



# The CHAMBER



## ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD



Resort at 8am, the Chamber's **Annual Meeting** will be held on Thursday, December 7 at noon at the Cumberland Country Club where *Mary Kane, President & CEO of the Maryland Chamber* will join us again to provide an outlook on the State Chamber's work going into 2024. Our **Holiday Reception** will take place on Thursday, Decem-

ber 14 from 4-7pm at the Allegany Museum where we will host our annual ugly sweater contest and have some fun with reindeer games thanks to our Membership Committee.

Adding to our rapid slide into the holidays, Frederick and Belle have been making their rounds gearing up for **Elf on the Shelf**, taking place throughout the month of December to help promote **Shop Small** and local businesses. Watch for them to arrive at the end of the month. The Chamber is proud to serve as a partner with **Allegany County Tourism, Cumberland Downtown Development Commission, Downtown Cumberland Business Association, Frostburg First, and Canal Place for Shop Small, Win Big** where you can discover one-of-a-kind gifts among over 50 shops with a chance to win Visa gift cards. See the flyer included in the newsletter for more info.

It has been another very busy, fast-paced year and one of the biggest projects we have focused on has been through the Transportation Committee. With the selection of a consultant for a transportation study and strategic plan, we are looking forward to beginning the work of meeting with associates of Whitman, Requardt & Associates, LLP along with a variety of community stakeholders who will help us to better understand our challenges and issues while outlining our goals and plans for growth. The committee continues to grow and I encourage you to be involved – if you are aware of a group or organization that has discussed transportation, please ask them to reach out and become involved with our work. We remain focused on our commitment of *transportation for all*, ensuring that

*continued on last page*

## Executive Director

I say this every year as one season folds into the next, and I will keep saying it – time flies. I find it hard to believe that we've wrapped up Halloween and soon so many of us will be walking around with *All I Want for Christmas Is You* in our heads (gotcha!). What this means for the Chamber is that **Local Business Showcase** has come and gone and it was a big success for our participants. *Willets Tech* shared that *"it was an incredible opportunity to connect with fellow members and community friends to discuss products and services"* and we are so glad they found value in the event as a new participant this year. Thank you to all our vendors and guests, and to **Dunkin'** and **US Cellular**, our platinum sponsors. I also want to acknowledge the work done by the Marketing Club at Frostburg State University, who not only brought us volunteers, but rallied around the event to advertise to students and encourage them to attend. Additionally, we were able to offer a series of workshops that have received a 5-star rating plus requests for similar programming throughout the year. Thank you to Dr. Dong Wook Huh, Associate Professor of Management, for his leadership and creativity throughout the planning of the day.

We will host our last **Chamber After Hours** of the year at **The Salvation Army** on November 15 where they have lots of fun planned, plus tours of the facility. *Network & Win* is up to \$2,500 – what a great way to cash in right before the holiday season! We hope to see you there!

There are a number of important flyers in this newsletter, which help outline what we've got for the remainder of the year. We will host our **Pre-Legislative Breakfast** on Friday, December 1 at Rocky Gap Casino

## NOVEMBER 2023

Volume XLI No. 11  
Bell Tower Building  
Cumberland, MD 21502

**"Chamber After Hours"**  
**Wednesday**  
**November 15, 2023**  
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
*Hosted by*  
The Salvation Army

## November Calendar

### November 1

Membership Committee  
8:00 am – Chamber Boardroom

### November 9

Education Committee  
8:00 am – Chamber Boardroom

### November 9

Annual Recognition Reception  
6:00 pm – FSU – Lane Center

### November 13

Transportation Committee  
9:00 am – Chamber Boardroom

### November 15

*Chamber After Hours*  
5:30 pm – The Salvation Army

### November 16

Board of Directors  
12:00 pm – Chamber Boardroom

### November 21

Leadership Allegany Steering Committee  
8:30 am – Chamber Boardroom

### December 1

Pre-Legislative Breakfast  
8:00 am – TBD

### December 7

Annual Membership Meeting  
12:00 pm  
Cumberland Country Club

### December 14

Member Holiday Reception  
4:00 pm – Allegany Museum



# ALLEGANY COUNTY LOCAL BUSINESS SHOWCASE OCTOBER 2023





The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce  
Presents

Chamber After Hours

Hosted by:



Live  
music!

RSVP  
by  
11/9

THE SALVATION ARMY  
CUMBERLAND, MD

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15TH

5:30-7:30PM

701 E. First Street, Cumberland, MD 21502

Join us for refreshments and fun!

