

SEPTEMBER 2025



NAVIGATOR



LADLE UP!

**SOUTHCOAST'S CHOWDERFEST
RETURNS FOR ITS 20TH YEAR**



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

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New Bedford, MA 02740
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Executive Committee:

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

Members of the Board of Directors:

Terms to Expire in December 2025:

- Paul Chasse, REALTOR® Association of Southeastern Massachusetts
- Peter Daley, People Incorporated
- Eileen Migliozi, St. Anne’s Credit Union

- Monte Ferris, Venus de Milo
- Gail Fortes, YWCA of Southeastern Massachusetts
- Doug Glassman, SERVPRO of Dartmouth/New Bedford & Marion / Middleboro
- Gary P. Howayeck, Law Office of Gary Howayeck, PC
- Anthony Medeiros, Mechanics Cooperative Bank
- Curtis Nelson, Nelson Insurance & Financial Services
- Arti Pacheco, New York Life
- Kim Perry, Waring-Sullivan Funeral Home

Terms to Expire in December 2026:

- William Burns, Southcoast Health System
- Stephen W. Connulty, Paul & Dixon Insurance
- Catherine Dillon, BankFive
- Charlie Fellows, Lafrance Hospitality
- Jeffrey Glassman, Darn It, Inc.
- Jeff Pagliuca, Bristol County Savings Bank
- Marie Pellegrino, BayCoast Bank
- Derek Santos, New Bedford Economic Development Council
- Matt Zenni, Liberty Utilities

Terms to Expire in December 2028:

- Nathan Araujo, Advance Career Services
- Kevin Carando, Acushnet Company
- Barbara Casagrande, AHEAD
- Dr. Mark Fuller, UMass Dartmouth
- Cindy Ko, Cindy Ko Photography
- 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 Opportunities Unlimited

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

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Recent Events

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***Chowderfest
is next month!***

Get your tickets today!

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT THE CHAMBER?

There's a lot happening at the Chamber—so much that even we can barely keep up. But everything we do centers around one thing: you, our members. We won't pretend to be all things to all people, but if you're doing business on the South Coast—or want to—then we've got something for you.

No business can (or should!) attend every single event on our calendar. You've got a business to run, after all. But with a full lineup of **events, programs, and connections**, there's something of value for everyone. Meanwhile, we'll continue working on your behalf in the halls of government to foster a **positive and productive business climate**.

As the fall begins and the cool air rolls in, it's not just Patriots season—it's Chamber season too! It all kicked off with the ServPro End of Summer Bash and a South Coast Business Builders Breakfast at Buttonwood Park Zoo. Followed by honoring Tony Sapienza as the Roger Valcourt Outstanding Citizen. Then, on September 18, we'll host the largest Job Fair on the South Coast, at Venus deMilo, featuring over 50 employers looking to connect with top talent and help close the loop on workforce challenges.

Between those big moments, there are countless opportunities to connect:

- Business after Hours returns, with an inspiring evening



- at Hatch Street Studios on September 25 and at Fall River Country Club October 23 sponsored by Fall River Municipal Credit Union.
- Our Business Builders Breakfasts provide a structured but casual morning networking format that helps local professionals connect and grow. After all, people do business with people they know—and nothing, even in this hyper-digital world, can replace that personal connection.

In October, we bring you insights and access that matter:

- October 17 come see us at our Women's Luncheon.
- October 24 Senator Michael Rodrigues, Chair of the powerful Senate Ways and Means Committee and Doug Howgate, CEO of the Mass Taxpayers Association will speak to our membership about the Commonwealth's Economic Outlook and fiscal priorities.
- October 28, One SouthCoast

will host a Women Led Business Panel.

In November, we bring you:

- November 14 a Congressional Update with Congressmen Jake Auchincloss and Bill Keating.
- November 20, Our Business after Hours will be at New Bedford Art Museum.

In December, we close out the year with:

- December 4, Holiday Business after Hours
- December 11, Annual Meeting (Breakfast)
- December 12 Women's Luncheon

No matter your industry or experience, the Chamber has it goin' on for you. We believe in the power of entrepreneurship, in the strength of small businesses working together, and in each individual striving to grow their business—and this region—stronger.

