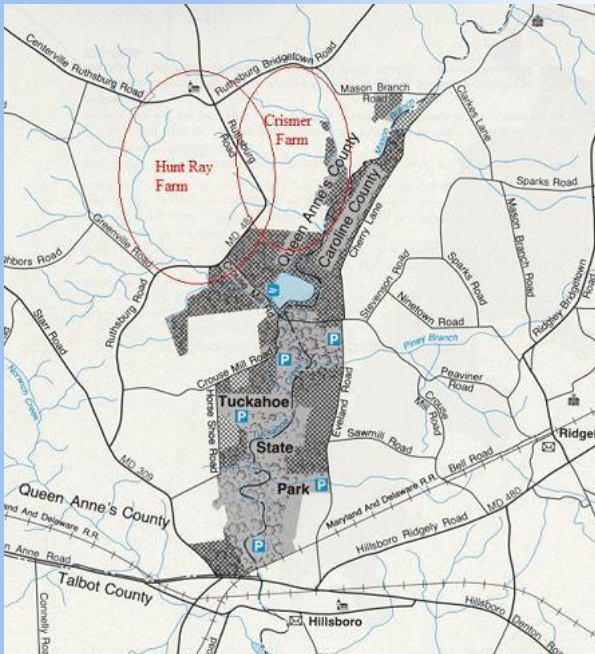


STATE PREFERS QA FOR TRAINING FACILITY

At the end of November, the General Services Administration and the US Department of State announced that the site in Queen Anne's County proposed for the Foreign Affairs Security Training Center is their preferred location. The 1,250 acre site in Ruthsburg was the only site proposed in Maryland.



Congressman Frank Kratovil was quoted in the December 1st edition of *The Star Democrat* stating, "This announcement is a big win for the Eastern Shore economy. This new facility will immediately create hundreds of construction jobs and will support 500 new full-time positions once completed. The construction workers, permanent staff and students housed at this facility will inject millions of dollars into the local economy and support small businesses throughout the area. I am also pleased that members of the community will have an opportunity to voice their opinions at public hearings as planning for this facility moves forward."

All four County Commissioners signed a letter asking Kratovil to support this facility back in September.

BQA also supports this facility and is excited about the many benefits it would bring to our county!

PLANNING COMMISSION OPENINGS

BQA recently emailed its membership and asked that everyone take a moment and reach out to the County Commissioners to encourage them to fill the two open positions on the Planning Commission with business friendly appointments.

Garry Schnappinger, Trish McQuestion and Barry Waterman are all applicants who BQA feels would bring some much needed balance to the Planning Commission. Interviews are happening on Tuesday, December 22nd and then we'll have to wait and see.

See the ad BQA ran in *The Update* on Page 3 regarding the Planning Commission which prompted the following response from Rev. Dave Green of the Christ Church - Kent Island Parish,

"Friends, I'm with you 100%."

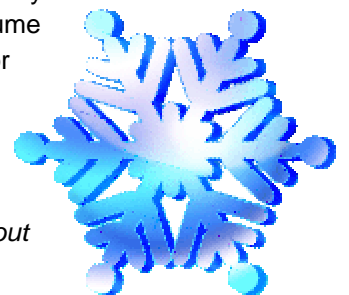
OTHER NOTEWORTHY BOARD APPOINTMENTS

On the **Economic Development Commission**, Dave Metrisko, Shelly Gross-Wade and Trish McQuestion were reappointed to three-year terms to December 31, 2012. Tom Saquella was reappointed for the remainder of his term to December 31, 2010 (due to the 80 percent attendance rule).

The **Kent Narrows Development Foundation** has Jerry Dammeyer, Joe Pomerantz, Richard Smith and Walt Thompson reappointed to three year terms until Dec. 31, 2011. Larry Toth, a Swan Cove resident; Jimmy DiDonato, representing the Hotel industry; and Mike Harris, of Harris Seafood, were appointed as two-year members to Dec. 31, 2011.

Also, with the passing of Faye Lister, there is an opening on the **Board of Education**. Anyone interested in serving can send their resume and a cover letter to Governor Martin O'Malley who will be appointing Lister's replacement.

Our heartfelt sympathies go out to Faye's family...



