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Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce eNewsletter

eNews

April 11, 2008

Greetings!**From the CEO's Desk:**

The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, Career Opportunities and the Workforce Investment Board held an employee recruitment event in the Fall River / New Bedford region at White's of Westport yesterday. A second job fair will be hosted at Career Opportunities in Hyannis on Monday.

The event was organized to address the seasonal workforce shortage on Cape Cod, and to attract off-Cape laborers to fill seasonal positions on the Cape. An exemption for former H-2B workers has been tied up in the national immigration debate, leaving the region struggling for help.

[Click here](#) to read an article about the job fair that ran in today's *Cape Cod Times*.

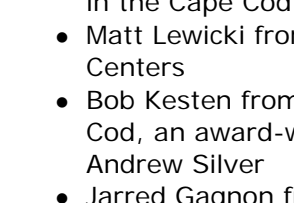
Wendy K. Northcross, IOM, CCE

Business Excellence Awards

The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce announces the return of its Business Excellence Awards!

Nominees are being sought for awards in five business categories: hospitality & recreation, service (including technology), health care, retail and wholesale, and non-profit organizations. Within these five categories, Cape Cod Chamber members and their employees or associates may be nominated for demonstrating excellence in public service, professional contributions, community commitment, customer service, workplace innovation, leadership, job creation, perseverance, or any other documented special achievements.

Nominations shall be made *no later than May 14, 2008*. The selection committee will make final recommendations for awards to be presented at the annual dinner of the Cape Cod Chamber on June 24th at the Coonamessett Inn. Nominations should be submitted in writing to: Business Excellence Awards Committee, c/o Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce, 5 Shoot Flying Hill Road, Centerville, MA 02632.

Chamber Annual Meeting set for June 24th

Mark your calendar for the Cape Cod Chamber's 87th Annual Meeting, set for Tuesday, June 24th at the Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth. The cocktail-style reception will include the installation of new officers and the presentation of Business Excellence awards.

Cost is \$47.50 for members; \$55 for non-members. [Register online](#) today!

April Member to Member a success

This week's Member to Member Event at Mid-Cape Home Centers Complete Home Concepts in Hyannis was a great success! A special thank you to the staff at Mid-Cape for hosting the event, Ardeo's for catering, and Coastal Wine Group for the great wine tasting. Thank you also to all who donated door prizes. The winners were:

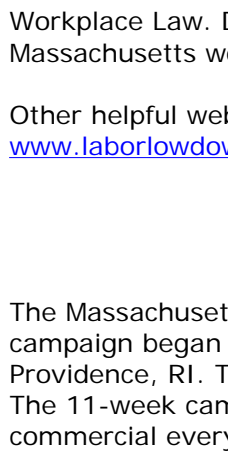
- Linda Geer from West Barnstable Tables, winner of a kayak rental donated by Castaways Marine
- Christine Duren from Cotuit Center for the Arts, winner of a one-month digital ad in the Cape Cod Chamber visitor's center
- Matt Lewicki from TGBI Promo, winner of a \$25 gift certificate to Mid-Cape Home Centers
- Bob Kesten from New England Reprographics, winner of a copy of Radio Cape Cod, an award-winning love story filmed on Cape Cod, donated by director Andrew Silver
- Jarred Gagnon from Ameriprise, winner of a Mid-Cape Sweatshirt
- Richard Boudreau from Cape Cod Electrical School, winner of a Bottle of Newport Vineyards Wine donated by The Coastal Wine Group

We look forward to seeing you all at our next Member to Member Event May 13th at Cotuit Center for the Arts. [Click here](#) to register online now!

Patrick Administration announces action plan to alleviate seasonal workforce shortage

This week, plans were announced by the Patrick Administration to help Cape Cod and Island employers recruit and hire workers for the 2008 season. The action comes after the expiration last year of a federal exemption by Congress, which had allowed workers with employment histories to return to the same employers each year without being counted toward the national annual limit on H2B visas.

In response to this cap and the expected workforce shortages on the Cape and Islands, the Patrick Administration has been meeting in collaboration with regional partners, including the Cape Cod Chamber, the Cape and Islands Workforce Investment Board and the Career Opportunities Career Centers, to create an emergency response plan to help alleviate these shortages. Initiatives include: Affected employers who have applied for H2B visas are being sent information packages on how to post their vacancies on the state's online job bank; the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development is sponsoring newspaper advertisements promoting regional job fairs; online recruitment tools and job opportunities are being disseminated to area colleges and high schools.

Attention accommodations members!

This May marks the 15th anniversary of the Cape Cod Maritime Days, an annual celebration of the Cape's rich maritime history recently distinguished as one of American Bus Association's "Top 100 Events in the Country" for 2008!

