

January 2, 2014



## Reconnect with Your Business Network at these GSSCC Events in January

- Start the New Year by reconnecting with your Chamber colleagues at GSSCC's January **Networking Breakfast** from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. next Wednesday, January 8, at the **Sheraton Silver Spring** (8777 Georgia Avenue). Click [here](#) to register by close of business on Monday, January 6 (extended deadline because of the holiday this week), and pay the early-bird admission price of \$20. Registrations received after January 6 will be charged an additional \$10.
- Mark your calendars and plan to join GSSCC for our monthly **Business-After-Hours** from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, at **The Premier** (8711 Georgia Avenue). Click [here](#) to register. Members and first-time prospects are admitted free; non-members pay \$40.
- Join us for a **Forum with the Candidates for Montgomery County Executive** from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. on Friday, January 24, at Montgomery College. Come hear GSSCC Government Affairs Committee leaders pose questions to Montgomery County Executive Candidates Phil Andrews, Doug Duncan, and Ike Leggett. Continental breakfast and networking at 8:30; forum begins at 9 a.m. This is a members-only GSSCC event. Registration is required by Tuesday, January 21. Click [here](#) to register.

## Mark your Calendar for GSSCC's January Committee Meetings

\* **Government Affairs Committee** – 9 a.m. on Friday, January 3 – Planning meeting for GSSCC County Executive Candidates Forum

\* **GSSCC Events Committee** – 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 14

\* **Economic Development Committee** – 9 a.m. on Thursday, January 16 – United Therapeutics Expansion

\* **Membership Committee** – 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 28

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### **Thanks for Renewing!**

GSSCC thanks the following companies for renewing their membership in December: **Bonanza Coins; First Merchant Services; Laubach & Regnell Financial Services, LLC; PH RockWood Corporation; Shawn D. Bartley and Associates, LLC – Law Office; SidtheSecurityPro.com; Silver Spring Green; Silver Spring-Takoma Thunderbolts; Spring Parc and TNT Auto Parts, Inc.**

### **Welcome New Members!**

Please join GSSCC in welcoming these new members from December: **The Abrahams Law Firm; The Cameron; Denizens Brewing Co; and Urban Butcher.**

### **GSSCC Member\$ave on Office Supplies, Credit Card Processing & Shipping**

Don't forget to check out GSSCC's new and exciting benefit for members. "GSSCC Member\$ave" will save your business on these services: credit card processing through **First Merchant Services**, office supplies through both **My Office Products** and **Office Depot**, and shipping with UPS. Click [here](#) to start saving now.

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## ***Thank you to our 2013-2014 GSSCC Partners***

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**Business Partners** – AFI Silver Theatre; Bud Miller Associates, Inc.; Discovery Communications; Digital Industry; EagleBank; The Fillmore Silver Spring; Holy Cross Hospital; Lerch, Early & Brewer, Chtd.; Linowes & Blocher LLP; M&T Bank; The Tower Companies (The Blairs); United Therapeutics Corp.; Washington Property Company.

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# GSSCC Weekly Update

8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 203, Silver Spring, MD 20910  
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January 6, 2014

## Back from the Holiday? Reconnect to Your Business Network at GSSCC's Networking Breakfast This Week

...Call today to register for GSSCC's January **Networking Breakfast** from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. this Wednesday, January 8, at the **Sheraton Silver Spring** (8777 Georgia Avenue). Click [here](#) to register by close of business TODAY and pay the early-bird admission price of \$20. Note: if you are having trouble registering online, please email or call the office today and we'll help you register by the deadline. (GSSCC's online database and event registration vendor is making some changes to the system and several glitches have been reported.) Registrations received after today will be charged an additional \$10.