Take a tour of our facility, play some games, and learn about what we do!

Register  
Online!

\$5 Registration Fee

Must be pre-registered & present to win

Network  
&  
win  
\$2500!

*The*  
**CHAMBER**  
  
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD

Allegany County Chamber of Commerce  
24 Frederick Street, Cumberland, MD 21502  
P: 301-722-2820 | F: 301-722-5995  
andrea@alleganycountychamber.com  
www.alleganycountychamber.com



PRESENTS

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# PRE-LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST

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SPONSORED BY:



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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023  
8:00AM  
ROCKY GAP CASINO RESORT  
\$25 PER PERSON

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A PREVIEW OF THE  
2024 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

FEATURING  
SENATOR MIKE MCKAY

DELEGATES  
TERRY BAKER  
JASON BUCKEL  
JIM HINEBAUGH



ONLINE PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED



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TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS OR TOPICS OF DISCUSSION  
EMAIL: [INFO@ALLEGANYCOUNTYCHAMBER.COM](mailto:INFO@ALLEGANYCOUNTYCHAMBER.COM)

# ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**CUMBERLAND  
COUNTRY  
CLUB**

**\$25/PERSON**

**7  
DEC  
2023**

**12PM**

**BOARD OF DIRECTOR  
CANDIDATES:**

**Kate Barnard  
Patrick Buck  
Kristan Carter  
Rob Collette  
Larry Jackson  
John Short**

**SPEAKER:**



**Mary Kane**

*President/CEO*  
Maryland Chamber



# CANDIDATES FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## KATE BARNARD

Kate Barnard is a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor providing individual, family, and group therapy for folks living with grief, complex trauma, adult ADHD, depression, and anxiety. Combining behavioral science interventions with the art of empathy, she works to empower, encourage, and guide others to a place of healing. She works tirelessly to bring light to those living in darkness and is passionate about Appalachia. After almost a decade of working for others, she opened her own therapy practice, Kinfolk Counseling, in 2021. She has also been an adjunct professor at Frostburg State University since 2015.

Her newest professional adventure was set after she was selected and charged by Archway Station, Inc to develop and lead Allegany and Garrett County's first Assertive Community Treatment program, which is an interdisciplinary, evidence-based mental health treatment model that meets people where they are, both physically and metaphorically.

Kate earned her Master of Science degree in Counseling Psychology from Frostburg State University in 2014 and is a proud member of the Leadership Allegany Class of 2023. She is a graduate of Westmar High School, and her Crick Girl roots run deep. Kate strives to live her life in a way that makes her grandparents proud, and every step she takes is in homage to her late father.

She lives in Frostburg with her rescue dog Honey Bea, and in her minimal spare time she enjoys volunteering, exploring flea markets, continuing her quest to find the perfect snacks, and taking precious seconds to stop and smell the wildflowers.

## PATRICK BUCK

Patrick Buck is Vice President of Commercial Insurance and Risk Management at CBIZ Insurance Services in Cumberland, MD, and holds the designation of Commercial Lines Coverage Specialist. Patrick works with middle market clients primarily in the construction, health care, manufacturing, technology and public entity industries. Drawing from his own experience, and the support from various other CBIZ practice leaders and subject matter experts, he advises his clients on how to best manage, reduce and transfer their risk, and find the most competitive option to insure these risks. Patrick is a 2019 graduate of Leadership Allegany. He currently serves as the board chair for the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce, and is a former board member of the Cumberland Country Club. Patrick graduated from Virginia Tech in 2003 with a degree in Business Information Technology. A native of Richmond, VA, he now resides in Cumberland with his wife, Mirjhana, a Financial Advisor with Boggs & Company Wealth Management, and his two sons, Liam and Carder.

## KRISTAN CARTER

Kristan is a local businesswoman, realtor and co-owner of several successful ventures in Allegany County: Carter & Roque Real Estate, The Toasted Goat Winery, Route 40 Brewery and Distillery, and multiple residential and commercial investment properties. She is a graduate of Frostburg State University with a degree in quantitative economics with a concentration in finance, as well as a Master's in finance. Kristan has extensive experience in economic and community development and banking, including having been the vice-president of Garrett Community Action Committee for Community Development, past president of FrostburgFirst, and the Frostburg Historic District Commission. She currently serves on several local, regional and state boards focusing on policy and improving our local area's quality of life. Kristan is also a 2007 graduate of Leadership Allegany. She continues to be a champion and supporter for small business initiatives and the importance of community networking and involvement. Kristan coaches several youth leagues in the community and resides in Frostburg with her husband and three daughters.

