

Voters guide for June 26 primary election



Republican candidates for Calvert County sheriff



Mike Evans (incumbent)
Age: 62
Residence: St. Leonard
Occupation: Sheriff

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

I, Sheriff Mike Evans, was born and raised in Calvert County. I served my country in the U.S. Army, received an AA degree in criminal justice and was proud to be a Maryland state trooper for over 17 years. Fifteen of those years were spent serving the citizens of this county. I have spent the past 16 years as the sheriff of the safest county in Maryland. Through my leadership and the dedication and commitment of the men and women of the sheriff's office, serious crime has declined by more than 50 percent since 2010 and 20 percent in 2017 alone. Our case-closure rate is 77 percent, well exceeding the national average.

Opioid incidents are trending down from 2017 and we are on pace to see a reduction in fatal overdoses. We are the first sheriff's office in the state to equip deputies with Narcan and automated external defibrillators. Doing so has proven to save lives, as deputies are able to get to the overdose calls faster than EMS. One of the most effective tools in fighting illegal drugs is K9s. Recognizing this, I added seven drug detection K9s to the Patrol Bureau. A Crime Suppression Unit that works alongside the K9s and undercover drug investigators are taking numerous drugs off our roadways.

Serious motor vehicle crashes are down from this time last year, and fatal crashes declined by 85 percent. In 2016, the sheriff's office took first place in the National Law Enforcement Challenge for our efforts in traffic safety. Our deputies are better equipped than they have ever been. In-car video systems coupled with body cameras allow supervisors to identify training opportunities and bring transparency to the citizen complaint process. In fact, since adding body cameras, complaints have significantly decreased. Mounted on cruisers, license plate readers scan thousands of license plates as deputies patrol the county. LPRs identify suspended drivers and wanted persons. I am exploring the use of drones to aid us in accident reconstruction, search and rescue and tactical situations. Our detention center ranked second in the state for mental health programs and earned a 100 percent rating in a statewide audit.

Since becoming sheriff, I have worked hard to develop partnerships in the community. The sheriff's office maintains relationships with the faith community, Calvert Alliance Against Substance Abuse, Office on Aging, Chamber of Commerce, Board of Education, and we are providing active shooter training to all. Since 2014, a deputy has been assigned to every high school. We will have three additional deputies assigned to the middle schools in September. Through social media and NIXLE (an alert to phone and email for 10 years), I will keep the community informed. The fact that we live in the safest place in the state and our law enforcement services are exceptional is no coincidence. My tested and proven leadership is endorsed by the members of the Calvert County Sheriff's Office Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 109 and the Maryland State FOP. I work for you, Calvert County citizens.



Craig Kontra
Age: 58
Residence: Huntingtown
Occupation: Sergeant in Calvert County Sheriff's Office

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

I have been a Calvert deputy for over 30 years and have worked under several sheriffs. I have seen the changes each one brings with their visions of what the office should aspire to be, some good, some bad. Sheriff Evans initially came up with some ideas (with help from now-retired Lt. Col. Tom Hejl) that improved areas that were lacking when he took office.

But I have also observed that he has made the sheriff's office very top heavy, and as a result more deputies are behind desks while areas that need more personnel, such as the patrol division and drug unit, are understaffed. I plan on restructuring the bureaus and units within the department. By putting some more of the "bosses" into the patrol division, this will allow sergeants who currently are desk-bound to actually be on patrol with their subordinates, giving guidance as well as monitoring deputies' actions firsthand. Evans has created several small units to cater to specific goals that do not really address the problems. I believe these deputies could be reassigned to several tasks that better serve the county.

Deputies should be seen more in neighborhoods, parks, shopping centers, and actually get out of their vehicles to meet citizens and business owners. Police presence is a great deterrent to crime and having the deputies in the community and actually speaking with residents can forge a strong bond. This will result in citizens speaking more freely about their observations and bringing any problems within the neighborhood to deputies' attention.

Currently there is a "point" system in place where a deputy gets a "point" for different duties, such as a "point" for tickets, or a DWI, serving a warrant, etc. This creates the problem of "quantity" over "quality" of the work a deputy produces. The deputy is more concerned with obtaining his numbers. A prime example would be a theft from a motor vehicle. A deputy will be less inclined to ask neighbors if they saw anything or dust for prints, as this takes time — time that could be spent doing tasks he would actually receive "points" for. This system needs to go.

The opioid epidemic is still a problem. The drug unit was down a detective for the last three years; as the election approaches, one was recently assigned. We need to work better with other government agencies that provide mental health and counseling services. I will provide every deputy with pamphlets that provide the contact information for such service that they can readily provide to those who need the help. I plan on restructuring the current Drug Enforcement Unit, so they can start attacking these issues with different approaches, which hopefully will deter the drug organizations from distributing in our county as well as neighboring jurisdictions.

I also would like to create a School Resource Unit to work with the Board of Education to address safety concerns at the schools, as well as provide safety to students and staff while they are on school grounds.



Kinsey Weems
Age: 39
Residence: St. Leonard
Occupation: Police detective

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

For almost 40 years, Calvert County has been my home. I entered public service when I was just 15 years old with the St. Leonard Volunteer Fire Department — a service that I have continued to this day. At 17, I joined the United States Army. I served honorably for almost 12 years in law enforcement as a military police officer, with assignments in patrol and proudly the Special Reaction Team as a sniper, and team leader.

When I left the Army, I made the decision to go back to school and work toward my education in criminal justice and police management. The field is constantly active and ever changing. I am currently an active law enforcement officer working in District Heights, located in Prince George's County. Over the years, I have gained a considerable amount of knowledge and experience from working in administration, patrol and criminal investigations. I have had the pleasure of contributing to an agency that has brought new challenges daily. Over the years, I have written numerous grants for traffic safety enforcement activities, ballistic body armor for officers as well as new technology. This has allowed for the addition of new programs without increasing budgets or taxpayer liability.

In the past 30 years here in Calvert, we have grown both our commercial and residential markets to new heights. The changes that we have seen include new schools, stores, roads, housing and much more. Unfortunately, along with these new and ever-growing changes, we also see increases in crime, traffic and traffic-related incidents, and of course drug abuse.

I believe I am the best candidate because I am the only one who brings in experience from a multitude of other localities. Crime is not centralized to one location, nor should our preventive measures and tactics be. My experiences in the fire department, military and the police department have directly prepared me to take on the lead role as your sheriff. My education and knowledge supplements my experiences to readily work with the men and women of the sheriff's office and other local, state, and federal agencies, as well as the public. I am passionate and excited about the opportunities before us today.

My family, friends and I are confident that I am the right person to bring fresh, new ideas to our sheriff's office. I will strive to partner with every resident and business owner to proactively combat and ultimately reduce these issues. I will endeavor to protect our schools, roadways, communities, and of course you and your family. My priority is to make every day in Calvert safer than the last. By providing a transparent sheriff's office built upon honesty, integrity, and commitment, we will establish new trust and foundations making communities in Calvert closer, stronger, and better informed than ever.

With your continued support, we will bring Calvert County forward, making it safer and better for generations to come. Remember to vote Kinsey Weems for sheriff in 2018.

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Republican candidates for Calvert County state's attorney

Kathryn Marsh
Age: 42

Residence: Huntingtown

Occupation: Deputy state's attorney

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

Experience is why you should vote for me. This July it will be 20 years since I first began working with the Calvert County State's Attorney's Office. During my tenure, I have worked my way up from the district court victim advocate to the deputy state's attorney. I have the most extensive prosecution experience of any candidate, to include: district court, juvenile court, burglaries, white-collar crime, felony narcotics, robberies, felony assaults, sexual assault, child abuse, elder abuse and homicides.

In 2015 Laura Martin, our current state's attorney, appointed me the deputy state's attorney, the second-in-command, with supervision over all four divisions: circuit court, district court, domestic violence and child support. When Ms. Martin is not present, I'm the acting department head. I train our assistant state's attorneys. In Calvert County, new prosecutors begin in district court, our misdemeanor court. This is a great way for a new attorney to learn criminal law and achieve trial experience without the pressure of a jury. Once an attorney achieves district court experience, they are promoted to the circuit court where our most serious and complex cases are prosecuted. I train the attorneys with regard to charging decisions, plea negotiations and the nuances of a jury trial.

The entire time I have worked in the office, I have tried to improve the office and implement needed changes whenever possible — from something as small as creating a shared data drive with the sheriff's office and redaction policy for body cameras, to establishing the county's first child advocacy center and mental health docket. The child advocacy center will be one place


Andrew Rappaport
Age: 41

Residence: Huntingtown

Occupation: Senior assistant state's attorney, district court chief

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

My name is Andrew Rappaport. I am chief of the Calvert County District Court Division of the state's attorney's office and a 15-year prosecutor. I manage a team of prosecutors and staff that handle 90 percent of all the cases in Calvert County, including felonies and misdemeanors (approximately 4,000 cases). I also handle violent crimes and vehicular cases resulting in death.

The state's attorney has primary responsibility for prosecuting the criminals arrested by the police. We work with the police to ensure the best possible evidence so we can prosecute on the top charge. Which is why I am particularly pleased to be endorsed by both the Calvert County Fraternal Order of Police and the Maryland State Fraternal Order of Police. These are the men and women that I work with daily in the pursuit of justice. And, they are the best arbitrators of who should be the next state's attorney.

I have a 100 percent conviction rate on vehicular homicides and over a 90 percent conviction rate on crimes of violence. These convictions happen because I have a great passion for my job and because of the great team I work with, which includes law enforcement and the judicial system.

Conviction rates are one of the best indicators of how to evaluate a prosecutor and whether they are keeping the community safe.

My conviction rate is high because I approach each trial as the only trial I have — and to the victims and witnesses, it is their only trial. It is their time to obtain justice.

Looking to the future, it is no secret



that Calvert County is under pressure from neighboring counties. Crime does not know or respect county borders. To keep Calvert safe we must take proactive steps now.

As state's attorney, I will:

- 1) Work closely with local law enforcement to obtain better evidence to build stronger cases, which will lead to longer prison sentences.

- 2) Have a zero tolerance for those that hurt or abuse a spouse or family member. I will prosecute domestic violence offenders and put them in jail.

- 3) Increase diversion programs for nonviolent offenders who truly want help. These programs reduce recidivism and allow people to become productive members of society.

- 4) Target drug dealers and seek the maximum charge with the maximum jail sentence.

- 5) Work with the juvenile justice system in Calvert County to better identify and address at-risk teens. School safety is one of my top priorities.

I am vested in Calvert County and I take seriously my oath and responsibility to keep Calvert County safe and the criminals in jail.

As your next state's attorney, I will continue to foster strong relationships with local and state law enforcement to ensure Calvert County will be and will always remain safe for you and your families.

Republican candidates for Calvert County commissioner, District 1

Emad Dides
Age: 58

Residence: Lusby

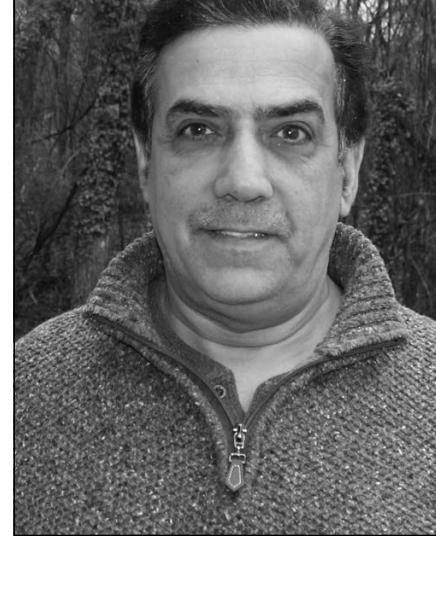
Occupation: Owner of transportation service

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I am Emad Dides, commissioner candidate for the first district. I own a small business in Calvert County and have plenty of time to be there for you when you need a commissioner to listen to you. I will start by saying I strongly believe in an open door policy, with no meetings and decisions made behind closed doors. Even though our current board is made up of all Republicans, they increased taxes, increased spending and created more positions, the complete opposite of what Republicans stand for: being conservative.

