

BUSINESS

Queen Anne's

September 2011

BQA Membership Meeting

Threat of stormy weather may have kept some from attending the Annual BQA Membership Meeting on August 25th, but those who came out were rewarded with great food and a great speaker!

Congressman Harris addressed the crowd and presented his thoughts on how to get business back on track in our State and County. He discussed business regulations, business taxes and the fact that small business is the engine of recovery. He also took questions from the audience.

Our thanks to Bob Wilson of Mears Point Marina and Karen Oertel of Harris Crab House for their hard work setting up the venue and for donating the food!

*Thank you to all our guests and members
who attended the Membership Meeting!*



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Business Spotlight!

BUSINESS Queen Anne's is thrilled to highlight the [Chesterweye Center](#), a new member this month!

The Chesterweye Center has been providing services to Adults with Developmental Disabilities in Queen Anne's County since 1967. They own 9 homes plus a Day Center, all located in Q.A. County.

According to Dan Bungori, Executive Director of the Chesterweye Center, "The mission statement of Business Queen Anne's and its advocacy work is certainly important to us. We employ over 100 staff (most who live in the County) and well over half of the 70 Adults, we provides services for, go to work every day out in the community. Queen Anne's County's economic growth, "business friendly atmosphere" and an accountable Government is essential as Chesterweye moves forward and expands into other areas of business development and job creation. We are pleased to become part of a pro-active organization that cares, as we do, about the quality of life in Queen Anne's County."

Welcome to BQA! We're glad to have you with us!



**Chesterweye
Center, Inc.**

est. 1967
*Helping Adults with Disabilities
Explore Their Possibilities*

Thank You County Commissioners!

Several important items were voted on by the County Commissioners at their August 9th meeting.

Ordinance 11-06, a citizen sponsored text amendment, was officially passed with a 3 to 2 vote. This eliminates the maximum gross floor area restriction in the Suburban Commercial Zoning District. (This ordinance was highlighted in the August BQA Newsletter)

They also voted (again 3 to 2) to direct staff to seek grant funding for a Southern Kent Island sewer line.

On behalf of BQA, Chairman Mareen Waterman sent a letter to the County Commissioners stating, "For 30+ years your predecessors have done nothing except talk about solving the septic problems on Southern Kent Island. You have received a recommendation from your Public Works Advisory Board that says a sewer line is needed. Business Queen Anne's would like to say the sewer line has been needed for years, and it is time you take positive steps to see it get built."

The letter went on to suggest that they direct Public Works and the Sanitary District to begin formally seeking grants and/or low interest loans from the State and Federal Agencies. It also stated that they should take immediate steps to create a Priority Funding Area, running down Rt. 8 along the right-of-way lines, making a bubble to take in the Matapeake Industrial site, then continuing South to encircle Kent Island Estates and Romancoke, then going South to take in Tower Gardens.

Kent Island Estates and Romancoke are the two subdivisions with massive concentration of failing septic systems and should be the initial targeted area to receive sewer, with Tower Gardens to be served later. Including Matapeake should make it possible to receive grants from the State's Economic Development Agency and sewer installation within the Industrial area should make the site saleable, increasing our commercial/industrial tax base.

Business Queen Anne's is encouraged by the passing of Ordinance 11-06 and the vote to seek funding for a Southern Kent Island sewer line. Thank you to the County Commissioners who are leading this County in the right direction!

Thank You BQA!

Business Queen Anne's received two letters of thanks this past month and we want to share!

On behalf of myself and Mr. Peter Sheaffer I would like to thank BQA and its Board Members who assisted in supporting Text Amendment 11-06 and the other pro economic development initiatives recently passed by the County Commissioners. I truly believe the efforts of BQA, Mr. Waterman and others are having a profound impact in elevating the economic development voice in the land use debates in QAC that for so many years have been dominated by the organized influence of anti-growth groups.

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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



Welcome New Members!!

Power Communications

Linden Contracting, Inc.

Eugene McGuire, Jr.

Chesterweye Center

**Thank You To Our
Recent Renewals!!**

It was very impressive to see Commissioners Arentz, Olds and Dumenil take a strong pro economic development position and stick to their convictions in the face of some limited vocal opposition. It is good to see some balance returning to the County in regards to growth management issues. Looks like the tide is finally turning...

