



Message from the President



HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM YOUR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE! We are well into the holiday season, which seems to get longer every year. Thanksgiving is no longer the actual beginning of the season as it was when I was young. It is now just a part of the overall festivities with the season beginning, it seems, somewhere after Halloween.

Thanksgiving, however, is a good place to start. It is always a good exercise to look backward and to recognize the many good things we have been given over the year as well as a few bad things. It also is a good time to take stock, not just of our business inventory, but of our personal inventory as well. There is a former government employee who always ended his day with the phrase: "We'll do better tomorrow." That could apply to most of us. Those days that cannot be topped are rare indeed and truly savored.

Your Chamber has been in the holiday spirit and started the season with its 10th Annual Salute to Hometown Heroes event. A tip of the hat goes to Gayle Adams, who conceived of the event 10 years ago. Saying thank you to our first responders for all of their dedication and hard work is always appropriate, but

it is an enriching experience for the Chamber members who attended to see the appreciation of the recipients and their families. All of our first responders should be thanked for their service, and if you see one about as you go about your travels, please take the time to say thank you. It is incredible how meaningful a small gesture can be to the recipient. Speaking of which, a thank you should go to our Board Member Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Otten, a/k/a Chaplain Otten a/k/a Chappo, not only for emceeding our event but also for his service as he leaves us in a few months to head abroad to Chaplain duty at one of our forward bases in a distinctly unfriendly place.

On December 13, we will have our annual Legislative Preview Breakfast, as we hear from our representatives on the upcoming legislative session and on local initiatives for our area. We are also in the election season, even if we are not "celebrating" it, and the legislative session beginning in January should prove to be as combative as any sporting event with outcome implications far more impactful. If you have not signed up for the event, you should.

January will bring our Annual Dinner and Business Awards and new beginnings

for the Chamber as we hand over the reins to the next generation of leaders. This is truly a celebratory event, and details on the date, time and place, and highlights will be forthcoming.

So please take time to enjoy the holidays, enjoy your family and your community. Eastern Baltimore County is a great place to live, work and play. Have fun with it and greet your fellow shoppers and workers with a smile and a Merry Christmas or Happy Holiday. It works for everyone.

Best wishes,
John Gontrum
President



CONGRATULATIONS!



On November 16 at Columbus Gardens in Nottingham, the Chamber held its 10th Annual Salute to Hometown Heroes program, where local fire, police, hospital and military personnel were recognized for their service. Heroes included:

- Volunteer Fire and Rescue Companies**
- Bowley's Quarters: Firefighter/Driver/Officer/Life Member Jerry Cusic
 - Middle River: Firefighter/EMT John Peranio, Jr.
 - Rockaway Beach: Life Member/Secretary/Firefighter LeRoy "Jimmy" Ogle
 - Rosedale: Chief Charles Leiss, Jr.
 - White Marsh: Firefighter/EMT Deonte Terry
- Baltimore County Fire Department**
- Fullerton Station 8: EMT/Firefighter Amanda Puleio
 - Parkville Station 10: EMT/Firefighter Jason J. Wurzbacher
 - Middle River Station 12: Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Charles McJilton
 - Golden Ring Station 16: Lieutenant Thomas Kimbel
 - Chase Station 54: Lieutenant Frank Hudnet
 - Perry Hall Station 55: Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Hobart Howell

- Baltimore County Police Department**
- Parkville Precinct 8: Officer First Class Jason W. Goorevitz
 - White Marsh Precinct 9: Officer First Class Courtney Kiser
 - Essex Precinct 11: Officer First Class Jordan Olszewski
 - Auxiliary Police: Sergeant Nicholas Shearman
 - K-9 Unit: Officer First Class Christopher Davies

- Maryland State Police**
- Trooper First Class Mark Mross

- Maryland Dept. of Natural Resources Police**
- Officer Andrew Brayman

- Community College of Baltimore County**
- Non-Certified Public Safety Officer Lisa Strozynski
- 175th Wing, Maryland Air National Guard**
- Senior Airman/Aerospace Medical Technician Bethany L. Anderson
- Maryland Civil Air Patrol**
- First Lieutenant Phillip Vogelgesang
- Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center**
- Susan Wallace, R.N.
- MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center**
- Team Lead and Triage Nurse Jennifer Cummins, R.N.

Special thanks go to our **Title Sponsor** Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center; **Foundation Sponsor** Greenleigh at Crossroads; **Event Sponsors** Baftis and Associates, Inc., Baltimore Window Factory, Broadway Services, Chick-fil-A Eastpoint, Community College of Baltimore County, Crab Quarters Restaurant, JAD's Caddyshack Restaurant and Lounge, Maryland Marina, Rated Trades LLC, Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure Park—White Marsh, Vend Lease Company Inc., Whiteford, Taylor & Preston LLP, and WPM Real Estate Management; **Color Guard Sponsor** Kiwanis Club of East Baltimore; **Music Sponsor** The Romadka Family Partnership; **Media Sponsor** The Avenue News and all who donated goods, services or funds in support of this terrific program.

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Don't miss the following upcoming Chamber events. Additional details and registration information can be found on our website – www.chesapeakechamber.org.

Holiday Celebration
Tuesday, December 5, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Red Brick Station Restaurant & Brew Pub,
8149 Honeygo Boulevard, White Marsh, MD 21236
\$15 for Chamber Members \$20 for Non-Members

Legislative Preview Breakfast
Wednesday, December 13, 8:00-9:30 a.m.
By the Docks Restaurant & Lounge,
3321 Eastern Boulevard, Middle River, MD 21220
\$20 for Chamber Members \$25 for Non-Members

The Chamber currently has openings for sponsors for our 2018 events. Sponsor packages offer many benefits and range in price from \$125 for a literature table to \$5,000 for Titanium sponsors. If you are interested in sponsoring a Chamber event, please contact Sharon Kihn at the Chamber for details.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Chesapeake Gateway Chamber would like to welcome and thank the following organizations which recently joined the Chamber. Please support these members.

First National Bank of PA
410-574-6858
www.fnb-online.com

Sheets and Associates
410-692-5550
www.sheetsandassociates.com

CHESAPEAKE GATEWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
405 Williams Court, Suite 108, Middle River, MD 21220
443-317-8763 • Fax: 443-317-8772
info@chesapeakechamber.org www.chesapeakechamber.org