## ROBERT COLLETTE

Rob Collette carries a strong experiential business acumen coupled with clinical marketing expertise and senior healthcare operations. Complimenting a Bachelors in Business, Rob graduated from a local and nationally recognized and accredited nursing school, using his diversified résumé to expand sales, management, and marketing expertise across the healthcare spectrum. Previously working for Biomet and Zimmer Orthopedics as a clinical sales professional at Western Maryland Health System, WVU's Ruby Memorial, and hospitals throughout the greater DC/Baltimore hospital region, he garnered year-to-year sales growth accolades and coveted National Sales meeting recognition for excellent performance among his colleagues and peers. Prior to healthcare, Rob experienced defining career roles in transportation sales and marketing, construction materials management, foundation engineering, commercial pest consulting, and operating ownership of a Four Star Pizza franchise in Cumberland, MD.

Currently, Rob is Clinical Liaison and Director of Public Relations for Cumberland Healthcare Center and Commons at Cumberland assisted living facility, both part of the Communicare® Family of Companies. He spearheads advancement of community awareness for both facilities and several WV corporate facilities by leading senior healthcare education seminars, integration of healthcare professionals, local networking and regional event sponsorships.

Rob earned his A.A in business at Allegany Community College, additionally garnering NJUCO recognition in soccer. He completed his B.S. degree in 1986 at Frostburg State University and graduated from ACM RN Nursing School in 2014, elected class spokesperson for graduation ceremonies. Most recently, he joined the alumni with the Chamber of Commerce Leadership Allegany program, graduating with Leadership Allegany Class of 2020.

Following a two-year healthcare career stint in Wilmington, NC, Rob has returned to his hometown of Cumberland, MD and is active in community, church, missions, and non-profit volunteer programs. In his personal time, Rob's passions expand into God's great outdoors where he enjoys hunting, fishing, organized sports, and precious family time.

## LARRY JACKSON

Since 2000 Mr. Jackson has been the managing partner of several firms specializing in commercial real estate development, including Town Center Development Group, L.L.C., Decatur Heights Development, L.L.C., First Project, and Alco Towers, L.L.C. Mr. Jackson been very active in the redevelopment of the Downtown Cumberland area and has specialized in historic rehabilitation. Mr. Jackson is also co-owner of Western Maryland Music Center, L.L.C. and Allegany Retail, L.L.C. owner of three retail stores. He also has been a management consultant for Chaney Architects, Inc. of Cumberland, Md. since 1997.

Mr. Jackson has also served in numerous local development roles, including the Chair of the City Economic committee, the precursor to the current CEDC. Mr. Jackson has also served on the Tri-County Council venture capital loan committee, a non-profit venture capital group focusing on start-up money for new companies creating jobs in Western Maryland. He has a Masters of Business Administration degree from Frostburg State University and a Bachelors of Music Education degree from West Virginia University. He has been on the Board of directors and is a co-founder of the Cumberland Jazz Society, Inc., a non-profit arts promotion corporation and is active in many other professional and cultural organizations. He is a founding member and board member of the Loft 129, Inc, the region's newest performing arts venue. In 1997 Jackson was the recipient of the Maryland Music Educators Award for Excellence /Outstanding Music Teacher of the year. In 2009 Mr. Jackson was one of five educators in the nation to receive the Mr. Holland's Opus Foundation award for teaching excellence, which was presented in April at New York City's Carnegie Hall.

Mr. Jackson also currently serves as the chair of the City of Cumberland's Historic Preservation Commission, Vice- chair of the Downtown Development Commission. He is a board member of the Cumberland Levitt Concert series, and also serves on the Downtown Cumberland arts and entertainment district board.

## JOHN SHORT

John Short is the Vice President for University Advancement at Frostburg State University (FSU), as well as the Executive Director of the FSU Foundation. As such, he oversees fundraising, alumni relations, and marketing and communications. He is also a member of the University's Executive Leadership Team.

Since coming to FSU and Allegany County in February 2015, John has led FSU to a record-breaking comprehensive campaign, with over \$25.7 million raised to date. He has also spearheaded the effort to improve FSU's recruitment marketing and communications with various constituencies.

Active in the local community from his arrival, John has served on various boards and committees, including The Greater Cumberland Committee, the Rotary Club, Bridges to Opportunity Steering Committee, and the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Committee. He also attended Leadership Allegany in 2016 and Leadership Maryland in 2018.