*Thanks again!
Barry F. Griffith, AICP
President
Lane Engineering, LLC
(Barry is also a BQA Board Member)*

I would like to thank you and Business Queen Anne's for the support you provided for Ord 11-06. I know Mr. Sheaffer appreciates these efforts as well.

I agree with Business Queen Anne's, that as the Commissioners work hard to dig the County out of the economic hole it finds itself, it has to be more open to business and development that brings opportunities which far outweigh the negative impacts. There are no defensible reasons why a Kohl's, Target or Home Depot should not be able to locate in some of the commercially zoned property throughout the County. This is true for both the areas inside and outside of growth areas. It is important to note that the County Code does not limit the size of a building, just the amount of space a single tenant or user can occupy, so it is not an issue of "too big" or "too much commercial space." The reality is that the County is preventing a particular group of retailers from locating here.

I appreciate that Business Queen Anne's has taken the time to understand the issue and present their thoughtful position to the Commissioners.

*Regards,
Joe
Joseph A. Stevens, Esq.
Stevens & McCann, LLC*

You're welcome! It's a pleasure to serve the business interests in the County and we are thrilled to see, as Barry stated, "the tide finally turning!"

BluePrint Maryland

A few short weeks ago, Blueprint Maryland, a unique, collaborative and non-partisan effort whose goal is to conduct economic research and facilitate a statewide dialogue on key economic development and job creation challenges facing Maryland was launched. The recent release of their first research project (which can be found at www.BlueprintMaryland.org) took a closer look at the economic development ramifications of the anticipated reduction in federal dollars for Maryland. The study presented a number of compelling challenges and opportunities for our state.

Their next step is to facilitate a dialogue across the state. **Maryland has a wealth of knowledge and experience and I hope you can lend yours at one of our upcoming roundtable meetings.** These small group discussions will explore some of the questions raised by the research and delve into some of the key issues, challenges and solutions facing our state.

According to Blueprint Maryland, "The roundtables will serve to allow us to learn from your knowledge and experience, as we brainstorm ways to help Maryland. These luncheons will enable us to gather data and suggestions, which will then be explored at conferences and with additional professional research."

It is important that each working luncheon has diverse representation - from various industries in the business sector, labor, community organizations and hard-working Maryland families. **This event is by invitation only, so if you are interested please contact BQA at administrator@businessqueenannes.com and we will submit your information.**

Check your calendars to see if any of these dates would work for you...

- * September 16 - Turf Valley (in Howard County)
- * September 20 - BWI Marriott
- * September 21 - College Park Marriott
- * September 23 - Office of the Baltimore Business Journal

As you will see in their research, the state we all call home is facing some tough challenges. John Delany of Blueprint Maryland says, "If there ever was a time for people from all walks of life and industries to come together to forge real solutions for our sustained economic development, that time is now. I sincerely hope you will give us a little time for this unique opportunity to add your voice to our cause."

www.BlueprintMaryland.org

Heffenbein Insurance Agency

Champion Improvement, LLC

Shore Sign Company

Delmarva Power

WNAV Radio



A free workshop by Upper Shore SCORE® Chapter 670...

An Introduction to QuickBooks®

Learn how to keep your financial data up-to-date with America's most popular bookkeeping system for small businesses and not-for-profit organizations. This three-hour introduction to QuickBooks will feature Heather Tinelli, a principal of Shore Accountants in Queen Anne's County and a certified QuickBooks ProAdvisor. Heather will demonstrate how QuickBooks can help save you money, enhance your financial management skills and improve your financial "peace of mind." Whether you are new to QuickBooks or an experienced user, you will appreciate Heather's insights and responsiveness to your questions.

This workshop is free and open to all who register. If you wish to explore QuickBooks in more detail after this workshop, Heather will offer follow-up training at a nominal fee.

When: Thursday, September 22nd, 9:00 a.m. till 12:00 p.m.

Where: 160 Coursevall Drive, Centerville, MD 21617

Please register: Call SCORE at 410-810-2969 or email the Kent County Chamber of Commerce at kentchamber@verizon.net



City Biz List Article

BQA Board Member, Al Heffenbein, wanted to share this link to the following article:

[To Create More Jobs, Maryland Must Beat Virginia, Senators are Told - By Megan Poinksi](#)