



UPDATE

CHAMBER EVENTS

Ask our St. Mary's State Legislators (Virtual)

Monday, February 14, 2022 at 8 AM
Listen to our Maryland State Legislators review the 2022 legislative session, discuss bills affecting the business community, and answer your questions via Zoom. Members only. Sponsored by the St. Mary's County Library. Register no later than Thursday, February 10 at 4pm to receive the Zoom link. [Register here.](#)

State of the Schools

Thursday, April 7, 2022
Annual State of the Schools luncheon. Forrest Technology Center. [Register here.](#)

Maryland Legislative Review Luncheon

Tuesday, April 19, 2022
This will be an in-person opportunity to review the 2022 session with our St. Mary's state elected officials. Olde Breton Inn. [Register here.](#)

NOMINATE YOUR FAVORITE BUSINESS FOR THE 2022 BUSINESS AWARD!

Categories include the the Emerging Business Award (between 1-4 years in business), the Beacon Award (up to 15 employees), the Lighthouse Award (16 or more employees), and the Community Service Award. See the application below and [here](#). Applications due by March 11, 2022.

Business *After Hours*

Above Par Golf & Entertainment
Presents
The Chamber of Commerce
Business After Hours



When: Wednesday, 23 Feb 2022 @ 5:00pm

Where: Above Par Golf & Entertainment
26288 Point Lookout Rd
Leonardtown, MD 20650

Who: All St. Mary's Chamber of Commerce Members

What: Join Above Par for the BAH that includes free play on the virtual simulators, giveaways & contests, a 50/50 raffle, and food provided by Chamber Member Personalized Touch Catering! We have golf clubs and other equipment available for use.

[Register here](#)

UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Business Awards Showcase

May 11, 2022

Chamber Annual Dinner

June 7, 2022

Taste of St. Mary's

September 10, 2022

State of the County

September 20, 2022

Golf Outing

September 29, 2022

Commissioner Candidate Forum

October 4, 2022

Senator/Delegate Candidate Forum

October 19, 2022

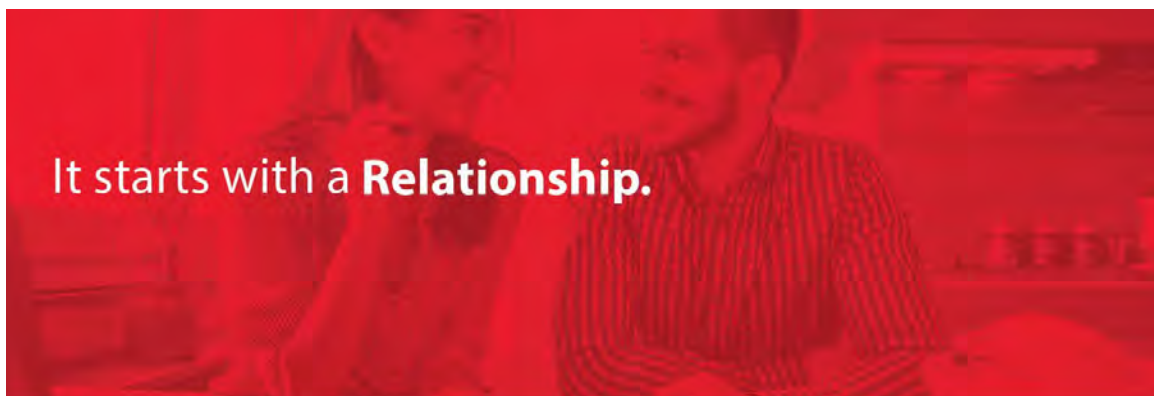
CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP

The Chamber is pleased to offer a scholarship once again this year to any 2022 St. Mary's County high school graduate who intends to return to St. Mary's County for their career.

Many thanks to everyone who donated their 50/50 raffles winnings to the fund.

St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce Scholarship (\$1,000, not renewable, one award). Eligible applicants will enroll in an accredited college, university, community college, or technical/trade school in the 2022-2023 academic year. For more information and to apply for the scholarship, visit the [BECA website here](#).

The scholarship award will be presented at the Chamber's annual dinner in June.



It starts with a **Relationship.**

Our commitment to you comes from the heart. You count on us to be there for your money needs—like when you want to deposit checks or pay your friends from your phone. But we also care about being there for you. It's important to us that you feel valued and special, because you are. And because making your day ... well, it makes our day.