BQA VOICES OPINION ON COMP PLAN

At the December 10th Planning Commission meeting BQA joined the Chamber of Commerce, the Farm Bureau, Bay Area Association of Realtors and others as they voiced concern about the update to the Comprehensive Plan.

BQA Board Member, Karen Oertel was quoted in the December 16th edition of *The Bay Times* as saying, “The current plan being talked about preserves the status quo and is a mistake. The commission should start their work all over again because your train is on the wrong track and we are headed for a wreck.”

Here is the heart of a letter that Karen sent to the Planning Commission as a Business Queen Anne’s representative:

“Our organization is most concerned about the direction our County is moving and your part in it.

You have a responsibility – the adoption of a Comprehensive Plan – A Plan intended to guide our County for the next 10 to 20 years.

You have a responsibility to the 400+ high school students who we graduate each year.

A responsibility to see they have an opportunity to earn a living in our County.

A responsibility to see that they have an opportunity to live in our County if they choose to.

To date, it appears you feel your responsibility is to preserve the status quo. That’s always a mistake, and we urge you to change direction.

Your action in rejecting the Wye Mills Plan has set back efforts to create significant jobs as well as effort to create new educational opportunities and expand Chesapeake College.

Your responsibility is to the entire County population, not to the groups that consistently lobby the loudest, not to the miniscule percentage who participated in the Visioning exercise, (certainly not to the large number of participants who don’t even live in our County).

You have participated in the selection of a Citizen’s Advisory Committee – which appears to have been “cherry picked” to create a large majority who oppose growth of any kind, in most any are of the County, especially in their back yards..

We believe much about your process to date is defective and we suggest you may need to start the Comprehensive Plan process all over again.

You can probably fulfill the legal mandate to update the existing plan by re-adopting it with a few added sections (water resources, etc.).

You would then have time to develop our next 6 year update – due in 5 years.

Doing so would allow for a true cross section of our County population with all groups adequately represented and participating in the planning effort.

This may seem to be a radical proposal; however, it appears our train is on the wrong track now and only a complete reversal will avoid an economic train wreck.”

Originally, the Comprehensive Plan Update was to be adopted by the County Commissioners by October of 2009 but is running about 6 months behind schedule. Presently, Planning Commission members are still revisiting some issues but once the plan update is finished it will be released for a 60 day review which will include a series of public information sessions.



Fair and balanced leadership is the missing *Piece Of The Puzzle* in the QAC Planning Commission!

"Over the last several years we have lost jobs and revenue generating \$\$\$ opportunities."



We deserve a change for the better.

**QAC Commissioners:
Wargotz, Billups, Gunther, Fordonski and Ransom**

WE MUST

Fill the 2 openings with NEW business-minded citizens to protect the county's future.

Stay tuned for more critical information to help keep you informed.

Sponsored by Business Queen Anne's. Please direct responses to
www.businessqueenannes.com

BUSINESS

Queen Anne's

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of BUSINESS Queen Anne's is to actively advocate sound economic growth; review proposed State and local legislation and regulations as they pertain to business; provide an objective assessment of proposed development in Queen Anne's County and it's incorporated towns; endorse and support countywide growth that is well managed and consistent with adopted State and local planning and regulatory guidelines, comprehensive plans, and State and local initiatives; create positive and constructive relationships on behalf of the business community with our elected and appointed officials; and support business activity that promotes and encourages a vibrant economy, development of an adequate labor pool, a fiscally responsible and accountable County government, and a continued unique quality of life in Queen Anne's County.

YOU HAVE TWO OPTIONS WHEN PAYING YOUR MEMBERSHIP INVESTMENT!

You may select a sponsorship level rather than choose a level of support based upon number of employees. By becoming a sponsor, your additional commitment to the organization will further support our continued success!

Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

To make certain that member contact information is correct and up to date, please complete the following information form:

Business Name: _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____
Type of Business: _____
Contact Person: _____
Your Name (please print) _____
Signature: _____
Date: _____

Sponsorship Levels of Membership

Gold - \$2,500
Silver - \$1,000
**New Membership
Stimulus Rate!!**
Flat Rate of \$150
Takes new members
to July 31, 2010!!
\$750 1-25 Employees
\$500 25-50 Employees
\$1,000 50-100 Employees
and above
(Circle One)

Any questions, please contact Membership Chair Cecile Weich at 410-604-1111

BUSINESS *Queen Anne's*
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