May 2015



# CHAMBER'S LARGEST ANNUAL EVENTS TO TAKE PLACE THIS WEEKEND

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This year's festival is set for May 2nd and 3rd in the heart of Towson.

The Towsontown Spring Festival and Towson Gardens Day have been signature events to the Towson area for the past few decades. Both events provide great entertainment and economic support to the Towson community.

There are several additions and changes to this year's festival including Fashion Truck Alley (Upper W Chesapeake Avenue), Family Fun Zone (Upper W Pennsylvania Avenue), and the discontinued 98 Rock Stage on Chesapeake Avenue. Due to construction for Towson Row, there will be two stages this year at Patriot Plaza and the Old Courthouse. Nevertheless, the bands staring in the 2015 lineup will be better than ever, especially with Monsters of Mock back!

This year is also the 29<sup>th</sup> annual year for Towson Gardens Day and it is the first year that we have sold out of vendor spaces. The Towson Chamber has booked about 100 vendors with unique products including florists, food trucks, and crafters.

Come out April  $30^{th}$  10:00-3:00pm for Towson Gardens Day. Also don't miss out on the festival May  $2^{nd}$  10:00-8:00 and May  $3^{rd}$  1:00-6:00pm.

### TOWSONTOWN SPRING FESTIVAL BAND LINEUP

## **SATURDAY, MAY 2ND**



Synful Pleasure 12:20-1:45PM Patriot Plaza



Loyola Blakefield 12:40-1:40PM Courthouse Garden



That's What She Said 2:10-3:30PM Patriot Plaza



Project in Fidelity 2:00-3:00PM Courthouse Garden



As If 4:00-5:30PM Patriot Plaza



Dave Demarco 3:30-5:30PM Courthouse Garden



Sir Rod 6:00-7:30PM Patriot Plaza



**Crushing Day 6:00-7:30PM**Courthouse Garden

## SUNDAY, MAY 3RD



2U 1:00-2:00PM Patriot Plaza



almost Journey 2:30-3:30PM Patriot Plaza



Amish Outlaws 4:00-5:30PM Patriot Plaza



Awaken 1:00-3:00PM Courthouse Garden



Rob Fahey 3:30-5:30PM Courthouse Garden

For more information, please visit www.towsontownfestival.com or download the 2015 Towsontown Festival app on your smartphone.



10AM-8PM

1PM-6PM









CARNIVAL

LIVE MUSIC

**BEER GARDENS** 

FOOD

106.1 PATRIOT PLAZA "MONSTERS OF MOCK"

Synful Pleasure | That's What She Said | Sir Rod | 2U | Almost Journey | Amish Outlaws

100.7 THE BAY COURTHOUSE GARDEN SPONSORED BY CREIG NORTHROP TEAM OF LONG & FOSTER REAL ESTATE

Loyola Blakefield | Project in Fidelity | Dave DeMarco | Crushing Day | Awaken | Rob Fahey



DOWNLOAD THE APP
"TOWSON FEST"

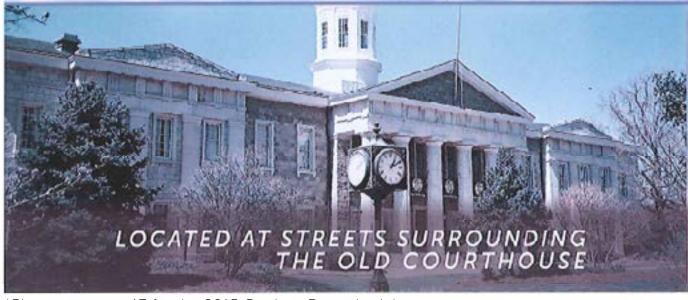
Android & Apple Devices











#### TOWSON GARDENS DAY SCHEDULE

Located on the corner of Washington Avenue and Upper Pennsylvania Avenue



Trinity Episcopal Children's Center Chorus 11:00-11:15am Towson High School of Jazz Band

11:20-12:00pm

Greetings from CE Kevin Kamenetz 12:00-12:05pm

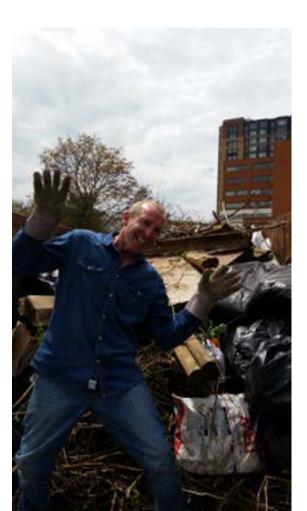
**Awards** 

12:05-12:10pm

Anna Appicella School of Dance 12:10-12:30pm

Towson High School Jazz Band 12:30-12:50pm

Performance by Tribute to Barbara Streisand & Neil Diamond 1:00-2:00pm



## BIG EVENT=BIG SUCCESS

On Saturday, April 25, 2,000 students from Towson University dedicated a few hours to clean up the Towson community. Students dispersed to various locations that needed an extra hand

The Towson Chamber received help from 40 students, most from student organizations and Greek life.

