

CAPE MAY COUNTY CHAMBER



NEWSLETTER || OCTOBER 2024

From the President's Desk:

Dear Members,

As we usher in the crisp air and vibrant colors of fall, it's hard to believe how quickly the year has flown by. Fall is a season of reflection and new beginnings, and this October, we have much to celebrate within our Chamber.

I'm thrilled to announce that our 80th Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers will be held on Wednesday, October 16th at the Wildwoods Convention Center. This milestone marks eight decades of growth, collaboration, and community success. During the event, we will celebrate our accomplishments, welcome the new leadership team with our incoming Chair, Eli Massood, and set the tone for the year ahead. Their dedication and passion for the business community are the driving force behind our collective progress. It is through their leadership, and your continued support, that we can continue to build a thriving business environment for all.

The Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers event is not only an opportunity to recognize our leaders but also a time to connect, network, and celebrate the strength of our business community.

I encourage all members to attend and be part of this exciting occasion.

In addition to this major event, I want to share a few other important updates:

Chamber Member Spotlights- Don't miss our upcoming member spotlights, where we'll be showcasing some of the incredible businesses in our community.

Business Development Opportunities- Keep an eye on our calendar for workshops and networking events designed to help your business thrive.

I hope you all enjoy the beauty that comes with the fall season, and I look forward to seeing you at our 80th Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers.

Your continued support is what makes our Chamber so strong and impactful.

Warm Regards,
Barbara Stafford
Jones,
President



* UPCOMING EVENTS *

10/1/24 - New Member Reception—Chamber Office

10/4/24 - Webinar: NJ EDA Grants for Small Business—Zoom

10/9/24 - Seminar: Hottest Legal Topics for Employers—The Shore Club

10/16/24 - 80th Annual Meeting and Installation Dinner—Wildwoods Convention Center

10/23/24 - Evening Networking Mixer—Ludlam Island Brewery

Chamber & Legislative Updates

- ◆ The Cape May County Chamber of Commerce Education Foundation and Stockton University have partnered to offer Leadership Cape May graduates the opportunity to earn college credits toward an MBA. Participants and alumni who complete the Leadership Cape May program and enroll in Stockton's MBA or MBA-HAL programs will receive three credits, fulfilling elective requirements for their degree. **[Read more.](#)**

- ◆ Stay ahead of the curve with the Cape May County Chamber of Commerce and Fisher Phillips' "Hottest Legal Topics in 2024" seminar on Oct. 9 at The Shore Club, designed to empower businesses to confidently navigate the rapidly evolving legal landscape. The seminar will cover the latest employment law trends and compliance updates, equipping attendees with the knowledge to stay ahead. Topics will include wage and hour changes, managing election season in the workplace, and best practices for maintaining a safe and inclusive work environment. This event offers a valuable opportunity for participants to gain insights directly from experts and ensure their organizations remain compliant and proactive in the coming year. **[Learn more and register.](#)**

- ◆ The Chamber continues to collaborate with officials in Cape May County to raise awareness about the impacts of NJ PACT/REAL regulations during the 90-day public comment period, which concludes on November 4. For the latest updates and information on how to take action, please visit the County's website by **[clicking here.](#)** The NJ BIA produced a series of short videos to further explain the impacts, **[which can be found here.](#)**
- ◆ Chamber President Barbara Stafford Jones took part in the County Press Conference on Sept. 6, which featured local representatives as well as guests from neighboring districts to enhance understanding of these important issues. **[The full press conference and release can be found here.](#)**
- ◆ The Township of Lower will be hosting a public Townhall Meeting Presentation at Lower Cape May Regional Performing Arts Center on Oct. 7 at 7:00pm to discuss NJ PACT/REAL further. More information can be found **[here.](#)** Cape May City will be hosting a Townhall on Oct. 22 followed by Ocean City on Oct. 30. More information can be found **[here.](#)**

- ◆ The Cape May County Chamber was proud to partner with Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey for two impactful events in September: the 'Regional Economic Perspective of Cape May/Atlantic Counties' on Sept. 13, and 'Good Morning South Jersey: Cooper University Regional Hospital' on Sept. 20. Both events provided valuable insights into the regional economy and healthcare.

- ◆ A recent court ruling blocked the FTC's attempt to ban non-compete agreements, allowing businesses to continue using them to protect trade secrets and reduce turnover. Small business owners should ensure these agreements are reasonable and legally compliant while also focusing on employee retention through strong company culture. **[Read more.](#)**

- ◆ Many companies are required to report information to FinCEN about the individuals who ultimately own or control them by January 1, 2025. In response to inquiries about the Beneficial Ownership Information Reporting Rule and the Beneficial Ownership Information Access and Safeguards Rule, FinCEN has prepared a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). **[Learn more.](#)**

- ◆ Reich Asset Management is hosting a series of free educational seminars this fall on topics including elder fraud, tax planning strategies, young adult financial literacy, and estate planning. More information about these events and registration can be found on their website. **[Learn more.](#)**

- ◆ Assemblyman Erik Simonsen's bill to create a special New Jersey license plate honoring U.S. Coast Guard members, their spouses, and parents has passed the full Assembly. This initiative recognizes the significant contributions of Coast Guardsmen to Cape May County, home to the nation's only U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center. **[Learn more.](#)**



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Chamber Event Highlights



September Membership Meeting— September 18

At the September Membership Luncheon on September 18, Senator Michael Testa and Assemblyman Antwan McClellan from NJ Legislative District 1 joined the Chamber to address several important issues. They emphasized the urgency of taking action on the NJ PACT/REAL regulations, while Senator Testa provided updates on key initiatives, including energy development in South Jersey, the historic \$100 million Boardwalk Funding Bill, and the North Wildwood Beach Replenishment project. He also highlighted efforts to help survivors of domestic violence find job opportunities in manufacturing, offering them a critical step toward rebuilding their lives. The luncheon included an engaging Q&A session with members, and a special moment honoring Chairwoman Amy Mahon in her final meeting as chair after three remarkable years of leadership.

