

**ATTEND BQA RALLY SEPT. 23<sup>rd</sup> -- MEARS POINT MARINA - 6 PM (See Page 3!)**

**COMMISSIONER CANDIDATE MET WITH BQA BOARD**

The following candidate met with the BQA board at their August meeting:

**Winn Krozack – District 3, Democrat**

Winn stated that he hadn't initially intended to run but is fearful that many Candidates if elected will undo the work of the recent Citizen's Advisory Committees. Winn has lived on KI for almost 20 years with his wife and daughter. He is an active opponent of Four Seasons and has participated in the Stevensville and Chester CAC.

- ✓ Believes that citizens should be involved, have a say and be listened to. Specifically wants citizens involved in budget process. He will fight not to raise taxes.
- ✓ Supports property rights but also wants to protect the environment.
- ✓ Stated that he is "very pro-business" and points to the fact that he steered PRS Guitars to their location on Kent Island.
- ✓ Wants to create a diverse economic engine in QAC that will bring good jobs and still protect our quality of life. (Target businesses in the 10-100 M dollar range. Maybe 4 major employers that will bring approx 250 jobs each)
- ✓ Regarding FASTC, his main complaint was the proximity to the State Park.
- ✓ Thinks Four Seasons poisoned the well for local developers. Believes development should help the workers and residents in this county. Fact finding should be done in a proactive way before developers get started. (Remove the bullets from the gun to prevent litigation)

- ✓ Feels that EDC isn't productive due to the fact that most companies want to talk to the top dogs, not EDC.
- ✓ Feels everyone must work together and have the best of intentions.

More candidates will meet with the board at the October meeting after the Primary. See the list of Candidates on page 3 along with info on the BQA Rally! Make sure to send in your questions and comments to rally chairs:

Dave Thompson at [david@cnbmd.com](mailto:david@cnbmd.com)  
Camille O'Donnell at [cdove@atlanticbb.net](mailto:cdove@atlanticbb.net)

**LETTER FROM DEL MICHAEL SMIGIEL TO BQA**

*Dated August 24, 2010*

Thank you for your past support and updates as to what's happening with the Queen Anne's County business community. I thought you and your members would be interested in the latest development with my campaign for re-election.

Recently, I have received several endorsements/awards. Of primary importance to you and your members are three. I was honored to receive endorsements/awards from:

- National Federation of Independent Businesses
- Maryland Business for Responsive Government John Shaw Award (4 years of pro-business votes)
- Maryland Retailers Association (For 4 years of pro-business votes)

If you would forward this information to your members, I would greatly appreciate it.

Yours in Public Service,

  
Michael D. Smigiel, Sr.  
Delegate 36<sup>th</sup> District Upper Shore

## FRIENDS OF QAC PAC

There is a new PAC in town that is going to do a county mail out that will outline their list of best Candidates for fiscal responsibility! Anyone wishing to donate please contact Maren Waterman. Donations are to help with signs and advertising and is strictly limited to just Commissioner Candidates.

## COMMERCIAL TAX BASE

The Friends of QAC PAC has a Facebook page and recently posted this interesting info regarding the Commercial Tax Base:

*There has been a lot of discussion elsewhere about the misuse and inaccuracy of percentages describing QAC's Commercial Tax Base. Previous highs of around 12% and current lows of 6-7% have been quoted by various groups - even by our Commissioners and other county sources. Recently, in requesting accurate information from the County, they have hedged. It appears that County statistics on commercial tax base are inaccurate in that much of the area zoned commercial is actually unusable marsh land or is not currently used.*

*Since our county cannot come up with this information, the next best source is MD State Dept of Assessments and Taxation (MDS DAT). This is the same source used by one of the candidates for Commissioner who quoted statistics from the last two years available to say that our commercial tax base has not shrunk - implying that it is not a problem.*

So - **HERE IS THE REST OF THE STORY!**

*In FY 2003 the commercial tax base in QAC was 11.21%*

*In FY 2010 the commercial tax base in QAC was 8.67% - a definite drop*

*By comparison,*

*In FY 2010 the average commercial tax base for the entire state was 18.11*

*In FY 2010 the average commercial tax base for the % Eastern Shore was 13.43%*

*So where were we?*

**AT THE VERY BOTTOM OF THE LIST!**

*Where were our neighbors? Kent County was 12.24%, Caroline was 11.27% and Talbot was 9.92%.*

*Is it any wonder that the majority of our residents have to travel elsewhere to find work?*

*In addition, this means that over 91% of our County's budget must be borne by the residents of the county. If you are a rich retiree, this may not matter. But if this affects your pocketbook, then you need to take a close look at the candidates we have endorsed. They are the ones who are best qualified and motivated to lead us to an affordable, viable future.*

\*Note: If you leave out the vacant commercial land (land that is not producing any revenues or jobs) you can actually get numbers in the low 7% range.

If you're on Facebook, make sure to "Like" the "Friends of Queen Anne's County PAC" and join in on the discussion!

## INTERESTING LINK!



**Comptroller of Maryland**

The following link shows monthly Sales and Use Tax by County and by Principal Business...

What seemed to stand out to the BQA Board was that in the month of June, the only Counties to collect taxes lower than QA was Caroline, Carroll, Dorchester, and Garrett. Talbot collected approx 1 M more in June 2010.

