



# The CHAMBER

ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD



## Executive Director

*Happy New Year!* I hope you had an opportunity to enjoy peace, reflection, friends, and family over the holiday season. It's a new year and while we don't know what 2023 has in store for us, we look forward with a sense of renewal and hope. The Chamber had an incredible year in 2022 and if you have not done so already, please take a look at our annual review where we shared photos and statistics to help break down our year and showcase our work.

The membership elected six new members to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting in December, including **Parika Andreassen**, Hampton Inn Frostburg, **Molly Beeman**, Boggs & Company Wealth Management, **Crystal Bender**, ServiceMaster of Allegany County, **Jeremy Irons**, Belt Group of Companies, **S. Ramini Pillai**, Buckel, Levasseur, Pillai & Beeman, LLC, and **Brandi Rice**, First United Bank and Trust, and. New officers were also elected and include **Patrick Buck**, CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services of Maryland as Chairman, **Parika Andreassen**, Hampton Inn Frostburg as First Vice Chairwoman, and **Rob Collette**, Cumberland Healthcare Center, as Second Vice Chairman. **Robert Godfrey**, UPMC Western Maryland, will serve as Immediate Past Chairman. Thank you to **Dr. Ron Nowaczyk**, Frostburg State University, **Deb Shaffer**, City Lights–An American Grill & Bar, **Julie Westendorff**,

Allegany Arts Council, and **Nicole Wigfield**, Skypacket Networks, for your time and dedication to the Chamber as directors on our Board. It was a privilege to work with you. The Chamber's annual Board Retreat will be held on January 13, at which time specific goals will be outlined for 2023. If there is a specific area of interest that you would like the Board to consider, please contact me prior to that date.

This year you can expect our work to remain focused on legislative issues, programs and workshops, and initiatives brought forward through our committees. I will continue to represent you through a variety of community organizations, and I invite you to use your membership fully by connecting your employees to our work. Don't forget to check out our Membership 101, which outlines how to maximize membership – and it's just 15 minutes! That, and our Website 101 can be found directly on our YouTube channel, and on our website. In 2023 we hope to grow our event committees – this is an excellent opportunity for you or your employees to gain leadership skills, and they are a commitment of only a few months.

Thank you for being part of the Chamber and allowing us to be a voice for you and your business.

**Juli McCoy**  
Executive Director

JANUARY 2023

Volume XLI No. 1  
Bell Tower Building  
Cumberland, MD 21502



## January Calendar

- January 4**  
8:00 am  
Membership Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom
- January 9**  
Noon  
**Leadership Allegany**  
Alumni Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom
- January 12**  
8:00 am  
Education Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom
- January 17**  
8:30 am  
**Leadership Allegany**  
Steering Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom
- January 18**  
8:00 am  
Economic Develop. Comm. Mtg.  
Chamber Boardroom  
  
Noon  
Legislative Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom
- January 25**  
Noon  
Marketing Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom  
  
Noon  
Legislative Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom
- February 1**  
8:00 am  
Membership Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom  
  
Noon  
Legislative Committee Meeting  
Chamber Boardroom

# 2022 Holiday Reception Memories



## Special Thanks To Our Sponsors



## Ugly Sweater Contestants



OUR WINNER



## Chamber Elects New Officers for 2023

*Pictured left to right:*

Robert Godfrey, *Immediate Past Chairman*  
 Robert Collette, *Second Vice Chairman*  
 Parika Andreassen, *First Vice Chairwoman*  
 Juli McCoy, *Executive Director*  
 Patrick Buck, *Chairman of the Board of Directors*

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce recently held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Frankenberry Insurance Group located at 1254 Vocke Road, Suite A, LaVale, Maryland. Frankenberry Insurance Group believes that education comes before enrollment. They will find a plan that fits both their clients lifestyle as well as their budget. Their team of agents strive to provide the guidance to show their clients a total cost for both prescription and health care on any plan they may choose. To learn more please visit their website at: [www.fig4life.com](http://www.fig4life.com).



**Pictured left to right – front row:**

**Amy Shillingburg**, *Rusco Home Improvement*, Chamber Membership Committee member  
**Nicole Wigfield**, *Skypacket Networks*, Chamber Immediate Past Chairwoman  
**Parika Andreassen**, *Hampton Inn Cumberland*, Chamber Second Vice Chairwoman  
**Juli McCoy**, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director  
**Barth Frankenberry**, *Owner*, Frankenberry Insurance Group  
**Sonya Morgan**, *Insurance Broker*, Frankenberry Insurance Group  
**Rob Collette**, *Cumberland Healthcare Center*, Chamber Board of Director member  
**Nathan Price**, *Allegany County Department of Economic and Community Development*  
**Ashley Parker**, *M & T Bank*

**Back Row – left to right:**

**Eric Bowlus**, *Chew On This – Jerky*, Chamber Membership Committee member  
**Kristi Minnigh**, *The Kristi Agency*, Chamber Board of Director member  
**Steve MacGray**, *Charis Realty Group*, Chamber Membership Committee member  
**Shannon Frankenberry**, *Owner*, Frankenberry Insurance Group  
**Sharon Everett**, *Administrative Assistant*, Frankenberry Insurance Group  
**Doug Good**, *West Virginia Market Manager*, Humana  
**Brandon Hillegas**, *M & T Bank*, Chamber Membership Committee member



## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce recently held a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to welcome Keller Williams Premier Realty to the Chamber and to the community. Keller Williams Premier Realty is located in the Country Club Mall, 1262 Vocke Road, Suite 874, LaVale, Maryland. To learn more about them please visit their website at: [www.kw.com](http://www.kw.com).

