

The CHAMBER



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD



Executive Director

The month of January always brings a sense of new beginnings, a fresh start, and excitement that we each have a full year ahead of us to accomplish our goals, learn new things, and more. For me, it was all of those things – a new job, a fresh start, and a sense of accomplishment that I was embarking on something I might have always felt drawn to do. Now a full month in, it feels like a perfect fit. Serving as the Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce is an honor for me and I am glad to be here. It is challenging to navigate a social organization during a time in which we are limited in socializing, but I feel confident in my short time that there is determination by everyone to do all we can to carry on in a meaningful and purposeful way.

During the annual Board Retreat, I was provided an opportunity to share my vision and direction for the Chamber and as we went through our breakout sessions that day, I was excited for the parallels in those discussions. I look forward to working toward specific goals drawn from the retreat and to seeing growth and success as a result. I hope you will join me in continuing our work and exploring new opportunities! Please read on for an outline of my vision for the future.

We must attract small and medium-sized businesses and look outside the box. The Chamber should be the hub that provides a positive view of what opportunities exist in Allegany County and the region. We must be louder than the negativity and to be louder, we must be one voice, working together collectively to overcome those who want so badly to resist change and hold

us back. The Startup Allegany membership level is an excellent place to begin by encouraging long-time, existing businesses and their leadership to welcome entrepreneurs and new business-people through outreach and education by sharing expertise, to offer mentorships, and to consider collaborative efforts.

Women are a driving force behind business – as owners and leaders. As new generations emerge, the Chamber should recognize the vital role women play in businesses, organizations and the community. A women's business leadership council can offer networking, education, mentor and partnership opportunities as an added resource to current and potential new members, as well as an avenue to showcase to young women the power they have to make change and to cultivate new opportunities here at home. For far too long, young people have left our community seeking not what they *couldn't* find, but rather what they *didn't know how to find*.

Finally, businesses and organizations must be mindful that the workplace, membership and committees are welcoming and offer an equitable opportunity for all. Specific to the Chamber, this should include a public statement, easily accessible, of anti-discrimination and the organization should serve as a resource for businesses that need help with doing the same. The Chamber should access the tools we have available to us through statewide and national memberships to offer those same resources to our members.

Our Chamber is doing amazing things. Having the opportunity to participate in every committee meeting over the past month proves that there are dedicated, hard-working leaders in our community, who are part of our work, and who are excited and passionate about what this organization has to offer right now and into the future. Stay tuned.....

Juli McCoy
Executive Director

FEBRUARY 2021

Volume XXXIX No. 2
Bell Tower Building
Cumberland, MD 21502

February Calendar

NOTE: *If social distancing guidelines continue as they are, committee meetings will be held via Zoom as needed.*

February 3

8:00 am
Membership Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference
Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference
4:30 – 5:45 pm
Chamber Social Night
Zoom Conference

February 8

8:00 am
Leadership Allegany! Alumni Mtg.
Zoom Conference

February 9

9:00 am
Marketing Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 10

Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 11

8:00 am
Education Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 16

8:00 am
Leadership Allegany!
Steering Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 17

8:00 am
Economic Development Com. Mtg.
Zoom Conference
Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 18

8:00 am
Golf Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 24

Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

February 25

Noon
Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom Conference

Chamber Social Night



We have missed you. Let's Reconnect!!

Join us on **Wednesday, February 3, 2021** as the Chamber Membership Committee kicks off a new program to provide our members with an opportunity to interact with Chamber friends that you have not seen in a while. **Chamber Social Night** will be held from 4:30 pm to 5:45 pm through Zoom Conference.

Until we are able to start up our monthly "*Chamber After Hours*" programs we hope this new program will provide you with an opportunity to network with other Chamber members to share your thoughts and concerns. The format, for this inaugural program, includes the following three breakout rooms:

Quarantine – What I Learned!! – Find out from other Chamber members what they learned from being in quarantine – discover new practices, techniques, remote working strategies and adaptive measures they have implemented for their business.

Meet the Executive Director – Learn more about the Chamber's new Executive Director Juli McCoy. This breakout room provides you with an opportunity to meet and interact with Juli.

Desert Island With A Twist – Spend time talking about the top three things that you needed the most during quarantine and why. Share with the group what you were most surprised about during your quarantine time.

Each breakout room will have a facilitator to keep the conversation lively. Towards the end of the evening, we will spin a virtual wheel and one lucky participant will win a restaurant gift certificate – must be present and pre-registered to win. Sign up today!! Register by emailing [krista@allegany county chamber.com](mailto:krista@alleganycounty.com) or contacting the Chamber office at 301-722-2820. (flier enclosed).

