice President of Children's Services & Community Partnerships, a position overseeing the Agency's Children's Services Divi-

sion, which includes programs that optimize development and wellbeing for children and families from the prenatal period through elementary and secondary education in Greater Fall River, Greater Taunton, and surrounding communities. Programs of the division comprise services in parenting education, maternal health, early intervention, high quality education and care, support for children with complex medical needs, workforce development, and mentorship for at-risk youth.

Dr. Hart Meehan joins People Incorporated with over three decades of leadership experience in the field of early education. She brings expertise in strategic planning and assessment, community engagement, workforce development, and management of complex, multi-site organizations. Her research interests include quality improvement, understanding the impact of positive professional identity on educator efficacy and wellbeing, and ethical practice in serving young children and their families. Most recently, Meehan served as the regional director for the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care, where she supported more than 2,000 programs in the Metro Boston region.

Dr. Hart Meehan described her experience starting with People Incorporated, "I'm thrilled to join the amazing team of caring professionals at People Incorporated.

There is so much great work happening to support families and the community. I look forward to maximizing the positive impact of our programs to ensure that every child receives the care and resources they need to build a bright future."

"Kelly is a welcome addition to our leadership team, and she has already proven to be an asset to our Agency as a whole," added Megan Stirk, President & CEO of People Incorporated. "Our Children's Division provides a varied and comprehensive complement of services to a diverse demographic, and we are fortunate to have someone with Kelly's background and knowledge to be at the helm. She will help us meet the many needs children and families have today."



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



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RECENT EVENTS



**Valcourt Outstanding Citizen Award Dinner
for Jim Wallace
Whites of Westport**



**Business After Hours
Fall River Country Club
Fall River, MA**

William "Bill" Comeau Has Been Selected as the 2023 Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year



The Board of Directors of the Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Housing Program, Inc., known as the Veterans Transition House (VTH), is pleased to announce the selection of William "Bill" Comeau as the 2023 Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year. Mr. Comeau is the 28th recipient of this award.

Bill served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War. Bill was drafted at age 19 in 1965 and shipped out to Vietnam in 1966. Serving in Vietnam until 1967, the Battle of Suoi Tre is the keynote battle of Bill's military career. Bill and his fellow soldiers faced 2,800 members of the Viet Cong in the Vietnam jungle during the Battle of Suoi Tre. Bill and his battalion arrived at the battle just in time to save the defenders. As artillerymen fired smoke rounds at the enemy in a commendable effort after running out of their explosives, Bill's unit came to their aid. 56 veterans earned Purple Hearts as a result of the Battle of Suoi Tre, and Bill's unit was one of three to receive the Presidential Unit Citation for their heroic actions that day.

When Bill left Vietnam, he doubted the achievements of his unit, and doubted they accomplished anything. However, after many years of research driven by his powerful passion for history, Bill learned that his company not only

wrote commendable history but triumphed overseas; an accomplishment admired to this day by those who also served in his unit. Among their accomplishments, Bill's unit produced the first Medic to be awarded the Medal of Honor in the Vietnam War.

Upon returning home, Bill sought out camaraderie in his local branches of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) and the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and he is still a member of both today. He pursued a career at a local book manufacturer, settled down with his family, and in 2000, Bill embarked on a once-in-a-lifetime journey. Bill dedicated his time to locating the men he served with in Vietnam and formed Alpha Association, an organization created specifically for A Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry of the 4th Infantry Division veterans. The organization grew to over 200 members, and Bill took special pride in providing a space for his comrades to share stories and memories from their service together. Since the year 2000, Bill served as President, Historian, Locator, Newsletter Publisher, and annual Reunion Organizer for Alpha Association. At its height, the Alpha Association located and signed up 240 veterans of his unit from their earlier tour in Vietnam. This number included family members of those veterans who were killed while serving in his company during that period.

A military historian in his own right, Bill pioneered research into the histories of local veterans in the New Bedford area and championed for the rededications of multiple VFW Chapters. Additionally, Bill published "Duel with the Dragon at the Battle of Suoi Tre" in 2022 which is the first complete


account of the events that transpired during the Battle of Suoi Tre March 21, 1967, which otherwise would never have come to the attention of the public.