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## Don't Miss GSSCC's Montgomery County Executive Candidates Forum

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## GSSCC MEMBER NEWS

- \* Congratulations to **Comcast Business** on being recognized with multiple awards from the Metro Ethernet Forum, including the prestigious "Service Provider of the Year." To see the release, click [here](#) and scroll down to "November 20, 2013 – MEF Announces Winners of 2013 North American Carrier Ethernet Awards."
- \* Four **Lerch, Early & Brewer** attorneys have been named principals at the firm. They include: **Michael J. Goecke**, a litigation attorney for a range of business and tort matters with an emphasis on civil litigation; **Michael J. Neary**, who practices in the firm's employment and litigation groups; **Julie A. Reddig**, an employment attorney who defends management in a broad range of workplace matters; and **Michael D. Smith**, a commercial lending attorney focused on the structuring, negotiation, documentation, due diligence and closing of commercial lending transactions. Click [here](#) for the full release.
- \* **Laubach & Regnell Financial Services, LLC** has two offices available for sublet in its 10<sup>th</sup> floor, five-office suite at 8720 Georgia Avenue. The building is one block from U.S. District Court and two blocks from Metro. Rent of \$975 per office per month includes access to kitchen and conference room and other amenities. Click [here](#) for more details.

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**FY15 Montgomery County Operating Budget Forum in Silver Spring**

The County Executive will host one of a series of public forums on the FY15 County Operating Budget at 7 p.m. on Monday, January 27, in the Silver Spring Civic Building. These forums give residents, businesses, and organizations an opportunity to comment on the Executive's County budget priorities for the fiscal year July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015. The County Executive must submit his recommendations for the FY15 Operating Budget to the County Council by March 17. The Council will consider the recommended budget, hold a series of public hearings, make any alterations, and must approve a final Operation Budget by late May.

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# ***GSSCC Weekly Update***

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**January 21, 2014**

## **GSSCC's January Business-After-Hours Still on for Tomorrow...**

...from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., at **The Premier** (8711 Georgia Avenue). Click [here](#) to register. Members and first-time prospects are admitted free; non-members pay \$40. Valet parking provided. \*NOTE: Due to the uncertainty of tomorrow's weather, the Chamber will make a final decision, at 1 p.m. tomorrow, on whether the event will be held. Watch your e-mail or call Jane at the Chamber.

## **Last Chance to Register for GSSCC's Montgomery County Executive Candidates Forum**

...scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. this Friday, January 24, at Montgomery College (The Commons Room 211). Come to this GSSCC-Members-only event and hear Chamber Government Affairs Committee leaders pose questions on business-related issues to Montgomery County Executive Candidates Phil Andrews, Doug Duncan, and Ike Leggett. The purpose of this event is to provide an educational/informational opportunity that will allow GSSCC members to learn the candidates' views on specific topics of interest to businesses. It is the only candidates' meeting in Silver Spring that will emphasize matters of importance to business owners, so don't miss it. Complimentary continental breakfast, with coffee provided courtesy of Chesapeake Bay Roasting Company, will be served during the networking part of the event beginning at 8:30. The forum begins at 9 a.m. This is a members-only GSSCC event. Registration is required by today, Tuesday, January 21. Click [here](#) or call the Chamber to register today.

## **Act Now to Showcase Your Business at GSSCC's 2014 SchmoorzaPalooza**

Call now to reserve your table and showcase your business at GSSCC's 2014 SchmoorzaPalooza, scheduled for 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, at **The Fillmore Silver Spring**. This year's "Schmoorza" promises to be bigger and better than ever before. Call the office for details. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

## **Calling All Duffers! No, It's Not Too Early...**

...to start thinking about **GSSCC's Annual Chamber Cup Business Golf Classic**. This year's event is scheduled for Monday, May 19, at Argyle Country Club. Watch this space and your email for details. Interested in helping plan for the event? Call the office to join the committee.

## **Want to "Stand out in the Crowd" at the Next GSSCC Networking Breakfast?**

Sign on as a spotlight sponsor for one of the Chamber's monthly networking breakfasts this year. As a sponsor, you have the opportunity to give a 5-minute presentation on your company to the captive audience at one breakfast this year. Sponsorship also includes: Your business name listed on email and web site promotions of the event; Your company's promotional item or brochure put at each place setting or a designated table; The chance for one representative to be the official greeter and hand out business cards to each guest at registration; and a set of mailing labels for breakfast attendees. Note: sponsorship opportunities are limited to members promoting products or services for sale and member companies are limited to one host sponsorship per calendar year. Call Laura Alin (301-565-3777) for details.

## **GSSCC MEMBER NEWS**

\* The **College Park Tennis Center** was highlighted recently as "A Frozen, Fertile Ground for Developing Tennis Players," in a *New York Times* article earlier this month. One of the Center's female "graduates" made it into the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of this year's Australian Open, and broke into the top 50. After her success, even several sports commentators on ESPN2 were talking up the Center.

