



December 2011

Farm Family Needs Your Support!

BUSINESS Queen Anne's was recently approached by Bill Sylvester of the local Farm Bureau with regards to the Hudson Family of Berlin, Maryland. Seems the Hudsons are being sued by the Waterkeeper Alliance for violations to the EPA Clean Water Act. (Violations that have been investigated by the MDE. The Hudson's were fined, took corrective actions and eventually the fines were reversed. Basically, they made a mistake and they fixed it.)

Visit this link for the whole story: [Save Farm Families](#)

Nevertheless, the Waterkeepers have persisted with their law suit. The Hudson's must retain their own representation and due to extensive legal fees, they now face possible bankruptcy and the loss of their land.

So what can you do to help?

You can support the

**Farm Bureau Fundraiser
being held on
February 18th at the
4H Park in Centreville.**

- Friend: \$100 = 1 Ticket
- Patron of the Cause: \$250 = 2 Tickets
- Defender of the Family Farm: \$500 = 3 Tickets, Small ad in program
- Warrior for Justice: \$750 = 4 Tickets, Large Ad, 2 Raffle Tickets
- Champion of Agriculture: \$1000 = 5 Tickets, Large A, 10 Raffle Tickets

(Tickets can be purchased separately for \$25 per adult and \$15 per child under 12)

You can also **donate items for a silent and live auction** to be held during the fundraiser. They are also looking for store fronts to **sell tickets to the event.**

Or you could just donate directly to the [Maryland Family Farmers Legal Defense Fund, Inc](#)

Please do what you can...not just to stand against injustice, but to support farming in Maryland.



"During these Holiday times, don't litigate...DONATE!!"
BQA Board Member, Steve Donovan

Commercial Development Zoning Changes

Last month, BQA shared a link to a story in the Star Democrat about the County Commissioner's voting to allow commercial development at the following locations:

- **Sattelmair Property:** 80 acres near the Kent Island Safeway that

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Your BQA Board!

Mareen Waterman
Coldwell Banker/Waterman Realty
410-643-5005
mareenwaterman@mrisc.com

Nick Deoudes
Deoudes-Magafan Realty, Inc.
410-827-5441
ndeoudes@atlanticbb.net

Mike Dahle
Bay Carpets Flooring America
410-820-7288
mdahle@baycarpets.com

Karen Oertel
Harris Crab House
410-827-8104
koertel@atlanticbb.net

Tim Champion
Champion Improvements Inc.
410-643-4886
improve@atlanticbb.net

Bob Wilson
Mears Point Marina
410-827-8888
bobwilson@mearspoint.com

Al Helfenbein
Helfenbein Insurance Agency
410-643-2291
al@helfenbein.com

Cheryl Russell
Delmarva Power
410-758-4127
cherylrussell@delmarva.com

Camille O'Donnell
O'Donnell Properties
443-786-0200

- were changed from countryside zoning to neighborhood village zoning.
- **Whalou Property:** 216 acres near Chesapeake College that were changed from agriculture zoning to light industrial highway commercial zoning.
- **Foster Property:** 173 acres, also near Chesapeake College, that were changed from agricultural zoning to suburban commercial and suburban estate zoning.
- **Sylvester Property:** 55.4 acres near the intersection of Route 404 and Route 309 that were changed from agriculture zoning to commercial/mixed use.

This month there has been a law suit filed by Queen Anne's Conservation Association, the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Chesapeake Wildlife Heritage, the Mid-Shore Riverkeeper Conservancy and 14 individuals claiming that the 3-2 zoning vote was directly in violation of the county's comprehensive development plan, which said the areas should remain rural.

The plaintiffs also contend that by ignoring the comprehensive plan, the commissioners are in violation of a new state law that requires zoning decisions to be in line with comprehensive plans.

The zoning requirements presently in place were voted in during the last set of Commissioners after they handpicked environmentalists in 2010 to update the Comprehensive Plan.

BQA applauds the efforts of Arentz, Olds and Dumenil for trying to get this County moving in a better direction. Commission President Arentz was quoted last month as saying, "With an \$8 million deficit...we're dying on the vine out there. To continue to stop (development) isn't the answer."

Commissioner's Approve Changes to APFO

At their meeting on Tuesday, December 13th, the County Commissioners approved reverting certain sections of the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance back to levels that were in place prior to the previous board. Developments of less than 20 residential units will be allowed to proceed without undergoing the APFO review which can be too costly for these smaller developments, often times deterring them from coming to Queen Anne's County. The change will also revert the APFO back to the 120% school capacity. The State will not fund growth related school projects until the school is at 120% of the State Rated Capacity.

Again, BQA applauds the County Commissioner's efforts to jump start development during these tough economic times.

BQA Welcomes New Board Member!



BUSINESS Queen Anne's is thrilled to welcome John Maynard, P.E. to the board!

Mr. Maynard represents McCrone, Inc.'s Centreville office as Engineering Project Manager responsible for overseeing residential, commercial, institutional, and environmental civil engineering projects in Queen Anne's and surrounding counties.

In addition, John will be actively involved in McCrone's business development and marketing efforts on Maryland's Mid-Shore.

With over nine years of experience in the engineering and land development field, John has managed multi-disciplined civil design teams for a variety of sites through all project phases including planning, roadways, grading, utilities, sediment control, and stormwater management. He has successfully guided projects through the new Environmentally Sensitive Development (ESD) standards for Maryland Department of the Environment stormwater management.

oop1@atlanticob.net

Barry Griffith
Lane Engineering
410-758-2095
bgriffith@leinc.com

Steve Donovan
Title One & Associates, Inc.
410-758-1831
smd@annapolis.net
Colby Garrett
CM Garrett, Inc.
410-643-8686
colbygarrett1@yahoo.com
George O'Donnell
ASTECHSECURITY
410-490-7400
george@astechsecurity.com

John Maynard
McCrone, Inc.
410-758-2237
jmaynard@mccrone-inc.com
Sandra Early
Administrator
410-643-6288
sandra.early@verizon.net



BQA Membership New Investment Rate!

Business Queen Anne's is now offering a special rate for new members!

\$99 a year for three years!

Click the link below to download an application!

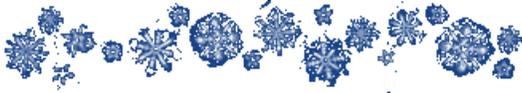
[Membership Application](#)



Mark Your Calendar...
**County Commissioner's Meeting
Second and Fourth**

A resident of Denton, Maynard is a Maryland licensed professional engineer and holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. John is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers.

BQA looks forward to working with Mr. Maynard!



**Thank you to a recent
BQA Renewal!**

Chesapeake Bay Beach Club
(Click on logo to visit their site!)



BUSINESS Queen Anne's

wants to wish you a



and hopes the 2012 is a banner year!

Tuesday of the month!
[Click here for weekly agendas!](#)
107 N. Liberty Street
Centreville, MD 21617
Planning Commission Meetings
[Click here for monthly agendas!](#)
160 Coursevall Drive
Centreville, MD 21617



War on Rural Maryland



If you've been trying to follow Senator Pipkin and his fight against the "War on Rural Maryland", the Friends of EJ Pipkin have set up a website entitled [Stop War on Rural Maryland](#) It addresses such topics as PlanMD, Septic Bans, Higher Tolls and Redistricting.

Check out this video that highlights the speakers during the Annapolis protest on December 12th.



There is also a Facebook group of the same name. Great resources and dialogue!



BQA is also on Facebook! Make sure to "Like" us!