



Flash E-Fax

News & Information

May 12, 2008

The Olney Chamber of Commerce invites you to the fourth in a series of seminars

While it is still fresh on your mind... Year round tax strategies to simplify your life

Now that taxes have been filed for the year, Harvey Metro of Metro Metro and Associates will give a few tips on strategies that can be put in place now to make tax season a little less painful next year.

**Wednesday, May 21
7:30-9:00 a.m.**

In the Community Room of the RE/MAX Building

Breakfast will be provided.

Cost for breakfast is \$15 for members and \$20 for non-members. RSVP by Monday, May 19 to the chamber office at 301.774.7117 or chamber@olneymd.org or **register online at www.olneymd.org**

New Chamber Benefit Program

The Olney Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that it has partnered with Synergetic Energy Pools, Inc. to launch a new members-only Energy Buying Pools program.

The MD Public Service Commission has released the new standard offer service (SOS) rates for all deregulated utilities, including PEPSCO and BGE. Rates across all rate classes are increasing significantly June 1st. To date, fewer than 25% of Maryland's small commercial customers and only about 50% of medium sized commercial customers have secured fixed-rate contracts for their electricity supply. Of those that have secured contracts, many will see their contracts ending within the next few months.

The Olney Chamber will host two Energy Procurement Seminars to be held on May 28 at 9:00 a.m. and June 3 at 3:00 p.m. in the Community Room of the RE/MAX Building. All small and medium sized Olney Chamber Businesses-whether in a current contract or not-should plan to attend one of the upcoming free seminars and explore the benefits of the Chamber's energy buying pool program.

Chambers of Commerce have long understood the economic and intrinsic value of bringing members together to form collective buying pools to obtain significant discounts. The Olney Chamber of Commerce hopes its members will take advantage of this value-added benefit designed to bring long-term budget certainty and ongoing customer support to its members. For more information please contact the Olney Chamber at 301.774.7117.

Chamber Welcomes New Members:

The Backyard Naturalist

Debi and Mike Klein, Owners

17910 Georgia Ave.

Olney, MD 20832

T: 301.924.0024

E: backyard3@aol.com Web: www.theBYN.com

Located in the heart of Olney, for almost 20 years, we offer a full range of bird feeding supplies and nature books and gifts.

Independent Benefit Services

Neil Simons, President; Julie Krzysiak, Benefit Advisor;

Paula Brennan, Account Manager

15850 Crabbs Branch Way, Suite 300

Rockville, MD 20855

T: 301.921.7804 F: 301.921.0696

E: paulab@iben.com Web: www.iben.com

Independent Benefit Services is a local benefit advisory firm located in Rockville. They advise companies on choosing and using the right employee benefits, retirement plans, HR Solutions & Executive Compensation programs.

Announcements:

► **Come See What's New!:** The Longwood Community Center invites the public to attend an "Open House" on Wednesday, May 14 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. to see their new Weight and Exercise Room and their new Meeting/Conference Room. While there Access Cards (user cards) will be printed while you wait. Visitors can also enjoy a free trial workout and be eligible for door prizes. For more information call 240.777.6920.

► **Olney Days:** The Annual Olney Days will be held this year on May 16-18. There will be a variety of events throughout the weekend ending with the parade on Sunday, May 18. The Greater Olney Civic Association sponsors the event. For more information on Olney days, a schedule of events, or how you can volunteer, visit www.goca.org. Look for Chamber member Dr. Ed Hoffman of Olney Chiropractic on the judges stand as well as Chamber President Ellen Coleman with RE/MAX Realty riding in the parade courtesy of Richard Ehrenreich and his classic car.

► **Holiday Vacations:** Globetrotter Travel says now is the time to start thinking about Christmas vacation. Why race all around in the snow, when you can do your Christmas shopping in the Caribbean on the December 20 sailing of the brand new Ruby Princess. Or raise a toast to the New Year as you sail towards St. Thomas on the December 28 sailing of the Crown Princess. Christmas and New Years always book up months in advance, so we've reserved several cabins on these holiday sailings. A deposit is all that is required to hold your cabin. Hurry and call Globetrotter Travel today for more information! 301.570.2600.

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