Bill has been honored with the following awards and recognitions: the Combat Infantry Badge, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, National Defense Medal, and the Unit Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Oak Leaf. Later in life he was also awarded the Order of St. Maurice Legionnaire Medal by the National Infantry Association for his dedication and promotion of the United States Infantry. Finally, Bill was designated the last Regional Franco-American Society Veteran of the Year in 2017.

Bill will receive the 2023 Southeastern Massachusetts Veteran of the Year Award at a celebratory event held at Rachel's Lakeside, 950 State Rd, Dartmouth, MA 02747, on Wednesday, November 8, 2023, at 5:00 P.M. For tickets

or sponsorship information, contact Jim Reid at (508) 992-5313.

Veterans Transition House delivers transitional and permanent housing and specialized services to homeless, formerly homeless, and at-risk veterans in Southeastern Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Founded in 1990, Veterans Transition House provides rehabilitation, re-integration and supports necessary for veterans to achieve self-sufficiency, especially for those who have struggled with substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder and financial hardship. Veterans Transition House has helped veterans achieve and sustain sobriety, improve their health, find employment and move into permanent housing. The vision of this veterans-helping-veterans nonprofit is to provide first-class facilities, services and staff to ensure that every veteran has a home. Visit www.vetshouse.org to learn more about how you can help support Veterans Transition House and local veterans.



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www.sakonnetearlylearningcenter.com

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www.citywideglass.net

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Taunton Office

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To Jennifer, More than medicine is **Freedom**.

Freedom to change course.

Freedom to move forward.

Freedom to live.

To us, More than medicine is having the team who went above and beyond to give Jennifer — and her heart — a second chance. It's having our team perform one of the first-in-the-nation procedures that undoubtedly gave Jennifer freedom from a life of repeated surgeries.

Is Jennifer lucky? No, but she is a Southcoast Health patient, and we are lucky to care for her.

Member Spotlight: Shorty's Pub



87 AETNA STREET FALL RIVER, MA



Shorty's Pub is the true definition of family owned, oriented and run business. A clean modern neighborhood establishment serving elevated pub food such as thin crust pizzas, chicken wings, burgers, Mozambique French fries and so much more. Happy and satisfied customers are their #1 priority. Shorty's Pub offers entertainment on the weekends such as Karaoke, DJs and live acoustic music including their popular Sunday Funday entertainment with local live musicians from 2pm to 6pm. Boasting an outdoor patio space during the summer months with a 60 person capacity it's the perfect outdoor space that lets you forget where you are, sit back and relax.

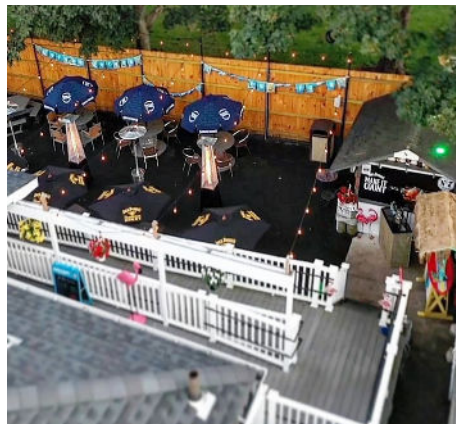
Shortys contributes to various community events including Knock Knock give a sock drive in which their customers have donated over 500 pairs of socks to the areas homeless. Shortys also participates every year in the Annual Toy Drive originated by Sailor Claus aka Al Deorsey in which toys are collected at Christmas time and distributed to area Veteran Hospitals. They also dress as Mr & Mrs Santa Claus and distribute toys to area children alongside Fall River Police and Fire Departments.

Shortys was recently the recipient of an Accommodation from the City of Fall River in recognition for its dedication and efforts to help collect and distribute toys to needy children during the holidays.

Being a member of the Chamber has provided them with insightful information on other local area businesses as well as providing information on local awards, grants, discounts with other chamber members and monthly get togethers.

Check them out today!

