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## PISCATAWAY HILLS LANDSLIDE STABILIZATION GARNERS TOP AWARD IN ACEC/MD ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS COMPETITION

The American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland (ACEC/MD) is pleased to announce that KCI Technologies received the **Grand Award** in the 2017 ACEC/MD Engineering Excellence Awards (EEA) competition for the *Piscataway Hills*

*Landslide Stabilization* project. The nine finalists in this prestigious competition were recognized for diverse accomplishments that exemplify today’s engineering challenges.

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**2017 GRAND AWARD KCI Technologies Inc.**  
*Piscataway Hills Landslide Stabilization*

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Stu Robinson, P.E.

Spring has sprung and summer is not far behind. I hope everyone is enjoying the nicer weather and has taken some spring break time to be with family and friends.

Each year, ACEC/MD holds its awards banquet--our local "Academy Awards of Engineering"--to honor our top engineering achievement projects. I would like to congratulate all who participated in ACEC/MD's Annual Awards Banquet. John Nolan did a great job as this year's emcee. He had big shoes to fill from our past moderator, Charlie Adams, but John handled the task admirably. Special thanks to Angela Perry and the Awards and Recommendations Committee members who reviewed, rated, and selected the winning projects from the 21 entries that were submitted. Awards were given to nine projects--Honor Awards, Outstanding Project Awards and the Grand Award, which was chosen from among the Outstanding Project Awards. Each of the projects and individual awards recognized are described later in this newsletter.

In April, we lost John Wallace, one of the founding partners of Wallace Montgomery and Associates. ACEC/MD would like to recognize all he has done for our industry. He will be missed.

The General Assembly Session is finally over and I am happy to report, through the hard efforts of our Legislative Committee, that the two bills we were most concerned with, **Providing Fair Competition on A/E Contracts (SB109; HB283)** and **Rejecting Retail Sales Tax on Engineering Services (SB235; HB470)** passed both the Senate and House and were signed into law by Governor Hogan. Congrats to the committee on all your hard work!

Utilizing the ACEC Minuteman Fund, ACEC/MD was involved in an Amicus Brief in defense of the Economic Loss Rule. At issue was whether a contractor can sue a design firm for losses when there is no contract between the two entities. Both the lower court and Court of Special Appeals had ruled in favor of the Economic Loss Rule, while the Court of Appeals issued a writ of certiorari. After considering the Amicus Brief, the Court of Appeals reaffirmed the Economic Loss Doctrine. This is a great example of how Minuteman Funds



are used for our members. ACEC/MD encourages all our member firms to participate and contribute to the ACEC Minuteman Fund, which is used to support issues in states that have national significance.

While we are on the subject of getting involved, currently only 21 percent of ACEC/MD firms are contributing to our state PAC, CEPAC. We ended 2016 achieving approximately \$42,000 of our \$50,000 two-year goal. The PAC provides the opportunity for ACEC/MD representatives to engage our state elected officials and promote established ACEC/MD legislative actions. These are issues of importance to your firm and the engineering profession. Please consider pledging to help us reach our goal so that we can continue to represent you on these critical issues. On the national front, ACEC/PAC raffle tickets are available for purchase through ACEC/MD. Similarly, this PAC effort allows both ACEC/MD and ACEC representative the opportunity to explain to our Congressional representatives issues that are important to you and your firm.

ACEC held its Annual Convention and Legislative Summit April 23-26, 2017 at the Marriott Wardman Park Hotel in Washington, D.C. This was another successful event, which was capped off with Congressional visits to address two key priorities, which included:

### *A National Infrastructure Plan:*

- Combine incentives to promote private investment with additional investments in core federal programs;

- Promote the use of U.S. engineering firms on public-private partnership projects;
- Allocate funding through existing programs to ensure effectiveness and efficiency;
- Include a long term, sustainable solution for the Highway Trust Fund;
- Advocate for coupling federal investments with reforms to streamline reviews and permitting for infrastructure and energy projects.

### *Tax Reform:*

- *Balanced Reform* – ensure that all business structures and passthrough entities are treated equally
- *Competitiveness* – Section 199 helps firms to be competitive in the global market
- *Protecting Employee Ownership*
- *Preserving Cash Accounting* – forcing firms to switch from cash to accrual would create serious cash flow problems
- *Infrastructure* – opportunity for funding and financing to support the president's infrastructure plan, retain tax-exempt status of municipal bonds
- *Promoting Exports* – re-design the tax code to incentivize exports
- *Interest Deductibility and Expensing* – Balanced tax treatment important to address the needs of different industries
- Retain key provision that promote economic growth and competitiveness

Eighteen ACEC/MD member firm representatives attended the Congressional visitations. Thanks to all who delivered our message to Congress. We hope to see more in attendance next year. If you have never been to an ACEC conference, I would urge you to attend that as well.

