



# Calvert Currents

A monthly newsletter from the Board of County Commissioners

Issue #28

July 2011

Welcome to the July issue of **Calvert Currents**. This month we take a look at an ongoing effort to align our growth management policies with goals set in the county's Comprehensive Plan. We also announce the second annual Sustainable Agriculture Awards, celebrate statewide awards won by Calvert Marine Museum volunteers and the Office on Aging, and invite businesses to the annual county Job Fair. Thanks for reading.



The Calvert County Board of County Commissioners members are, from left, Steven R. Weems, Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark, Susan Shaw, Evan K. Slaughenhaupt Jr. and Pat Nutter.

## County Effort to Focus on Growth Management

*Public Input is Vital in Addressing Quality of Life*

Growth has long been an important issue in Calvert County. In the 1990s it became the top issue. Between 1990 and 2004, the county population skyrocketed from 51,000 to more than 86,000.

County leaders acted. Residential zoning density was cut twice, in 1999 and 2003,



### In This Issue

[County Effort to Focus on Growth Management](#)

[Make Your Nominations for the Sustainable Agriculture Awards](#)

[Senior Centers Win State Awards](#)

[Businesses Invited to Participate in County Job Fair](#)

[Museum Volunteers Earn Governor's Award](#)

[What's Happening in Calvert County](#)

### Quick Links

[County Commissioners Meeting Summaries](#)

[County Government on the Web](#)

[Calvert County Business and Tourism](#)

### Museum Volunteers Earn Governor's Award

Congratulations to the Calvert Marine Museum (CMM) Volunteer Council, which recently received the 2011 Governor's Volunteer Service Award.

with a goal of reducing residential buildout to 37,000 households. These controls helped mitigate the negative effects growth was having on schools, roads, public services and other elements related to quality of life.

The county's Comprehensive Plan says we are to look at our growth management policies to see if we are staying on track with our buildout goal. We are beginning a discussion about our progress and want your opinion.

Our policies have had positive effects. Our residential growth rate slowed from 3.6 percent per year to less than 1 percent. New schools are built as replacements rather than to add capacity. Farmland conversion has nearly stopped and traffic growth has slowed. However, we are still projected to exceed our buildout goal. We are now at 31,000 households and projected to go to 41,000 under current conditions.

Recently other factors have impacted our growth policies. The market for Transferable Development Rights (TDR) is languishing and more developers are asking for TDR waivers. The federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is mandating the preparation of local plans to reduce nutrient and sediment loads in waterways. If we do not meet EPA goals, future commercial and residential permits could be halted.

The board of commissioners has asked county staff to develop initiatives that will meet our growth goals while addressing all of these factors. The broad list of options includes:

- Making no changes
- Reducing buildout through purchase of development rights
- Focusing on location of growth and meeting EPA goals
- Focusing on housing

County staff gave a presentation on this issue at the commissioners' June 21 meeting. [You may view the full presentation online.](#) As we further develop growth policy options we plan to hold a series of open houses to review options and get resident input. Your views are vital to this effort. Please let us know what you think as we explore this issue.

## Make Your Nominations for the Sustainable Agriculture Awards

### *Second Annual Program Recognizes Local Contributions*

To recognize the contributions that local agriculture makes toward a more sustainable community, the Calvert County Sustainable Agriculture Workgroup is seeking nominations for the commissioners' second annual Sustainable Agriculture Awards program.

The Sustainable Agriculture Awards will be offered in four categories. The **Sustainable Farmer of the Year** award will recognize a local farm that has

Presented by the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism, this honor recognizes Marylanders who made a difference in their communities through volunteer service over the past year. Sixteen awards were presented from nearly 200 nominations.

The CMM Volunteer Council was established in September 1990. More than 235 volunteers help with the day-to-day operations at the museum, from interpreting exhibits and working in the museum store to assisting with the Summer Waterside Music concerts. Last year, volunteers donated 25,487 hours of their time.

We offer our thanks and gratitude to all the CMM volunteers who help make visiting the museum a rich experience. If you'd like to volunteer, contact Sherry Reid at 410-326-2042, ext. 19.

### What's Happening in Calvert County

**July 22**  
Maritime  
Performance Series -  
DRAMTREEO  
Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons

a Soil Conservation Plan in place. The farm should utilize best management practices in soil conservation, should have a diversity of crops, should have implemented a plan to reduce pesticide use and is selling a crop directly to consumers. Preference will be given to farms on preserved properties.



*Calvert County*  
SUSTAINABLE  
AGRICULTURE  
A W A R D

The **Green Grocer of the Year** award will be offered to a retailer that buys and sells local products when in season. The business will have featured local products in advertising and business promotions. The variety and presentation of goods sold will also be considered.

The **Buy Local Restaurant of the Year** will recognize a restaurant that buys local products when in season. The ideal candidate will feature and advertise local products on menus and in special recipes. Special consideration will be given to those that offer a variety of local goods used in meals and for uniqueness in presentation.

New this year is the **Sustainable Meat Producer of the Year** award, which will recognize a local meat producer whose animals are raised, transported and processed humanely as defined in the Southern Maryland Meat standards. Livestock should not be fed animal by-products or given growth implants, and are given antibiotics only when medically necessary. The products should be sold locally and consumers should have access to clear, consistent and accurate information about how the animal was raised and fed.

