

Trending Developments



FALL RIVER OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Block Island Ferry Sets Sail for a Second Season

Following a successful maiden season in 2014, Hi-Speed Ferry service from Fall River, MA to Newport, RI and Block Island, RI will return for the 2015 season.

While the exact schedule is not yet published, Block Island Ferry representatives have confirmed that ferry service will resume for the 2015 season in late June. Similar to last season, the Hi-Speed Ferry will depart each morning from the Fall River State Pier located at 1 Water Street in Fall River, MA and depart each evening from Block Island, RI. The sailing time from Fall River, MA to Block Island, RI is

2 hours and 15 minutes. Rates for an adult one way is \$30.00 (\$60.00 roundtrip) and a child one way ticket (ages 5-11) is \$15.00 (\$30.00 roundtrip). The one way bicycle fee is \$6.00.

In addition, riders are able to take the Hi-Speed Ferry from Fall River, MA to Newport, RI. The Block Island Ferry will stop in Newport on the way to Block Island and again on the way back from Block Island to accommodate those passengers looking to travel to Newport via ferry. The estimated sailing time is one hour. Rates for a

(Continued on page 2)



Above: The Islander will provide daily hi-speed ferry service from Fall River, MA to Newport, RI and Block Island, RI beginning late June 2015

987 Jobs Available

Looking for a job?

Visit froed.org then select the "Current Employment Opportunities" tab. Next click "Job Search" and this will launch an interactive database.

Within this database alone there are currently **987** employment opportunities within a 5 mile radius of Fall River.

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Block Island Ferry

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one way adult ticket are \$15.00 (\$30.00 roundtrip), the one way child rate is \$7.00 (\$14.00 roundtrip) and the one way bicycle fee is \$3.00.

Kenneth Fiola, Jr., Executive Vice President of the Fall River Office of Economic Development is pleased to see the Block Island Ferry returning for a second season noting, "We are thrilled that the Block Island Ferry has committed to a second season. Last year's service proved to be very successful and it is our collective hope that we can build upon last year's success and expose ferry service to a larger audience."

Parking for passengers of the hi-speed ferry is available at the Fall River State Pier for a fee of \$10.00 per vehicle.

For additional information or to purchase tickets online, visit www.blockislandferry.com. Reservations are recommended. For information on group discounts and ticket books call 1-866-783-7996.



Blount Fine Foods Expansion

The Fall River Tax Increment Financing (TIF) Board met on Thursday, February 5, 2015 and approved a TIF Agreement for an expansion planned at Blount Fine Foods' facility located at 630 Currant Road.

Blount is interested in constructing a 50,000 s/f expansion to their existing facility with a possible second phase expansion of 40,000 s/f over the next three years. The investment for phase one will exceed \$10 million. The first expansion will house additional packaging innovations and add logistical capacity to the facility.

The company currently employs 304 full-time employees and an additional 75 full-time permanent positions will be created as a result of the expansion.

Given the magnitude of the investment as well as the number of jobs to be created from the project, the Fall River TIF Board has offered Blount a 12 year TIF with a 60% tax exemption on the new value created from the project for the full 12

year period. The TIF will be brought before the Fall River City Council at their February 17, 2015 meeting for approval. If approved, the TIF will then be brought before the Massachusetts Economic Assistance Coordinating Council at their March 24, 2015 meeting.

The Blount Family has been in the food business since 1880 and has a product line that includes refrigerated and frozen gourmet soups, sauces, side dishes and entrees for food service and retail. Blount moved its headquarters to the Fall River Industrial Park in 2004, where the company has continued to expand and evolve.

Kenneth Fiola, Jr., Executive Vice President of the Fall River Office of Economic Development is pleased to see Blount expanding within the Fall River Industrial Park noting, "Blount has been a great corporate citizen and community partner and we are happy to see them expanding their operation here in Fall River."

Xilectric

On February 10, 2015, Xilectric of Fall River was named one of two recipients to receive funding under the AmplifyMass program, which provides matching funding to awardees of the US Department of Energy's Advanced Research Project Agency-Energy (ARPA-E). During this first round of awards under AmplifyMass, Xilectric received \$150,000.

Xilectric, located at UMass Dartmouth's Advanced Technology and Manufacturing Center in Fall River, is developing a low-cost, rechargeable battery that can be manufactured with widely available materials. This battery will be used in both electric vehicles and grid-scale applications. The company recently received \$2,971,744 in ARPA-E funding.