Our newly formed ACEC/MD Utilities Committee held its first forum "Strategies and Concepts for Creating and Maintaining Sustainable Infrastructure in a Changing World" on March 29th. The event attracted more than 50 attendees. Presenters included a keynote address by Chas Eby from MEMA, Todd Mohn from Queen Anne's County DPW, Keith Tyson and Aloysius Obodoako from WSSC, Jag Khuman from the MDE Maryland

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# ACEC/MD 2017 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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## GRAND AWARD

### KCI TECHNOLOGIES INC.

#### Piscataway Hills Landslide Stabilization

In late spring of 2014, heavy rains triggered a landslide in the Piscataway Hills neighborhood that led to large pavement cracks along Piscataway Drive, which provides the only access to the community. The damaged roadway, along with fractured water and sewer mains, downed power lines and the hazardous slope, led to an immediate road closure and evacuation of 28 homes. KCI was called in to investigate the cause of the failure, monitor the hillside, and develop alternates for the repair.

With a goal of returning residents to their homes as quickly as possible, engineers mobilized on-site immediately, and in just two weeks, the firm completed a comprehensive geotechnical study and delivered a draft report outlining the cause of the failure. KCI then quickly began developing alternatives to stabilize the area. The project involved many challenges, including temporary utilities and roadway repairs, coordination with regional and national experts, innovative contracting, over-the-shoulder regulatory reviews, and an early materials order.

Teamwork, technical expertise, diligent management and early and ongoing coordination between the county, public, engineers and

contractors enabled this complex problem to be solved in a timely fashion and helped cut repair costs nearly in half from the original estimate of \$20 million.

## OUTSTANDING PROJECT AWARDS

### EBA ENGINEERING INC.

#### Annapolis City Dock Bulkhead Replacement Phase 2

Located in the heart of Annapolis' historic district, the Annapolis City Dock bulkhead design and replacement projects (Phases 1 and 2) were high-profile endeavors requiring careful and extensive coordination between the City of Annapolis, key organizations, businesses, and government agencies. EBA designed both phases of the project and also provided construction management and construction phase services, including inspection and testing.

The second phase construction began in October 2015 and was completed in Spring 2016. This phase focused on protecting the inner City Dock near Market Space and Compromise Street, and involved installing 700 linear feet of cantilevered steel sheet pile bulkhead with a concrete cap, as well as new slips and timber mooring piles. The project also included upgraded utilities, water connections, and fire protection systems for the dock's 17 boat slips. One inno-

vative, sustainability-conscious aspect of the project was using a cantilever design for the new bulkhead instead of a tie-back system connected to a deadman. The cantilever design eliminated excavation behind the bulkhead wall by not requiring tie-backs or a concrete/pile deadman. This design feature minimized the total area disturbed for construction, lessening environmental impacts, minimizing disruption to adjacent businesses (parking and traffic), and reducing costs and potential historic/archeological impacts through minimal excavation.

The team also considered the City Dock's future when deciding to implement a cantilever bulkhead system. Because tie-backs and a deadman were not constructed behind the bulkhead, the next generations will face fewer potential obstructions and conflicts for any future bulkhead replacement project. The project also had to be completed within a very aggressive 6-month timeframe, between the end of the Fall Boat Show and before the start of the Spring Boat Show. The project team worked together to meet this demanding schedule. The bulkhead replacement project was completed on time and under budget.

## HONOR AWARDS

### A. MORTON THOMAS AND ASSOCIATES

#### Brookside Gardens Entryway and Parking Lot

Brookside Gardens needed to redesign the parking lot and entrance to its 50-acre public display garden. The existing lot offered insufficient parking to support its programs, insufficient vehicular queuing to allow visitors to pay for special ticketed programs, and access for pedestrians and bicyclists to the Gardens was extremely dangerous.

The Maryland-National Parks and Planning Commission worked in concert with AMT to completely rethink how a parking facility should be designed to not only solve its initial issues, but to extend the garden experience to the lot and entrance themselves. The project created a beautiful space that demonstrates green infrastructure in the form of permeable pavements, microbioretenion and reuse of materials from the existing lot. It used native plants along with recycled and