I have contacted the board multiple times with issues where I requested to meet with someone, with no response. I even wrote a letter and hand delivered it to my district commissioner, Mike Hart, and he never called me back or wrote me back. If Mike Hart is not willing to listen to the people, why is he running again? I will promises you that I will be there for you. If you have a problem, we will sit together and try to find a solution, not make a decision whether you like it or not, because that's all I got from our board. The county planning and zoning staff refuse to return my bound and at this moment I will need to take the matter to court, a situation that can be avoided by sitting down and talking about the problem.

I will start with evaluation of county government and restructuring all departments; that should help reduce some spending. However, I am a big supporter of opening the schools after hours and in the summer to act as youth centers, a place where Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts can meet — get the kids off the streets. I even support that the sheriff department and the school board should work alongside the commissioners. At present, the commissioners appear to have no say with what the board of education does, or the sheriff. I feel those 11 elected officials in the county should work together for the better of everyone in the county. The board wants \$50 million to build a new building; however, I do not see how they are planning to pay for it. The county right now is not friendly to business. I intend to ease this restriction. I do not want to become like St. Mary's County; however, we need a smart growth plan and to keep Calvert County rural. One of the things we in real need is affordable housing, to work with developers to build apartments and condos for the ones who cannot afford high rent — not low income, but affordable (for teachers, kids who graduate and those working minimum-wage jobs).


Mike Hart (incumbent)
Age: 49

Residence: Lusby

Occupation: Owner of Patuxent Wine & Spirits

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I still have a passion to serve the people of Calvert County. There are a lot of ongoing projects that I would like to have the honor of finishing. We, the BOCC, are currently in the process of making Calvert County schools the safest they've ever been, building an animal shelter that will be the best in the state when completed, constructing two new parks and completing the construction of Northern High School. I'd like to continue the funding formula for our educators, which is the only one in the state.

We are in the middle of addressing Calvert's infrastructure problem. We're very proud of being part of Calvert's first AAA bond rating, which over time will save Calvert County residents millions of dollars. We've worked very hard with law enforcement, the court system and the health department to combat the opiate problem that plagues our country and our county.

Presently a new rescue squad and fire department is being built in Prince Frederick; we are working with our volunteers to assist them in any way needed to help serve Calvert County with fire, rescue and EMT services.

I've never voted, nor will I ever vote, to raise your taxes. I will work very hard to make sure that Calvert County residents can afford to work and stay here, even when they retire. I'm dedicated to keeping Calvert County the safest, most beautiful and most pleasant county to live in, in the state. I would appreciate your support in the upcoming elections.



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Democratic candidates for Calvert County commissioner, District 1

Ted Haynie

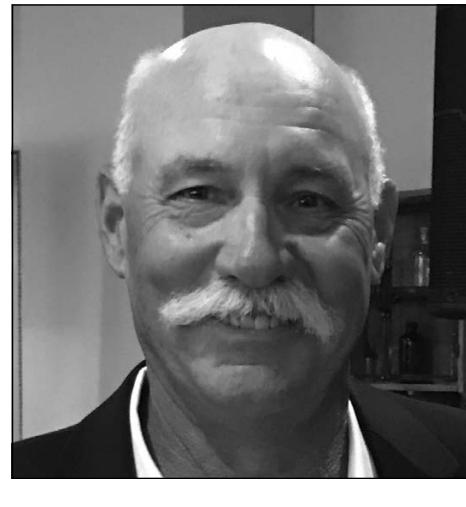
Age: 68

Residence: Solomons

Occupation: Lecturer at Towson University

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I am a career educator and spent 35 years in Calvert County Public Schools working in and leading schools from Owings to Lusby; 20 of those years were spent as an administrator in four District 1 schools. I received a doctorate in education from The George Washington University and currently hold the position of lecturer at Towson University's Graduate School of Education. My work in schools has allowed me the privilege of building strong relationships with thousands of Calvert County citizens and led me to establish community as the first focal point of my campaign. I want to engage and connect with a diverse cross-section of Calvert citizens and groups, to rebuild civic duty and responsibility and encourage and celebrate volunteerism. These are the



qualities we promoted in the schools in which I worked and what, I believe, creates a high quality of life in our communities and a vibrant, exciting future for our children.

A second, critical element of my focus is governance. When asked by several citizens to consider the idea of running for the office of county commissioner, my decision to do so came first from a desire to serve. That is why I have adopted the idea of "servant leadership" as a core principle of my campaign. The servant leader is a servant first. "A servant-leader focuses primarily on the growth and well-being of people and the communities to which they belong" (Greenleaf, 2018).

As a student of leadership, I am also aware that it is not always the content of the decision that results in building trust, but the manner in the way decisions are made. I have researched, taught and practiced leadership for more than four decades. I believe the best leaders are good learners and that those entrusted with governing should base decisions on detailed research and study of the best available information and data. Therefore, I will govern through collaboration, consensus-building and high level of transparency in my decision-making.

Many citizens feel disconnected, disengaged and disenchanted with the way decisions are currently being made in Prince Frederick. I want to change that. I want to connect and engage with a diverse group of Calvert County citizens to create a strong voice in our county government — a voice marked by participation and action. There are critical decisions ahead of us requiring thoughtful, patient study and the engagement of the very people whose lives will be most affected: you. The time for sitting on the sidelines is over. Join me and be the voice that preserves the high quality of life we share in this jewel of the Chesapeake, Calvert County. Vote for Ted Haynie on June 26.



Tricia Powell

Age: 63

Residence: Lusby

Occupation: Retired

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I have years of experience working in county government, I am strong in budgets — including capital budgets — and at the same time, I understand business and what it takes for a community to thrive.

Republican candidates for Calvert County commissioner, District 2

Mark Arness

Age: 54

Residence: Port Republic

Occupation: Physician

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?



I have been part of our Calvert community for 15 years, and am a 30-year resident of Maryland, now living in Port Republic. I am committed to preserving Calvert's heritage and way of life. I will vote to reduce and roll back our property taxes and balance the county budget to insure prosperity.

A service veteran and medical doctor, I will treat Calvert County for inflated taxes and excessive expenditures. I stand for fiscal responsibility and stretching your hard-earned tax dollars.

My plan: Roll back property and income taxes, cancel construction of the extravagant \$52 million municipal office complex and defund the county town center and village expansion plan to urbanize Calvert.

Proposed changes to our county plan include expansion of town center zones; using wastewater treatment facilities to direct growth within town and village centers; and permitting increased population density. This will lead to the urbanization of Calvert, irreversibly damaging our county character with increased traffic, crime, disease and drug trafficking.

I will uphold the original intent of the plan since 1978 to preserve rural areas while creating active, vibrant town centers and villages.

With your help, I will work to cut taxes, restore fiscal responsibility and bring more and better jobs to Calvert County.

Bruce Henkelman

Age: 52

Residence: Huntingtown

Occupation: Retired U.S. Navy officer

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

I retired from the Navy as a lieutenant commander in 2010 after 20 years of honorable service. As a pilot in the Navy, I learned how to work with people during very stressful times. During my Navy career, I have led hundreds of people and successfully managed budgets worth millions of dollars. After my military service, my wife Cindy and I decided to live and raise our family in Calvert County and make Huntingtown our forever home.

Shortly after retirement, I began serving my community on the Calvert County Ethics Commission and I was a member for 6.5 years and chairman for my last 2.5 years. The day

after I filed to run for county commissioner, I resigned my position. By resigning and removing myself from any and all business of the Ethics Commission, I wanted to

make sure that the people of Calvert could be assured that no possible conflict of interest could exist between my campaign and my appointed county job. My involvement with the Ethics Commission has given me the experience needed in understanding our county government and the issues that we face. I have seen first-hand how our local government works. I was involved with resolving dozens of ethical issues and conflicts of interest for our elected and appointed county officials as well as our county employees. I was also involved with investigating and finding resolution for ethical complaints that could possibly be violations of the Calvert County Ethics Ordinance. I have personal experience working in our county government that no other candidate running for District 2 has. In 2014, I started a small business in



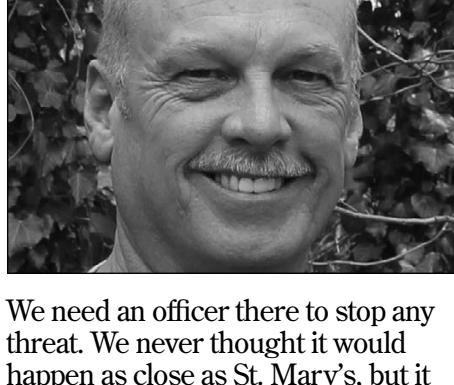
Calvert: a tow truck service providing roadside assistance to stranded motorists. And in January of this year, I sold the business to free up all of my time to be a full-time commissioner if elected, with no employment distractions. I am not a politician. This is the first time that I have run for any public office and I bring a fresh look to the problems we face. If elected, I am ready and qualified to serve the citizens of Calvert County as your county commissioner. I want to fully devote my time each and every day to working hard on the issues for the people of Calvert.

David A. Gatton

Age: 52

Residence: Port Republic

Occupation: Sheriff's deputy; owner, Bayshore Powerwashing and Maintenance



In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

I am a lifelong county resident. I have never worked, lived or served anywhere but Calvert County. I have spent my years here developing relationships in the business community and with the citizens of this county as a deputy. You will hear that experience matters in this primary, but my feeling is: Where did you gain that experience? If it wasn't dealing with citizens here in Calvert, with the issues here in Calvert, then was Calvert even a priority for you?

My platform is simple: 1) Keeping Calvert rural — to find the balance between keeping Calvert County as rural as possible while providing for all the citizens' needs and providing for our future generations. 2) Strategic growth — I hate the term "smart growth"; what is smart to me may not be smart to someone else, but strategic growth, growth that provides for our citizens now and for our children and grandchildren also, that is what we need the citizens' input on, and we must have citizen input. 3) School and public safety — the incoming BOCC must do everything in its power to provide our students and teachers and support staff the safety they deserve. I see no reason why we cannot find the funding to put an armed officer in every school in Calvert County. We can do building upgrades all we want to do what happens if that safety fails?

We need an officer there to stop any threat. We never thought it would happen as close as St. Mary's, but it did. We need to be proactive to make sure it never happens here. Is there a price tag that can be put on the safety of our children and teachers and support staff? I don't think there is. 4) Promote our small business environment and owners. Our small business owners are the backbone of our economy and our community and we should be supporting them in every way possible. I am tired of hearing the horror stories of those trying to be entrepreneurs but getting so caught up in useless or archaic regulations that they give up. Calvert County government should be supporting these citizens, not frustrating them. Also, we need to visit the personal property tax that these businesses pay every year and pursue a reduction or elimination of that tax, to free up the money these small business owners need to expand.

Lastly, I have learned to never make political promises that are dependent on a five-person board, but this one I can make. I will never be the commissioner who sits behind the desk and makes a decision based on how I feel. I will only make decisions after consulting with the citizens of Calvert County. I only want to be a representative, as my slogan says: "Your county, Your voice, Your representative."

Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins

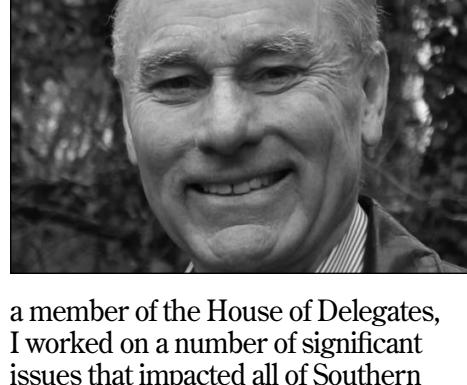
Age: 72

Residence: Barstow

Occupation: Retired

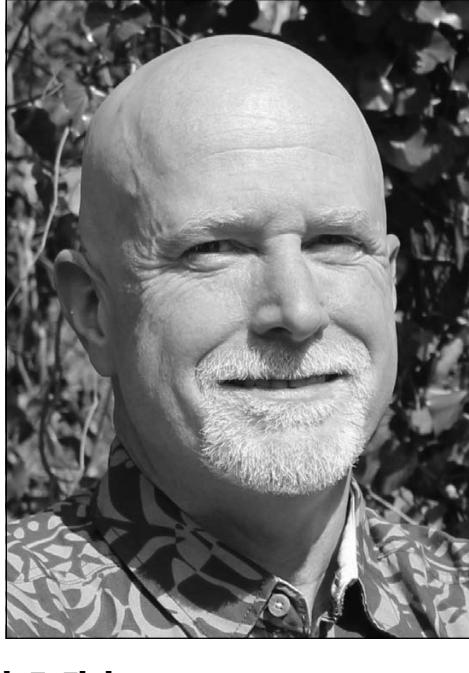
In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the primary?

I'm Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins and I am seeking election to the Board of Calvert County Commissioners for District 2. No matter what district you live in, you can vote for all five commissioner positions. I am a lifelong Republican, having become of voting age while serving in Vietnam, where I voted for the first time by absentee ballot in the 1966 Maryland gubernatorial election. I grew up on a farm in Barstow and I went on to have careers as a soldier, trooper and legislator. These careers have provided me with a broad base of experience that is very applicable to the position of county commissioner. Calvert County is at a critical juncture; the next term of commissioner will set the stage in many areas for what follows in the next decade or longer. Experience counts. I've served in the administrations of three governors, holding cabinet positions as secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, secretary of the Department of State Police and superintendent of the Maryland State Police. Most recently, I served as Gov. Larry Hogan (R)'s director of homeland security and deputy chief of staff, with a portfolio of nine agencies, guiding them through the initial transition of assessing and establishing themselves within their respective departments, significant weather events and one of the largest civil disturbances in 50 years in Baltimore. I was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates representing District 28 and was re-elected twice; in my third term, then-governor Bob Ehrlich selected me to take over the Department of Veterans Affairs. While



a member of the House of Delegates, I worked on a number of significant issues that impacted all of Southern Maryland. Those include the 1996 Base Realignment and Closure process, which involved both military bases at Patuxent River and Indian Head; the largest agriculture issue to impact the region, the tobacco buyout; expansion of commuter bus capabilities; the selection of a site for the new Maryland State Police barracks in La Plata; and the most significant transportation project in the region, directly involving intervention of former Del. Tony O'Donnell and me, that being the Hughesville bypass. As much preparation had been done in the preceding term, the project was stalled and had been removed as Ehrlich took office. Del. O'Donnell and I, after meeting with the incoming secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation, held discussions directly with the incoming governor, Ehrlich, and briefed him on the situation and that it was a project that needed his immediate intervention. He concurred and the project moved rapidly to construction. This type and scope of experience working in a collaborative fashion with a broad view of the future and how that interfaces with current situational planning is a critical skill that I can bring to the board of commissioners. I appreciate your consideration in reviewing my background and I ask for your vote in the upcoming election. For more, please go to www.TimForCalvert.com.

Republican candidates for Calvert County commissioner, at large



Patrick E. Flaherty
Age: 54
Residence: Lusby
Occupation: Self-employed/office equipment

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

I think I am an excellent candidate for county commissioner from my life experiences serving five years in the U.S. Army as an AH-1F Cobra Attack Helicopter crew chief and as a combat veteran of the first Gulf War, a service technician of over 30 years, a licensed real estate salesperson for over 12 years, an auctioneer, 14 years as a publisher of a little paper called Tidbits, a business owner, a husband, father and more. All these experiences, combined, have given me unique perspectives on what I think the role of government should, and should not, be. If there is one thing above all that sets me apart, it is this: I am not embarrassed to articulate, with the necessary tenacity, the instincts, the voice, and represent the will of the people.

I believe the people are the master of government, and government the servant. I believe that government should listen to the people, and make decisions that are always in the best interests of the people. If there is a time, as commissioner, that what I think of a given subject or issue differs from that of the people, I will always side with the people and vote their will. If that vote does not align with the wishes of government, or of those in government, then government must go back to the drawing board to come to a solution that will align with the will of the people, or be dismissed outright.

At present, it appears that the reverse is true, where the will of the people is dismissed. Where the people's voice is ignored. Where commissioners berate, chastise, argue with, take positions against and vote against issues, in obvious defiance to the will of the people. Where decisions are made that are detrimental, and go against the will of the people. By electing me as one of five county commissioners, you will have at least one representative, one voice that will speak for the people, and stand with the people. You will have at least one county commissioner who will fight for the people on the board of county commissioners.

We are spending and wasting millions upon millions of taxpayer dollars that should not be spent. Money that should be returned to the people through lower real property tax rates and lower income tax rates. Growth being forced for the sake of growth to grow government even larger. Projects going forth in the face of overwhelming opposition to the will of the people.

I don't have all the answers to all the things that ail Calvert County. But if I'm elected as one of five commissioners, you will have at least one person, one voice, on the board that will listen to you, treat you with the respect you deserve, argue your positions and make decisions that are in line with your beliefs and foremost in your best interests.

I ask for your vote to be your voice. "Flaherty, 1 of 5" is all it takes.



Earl "Buddy" Hance
Age: 63
Residence: Port Republic
Occupation: Farmer

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

As a lifelong resident of Calvert County, I have seen the population grow from 19,000 to 91,000, our school system rise from the near bottom to the top, the construction of a nuclear power plant, and a bridge built in Solomons to connect us with St. Mary's County. Throughout the transformation, we worked to protect our rural character and accommodate growth in town centers. Our county has unique characteristics that draw people here but create issues for growth. Being surrounded by water is a wonderful thing but having a single artery makes traffic a difficult challenge to solve. Our size also limits opportunity to create commercial development and maintain rural areas.

One reason I decided to run was changes proposed to the county's comprehensive plan such as removing the growth cap, changing TDR requirements and expanding town centers. I feel the timeline for the plan does not allow adequate time for citizen input. I also don't think there is enough time to complete adequate traffic studies which are needed before additional growth should be allowed.

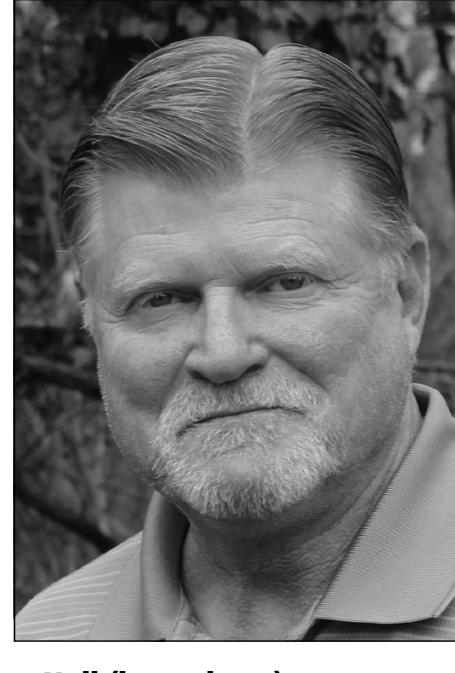
Three years ago county taxes were increased. At the same time, Dominion payments increased significantly, generating about \$70 million in new revenues. During that timeframe, spending increased at a significant pace. The county created 50 new positions and two new departments. The county operating budget is up almost \$50 million and the proposed county services building has an estimated cost of \$50 million.

I believe that there are opportunities to reduce spending and taxes. I also think that we can build a county services building for less than \$50 million. Most importantly, I believe that citizens deserve to be heard and that sufficient time should be given to consider all points of view. If we truly consider everyone's right to participate, we will make good decisions.

My wife and I live on our farm in Port Republic, which has been in our family for over a century. We have three children and four grandchildren. I was an active member of the Prince Frederick Volunteer Fire Department for more than 30 years. I have been a member of the Maryland Farm Bureau for 40 years where I served in leadership positions, culminating with my term as president from 2003 to 2007.

I also served as chairman of the Southern Maryland Agricultural Development Commission and on the University of Maryland Board of Regents. In 2007, I was appointed deputy secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture. I was appointed secretary in 2009 and served until 2015. At MDA, I managed more than 400 employees and a \$117 million budget during a time of recession and spending cutbacks.

I am a collaborative leader. I believe that all voices need to be heard. I think the county needs to be conservative in spending and growth. And I want to protect the county's heritage and rural character so that my great-grandchildren have the opportunity to enjoy Calvert County just as my wife and I have.



Tom Hejl (incumbent)
Age: 65
Residence: Port Republic
Occupation: Retired assistant sheriff

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

First, I would like to thank all those who voted for me in 2014 and ask for their vote again. I ran on a platform of spurring economic development, supporting our children and seniors, providing more recreation for our children while enhancing the amenities we already have in place. I am happy to say that we made strides in all these areas. This BOCC also had several major accomplishments during our term; we received the first-ever triple-A bond rating, saving the county thousands of dollars, opened the first-ever community center in Prince Frederick, will open our own state-of-the-art animal shelter later this year, provided a new rescue squad and firehouse in Prince Frederick (both of which had failing infrastructures), worked closely with state highway officials and are now in the process of widening Route 2/4 through Prince Frederick and will complete the comprehensive plan, which is a vision for Calvert County, by the end of the year. We will also be contracting for a transportation plan and have started the zoning rewrite. We have added an agriculture specialist to our economic development staff to work closely with our farmers and assist them in any way possible. We have also provided back pay steps for our teachers and employees who had been held back during the Great Recession. We implemented a new method of creating the county budget: the service-based budget. This budget method illustrates every function county employees perform as well as every service we provide to the citizens. This can be viewed online on the county's website.

If I am fortunate enough to be re-elected, my goals during the next cycle would be as follows: continue making an effort to develop the Armory Square site into a mixed-use site with green space, walking and biking trails, nice shops and restaurants that we can all be proud of; and continue with the consolidation plan for county employees to provide better, more efficient service in one location, saving the county hundreds of thousands of dollars in rent. Additionally, I want to re-examine the current TDR program to see how we can help our agriculture community and entrepreneurs. We need to examine our Patuxent River shoreline to see if there is a viable purchase option to provide our citizens with a public beach. I want each of our departments reviewed to ensure we are operating at maximum effort and providing excellent services to our citizens, and I want to find ways to be more innovative and operational. Finally, a part of my platform is to be vigilant in addressing school safety issues and our opioid problem. We have been making progress, but we are far from the finish line.

Please vote for me in the primary on June 26 and in the general election on Nov. 6. I look forward to serving you for the next four years. Thank you.

Also running at large

At-large primary election commissioners' candidates incumbent Steve Weems (R) and Duwane Rager (D) did not submit a response for inclusion in the voters guide by the submission deadline.

In addition, Republican Bill Heine informed The Calvert Recorder he is withdrawing from the race.