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Thank You to Our Renewing Members

Aicy Karbstein
 Arc of Southern Maryland
 Atlantic Broadband
 Bob Taylor Engineering, Inc.
 Cedar Point Federal Credit Union
 Charlotte Hall Veterans Home
 Christmas in April, St. Mary's County, Inc.
 CMI General Contractors, Inc.
 Davis Defense Group, Inc.
 Dominion Cove Point
 Dylan Schneider, DDS, MS, LLC Orthodontics
 Dyson Building Center
 Fitzgerald Realty & Auctioneers
 Franzen Realtors, Inc.
 Great Mills Trading Post Co., Inc.
 Guy Distributing Company, Inc.
 Herring Creek Furniture
 Hickory Hills East/Raleigh Apt. Management
 Historic St. Mary's City Commission
 JF Taylor, Inc.
 Kessler Body & Equipment, LLC
 The Law Office of Joann M. Wood, LLC.
 Leonard Realty, Inc.
 Little Old Lady's Handyman
 Luke M. Morgan D.D.S. & Associates, LLC
 Maryland International Raceway
 Mattingly Electrical Services, Inc.
 Mattingly-Gardiner Funeral Home and
 Cremation Services P.A.
 MedStar Health
 Michael A. Guy, CPA & Associates
 Mudd & Moreland LLC.
 North End Gallery
 Paragon Properties, Inc.
 Patuxent Habitat for Humanity
 The Patuxent Partnership
 Raley Watts & O'Neill Ins. & Financial Services
 Real Property Management
 SMECO
 Southern Maryland Publishing Company
 St. Mary's County Public Schools
 St. Mary's County Sheriff's Office
 St. Mary's River Watershed Association, Inc.
 St. Mary's Roofing & Home Improvement
 St. Mary's Ryken High School
 Stepping Stone
 Suburban Propane
 The SURVICE Engineering Company
 Tri-County Council for So. MD
 W.M. Davis, Inc.



Newly engaged? Planning a wedding? Don't miss the Annual Bridal Show at Historic St. Mary's City!

The Bridal Show is Sunday, February 27 from 12-4p.m. at the Reconstructed State House, 47418 Old State House Rd., St. Mary's City, MD 20686. Meet the Wedding Professionals that can make your wedding dreams come true. The show is free for you and your guests if you preregister by 2.23. If not preregistered the cost is \$5.00 at the door.

[Register here](#) or email maryb@digshistory.org for a registration form.

**WOMEN
TO WATCH
2022**



The second edition of Women to Watch Southern Maryland sponsored by APG Chesapeake will be featured in Southern Maryland News on March 25, 2022. The Women to Watch project is shining a spotlight on the work, dedication and example of area women who lead in their field and those who embody strength, leadership, and integrity, both navigating their career path and within their local community.

APG invites readers to nominate and vote for these fierce females who exemplify excellence, both navigating their career path and as contributing members to their community. These are the women who are breaking stereotypes to positively impacting our world today while inspiring the next generation of girls.

Nominate your favorite trailblazer soon, the nomination smdnews.com/womentowatch will be open until Wednesday, February 9 and will close for nomination acceptances by 11:59pm

For more information on this program please contact Betsy Griffin 443 239-0307 bgriffin@chespub.com or Brook Ash 240 561-1390 bash@chespub.com



Lexington Park Business Association

The LexBA is forming to promote strong business in Lexington Park and open to anyone who has a business interest within the area.

- The goal of LexBA is to promote Lexington Park as a destination to live, eat, play and shop.
- Joining together as one voice, business members hope to better represent the best interests of the business community and create an action plan for tackling top priorities as decided by its members.
- This organization is in the initial stages and will work towards creating a cohesive mission and vision over the next several months.

If you are a business in Lexington Park, please help guide the focus of the LexBA by providing feedback on [this survey](#).

The survey is intended to help understand your business goals and community concerns. The results will be shared at the first public meeting.

The LexBA is planning a public kick-off meeting in February 2022.

Stay tuned for more information.

St. Mary's Department of Economic Development

For information on the Department of Economic Development and the current St. Mary's County Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy, please visit:

www.yesstmarysmd.com

Department of Land Use and Growth Management

Visit here for updates on the St. Mary's County:

[Comprehensive Development plan](#).