The AmplifyMass program, launched in October 2014, was created to support Massachusetts-based companies and university teams that are innovating in the clean technology sector, and aims to increase competitiveness of Massachusetts teams applying for ARPA-E funding.



Biopharmaceutical & Biomanufacturing Companies Within 35 Miles of Fall River

Amgen, Inc
Ludlow Corporation
Denison Pharmaceuticals, LLC
Pharmasol Corporatio
Rhodes Technologies Inc.
Associates of Cape Cod, Inc.
Onset Dermatologies. LLC
Lyne Laboratories, Inc.
Tedor Pharma, Inc.
Kala Health
Armstrong Pharmaceuticals
Calldex Therapeutics
Elixion
Axis-Shield Poc As
Mass Biologics
Aeris Therapeutics, LLC
Biomedical Technologies, Inc.
Epivax, Inc.
Scot-Tussin Pharmacal Co., Inc.
Rhodes Pharmaceuticals L.P.
Vetrose, Inc.
Pharmahealth Specialty/Longterm Care, Inc.
Bioline USA Inc.
Collegium Pharmaceuticals
Modular Thermal Technologies, Inc.
Xemplar Pharmaceuticals
Dermatology Associates, Inc.

Lockett Medical Corporation
Tivorsan Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Colloidal Science Solutions, Inc.
Joy Nugranad-Marzilli
Mnemosyne Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Sea Starr Animal Health
Ameri-Pooch, LLC
Banfield
Multicell Technologies, Inc.
Projo
Boston 3t Biotechnologies, Inc.
Canada Drug Service
Cytosolv, Inc.
Neuromedicine, Inc.
Agape Dermatology
Alexion Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Ava Anderson, LLC
Calista Therapeutics, Inc.
Exemplar Pharmaceuticals, LLC
J+J Professional, Inc.
Rhode Immunex Island Corporation
Sea-Band International, Inc
Zeptometric Corporation
Alexion
Organogenesis
Sanofi Pasteur

More than 3,000 employees!

The cluster continues to grow!

Keeping Fall River working in Fall River.

FALL RIVER OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Growth Strategies for the New Economy

On Wednesday, February 18, 2015 the Fall River Office of Economic Development will sponsor a technical assistance workshop focused on growth strategies.

This program is specifically designed for the small business manager who must address real world issues, challenges and opportunities in today's highly competitive environment. This workshop is an interactive program where attendees will learn through small business sales and marketing case studies and the lessons learned that they can apply to their businesses.

To quote Peter Drucker, "the purpose of business is to create and keep a customer."

You will learn how marketing and sales strategies should complement each other to provide you with a distinct advantage over your competitors. It's about getting your clear and concise marketing message out in

front of the right target audience using a combination of social media, technology and tried and true fundamentals to drive a convergence of message in order to have successful sales efforts close more business. Participants will gain knowledge through a combination of prepared materials, exercises and brainstorming.

This FREE event will be held on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Cherry & Webb Building, 139 South Main Street, 4th floor, Fall River, MA and is sponsored by the Fall River Office of Economic Development.

Space is limited, so please register on line at www.msfdc.org/semass and click on event calendar or call us at 508-673-9783 x10.



U.S. Small Business Administration
(Article contributed by MSBDC)

Fall River's Finest: Judge James Madison Morton, Jr.

Born and raised in Fall River, James Madison Morton, Jr. attended Fall River schools before attending Harvard College followed by Harvard Law School.

Morton practiced law in Fall River from 1884 to 1912 alongside his partners Andrew J. Jennings and John S. Brayton. On August 9, 1912 Morton was nominated by President William H. Taft to a seat on the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Morton was confirmed by the United States Senate on August 12, 1912 and received his commission the same day. At the time of his appointment, Morton's father, Judge James Madison Morton was the Senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts.

On December 15, 1931 President Herbert Hoover nominated Morton for elevation to a seat on the United States Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Morton's elevation was

confirmed by the Senate on January 6, 1932, and he received his commission on January 9, 1932. He assumed what is now referred to as senior status in 1939, serving in that capacity until his death the following year.

Morton died in Fall River and is buried with his parents in Oak Grove Cemetery.



(Source: "Cream of the Crop—Fall River's Best and Brightest" by



Mission statement of the Fall River Office of Economic Development:

Incorporated in 1978 as a 501(c)(4) corporation to promote the prosperity and general welfare of the citizens of Fall River through the stimulation of economic strength and expansion of new and existing business.

For more information please
visit our website:
www.froed.org