The Chamber extends its gratitude to event sponsor Hutchinson and La Mer Beachfront Resort for their support in making the event a success.



Leadership Cape May County —Sept. 18

On September 18, the 8th class of Leadership Cape May County launched with an engaging day focused on learning and connection. The morning featured DiSC Training, where participants explored their behavioral patterns and communication styles, enhancing their leadership effectiveness and customer service skills. In the afternoon, teams tackled challenges at EscapeMay Escape Rooms and participated in a scavenger hunt around Cape May County. The day concluded with a networking event at Bellevue Tavern, where Leadership Alumni shared their experiences, setting a dynamic tone for the program ahead.



Kindle's 6th Annual Oktoberfest —Sept. 29

Kindle Auto Plaza hosted its 6th Annual Oktoberfest on Sept. 29 from with proceeds benefitting the Cape May County Chamber Education Foundation. The day featured live music by Animal House Band and a special German band along with drinks, food, hay rides, and fun for the whole family.

Please join us for the

80th Annual Meeting & Installation Dinner

OCTOBER 16, 2024

WILDWOODS CONVENTION CENTER

5-8:30 PM

Sponsorship Opportunities Available!

WWW.CAPEMAYCOUNTYCHAMBER.COM/DINNER

Out on the Town with Our Members



The long-awaited **Moorlyn Square Theatre** on the Ocean City Boardwalk finally opened this past summer, and a few staff members recently took a trip to check it out. Conveniently located on 8th Street and the Boardwalk, the theater offers a top-notch experience. From the moment we walked in, we were greeted by friendly staff who made buying tickets and snacks a breeze. The theaters were spacious, and the comfy recliner seats made the afternoon even better. With the latest major films and special screenings, it's a great way to spend an afternoon in Ocean City!

Moorlyn Square Theatre is located at 816 Boardwalk, Ocean City. View their movie showtimes online at www.squaretheatres.com.

A few staff and their families recently visited the **Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum** in Lower Township for a special event, one of the many they regularly host. Located inside the historic World War II-era Hangar #1, the museum offers a unique opportunity to travel back in time and explore Cape May County's history during the war. With over 25 historic airplanes, jets, and helicopters, plus interactive STEM displays and hands-on exhibits, it's a great activity for the whole family. The museum also memorializes the 42 naval aviators who tragically died while training at NAS Wildwood. It's a pet-friendly, wheelchair-accessible site with free parking, making it an accessible and educational destination for visitors of all ages.



Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum is located at 500 Forrestal Road (Cape May Airport) in Lower Township. The museum charges admission to support its mission of preserving history. Its hours and events can be found online at www.usnasw.org.



We recently spent an evening at The Brown Room, located inside Congress Hall Hotel in Cape May, and it was the perfect way to end the day. This stylish Prohibition-era cocktail lounge occupies the same spot as Congress Hall's first legal post-Prohibition bar. The atmosphere is truly unique, with magnificent artwork, custom wallpaper, an iconic fireplace, and a grand circular bar. They also feature live music, which adds to the ambiance, creating an intimate and sophisticated vibe. Paired with a delicious cocktail menu, it made for a memorable night!

The Brown Room is located at 200 Congress Place (Congress Hall), Cape May. For more information about The Brown Room and other Cape Resorts properties, visit their website at www.caperesorts.com.

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**Contact Becky Kennedy,
Membership and Marketing Administrator**

Cape May County Chamber of Commerce at (609) 465-7181
or email admin@cmchamber.com for pricing and availability.

Have events and news to share with the membership and visitors?

As a member, you can easily post news stories, jobs, events, special offers and more to the Chamber's website!

You can also search for services and products from other members.

Your website profile should have info about your products & services, plus your hours of operation.

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Sponsorship opportunities for the remainder of 2024 and the upcoming 2025 year are now available!

These include signature events such as the Annual Dinner, Women in Business Conference, Business at the Beach Expo, and Made in Cape May County Festival, as well as Mixers, Seminars, and Membership Meetings.

Sponsorships for Education Foundation events and programs are also available.

For more information, please reach out to Camille Fitzmartin at membership@cmcchamber.com or (609) 465-7181.

Your sponsorship will directly support the ongoing programs and initiatives central to the Chamber's mission!

Hold your next business meeting, seminar, workshop, board retreat, client appointment at the Cape May County Chamber



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Conference Room Rates:

Regular Rate:	Non-Profit Rate:
Full Day - \$200	Full Day - \$100
Half Day - \$100	Half Day - \$50

Contact admin@cmcchamber.com or call 609-465-7181 for more information and to book.

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