After practicing law in Connecticut for 20 years, John shifted his career focus to higher education. He worked at American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts and Albright College in Reading, Pennsylvania before coming to FSU.

John is a graduate of Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania and the University of Connecticut School of Law in Hartford, Connecticut. He resides in Frostburg with his wife, Clara Porcello, who is also very active in the community. They have two adult sons and three grandchildren.



# Shop Small, Win Big

We're giving away \$1,000 in cash prizes!

Rediscover our charming downtowns and the many locally-owned small businesses that are the perfect place for one-of-a-kind gifts.

Plus, when you shop small this season, you are not only keeping your dollars local, but you are also supporting local businesses, their owners, their employees... your neighbors.

And, because we want to give back too – when you shop at our participating small businesses between November 24 – December 20, 2023, each purchase you make will qualify you to enter into our weekly drawings for \$50 VISA gift cards and our \$550 VISA gift card grand prize! Cash that we hope you will put back into our local economy.

Enter for your chance to win big by visiting  
[mdmountainside.com/shopentry](https://mdmountainside.com/shopentry)







**GET READY  
FOR  
REINDEER  
GAMES!**



**BE SURE TO  
WEAR YOUR  
UGLIEST  
SWEATER!**



**PHOTOS WITH  
SANTA**



# Holiday Reception

**FOR OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS**

*Come Join the  
Holiday Cheer!*

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2023**

**4:00 TO 7:00PM**

**ALLEGANY MUSEUM  
3 PERSHING STREET**

**COMPLIMENTARY  
HORS D'OEUVRES & REFRESHMENTS**

*featuring*  
**Giuseppe's** Caribbean Christmas  
Menu

**MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE TO  
ATTEND**

**RSVP ONLINE AT  
[WWW.ALLEGANYCOUNTYCHAMBER.COM](http://WWW.ALLEGANYCOUNTYCHAMBER.COM)**



# Leadership Allegany Class of 2024

The Leadership Allegany Class of 2024 recently participated in their Orientation Retreat. The two-day orientation allows the class to become acquainted and to discover working together through their own leadership development.

Leadership Allegany is now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year and continues to provide opportunities for individuals to view processes, programs and

challenges in the community while experiencing public and private operations, and to discuss and observe issues and views of others. Throughout the experience, the class will participate in topics including arts and entertainment, economic development, education, environment, healthcare, human services, and local and state government, including a two-day intensive in Annapolis.



Pictured left to right:

## Front Row:

Andrea Kraft, *Allegany County Chamber of Commerce*  
Tracy Hedrick, *Allegany County*  
Patricia Kunis, *Chessie Federal Credit Union*  
Bethany Fife, *City of Frostburg*  
Lauren Winterberg, *Allegany College of Maryland*  
Kimberly Smith, *UPMC Western Maryland*  
Nicole Brant, *Allegany County HRDC*  
Heather Leyh-Harman, *Allegany County Department of Social Services*  
Karen Wells, *The Salvation Army*

## Second Row:

Jordan Tichnell, *State of Maryland*  
Ashley Parker, *M & T Bank*  
Cady Rankin, *Wells Fargo Advisors*  
Marisa Miller, *Beitzel Corporation/Pillar Innovations*  
Ashley Swinford, *Allegany County Library System*  
Ryan Mackey, *City of Cumberland*  
Joel Fowler, *First Peoples Community Federal Credit Union*  
Miranda Barber, *First Peoples Community Federal Credit Union*  
Catherine Glocker, *Archway Station*  
Kayla Mathew, *Frostburg State University*  
Carralee Silka, *Allegany County HRDC*  
Jennifer Ravenscroft, *WEPCO Federal Credit Union*  
Jordan Mace, *Hunter Douglas*

## 2023 Annual Recognition Reception

The Chamber's Board of Directors announced earlier this year the honorees for the Annual Recognition Reception to be held on Thursday, November 9, 2023 in the Lane Center at Frostburg State University.

