



The CHAMBER



ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD



Executive Director

We are well underway planning our 7th **Annual Golf Tournament** set for Friday, May 5, 2023 at the *Cumberland Country Club*. Thank you to **Rod Barker**, Edward Jones Investments, who continues as our Chair. We have a great committee that works to make this event successful — weather excluded. Sponsorship and registration forms are up on our website, and members will be sent details soon.

The 2023 Legislative Session began on January 11 and our **Legislative Committee** began meeting that day. Thank you to **Jeremy Irons**, The Belt Group of Companies, for continuing to serve as Chair of the committee. Our Chamber has made the decision to align ourselves with the Maryland Chamber of Commerce Federation, which strengthens our voice in Annapolis year-round. This also means an immediate return on investment for our small business members with ten or fewer employees who now have a complimentary membership with the state Chamber. Our local Chamber is also now represented on a workgroup for family medical leave, and the Labor & Employment Policy Committee, both of which provide immeasurable information to help us stay on pace with issues. We will continue our weekly updates to members that highlight some of the bills and issues we are watching and our website remains routinely updated with letters we have sent and bills we are tracking. Please join us every Wednesday at noon for our meetings and if there is an issue of concern, let us know so that we can add it to our watch list.

Our Board of Directors met for its annual retreat on Friday, January 13 at **Fore Axes**

where the Chamber's opportunities and goals were discussed. We emerged from the retreat with a strong direction and look forward to continuing our work as *the voice for business in Allegany County*. I am honored to have a Board of Directors that represents our membership, and our work, and reflects the many partnerships we have in our community. **Jeff Blank**, Superintendent of Allegany County Public Schools has been named to fill a seat left vacant by **Seth Sgaggero**, Sgaggero Event Planning, upon his departure from the area. Seth's involvement with the Chamber was strong and his absence is felt, but we wish him well!

Our first **Chamber After Hours** of 2023 will be held at City Hall in Frostburg on Wednesday, February 15, 5:30-7:30, where we will be hosted by Allegany County Economic Development, and the City of Frostburg. Attendees will hear about the business incubator and see demos of the department's new website, specifically its most advanced features.

Please welcome our newest members, **Chaney Buskirk**, **Clear Skies Holdings, LLC**, **Commercial Press Printing Company**, **Imler's Tax Service**, **J&S Pawn, Inc.**, and **Pressley Ridge – Western Maryland**. We look forward to working with them and to holding a ribbon cutting on February 2 to celebrate the opening of **Imler's Tax Service**.

Juli McCoy
Executive Director

FEBRUARY 2023

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

February Calendar

- February 1**
8:00 am
Membership Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom

Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom
- February 8**
Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom
- February 9**
8:00 am
Education Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom
- February 13**
9:00 am
Minimum Wage Forum
Virtual Format
- February 15**
8:00 am
Economic Develop. Comm. Mtg.
Chamber Boardroom

Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom

5:30 – 7:30
"Chamber After Hours"
Hosted by Allegany County
Economic Development
and the City of Frostburg
- February 17**
8:30 am
Golf Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom
- February 21**
8:30 am
Leadership Allegany
Steering Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom
- February 22**
Noon
Legislative Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom

4:00 pm
Marketing Committee Meeting
Chamber Boardroom
- February 23**
Noon
Board of Directors Meeting
Chamber Boardroom

Save the Date

May 5, 2023

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

Seventh Annual Golf Tournament

Cumberland Country Club



New Members

(patronize these members and welcome them to the Chamber)

Chaney Buskirk

77 Frankfort Highway
Wiley Ford, West Virginia 26767
www.chaneybuskirk.com
304-788-6180
Contact: Cody Dolly, Agent
E-mail: cody@chaneybuskirk.com
Category: Insurance

Clear Skies Holdings, LLC

P. O. Box 953
Ridgeley, West Virginia 26753
www.clearskiesholdings.com
301-697-5194
Contact: Gail Shook, Managing Partner
E-mail: gail@jspawnguns.com
Category: Real Estate

Commercial Press Printing Company

109 South George Street
Cumberland, Maryland 21502
www.commercialpresscompany.com
301-777-0570
Contact: Randy Haines, Production Manager
E-mail: caprp@commercialpresscompany.com
Category: Printers, Publishers, Typesetters & Graphics

Imler's Tax Service

837 National Highway
LaVale, Maryland 21502
301-722-8090 – Fax: 301-777-7206
Contact: Beth Imler, Owner
E-mail: beth@imlertaxservice.onmicrosoft.com
Category: Tax Service

J & S Pawn, Inc.

