



## Chamber In The News

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April 3, 2009

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### Montgomery County is New Home to Maryland Clean Energy Center



Chamber staff joined the Governor and County officials for the announcement of Montgomery County as the new home for the MCEC. (Pictured L to R: Barbara Ashe, MCCC Executive Vice President; County Executive Isiah Leggett; Council President Phil Andrews, Montgomery County Council; Councilmember Nancy Floreen, Montgomery County Council; Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley; and Gigi Godwin, MCCC President & CEO)

Montgomery County was selected as the new home for the Maryland Clean Energy Center (MCEC). The new MCEC headquarters will be located in the Gold LEED certified Camille Kendall Academic Center at the Universities at Shady Grove. MCCC Board Member Dr. Stewart Edelstein, Executive Director of the Universities at Shady Grove helped lead the effort to bring the MCEC to the university.

The MCEC will promote clean energy economic development and jobs in the state; encourage deployment of clean energy technologies across Maryland; and provide outreach and technical support to further the clean energy industry in Maryland.

“Montgomery County is a nationally recognized leader in advancing clean energy and promoting sustainability,” said County Executive Isiah Leggett. “No jurisdiction in the state can match the County’s track record in successfully nurturing the growth of fledgling industries.”

In praising the decision, Chamber President and CEO, Gigi Godwin stated, “The County has been at the forefront in promoting clean energy and green technologies, and Dr. Edelstein and his staff have one of the most sustainable and technology-enabled educational facilities in the state.”

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## New Maryland State DBED Secretary Meets with Chamber



Maryland's new Secretary of the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED), Christian Johansson, addressed a joint meeting of the Chamber's Economic Development and Education and Workforce Preparation committees on April 2.

Secretary Johansson talked about the new priorities for the Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development, including restoring business confidence, reestablishing DBED as the voice of Maryland Business, building on core strengths and leverage our federal, scientific, medical and university assets, and linking Maryland businesses with opportunities from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

"'Feds, Meds and Eds' all gained jobs in 2008," said Secretary Johansson. He specifically mentioned federal procurement as another major area of opportunity.

Chamber President and CEO, Gigi Godwin mentioned the concern over government contracting dollars in Maryland flat lining, while procurement dollars skyrocketed in the rest of the metro area. The Chamber's GovConNet program helps members connect to these opportunities. With 3.6 trillion dollars in procurement money available over the next 36 months Chamber Executive Vice President, Barbara Ashe added, "Montgomery County businesses need to sell what the Feds are buying."

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## County OMB Director Presents FY10 Budget Challenges



Director of the Montgomery County Office of Management and Budget (OMB), Joe Beach briefed Chamber members and answered their questions about County Executive Isiah Leggett's recommended FY 2010 operating budget. The proposed FY10 budget slows the growth of County spending.

The County Council has the authority to alter the County Executive's recommended budget. The Council will host budget hearings throughout April and will pass a final budget by the end of May.

The Chamber will present their position on the budget to the County Council and advocate for economic development and a sustainable local economy and tax base. To view a copy of the County Executive's "[Budget in Brief](#)" please click here.

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## 2009 Congressional Procurement Conference & Expo

*Honorary Chair: US Representative Chris Van Hollen*

Wednesday May 13, 2009

The Universities at Shady Grove  
9630 Gudelsky Drive, Conference Center, Building II  
Rockville, MD 20850

### Schedule of Events:

7:30 a.m. - Registration and Breakfast  
8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. - Opening Ceremonies  
9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Procurement & Educational Sessions  
12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Lunch & Expo

Learn how to capture a share of \$3.6 trillion in Federal procurement spending and connect with 15 federal agencies, state and local procurement officials and more than 500 business leaders. Find out how to grow your government contracting business from the top decision makers at government agencies and prime contractors. Network with more than 500 customers, suppliers and business partners during the morning sessions and at the afternoon expo. Representatives from almost every industry sector will attend.

### Just Announced!

Mr. Jan R. Frye, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Logistics, for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, will be our featured speaker, the morning of the conference. The VA has one of the largest acquisition and logistics programs in the Federal Government. Mr. Frye will speak from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Casey Coleman, Chief Information Officer, General Services Administration, will be our afternoon featured speaker. GSA ranks fourth in Stimulus funding!  
Ms. Coleman will speak from 2:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Please note: Both featured speaker events are included with your registration fee, but you must reserve your seat when you register for the conference. SEATING IS LIMITED!  
Register today to guarantee your seat!

[To learn more or to register as an individual, exhibitor or sponsor, click here.](#)

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## **There Are Many Ways to Get Involved**

The Montgomery County Chamber of Commerce supports policies that will ensure our community's global economic competitiveness into the future. The policy priorities of the Montgomery County Chamber are set by the decisions of our four major policy committees: Economic Development and Education and Workforce Preparation Committee; Legislative Affairs; Small Business Committee; and Transportation and Land Use.

[Click here for schedule of upcoming committees and get involved today!](#)

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### *Save These Dates . . .*

**Thursday, April 23 - 8:30 a.m. - 10 a.m. Join the MCCC for the next New Member Orientation (MCCC Board Room)**

**G Wednesday May 13 - 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. 2009 GovConNet Congressional Procurement Conference & Expo (The Universities at Shady Grove)**

**Thursday, June 4 - 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. MCCC 50th Annual Dinner (Bethesda North Marriott Hotel and Conference Center )**

**G Tuesday, June 9 – 8:00 a.m. – 12 Noon - GovConNet Prime Opportunities with Lockheed Martin (The Universities at Shady Grove)**

**Monday, July 20 – Golf Tournament (Lakewood Country Club)**

**G = GovConNet**

**For more information on these and other Chamber events, visit our Web site at [www.montgomerycountychamber.com](http://www.montgomerycountychamber.com)**