Business of the Year – **Potomac Valley Hospital**

Entrepreneurial Spirit Award – **Micheal Harris**

Community Service Award – **Carl and Jane Belt**

Nonprofit of the Year Finalists – **Allegany Arts Council, Allegany County Historical Society, Allegany County Library System**

*Winner to be announced during the program.*

Western Maryland Jaycees Outstanding Young Professional Award – **Keira Shilling**

# Ribbon Cutting



## Ideal Option

### Welcome New Members *(patronize these members and welcome them to the Chamber)*

#### **CSX Transportation**

722 Virginia Avenue  
Cumberland, Maryland 21502  
301-759-2289  
www.csx.com

Contact: Jason Bishop, Regional Manager  
Community Affairs

E-mail: jason\_bishop@csx.com

Category: Transportation

#### **Maryland Wellness**

519 N. Mechanic Street, Cumberland, Maryland 21502  
301-777-9600  
www.mdwellness.org

Contact: Angela Greenwood, Community Relations Coordinator

E-mail: cumberlandoutreach@mdwellness.org

Category: Medical/Health

#### **Peg McKenzie**

Category: Retired





## Ribbon Cuttings



**Wells Fargo Advisors**



**Mountain City Liquors**



## *Alumni Spotlight*



*Kristan Carter*  
**Class of 2007**

As a pillar program of the Chamber, we are proud to spotlight alumni of Leadership Allegany quarterly in the Chamber newsletter. Featured alumni are asked a series of questions about how the program impacted their personal and professional life.

This quarter, we feature **Kristan Carter** from the Class of 2007.

**What is your current role?**

Owner/Operator - The Toasted Goat Winery, Hotel Gunter, and Old Route 40 Winery & Distillery

**What is the most important thing you learned from Leadership Allegany?** You get more by giving more. Success doesn't result from how much you get but from how much you give. If you want an abundant life, give as much as you can.

**What advice would you have for future Leadership Allegany participants?** Your education is never complete. Determine to live fully and continually learn. Prepare for what life has to teach by being open to the lessons in everything you do and experience.

**How did Leadership Allegany impact you professionally or personally?** Leadership Allegany gave me lifelong friendships that are very important to me to this day! Many of us are still in close contact with one another even though we are miles apart. The program also made me open my eyes to other people's perspectives on different issues that we were challenged with in our area. It was a wonderful learning experience.

**Do you have a motto or quote that inspires you?** "You must be the change you wish to see in the world." Mahatma Gandhi





## Notice of Annual Meeting of the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce

Thursday, December 7, 2023  
Cumberland Country Club  
Noon  
\$25.00 per person

The Nominating Committee, chaired by **Brandon Hillegas**, M&T Bank, has recommended the following candidates to serve a three-year term on the Board of Directors:

**Kate Barnard**, *Kinfolk Counseling*

**Patrick Buck**, *CBIZ*

**Kristan Carter**, *The Toasted Goat*

**Robert Collette**, *Cumberland Healthcare*

**Larry Jackson**, *Town Center Development Group, LLC*

**John Short**, *Frostburg State University Foundation*

The Allegany County Chamber of Commerce bylaws indicate that “additional names of candidates for directors can be nominated by petition bearing the genuine signature of at least five qualified members of the Chamber. Such petition shall be filed with the Nominating Committee after notice has been given of the names of those nominated. The determination of the Nominating Committee as to the legality of the petition(s) shall be final.” The deadline for submitting write-in candidates is Monday, November 27.

**Elections will be held at the beginning of the luncheon.**

### IMPORTANT!

Your vote is important to the candidates. For your company to cast its full share of votes, the correct names of your designated representatives must be on file at the Chamber office. If you are in doubt about who your voting representatives are, please contact the Chamber office – 301-722-2820.

### Executive Director... *continued from page 1*

business, economic development, tourism, human services, health, and education all have a voice. As we continue to explore our options to address the unique needs and challenges of our whole county, we will also continue to promote the opportunity for individuals to drive with Uber. This is an easy way to help move us forward while also generating income through the contractual employment. If you would like more information about Uber, you can visit their website, or contact our office.

**Juli McCoy**  
Executive Director

## Holiday Reception Sponsorship Opportunity



The Chamber's Annual Holiday Reception offers a final sponsorship opportunity for the year, taking place Thursday, December 14 from 4 – 7pm at the Allegany Museum.

The reception offers great food, drinks, and networking with members.

Sponsorships are available at \$500 and provide the following:

- Company logo on final flyer
- Company logo in Weekly e-News
- Company logo on table tent cards
- Company logo on 6' banner at entrance
- Sponsor photo in January newsletter and on Chamber website

Please contact the Chamber office to arrange for sponsorship at 301-722-2820 or email [info@alleganycountychamber.com](mailto:info@alleganycountychamber.com).



**The Chamber**  
ALLEGANY COUNTY, MD  
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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**