



Calvert County NEWS

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Winners Announced for 26th Annual Calvert County Historic Preservation Awards

PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – June 2, 2014 – The restoration of a tobacco barn, the educational efforts of a local museum and an archaeology project involving high school students all received recognition in the 26th annual Historic Preservation Awards hosted by the Calvert County Historic District Commission. The winners were announced at the May 20 meeting of the Calvert County Board of County Commissioners.

Gregory and Judith Coffren and Solomon Esh won the Project Award for their restoration of Briscoe Tobacco Barn D. The Coffrens purchased the property on which the barn stands in 2011. At the time the barn was deteriorating so they hired Esh to restore it, as well as another barn on the property. Both barns were repaired with the trappings of tobacco culture intact.

Grace Mary Brady received the Service Award in recognition of her efforts as president of the Bayside History Museum in North Beach. Brady extended the reach of the museum by partnering with other institutions to present lectures about local history and educational activities. The museum has fostered the preservation of local history and promises to build on that foundation.

Kim Popetz and Patricia Samford received the Education Award for their work on the Federal Reserve Project at Jefferson Patterson Park and Museum (JPPM) in St. Leonard. Popetz is administrator of education at JPPM and Samford is the director of the facility's Maryland Archaeological Conservation Laboratory. For the project, students from Huntingtown High School were given the opportunity to analyze 30 boxes of artifacts from a site in Baltimore. Popetz and Samford worked with the students, ensuring they learned the process of archaeology on an

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intensive level. Students catalogued, sorted and mended the artifacts. They researched specific artifacts and created exhibits, interpretive posters and reports. Popetz and Samford are carrying the work forward in a program that is now in its second year.

The Historic Preservation Awards recognize outstanding achievements and excellence in protecting and preserving Calvert County's cultural heritage. For more information about the awards, contact Calvert County Historic Preservation Planner Kirsti Uunila at 410-535-1600, ext. 2504, or by email at uunilak@co.cal.md.us.

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Calvert County is Maryland's smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to more than 90,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services.