



The CHAMBER



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD



Kristan S. Carter, The Toasted Goat Winery, **Robert W. Collette, Jr.**, Cumberland Healthcare Center, **Stephen R. McBride**, American Woodmark Corporation, and **Rebecca L. Ruppert**, Allegany College of Maryland. Re-elected to the board for a second term was **Kristi N. Minnigh**, Kristi Otto Allstate Insurance Agency.

Chairman

With the many challenges of 2020 brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, most of us are happy to close the book on 2020 with aspirations of a healthier and happier 2021 for our community! Yet during these challenging times, I have been amazed and impressed with how resilient people can be in adapting to the new reality that the pandemic has created, and this is clearly evident in the business community as well. Industrial organizations have found ways to socially distance and provide employees with protective equipment to allow them to maintain productivity with safety as a primary concern. Restaurants have attempted to respond by offering variations of outdoor or reduced indoor seating, with creativity in offering take out options. Healthcare has adapted by offering curbside clinics for testing and telemedicine visits with providers to limit potential exposure. Community charities continue to seek fundraising opportunities through virtual platforms and businesses have adapted by having employees who are able work from home. Live streaming religious services have become the norm along with virtual classrooms for schooling of all ages. Everyone seems adept at attending meetings through Zoom, Webex, and Teams! It is the indomitable spirit of humankind that binds us together to overcome the barriers and find a path to success and I see this in action on a daily basis through our Chamber and the business community in general.

At the Chamber's Annual Membership Meeting, held on December 3rd, six highly talented board members were elected. Elected as new board members were **Patrick W. Buck**, CBIZ Insurance Services,

Elected to serve as officers and joining me as the Chair, were **Robert Godfrey**, Friend's Aware, Inc. who will serve as First Vice Chair. **James Crowder**, FirstEnergy Corporation, who will serve as Second Vice Chair. I would also like to personally thank **Nicole Wigfield**, Skypacket Networks, Inc. for leading the Chamber through the many challenges of the past year! She has served as an exemplary role model for me to follow as I take on the role of the Chair of the Board. Nicole will remain on the Board as the Past Chair. Congratulations to each of you and I look forward to working with you over the next year!

Thank you to outgoing board members **Peter Bajc**, AES Warrior Run, **Dr. Cynthia Bambara**, Allegany College of Maryland, **Steve MacGray**, Charis Realty Group and **Scott Pfeiffer**, Northrop Grumman for your service and commitment to the Chamber. It has been a true pleasure working with each of you over the past several years!

The Chamber's Pre-Legislative Forum was successfully held in a Zoom meeting format on December 4th this year. The event was moderated by **Jeremy Irons**, Legislative Committee Chair and **Cliff Wendricks**, Legislative Committee Vice Chair, providing a wealth of information on the 2020 Legislative Session, as well as a preview of the upcoming 2021 Legislative Session. A special thank you to **Senator George Edwards**, **Delegate Wendell Beitzel**, **Delegate Jason Buckel**, and **Delegate Michael McKay** for covering a wide variety of topics which included COVID-19 relief for businesses and Vaccine Distribution planning, Kirwan Commission Status Updates, Downtown Baltimore Street Redevelopment, Canal Place development,

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Bell Tower Building
Cumberland, MD 21502



January Calendar

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

- January 6**
8:00 am
Membership Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference
- January 11**
8:00 am
Leadership Allegany! Alumni Mtg.
Zoom Conference
- January 12**
8:00 am
Golf Outing Meeting
Zoom Conference
- January 14**
8:00 am
Education Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference
9:00 am
Leadership Allegany! Rising
Steering Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference
- January 19**
8:00 am
Leadership Allegany!
Steering Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference
- January 20**
8:00 am
Economic Development Com. Mtg.
Zoom Conference
- January 28**
Noon
Board of Directors Meeting
Zoom Conference
- February 3**
8:00 am
Membership Committee Meeting
Zoom Conference



Chamber Elects New Officers for 2021

Pictured left to right:
 Nicole Wigfield, Immediate Past Chairwoman
 James Crowder, Second Vice Chairman
 Jeffery O'Neal, Chairman of the Board of Directors
 Robert Godfrey, First Vice Chairman

Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony on Monday, November 30, 2020 to celebrate the grand opening of the Craft Table located at 11 South Liberty Street, Cumberland, Maryland. The Craft Table, located in historic downtown Cumberland, is a locally owned small business specializing in homemade wreaths, centerpieces and seasonal gifts for office and home décor. Special orders are welcome for unique seasonal needs. For the holiday season they also provide wreath restoration. Visit them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Craft-Table-106393904515996/>.