Full slate of candidates for 2018

The following list is the full slate of candidates currently running to serve Calvert County in local and state races in the 2018 gubernatorial election:

County commissioner

At large:

Patrick Flaherty (R)

Buddy Hance (R)

Tom Hejl (R), incumbent

Steve Weems (R), incumbent

Matt Bennett (D)

Greg Brown (D)

Joe Johnson (D)

Duwane Rager (D)

District 1:

Emad Dides (R)

Mike Hart (R), incumbent

Ted Haynie (D)

Tricia Powell (D)

District 2:

Mark Arniss (R)

State's attorney

Kathryn Marsh (R)

Andrew Rappaport (R)

Sheriff

Mike Evans (R), incumbent

Craig Kontra (R)

Kinsey Weems (R)

Michael Hawkins (D)

Board of education at large (nonpartisan)

Pamela Cousins, incumbent

Bill Phalen, incumbent

State delegate, District 27B

Philip Parenti (R)

Michael Thomas (R)

Michael Jackson (D), incumbent

State delegate, District 27C

Mark Fisher (R), incumbent

Jason Fowler (D)

State delegate, District 29C

Gerald W. "Jerry" Clark (R), incumbent

Julia Nichols (D)

State senator, District 27

Rou Etienne (R)

Jesse Peed (R)

Tommi Makila (D)

Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. (D), incumbent

State senator, District 29

Jack Bailey (R)

Steve Waugh (R), incumbent

Thomas Brewer (D)

Register of Wills

Mark Lynch (R)

Margaret Phipps (D), incumbent

Clerk of the Circuit Court

Kathy P. Smith (D)

Treasurer

Nova Tracy-Soper (R)

Judge of the Orphan's Court

Leslie Downs (R), incumbent

Ted LeBlanc (R), incumbent

Derek Sabreda (R)

Tammy Fowler (D)

Thomas Pelagatti (D), incumbent

Democratic candidates for Calvert County commissioner, at large

Matt Bennett

Age: 20

Residence: Dunkirk

Occupation: College student, part-time worker at Herrington Harbour

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

It's no secret Democrats have a problem in Calvert County and rural America everywhere. All five commissioners are Republican. Democrats won't win by running the same type of candidates we have in the past. A generic Republican will beat a generic Democrat every time. The only way we'll win

is by bringing in a new generation of voters who would otherwise ignore this race. I will inspire a new generation to get involved, vote, and show them that politics do matter. I may only be 20 years old by the time I take office, but you don't have to be 30 to care for your neighbors or 40 to understand a budget. I believe the most important qualification for candidates running for county commissioner is a connection to their community and a willingness to listen to their constituents. But the current board is made up of five clones of the same demographic. Democracy is for everybody, people of all races, religions and ages.

I decided to run for office because democracy is not a spectator sport and I will not wait on the sidelines when I know how to improve our community. The future is too important to wait my turn. The bottom line is we deserve so much better out of our local government. The current board ran on fiscal conservatism in the last election cycle, promising to keep taxes low. They didn't fulfill that pledge. I may be young, but I know politicians who don't deliver on their promises should be held accountable. They raised taxes while Calvert's great teachers remain behind on their steps, the opioid crisis ravaging Southern Maryland continues to go largely unaddressed, and school safety has not been properly prioritized. Yet they still found money to give themselves a raise. They did all this while hiding from the public by holding their legislative meetings at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays when many of Calvert's residents are working. Calvert County deserves so much better. The issues we face are Calvert County problems with Calvert County solutions. I want to make your money and your voice go as far as possible. This is why I'm running on a platform of common sense investment and governmental accessibility. Calvert County residents want their tax dollars to be used as effectively as possible and feel as if they have a voice in their local government. First of all, I want to push the legislative meetings back to the evening so many of our residents are back from work and can add input to county business. Second, I want to better prioritize our tax dollars. This includes investment in our public school system where teacher retention is atrocious and school safety has been pushed under the rug. It includes investing in properly tackling the opioid crisis, which is hitting Calvert County particularly hard. It includes investment in Calvert County itself: its land and water, to preserve its character as a rural bayside county. As for growth, we should be pro-business but develop in a smart manner and invest locally instead of in national chains.



Greg Brown

Age: 63

Residence: Prince Frederick

Occupation: Educator, Dr. Henry A. Wise Jr. High School

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

Voters should vote for me because I am ready, willing, able and eager to serve them.

Voters can count on me to work hard, tell the truth, be courteous and always do my best for them.

I respect the other three candidates in our party's primary race and hope to earn enough votes to advance to the general election so that all of the registered voters can consider me. I believe fellow Democrats should nominate me because I will campaign tirelessly to win in November.

My life experiences make me uniquely qualified to serve on the Calvert County Board of Commissioners. Should I be fortunate enough to win, I will fulfill my promise to be a "listener commissioner" who gets the job done on behalf of all the people.

I worked my way through the ranks of Biscuitville Inc. from assistant manager to area supervisor of 17 restaurants between 1976 and 1995. During that time, I recruited, hired, trained and supervised both employees and store managers achieving both sales and profit growth.

For the past 18 years while living in Prince Frederick, I have taught between 150 and 200 high school students each year at least two of the following subjects: local, state and national government, U.S. history, world history, AP world history and AP human geography. I served several years as Social Studies Department chair.

I helped raise three successful hard-working adult children, each doing the same with their spouses and my eight grandchildren. I have been repeatedly elected by my colleagues on our Faculty Advisory Council, as a PGCEA representative, a delegate to MSEA and a delegate to NEA. I turned 18 while majoring in political science at the University of North Carolina in 1972. After campaigning door to door for my favorite candidate in my spare time at Chapel Hill, I went home to vote by absentee ballot in person in Isle of Wight County, Va., where I grew up the son of a waterman.

I have always been politically active. While working hard and raising a family, I also tried to live up to President Kennedy's inaugural admonition to: "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country."

Leading requires learning continuously. Learning requires listening respectfully. I suggest this is exactly what is needed most to help wisely and effectively govern. I will always treat citizen-taxpayers with the respect they deserve. I will have an open door. I will not simply wait for people to come to me with their concerns; rather, I will make it a point to seek them out where they work, and where they live, just like I am doing right now in my campaign.

This local election, like every election, is about our children's future. Voting is the least any of us must do.

Vote for me. I know how to lead. I know how to serve.

Wherever you live in Calvert County, whatever your town:

Help me become your listener commissioner. Vote for Greg Brown.

To find out where I stand on issues, go to: www.gregforcalvert.com.



Joe Johnson

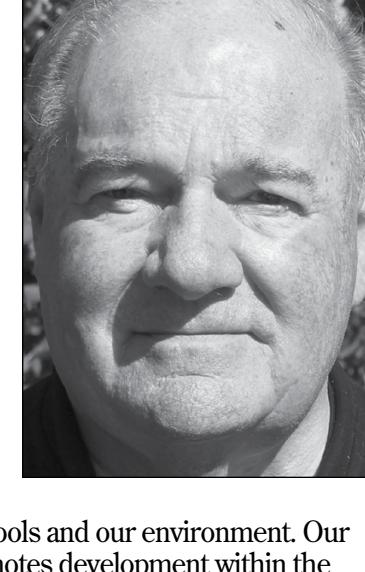
Age: 75

Residence: Chesapeake Beach

Occupation: Retired

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponents in the June 26 primary?

"Keep the Country in Calvert" was the theme when I moved here 18 years ago. It's not too late, we can still keep the country in Calvert. I am firm in my pledge that I will not support any attempts to pave over our beautiful county. Mass development will be a burden



to our roads, schools and our environment. Our master plan promotes development within the town centers but we may have to limit that growth due to a possible lack of water. We all love living here and people want to come here due to our rural character. This election will determine the future of our county. We still have the opportunity to "Keep the Country in Calvert," preserve 40,000 acres and have reasonable development in our town centers that was planned years ago. The county's land preservation program is already in place but just needs the funding. One percent of the budget for the next 20 years can preserve 40,000 acres. Young people are coming back to their family farms and are running successful farms. We need to support this as a community.

In regards to economic development, we have an expanding hospital that is providing skilled and support staff jobs. I believe we can attract high-tech companies to provide high-paying jobs here in Calvert. In today's world, continuing education is a must. We have a college that will provide that education. Big-box stores that provide minimum-wage jobs are not what we need. We can promote business in the town centers, but I would prefer to encourage small businesses as they are the life blood of a community. If building housing, we currently need affordable 55-plus housing. Seniors who need to downsize can't stay here because there is no affordable housing that meets their needs. We end up losing them to the Eastern Shore and other places.

We need to ask ourselves each day what we can do for our children. Our children and maintaining our great schools need to stay a top priority. We need to provide a safe place for our kids to learn and grow. There needs to be open communication between the county commissioners and the board of education. The security of county schools should be left up to the sheriff's office. Teachers and school administrators should handle teaching and managing schools. Law enforcement professionals should handle the security part.

Our county faces many challenges as we move forward and there is a clear difference in where I stand compared to my opponents. My promise to the citizens of Calvert County is this: I will always put the citizens' needs first and will make sure we have an open and honest government. Calvert County is a wonderful place and I would like to keep it that way, but I can't do it alone. I need your help and I need your vote. Thank you.

Republican candidates for House of Delegates, District 27B

Philip A. Parenti

Age: 57

Residence: Cheltenham

Occupation: U.S. Air Force, retired

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

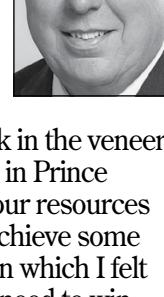
I am a Republican running for Maryland's House of Delegates in legislative District 27B. The reason I am running is to fight the ever threat of higher taxes, increased spending and over-regulation on both businesses and individuals. By reigning in the encroachment on our liberties by the legislation in Annapolis, together we can make Maryland more business friendly to create jobs and more resident friendly to keep Marylanders here even after retirement.

The very first question asked of me by a Calvert County resident was, "Phil, you live in Prince George's County, what are you going to do for Calvert County?" My answer is to not let Calvert turn into Prince George's County. While there are some redeeming qualities in Prince George's County, there are also problems created by the legislation, particularly in terms of the school system. Many Calvert County residents also want the county to maintain its rural feel and while there are challenges to continue this, I would suggest a solid infrastructure be in place if growth is continued. As a state legislator, it would be incumbent upon me to assist the county commissioners.

This is a primary election and I do have an opponent. We are, of course, both Republicans and have shared values with perhaps

some nuanced differences. But I distinguish myself by a different vision for what we can do with this winnable seat in 27B. When I was elected as chairman of the Prince George's County GOP, I had made a proclamation that we would find a crack in the veneer of the Democratic stronghold in Prince George's County and run all our resources at it to open it up to begin to achieve some balance. 27B was the district in which I felt we could win. The reason we need to win this seat is because we are seeing a rush toward the left by the progressive wing of the Democratic Party leadership, so much so that it has even caused angst among the many rank-and-file Democrats with whom I've spoken. With the help of my Calvert County brethren, we can together start pushing back against the onslaught of pernicious progressive policies of Prince George's County and the rapacious state government which often accompanies those policies.

On a more personal note, it is my instinct to serve. I have served my country in the military and currently serve our state as a commissioner for the Maryland Aviation Administration. I have and continue to serve on the Prince George's County Republican Central Committee and the Southern Prince George's Republican Club. I am a Mason and serve as an officer of my lodge. I am an active member of the VFW and a member of the American Legion. The intrinsic flame which drives me to serve our country, state, counties and communities now drives me to serve you in Annapolis. I ask for your vote and your support.



Michael A. Thomas

Age: 63

Residence: Huntingtown

Occupation: Certified residential appraiser

In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I am proudly seeking the Republican nomination for the Maryland House of Delegates, District 27B. My wife, Annie, and I have a blended family with seven children and eight grandchildren. We are long-time Calvert County residents who care deeply about the state of our communities, state and nation.

During my 30 years in business, I have heard the laments of thousands of Prince George's and Calvert county taxpayers who can't afford to retire in their homes because of Maryland's exorbitant retirement taxes. Spending, taxation and long-term debt are the legacy of decades of one-party control.

Without question, the liberal progressive Democrats, who hold super-majorities in both the House of Delegates and the State Senate, are responsible for Maryland's economic woes. In three years, Gov. Hogan has cut fees and taxes, reversed job losses and the business exodus from our state caused by

eight years of Gov. Martin O'Malley. But we have more to do.