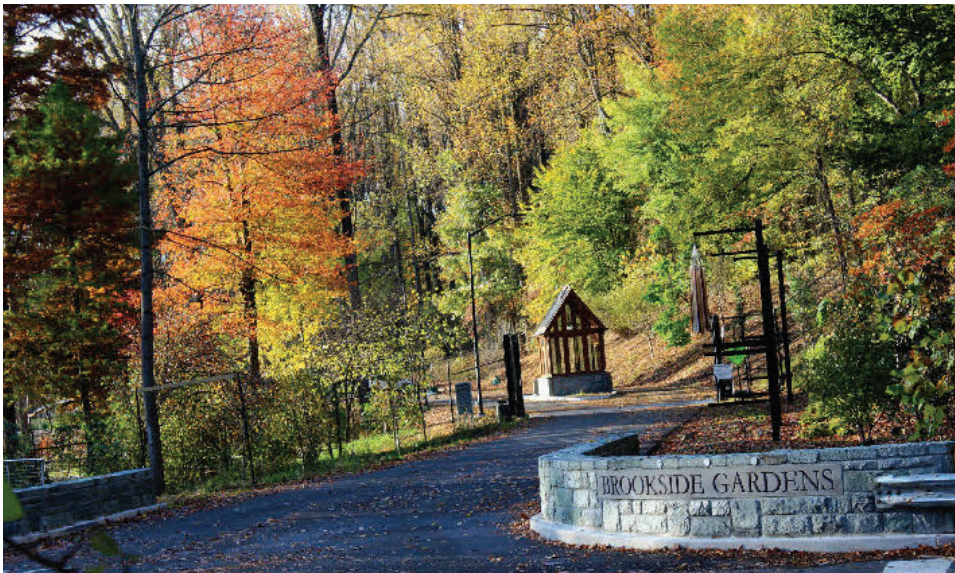


EBA Engineering Inc. Annapolis City Dock Bulkhead Replacement Phase 2

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## ACEC/MD 2017 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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**A. Morton Thomas and Associates Brookside Gardens Entryway and Parking Lot**

sustainably, locally sourced materials to handle runoff. It also creates gathering spaces for visitors and teaches solutions that homeowners may use on their own properties.

The new lot also increases vehicular capacity by 50 percent. It allows safe access to pedestrians and bicycles, and improves access for maintenance and emergency vehicles. The guardhouse in the entryway allows drivers to efficiently pay for ticketed events, keeping park employees safe and protected from weather, and minimize traffic backups on Glenallen Avenue. Three new plazas function as gathering spaces, outdoor classrooms, and places for demonstrations and annual plant sales. Fountains in the plazas are not just aesthetically pleasing. They reduce the noise coming from the parking lot creating separation between spaces for vehicles and those for people.

The former concept of a parking lot is no longer suitable. This new lot is gorgeous, safer, more functional and far more sustainable.



**EBL Engineers LLC Dundalk Marine Terminal Fumigation Facility**

### EBL ENGINEERS LLC

#### Dundalk Marine Terminal Fumigation Facility

The client for this project, Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics, is a global shipping corporation, with significant presence in the Port of Baltimore. Due to international environmental shipping regulations, the client is required to fumigate all cargo bound for New Zealand and Australia in order to kill *Halyomorpha halys*, commonly known as "stink bugs", stowed in the cargo.

The project presented a unique set of challenges and a short timeline in which to engineer and construct the facility and systems. The premise of the system design was to provide a custom solution utilizing readily available commercial components to ensure the facility could be made operational on schedule.

In order to efficiently stage, fumigate and load cargo onto docked ships, the client erected a 75' x 350', fabric covered light truss arch structure to serve as a fumigation facility. Within 96 hours of ship loading, the tent will be filled with equipment then fumigated. The process will require purging and evacuation of the fumigation gas sulfurly fluoride (Profume) at a controlled rate prior to moving equipment from the tent to the ship.

EBL Engineers was tasked with providing engineering support services for the design of the supply and exhaust system, controls for managing airflow extraction rates from the building, heating system to maintain minimum 50°F air temperature, electrical power for the system, foundations for the equipment pad and a 40' high exhaust stack. Project included design documents, construction administration and commissioning.

### WALLACE MONTGOMERY

#### Jericho Road Historic Covered Bridge Rehabilitation

The Jericho Road Covered Bridge, spanning the Little Gunpowder River at the border of Baltimore and Harford Counties, represents one of only three remaining covered bridges in the State of Maryland to still carry vehicular

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# ACEC/MD 2017 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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**Wallace Montgomery Jericho Road Historic Covered Bridge Rehabilitation**

traffic. The 86' long single span bridge carries approximately 700 vehicles per day, and is located within the Gunpowder Falls State Park and is adjacent to the historic Jerusalem Mill Village. The structure consists of a Burr Arch Truss, protected by vertical timber board walls and a timber sheathing and shingle roof, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Based on the condition and age of the bridge, the structure was in need of a major rehabilitation.

