



Business

## EASTERN BANK HONORS MARY SARRIS WITH 2013 COMMUNITY ADVOCACY AWARD

November 12, 2013

**SALEM** — Eastern Bank honored Mary Sarris with the bank's 2013 Community Advocacy Award, which recognizes people who have given their time and talent to address a vital need in their community.

Sarris, Executive Director of the North Shore Workforce Investment Board (WIB), was recognized for her efforts in the area of workforce development training.

"Eastern Bank is proud to honor Mary Sarris with the 2013 Community Advocacy Award," □ said Richard E. Holbrook, chairman and CEO of Eastern Bank. "The North Shore has many worthy candidates for this honor, but Mary stood out for her unwavering commitment to bridge the gap between adult education and workforce development." □

Under Sarris' leadership, WIB has successfully implemented workforce development systems so that individuals and employers needing labor market services (i.e., education, training, job placement, etc.) can access them quickly and successfully.

"I am so honored to be chosen by Eastern Bank for their Community Advocacy Award this year, particularly given Eastern's strong commitment to the communities that it serves," □ said Sarris. "Workforce development is complex in our current economy and all signs show it will always be so. The WIB's work in supporting companies and job seekers in this complex arena is critical, and partnerships with organizations like Eastern Bank are the only way that we can and do find success." □

Sarris has spent more than 20 years in the workforce development and education reform arenas, managing various public and private initiatives including school-to-career, job training, professional and curriculum development projects, and public information campaigns. Prior to joining WIB, she was the executive director of the Lynn Business/Education Foundation, a private, nonprofit local education fund designed to be a vehicle for business involvement in the Lynn schools.