



The CHAMBER



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD



Executive Director

“We must meet the challenge rather than wish it were not before us.” – William J. Brennan, Jr.

Life is so much better when you are surrounded by people who work to find solutions not excuses. The trick this year has been the willingness to thoroughly review every process for every event and program and make necessary adjustments while still providing a high level of service. Piece of cake, right? Well, when you're working with the right people, it is. In the month of August, Allegany County Chamber members, volunteers and staff held a successful Crab Feast, resumed our “After Hours” program, planned our upcoming Leadership *Allegany!* and Leadership *Allegany!* Rising programs, planned our Expo, announced our 2020 Outstanding Business Award recipients and our 2020 Outstanding Business Students and began preparations for our Business Recognition Dinner and Annual Meeting among other committee work. Some may look at 2020 as the year we couldn't do anything. I will look at it as the year the Chamber was a leader in helping you figure it out and met the challenge head on.

Thank you to all who attended the 39th Annual Chamber Crab Feast and to sponsors **AT&T**, **Carl Belt, Inc.**, **First Peoples Community Federal Credit Union** and **Northrop Grumman**. Special thanks to Crab Feast Committee members Jeremy Irons, *Carl Belt, Inc.*, Scott Pfeiffer, *Northrop Grumman*, Michael Kerns, *Ali Ghan Shrine Motor Corps* and the Chamber's Peg McKenzie, and to all the volunteers who gave their time to help the evening of the event. Careful planning and ultimately execution by a dedicated group of volunteers proved it can be done and done right. We are also grateful to the over 400 who trusted us to provide a safe

event and for being respectful of the guidelines we were working under. You all made it work and we could not have done it without you. We hope everyone enjoyed it and we appreciate your support!

While “back to school” may look a little different this year, the Chamber's Leadership programs will go on while abiding to all applicable guidelines. The **Leadership**

ship Allegany! Class of 2021, our 24th class, is now set and ready to go “in person” for 17 participants with Orientation in September. The Chamber is also currently accepting nominations from school counselors of Juniors from each high school in Allegany County for the 4th class of **Leadership Allegany! Rising** being delivered via Zoom this year. Thank you all and best of luck to this year's class members.

Thank you to the **Ali Ghan Shrine Club** for hosting the August “Chamber After Hours”. The newly renovated ballroom and beautiful front lawn were the perfect location to resume this popular program. We did not have a winner for Network & Win so the cash drawing increases to \$1,750 for the next “After Hours”. Opportunities to host a “Chamber After Hours” do currently exist so now is the time to take advantage of these unique circumstances. Contact the Chamber office for details.

The Chamber is pleased to announce our Annual Outstanding Business Award winners for 2020. The awardees are **UPMC Western Maryland**, *Business of the Year*, **Donny & Kristan Carter**, *Entrepreneurial Spirit*, and **Delfest LLC**, *Community Service*. The date and time of the 33rd Annual Business Recognition Award Dinner is to be determined. Formal invitations will be mailed. Congratulations to all the award winners!

Booths are selling fast for **Market Place Expo 2020 – A Chamber “After Hours” for Everyone** being held on Wednesday, October 21 from 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm. With the “After Hours” included this year, this is going to be a good one so now is the time to reserve your preferred booth location. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your business or organization.

Stu Czapski
Executive Director

SEPTEMBER 2020

Volume XXXVIII No. 9
Bell Tower Building
Cumberland, MD 21502

September Calendar

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

September 2

8:00 am
Membership Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

September 10

8:00 am
Education Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

September 15

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

September 16

8:00 am
Economic Development Com. Mtg.
Zoom Conference

September 21

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

September 24

11:30 am
Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom Conference

October 7

8:00 am
Membership Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference

*Scenes from the August 7th Chamber Crab Feast
Special Thanks To Our Sponsors and to Western Maryland Distributing*



NORTHROP GRUMMAN



ALLEGANY COUNTY
**MARKETPLACE
EXPO 2020**

A CHAMBER "AFTER HOURS" FOR EVERYONE

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2020
4:30 - 7:30 PM

Rocky Gap Casino Resort - Allegheny Event Center

Free Admission - Open to the Public

- * Networking & Giveaways *
- * Local Business & Food Exhibitors *
- * Cash Bar Available *

"After Hours" rules are in place for members

For more information: Call 301-722-2820 • Email Krista@alleganycountychamber.com

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LEADERSHIP *Allegany!* SPOTLIGHT



Randy Bittinger

Beginning this month, the **Leadership *Allegany!*** Alumni Committee will “spotlight” a **Leadership *Allegany!*** alum quarterly in the Chamber e-newsletter. The alumni member is asked to answer a few questions about how their personal and/or professional life has been impacted by their **Leadership *Allegany!*** experience.

The **Leadership *Allegany!*** Alumni Spotlight series will begin with the inaugural leadership class. We are proud to introduce you to **Randy Bittinger**, *Class of 1998*.

What is your current role/title?

Director of Administration and Finance – Town of Oakland

What is your favorite memory from your Leadership *Allegany!* experience?

I have three. One is going to the Union Rescue Mission and having lunch with the people they serve. The second was state government day and having lunch with the Governor. The third was hearing Senator J. Glenn Beall give a historical overview of our community.

What advice would you have for future Leadership *Allegany!* members?

Embrace and enjoy the experience. You may think you know the county or a topic but you will learn something new and gain a valuable perspective.

Who would benefit from the program?

I think anyone can benefit from the program. It may be perceived that this would be a benefit for younger professionals or for those that are established in the community. Wherever you are in your professional journey or Allegany County journey, you will learn new things and interact with people you may not have interacted with before.