501 Veteran's Memorial Highway
Ridgeley, West Virginia 26753
www.jspawnguns.com
304-738-3759
Contact: Teresa (Gail) Shook, Vice President
E-mail: gail@jspawnguns.com
Category: Pawn Shop

Pressley Ridge – Western Maryland

327 Beall Street
Suite 201
Cumberland, Maryland 21502
www.pressleyridge.org
301-724-8413 301-501-7183
Contact: Emily Bladen, Homebuilders Supervisor
E-mail: ebladen@pressleyridge.org
Category: Community Services



ALLEGANY COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS CHAMBER AFTER HOURS

Sponsored By Allegany County Economic Development and the City of Frostburg



JOIN US FOR DRINKS, LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AND PRIZES.
LEARN ABOUT EXCITING NEW DEVELOPMENTS FROM THE
COUNTY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TEAM.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH • 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM
Network and Win \$500.00

\$5.00 Registration Fee • Must be 21 Years or older to attend

FROSTBURG CITY HALL

37 S Broadway, Frostburg, MD 21532



ALLEGANY COUNTY
ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Must be pre-registered and present to win! RSVP by February 9th!

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

24 Frederick Street, Cumberland MD 21502

P: 301-722-2820 • F: 301-722-5995

andrea@alleganycountychamber.com

Organization Name: _____

Member Names: _____

Member Guests: _____

Let's Talk About Minimum Wage

A virtual forum

*We want to hear how
the accelerated increase
will effect your business*

Members Only
Free Registration

February 13, 2023
9am

For More Information
Please Email

andrea@alleganycountychamber.com





Masquerade Ball

A Black-Tie Affair to Remember!

Honorary Co-Chairs

Ken and Kate Buchanan

Musical Entertainment by

Tomajito Jazz Funktet

featuring Mikayla Dodge

Saturday, April 22, 7-11 pm

Tickets \$100 couple, \$60 single

Available for purchase on [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)

EMBASSY THEATRE

49 Baltimore St. Cumberland MD 240 362-7183



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 Tournament
 - Crab Feast
 - Recognition Reception
 - Chamber Local Business Showcase
 - Holiday Reception
- Committee meetings:
 - Economic Development Committee
 - Education Committee
 - Finance Committee
 - **Leadership Allegany**
 - **Leadership Allegany! Rising**
 - Legislative Committee
 - Marketing Committee
 - Membership Committee
 - Transportation 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 Reception
- Chamber Crab Feast
- Lucky Ladies Night Out
- Golf Tournament
- Chamber Local Business Showcase
- 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.

- On-line 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
- Banner Ads
- 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 businesses, 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!



“Chamber After Hours”

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

5:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Hosted by:

Allegany County Economic Development
and the City of Frostburg

Minimum Wage Forum

Monday, February 13, 2023

9:00 am

Virtual Format

Committee Chairs for 2023

Economic Development Committee ... Kim B. Leonard
Vice-Chair Adam D. Strott

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

Leadership *Allegany!* Rising Autumn M. Becker

Finance Committee Richard J. Hoover

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

Legislative Committee Jeremy G. Irons

Marketing Committee Kristi N. Minnigh

Membership Committee Co-Chair Erin M. Bowlus
Co-Chair Steve K. MacGray

Transportation Committee Courtney Thomas-Winterberg

Fund Raising Committees:

Crab Feast Committee Jeremy G. Irons

Golf Committee Rodney W. Barker

Lucky Ladies Night Out Timi M. Hadra



Western Maryland Delegation Members

DISTRICT 1

Senator Michael W. McKay (R) – District 1
James Senate Office Building, Room 416
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3565, (301) 858-3565
1-800-492-7122 ext 3565 (toll free)
e-mail: mike.mckay@senate.state.md.us
Local Office: 100 Mechanic Street
Cumberland, MD 21502
240-362-7040

Delegate James C. Hinebaugh, Jr. (R) – District 1A
Lowe House Office Building, Room 323
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3435, (301) 858-3435
1-800-492-7122, ext 3435 (toll free)
e-mail: jim.hinebaugh@house.state.md.us

Delegate Jason C. Buckel (R) – District 1B
Lowe House Office Building, Room 201
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3404, (301) 858-3404
1-800-492-7122, ext 3404 (toll free)
e-mail: jason.buckel@house.state.md.us

Delegate Terry L. Baker (R) – District 1C
Lowe House Office Building, Room 323
6 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401
(410) 841-3321, (301) 858-3321
1-800-492-7122, ext 3321 (toll free)
e-mail: terry.baker@house.state.md.us

For a complete list of Senate Standing Committees and
House of Delegates Standing Committees visit:
<http://mgaleg.maryland.gov>



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 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