As always you can register for all of our events at onesouthcoast.com

Don't miss a beat—make sure you're receiving our Chamber emails and stay up to date on what's goin' on in 2025

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mike O'Sullivan". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Mike O'Sullivan
CEO



Women's **POWER LUNCH**

AT THE ROOKERY

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 | 12 -1:30 PM



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS

at Hatch Street Studios

Sponsored by
HATCH STREET STUDIOS

CHOWDER FESTIVAL

Join us for our 20th Annual
New Bedford Seaport Chowderfest!

presented by



 Saturday,
October 11



11 AM - 5 PM

 City Pier 3
New Bedford



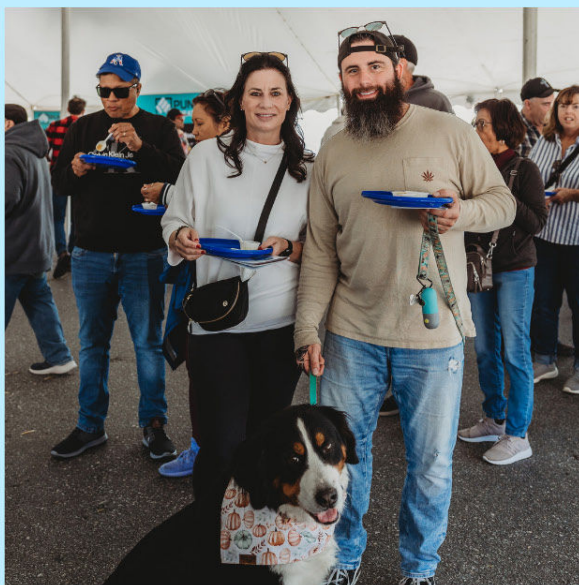
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good news



BayCoast Bank, a highly-respected community savings bank serving Southern New England, is pleased to announce the promotion of Greg Clarkin to Vice President, Treasury Services, recognizing his exceptional leadership and commitment to helping local businesses thrive.

In this new role, Clarkin oversees the daily operations and strategic direction of the Treasury Services and Cash Management teams. Additionally, he spearheads business development initiatives to grow the bank's merchant program, while working to enhance the overall efficiency of treasury operations.



Fall River Municipal Credit Union is proud to announce the appointment of Kathleen Franco to its Board of Directors. With more than three decades of leadership experience in management, strategic planning, and financial accountability, Franco

brings a wealth of expertise and a deep commitment to serving the Fall River community.

Franco has been a dedicated member of FRMCU for over twenty years and has demonstrated her passion for supporting institutions that strengthen the community. She holds a Master's degree in Management with a Minor in Organizational Development from Cambridge College, as well as advanced coursework in Accounting from Bristol Community College.

*To submit your good news, contact Hunter Tackett
htackett@onesouthcoast.com*



Rockland Trust's Investment Management Group (IMG) is pleased to announce the appointment of Bert Entwistle as Relationship Manager within its Retirement Plan Services division. In this role, Entwistle will be responsible for investment oversight, fiduciary governance, and vendor management for the firm's retirement plan clients.

Entwistle brings over 25 years of experience in the retirement plan services industry, serving both individuals and business owners throughout New England. He joins Rockland Trust from Webster Investments, where he spent nearly 13 years as a Retirement Plan Advisor.

HUMPHREY, COVILL & COLEMAN INSURANCE AGENCY, INC. has earned the 2025 Best Practices Agency status, joining an elite group of independent insurance agencies from across the United States.



The Best Practices Agency designation is awarded to participants in the Best Practices Study, which analyzes and documents the business practices of the highest-performing insurance agencies in the industry.

This year, 1,146 independent agencies throughout the U.S. were nominated to compete for this coveted designation and only 348 agencies scored high enough to qualify as a Best Practices Agency.



Little Theatre of Fall River will bring the groundbreaking musical **RENT** to the **Narrows Center for the Arts** from September 26–28, 2025. Following the success of last year's sold-out production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, this marks the theatre's second partnership with the Narrows. Winner of both a Tony Award and the Pulitzer Prize, *RENT* is celebrated for its unforgettable songs, including the iconic "Seasons of Love," and its powerful story about love, creativity, and resilience in the face of hardship.