Anything else you would like to share regarding your Leadership *Allegany!* experience?

I was in the initial class and I thought I would be exposed to leadership principles or tools. While that does occur, it is so much more.

Describe a rewarding moment in your career?

I was working on a project and had the opportunity to collaborate and reunite with Eliot Pfanstiehl, our facilitator, who did the opening day.

Do you have a motto or quote that inspires you?

“Difference of opinion leads to inquiry and inquiry to the truth.” – *Thomas Jefferson*

The Alumni Committee hopes this spotlight will motivate others to sign up for the **Leadership *Allegany!*** program and for past alumnus a rekindle of an eagerness and passion to make Allegany County or themselves better. We would love to hear from you. To have yourself or someone else considered for the **Leadership *Allegany!* Alumni Spotlight** please contact Peg at (301) 722-2820 or peg@alleganycountychamber.com or be on the lookout for an email from your class liaison requesting a volunteer for the Spotlight.

Nominating Committee

Seeking Candidates for Chamber Board of Directors

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce is actively seeking candidates to run for the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is composed of eighteen members, one third (*six members*) of whom are elected annually to serve for three years.

Each candidate must be willing to meet the following criteria in order to serve:

- Be an active member in good standing with the Chamber
- Serve as a member of the Board of Directors for a period of three years
- Attend all regularly scheduled board meetings (*held the last Thursday of each month*), an Orientation (*held in December*) and Strategic Planning Session (*held in January*)
- Serve on at least one active standing committee
- Attend Chamber events, including *After Hours*, Expo, Lucky Ladies Night Out, Golf Outing, Crab Feast, Ribbon Cuttings and Recognition Dinner
- Assist with Chamber events and fundraisers

According to the Chamber By-Laws no board member who has served two full consecutive three-year terms is eligible for election for a third term; a period of one year must elapse before eligibility is restored.

Prior to October 1, the Nominating Committee shall present to the Chairman a slate of at least six (6) candidates to serve three-year terms, to replace the Directors whose regular terms are expiring. Each candidate must be an active member in good standing and must have agreed to accept the responsibility of a directorship. Upon receipt of the Nominating Committee's report the Chamber membership will be notified as to the names of the individuals who have been nominated.

Additional names of candidates for directors may be nominated by petition bearing the genuine signature of at least five (5) qualified members of the Chamber.

If you or a member you know has an interest in running for this office, please contact the Chamber office. The candidates will appear on the ballot to be voted on during the December 3rd Annual Meeting at the Cumberland Country Club. Thank you.



2020 Annual Business Recognition Dinner Honorees Announced

Nicole R. D'Atri, Chairwoman, Chamber Board of Directors, has announced this year's winners for the Outstanding Business Recognition Dinner to be held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020.

Business of the Year – **UPMC Western Maryland**
Entrepreneurial Spirit Award – **Donny and Kristan Carter**
Community Service Award – **DelFest, LLC**

During the dinner the 2020 Western Maryland Jaycees Outstanding Young Professional Award will also be presented.

Formal invitations will be mailed. If you need additional information, please contact the Chamber office at 301-722-2820.

Welcome New Member

(Patronize this member and welcome them to the Chamber)

East Coast Auto Appraisers, LLC

11406 Spring Hollow Road
Cumberland, Maryland 21502
301-804-0224

www.eastcoastautoappraisers.com

Contact: Chelsea Merritt, Office
Manager

Email: chelsea@eastcoastautoappraisers.com

Category: Business Services
Automotive Body Repair

Description: *We specialize in automobile appraisals, focusing on diminished value.*



ALLEGANY COUNTY
**MARKETPLACE
 EXPO 2020**
 A CHAMBER "AFTER HOURS" FOR EVERYONE



Sponsored by:



Mark Your Calendars!!

**Wednesday, October 21, 2020 from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm
 Rocky Gap Casino Resort • Allegheny Event Center**

Hosted by the Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce, **Allegheny County Marketplace Expo 2020 – A Chamber "After Hours" For Everyone** provides local businesses and organizations the opportunity to showcase their products and services in an informal setting. Held from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm the event is open to all Chamber members, guests and the general public. Marketplace Expo is the perfect outlet for attendees to gain knowledge of the best that Allegheny County has to offer – learn about new products and services or simply exchange information and ideas as you browse the marketplace exhibits.

This year we are incorporating our October "Chamber After Hours" event as part of the Expo. All "After Hours" rules and regulations will apply and you will need to pre-register to be eligible for the Network and Win drawing. A separate invitation for the "After Hours" will be sent by way of email.

VERY limited booth spaces still available. Be sure to join us for this unique networking event. You don't want to miss out on the fun!! Reserve your booth space today. Sign up by contacting the Chamber office at 301-722-2820 or by email to krista@alleganycountychamber.com.

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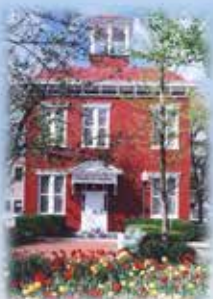
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 The Children's League

Join us on October 21st, bring a friend and browse the various display booths as you sample the best that Allegheny County and the region have to offer. Who knows – you may just find that perfect item you have been searching for!

For more information, contact the Chamber at 301-722-2820 or visit online at www.alleganycountychamber.com. 



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ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD

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

www.alleganycountychamber.com

Stuart C. Czapski, Executive Director

Allegheny County Chamber of Commerce 2020 Officers

Chairwoman: Nicole R. D'Atri

First Vice Chairman: Jeffery D. O'Neal

Second Vice Chairman: Robert A. Godfrey

Immediate Past Chairman: Scott C. Pfeiffer