How can your lodging property get involved and capitalize on this growing event? Submit to us now your Cape Cod Maritime Days lodging packages and specials. Packages will be promoted online at the [event website](#) and in a special event insert dropping May in the *Cape Cod Times*. Great exposure for your property! Email your package today to kristen@capecodchamber.org.

March 2008 Accommodations Survey

The Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce is looking to get a snapshot as to how the season is progressing through a short, monthly online survey. Information will be kept confidential and reported in the aggregate only. The survey takes less than 5 minutes to complete. [Click here](#) to fill in the March 2008 survey. Thank you in advance!

April 4th Seminar Wrap-Up

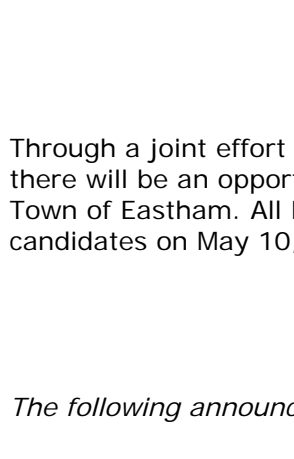
To help Cape hospitality businesses prepare for the 2008 season, on April 4th the Cape Cod Chamber provided an overview of wage and hour laws, child labor, workplace safety and I-9 documents, including immigration compliance. Thank you to Tocci, Goss and Lee for underwriting the seminar and the School to Careers Partnership for their added assistance.

Keeping informed of the changes to laws that affect businesses is important but not always easy. Did you know that businesses must post wage and hour posters? They are available free from the [Attorney General's Office](#). The Department of Health has some great posters regarding teens in the workplace (call 617-624-5632). We have a few posters at the Chamber: stop by and see Clare or Kathy. A great, easy-to-understand resource for all businesses is Foley and Foley's Guide to Understanding Workplace Law. Download this free 25 page booklet, or receive Foley's free updates to Massachusetts workforce laws, at www.foleylawpractice.com.

Other helpful websites are www.mass.gov/ago (click on workplace rights), www.laborlowdown.com and www.mass.gov/dph/teensatwork.

MOTT TV Campaign: 90 spots in 90 days

The Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism's innovative new television advertising campaign began airing this week in several feeder markets, including Albany, NY and Providence, RI. The campaign is also live online this week at www.Massvacation.com. The 11-week campaign will run Sunday through Friday featuring a different commercial every day, several of which spotlight different locales on Cape Cod. The theme is "There's so much to do in Massachusetts we have to run a new ad every day!" [View all the commercials online now.](#)

Tickets on sale for Cape Cod Life's Food & Wine Festival

Tickets are now on sale for the Cape Cod Life Food & Wine Festival Grand Tasting, taking place on Sunday, June 1st from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Rectrix Aerodome in Hyannis. The Grand Tasting, which kicks off the inaugural, four-day Food & Wine Festival, will feature dozens of Cape-wide restaurants offering tastings of their chef's best. Nearly three dozen wineries will also be on hand offering wine pairings, and Billy Costa, host of TV Diner on New England Cable News, will emcee the event. Additionally, a group of elite guest chefs will provide cooking demonstrations. Tickets for the Grand Tasting are \$50 and proceeds benefit the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod and the Institute for Hospitality and Culinary Studies at Cape Cod Community College. A live auction will also be held featuring exclusive culinary packages to benefit A Baby Center of Hyannis. To order tickets, call 508-375-4044 or visit www.festival.capecodlife.com!

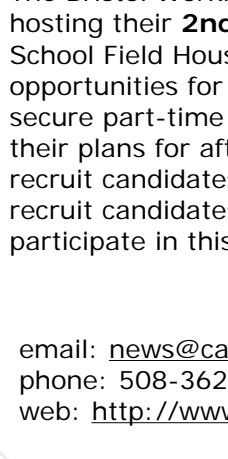
Welcome New Members

The Cape Cod Chamber would like to welcome the following new members:

- [Best of Boston](#), Boston
- [Cape Cod Grapevine](#), Brewster
- [Samuell Day Gallery](#), Cummaquid
- Taylor, Duane, Barton & Gilman, Boston
- WhipKick, North Eastham

Alzheimer's Services April 24th Charity Event

Join Alzheimer's Services of Cape Cod & the Islands on Thursday, April 24th for the 7th Annual Reds, Whites & Blues charity celebration at the Willowbend Country Club in Mashpee, beginning at 5:30 pm. The evening will include a wine tasting featuring a selection of over 200 fine wines supplied by A.J. Luke's Super Liquors, delectable edibles from Willowbend's own Chef Paul, live music from the Andrew Hall Jones Trio, and silent & live auctions with an array of exceptional items to bid on. The evening is presented by Cape Cod Cooperative Bank, and made possible in part by a generous donation from the Lyndon P. Lorusso Foundation. Reservations are required and begin at \$50 per person. For more information, please contact Christy Stusse at 508-755-5656 ext. 105 or Christy@alzcapecod.org.

