



BUSINESS

Queen Anne's



November 2011

Breaking News!

Make sure to pick up today's Record Observer to read the article regarding the Commissioner's approving Commercial Development at the intersections of Route 50/213 and 404/309. See scanned copy by clicking here: [Board OKs Commercial Development](#)

In the words of BQA Chair, Mareen Waterman, "Hooray!"

Allied Center for Health

Why We Need The Center For Allied Health and Athletics

- The current instructional space at Easton Memorial Hospital is too small and outdated.
- The hospital is on schedule to move in 2016-2017.
- Nursing and Allied programs are essential to the quality of health care in this region.
- New space will not only allow us to improve instruction, but to add programs.
- Our continuing education programs are preparing medical office workers.
- Individuals and businesses make decisions to locate in our region based on the quality of health care. Chesapeake's ability to offer the best programs is critical to economic development.
- New High School graduates and unemployed/underemployed adults need career paths here on the Shore.

The Investment

- The state has committed 75% of the funding, or \$27,376,830; failure to move forward this year could cause an indefinite delay.
- The five county share is only 25%, or \$9,225,610, or \$8,539,051

Why Now?

**There is \$27 million at stake
with construction at an all-time low,
this project will employ 400-450 workers over 4 years.**

Please lick the logo below for more info!



Letters to the Commissioners

BUSINESS Queen Anne's has recently sent letters to the County Commissioner's in support of two recent ordinances.

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[Ordinance 11-07](#) Concerns Solar Energy and Solar Arrays in Queen Anne's County. In a letter to the Commissioners dated October 17th, BQA Chair Mareen Waterman stated, "In our current energy situation, which could readily become an "energy crisis", it is wise Public Policy to provide for the possibility of Solar Farms, and to allow them as conditional uses in the specified areas."

There is a [public hearing](#) on November 22nd for this ordinance.

[Ordinance 11-22](#) Concerns revisions to the Adequate Public Facilities Ordinance. Mr. Waterman sent a letter to the Commissioners stating that "the APFO, as modified by your predecessor Board, did tremendous damage to the local economy, put numerous tradespeople out of work, and brought the recession to Queen Anne's County many months before it affected the Country as a whole." He goes on to state that "It will not - as some will claim - result in massive overdevelopment, crowded schools and strained demand on public services. It will add to our tax bases, help provide workforce housing and allow our economy to recover once National conditions improve."

Mareen also encouraged all BQA members to attend the public hearing on October 25th...not only attend, but to speak in support! It seemed that many took that advice as those supporting the ordinance outnumbered those opposed 2 to 1 at the hearing!

If you want to keep up on all County ordinances, visit this page: [2011 County Ordinances](#)

Did you see the ad we ran in the Update on November 2nd?



[Click here](#) to see ad!

Letter from Senator Pipkin

O'Malley's Proposed Gas Tax Indexing Will Pick Your Pockets

A letter to the public from Md. State Sen. E.J. Pipkin



Making tax increases automatic is a slap in the face to the democratic process.

My constituents' mail, e-mail and phone contacts have made it unmistakably clear that they do not know or understand the consequences Governor O'Malley's proposed indexing of the state gas tax will bring down upon them. I am adamantly opposed to indexing and I would like an opportunity to explain my concerns.

I have publicly declared my opposition to gas tax increases of any sort. However, indexing the gas tax is an evil of a different and dire sort. Indexing smoothly paves the road to automatic tax

increases through by-passing the otherwise necessary approval of our law-making body, the Maryland General Assembly. The Governor's proposal ties gas tax increases to an inflationary factor, the rising cost of construction.

It should be emphasized that the gas tax is tied only to construction cost increases, not possible future construction decreases. In short, the gas tax will never go down because of cost decreases. It will only go up and up and up. Let's face it, it is downright cruel to working families to propose gas tax increases based on any inflationary factor, especially at this time, when the per-barrel price of oil has soared to more than \$90, and the per-gallon price of gas at the pump is expected to reach \$3.50 within six months. Indeed, these are the same working families for whom the Governor consistently declares his concern.

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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
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

Public Hearing on Renewable Energy Ordinance
Tuesday, November 22, 2011
at 6:15 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, The Liberty Building, 107 North Liberty Street, Centreville, Maryland.



Making tax increases automatic is a slap in the face to the democratic process. Under O'Malley's indexing proposal, gas taxes will increase automatically without the taxpayers' elected representatives casting a vote for or against those increases. Lawmakers in Annapolis should be accountable for their votes. Indexing the gas tax gives the tax-and-spend crowd a free pass every year. This is unacceptably bad public policy.

As I witness the hearings on the legislation that will enable an automatic tax increase every year, I am convinced that this proposal has not been properly explained to Maryland taxpayers. I'm just old-fashioned enough to believe that if the process or the consequences of gas tax indexing had been made clear to Marylanders, they would be rallying in angry and sustained protest. Without such public protest and calls to the members of the General Assembly, gas tax indexing could become a fact of Maryland life. Please consider joining me in the fight to keep gas tax indexing from becoming law.

E. J. Pipkin represents Maryland's 36th Legislative District (Upper Shore). He may be reached at ej.pipkin@senate.state.md.us

Thank you to our recent renewals!

O'Donnell Properties
Kelly Distributors
Mear's Point Marina
Lundberg Builders

*Happy
Thanksgiving*



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.

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



Bay Bridge Tolls

Just a reminder that the Maryland Transportation Authority board raised the bridge toll to \$4 on November 1st and plan to increase it to \$6 by 2013. (Originally, members had planned to raise the toll to \$8 by 2013.)

If you have a EZ Pass transponder and participate in the Commuter Plan, you will continue to be charged \$1 per trip until July 1, 2013.



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