Shorty's Pub
87 Aetna Street
Fall River, MA 02724



Contact Information

Phone : (508) 678-1133

✉ Email:
shortyspub@aol.com

f Facebook:
www.facebook.com/ShortysPubFR



ONE SOUTH COAST
CHAMBER

HR COUNCIL & DEI COMMITTEE
present

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MassHire Program & Services are funded in part by US Department of Labor (USDOL) Employment and Training Administration grants as well as non-federal funded grants. (Additional details furnished upon request.)

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Thanksmas Holiday Market Brings Vendors, Food Trucks, 3D Projections, and More to Downtown Fall River

Jumpstart your holiday shopping with the perfect opportunity to find unique gifts and immerse yourself in the holiday spirit! The 3rd Annual Thanksmas Market and Holiday Celebration will take place on Saturday, November 18th from 4pm-8pm on Old Second St. and Sullivan Drive at the Government Center Plaza in Downtown Fall River. The pre-holiday night market and community celebration will feature more than 50 local artisans, crafters, and makers selling their handcrafted products, 9 food trucks and vendors offering a variety of cuisine, and a full line-up of family-friendly activities and live entertainment. This event is hosted by Viva Fall River in partnership with the City of Fall River, the Fall River Farmers & Artisans Market, and the Fall River Arts & Culture Coalition.

Thanksmas 2023 will feature the following:

Holiday Artisan Market on Old Second Street

The picturesque cobblestoned pedestrian walkway located across from the Government Center, will be trans-

formed into a cozy, festive atmosphere, with fire pits and lights, and will feature an artisans' market with 50+ South Coast vendors selling a variety of goods, including holiday décor. It's the perfect place to get a jump start on holiday shopping while supporting local businesses and makers.

Food, Fun, and Family Activities

Jeremiah Sullivan Dr. will be closed to traffic from S Main St to Third St. to create a fun, safe perimeter for family activities and holiday merrymaking.

NEW Brew Garden & Local Food Trucks

For the first time, the market will be presenting the (21+) Thanksmas Holiday Brew Garden with locally crafted beer and seasonal beverages from Canned Heat Brewery and Topsy Toboggan. Drinks can be paired with delicious offerings from 9 food trucks and vendors including All Purpose Bakery, Bun Buds, Choco-Latte Cafe, Dragonfly Desserts, Fancheezical, Green Jar Cocina, No Joke Smoke BBQ, Pop's Mobile Brick Oven Pizza,

and What's Up Cupcake.

FREE Activities for All Ages

Free Activities from Big Brothers/Big Sisters MA, Children's Museum of Greater Fall River, the City of Fall River, Fall River Arts and Culture Coalition, Greater Fall River Art Association, Greater Fall River RE-CREATION, and Viva Fall River

Entertainment & Live Performances

Sullivan Drive will be a festive center of activity with music from DJ Juice and the following special activities:

5:00 – 7:00pm

Meet & Greet with The Grinch (free photo op!)

Betty Hoop, a circus artist who will take you on a whirlwind journey of light, music, movement, and hula hoops! Betty will be doing short performances throughout the evening, on Sullivan Drive.

Axel Dance Academy: students will perform a fun and festive dance routine!

Special Appearance by Miss Fall River Teen, Na'Shajia Monteiro

5:30 – 8:30pm

Starting at 5:30PM, keep your eyes on the West-facing side of the Government Center for a dynamic 3D projection mapping show from Broken Glass Projections. Projection mapping turns objects into works of art by projecting images and videos onto their surfaces, making them appear to 'come alive.' Artist Nelson Raposa most recently staged a Halloween-themed projection show onto the façade of the Greater Fall River RECREATION building during their annual Halloween party event.

To better serve event attendees, free parking will be offered at the following locations:

- Third St. Open Lot across from the Public Garage
- Lower Lot at One SouthCoast Chamber building at 200 Pocasset St. – PARKING SHUTTLE STOP
- Open lot to the left of the Pearl St. Parking Garage – PARKING SHUTTLE STOP



A maximum of 500 tickets to be sold. Winners will be drawn at our Holiday Business After Hours on December 7, 2023.



