



# MARYLAND MAYORS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Issue 4 January 2017

**MMA**  
*Helping its members to better serve their municipalities*

**MMA Officers**  
2016-2017  
**President**  
John Miller, Middletown  
**1st Vice President**  
Bruce Morrison,  
Pocomoke City  
**2nd Vice President**  
Marnitta King,  
Capitol Heights  
**Treasurer**  
Bennard Cann,  
Morningside  
**Secretary**  
Joli McCathran  
Washington Grove

## Stormwater Management: An MML and MMA Priority




*This initiative addresses the payment of municipal stormwater fees. Under current law, where a municipality imposes a stormwater management fee, all levels of government are currently not required to compensate a municipality for stormwater management projects.*

*Where there are county, state, and federal facilities located within these municipalities, it often falls to the city or town to provide stormwater pollution control services on these properties at their expense.*

*If the costs of meeting federal and state stormwater permit mandates were shared equally by all property owners – (private, residential, government) the burden would be spread out and would be much more fair and manageable for all levels of government.*

*To address this situation, the League has requested legislation identical to legislation introduced last year. The sponsor in the House is Chairman Barve, and in the Senate, Senator Young will be introducing the bill on our behalf.*

**FEBRUARY**  
MMA Winter Conference  
February 2-3

**SAVE THE DATE:**  
  
**If I Were Mayor**  
contest entries  
due **March 31**

**FORECLOSURE AND BLIGHTED PROPERTIES** *MML and MMA will also be supporting a package of bills to address the foreclosure process and blighted property concerns. **This has been an ongoing problem for many of our municipalities. We hope that this will be the year that Maryland’s foreclosure process is made more transparent and accessible, such that cities and towns are better able to reduce the number of blighted properties in their communities.***

**“If I Were Mayor”** contest forms have been mailed to the municipalities. Included in this packet are the forms, advertisements and this years theme for the contest. **Maryland Mayors Association is a sponsor of this contest and we urge you to contact your local elementary school and schedule a visit.**  
Your visit would be a time to review the contest rules and procedures and the theme: **“Inclusion”**.

## MMA CHAPTER CAPTAINS

Chapter Captain is a position to help keep MD Mayors informed and aware of what is happening in their local MML chapter as well as member communities, if need be. And, share information from the MMA to the local MML chapter. This would require a short 3-5 minute sharing of this information at our 3 meetings.



**Allegany/Garrett - Dan Colmer, Barton**

d\_colmer210@hotmail.com

**Carroll - Kevin Utz, Westminster**

mayorutz@westgov.com

**Eastern Shore - Debbie Rowe, Maryland**

rowe.debbie@comcast.net

**Frederick – Wayne Creadick, Myersville**

mayor@myersville.org

**Montgomery – Bridget Newton, Rockville**

bnewton@rockvillemd.gov

**Prince George's - Marnitta L. King, Capitol Heights**

mlking@capitolheightsmd.com

**Southern MD -**

**Washington Co.-**

### If I Were Mayor" Contest

forms have been mailed to the municipalities. Included in this packet are the forms and this years theme for the contest—  
**INCLUSION.**

**Maryland Mayors Association** sponsors this contest and we urge you to contact your local elementary school and schedule a visit.

**DEADLINE IS MARCH 31**

**Find us at [mdmayors.org](http://mdmayors.org)**

**Click under News Links**



**Like us on Facebook**



## Meet our Mayor of the Month- **Joli McCathran**

### **What do you enjoy most about being a Mayor?**

I enjoy working with the residents of Washington Grove, Montgomery County and state officials. The dedicated volunteers in the Town make my job much easier. It is my pleasure to serve with these dedicated volunteers.

**What issues are you confronting in your town or city?** Preserving our Town amidst growth in Montgomery County. And maintaining our 100 acres of forest Preserve with the rapid growth of non-native plant species.

**What is your "other" job or what did you do before you became Mayor?** I am the Vice-Chair of the Maryland Big Tree Program, Department of Natural Resources. I am a member of the National Cadre of Tree Measurers. Via nominations, we locate the largest known species of trees throughout the state. I measure, document growth, and maintain the database for these trees. For the list of current Maryland Champions or to nominate a tree, see [www.mdbigtrees.com](http://www.mdbigtrees.com).

**Why/how did you get involved in local government?** I care deeply for Washington Grove. The family heritage is strong. In my 20's I was asked to fill a seat of a Town Council member and I accepted. I continued in this capacity for an additional 2 terms. Several years ago, I again served on the Town Council. I ran for mayor and am now serving my third term.

**Share a unique/unusual/funny experience you have had as Mayor.** On the Fourth of July each year, the Mayor leads the Town Parade by riding the Town tractor. However, there are few spectators as all the Town residents and their guests are in the parade. The parade includes the Muskrat Band, a kazoo band and folks dressing up to celebrate the holiday.

**What would you like us to know about your town?** The first mayor of Washington Grove, Irving Leroy McCathran, referred to the Town as "A Town Within a Forest, an oasis of tranquility and a rustic jewel in the diadem of the great free state of Maryland." Methodists from Washington, DC purchased the land in 1872 to create a camp meeting retreat area. In June 1873 the Washington Grove Camp Meeting Association was formed. In the 1920's the Grove began to be a year-round community. In 1937, the Town of Washington Grove became a municipal corporation. Today the Town is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is known for its early Methodist architecture. The Town sponsors many community events such as Music Weekend, dances, Summer in the Parks camp and swimming lessons at for children Maple Lake.