Pictured left to right:

Steve MacGray, *Charis Realty*, Chamber Board of Director member
Greg Hildreth, Economic Development Specialist, *Allegany County Economic and Community Development Department*
Delegate Michael McKay, *Western Maryland Delegation*
Nancy Lepley, *Lepley Dance Studio and Tanning*
Parika Andreassen, *Hampton Inn Cumberland*, Chamber Board of Director member
Chris Myers, Owner, *Craft Table*



Carol Davis, Owner, *Craft Table*
Fiona, *Craft Table Mascot*
Julie Westendorff, *Allegany Arts Council*, Chamber Board of Director member
Deb Shaffer, *City Lights Restaurant*, Chamber Board of Director member
Robert Godfrey, *Friends Aware*, Second Vice Chairman – Chamber Board of Directors
Kristi Minnigh, *Kristi Otto Allstate Agency*, Chamber Board of Director member

Jeffery O'Neal, *UPMC Western Maryland*, First Vice Chairman – Chamber Board of Directors
Matt Miller, Executive Director, *Cumberland Economic Development Corporation*
James Crowder, *FirstEnergy*, Chamber Board of Director member
Stu Czapski, Economic Development Specialist, *Cumberland Economic Development Corporation*



2021 Board of Directors

CHAIRMAN

Jeffery D. O'Neal

UPMC Western Maryland

SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN

James S. Crowder

FirstEnergy Corporation

FIRST VICE CHAIRMAN

Robert A. Godfrey

Friends Aware, Inc.

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIRWOMAN

Nicole R. Wigfield

Skypacket Networks, Inc.

Parika M. Andreassen
Hampton Inn Frostburg

Patrick W. Buck
CBIZ Insurance Services

Kristan S. Carter
The Toasted Goat Winery

Christie L. Clark
ACT 1st Federal Credit Union

Robert W. Collette, Jr.
Cumberland Healthcare Center

Skylar B. Dice
Rocky Gap Casino Resort

Timi M. Hadra
IBM Global Business Services

Mary Jane Marker
R. H. Lapp and Sons

Stephen R. McBride
American Woodmark Corporation

Kristi N. Minnigh
Kristi Otto Allstate Agency

Dr. Ronald H. Nowaczyk
Frostburg State University

Rebecca L. Ruppert
Allegany College of Maryland

Debra J. Shaffer
City Lights American Grill and Bar

Troy A. Raines
Hearthstone Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Julie B. Westendorff
Allegany Arts Council

Chairman Comments *continued from page 1*

Broadband funding distribution to our region, status of the Verso property, Opportunity Scholarships to local college students, the 2021 budget to name a few.

I am also very happy to welcome **Juli McCoy** as the new Executive Director of the Chamber effective January 4, 2021. Juli comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience to lead the Chamber into 2021. The Chamber looks forward to serving its members in 2021 by continuing to provide advocacy, networking, marketing and educational opportunities in addition to being the leading voice for business in Allegany County. Together we will overcome the challenges that COVID-19 has brought upon our community and make great things happen! Happy New Year!

Jeffery D. O'Neal
Chairman

Mark Your Calendars 2021 Events



Lucky Ladies Night Out
Date to be determined



Fifth Annual Golf Outing
Friday, May 7, 2021

Crab Feast
Friday, August 6, 2021



Annual Membership Meeting
Thursday,
December 2, 2021



The
CHAMBER

ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD

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

www.alleganycountychamber.com

Juli 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