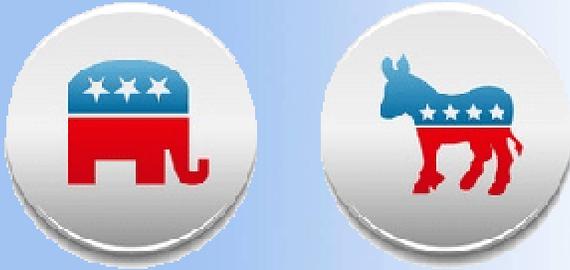
Check out...

[http://www.marylandtaxes.com/finances/revenue/county\\_table.asp](http://www.marylandtaxes.com/finances/revenue/county_table.asp)

SPOTLIGHT ON MARYLAND MONEY

## QAC COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

After the Primary Election, here is the slate for the General Election!



### Queen Anne's County Commissioner, At Large

Steven J. Arentz *Republican Party*

Neal Jackson *Democratic Party*

### Queen Anne's County Commissioner District 1

David L. Dunmyer *Republican Party*

Joe Gannon *Democratic Party*

### Queen Anne's County Commissioner District 2

Paul L. Gunther *Democratic Party*

Bob Simmons *Republican Party*

### Queen Anne's County Commissioner District 3

Arlene F. Taylor *Democratic Party*

Phil Dumenil *Republican Party*

### Queen Anne's County Commissioner District 4

Dave Olds *Republican Party*

Jack Broderick *Democratic Party*

All Candidates that make it through the Primaries will be asked to attend the BQA Rally!

**FREE!!**

A poster with a background of the American flag. At the top, it says "Save the date" in a white box. Below that, "BQA's County Awareness Rally" is written in white on a dark blue background. The date and time "Sept. 23, 2010 6 pm" are in a white box, followed by the location "Mears Point Marina-Pool Area Kent Narrows-Grasonville, Md". A red star is next to the text "Fiscal Responsibility Economic growth Commissioner candidates". At the bottom, it says "Sponsored by: Business Queen Anne's Information to follow..." and provides contact information: "Contact: David Thompson-david@cnbmd.com" and "Camille O'Donnell: odp1@atlanticbb.net". There is a small seal on the left.

What are the three key issues affecting Queen Anne's County that you would like to ask the commissioner candidates?

1. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

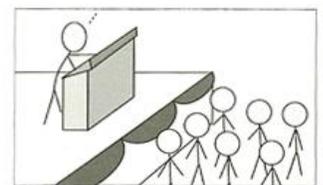
2. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments:



Thank you for your efforts.

## UPDATE AD SPURS QUESTION ABOUT COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT

In August, BQA received an email asking why our ads in the Update called for *new* commercial development when the old Safeway site and other properties in that center as well as properties in Rainbow Plaza and Red Apple Plaza remain vacant.

The following is the heart of the response letter from Business Queen Anne's President, Mareen Waterman that was mailed out on September 1, 2010:

*We favor new commercial/industrial growth throughout the County – not just Chester.*

*Our County has the lowest percentage of commercial/industrial property in the entire State of Maryland.*

*The effect of this is higher taxes for the average citizen, as well as minimal opportunity for employment close to home.*

*We realize there are a number of vacancies in the Chester area, but you should realize several of those are space with limited appeal.*

*Vacancies are due to the current economy. The few customers there are have reduced their spending.*

*This especially affects marginal small businesses whose biggest need is more customers.*

*The large vacant spaces at both the new and old Safeway are vacant because the rents asked are unrealistic.*

*Safeway is a huge major corporation, based in*

*California, I believe. They apparently aren't concerned with their unrented space since they are asking about \$24 a square foot rent.*

*That's twice as high as market on Kent Island, and roughly the same as rents in Annapolis and Bowie, where large populations and the sales volume which results supports high rentals.*

*With the exception of the retail area along Route 50 from Piney Creek Road to Dundee Avenue, there has been little interest in new commercial projects at Chester.*

*The Red Apple project started many years ago when the land was purchased. Gaining County approvals took years and once such a project is committed to, it moves forward.*

*The activity in that area has added significantly to our commercial tax base and provides employment for more than 100 people.*

*No one in the industry wants to overbuild Queen Anne's County, but we want to catch up to Commercial/Industrial growth that is years overdue.*

*60% of our total workforce works out of Queen Anne's County, and the outstanding students produced by our schools have to leave the area to find decent employment.*

*We don't think that's how things ought to be, and will continue our efforts to being about badly needed moderate growth.*

Very truly yours,



Mareen D. Waterman  
BQA President

# BUSINESS

## Queen Anne's

P.O. Box 1065, Stevensville, MD 21666  
Phone: 410-643-6288 Fax: 410-643-6278  
www.businessqueenannes.com

**BQA Members!**  
It's time to renew your  
membership investment...  
**Thank you for your  
continued support!**

### 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 - \$2500  
SILVER - \$2000  
BRONZE - \$1500  
(Circle One)

### Annual Membership Investment

\$250 1-10 Employees  
\$500 11-25 Employees  
\$1,000 26 Employees  
and above  
(Circle One)

**BUSINESS** *Queen Anne's*  
2010-2011 Board Members

**Mareen Waterman**

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**Thank you to our recent renewals!**

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**BUSINESS**  
*Queen Anne's*

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