



OCC Flash

News & Information

July 20, 2009

NNO Update

National Night Out is quickly approaching. The big event will take place this year on Tuesday, August 4 from 5:00-8:30 p.m. in the Olney Town Center. There are many ways to participate in this great community event.

Businesses can participate as a cash sponsor, a raffle prize sponsor, or a tent sponsor. Use the registration form that can be found on the Chamber website under "About the Chamber" and then "forms." You can also donate to this great cause online on the Chamber website under "Chamber Events" and "make a donation." Proceeds from the event benefit the Olney Police Satellite Station, the MD National Capital Park Police, and the Sandy Spring Volunteer Fire Department.

Businesses can also participate as an exhibitor during the event. Highlight your business to the greater Olney community. If participating as an exhibitor, try to keep with the theme of the event, "health and safety."

One other way to participate is as a volunteer. Volunteers are needed throughout the evening at the food tent, the Chamber table, and the raffle table. Volunteer for an hour or the whole night. Wear a shirt or hat with your business logo while you are volunteering to draw attention to your business. Email the Chamber at chamber@olney.md.org if you would like to volunteer during the evening.

Please register for the event by July 22 if you would like to sponsor the event to ensure your business is listed on the promotional material. If you are participating as an exhibitor, please have the registration form to the Chamber office by July 24. Call the Chamber office at 301.774.7117 for more information or questions.

Federal Health Care Reform Accelerates

The Maryland Chamber of Commerce is doing a great job gathering information about the new Federal Health Care Reform proposals currently evolving in Congress. Committees in both the House and the Senate with jurisdiction over the legislation will return to action next week under pressure to make final decisions and bring a bill to the full body for a vote by August. Employers should understand the significant issues under consideration and communicate with their Senators and Representatives. Visit the Chamber Action Network's website at <http://www.chamberactionnetwork.com/blog/view/federal-health-care-reform-accelerates/> to see the benefits and the dangers of the current proposals and how you can contact your representatives.

Biz Buzz This Thursday

Join fellow Chamber members for the Olney Chamber of Commerce's monthly Biz Buzz on **Thursday, July 23** in the lounge at the **Inn at Brookeville Farms**. The Biz Buzz will be from **5:30 to 7:30 p.m.** and is an informal networking opportunity for Chamber members. No reservations are necessary and there is no cost to attend. There will be a cash bar available for drinks and appetizers. Be sure to bring plenty of conversation and business cards.

Welcome ~

Dear Members:
As I succeed Ellen Coleman as President of the Chamber, I look forward to carrying on her great work. Olney has a dynamic Chamber but its dynamism depends upon your on-going participation. We especially depend upon our members to recruit and encourage new members, the lifeblood of any such organization, so I hope you will make it a goal to come to our functions and bring prospective members along. I hope many will consider becoming involved as committee members or officers. I look forward to a great year and thank all those who have made and continue to make the Olney Chamber a success.
John R. Austin

Announcements:

► **Picnic and Bazaar:** Don't miss the MGH Women's Board Picnic and Bazaar on Tuesday, July 28. Stop by the old hospital grounds for entertainment, bargains on books, jewelry, produce, and plants, and great food including their famous fried chicken. The event lasts all day from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

► **Resource Forum for Small Businesses:** The County's Department of Economic Development's Small Business Services team will host a forum to assist the small business community on Wednesday, July 29 from 9:00 a.m. to Noon. The forum, *Resources for New and Small Businesses Information Session*, will be presented in conjunction with MontgomeryWorks, the County's workforce training arm, and other local partners, and will provide participants with information on the many resources available to residents interested in starting or growing a small business. For information on the July 29 forum, call Gerald Aldridge at 301-929-6880 x1560.