

## The Western Virginia Land Trust Celebrates 10 Years of Conservation!

The Western Virginia Land Trust celebrated its 10 year anniversary in style on Sunday October 8th! More than 125 WVLT members and elected officials gathered at the home of former state senator Madison Marye on the Elliston Straightaway in Montgomery County. Festivities included a catered barbecue buffet from Bastian's Bar-B-Q and live music from the Celtibillies.

Highlighting the event was the presentation of the first A. Victor Thomas Environmental Stewardship Award to Sen. Marye. The award is named in honor of the late Vic Thomas of Roanoke and will be given annually by WVLT to recognize those who have made significant contributions to the preservation of the natural and cultural heritage of western Virginia. Sen. Marye placed his 562-acre farm in Elliston under a conservation easement in 2004. In his words, "You have to put your deed where your mouth is."

WVLT is looking forward to another ten years of conserving western Virginia's natural resources – farms, forests, waterways, and rural landscapes. Your membership and support has made it possible for WVLT to help preserve more than 18,000 acres over our first ten years. Thanks for your support!

## Ten Year Celebration Photos



Congressman Goodlatte, City Councilwoman Mason and

Mayor Nelson Harris talk to Gwen's son.



Charlotte and Madison Marye



Director Roger Holnback Interviewed by Channel 7 News



Board President Jim Kermes talks to Secretary of Natural Resources Preston Bryant



Dr. Meyer and Senator Edwards smile for the camera



Preston Bryant and Jim Kermes give Nan Mahone Wellborn original oil painting to Madison Marye as this year's recipient of the A. Victor Thomas Environmental Stewardship Award