With Gov. Hogan's re-election and the pickup of five new Senate seats or seven new delegate seats, we will have the votes to sustain the governor's vetoes. Under that same scenario, the Republicans would control redistricting in 2020 — and end the national embarrassment of our flagrantly gerrymandered state and federal legislative districts. As delegate, I will also oppose any effort to make Maryland a "sanctuary state."

District 27B is a very winnable seat.

During my campaign to date, I have knocked on almost 1,500 doors, addressed dozens of groups, raised signs — and funds — to win this election in November. The voters I have met enthusiastically support my vision of less spending, lower taxes, an end to corruption and greater accountability in Annapolis.

I have run a comprehensive, energetic campaign — and will continue to do so on into November — and humbly ask for the support and vote of every registered Republican in District 27B on primary day, June 26. A vote for Michael A. Thomas for delegate is a vote to continue to change Maryland for the better. Thank you for your support.



Republican candidates for Maryland Senate, District 29

Jack Bailey

Age: 52

Residence: Mechanicsville

Occupation: Retired Maryland Natural Resources Police officer



In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I have spent most of my adult life and 30-year career as a police officer serving the citizens of the state of Maryland. While my impact as a police officer was felt at the state and local level, I would like to continue to serve the citizens of our state and represent the people in St. Mary's and Calvert counties.

I will support the Change Maryland agenda, which is to reduce taxes and create economic opportunities for business. In addition, my platform for our community is education, public safety, school safety, health care and the environment. We have great leaders here in Southern Maryland, and they are experts in their respective fields.

I plan to reach out to them and have regular meetings with them to ensure that they are getting the support they need from their elected state senator. Our local leaders are working daily to ensure that we create jobs, have a growing economy, and our citizens' needs are met. They need support from Annapolis and that's what I intend to do. We need to make sure that our small businesses, schools and public safety agencies have the backing and funding they need to further the economic development of our community.

I will have a local office to meet with constituents. If you have an issue, I want it to become my issue and will work with you on a solution. I think interaction and contact with constituents is critical to being a good leader. It is difficult to legislate if you have no contact with the community. I plan to be approachable and available to you.

I am a life member of the National Rifle Association and I believe in and intend to protect our rights to gun ownership. Everyone needs to be responsible with their firearms, but creating a public firearms database is infringing on our rights.

We currently have a senator who has micromanaged and created division in our community. He hasn't interacted regularly with our local leaders on proposed bills or helped secure jobs or funding for our region.

I will fight to make sure the third building of the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center is included in next year's budget. This building is important to our citizens and our economy. I will be committed to the priorities of our counties and fight to get our needs funded and keep our schools safe.

We need a state senator who has the conservative priorities of Southern Maryland in the forefront of proposed legislation and one who will work tirelessly to get the job done.

I want to represent every one of you as your state senator. Each of us and our families make up our Southern Maryland community. I will be available, approachable and committed to serving you, our citizens, on a full-time basis.

I am extremely honored to be endorsed by Gov. Larry Hogan (R) and the Maryland state lodge of the Fraternal Order of Police. I really want to be endorsed by you, the voters, on June 26.

Steve Waugh (incumbent)

Age: 54

Residence: Lusby

Occupation: Systems engineer for Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory



In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

I'm making Annapolis work for you.

I spearheaded the first-in-the-nation veterans summit, where representatives from 50 veterans organizations identified the top issues for a Veterans Agenda. It helped 188 legislators introduce bills that make a real difference; I personally focused on veteran suicide prevention. And 27 important bills passed.

I rallied a bipartisan Senate support for a school safety legislative package in five days. We developed a series of bills that became the Safe to Learn Act; it passed unanimously in four weeks. This is only a first step, but I brought legislators together to ensure that school safety is a top priority. \$40 million was mandated this year to fund this landmark school safety measure, and more will come next year.

The merger between the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center and the University System of Maryland was nearly derailed when the new autonomy research center (third building) was cut. With a focused effort I was able to save the merger, put College Park in charge of SMHEC, and put the building back in the budget next year.

I introduced legislation to ban late-term abortion. Protecting life will always be a priority for me; I fought against assisted suicide and against funding abortion with your tax dollars.

Each year, progressives attacked our Second Amendment rights, and each year I've tried to expand your civil liberties. I introduced the most complete repeal of extreme gun control. I'm proud to stand up against these attacks and remain committed to protecting the rights of legal gun owners. The "bump stock ban" seizes property lawfully obtained years ago, without compensation, and will have no effect on violence. The "Red Flag" bill allows "any interested person" to petition the seizure of firearms from the homes of any person; it infringes on the rights of lawful gun owners, and sets a very dangerous Fourth Amendment precedent.

I led the most effective delegation in Annapolis, passing 33 of 36 local bills. We cut St. Mary's debt limit by 80 percent, causing interest rate cuts that save your tax dollars. We got a property tax cut while still providing enough capital for every project the commissioners wanted. I've gained more state capital dollars for projects than any other GOP senator: for St. Mary's City, St. Mary's College of Maryland, the county airport, St. Mary's nursing center, St. Clement's museum, Sotterley Plantation and the East John Youth Center in Lusby.

I've fought against bills targeting President Trump, against opium dens and free college for illegal immigrants.

I've protected farms with better deer management, and supported watermen trying to make a living.

I've fought to lower sales taxes while cutting spending, and won on income and property taxes.

I've fought to keep murderers in prison, making a life sentence mean life.

We returned state highway funds to cities, and I've fought to return it to our counties.

I'm working to make K-12 education world class, for students and teachers.

No other senator has been so effective so fast. I'm a bulldog who works for you, and I'm asking for your vote.

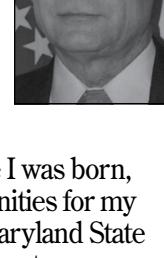
Republican candidate for Maryland Senate, District 27

Jesse A. Peed

Age: 58

Residence: Upper Marlboro

Occupation: Owner of Peed's Pool Service



In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

Being a lifelong Marylander is an immense source of pride. It's where I was born, raised a family and built a successful business. I want the same opportunities for my grandchildren and younger generations too. It's why I'm running for Maryland State Senate in the 27th District. When elected, my priorities would be lowering taxes, reducing regulations that stifle our economy, improving our educational system and setting term limits. A healthy economy will create higher-paying jobs, and an improved education system will provide the training to meet the demands of skilled positions. Our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy the benefits.

As a Maryland citizen and small business owner, I have experienced the cost of government over-regulation. Our current tax climate penalizes business and keeps them from creating jobs. Retirees struggle to stay, and some are forced to leave their families or live in poverty. In my business career, and on the campaign trail, I've heard stories about people who no longer call Maryland home as they've settled to less costly, tax

and retiree-friendly states. We have come far but there's much left on the road ahead.

Parents often feel limited in their choices for a strong public education that will prepare their children for college or an ever-growing, 21st-century workforce. Our current education system gives parents no reason to stay in Maryland, and no incentive for their children to study hard and learn. The amount that we're spending is tremendous, but the results are lacking. The issue is not the lack of funding or skilled teachers, because we have both in abundance; it's about the shortage of accountability in this system. Accountability, transparency and an opportunity for community engagement is the solution.

Sen. Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. has been in the legislature for 47 years, 31 as Senate president. There are many other legislators who have served far too long. They vote against our interests and constantly disappoint us. We deserve better and term limits are a step in the right direction, providing engaged, ethical and efficient legislators for citizens who care so deeply about the place that they call home. Together, we can change Maryland, starting right in Annapolis.

Also running in District 27

Senate District 27 primary election candidate Rou Etienne (R) did not submit a response for inclusion in the voters guide by the submission deadline.

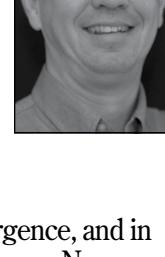
Democratic candidates for Maryland Senate, District 27

Tommi Makila

Age: 48

Residence: Accokeek

Occupation: Energy analyst



In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

Nationally, the Democratic Party is seeing a strong resurgence, and in most parts of the country we are expecting a "blue wave" come November. Despite the strong wind in Democrats' sails, here in Maryland the Democratic Party is stagnant and struggling. Our voter registration numbers are declining and the outlook for the party to take back the governor's mansion is bleak. Why is this? In my view, a big part of the problem is the undemocratic and uninspiring political culture cultivated by the establishment of our party. In short, the Maryland Democratic Party practices "machine politics." We have an old boys' network that makes the big decisions in back rooms. The same individuals have led the party for decades. The party is not responsive to people. This is not the way a political party should operate in the year 2018. We need to insert new energy and new ideas into the party, and we must adopt a new political culture that is open and transparent. Our current state senator plays a significant role in the sorry state of Maryland's Democratic Party. He has had a long and successful political career, but at this point in time he is a representative of a different era. Our party must move forward, and in order to do so, we must elect new leadership for the party.

As a community leader, public schools advocate and good governance activist, I have a proven track record of working with people for the betterment of our communities. I have more than 20 years of professional experience working on programs and policies at all levels of government—from the United Nations to federal, state and local governments. I will work for the people, not the political establishment. I am not afraid to stand up to powerful interests. The fact that I am the first Democrat in 16 years with the courage to challenge our longtime senator is proof of my character and independence. I know Calvert County Democrats are eager to gain ground in the November election. I believe my primary election victory would provide the party with a jolt of new energy and prove that the Democrats are moving forward. I look forward to working with Calvert County Democrats to build and strengthen our party.

Voters can learn more about me and my platform at www.tommimakila.com.

Thomas V. Mike Miller Jr. (incumbent)

Age: 75

Residence: Chesapeake Beach

Occupation: Attorney



In 500 words or less, why should voters choose you instead of your opponent in the June 26 primary?

Four years ago, Marylanders elected a divided government. As president of the Senate, it was my responsibility to work with the governor and speaker of the House to move Maryland forward without compromising on our core values. We demonstrated that a divided government can come together to get things done, but we never backed down from a fight on issues that matter to working families. Every child deserves an opportunity for a world-class education, and we made meaningful progress on public education this term. We made record investments in our schools, created incentives for families to save for higher education, gave tax relief to those struggling with student debt and renewed our commitment to career and technical education. We initiated a Promise Program to defray the cost of a community college degree. We created the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education to assess funding and strengthen accountability, and to recommend ways to increase access to innovative educational opportunities. We also made strategic investments in Calvert County, including construction at Northern High School and renovations at Patuxent High School. We laid a strong foundation for a world-class school system this term, and I am running for re-election to ensure we build on that foundation.

Obstructionists in Washington, D.C., are dismantling the social safety net, environmental protections and tax code, and as a state we fought back this year. Those same people on Capitol Hill gutted the Affordable Care Act, creating the risk of a 50 percent rate hike for individual health plans and pushing our health insurance market into a death spiral. We stood up for Maryland patients by working with Governor Hogan and the speaker of the house to create a new program to stabilize rates. Trump administration officials cleared the way for drilling along the Atlantic coast, creating the risk of an oil spill which could devastate the beaches of Ocean City and pollute the Chesapeake Bay. We stood up for Maryland's environment by making anyone who causes a spill strictly liable for the damage they cause. Those obstructionists on Capitol Hill passed a reckless tax plan that would have raised taxes on all Marylanders by more than \$1 billion. We stood up for taxpayers by restoring personal exemptions, increasing the standard minimum deduction and expanding tax credit programs. We fought hard to protect Maryland from the mess in Washington, D.C., and I am running for re-election to continue that fight.

The state of Maryland faces real challenges over the next four years. Residents of the 27th senatorial district should send me back to Annapolis because I have the experience and knowledge to tackle those challenges. Implementing the recommendations of the Commission on Innovation and Excellence in Education will be important for our children and our economy, but it will also be extremely challenging. My top priority, if re-elected, will be implementing the commission's recommendations so future generations of Maryland students will be prepared to succeed in the global economy.