To address these challenges, Wallace Montgomery (WM) was engaged by the Baltimore County Department of Public Works to develop a rehabilitation plan that would extend the service life of the bridge, while preserving the historic elements of the structure. Through extensive public outreach with the local community, the firm was able to develop a project that addressed the structural and material issues with the bridge, while meeting the needs of the local community and the Maryland Historical Trust. The project included complete replacement of non-historic portions of the bridge, such as the siding and roof, and retained as many historic elements of the arch and truss as possible. These components were only replaced when absolutely necessary. Kinsley Construction along with specialty wood subcontractor Barns and Bridges of New England, performed repairs using materials and techniques consistent with the original bridge construction. In the end, the local resi-

dents, park visitors, owners, engineers, and contractors all have a project they can be proud of, and a structure that will stand the test of time.

## AECOM North Avenue Yard Route Pushbutton System

The Maryland Department of Transportation Maryland Transit

Administration's (MTA) North Avenue Yard was equipped with electrically powered switch machines activated by wayside push-buttons adjacent to each switch machine, requiring train operators to stop their trains at each switch and leave the train to operate the switch to the required position. To improve efficiency and personnel safety, MTA decided to add route pushbuttons controlled by a non-vital programmable logic controller (PLC), allowing operators to stop when first entering the yard and select a route through to their final destination. Train detection was added utilizing wheel detectors to prevent the possibility of any switch being thrown under a train and to prevent trains from entering occupied or active zones within the yard.

AECOM provided program management, design, and construction management services for this project. AECOM proposed the use of axel counters in lieu of track circuits. Axle counters on this project represent the first use for yard routing and yard management in the U.S. The final design partitioned the yard into 13 zones by 31 wheel sensors with nine of the zones utilized for car storage.

During final design, AECOM worked with the contractor to conduct an alternatives analysis. Simple relay contacts were



**AECOM North Avenue Yard Route Pushbutton System**

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# ACEC/MD 2017 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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**KCI Technologies Inc. Prince George's County Emergency Command Center**

eliminated from consideration, and instead a native, open, and freely-available Ethernet-based interface for the axel counter data was chosen for the ability to record track occupancy, vehicle counts, diagnostics, alarms, and event history.

This project represents a precedent for future use of axel counters in train signaling, occupancy, and speed detection that saves on installation and maintenance costs. Since implementation, MTA has had no reported instances of switch trailing and an observed reduction in operator injuries due to yard movements. MTA personnel are very pleased with the project and the improved efficiency and safety it has afforded, and it represents a project that was completed on time and under budget.

## KCI TECHNOLOGIES INC.

### Prince George's County Emergency Command Center

In 2014, Prince George's County sought to quickly build a new public safety complex. To better support emergency response, as a member of the design-build team, KCI served as the engineer of record for the new 46,000-square-foot facility that houses a state-of-the-art emergency operations center, a 911 backup call center, Homeland Security's Emergency

Management Office, and other county services. The building is designed for 24/7 operations with backup power for up to 21 days. Specialized equipment and technology allow the county to share information and coordinate resources during an emergency.

Engineers and architects worked together to incorporate unique site and building features to support these specialized operations. The team overcame numerous technical challenges,

including separate space planning for the various departments including isolated entrances, elevators and stairwells; providing public access and media space; incorporating redundancy in all buildings systems; and sizing equipment to accommodate widely varied occupancy levels.

From the beginning, the team strategized directly with regulatory authorities to address permitting, one of the most significant challenges to the schedule, and determined a sequence that allowed crews to expedite site work and building construction while design was still ongoing.

Collaboration between technical disciplines also had a significant impact on the schedule. Although not required, the team elected to model nearly every aspect of the building to facilitate design coordination and quality control. Virtual walkthroughs were analyzed with contracting and owner personnel to identify conflicts, evaluate constructability, expedite decision making and minimize change requests.

Completed in the summer of 2015, the \$20 million emergency operations and backup 911 call center is ready to serve the county at a moment's notice. From project conception through ribbon cutting in just 15 months, the public safety complex marks the first time that the county has built a facility specifically for emergency operations.



**The Wilson T. Ballard Company Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center**

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# ACEC/MD 2017 ENGINEERING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

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Carolina. The converted historic tobacco processing facility was retrofitted into laboratory, office, and classroom spaces. This 142,000 square foot six floor bio-tech building, located at the Wake Forest Innovation Quarter, achieved a LEED Platinum Certification, which exceeds ASHRAE 90.1-2007 by 41%. The economic impact of this project included a \$19,651,000 infusion of construction dollars and employed more than 1,000 individuals for construction. The School of Medicine at Wake Forest employs 1,100 full time faculty members and 550 part time teachers. This project helps to support that mission.