Maryland 2022 Legislative Session

The 90-day session of the Maryland General Assembly is underway.

While the 443rd Session of the Maryland General Assembly will look different as the pandemic continues, you can still stay connected to the process and proactively advocate on the issues that impact you personally and professionally.

Bookmark the [Maryland General Assembly website](#) to find your representatives, track proposed legislation, and even watch proceedings in both chambers.



The Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond wants to hear how your business is faring in the current economic environment. They are looking for businesses to join our monthly business survey panel where you can help inform our nation's monetary and financial policymakers.

All survey responses are confidential and reported at an aggregated level. If you have any questions, please contact [Jason Kosakow](#), the Survey Director at the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond. Click [here](#) to join the panel.

Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation

The Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT) announced the availability of 2022 annual reports, personal property tax returns, and extension requests for businesses registered in Maryland. All domestic and foreign business entities must file an annual report or request an extension by April 15, 2022 to maintain their "good standing" status. SDAT reminds customers that the quickest and easiest way to submit these filings is through the Maryland Business Express site.



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10TH ANNUAL SOUTHERN MARYLAND HBCU COLLEGE & CAREER FAIR

The virtual event is free and will be held on Saturday, February 19, 2022, from 10am-2pm

The 10th Annual Southern Maryland College & Career Fair features local colleges, career organizations, & information. In honor of African American history month, celebrate education and honor the history and legacy of historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU).

- [For more information visit here](#)
- [Student registration here](#)
- Exhibitor Registration is FREE, however complete the online RSVP form below as soon as possible to reserve your space. [Click Here to Reserve Your Exhibitor Space](#)

The 10th Annual Southern Maryland College & Career Fair is a community initiative of the St. Mary's County NAACP Branch #7025 in Partnership with St. Mary's County Public Schools and the St. Mary's County Library.

Contact Adrienne Dillahunt at somdhbcufair@gmail.com for more information.

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Explore the Maryland Entrepreneur Hub

Explore the vast content on [Maryland Entrepreneur Hub](#). You can search by resource type, business category, stage of business, industry group, audience focus, and more. The site contains thousands of resources and entrepreneur support organizations that can help you navigate Maryland's business ecosystem.



St. Mary's Caring Soup Kitchen

St. Mary's Caring outgrew its present facility long before COVID. Now the pandemic has forced us to transition from indoor dining to drive-up meals and the number of meals it provides has nearly tripled since 2019.

For the last 28 years, the soup kitchen has always been a safe place for the hungry, where they not only enjoyed a hot, nutritious meal, but where they took part in activities as well as took advantage of free resources provided by our community partners who brought their programs to our facility.

St. Mary's Caring is are looking for 5,000-6,000 sq. feet and are open to long-term leasing, renting or buying a building within the Great Mills Road corridor.

If you have a space that could possibly work, or wish to know more about sponsorships, please contact Kristine Millen at 301-863-5700.



Greenwell Foundation and the Rotary Club of Lexington Park

A key priority for the Rotary Club of Lexington Park's philanthropic efforts in 2021 was to address mental health issues challenging the area's youth. Rotary leadership has awarded Greenwell Foundation a grant of \$4,500 to bring their "Re-connecting Field Trips" to Great Mills High School this summer. This generous gift has been matched with funds from the Regional Rotary. The Rotary Club of Lexington Park also received a \$15,000 sponsorship from CareFirst in support of Greenwell's Field Trips.

For more information about Greenwell Foundation's programs visit www.greenwellfoundation.org or call 301-373-9775.

For more information about the Rotary Club of Lexington Park, visit www.rotarylp.org.



Maryland Osprey and Nature Festival

The Inaugural Maryland Osprey and Nature Festival will take place on April 2, 2022, from 11:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M. at the Drum Point Club located in Lusby, Maryland. The mission and purpose of this event is Education, Conservation, and Celebration of our natural beauty and wildlife; especially Ospreys.

Take a story walk, make an owl mask, see a live raptor up close, move through the nature activity stations and Rotunda Lectures with wildlife experts from all over the State. It will be an event for the entire family and people of all ages.

For more information, visit [here](#).

Maryland Small, Minority & Women Business Affairs

Stay connected to the many opportunities for training, networking, and business development that are taking place across Maryland and on virtual platforms. Check out the full listing of small business events [online](#).



