



Top of the Bay News from your
North East Chamber of Commerce
May 2009

Message from the President.....

Did you see the WMAR, Baltimore Channel 2 story about Cecil County on May 1? Jamie on the Go, with Jamie Costello paid a visit to our county on April 29 to interview the locals about happenings within the county and to get a flavor of our area. Although we planned our day to give Jamie an overview of the county, we are especially grateful for the time he spent in North East. In case you missed his segment, when asked, he stated that “North East” was his favorite town. Erica Quesenbery and I took him to Woody’s for lunch, where he was greeted with a personal message on their signboard and treated to a wonderful lunch. Thanks Woody’s!

We took Jamie up and down Main Street where he was greeted by our locals and shop owners. As is always the case, North East made him feel right at home. Bill DeFrietas and Miriam Hubbard of RSVP invited him in, as did Meredith Leopold of Saffron Creek, patrons on the deck at Steak and Main took time to talk to Jamie and to welcome him to our town. He learned about the great history of North East and loved the quaintness of our fantastic Main Street.

Having grown up here, I sometimes take for granted what we have and it was refreshing to see it through someone else’s. How many times do we drive down Main Street and not really see what visitors see? Take a moment next time you are driving through and pretend that it is your first visit. Pretty impressive little town we have. Thanks, Jamie for showing others the crown jewel at the top of the Chesapeake Bay.

I have included a brief note in this newsletter regarding our non-profit members. This economy has been particularly hard on them. Unfortunately, although they provide much needed services, it is easy for us to cut charitable giving from our budgets. Even if you can only give a few dollars, remember what they give back to our community and citizens and see if you can help them out. Keep in mind that this doesn’t always have to be monetary. Due to cutbacks, some of them can no longer afford to pay staff members, so maybe you have an extra hour or two you could donate. It can be as simple as helping them catch up on filing, stuffing envelopes or any one of a hundred small things that have to be put aside just to take care of day to day needs.

If any of you would like to contribute articles to our newsletter that would be of interest to our membership, please send a note to: info@northeastchamber.org. Also, let us know about events, new hires, new products and anything of interest going on with your business so that we can announce it in our newsletter.

Luncheon Meeting

May 21
Steak and Main
12pm – 1pm

Speaker

Dr. Heather McCoy Blackiston
North East Chiropractic, PA

2009 Board of Directors

Officers

<i>President:</i>	<i>Carolyn L. Crouch</i>
<i>Vice President:</i>	<i>Patty Robinson</i>
<i>Treasurer:</i>	<i>Jessica Crouch Berstler</i>
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Directors

JoAnn Dawson	Renee Quietmeyer
Jim Roney	Meredith Leopold
Colleen Estes	Amanda Casper Pat Sparks

Town of North East Representative:
Anne Barker

Local Children's Programs Need Your Help

Due the downswing in the economy many non-profits have seen a dramatic decrease in donations. In our community, children's programs are being affected. If you can make a donation to help these programs, it just might be for a future member of our chamber.

An example of this comes from Scott Hanson, Council Program Director, who says that there are Scouts who cannot attend camp this year due to parents whose economic situation has changed. The cost of a one week stay is \$350. The week is filled with outdoor activities, such as kayaking, hiking, scout skills, rock climbing and much more. If you can help, please contact Scott at shanson@delmarvacouncil.org.

The Boys & Girls Club and Upper

New Members Corner

NorthBay Adventure Camp

**11 Horseshoe Lane
North East, MD 21901
(443) 967-0500**

**Nauti-Goose Saloon
200 West Cherry Street**

WEBSITE: www.northeastchamber.org

EMAIL: info@northeastchamber.org

PHONE: (410) 287-5252

Website maintained by ImageBuilders Web Design

We Need Your Help

Town meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7pm, Town Hall Meeting Room. The North East Chamber would like to be represented at each meeting and have a short report from the representative at the meeting on items that may be of importance to our members. Below are the dates, if you can help, please send an email to: info@northeastchamber.org and let us know what date(s) you can attend.

Second Wednesday

Fourth Wednesday

**May 13
June 10
July 08
Aug 12
Sept 09
Oct 14**

**May 27
June 24
July 22
Aug 26
Sept 23
Oct 28**

In the News

Patricia "Pat" Sparks, General Manager for Best Western North East Inn successfully completed her exam to become a Certified Hospitality Administrator (CHA). Pat studied for five months to earn this prestigious title.

Please join the North East Chamber of Commerce in congratulating Pat on a job well done.

Keep your community strong

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SHOP LOCAL



Newsletter produced & edited by:
Pat Sparks pat@ecmgmt.com

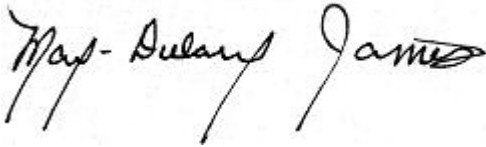
May 8, 2009

Dear Friends,

Many of you have expressed an ongoing interest in the construction that will take place on I-95, and in particular, the planned Toll Plaza. Below you will find a letter from the MTA regarding two upcoming public meetings on the topic. I know that this is an important issue to Harford County, and I encourage you to attend to share your opinions and concerns regarding this toll plaza.

As always, if you have questions or concerns on this topic, or any other, please feel free to contact me at mary.dulany.james@house.state.md.us.

Sincerely,



Delegate Mary-Dulaney James



**Maryland
Transportation
Authority**

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony Brown
Lt. Governor

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April 20, 2009

The Honorable Mary-Dulaney James
Maryland House of Delegates
404 House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Dear Delegate James:

The Maryland Transportation Authority (Authority) will be conducting Public Informational Meetings for the I-95 (John F. Kennedy Memorial Highway) Toll Plaza Planning Study. We invite you or a member of your staff to attend the Informational Meetings. The purpose of these meetings is to present the results of the study and seek public comments. The study focused on three areas:

- Analysis of travel patterns on I-95 and major parallel routes;
- Evaluation of potential tolling locations along I-95 in Cecil County, including modifying the existing toll plaza; and,
- Review of potential tolling methods.

The Public Informational Meetings will be conducted on the following dates:

Tuesday, June 16, 2009
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Elkton High School
110 James Street
Elkton, MD 21921

Thursday, June 18, 2009
5:00 PM to 8:00 PM
Perryville High School
1696 Perryville Road
Perryville, MD 21903

The meetings will feature displays and materials about the study; there will not be a formal presentation. Authority staff will be available at the meetings to answer questions. If you would like to discuss the I-95 Toll Plaza Planning Study prior to the Public Informational Meetings, we will be available at 4:00 PM on both dates at the respective school. If you are unable to attend but interested in a briefing on this project, please contact Mr. Glen Smith, Project Manager (contact information below).

If you need additional information, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 410-537-1001, or Mr. Glen Smith, I-95 Toll Plaza Planning Study Project Manager, at 410-537-5665 or gsmith2@mdta.state.md.us.

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Freeland
Executive Secretary

cc: Mr. George Fish, MdTA
Mr. Patrick Fleming, MdTA
Ms. Gail Moran, MdTA
Ms. Teri Moss, MdTA