

Bill Christopher to lead Dorchester Chamber



BILL CHRISTOPHER

CAMBRIDGE — The Dorchester Chamber of Commerce announced the hiring of Bill Christopher as the chamber's new executive director.

"I want to thank the search committee and the Chamber Board for giving me this opportunity," Christopher said. "I am very excited to help the chamber continue its work and build on the strength of its membership."

Christopher brings 30-plus years of experience in several diverse industries to this key role. A 1984 graduate of Swarthmore College, Christopher worked at Drexel University and the national accounting firm, Arthur Andersen and Co., in Philadelphia before beginning his career in health care with Visiting Nurse Service System, first as director of Information Services and later as chief information officer.

He spent the majority of his career with McKesson Corporation. He joined McKesson in 1998 and served in several leadership roles before his departure in 2015.

He was most recently senior vice president of product. He plans to use his leadership skills to build a stronger local and regional business community.

Local sports followers may remember Christopher as a member of the 1979 state champion Cambridge South-Dorchester football team. The team, with such notables as Skeeter Nichols and Darnell Clash, went 12-0 and won its first state football championship by defeating Sherwood 26-6. The 1979 team was selected to join the inaugural 2014 C-SD Athletic Hall of Fame.

Christopher has maintained a connection with the community since leaving

for college in 1980. His mother, two of his sisters and multiple nieces, nephews, aunts and uncles live in Dorchester County. He and his wife, Candace, have owned property in Dorchester County since 1999 and are excited about returning to Cambridge full time.

"Bill brought all the components we were looking for — sales and marketing, financial management, strategy and solution development and nonprofit event planning," said Dorchester Chamber Board President Jennifer Layton. "One of the most important things we were looking for was a love for and an understanding of our community. We are excited to welcome Bill home."

For more information about the chamber, contact the Dorchester Chamber of Commerce at 410-228-3575, or via email at info@dorchesterchamber.org.

More Thanksgiving travelers out there Don't get stuck at the airport

By **SCOTT MAYEROWITZ**
AP Airlines Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — A stronger economy and lower gas prices mean Thanksgiving travelers can expect more congested highways this year.

During the long holiday weekend, 46.9 million Americans are expected to go 50 miles or more from home, the highest number since 2007, according to travel agency and car lobbying group AAA. That would be a 0.6 percent increase over last year and the seventh straight year of growth.

While promising for the travel industry, the figure is still 7.3 percent short of the 50.6 million high point reached in 2007, just before the recession.

Like on every other holiday, the overwhelming majority of travelers — almost 90 percent — will be driving. And they will be paying much less at the pump.

AAA says the average retail price for gasoline is now \$2.15 per gallon, 74 cents cheaper than the same time last year. With the average car getting 18.5 miles per gallon, that

means a family driving 300 miles will save \$12 in fuel this holiday.

Airlines for America, the lobbying group for several major airlines, forecasts 25.3 million passengers will fly on U.S. airlines, up 3 percent from last year. (AAA's forecast shows fewer numbers of fliers because it looks at a five-day period while the airline group looks at the 12 days surrounding Thanksgiving.)

Airfare is basically flat compared to last year, with a mere 0.3 percent or 69 cent average increase, according to the Airlines Reporting Corp., which processes ticket transactions for airlines and travel agencies.

Traveler counts are little fuzzier when it comes to other forms of transport.

Bus use will continue to grow, according to the Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development at DePaul University. The school expects 1.2 million to take buses, up 1 percent to 2 percent from last year. However, AAA says travel by



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In this undated file photo, travelers check in their luggage as they prepare to travel at Miami International Airport in Miami. A stronger economy and lower gas prices means Thanksgiving travelers can expect more highway congestions in 2015.

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College unveils upgrades

CAMBRIDGE — As part of Chesapeake College's ongoing 50th Anniversary commemoration, President Barbara Viniar and Cambridge Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley unveiled façade improvements and new exhibits at the school's Cambridge Center, Nov. 14, at 418 Race St. during Second Saturday.

