



South Shore Bank

Noteworthy News

Volume Issue • August 2020

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South Shore Bank

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South Shore Bank Helps Feed Families during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Community bank helping support local families through Weymouth Market initiative

South Shore Bank is teaming with Weymouth Public Schools to provide food for local families during the COVID-19 pandemic. On the first Wednesday of each month, the "Weymouth Market" partners with the Greater Boston Food Bank at Weymouth High School. Weymouth Public Schools have been partnering with the Greater Boston Food Bank since 2017. Through this initiative, South Shore Bank provides the reusable bags for the food drive that helps more than 400 families each month.

"We are pleased to provide help to those South Shore families being victimized by food insecurity during the pandemic," said Shore Bank President and CEO James M. Dunphy. "As a community bank, we feel a deep responsibility to do everything possible to help people during difficult times. We are proud to partner with great organizations to help people who have seen their lives turned upside down since the pandemic struck."

Through the Weymouth Market initiative, South Shore Bank is helping to provide each household with 2 bags of food each month. The Weymouth Market is held on the first Wednesday of the month starting at 3:30pm at Weymouth High School.



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Calling All Students!

FREE Student Checking

- No Monthly Fees
- No ATM/Debit Card Fees
- FREE Mobile Banking
- Receive a \$10 Mastercard Gift Card

Designed for students ages 16-24, this account makes it easy to manage money when you're on-the-go. [Learn More](#)

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6 Common Elderly Scams to Watch Out For and How to Stay Safe

A scam can be initiated via the computer (email, internet, social media), text, postal mail, in person, or a phone call. No matter the origin of the scam, the characteristics are the same:

First, there is something to pique your interest – someone in trouble, big discount offers, lottery win.

Second, the individual contacting you seems trustworthy, super friendly, and seems to care about you.

Third, there's a deadline associated with the offer – act fast, act now.

There will always be scams, particularly those targeted at seniors. This month's newsletter identifies some common scams and some tips to help you take control of the situation and stay safe and stay in control.

Grandparent Scam

One of the most common scams presented to seniors is the Grandparent Scam. The caller claims to be a relative, a grandson or granddaughter, and the call is urgent. Typically, the grandchild is out of town and is in trouble, needs money fast for some emergency, and doesn't want the rest of the family to know. The caller may have bits of information, some of which could be collected from sources like social media, and prompts the senior to provide more information, making the call appear genuine.

- This is not a legitimate call. Hang up the phone and contact your family or the authorities.

Sweepstakes Scam

In this case, the scammer would send their target a check or something else of value, whether in the mail, email, text or phone call, that indicates the recipient won something. In order to claim the "prize," the recipient may have to send a check or money order to cover taxes and fees, and may be asked for banking information to deposit the winnings, or to buy something to enter the contest. This is so the scammer can obtain private banking information. The name of the sweepstakes may seem familiar – quite often scammers will do this to make it recognizable.

- Legitimate contents do not ask for money or financial information up front. Do not respond to these messages with a check, money order or cash. It is always best to never provide identifying information to anyone over the phone, text, or email especially your bank account information.

Home Improvement Scam

Scammers target seniors by providing home improvement services in order to gain access to their home, belongings, and personal information. They will arrive at their target's house, offer free inspections, or offer services to fix something they deem "needs work". Scammer will pretend to be working for the local town or county to appear more legitimate.

The homeowner should stay in control of the situation and not be intimidated by the person at their door.

- Never let them in your home.
- Be suspicious of unsolicited offers, and ask for identification.
- If work does need to be done, ask friends and neighbors who they would recommend. Be sure to get references, and only use licensed contractors.
- Never pay the full amount up front. Pay as the work is completed according to a contract.

Telemarketer Scam

Scammers will target seniors in an effort to obtain financial information by claiming to be from an important institution such as a credit card company, Microsoft, Social Security Administration, Internal Revenue Service, phone company, power company, and so on. **Never feel pressured to commit to anything over the phone.**

- Don't rely upon caller ID to let you know who the call is coming from. Technology today allows for calls to be masked and appear to be from a number you know or can associate with, but it is not.
- Never give out personal information to an unsolicited caller. Never provide birthday, social security number (even the last 4 digits), your mother's maiden name, pet's name, bank account information or anything that can be used as password or identifying information.
- Hang up and contact the company the caller claims to be with directly if you feel you need to talk to them. Refer to your copy of your phone bill, power bill, or the number on the back of your credit card or bank card to initiate contact.