FRACC Announces Exciting Public Art Project



The Fall River Arts and Culture Coalition (FRACC), a proactive and collaborative organization dedicated to advancing arts and culture in Fall River, is delighted to announce its latest endeavor, FRACC Murals, a transformative public art project set to enrich our city's cultural landscape. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the City of Fall River for their invaluable partnership in this project, and for providing Pearl Street as the canvas for our artistic vision. Additionally, we wish



to express our sincere appreciation to Representative Carole Fiola for her instrumental role in securing the

state earmark. This earmark funding plays a pivotal role in enabling us to fulfill our mission by implementing the goals and strategies outlined in our Arts & Culture Creative Economy Plan, making art accessible to all and fostering the growth of our creative economy.

Open Call for Artists Yields Exceptional Talent

This past summer, FRACC conducted open calls to identify talented artists. We are now thrilled to introduce BK Foxx as the visionary lead artist for the FRACC Murals project. BK brings

a wealth of experience and creativity to this initiative and is poised to inspire us with her extraordinary talents. She has created murals across the world and in several locations in the Commonwealth, including two in Holyoke this past summer.

Documenting the Journey: Meet Our Photographer/Videographer

To capture the essence of this awe-inspiring project and to ensure that its impact is preserved for posterity, FRACC has chosen Fall River-owned FGX Studios, as the official photographer and videographer. Their lens will tell the story of FRACC Murals as the mural takes shape on the Pearl Street parking garage. Their role is pivotal in documenting the creation of the artwork and will play an essential part in this artistic journey.

Local Artists as Assistants – Fostering Homegrown Talent

FRACC believes in nurturing local talent, and as such, we're proud to announce that several local artists will be working as apprentices on this project. This presents an incredible opportunity for

these budding artists to learn from BK and build their knowledge and skills for future arts installations.

The Pearl Street Park Garage: A Canvas for Creativity

The chosen canvas for this exciting endeavor is the Pearl Street Park Garage's brick stairwell. Its highly visible location serves not only as a testament to our commitment to artistic expression, but also as a beacon for tourism and an economic booster for the city.

The creation of these captivating murals will commence at the end of October, transforming the Pearl Street Park Garage into a stunning larger-than-life art piece. This project will not only leave a lasting imprint on our city but also strengthen our vibrant artistic community.

Stay tuned for updates, behind-the-scenes glimpses, and opportunities for community involvement. Follow us on Instagram and Facebook for the latest news and to be part of this incredible journey. FRACC Murals is a testament to our dedication to promoting inclusivity, equity, and the arts in Fall River. We can't wait to share this artistic adventure with you!

Trombly Named Director of National Offshore Wind Institute

Jessica Trombly, who previously served in a leadership role at the New Bedford Economic Development Council, has been named director of the National Offshore Wind Institute.

The program at Bristol Community College offers a comprehensive array of globally recognized training, to ensure the workforce has the skills and certifications required for careers in the offshore wind industry. In her new role, Trombly will work collaboratively to manage the institute's strategy, operations, partnerships,

training portfolio and wind certifications.

She received her bachelor's degree from Westfield State University in Westfield, Mass., and is a graduate of the 2018 Leadership South-coast Cohort.

During her time with the New Bedford Economic Development Council, Trombly led initiatives designed to build an expansive business development pipeline, in addition to managing the council's communications strategy and community partnerships.

She has also served as the sustainability coordinator/project manager for New Bedford's Energy Office, where she collaborated in developing the city's NB Resilient sustainability plan.



Ambassador Spotlight



LEASHA BATTA

*Client Relationship Manager at
Financial Planning Alternatives*

Leasha has been in the finance industry for over 20 years. She is the Client Relationship Manager for Financial Planning Alternatives and believes the relationship between advisors and clients should be a personal one, based on trust, understanding, and the ability to effectively achieve a client's goals. Leasha values their clients and recognizes that they are the most essential part of the firm. Truly understanding what clients want and need from their advisor is critical for the relationship to thrive. She spent the first half of her career working at Prudential Financial as a Retirement Specialist. Her experience working with hundreds of advisors has made Leasha passionate about maintaining the finest client-advisor relationships.

Leasha has a long history of volunteering, which dates back to her Girl Scout days in elementary school. She enjoys cooking, gardening, and walking along the seashore. She is a recent "empty nester" and lives in Portsmouth with her husband. Her grandsons are the light of her life.



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Email Katie Greene at kgreene@onesouthcoast.com for additional information and/ or to post your special offer!



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