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PETER FRANCHOT
Comptroller of Maryland



Media Advisory

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Shop Maryland For The Holidays Campaign Kicks Off Early With Virtual Press Conference

*Shopping safely and locally in Maryland has never been
more important; Local credit unions to offer financial
rewards*

WHO: Comptroller Peter Franchot
Cailey Locklair, President, Maryland Retailers Association
Claudia Towles, Owner, aMuse Toys
Marshall Weston, Jr., Restaurant Assoc. of MD President & CEO
Kelly O'Brien, Owner, Jasper's & Madrones restaurants
John Bratsakis, CEO, MD/DC Credit Union Association
Dave Sweiderk, President, State Employees Credit Union of MD

WHAT: Comptroller Franchot will help kick off the annual *Shop Maryland for the Holidays* campaign with a virtual press conference that will be livestreamed on Facebook. Leadership representatives from the retail and dining sectors will join the Comptroller to talk about the urgent need to support local businesses and the measures that stores and restaurants are taking to ensure customers can shop and eat safely this holiday season.

This year's campaign will feature a new element. During the event, Maryland/DC Credit Union Association President John Bratsakis will announce exciting financial incentives for members of participating credit unions.

Comptroller Franchot is launching this year's campaign earlier than usual due to the urgent need to support Maryland's struggling retail and restaurant communities.

"It's been a tough year for Maryland businesses that are doing everything they can to keep the lights on," he said. "The Shop Maryland campaign is a way to help our local shops and restaurants during the time of year that often makes or breaks them. We really need to step up by shopping early, often, safely and locally!"

WHEN: **Monday, October 26, 2020**
11:30 a.m.

WHERE: Comptroller of Maryland Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/ComptrollerofMaryland/>

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