Mr. Steven Brzezinski, the Mechanical Engineer and Mr. David Panek, the Electrical Engineer designed the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems with several design requirements; energy efficiency, current and future owner needs, and cost savings. A VAV system provides comfort cooling/heating and ventilation. This system modulates air flow to meet the demands of the individual spaces for energy savings. The roof top units are provided with energy recovery wheels for added savings. A separate roof top unit was dedicated to the Anatomy Lab that included a Glycol Loop Energy Recovery System between this unit and the exhaust fan and adds to the building's energy savings. The central heating water plant uses high efficient condensing boilers. The variable/primary pump systems coupled with the VAV units provide for a fully modulating system year round for maximized energy savings. High efficiency fluorescent and LED lighting with advanced lighting controls utilizing occupancy sensors and daylight harvesting combine for a big impact on energy savings. The building, originally built in 1926, had an inefficient original envelope. The renovation included new high efficient tinted windows and insulation, which exceeds current energy code and complies with the National Park Service standards for historic buildings, a major attribute.

## THE WILSON T. BALLARD COMPANY Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center

In the early 2000's, an alarming spike occurred in the rate of pedestrian crashes, many of which were fatal, in the area known as the Crossroads, located near the New Hampshire Avenue/ University Boulevard intersection, along the border between Montgomery and Prince George's counties. In this same time frame, Purple Line Transit Corridor planners recognized that a combination of factors was contributing to the problem. The area was canvassed by numerous heavily traveled bus routes, and the bus stops serving these routes were spread out along two congested multi-lane highways with poorly designated pedestrian crossings. The area contained growing populations of relatively low income, transit-dependent, often non-English speaking residents, who were not using designated crossings. A transit center, that could consolidate the bus stop locations, facilitate more efficient bus transfers and reduce the number of street crossings, coupled with physical barriers and clearly designated crossings, was identified as the clear solution.

The urgency to fix the problem and save lives compelled The Maryland Department of Transportation to implement a two phase

solution – the State Highway Administration's (SHA) initial pedestrian safety improvement project and the Maryland Transit Administration's Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center. WTB's transit center solution builds upon the SHA improvements by enhancing the intersection safety improvements in the vicinity of the transit center, while accommodating the resulting changes in traffic patterns. The 12-bay transit center accommodates all of the bus routes and layover needs for area transit service providers in a compact design that reduces the need to cross major highways for transfers between routes. The center is an attractive, safe, state-of-the-art, environmentally sensitive facility that provides customer amenities, and addresses current and future transportation needs. But furthermore, the Takoma Langley Crossroads Transit Center provides an iconic architectural fixture that can be a focal point and foster a sense of place and pride for this dynamic community.

## KIBART INC.

### Wake Forest School of Medicine

Kibart, Inc. provided mechanical, electrical, and plumbing design engineering services for the Wake Forest School of Medicine located at 475 Vine Street, in Winston-Salem, North



# PRIME AE GROUP'S KELVIN SALDANHA SELECTED AS THE 2017 YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD RECIPIENT

Annually, in conjunction with our parent organization the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC), ACEC/MD presents a Young Professional of the Year Award. This award recognizes the accomplishments of our member firms' young engineers by highlighting their interesting and unique work, and the resulting important impact on society. We are pleased to present the 2017 ACEC/MD Young Professional of the Year Award to Kelvin Saldanha, P.E.

A Senior Highway Project Engineer at PRIME AE Group, Kelvin Saldanha manages transportation projects ranging from sidewalk upgrades to interchange rehabilitations valued at over \$100 million. As evidenced by his 2014 MdQI Partner in Quality Award from FHWA for successfully advocating for the creation of a new statewide Intersection Safety Implementation Plan, his management principles are guided by emphasizing safety as the utmost important factor.



During his tenure at the Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), Kelvin co-chaired the Highway Safety Council and the Maryland Highway Office's Strategic

Highway Safety Plan – Infrastructure Emphasis Area Team.

He actively serves on the Transportation Research Board's National Cooperative Highway Research Project 17-77 Panel addressing quantitative approaches to systematic safety analysis, which provides guidance on the newest technologies and techniques. He also created a GIS database aligned with the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act goals of making data-driven funding decisions.

A graduate of the University of Florida with a B.S. in Civil Engineering, Kelvin holds MD, DC, VA and IntPE PEs. Over the years, he has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and with Movable Feast.

ACEC/MD is proud to recognize the accomplishments of its member firms' young professionals, and very much appreciates their contributions to the profession and society.



# GANNETT FLEMING'S ROB SCRAFFORD AWARDED ACEC/MD 2017 COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

This annual award is presented to an individual that has demonstrated service to their community, and enhanced the image of consulting engineering or allied professions.