\* Congratulations to **Lene Tsegaye**, owner of **Kefa Café**, on being featured in this month's *Bethesda Magazine* series entitled "Coming to America: The sad, funny, sweet, troubling, wonderful stories of immigrants experiencing Montgomery County for the first time."

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### **WSSC Offers Seminar on Procurement Procedures**

Members interested in doing business with the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission might want to attend a seminar scheduled this Thursday afternoon, January 23, at WSSC's regional auditorium in Laurel. For details click [here](#).

### **GSSCC's January Committee Meetings**

\* **Membership Committee** – 9 a.m. on Tuesday, January 28

\* **Golf Committee** – 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 29

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# *GSSCC Weekly Update*

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**January 27, 2014**

## **Chamber Members Hear From County Executive Candidates**

Some 50 GSSCC members were on hand for the Chamber's County Executive Candidates Forum last Friday to hear from two of three Democratic candidates on issues of concern to businesses in Silver Spring. GSSCC thanks Phil Andrews and Ike Leggett for their participation. The two candidates responded to questions on topics including the tax and regulatory costs of doing business, economic development and job creation, long term financial sustainability of the County budget, and transportation. Mr. Leggett and Mr. Andrews, along with most GSSCC members in attendance, indicated the structure and format allowed for a substantive discussion of many of the issues of importance to GSSCC member businesses.

The third Democratic candidate, Doug Duncan, was invited to participate and originally accepted the Chamber's invitation, but withdrew late last week, citing his unwillingness to participate in a members-only event. After telling Forum participants about Duncan's withdrawal, GSSCC Government Affairs Chair Bill Kominers explained that GSSCC leaders sought to create a convenient opportunity for our member businesses, organizations that have a real stake in the County's future leadership, to hear directly from candidates in a members-only environment. He noted that in past years, the Chamber invited candidates to meet individually with the Government Affairs Committee at its regular, members-only meeting. Alternatively, the Chamber held "meet the candidates" networking events, however, these did not allow for a substantive airing or explanation of key issues, and did not allow members to hear from all candidates.

## **Register Now for GSSCC's February Networking Breakfast**

. . . scheduled for 7:30 a.m. Wednesday, February 12, at **Argyle Country Club**. We will honor the Montgomery County Police Officer of the Fourth Quarter for 2013 at this event. Click [here](#) to register by Friday, February 7, and pay the early-bird admission price of \$20. Registrations received after February 7 will be charged an additional \$10.

## **Don't Miss GSSCC's February Business-After-Hours. . .**

. . . from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on Wednesday, February 26, at **Fire Station 1 Restaurant**, sponsored by **Ackerman Security Systems**. Members and first-time prospects are admitted free; non-members pay \$40. Click [here](#) to register by Friday, February 21.

## **Put Your Business at Center Stage and in the Spotlight at GSSCC's 2014 SchmoopaPaloosa. . .**

. . . scheduled from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 25, at Silver Spring's most rockin' venue, **The Fillmore Silver Spring**. Call now to claim your table and showcase your business to GSSCC members and guests. Last year's anniversary event attracted more than 200 guests. Plans are underway to expand the reach of this year's event as we extend invitations more widely throughout the community. Call Laura to reserve your table now. Click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

## **Calling All Duffers! It may be cold outside now. . .**

. . . but visions of golf greens stir thoughts of warm days on the course, and now is the time to mark your calendar for **GSSCC's Annual Chamber Cup Business Golf Classic**, scheduled this year for Monday, May 19, at Argyle Country Club. Watch this space and your email for details. Interested in helping plan for the event? Call the office to join the committee. The next meeting is at 10 a.m. this week Wednesday, January 29. Call the office for location.

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### **GSSCC MEMBER NEWS**

\* **Silver Spring Ice Skating Rink at Veterans Plaza** was the site for the first annual "Skate for Concussions" event to raise awareness of concussion prevention in sports. The event ran through the weekend and featured local figure and hockey skaters. Here's a [link](#) to Fox 5 coverage here in Silver Spring.

***See your company's news here! GSSCC would be pleased to highlight news from our member companies in this section of the weekly e-news. Simply send us your information before close of business each Friday.***

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