Internet Scams

There are many ways scammers are using technology to take advantage of seniors. Whether it is a special offer via email, attempts to acquire your user name and password via a scheme, or skimming of information while shopping online, there are ways you can be in control and keep your information safe. If you are computer-savvy, keep these tips in mind to keep your information safe:

- Never click on links in emails.
- Don't open attachments for special offers.
- Be careful of free offers over holidays.
- Watch for malicious ads and popups.
- Don't shop over public wi-fi.
- Be suspicious of gift card scams – buy from trusted sources.
- Know what your product costs.
- Make sure the site is secure – look for the "lock" icon and "https" on your browser address bar when shopping.
- Make sure all computer anti-virus, malware, and security software is up to date.
- Don't save credit card information online; check out as guest if offered on the site.

Charities

While there are many charities that are worthy of your donations, be sure you know who you are donating to.

- Always verify the charity before making any donation by checking with your Attorney General's office.
- Know what the charity is doing with your contribution.
- Avoid charities that will not answer your questions or provide written information about their programs or finances.
- Talk with family, friends, or trusted sources before giving to charity.
- Do not give on the spot before doing research on the charity
- Never give cash or purchase gift cards for payment.

If you feel you have been scammed, or are concerned that you are a victim of fraud, contact your local law enforcement immediately. Remember to keep a close eye on bank and credit card statements, and report any unusual activity. Stay informed. Remember, you are in control!



The information provided in the MS-ISAC Monthly Security Tips Newsletter is intended to increase the security awareness of an organization's end users and to help them behave

in a more secure manner within their work environment. While some of the tips may relate to maintaining a home computer, the increased awareness is intended to help improve the organization's overall cyber security posture. This is especially critical if employees access their work network from their home computer. Organizations have permission and are encouraged to brand and redistribute this newsletter in whole for educational, non-commercial purposes.

Disclaimer: These links are provided because they have information that may be useful. The Center for Internet Security (CIS) does not warrant the accuracy of any information contained in the links and neither endorses nor intends to promote the advertising of the resources listed herein. The opinions and statements contained in such resources are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the opinions of CIS.



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Our Clients are Talking

S&W Electric Contractors, Inc



ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, INC

Fifteen years ago, Brian Washburn and Matt Sylvia started S&W Electrical Contractors as a partnership. Through dedication and skill, they have now grown it into a full-service electrical contracting firm with 74 employees and an expansive office in Bridgewater. S&W Electric provides commercial and high-end residential consulting, design-build, and install service for all phases of electrical wiring. Their focus on customer satisfaction, timeliness, integrity and teamwork has made them a standout business whose portfolio includes projects for Ocean Spray, PayPal and the Smithsonian Institution.

In 2017 and 2018, S&W Electric obtained commercial building mortgages through South Shore Bank and the transactions could not have been smoother. "The appraisal process was easy, and everyone was fantastic to work with. South Shore Bank's lenders, attorneys and leadership team facilitated the process from beginning to end," says Washburn.

S&W Electric's controller, Artie Wright, says that the backing they have received from South Shore Bank "is a huge part of the reason why we have been able to flourish." Wright also appreciates South Shore Bank's streamlined process: "Banking can be painful; there is an incredible amount of regulations. South Shore Bank has managed to create straightforward processes; the documents are simple and don't take all day to read."

S&W Electric places great value on customer satisfaction and client relationships, and appreciates that South Shore Bank has the same focus. "President and CEO James Dunphy took the time to speak with us personally. He is incredibly easy to talk to; we can speak to him about multiple topics and be completely candid, which is refreshing," says Washburn.

The members of South Shore Bank's lending team are empowered to make decisions quickly, which allows for quicker, more efficient transactions. "We always appreciate working with Matt Pretti (Assistant Vice President and Portfolio Manager) and Bob Corcoran (Senior Vice President and Team Leader)," says Washburn. "I recommend Matt to people all the time. He's an excellent facilitator and a patient person, and Bob has gone above and beyond for us. We are grateful to have people so knowledgeable and committed looking out for our interests."

S&W Electric also has high praise for South Shore Bank's business banking services. "We've been so impressed with South Shore Bank's lending team that in 2019 we moved our accounts over to them," says Washburn. "Aside from a few items that had to be signed in person, everything was accomplished remotely. The online system was up and functional right away. Their Specialty Banking Coordinator, Jill Vail, was critical to the process; she did a great job coordinating the entire endeavor. Setting up remote deposit and ACH transfers has saved us a lot of time. You can tell that South Shore Bank takes a lot of pride in staying up to date with technology. They have made it very easy for people to use their system."