An area manager, and Associate with Gannett Fleming, Inc., *Robert Scrafford, P.E.* is the recipient of ACEC/MD's 2017 Community Service Award. He has demonstrated a commitment to the Baltimore community for nearly 20 years.

The Chair of ACEC/MD's Federal Government Liaison Committee, Rob is currently president of the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) Baltimore Post, after previously founding and leading the organization's "Support Our Troops" campaign to assist deployed troops and their families. Through his leadership, the campaign collected and shipped over 3,000



pounds of donations for deployed troops in Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan. He also periodically volunteers his time to serve meals to homeless veterans.

For over a decade, he has participated as a judge in the Mid-Atlantic Future Cities Competition and organized his firm's Baltimore office's "Day with an Engineer" shadowing program. In addition, Rob was invited by Living Classrooms Foundation to be a "rising star", where he raised over \$5,000 for the foundation. Rob was recognized as the SAME Baltimore Post's Young Engineer of Year in 2010 and as the Engineering Society of Baltimore's Young Engineer in 2011.

A graduate of Bucknell University, Rob has demonstrated his commitment to introducing students to a career in engineering by coordinating visits by 42 first-year engineering students to his firm's corporate headquarters for seminars in engineering.



## MEMBER NEWS

- **JOHNSON, MIRMIRAN & THOMPSON, INC. (JMT)** has moved to a newly-built headquarters in Hunt Valley. Please update your contact information:  
40 Wight Avenue  
Hunt Valley, MD 21030  
410-329-3100 phone (main line and direct dials remain unchanged)
- **KCI TECHNOLOGIES, INC.** has promoted *Christopher J. Griffith, PE, CCM* to Chief Operating Officer. He will supervise the firm's daily operations within the Water, Utilities and Site/Facilities markets as well as the Construction Management Discipline.
- **MOFFATT & NICHOL, ENGINEERS** has relocated to:  
2780 Lighthouse Point East, Suite D  
Baltimore, MD 21224
- **KCI TECHNOLOGIES, INC.** welcomes the following:
  - *Nathaniel Weinstock*, who joins the firm as an Air Quality and Acoustical Scientist.
  - *Nona Jesmani* joined the firm as a Project Engineer.
  - *Kenneth S. Jones, PE* has joined the firm as a Senior Project Manager – Bridges, and will be responsible for expanding the firm's Highway Bridge Unit.
- **PRIME AE GROUP** is pleased to announce the following:
  - *Dana Mitchell, RA* has joined the firm as Senior Vice President of the firm's Facilities practice.
  - *Jeffrey Sestokas, PE* has joined the firm as Director of their Western Pennsylvania Transportation practice.
- *Richard "Rad" Delaney, AIA, LEED AP, F. SAME*, has joined the firm, where he will serve as Director of Mid-Atlantic Architecture Services.
- **SABRA, WANG & ASSOCIATES, INC.** has relocated its Northern Virginia Branch Office to:  
8150 Leesburg Pike, Suite 630  
Vienna, VA 22182  
703-942-8990 phone
- It is with great sadness that **WALLACE MONTGOMERY** reports the recent passing of founding partner *John Wallace, PE*, 88. He started his impressive career in 1952 at JE Greiner Company as a construction inspector and resident engineer, and co-founded the firm bearing his name in 1985.



## ACEC/MD GAINS PASSAGE OF IMPORTANT LEGISLATION

Both pieces of legislation initiated by ACEC/MD were passed by the 2017 General Assembly.

With the support of Senate Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee Chair Joan Carter Conway, **SB 109/HB 283 – Procurement – Prohibition on Participation** met little resistance this year. The legislation greatly reduces the current lifetime prohibition to two years on an individual and the firm that subsequently hires that individual if the individual was involved in drafting the specification or RFP that is used on another project. In addition to greatly assisting our firms and their employees, since the current law is seen as a barrier to hiring employees, representatives from client agencies such as DGS expressed support for the legislation.

Responding to the Comptroller's action of equating forensic engineering services with private detective services that are subject to sales tax, ACEC/MD initiated **SB 235/HB 470 – Sales & Use Tax – Exemption – Services Performed by Persons Practicing Engineering**.

If the Comptroller's actions were allowed to stand, there was great concern that other engineering related services such as construction

inspection would be next. While initial hearings on the legislation went very smoothly in both chambers, concern was eventually expressed that the legislation singled out engineering related services when other professional services are also not subject to being taxed.