Sen. Addie Eckardt, R-37-Mid-Shore, and Cambridge Main Street Association President Tom Hutchinson joined in the ribbon cutting. Local officials and community members attended the event and also celebrated the opening of the new Leggett Gallery.

Jackson-Stanley thanks Viniar for her leadership and vision.

"This is a wonderful opportunity to bring life and beauty to downtown," Jackson-Stanley said. "I'm so proud of this partnership."

Eckardt said the center is vital to the economic development of the area, allowing local students to train for careers and prepare to transfer into bachelor's degree programs.

Developed in response to suggestions by downtown businesses and Main Street members that the college better use its Race Street side to showcase the school's programs, the window displays feature Chesapeake's new recruitment campaign, "Your time. Your place."

"In planning our new marketing campaign, we met with dozens of stakeholders in Dorchester County who asked us to make the Cambridge Center a vibrant and active community partner,"

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Sen. Addie Eckardt, R-37-Mid-Shore; Cambridge Mayor Victoria Jackson-Stanley; Cambridge Main Street President Tom Hutchinson; Chesapeake College President Barbara Viniar and artist Jill Jasuta cut the ribbon Nov. 14 on the new Cambridge Center facade.

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said Chesapeake College Institutional Advancement Vice President Lucie Hughes. "Their suggestions included creating a daytime destination, increasing Race Street's curb appeal, and capitalizing on the 50 feet of retail space to market our programs."

She said many people also suggested the

ribbon of the new Leggett Gallery, named for the former department store that once occupied the building. Presenting work by local photographers, the gallery was another suggestion made during the anniversary planning. The inaugural installation features 12 images by Cambridge resident Jill Jasuta whose work has appeared at the Dorchester Center for the Arts, Main Street Gallery and many regional magazines.

Designed by Choptank Communications, the Cambridge-based marketing firm that

VW cutting investments, to present engine fixes

By DAVID RISING
and DONOGH McCABE
Associated Press

WOLFSBURG, GERMANY (AP) — Volkswagen will cut its spending by 1 billion euros (\$1.07 billion) next year and "strictly prioritize" investments as it shores up its finances to deal with its emissions-rigging scandal, CEO Matthias Mueller said Friday, Nov. 20, after a board meeting.

The carmaker, which is due to present to U.S. authorities later in the day its plan to fix diesel cars affected by the scandal, has decided to cancel or postpone investments that aren't "absolutely necessary," Mueller said. That will reduce overall capital expenditure to 12 billion euros in 2016.

"What we definitely won't do is make cuts at the expense of our future," said Mueller.

Among other things, he said Volkswagen would postpone the building of a new design center in Wolfsburg and the introduction of an all-electric Phaeton sedan, and review other projects.

"We're driving cautiously over the coming months, but we know where we want to go and we want to ensure that the Volkswagen company comes out of the current situation strengthened," he told reporters in a short



AP PHOTO

Matthias Mueller, Volkswagen AG CEO, is displayed on a TV screen, as he speaks during a news conference in Wolfsburg, Germany, Friday Nov. 20.

of 11 million cars worldwide have the software, though it has not yet been confirmed that it helped cheat on emissions tests outside the U.S.

The carmaker has set aside 6.7 billion euros (\$7.4 billion) to cover the costs of recalling the vehicles installed with the software but experts say the total expense, including fines and lost sales, could be several times higher.

Volkswagen has a Friday deadline to submit a draft plan to fix four-cylinder diesels to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California Air Resources

ide, or it can retrofit a chemical treatment process that cuts pollution.

The bigger exhaust will likely hurt performance and gas mileage, angering car owners. But the chemical treatment, while saving acceleration and mileage, needs a clumsy storage tank and multiple hardware changes to work. In either case, almost a half-million cars would have to be recalled for the repairs.

Volkswagen's scandal has widened since the September revelations. The company also admitted finding irregularities in carbon di-

