

A MESSAGE

Chair & Interim President

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR AND INTERIM PRESIDENT

As we close out Q1 for the Chamber, we have some recent developments that we would like to share with you.

- As mentioned in previous editions, the WiseChoice Healthcare Alliance, a partnership between the Virginia Chamber of Commerce and Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield launched on March 1, 2024. As member of the Dulles Chamber, employers who have between 2-50 employees are eligible to enroll in the benefits program through a Chamber VIP broker. **This is a huge Chamber benefit for our members.** Please click this link to learn more about the program: <https://wisechoicehealthcare.com/> or view this **PDF**.
- Sharon Meyers, Westfields Marriott was named to the Dulles Chamber's Executive Committee as VP of Commerce. Sharon has been an engaged member for several years and headed up last year's Lodging Summit and worked closely on the Stars over Dulles event. Please reach out to Sharon and welcome her to her leadership role at sharon.meyers@marriott.com.
- Thanks to the leadership of former CEO John Boylan, the Workforce Development Committee re-launched in February and is working on providing opportunities for our members to engage and expose middle and high school students to job shadowing, mentorships, and internship possibilities in their companies. **What a great way to build your future workforce!** The committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 4pm. For more information please check out our calendar on our website or email John at john.p.boylan@gmail.com
- The Chamber also re-launched the Centreville Committee again under John Boylan's leadership. The purpose of the Committee is to bringing together business leaders, elected officials and non-profits within the Centreville area to keep informed of local

events that may have an impact on your businesses. Come be a part of a unified voice to effect change and impact in your community. The Committee meets the first Friday of each month at 8:30am. For more information please check out our calendar on our website or email John at john.p.boylan@gmail.com

During the month ahead, we have many opportunities to engage with your colleagues in the Chamber.

- On Wednesday, March 20, 4:30 – 6:30 is our regularly scheduled Networking Wednesday Mixer. Sonesta ES Suites – Dulles Airport, host this month's event. This is an excellent way to connect with the vibrant business community of the Dulles region while enjoying a refreshing break from the daily hustle and bustle.
- On April 16, the IGNITE/Metro Monday Committees will present "What's taking off at Dulles Airport" from 4:30-6:30 at Rosendin Electric. This comprehensive overview from the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority will include updates on IAD's new concourse, cargo expansion, solar farm plans, airline service extensions and the success of the airport's Silver Line metro Station.

Further into the year, we have many opportunities to volunteer and participate in several events and programs.

- As we kickoff May, the Hispanic Business Council invites everyone to celebrate **Cinco de Mayo** on May 2 from 6:00-8:00pm at Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott at Dulles Airport. **This is a great way to kick off Spring!**
- We are working to schedule, in conjunction with the Northern Virginia Chamber Partnership, a May post-VGA program for our members to learn what bills and legislation will affect their business going forward. More details to follow once they are finalized.
- Starting on May 3, we are excited to kick off our 30 season of Friday Night Live! This is a enormous community give back that attracts thousands of people to Herndon to hear quality bands and enjoy delicious food. Check out the details on herndonrocks.com.
- Our annual Golf Tournament is scheduled for June 24 at Chantilly Country Club. A huge thank you to VPs David Hillelsohn of Hill Financial and Martin Gruszka of Office Evolution - Herndon, who have graciously agreed to co-chair the event. We are looking for volunteers to help with planning and logistics for the outing. Please email David at david@dhillfinancial.com or Martin at martin.gruszka@officeevolution.com if you are interested in assisting.
- The Hospitality Business Committee is preparing for our Lodging Summit targeted for September and our signature awards event, Stars over Dulles for December. Thank you to VP Sharon Meyers for heading the committee. She is also looking for volunteers to help with planning and logistics for both events. Feel free to reach out to her at sharon.meyers@marriott.com

Be sure to visit our website for program and event details along with registration information at dulleschamber.org.

Your Executive Leadership Team continues to work diligently behind the scenes to ensure your Chamber has quality programs and we keep to our mission in making us the best Chamber in the region. Your Chamber Staff will be happy to answer your questions about our events, sponsorships and even planning your own event.

As always, we want to express our sincere appreciation for your continued membership in the Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce. Your investment enables us to work diligently to promote business growth and prosperity in our region. Thank you for being a valued member and we look forward to another month of collaboration and success.

Cheers!
Joe and Mark



Joe Malazo
Chair
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce



Mark Ingrao
Interim President & CEO
Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce



Member Center



DULLES REGIONAL
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MEMBERSHIP TIPS

COMMERCE | COMMUNITY | CONNECTIONS

As they say, a picture is worth a thousand words. Check your [DRCC profile](#) and be sure you have your company's logo uploaded to attract more attention to your brand! Also be sure to complete your company profile and have the most up to date contact information.