Addressing this concern, an amendment initiated by the Budget & Taxation Committee passed out of the Senate that clarified that only private detective services are subject to being taxed and putting the Comptroller's office on notice that the General Assembly had previously decided that professional services are not subject to being taxed. Surprisingly, when the legislation returned to the Ways & Means Committee's Revenue Subcommittee, Chair Jay Walker (Ft. Washington), commented that he felt that private detective services are equivalent to forensic engineering services, and are, therefore, subject to being taxed. Responding to a request from ACEC/MD to contact both Delegate Walker and Ways & Means Chair Anne Kaiser, the legislation finally passed in the eleventh hour.

Thanks to everyone that contacted their elected officials to get both of these important pieces of legislation over the finish line!



## SEEKING EMPLOYMENT

The following individuals are seeking employment and have a complete resume on file in the ACEC/MD office. Please phone 410-539-1592 if you are interested in obtaining a copy.

1. Individual with Masters of Public Administration and Masters in Sustainable Tourism, Graduate Certificate in Management of International Non-Governmental Organizations, BS in Global Justice and Policy, and experience in the public sector seeks position.
2. Recent graduate with BS in Environmental Sustainability and coursework at the School of Field Studies, Costa Rica seeks position.



## HOWARD COUNTY'S JIM IRVIN RECIPIENT OF THE 2017 PRESIDENT'S AWARD

At the president's discretion, the American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland honors an individual whose actions have greatly contributed to the advancement of the consulting engineering profession and the citizens of Maryland. We are pleased to present the 2017 President's Award to James M. Irvin, P.E.

James M. Irvin's career has been primarily with the Howard County Department of Public Works. He has been the Director since 1987 and has worked for five different County Executives. Jim is the Chairman of the Board of the Northeast Waste Disposal Authority, a regional agency responsible for the development, construction, and operation of solid

waste management projects that serves seven counties in Maryland. He is a past president of the County Engineers Association of Maryland and maintains an A.I.C.P. certification. Jim has been responsible for the development and implementation of hundreds of capital projects, ranging from sidewalks to \$100 million treatment plant upgrades, and has attended and testified at more County Council hearings than anyone else in the County. Jim has assisted in helping the Department continue to operate during tornados, blizzards, droughts, and many other emergency conditions, including the devastating flood that ravaged historic Ellicott City.



## 29TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE • JUNE 21-23, 2017

GAYLORD NATIONAL RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER

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WWW.NATIONALHARBOR.COM

This year's conference will be held at the majestic Gaylord National Harbor Resort overlooking the beautiful Potomac River. The program will provide the right mix of educational opportunities, networking with colleagues and friends in the profession, and time to enjoy the excitement of our destination resort.

The deadline to register for the Conference is June 5, 2017. Conference registration packages are available directly through the ACEC/MD office. Please use the Conference Registration Form to sign up for the conference activities (photocopying permitted). Reminders have been previously circulated to member firms regarding room reservations that must be made by May 19, 2017. In order to be guaranteed the discounted rate, please specify that you are attending the American Council of Engineering Companies/Maryland Conference. After this date, rooms may not be available. Discounted rooms are available until the cutoff date **or until rooms in the ACEC/MD room block are gone**, whichever occurs first. If you have not made your reservation, please contact the Gaylord National (1-888-236-2427) today.

Following **Wednesday** afternoon's Prime/Sub Roundtable and ACEC/MD's Executive Committee Meeting, conference atten-

dees will enjoy a Welcome Reception, and the opportunity to experience dinner at one of the many fine area dining establishments. Advance reservations are always recommended.

**Thursday** will feature an excursion to Old Town Alexandria, and an optional golf tournament at the National Golf Club, conveniently located only minutes from National Harbor. Nestled in the heart of historic Fort Washington, the National Golf Club features an array of first-class amenities. The centerpiece of the Club is the private Ted Robinson Signature Course, renowned for its outstanding course layout and pristine conditions.

Thursday evening is sure to be one to be remembered, as conference attendees will board the *Cherry Blossom*, located at the pier in front of the Resort, for a sunset cruise and dinner. This authentic split sternwheeler, designed and created for gracious private entertaining, will provide the perfect setting for a cruise up the Potomac.

Following Friday morning's breakfast, our program will feature presentations by Local Motors' General Manager David C. Woessner, who will address the use of 3D technology to print cars, and their work on autonomous vehicles. Our program will

also feature a presentation by Whiting-Turner's Patricia A. Carper, LEED AP BD+C, who will discuss the construction of the MGM Casino at National Harbor and some of the challenges encountered.

At the General Membership Meeting Luncheon, ACEC Vice President Steve Hall will provide an update on the political landscape and ACEC's national initiatives impacting your firm.

In the afternoon, ACEC/MD's Leadership Class will hear from a panel of contemporary leaders of ACEC/MD's member firms, who will share their experience in rising to the top of their respective organizations. The rest of the attendees will have the opportunity to network and take in all this spectacular resort has to offer.