Promises to be a fun event! Join us for a virtual opportunity to network and interact with fellow Chamber members.



Western Maryland Delegation Members

DISTRICT 1

Senator George C. Edwards (R) – District 1

James Senate Office Building, Room 323
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

(410) 841-3565, (301) 858-3565

1-800-492-7122 ext 3565 (toll free)

Fax: 301-858-3552

e-mail: george.edwards@senate.state.md.us

Local Office:

Western MD Railway Station

13 Canal Street

Room 304

Cumberland, MD 21502

301-722-4780 Fax: 301-722-4790

E-mail: george.edwards.district@senate.state.md.us

Delegate Wendell R. Beitzel (R) – District 1A

Low House Office Building, Room 309

6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

(410) 841-3435, (301) 858-3435

1-800-492-7122, ext 3435 (toll free)

Fax: 301-858-3040

e-mail: wendell.beitzel@house.state.md.us

Delegate Jason C. Buckel (R) – District 1B

Low House Office Building, Room 309

6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

(410) 841-3404, (301) 858-3404

1-800-492-7122, ext 3404 (toll free)

Fax: 301-858-3484

e-mail: jason.buckel@house.state.md.us

Delegate Michael W. McKay (R) – District 1C

Low House Office Building, Room 322

6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

(410) 841-3321, (301) 858-3321

1-800-492-7122, ext 3321 (toll free)

Fax: 301-858-3460

e-mail: mike.mckay@house.state.md.us

Local Office:

100 Mechanic Street

Cumberland, MD 21502

240-362-7040

For a complete list of Senate Standing Committees and House of Delegates Standing Committees visit:

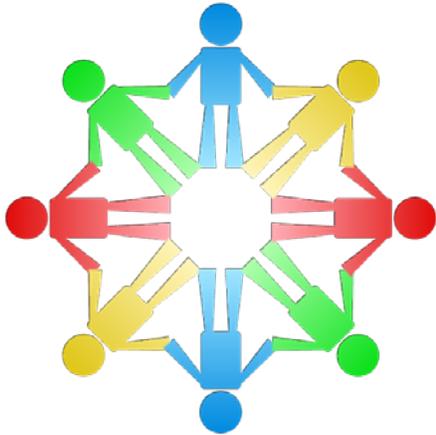
<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov>





Presents

CHAMBER SOCIAL NIGHT



Wednesday

February 3, 2021

4:30 pm to 5:45 pm

Virtual through Zoom

WE HAVE MISSED YOU!

LET'S RE-CONNECT!!!

Join us as we kick off (a temporary!) new endeavor – an opportunity to interact with Chamber friends you haven't seen in a while.

Breakout Activities:

Quarantine – What I Learned!, Meet Juli McCoy,
and Desert Island With A Twist

**Pre-Registration Required To Attend
(Prize Drawing at 5:40 pm)**

RSVP to krista@alleganycountychamber.com

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce
24 Frederick Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
301-722-2820

krista@alleganycountychamber.com
www.alleganycountychamber.com

Member Benefits – We Are Working For You!

Membership with the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce provides you with a unified voice in the community that can accomplish more than a single voice could ever hope to achieve. Members derive a number of valuable benefits – networking, connectivity, social events, marketing/advertising – all designed to help your business achieve success.

Networking – The Chamber is a rich source of networking and Chamber programs are geared towards getting to know the businesses and business members in Allegany County. The opportunities abound for you when you attend Chamber meetings, seminars, and activities. Our programs provide a great avenue in which to meet potential customers and clients. New business contacts are made at these events as well as revisiting former business contacts/clients.

- Monthly “*Chamber After Hours*”
- Annual Membership meeting
- Lunch and Learn Seminars
- Chamber annual events and activities:
 - Lucky Ladies Night Out
 - Golf Outing
 - Crab Feast
 - Recognition Dinner
 - Chamber Expo
 - Holiday Reception
- Committee meetings:
 - Economic Development Committee
 - Education Committee
 - **Leadership Allegany!**
 - **Leadership Allegany! Rising**
 - Legislative Committee
 - Membership Committee

Connectivity – Communication is vital to your business. The Chamber provides various avenues for you to stay up to date and informed on activities and issues within the community that may be of benefit to you and your business or organization.

