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*The Honorable Phyllis Kilby, Chair
Stephen R McHenry, Executive Director*

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Rural Maryland Impact Awards Now Open for Nominations

(Deadline: September 1, 2006)

The annual Maryland Rural Impact Awards recognize individuals and organizations in Maryland's 18 rural counties for outstanding rural development and health efforts. Nominations are being accepted until September 1, 2006 for the awards listed below.

- Outstanding Rural Economic Development Award:
- Outstanding Rural Community Development Award
- Outstanding Legislator Award
- Outstanding Rural Health Program Award
- Outstanding Rural Health Achievement Award
- Outstanding Rural Health Practitioner Award
- Outstanding Rural Volunteer Award

Award recipients will be announced during the Rural Impact Awards Luncheon which will be held October 26, 2006 during the Maryland Rural Summit in Cecil County.

The awards are sponsored by the Rural Maryland Council, the Maryland Rural Health Association, the State Office of Rural Health, and the five rural regional development councils. For information about how to submit a nomination, see:
www.rural.state.md.us/Summit/awards.html or call Vanessa Orlando at 410-841-5774.

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The Rural Maryland Council (RMC) brings together community-based organizations, federal, state, county and municipal government officials as well as representatives of the for-profit and nonprofit sectors to identify and seek solutions to the unique needs of Rural Maryland communities. Our goals are to: (1) Enable citizens in rural communities to achieve success in employment and have access to quality, affordable health care, and other services; (2) Preserve agriculture and other natural resource-based industry as an integral part of Maryland's rural economy and culture; (3) Advocate for a manageable regulatory process and reasonable and effective compliance; and (4) Address the impact of changing conditions on the environment, heritage and economic well-being of rural Maryland. As a collaborative partnership, the RMC operates in a nonpartisan and nondiscriminatory manner. Learn more about us at: www.rural.state.md.us

"A Collective Voice for Rural Maryland"