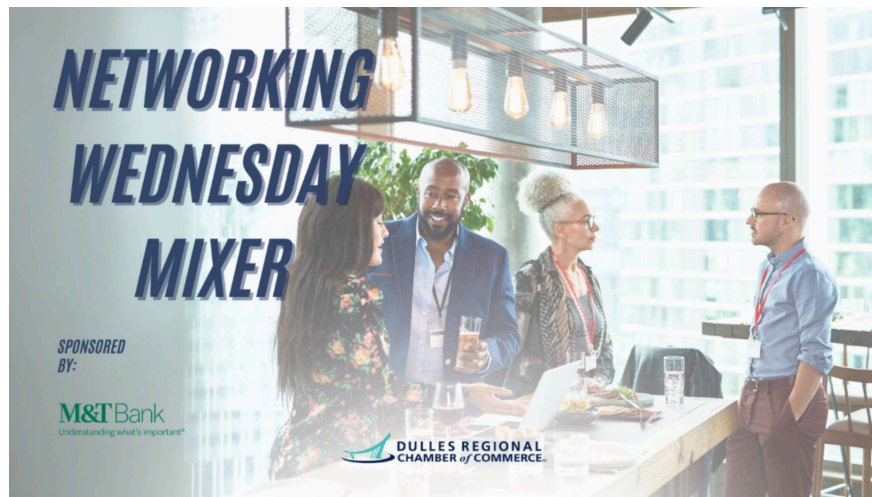
If you need assistance, reach out to John at Membership@dulleschamber.org and he will be happy to assist you. Check out how your profile appears to others under the [Member Directory](#).

Bonus Tip: Do you have your Social Media links listed?

Chamber News

Networking Wednesday - After Hours Mixer

Enjoy an evening of networking and unwinding with fellow business professionals. Appetizers and two-drinks included.



Our next after hours mixer will take place in Wednesday, March 20th at Sonesta ES Suites - Dulles Airport

[Register Here](#)

Thank you to our Network Wednesday Mixer Series Sponsor

M&T Bank

Thank you to our Network Wednesday Mixer Series Host



- March 20: Sully Leadshare
- March 21: Dulles Leadshare
- March 26th: Chantilly Leadshare

- March 28: Hospitality Business Committee

Upcoming Chamber Events:

- April 16th: [What's Taking Off At Dulles Airport](#)



[See Our Full Events Calendar](#)

Celebrate Ribbon Cuttings with The Dulles Regional Chamber of Commerce!

*Is your company planning a grand opening, anniversary, or opening a new location?
We'd love to help you celebrate!*

[Learn More!](#)

Community



MASON EMPTY BOWLS

APRIL 3RD
7PM- 9PM

LOCATION:
CENTER FOR THE ARTS

\$50
PER PERSON

Did You Know?
One in every four college students in Virginia cannot afford their next meal. At George Mason University, we have seen a 191% increase in students using the Patriot Pantry, our on-campus food pantry, over the last three years.

How Can I Help?
Mason is leveraging an international project to fight hunger called Empty Bowls. We invite you to join us for a dinner of soup, bread, and dessert while enjoying the sounds of Green and Gold Soul. You will select a handmade bowl created by local artists to take home as a reminder of all the students in our community who face empty bowls each day.

For more information, contact:
Maggie Daniels, mdaniels@gmu.edu
Lauren Long, llong3@gmu.edu

All proceeds from Mason's Empty Bowls are donated to Mason's Student Food and Housing Insecurity Fund

Logos: GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY Student Involvement, sodexo CAMPUS, Center for Arts at GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY, College of Education and Human Development, Manassas Clay

At George Mason University, we have seen a 191% increase in students using the Patriot Pantry over the last three years. To address food insecurity on our campuses, Mason is leveraging an international project to fight hunger, personalized by local artists, called Empty Bowls.

We invite you to join us for a dinner of soup, bread, an open bar, and dessert while enjoying the sounds of Green and Gold Soul. During the evening, guests will choose a handmade bowl to take home as a reminder of all the students in our community who face empty bowls each day. We will also have a silent auction with an array of items donated by local organizations for guests to bid on throughout the night. All proceeds will be donated to Mason's Student Food and Housing Insecurity Fund. For more information and to register, go

to <https://advancement.gmu.edu/emptybowls2024>



DULLES REGIONAL CHAMBER of COMMERCE.

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