

Dear Lisa,
From the CEO's Desk:

- The receipt of funding to build the OpenCape broadband infrastructure for Cape Cod is extremely good news for the region. This effort will create 200 new jobs during construction, but will spur thousands more upon completion. This is the most significant economic development project for the Cape in decades and we thank all those who worked so hard to make it a reality.
- Entrepreneurs' Weekend 2 was a smashing success, helping over 30 local entrepreneurs. Eight teams competed for cash prizes and all walked away with valuable knowledge to build their business plans. See the story below about the winning teams and collaborators. The coaches, mentors, judges and organizers will be meeting in April to debrief and plan the next event.
- We held meetings this week with Undersecretary Michael Hunter and the SE Mass Small Business Development Center about regional economic development programs for the Cape. Michael Hunter will be coming to Cape Cod next week to meet with regional entities on the same topic.
- We were pleased to participate in the Google Transit press conference this week to announce this first-in-the-nation technology that helps travelers use public surface transportation. We are working to have Google cover the commuter air routes as well. Congratulations to Tom Chair and the Cape Cod Regional Transit Authority for helping to lead the way. Read more about this in the article below.
- Our condolences to the family of East Dennis artist Donn DeVita, who passed away this week.
- The Sourcebook of Architectural Elements was featured again this week at the Wine and Music Wednesday at the Cotuit Center for the Arts! Become a fan of the Sourcebook on Facebook by [clicking here](#).
- We have begun the final selection process for a designer of the *Cape Cod Travel Guide*. Interviews will continue into next week and a final decision is slated for April.
- Quahog Day's steering committee met and is mapping out details for the June 21st event, along with marketing opportunities for all Cape businesses and organizations. Stay tuned to learn how to participate!
- The 23rd annual Governor's Conference on Travel & Tourism is next Wednesday, March 24th. This year's conference will be action-packed with numerous new features - including over \$20,000 in business-related prizes, provided by the Boston Herald, Yankee Magazine, Amtrak, American Bus Association, and other generous donors! For the first time, there will be meeting planners and tour operators right there, ready to do business. MOTT's international reps are flying in to meet attendees, the Governor and two cabinet secretaries will be there, and the panel discussions will be meaty and informative with expert information. [Click here](#) to register now!

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Wendy K. Northcross, IOM, CCE

April Member to Member


Please join the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce at our Member to Member event on **Wednesday, April 14th** from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at **Kenmark Office Systems on Route 130 in Mashpee**. Enjoy plenty of networking opportunities, fantastic raffles and delicious hors d'oeuvres. Cost to attend the networking event is \$5 members, \$15 non-members. [Click here](#) to register now!

Cape Cod Chamber Trip to China


Join the Cape Cod Chamber of Commerce on our first trip to China in September! The combination business/tourism trip, from September 27-October 5, 2010, includes stops in Beijing & Shanghai and will last nine days. Your journey will include round trip airfare, 4-5 star hotels, land transportation, three full meals of gourmet food each day, deluxe tour buses, English-speaking tour guide and admission tickets for all attractions. Tours include the Forbidden City, Tian An Men Square, Great Wall, Lingyin Temple and World Expo!

The cost for this once-in-a-lifetime trip is \$1,999 per person, based on double occupancy, and \$160 for a visa. Passport required to apply for a visa. [Click here](#) to learn more, and for details on an upcoming informational session on March 23rd!

Welcome New Members

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

- [Hammerhead Creatives](#), Cotuit
- [Horsley Witten Group](#), Sandwich
- [Professional Bartending Service](#), East Wareham

3rd Annual Creative Collaborative Conference


The Arts Foundation of Cape Cod invites you to register now for the **3rd Annual Creative Collaborative Conference and Awards Reception on Thursday, March 25th** at the Cape Codder Resort and Spa in Hyannis. The creative community of Cape Cod will gather for a full day of presentations, panel discussions, displays, and activities to celebrate the best and brightest of the region's arts and culture, culminating in an evening awards reception with delicious food and wonderful entertainment.

[Click here](#) to view the full schedule for the Creative Collaborative Conference and Awards Reception, and register now to attend! For more information call the Arts Foundation of Cape Cod at 508-362-0066.

Meeting Planner Luncheon


On March 16th, the Cape Cod Chamber Meetings & Incentives Group had the pleasure of hosting Hartford area meeting planners for "An Afternoon of Cape Cod" in Hartford, CT. The planners were treated to insider information as related to millions of dollars in renovations and expansions. The audience was excited to learn of the new developments and was amazed that our economy allowed such significant growth through challenging times! All of the planners in attendance were interested and engaged, and many

of the hotel exhibitors left with potential leads and contacts. The weather was fabulous, and the service, food and view from the Polytechnic Club On20 were stellar. Many of the Hartford planners, including those from Travelers, Solomon and Associates and American Honda, are familiar with the Cape and the Islands and have committed to us to help us "keep it on the Cape!"