



Issue #11

February 2010



The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners members are, from left, Linda L. Kelley, Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark, Wilson H. Parran, Barbara A. Stinnett and Susan Shaw.

Unprecedented winter weather kept county offices closed for nearly a week, but our road crews did extraordinary work in trying conditions. This month we review those efforts and look at how the county is faring in the aftermath. After all the snow, the thought of floating lazily in a heated indoor pool is enticing. Below we present the fee structure for the county's new aquatic center, laud our employee of the year and preview the upcoming Census 2010. Thanks for reading!

Historic Storms Test County Crews

As Record Snowfall Hits County, Road Crews Respond

Calvert County weathered one of the worst snowfalls on record with typical determination and good nature. The series of storms from Dec. 18 through Feb. 10 posed a colossal challenge for road crews, emergency responders, utility workers and others whose work went on despite the weather. We offer heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all those who served our community so well.

In December alone, the county used 2,600 tons of salt to treat local roadways. Another 1,800 tons of salt and 1,000 tons of sand were on hand just before the back-to-back February storms. County road crews worked punishing hours on plowing and clean-up duties,



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**Lt. Col. Tom Hejl
of the Sheriff's
Office is
County's
2009 Employee
of the Year**



sometimes getting just four hours of sleep before going back on duty.

We know some residents were frustrated with the condition of their neighborhood streets following the storms, but it is important to know how we undertake road clearing. State roads - those with a route number designation - are cleared by State Highway Administration crews. There are approximately 440 miles of county-owned and maintained roadways, which are generally treated from largest to smallest. Neighborhood cul-de-sacs are often the last to be plowed because they are time consuming and crews must concentrate on keeping main routes open at the height of a storm. Crews will usually plow the main streets in a neighborhood first before returning to do a more thorough job.

The county standard is for all primary roadways to have bare pavement within 24 hours and residential roadways to be clear within 36 hours after the end of a storm producing six to 12 inches of snow. The February storms dumped more than 20 inches of snow on Calvert County, with drifts reaching six feet and higher. It was truly an unprecedented event. We hope residents can appreciate the level of commitment it took to respond.

We have also been asked about the storm's impact on the county budget. For the current fiscal year, approximately \$470,000 was allocated for snow removal. We have already surpassed that amount by more than \$400,000, and the number will surely rise as we tally all the costs. However, we are still in relatively good shape. The county has a contingency account that we can draw on for these expenses, and conservative budgeting over the years has left a significant fund balance available for primary government functions such as snow removal. Be assured that we will continue to clear the roads and perform other services that citizens expect and deserve.

Fees Announced for County Aquatic Center

Passes Are On Sale Now

The Division of Parks and Recreation has established fees and operational hours for the soon-to-be-completed Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center in Prince Frederick. General admission fees will be as follows:
Adults: \$6.00; Seniors (60+) and Children (3-17): \$4.00; Children (1-2): \$2.00; Children (Under 1): Free

Annual, winter and summer passes will be available at the following rates:

Annual Pass

\$475.00 for households up to five members
 \$45.00 for each additional household member
 \$300.00 for adults
 \$225.00 for seniors and children



Lt. Col. Tom Hejl of the Sheriff's Office was named Calvert County's 2009 Employee of the Year in recognition of his outstanding dedication, enthusiasm and professional work ethic. The award was announced Feb. 2 at the county's Employee Service Awards.

In a time of limited government funding, Lt. Col. Hejl was instrumental in pursuing a variety of grants that helped enhance the county's law enforcement efforts. His grant-writing prowess secured funding for a mobile command vehicle, in-car digital cameras, surveillance cameras, pole cameras and tag readers. In all, Lt. Col. Hejl had a hand in nearly \$2 million worth of funding.

The Calvert County Employee Recognition Committee selected Lt. Col. Hejl from among those who won the Employee of the Month awards for 2009. Congratulations to Lt. Col. Hejl on the honor.

What's Happening in Calvert County

February 20

Guided Winter Hike
*Double Oak Farm,
 Prince Frederick*

February 20

Winter Pass

\$375.00 for households up to five members
 \$35.00 for each additional household member
 \$285.00 for adults
 \$185.00 for seniors and children

Summer Pass

\$240.00 for households up to five members
 \$20.00 for each additional household member
 \$225.00 for adults
 \$145.00 for seniors and children

Gift certificates and coupon passes valid for 20 admissions for the price of 17 will be available at \$100 for adults and \$68 for children/seniors.

Passes are now on sale at the main office of the Division of Parks and Recreation at 205 Main Street in Prince Frederick, Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Passes will be available at the Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center once it opens.

General operating hours will be Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. The facility will include a 50-meter competition pool, leisure pool with slides, therapy pool, spa, fitness room and meeting and party rooms for rent.

The pool is expected to open in early spring this year. As soon as a definite opening date is set, it will be announced publicly.

The Edward T. Hall Aquatic Center is located at 1200 Auto Drive in Prince Frederick, Md. [Visit online](#) for construction updates and photos.

Calvert County Gearing Up for Census 2010



Each decade the United States conducts a major effort to count all its citizens. Localities nationwide are now getting ready for the 2010 Census and Calvert County is doing its part to ensure all its residents are counted.

An accurate tally is important because it helps the county obtain federal and state funding and provides valuable information for planning local services. Census information will help determine

which areas need new schools, roads, medical services, programs for the elderly and much more. The data from the 2010 Census will determine the distribution of approximately \$400 billion over the next decade. For each person not counted, local governments will miss out on approximately \$1,400 per year, or \$14,000 for a decade.

In 1970 the population of Calvert County was just over 20,000. By 1990 it had grown to more than 51,000 and by 2000 it was nearly 75,000. How many people live in Calvert County in 2010? The Census Bureau needs your help to answer that question.

Census forms will be mailed to all residents in mid-March and are due back by April 15. Stand up and be counted! Encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same.

Comedy Invasion
 2010
Huntingtown High School

February 20
 Comedy Night
Holiday Inn, Solomons

February 21
 Authors by the Bay
Calvert Library, Prince Frederick

February 28
 COSMIC Family
 Concert and Ballet
 Caliente
Huntingtown High School, Huntingtown

March 5
 Winter Carnival
Southern Community Center, Lusby

March 13
 Volunteer Workshop
Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum

March 13
 Cinemagic Dinner
 Theater
Calvert Pines Senior Center, Prince Frederick

Visit the [events calendar](#) to learn more.



We want to hear from you. [Click here](#) to e-mail your feedback.

Thank you for reading **Calvert Currents**. If you have suggestions or story ideas, please let us know by using the Feedback link on the right.

Sincerely,
Wilson H. Parran, President
Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark, Vice President
Linda L. Kelley
Susan Shaw
Barbara A. Stinnett
Calvert County Board of County Commissioners

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