Individuals, businesses and organizations are eligible for nomination in all four categories. Self-nomination is accepted. Nominees will be judged by a selection committee comprised of representatives from Calvert Eats Local, the Calvert County Agriculture Commission and the University of Maryland Extension. Nominations will be accepted through August 31, 2011, and awards will be presented at a Board of County Commissioners' meeting in October, 2011.

[Nomination forms are available online](#) or at the Department of Planning & Zoning, 150 Main Street, Room 304, Prince Frederick. For further information please contact Denise Cherry at 410-535-1600, ext. 2340.

## Senior Centers Win State Awards

### *Programs Garner Accolades from Maryland Association*

We offer congratulations to the Calvert County senior centers and the Office on Aging which recently won awards for seniors programs at the Maryland Association of Senior Centers (MASC) annual meeting June 17.

The North Beach Senior Center won an award in the Special Events category for its Princess Party, an intergenerational event that paired grandmothers and granddaughters for an afternoon of make-believe. The lady participants dressed the part, learned about special princess manners and finished with a party.

### July 23

Colonial Family Days: Colonial Arts & Crafts  
*Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, St. Leonard*

### July 23

Rock 'n' Roll on the Beach Featuring The Hubcaps  
*North Beach*

### July 23

Firehouse Rock Festival  
*St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department, St. Leonard*

### July 23

Sunset in the Tropics "Wm. B. Tennison" at the Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons

### July 24

Guided Canoe Trip American Chestnut Land Trust  
*Warriors Rest Sanctuary, Port Republic*

### July 25-29

Native Skills Summer Camp  
*Jefferson Patterson Park & Museum, St. Leonard*

### July 29

Art Blooms Reception  
*Annmarie Sculpture Garden & Arts Center, Solomons*

### July 30

Movies on Main Street  
*Duke & Main Streets, Prince Frederick*

### July 30

Lighthouse Adventure Cruise  
*Calvert Marine Museum, Solomons*

In the Fundraising category, Calvert Pines Senior Center won an award for its Mother's Day Handbag Auction. Organizers supplied all the fixings for an ice cream sundae social on the Friday before Mother's Day as participants viewed the donated, gently used handbags up for auction. After all the heated bidding contests were decided, the center's Senior Council had raised more than \$200.

Since 2005, Calvert County senior centers have won 22 awards through MASC. Founded in 1980, the association represents and promotes Maryland senior centers and recognizes excellence in senior center programming. More information on MASC is available at [www.marylandseniorcenters.com](http://www.marylandseniorcenters.com).

For more information on the Calvert County Office on Aging and senior center programs, [visit online](#) or call 410-535-4606 or 301-855-1170.

## Businesses Invited to Participate in County Job Fair

Calvert County businesses have the opportunity to appeal to local job seekers at the 2011 Calvert County Job Fair Wednesday, August 31, from noon until 5 p.m. at the Calvert County Fairgrounds in Barstow.

The Job Fair is co-sponsored by the Calvert County, Maryland, Department of Economic Development, Calvert County Chamber of Commerce, Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation and the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland.

Registration for the event is free and limited to the Calvert County business community. Businesses should be actively seeking employees for full or part-time work and multi-level marketing organizations and businesses are not permitted. Registration includes a six-foot table and two chairs, company listing in the event brochure and two tickets for light refreshments. Registration deadline is August 19.

To register please contact the Calvert County Department of Economic Development at 410-535-4583, via email at [info@ecalvert.com](mailto:info@ecalvert.com) or visit online at [www.ecalvert.com](http://www.ecalvert.com).

Thanks for reading **Calvert Currents**. Now we want to hear from you! Click the Feedback link at the right to send us your questions or story ideas.

Sincerely,  
Susan Shaw, President  
Pat Nutter, Vice President  
Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark  
Evan K. Slaughenhaupt Jr.  
Steven R. Weems  
*Calvert County Board of County Commissioners*

### July 30

Waterside Concert  
Series - Martina  
McBride  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

### August 5

USO Reenactment of  
WWII  
*Boardwalk Pavilion,  
Solomons Island*

### August 6

Maker's Market  
*Annmarie Sculpture  
Garden & Arts  
Center, Solomons*

### August 13

Moonlight Cruise on  
the Chesapeake Bay  
*Chesapeake Beach*

### August 13

Fossil Field  
Experience  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

### August 13

Colonial Family Days:  
A Colonial  
Celebration!  
*Jefferson Patterson  
Park & Museum,  
St. Leonard*

### August 20

Movie on the Beach:  
Eclipse  
*Town of North Beach*

### August 20

Picnic Cruise Aboard  
the Wm. B. Tennison  
*Calvert Marine  
Museum, Solomons*

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





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

[Forward email](#)



*Try it FREE today.*

This email was sent to [slaglekr@co.cal.md.us](mailto:slaglekr@co.cal.md.us) by [info@co.cal.md.us](mailto:info@co.cal.md.us) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Calvert County Board of County Commissioners | Courthouse | Prince Frederick | MD | 20678