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Wareham, MA

Wareham Crossing
2421 Cranberry Highway



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RECENT EVENTS

1. Ribbon Cutting celebrating the grand opening of Little People College's new location, New Bedford
2. Smiling faces at the SERVPRO End of Summer Bash Business After Hours, New Bedford
3. Doug Glassman, owner of multiple SERVPROs throughout South Coast Massachusetts, welcoming everyone to the End of Summer Bash, New Bedford
4. Networking, energy, and fun filled the morning at our Business Builders Breakfast hosted at Buttonwood Park Zoo, New Bedford
5. Our Business Builders Breakfasts are great opportunities to showcase your business to the South Coast Region, New Bedford





6



7



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RECENT EVENTS

6. Previous Valcourt winners and new honoree Anthony R. Sapienza at the recent Valcourt Award Dinner, Century House
7. Chick-fil-A held a ribbon-cutting to celebrate the opening of a new restaurant, Dartmouth
8. Congratulations to Anthony R. Sapienza on being honored with the 2025 Valcourt Award
9. Attendees networking at the Valcourt Award Dinner, Century House
10. Group photo of all of the attendees of our latest Women's Power Lunch at Cask & Pig, Dartmouth



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FALL 2025

COMING UP

September

September 25, 5 - 7 PM
BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
HATCH STREET STUDIOS

October

October 11, 12 PM - 5 PM
20th ANNUAL BLOUNT FINE
FOODS NEW BEDFORD SEAPORT
CHOWDER FESTIVAL
CITY PIER 3

October 14, 8:30 AM - 10 AM
BUSINESS BUILDERS BREAKFAST
110 GRILL

October 17, 12 PM - 1:30 PM
WOMEN'S POWER LUNCH
THE ROOKERY

October 24
ECONOMIC OUTLOOK
FALL RIVER COUNTRY CLUB

October 28, 8:30 AM
WOMEN AT THE HELM: BUSINESS
LEADERSHIP PANEL
RACHEL'S LAKESIDE

November

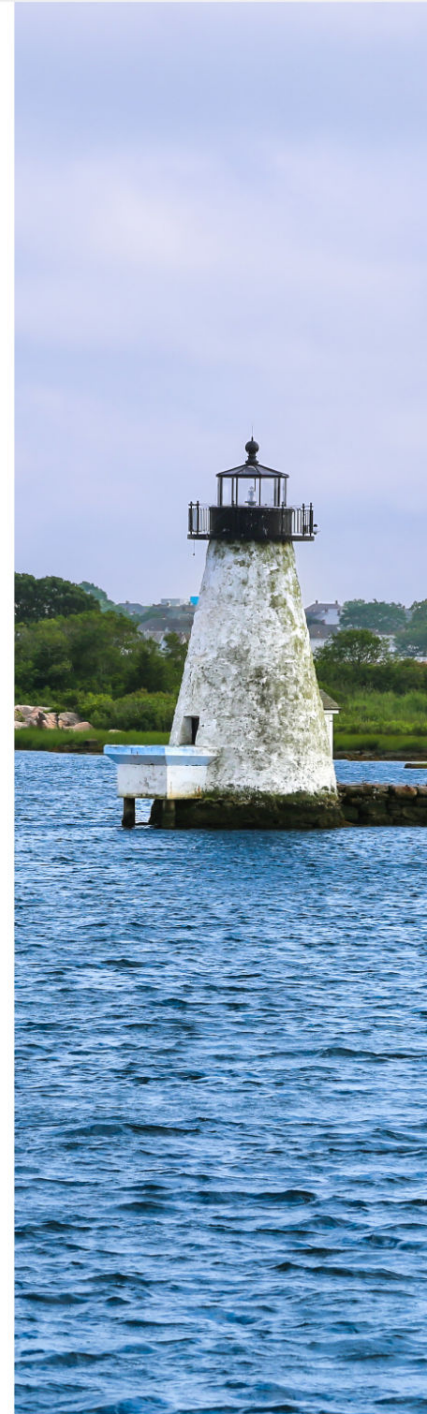
November 14, 8:30 AM
CONGRESSIONAL UPDATE WITH
JAKE AUCHINCLOSS AND
BILL KEATING
WHITE'S OF WESTPORT

November 20, 5 PM - 7 PM
BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
NEW BEDFORD ART MUSEUM

December

December 4, 5 PM - 7 PM
HOLIDAY BUSINESS AFTER HOURS
WHITES OF WESTPORT

December 11, 7:30 AM - 9:30 AM
ANNUAL MEETING BRAYTON &
APEX AWARDS
WHITES OF WESTPORT





ONE SOUTH COAST CHAMBER

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at Fall River Country Club

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FRMCU Locations

Main Branch Office
333 Milliken Blvd., Fall River, MA 02721

Robeson Branch Office
1110 Robeson St., Fall River, MA 02720

Assonet Branch Office
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