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The Chamber's Member Discount Program

Thank you to our Chamber members listed below who are participating in the Member Discount Program.

If your company would like to participate, please contact the Chamber office at 301-737-3001 or send an email to info@smcchamber.com.

For more information, visit <https://smcchamber.com>

Participating Chamber Member Businesses

Aicy Karbstein, Artist; Alexander Chiropractic Center; Baldwin, Briscoe & Steinmetz, PC; Barefoot Graphics; Cedar Point Federal Credit Union; Country Inn & Suites by Radisson; Heritage Printing & Graphics; Hilltop Signs & Graphics; Mid-Atlantic Skin Surgery Institute; PaxFitness; Printing Press, Inc.; St. Mary's Roofing & Home Improvement; Dylan Schneider, DDS, MS, LLC Orthodontics; Servpro of St. Mary's & Calvert; T.N. Bowes Heating & Air Conditioning, Inc.

Please note: Some member discounts may expire this month so be sure to check that yours is still active.



Submit your nomination for ***Chamber Business Awards***

Complete and return to the St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce by March 11, 2022. The recipients of these awards will be chosen by the Chamber's Business Awards Selection Committee. Presentation of the awards will be at the Business Awards Luncheon on May 11, 2022. Chamber Members may nominate their own company for consideration by the Awards Selection Committee.

Award Categories

- Annual Beacon Award
- Annual Lighthouse
- Award Emerging Business Award
- Community Service Award

Award Criteria

(Nominations should be based upon as many items as possible.)

Annual Beacon Award

(up to 15 employees)

- Must be a Chamber member
- At least four years in business
- Demonstrated revenue growth & job creation
- Recognized for excellence in their industry
- Innovative and creative product, customer service, management, staff development and marketing practices
- Involvement in community

Annual Lighthouse Award

(16 or more employees)

Emerging Business Award

- Must be a Chamber member
- Completed a minimum of one year and a maximum of four years in business
- Demonstrated growth in customers, revenue & number of employees
- Recognized for excellence in their industry
- Innovative and creative product, customer service, management, staff development or marketing practices
- Involvement in community

Community Service Award

- Must be a Chamber member
- Four years in business
- Contributes to community-oriented projects and enhancements with service to boards, charities, mentoring, scholarships, etc.
- Gives time and energy to Chamber service
- Shows leadership and support of other Chamber members
- Displays an exemplary business/community image

Please indicate the category for this nomination:

_____ Annual Lighthouse Award

_____ Annual Beacon Award

_____ Emerging Business Award

_____ Community Service Award

Business/Organization: _____ Number of Employees: _____

Owner/Manager Name: _____

Describe why you feel this business/organization should receive the Award for 2022.

Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Demonstration of Growth:

Recognized for Excellence:

Community Involvement:

Innovation and Leadership:

Other:

Nominated by:

Name: _____ Business: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Return form by mail or email no later than March 11, 2022 to:

St. Mary's County Chamber of Commerce
22738 Maple Rd., Suite 104
Lexington Park, MD 20653
Email: info@smcchamber.com

For Your Business

Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development

(February 7, 2022) - The department's \$2.3 billion investment provided an economic impact of approximately \$4.8 billion for the state, including \$79 million in state and local taxes. More than 22,000 full-time equivalent jobs with \$1.1 billion in wages and salaries were created, and each dollar of state funds from the department's programs, projects, and activities generated \$25 in economic impact. Read [the FY21 Annual Report](#).

News from MBDA

The U.S. Department of Commerce's Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) is pleased to announce the passage of the Minority Business Development Act of 2021, making MBDA permanent. MBDA is the only Federal Agency whose mission is to support and assist minority businesses. For 52 years, this agency was temporary, however now it is a permanent addition to the Federal government. The Maryland MBDA Business Center closed out its 2020/2021 Program Year having served over 650 minority business enterprises. It is part of a national network that works with minority businesses to increase access to financing, contract opportunities, and creation and retention of jobs.

Visit the [Maryland MBDA Business Center](#) website to learn more.

Chamber Update Advertising Rates

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Full page ads are \$150/month.

Discounts

Chamber Update ads paid in advance (with the exception of frame ads) receive discounts in the following amounts: 5% discount for an ad contracted to run for 3 months or more, paid in advance; 10% discount for an ad contracted to run for a full year, paid in advance.