Students that volunteered at the chamber mulched tree beds and picked up trash in the heart of Towson. Thank you to all the students who volunteered, Chris from Dulaney Plaza, Mike Ertel, and all other volunteer coordinators. The Towson Chamber appreciates your support!



### MARYLAND BUSINESSES NEED A FRIEND IN ENERGY



Customers checking out Wayside Market in Silver Spring, MD.

DC based energy savings company Nextility brings a fresh take on business energy procurement to Maryland.

Maryland is a deregulated energy state, which means businesses and consumers can choose their energy supplier on the open market. This freedom of choice has the potential to yield very real savings – but there's also plenty of opportunity to end up with a bad energy rate. DC based energy company Nextility is putting its tech platform to work to offer Maryland businesses a safer and simpler rate shopping process.

This new approach – the idea that businesses of all sizes should have access to an energy manager – seems to be working. Van Natrakul, owner of Wayside Farm Market down in Silver Spring discovered this when Nextility was able to find her a projected \$2,283.76 in annual savings – all without making any changes to her business.

Ms. Natrakul is a busy woman. Between taking deliveries and keeping the shelves of her store stocked, she had little time to pay attention to her electricity rates.

Like many busy storeowners, Van signed up with an energy supplier who promised her a better rate than the utility. They offered her a variable rate with a tantalizingly low starting rate. But, that rate crept higher and higher as the months passed, increasing Van's energy costs.

Van thought she was stuck in a cycle of unpredictable and undesirable costs, until she was introduced to Nextility. Without cost or commitment, Nextility analyzed Van's utility bills, represented her business in the energy market, and received bids from numerous suppliers.

Within a few days, Nextility found Van a fixed rate that was lower than both her old supplier and the utility, and helped her lock in the new rate quickly and easily. Van was able to make an informed decision about her energy supply without setting aside time for research.

"When it comes to energy, saving money makes me happy. With Nextility, I can see the difference when I look at my bill — and that difference makes me happy." Van Natrakul, Owner Wayside Farm Market

Helping businesses save money on energy has always been Nextility's mission. Founded in 2009, the company quickly became one of the largest solar water heating developers in the nation. It could offer free solar installations to customers and then charge them for the solar energy used by the customer at a guaranteed savings to the utility rate thanks to its proprietary bill monitoring software.

Using technology to understand bills and energy usage made it easy to help overworked and underserved businesses save on energy, and it provided a natural foundation for the energy procurement service.

Said Nextility CEO Zach Axelrod "Energy tends to be somewhere between the 30th and 300th daily priority [for small businesses]. As such, we felt that if we could provide an effortless, transparent, low-risk offering with real savings—and do it well — we would earn the trust of our customers and build a long-term relationship which will help them save thousands of dollars on their energy."

Nextility is helping hundreds of businesses across Maryland save money on their energy bills. Whether it's solar or competitive energy procurement, Nextility is ready and able to serve the needs of business owners of all types and sizes.

To learn how businesses in Towson can save on energy, visit www.nextility. com or contact Brett McGonnigal . You can reach him by phone at 410.302.0137 or by email at bmcgonnigal@nextility.com.



# 2014 TOWSON CHAMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### **OFFICERS**



**John Holman,**President
State Farm



Mark Shulman, DDS.
Vice President
Towson Dental
Practice



Pamela Gilmour, Treasurer Financial Fitness



Chuck Connolly, Secretary Farmers Insurance



James Jones, Immediate Past President Myriddian, LLC

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

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Garrett Brierley, Esq. Law Office of Spence & Buckler, PC

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> Kathy Harden, Souris' Saloon

**David Hinshaw** Towson U. Marriott Conference Hotel

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Valerie Kutchey JumpGraphix Website Design **Lisa Troia Martin** Cafe Troia

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Mark Shulman, DDS Dentist

**Melony Wagner** Charles Village Pub

# TOWSON CHAMBER STAFF

Nancy Hafford, Executive Director

Brooke Bianchetti, Executive Assistant

Oly Ebiringa, Executive Assistant

#### INTERESTED IN SERVING ON A CHAMBER COMMITTEE?

The Chamber is looking to fill the following committees:

- Towsontown Spring Festival
- Towson Gardens Day
- Winterfest
- Golf Tournament
- Ambassador
- 4th of July

If interested, please contact the Towson Chamber of Commerce at 410.825.1144 or email Nancy Hafford at info@towsonchamber.com

## NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



# Social Link Social Media Company

www.sociallink1.com

Mr. Will Walker 20000 Kirkwood Shop Road White Hall, MD 21161 Phone: 410-357-6900 will@sociallink1.com



#### **Securis Baltimore**

IT Recycling & Data Destruction

Mr. Dan Dodd 8841 Kelso Drive Baltimore, MD 21221 Phone: 410-487-1390 ddodd@securis.com www.securis.com

#### **SCHOOL WHYS TUTORING**

# **School Whys Tutoring Education**

Mr. Erick Hamilton 540 East Belvedere Avenue Baltimore, MD 21212 Phone: 678-925-7711 erickhamilton@yahoo.com

## The 10% Rule

Keep your business local and make 10% of your expenditures stay within Towson. Just think of the impact... If a company grosses \$300,000.00 per year and they see an additional 10% or \$30,000.00, that could mean hiring someone, expanding product lines, or making their interior and exterior look better. Keep business in Towson and create a positive environment for our community!