When it came to choosing a bank, S&W Electric wanted one that was local, but also capable of supporting its growth. Consistently providing quality electrical services with commitment and character for almost two decades has enabled Sylvia and Washburn's enterprise to soar. "Brian and his partner Matt have been great to work with, as well as their controller, Artie," says Corcoran. "They run things in a very professional and organized manner. I'm impressed by their ability to grow a business rapidly while not taking on too much risk or leverage."

S&W Electric's success is also attributable to hard work and a proactive employment ethic. "We are never complacent," says Washburn. "We don't let problems linger, but address them right away. We also let our employees spread their wings and take initiative. The spirit of collaboration that we bring to relationships with both our employees and our clients gives us an advantage."

Wright believes that surrounding itself with the right people is an important part of a business' success. "We make sure to work with top notch individuals who are always trying to stay ahead, and that includes the staff at South Shore Bank."



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August Work Anniversaries

Congratulations!

- Susan Kelly 44 yrs
- Brian Robinson 23 yrs
- Marcia Lyons 19 yrs
- Donna Bartholomew 18 yrs
- David Willis 16 yrs
- Catherine Cavicchi 15 yrs
- Merrill Gibbons 12 yrs
- Patricia Piana 9 yrs
- Kelly-Anne Ferreira 9 yrs
- Daniel Brennan 8 yrs
- Joseph McPhee 8 yrs
- Julie Heapes 8 yrs
- Carol Powell 6 yrs
- Marianne Chen 4 yrs
- Michael Cashman 4 yrs
- Jessica Presley 2 yrs
- Bindiya Jain 2 yrs
- Lisa Rose 2 yrs
- Sean O'Connell 1 yr
- Thomas Durfee 1 yr

Their commitment and dedication is truly appreciated here at South Shore Bank!

Small Ways to Save Every Day

Simple tips to save money every day

Small changes you implement into your daily life can make a big impression on your financial health. If you're looking for ways to save money every day without committing to a major financial overhaul, consider the following tips.

Take a closer look

Before you start saving, it's a good idea to get a clear picture of what you're spending each month. Examine your bills and track everything you're buying for 30 days, recommends The Balance writer Paula Pant. The month-long review will help you understand your money habits and allow you to set a better budget.

Feed your piggy bank

Even if you mostly rely on credit or debit cards to make purchases, cash still probably plays a part in your finances. Whenever you break a bill with a purchase, feed your piggy bank the change. NerdWallet writer Courtney Jespersen recommends depositing extra cash into your savings account where it can help build your nest egg. Using cash will also bolster your savings mindset.

"When you want to watch your spending, use dollar bills instead of credit cards. It's harder to part with cold, hard cash," she writes.

Look for deals and clip coupons

It is easier now than ever to save on almost everything you buy at major chain stores. Whether you're stocking up on groceries, toiletries or items for the home, most stores offer loyalty programs, a weekly ad boasting what's on sale and online apps that allow you to "clip" coupons with a simple download. Of course, printable ones still exist if you prefer tangible coupons to digital ones. The best part is, you can typically use both for optimum savings.

Keep trips to a minimum

It's inevitable that you'll run out of something before your usual shopping trip, but too many trips to the store can lead to overspending on things you might not need. That's why it's important to plan ahead before you shop.

"Buy your groceries in bulk at wholesale stores including Costco or Sam's Club. Prepare a meal plan once a week so that you buy only what you need," advises Pant.

If a wholesale store isn't near you, shop your local grocer's weekly circular and plan your meals and snacks according to what's on sale.

Caffeinate at home

If coffee or specialty tea from a local coffeehouse is a mainstay of your day, consider patronizing a new location — your home. It might take a bit of trial and error, but you'll be able to create a barista-worthy beverage that's delicious and delivers the caffeine you need to help power your day. Plus, with every cup you craft in your kitchen, you'll be saving money.

"Brewing coffee at home instead of buying a three-dollar cup of coffee at a local coffee joint every day can save you over \$1,000 a year," reports Pant.

Re-evaluate your car loan

There is a chance that you can lower your monthly car payment by refinancing your loan, suggests Jespersen. A lower interest rate will mean you'll pay less over the term of your loan. It doesn't hurt to contact your lending institution and see if you qualify for an adjustment.

With small changes, you can save big. Use these suggestions to increase the savings in your bank account.