Geek Girl Camp

Calling all Geek Girls! Save the date for April 17th for the Geek Girl Camp from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Heritage House in Hyannis. Cost is \$25 per geek girl. Highlights include appetizers, in-depth sessions with computer/Internet professionals, networking, cash bar and a swag bag with incredible goodies to take home. More info is available at www.geekgirlcamp.com.

CCCC Hospitality Gala

Cape Cod Community College will host the 11th Annual Hospitality Gala, with Auctioneer Extraordinaire Arthur Ratsy, on Tuesday, April 29th from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Cape Cod Community College. Cost is \$60 per person, and reserved tables of 8 are available. Seating is limited, please reserve now. Tickets may be ordered through the College Box Office, 508-375-4044. Checks may be mailed to CCCC Foundation - Hospitality Gala, 2240 Iyannough Road, West Barnstable, MA 02668. Proceeds benefit the Hospitality Program and Student Scholarships.

Meet the Candidates in Eastham

Through a joint effort by the Eastham Chamber of Commerce and the Eastham Forum, there will be an opportunity to "Meet the Candidates" running for Selectpersons in the Town of Eastham. All Eastham residents are encouraged to provide questions for the candidates on May 10, 2008 at the Town Hall at 2:00 p.m.

News from our Members

The following announcements are provided for the enews by member businesses.

The **Audible Local Ledger** will host an Artisans Fair on the grounds of the Village Green in the Mashpee Commons Saturday, May 10th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This juried show will feature the fine works of 38 artists and craftspeople. Local artist Neil Collins will be painting onsite a panoramic view of Falmouth's Nobska Light. Raffle tickets for this fine work of art will be sold throughout the day and the lucky winner will be announced at 4 p.m. on the Village Green grounds. Calling all Artisans, time is running out! If you would like to join the show, please call 508-539-2030 or email AllRadio@verizon.net for further information.

Nauset Regional High School will host a job fair to put local employers in contact with high school students and recent graduates who are interested in working both for the upcoming summer season and during the school year. The event will be open to employers from all Chambers of Commerce, with priority given to Chamber members from towns in the sending communities: Truro, Wellfleet, Eastham, Orleans and Brewster. Employers from other towns can request a booth on a space available basis. There is no charge for attending but early registration is requested to plan for set up. Deadline for registration is April 29, 2008. Registration forms can be obtained by emailing gammonj@nausetschools.org.

The 4th Annual **Dare to Be Alive** Track & Field Event Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, May 17th at the Barnstable High School. Event is open to individuals of all ages, so come out for day of fun with your friends and family. This event offers something for everybody, from a 100 meter dash to a 1500 meter walk, to the shot put or long jump. Stay for awards, raffles and this year a martial arts demonstration from Mid Cape Tae Do. Pre-register by May 1st and receive a free event t-shirt and goody bag. Event starts at 10 a.m., rain or shine. All proceeds support the organization's programs of service. To register, visit www.daretobealive.org or call 508-398-1260.

Rutherford Advisors, Inc. is hosting an informational workshop on The One Page® Business Plan at the Cape Codder Hotel, Route 132, Hyannis, MA on Wednesday, April 30th from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Learn about One Page® Business Planning and develop a Vision Statement for your Company to get you started. Reservations required. Please call Warren Rutherford at 508-428-9345 or email him at rutherford@comcast.net.

In conjunction with Comcast Cares Day on May 3rd, **Comcast Spotlight** in Hyannis is collecting items for children from 0-12 years of age for Cradles to Crayons. Items to be accepted include children's clothing, books, school supplies, sports equipment, toys and baby items as well as infant and children's equipment and furniture. These items should be clean and in good condition. Items will be redistributed to children living in poverty throughout Massachusetts with local social service agencies. Items will be accepted through Thursday, May 1st at Comcast Spotlight at 110 Breeds Hill Road, Unit 6 in Hyannis during the hours of 8:30a.m. to 5p.m. Mon-Fri. Please call 888-818-8787 for directions or to request that items be picked up.

The Bristol School Department and the Fall River School Department are hosting their **2nd annual Job & Opportunity Fair** on May 1st at B.M.C. Durfee High School Field House from 8:30am to 2 p.m. This fair is designed to provide opportunities for graduating seniors who plan to attend a local college but still need to secure part-time or full-time employment, as well as for those who have not finalized their plans for after graduation. This fair is also an opportunity for providers to recruit candidates for upcoming educational programs, as well as for employers to recruit candidates to meet their staffing needs. If you would like the opportunity to participate in this fair, contact Kate at 508-675-1165.

email: news@capecodchamber.org
phone: 508-362-3225
web: <http://www.eCapeChamber.com>

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