Local Leaders

Calvert County Commissioners

DUTIES: Calvert County has the Commissioner form of government in which the commissioners serve executive and legislative functions, operating under a Code of Public Local Laws of Calvert County, revised in 1985, and subject to legislation adopted by the Maryland General Assembly.

SALARY: President \$44,500; Members \$42,000

TERM: Four (4) years as specified in public local law.

HOW ELECTED: Voters elect the five county commissioners for four-year terms. The elections occur on the same cycle as the gubernatorial race. Each candidate has the choice to file as a representative of the candidate's county district of residence or as an at-large candidate. Candidates run countywide, and all voters pick one candidate from each district plus two candidates for the at-large seats. The number in parentheses () after the candidate's name is their district.

Questions

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?:
2. **CHALLENGES:** What do you see as the most important challenge for this office in the next year, and how would you address it?:
3. **GOVERNMENT:** Should Calvert County stay with a commissioner style government or switch to code home rule or charter government? Why?:
4. **PLANNING:** What are the best and worst points of the current draft of the Comprehensive Plan? Why?:
5. **TRANSPORTATION:** What do you see as Calvert County's roads and transportation challenges? How would you address them?:
6. **TRANSPARENCY:** The Cambridge Business Dictionary defines transparency as:
"...Business and financial activities are done in an open way without secrets so that people can trust that decisions are fair and honest." What opportunities can you identify to enhance public understanding of County business?:

Calvert County Commissioner At Large

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for up to 2.

Patrick E. Flaherty

Campaign Website: <http://ElectFlaherty.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://fb.me/ElectFlaherty1of5>

Campaign Email: 1of5@electflaherty.com

Campaign Phone: (410) 610-4287

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** As a US Army combat veteran I possess the leadership skills and tenacity necessary to represent the will of the people vigorously. To collaborate with others to accomplish the necessary work that needs to get done. The ability to listen. To make decisions in the best interests of the people by putting the people of Calvert County first and foremost. Asking tough questions instead of sitting idle.

2. **CHALLENGES:** Reigning in spending. Getting a handle on the failed pension system requiring payments of over 300 million dollars of Calvert County taxpayer's money. Finding alternatives to building an unneeded and expensive administrative complex. Reducing the number of capital spending projects to needs based rather than 'wants'. Rolling back the property tax rate so families can keep more of their money.

3. **GOVERNMENT:** Stay with commissioner form. It is good to work within the confines of a commissioner form of government. Having to submit legislative requests creates a buffer and keeps government in check so it doesn't run roughshod over the people. As would a charter form would by bypassing our local delegation and by enacting policies on local issues possibly against the wishes, and will, of the people.

4. **PLANNING:** Worst are changing of the build out limits, changing of the standards of appearances, weakening of the land preservation program and expanding sewers. This plan should not be adopted until a new board of commissioners is elected to allow more discussion and citizen input. Because the current commissioners waited too long to start the process of revamping the plan, does not mean it has to rushed.

5. **TRANSPORTATION:** Route 4 traffic. Build out and expansion of town centers creating high density housing that will clog the roads because of lack of road infrastructure. Halt the build out of Armory Square and commission an official and through traffic study to see exactly where we are and how to proceed with future growth. Thomas Johnson bridge replacement. Increasing the roads repair and resurfacing budget.

6. **TRANSPARENCY:** Holding commissioner meetings, at a minimum of one (1) per month, after hours. When any staff and/or a commissioner/s meet with outside interests or groups, at anytime, any location, for whatever purpose, that deals with county business or processes, have minutes recorded and posted to county website so all can see what transpired and what was discussed. Implementing sound ideas and suggestions.

Earl "Buddy" Hance

Campaign Website: <http://hanceforcommissioner.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://@hanceforcommissioner>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/buddyhance

Campaign Email: hanceforcommissioner@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (443) 261-5919

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Past President of Maryland Farm Bureau, a 37,000 member grassroots organization. As President and in various leadership positions at the county and state level prior to that, I helped develop policy and worked to achieve positive results. I also served as Deputy and Secretary of the Maryland Department of Agriculture where I managed a \$110 million budget and 440 employees.

2. CHALLENGES: Balancing growth will be one of the most important challenges. That is why it is critical that we complete the new Comprehensive Plan that reflects public input and accurately represents our citizen's vision for the future. Improving communication and ensuring public participation with appropriate informational studies should be a key objective.
3. GOVERNMENT: I believe Calvert should remain a commissioner style of government because of its population size. This style of government provides appropriate checks and balances for our citizens.
4. PLANNING: The best points in the current draft emphasize the importance of protecting our rural character and limiting access to Route 4. The most significant areas of concern are that there is no traffic study. The draft also eliminates the housing cap as well as TDR requirements and suggests significant expansion of the town centers.
5. TRANSPORTATION: We need to engage with the state to address traffic issues on all major highways in Calvert County as they continue to worsen. We also need to complete the Prince Frederick road plan to improve the flow of traffic. It is also important that we continue to work towards the replacement of the Thomas Johnson Bridge.
6. TRANSPARENCY: We should allow for and encourage interactive dialogue at public hearings. It is also important that we increase citizen participation in major decisions. One way to do this is through improvements to the county government website, making information easier to find and more readily available. We can also expand video recording of citizen committees and commissions.

Bill Heine

Campaign Website: <http://www.voteforbillheine.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/VoteforBillHeine>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/VoteBillHeine

Campaign Email: wiliam.a.heine@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (570) 234-7339

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I currently manage a contract with a total budget of 76 million and have 62 direct report employees, this with my previous experiences managing small and large scale projects that range from buildings to infrastructure and my experience as a Army Officer has prepared me for this role where financial accountability, leadership, and management capabilities are integral to success.
2. CHALLENGES: The largest challenge that I see is ensuring that the citizen voice and opinion is included in the decision making process for the County. To do this I will make sure to continue to reach out equally to citizen groups and evaluate citizen feedback before making decisions with significant impact on the community. Communication is essential in this role.
3. GOVERNMENT: My preference is to stay with a commissioner style government because of the limitations it places on bonding authority forcing the General Assembly to authorize it. However if a change was to be made it would have to after a education campaign to inform the citizens of the differences and potential impacts prior to putting it to a vote in the County.
4. PLANNING: The Comprehensive Plan is a Strategic Plan that is supposed to be used to guide all future actions. This should not be rushed a head of schedule and citizen input needs to be carefully reviewed and considered prior to implementation. Currently the proposed plan seems to be on track for implementation this year no matter what feedback or issues are raised, lack of proper review is the worst part.
5. TRANSPORTATION: Growth in the population in the County will continue to increase the volume of vehicles on the roads and on the bridges. A lack of understanding of the second

and third order effects of this growth and volume increase is our biggest future challenge. A proper traffic study from a third party consultant can help us plan and prepare for our current growth trends to improve traffic flow.

6. TRANSPARENCY: Communication from the County Government to the citizens needs to drastically improve. The County website needs to be redesigned for easier use and access to information, BOCC meetings need to be summarized in an easy to digest format for citizens, and decisions made by the BOCC need to be publicly justified so citizens understand why something was done. Overall transparency needs to improve.

Tom Hejl

Campaign Facebook: <http://TC Hejl>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/TomHejl1

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have been in supervisory, management and administrative positions for over 30 years. I have been a county commissioner for the past 3 plus years.

2. CHALLENGES: There are several, however; with the current atmosphere in our country, the safety of our school children tops the list. Many of our classrooms do not have doors, only open space. I made a motion to provide an additional 2 million dollars in FY 2019 directed for school safety. I challenged the BOE and Superintendent to match that from funds in their budget.

3. GOVERNMENT: At this time the commissioner style of government is working fine. There are very few times when we do not get the support of our legislators in Annapolis, therefore it is not necessary to change. The only draw back is that the legislative session is only held once a year for 90 days and if we have a time sensitive issue following the session we have to wait until the next year.

4. PLANNING: Best - the county is moving in the right direction. I campaigned on a platform of needed economic development and the need for workforce housing. This BOCC has made changes that will help in both areas. Worse - Social media pundits that post inaccurate and inciting information. Social media allows for rumors to have life and anger and mistrust to flow. Perception is reality.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Pass through traffic amounts to better than 60%. Having the Thomas Johnson bridge and 231 bridge provides easy access for commuters through our county. We need dialogue with the Maryland State Sec of Transportation to determine ways to bypass the principle bottleneck areas through Prince Frederick. We need to encourage more ride sharing and the use of commuter buses.

6. TRANSPARENCY: As part of the current BOCC we have implemented several suggestions by the League of Women voters during the past three plus years. I believe in government transparency as do the other members of this board. We remain committed to having all conversation take place on camera, with the exception of what our attorney advises we must do in executive session.

Steve Weems

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have been blessed and honored to serve the citizens of Calvert County for two terms, I am willing to contribute and provide the institutional knowledge I have gleaned for the betterment of our community we all call home.

2. CHALLENGES: Fiduciary challenges require examination of the current state of the County and a balanced approach towards present needs and future expenditures.

3. GOVERNMENT: I am comfortable with the Commissioner style of Government...If a future

Board desires an alternate direction a thorough understanding of the pros and cons should be deliberated upon. The Code Home and Charter forms increase autonomy but typically are found in larger jurisdictions. The mechanics of the two require enabling legislation in Annapolis.

4. PLANNING: Best - It is a continuation of an iterative plan that has served the citizens of the County well since the Pleasant Peninsula Plan of 1974. Worst - Gauging Public will.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Addressing Calvert County's roads and transportation requires a working relationship with the Delegation in Annapolis pertaining to Numbered Arterial Roads, an understanding that we are a Peninsula +/- 9 miles wide and approximately +/- 36 miles long, and 60% of the population commutes outside of it for employment.

6. TRANSPARENCY: Encourage greater participation with engagement in the governmental process through the County sponsored Citizen" Academy and applying to various Boards and Committees.

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for up to 2.

Matt Bennett

Campaign Website: <http://mattforcalvert.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://mattforcalvert>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/mattforcalvert

Campaign Email: matt@mattforcalvert.com

Campaign Phone: (240) 427-8060

1. QUALIFICATIONS: The most important qualification for this office is an open mind and a willingness to listen. No one has held public office until they do. Every single current commissioner has never held public elected office before being elected to the BOCC. 2 commissioners own liquor stores. At this local of a level, you simply want your politicians to have a connection with the community.

2. CHALLENGES: I want to make your money and voice go further. The current BOCC ran on a promise to keep taxes low. They raised taxes while our public schools are underfunded and the opioid crisis ravaging Southern Maryland goes largely unaddressed. Yet they still found money to give themselves a raise. They did all this while hiding from the public by holding their legislative meetings at 10am on Tuesdays.

3. GOVERNMENT: I am tentatively for home code rule. I would have to research more on the issue and listen to varying perspectives from Calvert County residents. It sounds like home code rule would allow our local government to better independently handle our own problems. This is a decision that should not be unilaterally decided by our commissioners, but by a vote from the people.

4. PLANNING: A particular area of concern for me is how fast Calvert County is developing. We are a rural community. I fear the commissioners are putting corporate interests ahead of preserving our the agricultural interests and the environmental aspects of our economy. I approve of the amount of land stashed away that cannot be used for development so businesses aren't propped up and down the highway.

5. TRANSPORTATION: A very important issue is the safety of Route 4. My brother and I have both known people we went to school with who have died on Route 4. The access to Route 4 especially is very dangerous. I'm not a transportation engineer, but we can all see that our entrance points need to be safer. Additionally, I do believe investments in

accommodations for bikers, walkers, and runners are worthwhile.

