



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Greetings from your new Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce President! I am truly honored that the Board has selected me as the incoming President of the Chamber. I can only hope that I will help guide the Chamber in the quality and manor of those that have ably come before me. For those of you that don't know me, I am the General Manager of Eastpoint Mall and a Senior Asset Manager for MCB Real Estate. MCB is a Baltimore-based Commercial Real Estate, Management and Investment firm that, in addition, owns and operates over 7 million square feet of real estate, mostly throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, including Eastpoint Mall. For the past 25 years, I have held multiple roles with The Rouse Company, Prime Outlets, Struever Bros., Eccles and Rouse, and Greenberg Gibbons Commercial Real Estate. Just prior to joining MCB, I was the General Manager of Marley Station Mall in Glen Burnie.

I have the distinct honor of working with a fantastic group of new Chamber Officers and Directors for this year. Each one of them brings so much to the table, and I know our Chamber is in great hands. These folks were sworn in at our Annual Awards Dinner last month.



### 2019 Officers

President .....John Hess, Eastpoint Mall  
Vice President .....William Bafitis, Bafitis & Associates, Inc.  
Secretary .....Andrew Wasmer, J&H Tires, Inc.  
Treasurer .....Chelsea Morton, The Berkleigh  
Immediate Past President.....Jaime Alvarez, Community College of Baltimore County

### 2019 Board of Directors

Michael Caruthers, Somerset Construction Company  
Marc Ershler, Community College of Baltimore County- Essex Campus  
Julie Gaynor, Baltimore County Public Schools (Ret.)  
John Gontrum, Whiteford, Taylor and Preston LLP  
Angela Heydt, Apple Insurance Services, Inc.  
Benjamin Hughes, Maryland Air National Guard - 175th Wing  
Edward Jenkins, Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure Park White Marsh  
Gary Jennings, Jim Jennings Transmissions

Sharon Jones, Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center  
James Merritt, Bmore Technology  
Jane Michael, Glenn L. Martin Maryland Aviation Museum  
Sophia Montgomery, Country Inn & Suites by Radisson, Baltimore North  
Barbara Morsberger, Minuteman Press of Canton, Fells Point & Crofton  
Samuel Moskowitz, MedStar Franklin Square Medical Center  
Cecile Myrick, Crab Quarters Restaurant (Ret.)  
Clifford O'Connell, Cliff's Hi-Tech Body Shop, Inc.  
Alfred Pollard, Martin State Airport  
Liane Reese, St. John Properties, Inc.  
Leslie Richardson, Richardson Farms of White Marsh, MD  
Donna Rolnick, WPM Real Estate Management/Townhomes at Rivers Gate  
Robert Romadka, Attorney at Law (Ret.)

### Executive Director

Sharon Kihn, Kihn Communications, LLC

Nearly 200 people attended the Annual Dinner and Awards Ceremony on January 30th at Martin's East. The keynote address was given by our new Baltimore County Executive John "Johnny O" Olszewski, Jr. I sat with Johnny at dinner and am extremely impressed with his plans for moving Baltimore County forward. It is fantastic to have someone from eastern Baltimore County serving as our County Executive!

Another exciting part of the evening was honoring our outstanding members' accomplishments. There are unsung acts of greatness shown day in and day out, and it is our honor to recognize some of these folks for their achievements. For additional information on the winners, please see Gianna DeCarlo's article titled "Olszewski, Chesapeake Chamber honor businesses and promote revitalization" which appeared in the February 6 issue of *The Avenue News*.

Looking at the coming year, the Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce is once again planning a full slate of events, activities, and advancements to maximize the value of membership and enhance the community we serve. One of the most enjoyable events of the year is our Bull & Shrimp Feast, which we sponsor with the Marine Trades Association of Baltimore County. It will be held on March 30 from 7-11 p.m. at Rosedale Gardens. In addition to the bull and shrimp dishes, there will be a delicious buffet, music by The River Dogs, lay-downs, raffles, wheels and auctions. Tickets are \$45 per person, and proceeds benefit scholarships for local students and other community initiatives. Please join us.

We welcome anyone to join our Chamber to not only help our part of the County grow and prosper, but to help our own individual businesses grow and prosper as well. Contact Sharon Kihn ([sharon.kihn@chesapeakechamber.org](mailto:sharon.kihn@chesapeakechamber.org)) or myself ([jhess@eastpointmall.com](mailto:jhess@eastpointmall.com)) to learn more about joining our growing team.

I'd like to conclude with a wish to all for a prosperous, productive, and healthy 2019!

Thank you,  
John Hess

## UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Don't miss the following upcoming Chamber events. Please join us for the following upcoming Chamber events. Additional details and registration information can be found on our website – [www.chesapeakechamber.org](http://www.chesapeakechamber.org).

### New & Prospective Member Orientation

Tuesday, March 5, 9:00-10:00 a.m.  
Chesapeake Gateway Chamber of Commerce  
405 Williams Court, Suite 108, Middle River, MD 21220  
FREE

### Bull & Shrimp Feast

Saturday, March 30, 7:00-11:00 p.m.  
Rosedale Gardens  
8037 Philadelphia Road, Baltimore, MD 21237  
\$45 per person

THANK YOU FOUNDATION SPONSOR



**CHESAPEAKE GATEWAY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
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