- Website presence
- Monthly newsletter
- Weekly eNews
- Chamber Facebook page
- Chamber committee meetings
- Candidate Forums

Events and Meetings – The Chamber does a great job of event planning. Members have the opportunity to learn more about local issues, enjoy the company of other business individuals and meet elected officials. Chamber events also provide a great opportunity for staff members to get out and meet new people/business contacts and expand their prospect base generating new business leads.

- Annual Membership Meeting
- Recognition Dinner
- Chamber Crab Feast
- Lucky Ladies Night Out
- Golf Outing
- Chamber Expo
- Legislative Breakfasts
- Candidate Forums
- Lunch and Learn Seminars
- Holiday Reception
- “*Chamber After Hours*”

Marketing – Marketing your business through the Chamber is easy when you take advantage of the many avenues available, many at no cost to you.

- Membership Directory (free listing)
- Brochure Space at the Chamber Office (business cards, brochures, rack cards)
- Member Profile in the monthly newsletter
- Member News in the weekly eNews
- Chamber relocation packages
- Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- New Member Welcome Bags
- Website listing

Advertising – Advertising with the Chamber is a cost-effective way to promote your business. The Chamber offers many outlets to gain exposure for your business or organization.

- Chamber Website
- Fliers in monthly newsletter
- Monthly newsletter advertising space

- Weekly eNews advertising space
- Event sponsorships
- Mailing labels

Other Benefits –

Credibility – Membership brings positive credibility to your business or organization. A Chamber membership plaque and decal is provided free of charge to every member to display in your business to indicate to your clients that you support the community. You can increase positive perception among consumers and business owners when you are identified as a member of the Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber receives a large volume of calls from individuals and companies from around the United States requesting goods and services. We respond by referring **ONLY** Chamber members.

Visibility – Membership allows you to grow your business by advertising with the Chamber and sponsoring events. The Chamber promotes grand openings and business anniversary celebrations through ribbon cutting ceremonies.

Advocacy – The Chamber stands as a unified voice in the community that can accomplish more than a single voice could ever hope to achieve. The Chamber serves as a leader in the development of the community and as an active, visible and inclusive organization serving its members. We take on the tough issues that affect all business, both large and small as well as non-profit organizations. We have great relationships with our elected officials and community leaders and are a driving force in current legislative affairs.

These are just a few examples of how the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to helping its membership. As a Chamber member you become better connected to your community and more aware of community and business issues. The community around us is continually changing and moving forward and we are here to assist you along the way. We look forward to serving your needs as a Chamber member!



Save the Date
May 7, 2021

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce
Fifth Annual Golf Outing
Cumberland Country Club

Go to www.alleganycountychamber.com
for details

Kick off the golf season with a fun day of golf, food, prizes, and networking. The Fifth Annual Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing will be held on Friday, May 7, 2021 at the Cumberland Country Club. Tee time is 9:00 am.

Sponsorships are available for this event – please contact the Chamber office for details. 📌

Chamber
Social Night



Virtual – Zoom
Wednesday,
February 3, 2021
4:30 - 5:45 pm

Committee Chairs for 2021

Economic Development Committee ... Kim B. Leonard
Vice-Chair Rebecca L. Ruppert

Education Committee James J. "Snake" Robertson
Vice-Chair Autumn M. Becker

Leadership *Allegany! Rising* Autumn M. Becker
Vice Chair Dr. George D. Brown

Finance Committee Richard J. Hoover

Fund Raising Committees:

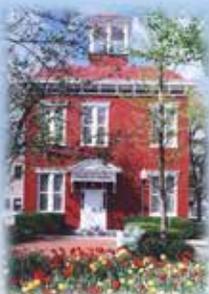
Crab Feast Committee Jeremy G. Irons
Expo Committee Kathryn A. Donaghy
Golf Committee Rodney W. Barker
Lucky Ladies Night Out Timi M. Hadra

Leadership *Allegany!* Dr. Sara-Beth Bittinger
Vice Chair Robert A. Godfrey

Legislative Committee Jeremy G. Irons
Vice Chair Cliff R. Wendricks

Marketing Committee Kristi N. Minnigh

Membership Committee Jonathan D. Frye 📌



The
CHAMBER

ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD

The Chamber News is published monthly by
the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

www.alleganycountychamber.com

Juli R. McCoy, Executive Director

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce 2021 Officers

Chairman: Jeffery D. O'Neal

First Vice Chairman: Robert A. Godfrey

Second Vice Chairman: James S. Crowder

Immediate Past Chairwoman: Nicole R. Wigfield