6. TRANSPARENCY: The first action we can take is moving the legislative meetings from 10am to later in the evening. How many working residents can attend a meeting at this time and add input? This is a no-brainer. The BOCC are hiding from their constituents.

Greg Brown

Campaign Website: <http://gregforcalvert.com>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/GregforCalvert

Campaign Email: greg@gregforcalvert.com

Campaign Phone: (410) 474-1344

1. QUALIFICATIONS: My parents taught me value of hard work. My experience as the father of three adult children, a businessman, an educator, and a political volunteer has given me a keen understanding of people from diverse backgrounds and how to best meet their needs. I believe this is what makes me well-prepared to serve the people of Calvert County as a member of the Board of Commissioners.

2. CHALLENGES: To foster a deeper sense of trust in how our local government works. To the people of Calvert County, I promise to be a “listener commissioner,” be a good steward of our tax dollars while compensating our teachers, deputies, and other county employees better, promote education and recreation opportunities for our children, preserve our rural character, and expand our commercial tax base.

3. GOVERNMENT: I believe it is time to transition to a charter form of government in Calvert County. It delineates the executive and legislative functions of local government in Maryland better, while putting our government more directly in our hands. This certainly calls for considerable discussion and any decision ultimately rests with the voters.

4. PLANNING: Best: It addresses virtually all of the main issues that should be the focus of Calvert County citizens. I particularly applaud Vision # 10: “Our government is efficient, open, and responsive to citizen needs and concerns.” Worst: The May deadline for public comment. December 2017 to May 2018 simply is not long enough for public comment before the next stage in the implementation process.

5. TRANSPORTATION: The challenge is simply to achieve and maintain a highway infrastructure that ensures that no matter where you live and work in Calvert County, you move about safely and quickly. To do this we must employ the best experts in long range planning our tax dollars can buy.

6. TRANSPARENCY: Use social media to inform the public of our initiatives and decisions. Call for ongoing public comments regarding all financial and policy matters. Offer citizens a Calvert County Government app. Hold meetings at times and places that permit more of the working public to attend in person.

Joe Johnson

Campaign Website: <http://joeforcalvert.com>

Campaign Facebook: [http://www.facebook.com/eidj100025009803664](https://www.facebook.com/eidj100025009803664)

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/JoeForCalvert

Campaign Instagram: @JoeForCalvert

Campaign Email: joeforcalvert@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (410) 474-0035

1. QUALIFICATIONS: 40 years at the Naval Research Lab/Space Science Division. This work experience provided me with a scientific & technical background. Last 15 years were spent

managing research & development contracts & budgets. Most of my adult life was working as a citizen activist fighting for honest government. My background taught me to base decisions on information like traffic & environmental studies.

2. CHALLENGES: The biggest challenge is keeping the country in Calvert and properly fund our outstanding school system. To ensure this I would start funding the program that will preserve 40,000 acres over the next 20 years. Traffic and water studies should be used when determining reasonable development & adjusting the master plan. Create a safe & productive school environment by communicating with the BOE.

3. GOVERNMENT: Until the last election Calvert County has been well served by a commissioner structure of government. Charter government would add expensive layers of bureaucracy that a small county cannot afford. I do not support changing the style of government.

4. PLANNING: The plan needs major revisions. The town center concept was created to contain development not to promote development between the town centers. The master plan is promoting more development than the roads, water and services can handle. The new comprehensive plan's vision is not inline with the vision of the citizens of Calvert County. The citizens do not want this county paved over.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Since Rt. 2/4 is a state highway the county has limited say in what is or is not done with the highway. The best thing we can do is to control development. We can work with the state to try and find solutions to reduce the traffic back ups in Prince Frederick, Huntingtown and Dunkirk.

6. TRANSPARENCY: Thomas Jefferson said it best, "The whole art of government consists in the art of being honest" To start moving public meetings to the evenings would allow more citizens to attend & share their knowledge/opinions on issues. No secret meetings and full disclosure. The attitude of elected officials to citizens should be open, friendly and welcoming.

Duwane P. Rager

Campaign Website: <http://www.RagerForCalvert.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/RagerForCalvert>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/RagerForCalvert

Campaign Email: info@RagerForCalvert.com

Campaign Phone: (443) 624-2963

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Raised right here in Calvert County, I understand what makes our county special. I currently work as Chief of Staff to one of Maryland's State Delegates. That experience combined with my passion for service and my dedication to our community, I am prepared to bring my tenacity and diligent work ethic with me to the Board of County Commissioners as we work together to build a better Calvert.

2. CHALLENGES: The most pressing issue for this office over the next year will be repairing the Board of County Commissioners' rapport with the community and bolstering transparency in its decision making process. Continued open communication with community members and groups will ensure that our commissioners are making informed decisions as well as ensuring our friends and neighbors trust those decisions.

3. GOVERNMENT: As we continue to grow, we should consider moving toward a form of government that allows us more autonomy. A code home rule form of government may be a logical next step, and I am dedicated to exploring that option. We deserve a form of government where our local decisions are made by the people of Calvert County, not by those in Annapolis who do not live here.

4. PLANNING: The current draft of the Comprehensive Plan continues to focus growth in our town centers. However, it not only increase the size of our town limits, it looks to increase the

amount of growth both commercially and residentially. We need a plan that better balances the desire to protect our rural character while still investing in the future of our county.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Many of our residents commute outside of the county for work. Combined with a potential growth in population outlined in the comprehensive plan, we need to ensure that our roads can accommodate the increase in traffic. We need to work with all residents to ensure we have a transportation system that is the most efficient while meeting the needs of everyone here in Calvert County.

6. TRANSPARENCY: Transparency and trust in our local government is one of our most pressing concerns. Holding commissioner meetings in the evenings, having more public input sessions, and investing in better and more open technologies will help us better engage the public while enhancing public understanding of county business. It will take all of us working together to make sure we are building a better Calvert.

Calvert County Commissioner District 1

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for 1.

Emad Emile Dides

Campaign Email: comm@oneworldservices.com

Campaign Phone: (443) 404-4024

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have served on a multiples on board associations from condos, townhouses, and timeshare association I also have 2 PHD degrees in Computers and electronics, where it feel it will give me a better edge in make better calculating decisions.

2. CHALLENGES: county employees are crying for more compensation, so the challenge to have a balanced budget, while trying to compensate some. I am totally against raising taxes, and I feel we need to work around reducing spending, for example evaluate the county employees chain of command and see if we can eliminate some supervisors mid level, I might be wrong, however, I feel there too many chiefs than worker.

3. GOVERNMENT: The truth is I have no idea at this moment what is "code home rule" or "Charter Government", therefore, I need to do quite more research about these two concept before I can really give a response. I am open for whatever will be best for the people of CALVERT County.

4. PLANNING: I have not looked at the current draft of the comprehensive plan. however, the plan should not be put in effect prior for the new board to take a look at it. The plan should allow to include development for housing for the the young that can not afford \$300,000 and up homes or \$1500.00 rent.

5. TRANSPORTATION: A complete study of public transportation system, there is a lot of people can not afford a car or unable to drive, For a person from Lusby to Prince Frederick about 2 hours is not acceptable. Working with the State for funding the program will be a task, however it can be done.

6. TRANSPARENCY: I am a strong believer of an open policy, all issue should be discussed in the open, I further believe the public can have there input at any time in any issue. The only one thing I can promises is that my home, my office are open 24/7 for any one. you can stop by, call me on my personal number and EMAIL my personal email, not the one issued by the county.

Mike Hart

Campaign Facebook: <http://MIKEHARTFORCOUNTYCOMMISSIONER>

Questions: No response received by print deadline.

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for 1.

Theodore "Ted" Haynie

Campaign Website: <http://tedhaynieforcommissioner.org>

Campaign Facebook: <http://Ted Haynie for Commissioner>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/haynie4calvert

Campaign Email: tedhaynie4@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (443) 532-6200

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a life-long educator and spent 35 years in the Calvert County Public School System, 20 of them as an administrator in four different District 1 schools. I have studied, taught, and practiced leadership for four decades including my current role as a Lecturer at Towson University. I understand community engagement, consensus building, and transparent, pragmatic decision-making
2. **CHALLENGES:** Building consensus on a sensible approach to economic development within our town centers while maintaining the rural character of our county, including continued efforts at land preservation. Secondly, focusing on the health and safety of our citizens by addressing the challenges of increased vehicle traffic, the persistent opioid crisis, and a reasonable and rationale approach to school safety
3. **GOVERNMENT:** I favor retaining the current commissioner style of government. Charter and Home Rule governments are attractive in some jurisdictions due to the increased legislative autonomy. However, they also require more employees and are more expensive to operate. Given the size of our county delegation, there is greater opportunity for consensus-building and bipartisan governing which I prefer.
4. **PLANNING:** The best part of Plan is that it provides a strategic and long-term plan for both the creation and maintenance of a quality of life espoused in the original ten visions. I believe an area for improvement is found in the final vision which describes a “government....open, and responsive to citizens needs and concerns.” We need more openness and direct engagement of our citizens in periodic reviews.
5. **TRANSPORTATION:** I support the current BOCC’s transportation priorities including replacement of the Thomas Johnson Bridge and safety improvements to Rt. 231. In a more immediate sense, I would like to continue studying the impact of town center development on traffic volume along the Rt 2/4 corridor and potential service/safety improvements at all intersections along routes 2/4, 260, and 231.
6. **TRANSPARENCY:** Community engagement and bipartisan consensus-building are planks in my campaign platform. As a school administrator, building and maintaining the trust of the community was a priority. The courthouse was built to serve the community, not vice versa. I would not only welcome community input but explore a variety of ways to engage them in the decisions that affect the quality of their lives.

Tricia V. Powell

Campaign Website: <http://friendsoftriciapowell.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://TriciaforCalvert>

Campaign Email: tricia@friendsoftriciapowell.com

Campaign Phone: (410) 610-9835

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** I am a retired business woman with years of experience managing multi-million dollar organizations in health care and non profits. I have almost a decade of experience working in County government. This included operational budgeting, capital budgets and cost benefit studies as well as evaluation of proposed legislation. My assignments were in Public Works and Environmental Management Services.

2. **CHALLENGES:** Completion of the Comprehensive Plan appears to be most critical. Citizens need to be proactively heard. Many citizens are concerned that the draft Comprehensive Plan is proposing a significant increase in development capacity. The process of completing the Plan seems rushed by the current Board of Commissioners but we can't afford to do this with our citizens raising so many questions and issues.

3. **GOVERNMENT:** The County should stay with commissioner style government because it blends legislative and executive functions in the same body. Under this type of government the Commission is responsible for taxation, appropriations, ordinances and other general functions. This seems to fit our political infrastructure.

4. **PLANNING:** One good thing about the proposed Comprehensive Plan is the shift of location of residential areas to town centers. However, lacking is funding for development of town centers infrastructure and tax incentives for local entrepreneurs and agri-businesses. Also the Plan lacks a call for a traffic study that takes into account current traffic issues and the expansion of the town centers.

5. **TRANSPORTATION:** Chronic traffic congestion especially at the North end of the County needs to be addressed. I propose having a traffic study so an analysis can be done on traffic patterns and, also, traffic projections can be completed. We also need to expand on our public transportation system. Too many of our residents are having difficulty getting to their jobs and appointments.

6. **TRANSPARENCY:** We need to have Commissioner meetings in the evenings so that more residents can take part in these meetings. This would enhance transparency greatly. There appears to be a lot of decision making behind closed doors. This is contradictory to state law Open Meetings Act. We need to make sure that the Commissioners understand and abide by this law. This will enhance participation in democracy.

Calvert County Commissioner District 2

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for 1.

Mark Arness

Campaign Website: <http://www.markformaryland.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://mark.arness.1>

Campaign Email: markformaryland@yahoo.com

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** A medical doctor accustomed to making life and death decisions,

military service veteran with global practice experience, and former Congressional candidate in MD-5, I bring a wealth of diverse practical, professional and campaign experience to this office. Visit www.markformaryland.com to read more about my campaign!