The culminating event of this year's conference will be an informal gala banquet featuring recognition of both ACEC/MD's outgoing Executive Committee and the graduates of this year's Leadership Program, and the induction of officers for the upcoming fiscal year.

Dress throughout the conference is resort casual attire.



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

(continued from page 1)

Water Quality Financing Administration, Dr. Tripp Shealy from Virginia Tech, and Unmesh Patel and Dwight Joseph from Prince Georges County. Many thanks to Elik Livay and the members of the Utilities Committee for putting on a great program. I'm expecting the next one to be bigger and better.

Don't forget that ACEC/MD celebrates its 60th anniversary this year! This special celebration will be held on November 3rd at the Sagamore Pendry Hotel. Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn for the latest information. This will be a fun event!

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at our 29th annual conference, June 21-

23, 2017 at the Gaylord National Resort at the National Harbor in Maryland. We will recognize ACEC/MD's Leadership Program participants at our Friday night banquet along with the induction of our new Executive Committee. See you there!

Thanks to the ACEC/MD staff, the board and committee chairs and members for your support throughout the year and your work on behalf of the organization. We would not be able to do this work on behalf of the engineering industry in Maryland without your efforts.



## NEW MEMBERS

The following firm has been elected to Affiliate membership in ACEC/MD:

### HMMH

77 South Bedford Street,  
Burlington, MA 01803  
Rep.: John Weston (jweston@hmmh.com)  
Telephone: 781-229-0707;  
FAX: 781-229-7939  
Website: www.hmmh.com

Brief History and Activities of the Firm: Harris Miller Miller & Hanson Inc. (HMMH) was founded in 1981 to provide the highest quality noise consulting services to airports. A spin-off from Bolt Beranek and Newman (BBN), HMMH's founders worked on some of the earliest, groundbreaking transportation noise challenges, including early work for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and Amtrak's Northeast Corridor. Today, in addition to

their noise practice, HMMH addresses emerging and technological challenges including air quality analysis, airport and airspace planning, and climate and energy solutions. HMMH is nationally recognized for developing complex solutions for issues affecting our environment. In December 2014, two of the firm's executive level managers, Mary Ellen Eagan (CEO) and Diana Wasiuk (COO), acquired a controlling stake in HMMH, making the firm a women-owned business.

We welcome this firm as an Affiliate member of ACEC/MD. Be sure to add their information to your records. The next time you see one of their representatives, please take the time to let them know we're glad that they have joined the Council!



## THANKS FOR BEING A SPONSOR

ACEC/MD would like to extend its sincere appreciation for the support of our Awards Banquet Sponsors. This event would not be a success without the participation of the following firms:

### PLATINUM:

Stambaugh Ness  
Maryland Chapter ACI

### GOLD:

A. Morton Thomas & Associates  
Ames & Gough  
Greenman Pedersen, Inc.  
Johnson, Mirmiran & Thompson  
RK&K  
SIG  
Stantec

Whitman, Reardon & Associates

### SILVER:

AECOM  
Development Facilitators, Inc.  
EBL Engineers  
Gannett Fleming  
KCI Technologies  
Klein Agency  
McCormick Taylor  
RJM Engineering  
Specialized Engineering

### BRONZE:

Whitney, Bailey, Cox & Magnani



## AWARD JUDGES PROVIDE VALUABLE SERVICE TO ACEC/MD

We would like to express appreciation to the following judges that played an integral part in the success of our Awards Program. Our distinguished panel of judges for this year's awards included:

**Angela Perry**, Hardesty & Hanover (Program Chair)

**David Ferrara**, Maryland Transportation Authority

**Joe Mantua**, WSSC

**Melinda Peters**, RK&K

**Joe Siemek**, Harford County DPW

**Steven Walsh**, Baltimore County DPW



POSTMASTER: ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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March-April, 2017

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- May 16**      **ACEC/MD Environmental Forum: Environmental Progress in a Changing World.**  
The Engineers Club, Baltimore. Contact the ACEC/MD office for more information or visit the website [www.acecmd.org](http://www.acecmd.org).
- June 6**      **ACEC/MD MDOT Business Units Program.**  
The Engineers Club, Baltimore. Contact the ACEC/MD office for more information or visit the website [www.acecmd.org](http://www.acecmd.org).
- June 21-23**      **ACEC/MD 29th Annual Conference.**  
National Harbor, MD. Contact the ACEC/MD office for more information or visit the website [www.acecmd.org](http://www.acecmd.org).
- November 3**      **ACEC/MD 60th Anniversary Gala.**  
Sagamore Pendry Hotel, Fells Point, MD. Contact the ACEC/MD office for more information or visit the website [www.acecmd.org](http://www.acecmd.org).