### Pictured Left to Right:

**Leonard Morrell**, *Broker* (WV, MD and PA), Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Shelly Smith**, *Agent*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Melanie Pratt Dimaio**, *Agent*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Kait Shanahan**, *Market Center Coordinator*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Nathan Lamp**, *Agent*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Robert Godfrey**, *UPMC Western Maryland*, Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Chairman of the Board of Directors

**Susie Miller**, *Agent and Operating Principal*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Kelli Furman**, *Director of Growth and Team Leader*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Heather Imes**, *Agent*, Keller Williams Premier Realty

**Amy Shillingburg**, *RUSCO Home Improvement*, Chamber of Commerce Membership Committee member

**Michelle VanMetre**, *Development Coach*, Keller Williams Premier Realty



**Juli McCoy**, *Executive Director*, Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

**Brandon Hillegas**, *M & T Bank*, Chamber Membership Committee member

**Nathan Price**, *Allegany County Department of Economic and Community Development*

**Steve MacGray**, *Charis Realty Group*, Chamber Membership Committee member

**Kristi Minnigh**, *The Kristi Agency*, Chamber Board of Director member

**Rebecca Ruppert**, *Allegany College of Maryland*, Chamber Board of Director member

## Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

# After Hours

**NETWORKING AT ITS BEST!**

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce is committed to promoting its members!! Our “*Chamber After Hours*” is just one of the many programs available for you to showcase your business, product or service.

**It is a great opportunity for networking and having fun!**

It's easy to host a “*Chamber After Hours*” event. Hosting can be done by one business or several businesses can join forces and host together.

Contact the office today (301-722-2820) for details – openings for 2023 are still available.



## Alumni Spotlight



**Tracey Morris**  
Class of 2004

The **Leadership Allegany** Alumni Committee is proud to “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 this quarter highlights the Class of 2004, and we are proud to introduce you to class member **Tracey Morris**.

### **What is your current role/title?**

Tracey Morris  
*Director of Talent Strategy, West Virginia University*

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

State Government Day – the trip to Annapolis was a great way to learn more about how our state government works, but it was also one of the trips that sealed the connections with my fellow **Leadership Allegany** classmates.

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

Go into every topic day with an open mind. Be ready to learn and absorb all the information you can. Always treat the presenters and your classmates with respect – even when your opinions differ.

### **How did Leadership Allegany impact you professionally or personally?**

**Leadership Allegany** created a network of people that I wouldn't necessarily have met or engaged with otherwise. I graduated in the class of 2004 and even today I will reach out to members of my class if I need their assistance or guidance with something in their area of expertise. The **Leadership Allegany** experience creates lifelong connections.

### **Tell us something about yourself that others may be surprised to know about you.**

When I was younger I was so incredibly shy I wouldn't call to order a pizza or go to the mall alone. When I worked for ACS/Xerox in recruiting, I would create radio ads about our open positions. My mom was shocked the first time she heard one – she wondered what happened to that shy kid!

## 2023 Board of Directors

### CHAIRMAN

**Patrick W. Buck**  
*CBIZ*

### SECOND VICE CHAIRMAN

**Robert W. Collette, Jr.**  
*Cumberland Healthcare Center*

### FIRST VICE CHAIRWOMAN

**Parika M. Andreassen**  
*Hampton Inn Frostburg*

### PAST CHAIRMAN

**Robert A. Godfrey**  
*UPMC Western Maryland*

Ahmad H. Ahmad  
*Rocky Gap Casino Resort*

Molly S. Beeman  
*Boggs & Company Wealth Management*

Crystal M. Bender  
*ServiceMaster of Allegany County*

Catie M. Brenneman  
*AHEC West*

Kristan S. Carter  
*Toasted Goat Winery*

Jeremy G. Irons  
*Carl Belt, Inc.*

Christina J. Mallow  
*Berry Global*

Mary Jane Marker  
*R. H. Lapp and Sons*

Marisa Bowen Miller  
*IBM*

Kristi N. Minnigh  
*The Kristi Agency – Allstate Insurance*

S. Ramani Pillai  
*Buckel, Levasseur, Pillai & Beeman, LLC*

Brandi L. Rice  
*First United Bank and Trust*

Rebecca L. Ruppert  
*Allegany College of Maryland*

## Mark Your Calendars

2023 Events



**Seventh Annual Golf Outing**  
Friday, May 5, 2023



**Eighth Annual Lucky Ladies Night Out**  
Friday, June 9, 2023



**Forty-second Annual Crab Feast**  
Friday, August 4, 2023

Wednesday,  
October 18, 2023

**ALLEGANY COUNTY  
LOCAL BUSINESS  
SHOWCASE**



**Annual Membership Meeting**  
Thursday,  
December 7, 2023



*The*  
**CHAMBER**  


ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD

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

[www.alleganycountychamber.com](http://www.alleganycountychamber.com)

Juli R. McCoy, Executive Director

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce 2023 Officers

Chairman: Patrick W. Buck

First Vice Chairwoman: Parika M. Andreassen

Second Vice Chairman: Robert W. Collette, Jr.

Immediate Past Chairman: Robert A. Godfrey