2. CHALLENGES: Rollback property and income taxes, cancel construction of the extravagant \$52 million municipal office complex and defund the County Town Center and Village expansion plan to urbanize Calvert. I will strive to preserve our County's natural beauty and cultural heritage, while funding sensible growth and creating an attractive and functional place to live and work.

3. GOVERNMENT: Keep Commissioner Board; Charles Co has adopted code home rule which delegates legislative authority to Commissioners, removing checks and balances to municipal bonding and local taxation; Charles Co is now the highest taxed county in Maryland and among the top ten nationwide – we have got to keep Waldorf in Charles County! Our County is its own top employer! We need less government, not more!

4. PLANNING: Proposed amendments include expansion of the Town Center district boundaries; using wastewater treatment facilities to direct growth within Town & Village Centers; and increased population density in these expanded centers. This will lead to urbanization of our County, irreversibly damaging its character and cause increased crowding, traffic, crime and disease. Let's preserve Calvert's heritage!

5. TRANSPORTATION: Our roadways are becoming increasingly difficult and dangerous from heavy traffic volume. Hwy 231 and Hwy 2 need studies for expansion to four lanes in high traffic areas and the bridges over the Pax river at Solomons and 231 need renovation and widening to accommodate increased traffic loads; these bridges are bottlenecks, especially during summer when seasonal events and tourism peak.

6. TRANSPARENCY: Constituents whom I meet daily feel our current Board of Commissioners has been conducting County business in secrecy, particularly after dismissing two Planning Commission members to replace them with officers of their own election committees, to pass regulatory rules favorable to their proposed amendments to the Plan. We cannot have our elected officials acting in selfish personal interests!

David A. Gatton

Campaign Facebook: <http://DavidGattonforCalvertCountyCommissioner>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/gattonda5005

Campaign Instagram: Instagram @gattonda5005

Campaign Email: gattonda5005@comcast.net

Campaign Phone: (443) 532-6652

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have been a public servant for the last 15 years. I deal effectively with citizens of all backgrounds and I am familiar with the county budget process. I have public safety experience that can be used to protect our children, teachers and citizens.

2. CHALLENGES: Controlled Growth, protection of our schools, increasing our revenue opportunities to provide better funding for our budget so that we can enhance the programs this county has to offer.

3. GOVERNMENT: We should stay a Commissioner style of Government. A Commissioner style of government allows better access to the elected officials and allows better representation.

4. PLANNING: Best...allowing for growth to be contained within our town centers. The town center concept is the best suited plan for growth in our county and still leave it as rural in nature as possible/ Worst...not dealing with the lack of infrastructure. Our infrastructure must

be addressed before and large projects, buildings or commercial properties are developed, so as not to hinder free flow of traffic.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Rte 4 needs to be widened into more lanes through our town centers to avoid traffic delays. We need to have more public transportation available for our citizens. Our state government needs to be petitioned on a constant basis to provide the funding necessary to widen Rte. 4.

6. TRANSPARENCY: We already have televised and internet broadcasts of our Commissioner meetings. We need to make those meetings more accessible to our citizens by varying times, so working citizens can attend.

Bruce Henkelman

Campaign Email: bdhenk@comcast.net

Campaign Phone: (267) 221-9541

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I served on the Calvert County Ethics Commission for 6.5 years and was Chairman for the last 2.5 years. I know how our government works and I have interacted directly with the many departments within the county. I have first hand knowledge and experience with the challenges that the county faces. My 20 years in the Navy as an Officer has provided me with hands-on executive leadership experience.

2. CHALLENGES: The safety and protection of our school students. With past school shootings, it is important that we as a community address this problem now. We need to look for common sense solutions that will be effective to make our schools hard targets for would be offenders. Allowing concealed carry for qualified teachers and administrators would be an immediate step in safeguarding our children.

3. GOVERNMENT: I am in favor of code home rule because it allows the county to govern itself on issues that are now legislated by MD General Assembly. It allows local issues to stay local. There is no reason why legislators in other counties should have a vote in deciding the needs of Calvert County citizens. The commissioner style government would stay the same. Up to 40% more bills would be decided locally.

4. PLANNING: We need to remember that this is first and foremost a plan. We need to figure out how to get from the plan to the implementation of what the citizens of Calvert want in terms of business, housing, and transportation. I agree with keeping Calvert rural and protecting agriculture and forest. We need to make sure that we are developing our Town Centers and Villages in a responsible way.

5. TRANSPORTATION: There is no doubt that Calvert is growing in population and cars on-the-road. I have seen a dramatic increase in traffic over the past 10 years and it continues to grow. Currently the county relies on data and traffic studies from the State Highway Administration. We need to invest in local traffic studies and analysis if we are going to solve this very important issue with the right solutions.

6. TRANSPARENCY: The MD Open Meetings Act (OMA) is the law when it comes to the conduct of county commissions, boards, and committees. Calvert has over 55 of these not including the Board of County Commissioner's meetings. All business, unless the MD OMA allows the business to be conducted in a closed meeting, must be held with proper advanced notice with any and all citizens interested present. No exceptions!

Thomas E. "Tim" Hutchins

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/timforcalvert

Campaign Email: hutchinsforcalvertcommissioner@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (443) 486-2051

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Raised on a farm in Barstow. Careers in the military, State Police and Legislature. Elected 3 times to Dist 28 Charles Co; Cabinet Secretary for two governors and Director of Homeland Security/Deputy Chief of Staff for GOV Hogan. These experiences will be an asset as a Commissioner for Dist 2.
2. **CHALLENGES:** Transportation capabilities are the defining issue which determines growth capacity. Fast tracking the bridge replacement of the Thomas Johnson Bridge and bringing more partners to that project at the federal level as it supports our nation's military assets. Advancing highway projects through more vigorous discussions with MDOT.
3. **GOVERNMENT:** Calvert should remain a Commissioner form of government for now. I represented Charles Co under the same form and later as it transition to Home Rule. I would say that it was appropriate for that time. Calvert has not reached that point and may not for another decade.
4. **PLANNING:** The best point - the Comp Plan transcends the typical 4 year political cycle; its basic structure has been reconfirmed continuously. The critical element missing is defining the execution of its objectives and the measurement means. Without this aspect the plan can languish or slip from its intended Goals.
5. **TRANSPORTATION:** Transportation capability defines growth capacity. Efficiency/ safety main concerns. Sixty percent of the work force commutes out of the county, enhance commuter bus service for greater efficiencies. POVs will continue to be the primary means of travel to work. Maintain engagement with state/ federal partners to leverage funding.
6. **TRANSPARENCY:** Work to improve day to day contacts with our citizens, improve response time on inquiries and help desk type of services create confidence in government. One area that is not well understood is the budget, we must seek every opportunity to engage the public at all stages in developing that document.

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for 1.

Susie Hance-Wells

Campaign Website: <http://SusieforCommissioner.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://Susie Hance-Wells for Commissioner>

Campaign Email: Susie4Commissioner@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (240) 718-8733

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** I learned leadership from serving on the Agricultural Land Preservation Board, Planning Commission, Board of Appeals and Calvert Farmland Trust. I lobbied at state and local levels as President of Calvert County Farm Bureau. Serving on Colonial Farm Credit and Southern States Cooperative corporate board, provided insight into financial reports.
2. **CHALLENGES:** One of the biggest challenges is to develop a comprehensive plan that reflects citizen input and can chart a future for our county's continued progress, especially in retaining our quality of life and rural character. Reliable traffic studies and completed town center master plans are key to fully developing the Comprehensive Plan.
3. **GOVERNMENT:** There are advantages and disadvantages of all styles of government rule. While home rule and charter government can act more efficiently for the county, a commissioner style government allows more checks and balances, allowing the citizens more time to be confident in the county's direction, especially fiscally.

4. PLANNING: The best points of the current draft are the retained 10 visions and it maintains the basic priority funding areas for preservation. The worst points are what is missing; i.e. The Heritage and Government sections, action plans and growth control measures. How you reach a goal is as important the goal itself.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Topography and the existing central travel way (Rt. 4) create big challenges to planning and developing efficient and attractive town centers. A traffic study should be ordered. Development within town centers must be part of an overall plan and not just assessing the impacts of individual projects.

6. TRANSPARENCY: The facts considered in making decisions should be explained and each commissioner should be prepared to justify how their decision was made. Attitude goes a long way in restoring public confidence. The government, including the BOCC, work for the people. Reinstating the BOCC Citizen Advisory Committee would also help to restore confidence that all ideas are heard and considered.

Calvert County Commissioner District 3

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for 1.

Kelly D. McConkey

Campaign Facebook: <http://Kelly McConkey For Calvert County Commissioner>

Questions: No response received by print deadline.

Democratic Candidates

Democrats may vote for 1.

Holly Heintz Budd

Campaign Website: <http://hollybuddforcommissioner.com>

Campaign Facebook: <http://HollyBuddForCommissioner>

Campaign Twitter: twitter.com/HollyHBudd

Campaign Instagram: [@HollyBudd](https://www.instagram.com/@HollyBudd)

Campaign Email: hollybuddforcommissioner@gmail.com

Campaign Phone: (443) 975-4181

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I grew up on the Chesapeake Bay, married, 3 children that graduated from Calvert County schools. BS Environmental Studies, Cook College, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. MBA, Trinity DC. President/CEO of Williams & Heintz Map Corporation. My service on industry board of directors and county government advisory commissions also prepare me for the duties of Calvert County Commissioner.

2. CHALLENGES: In the next year the most important challenge for the office of commissioner is getting the Comprehensive Plan right. I would address this important challenge by slowing down the process. As commissioner, I will listen to all the people who I am serving. I want studies. I need as much complete information as I can to make decisions that will affect the county for generations to come.

3. GOVERNMENT: Our commissioner style government requires outside approval of the

General Assembly for many local decisions. While the charter government might give us a stronger voice in Annapolis, it would be more expensive. I prefer code home rule. It would give Calvert County the option of retaining county commissioners, but allows more local autonomy than the commissioner form.

4. PLANNING: Best: Goal of directing any development to town centers to create vibrant, livable communities; places where people will want to live, work, and shop, supporting local food, agriculture, and business. Worst: There is no plan to preserve rural lands, heritage, or culture. Rural lands are a valuable asset that provide benefit to the economy and the environment.

5. TRANSPORTATION: Traffic. Our roads are not sufficient. Our intersections are failing. So much time lost and pollution created sitting in traffic in Calvert County. To fix this problem, which will only get worse if we don't, we need an independent traffic study. We cannot solely rely on the state for information that we need for all our roads, not just state roads.

Alternatives to private cars must be explored.

6. TRANSPARENCY: The citizens of Calvert County must be confident that their voices are being heard. They must also know that they have all the facts and opinions of how decisions are being made. Meeting times need to be held when citizens can attend, in the evening. Constituents who address the commissioners, in person or other means, need questions answered with respect and courtesy.

County Offices

Calvert County Treasurer

DUTIES: The Treasurer is responsible for collection of the majority of all county funds, has custody of and disburses County funds such as: county property taxes, personal property taxes, revenues from permit fees, land-fill income, water and sewer payments, gambling and liquor license fees. Acts as agent of the State Commissioner of Motor Vehicles for the registration of motor vehicles.

SALARY: \$52,020

TERM: Four (4) years as specified in public local law.

HOW ELECTED: Every four (4) years by county-wide election.

Questions

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of this office?:
2. **CHALLENGES:** What do you see as the most important challenge for this office in the next year, and how would you address it?:
3. **OUTREACH:** Should this office work to increase public understanding of the income-based property tax credits that are available to low-income County residents? If yes, how?:

Republican Candidates

Republicans may vote for 1.