## MEMBER DEALS



Point Breeze Credit Union to offer ten \$1,500 scholarships to local high school seniors heading off to college. Deadline for applications is June 6, 2015. Visit pbcu.com for eligibility info and to download an application.

443.589.0402



All Towson Chamber members and employees receive 10% off their first purchase of the current year. With that purchase, you will also be enrolled in Nelson Colemen Jewelers Birthday and Anniversary Club and Loyalty Program.

410.494.0080



Stacia Cook, an independent insurance broker through Insurance Inc. is offering a free insurance evaluation and/or free insurance quote for your home, auto, or business. Great opportunity to update your policies and save money. scook@insurance-inc.com

410-753-1886





## IMPACT OF YOUR MEMBERSHIP

In 2014 the Towson Chamber was able to put back over \$75,000 into our community.

#### **Towson Chamber Investments:**

- Towson Beautification Program:
  - o We hung 70 flower baskets
  - o Supervised workers for 50 hours per week to clean the sidewalks and streets
- Towson Farmers Market, Thursdays:
  - o Bring out between 5,000 & 10,000 people per week
- Feet on the Street Block Parties:
  - o Average 2,000 people per Friday night
- Scholarships to local High Schools
- Towson Gardens Day:
  - o Average 10,000-12,000 patrons
- Recycling Trash Cans:
  - o Only re-cycled cans provided in of Baltimore County Business Districts
- WinterFest Activities throughout December:
  - o Bring over 15,000 people into town during the holiday season
- Towsontown Spring Festival:
  - o Bring over 250,000 people into town for the weekend
- Contributions to Community Service Projects:
  - o Through contribution to the Baltimore County Public Schools, we give over \$2,500 to provide seasonal original artwork to fill vacant storefront windows
- Chamber representation at Towson University & GTCCA
- Bi-annual Community Clean-ups:
  - o We help organize hundreds of students, residents and business owners providing thousands of dollars of much needed maintenance in the area
- Produce the Annual Towson Chamber Directory

Your membership dues not only benefit you as a business person, but contribute to maintaining the quality of life in Towson!

Please remember to refer your friends!

If they join the Towson Chamber, you will receive a

\$25 gift card to a local Towson restaurant!

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



#### 2014-2015 Membership Application

Business NameContact Person (Ms. or Mr.)Address		
= .		
Phone	Email	
Website		
Number of Employees		
Type of Business as listed in the Yellow Pages		
Why are you joining the Towson Chamber?		

Return this application with your dues investment made payable to:

Towson Chamber of Commerce 44 W. Chesapeake Ave. Towson, MD 21204

Membership Investment Calculator\*:

1-5 employees \$225

6-20 employees \$250

21-30 employees \$325

31-45 employees \$375

46-75 empllyees \$450

76-100 employees \$500 more than 100 employees \$750

Please add one time application fee +\$30

Total Dues Investment Plus Application Fee \$

Please be Advised!

Internal Revenue Bureau Cumulative Bulletin No 2, page 105 reads: Membership fees or dues by individuals & corporation to a Chamber of Commerce are deductible from gross income as a business expense provided the memberships is employed as a means of advancing the business interests of the individual corporation."

## UPCOMING CHAMBER EVENTS

Event	Time
Towson Gardens Day	April 30 <sup>th</sup> 10:00-3:00pm
Towsontown Spring Festival Day 1	May 2 <sup>nd</sup> 10:00am-8:00pm
Towsontown Spring Festival Day 2	May 3 <sup>nd</sup> 1:00am-6:00pm
Feet on the Street- The Jury	May 15 <sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-9:30pm
Monthly Breakfast & Board Meeting	May 20 <sup>th</sup> 8:00am-9:00am
Feet on the Street- Crushing Day	May 22 <sup>nd</sup> 6:30pm-9:00pm
Feet on the Street- The Objections	May 29 <sup>th</sup> 6:30pm-9:00pm

For more event information, please visit www.towsonchamber.com/events



Support local businesses in Towson and download the Towson Tipster app!

Find businesses that you may have never known existed. Listings include local restaurants, malls, services, apartments, bars, and other entertainment

The app features most businesses that are located in the heart of Towson.

Download the app now on your smartphone for free. Towson Tipster is available in the Apple Store and Google Play.

For any questions, please call the Towson Chamber of Commerce at 410.825.1144.





#### **Towson Chamber of Commerce**

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