



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

Tony Jones, Public Information Officer
SMCG TV 95 Station Manager
301-475-4200 ext. *1342 or pio@stmarysmd.com

COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY

James R. Guy, President
Michael L. Hewitt, Commissioner
Tom Jarboe, Commissioner
Todd B. Morgan, Commissioner
John E. O'Connor, Commissioner

NEWS RELEASE *for Immediate Release*

No. 2016 – 270

December 6, 2016 4:00 p.m.

Commission for Women Names Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

Barbara Thompson selected for a lifetime of accomplishments

Leonardtown, MD - The St. Mary's County Commission for Women has named Barbara Thompson as the recipient of its 2017 Lifetime Achievement Award. The award is presented annually to an outstanding woman in St. Mary's County who has exemplified continual dedication and support of the community. Ms. Thompson will be honored at the Commission's annual Women's History Month Banquet on March 15, 2017.

The theme of the banquet, "Honoring Trailblazing Women in Labor & Business," is a perfect fit for Ms. Thompson. A longtime resident of St. Mary's County, Ms. Thompson is well known for her hard work and support of the community. She is a pioneer serving in leadership roles which have not been traditionally filled by women. Ms. Thompson served as the first woman President of the Board of County Commissioners from 1990 to 1998. Currently she is Chair of MedStar St. Mary's Hospital's Board of Directors, where she has served since 2009 and is President of the Leonardtown Rotary. She is a Co-Founder and past Chair off the St. Mary's Republican Central Committee, past Vice Chair of the Salt and Pepper Organization and the St. Mary's County Charter Writing Board.

Ms. Thompson says she is her own mentor – always self-motivated and inspired to accomplish goals. Although employed in some traditionally "male" roles, her hard work and determination have enabled her to overcome gender obstacles. She says it may have taken longer for her to be promoted, but eventually her salary was usually commensurate with men doing similar work. Her "can-do attitude" has enabled her to balance career and family while still finding time to serve her community in many volunteer roles.

In addition to honoring Ms. Thompson, the Commission for Women will also present awards to the Woman of the Year and the Woman of Tomorrow at the Women's History Month Banquet in March. Nominations are now being accepted for these honors. To access nomination forms, go to the St. Mary's County Commission for Women website at www.co.saint-marys.md.us/voluntr/women.asp. The banquet is open to the public.

###