

# THE Cornerstone



A sophisticated process was utilized to complete the ceiling in the main dining hall of the Edward St. John Student Center at McDonogh School, which stretches to a height of 42 feet. The construction team erected a scaffold in separate stages to reach this height, and the drywall phase lasted approximately four weeks for the ceiling portion alone. The specifications for the hall called for a groin ceiling design and, to reach the highest point, the drywall was rolled on a track in order to fasten the material to the wooden studs.

## MULLAN NAMES GINA STEWART, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



Gina Stewart feels she is working in the “perfect situation.”

The newly-appointed Director of Business Development for Mullan Contracting intends to leverage the extensive list of contacts she has collected in a construction career that spans nearly 30 years, while also utilizing her experience working on the design side that enables her to “visualize projects from the lens of an architect and the end-user.” Her two immediate-past positions involved overseeing business development activities for construction firms that were owned by full-service commercial real estate developers.

“I was attracted to the more than 100-year legacy of Mullan Contracting - it demonstrates the ability to weather economic storms - as well as the high-profile roster of completed projects,” Stewart explained. “And, as a construction-first company, it will be refreshing and somewhat liberating

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## NEW DIRECT-DIAL TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The Mullan Contracting Company has implemented a new “direct-dial” telephone system to simplify contacting our Executive, Preconstruction, Project Management and Accounting team. Please use the following list of telephone numbers. Our main number - 410-494-9200 - is still operational and is answered by a full-time receptionist.

THE  
**Mullan**  
CONTRACTING COMPANY

NEWS AND  
INFORMATION | FALL 2014

Mike Dorgan   410-847-1426	Jen Schildtknecht   410-847-1414
Lisa Elliott   410-847-1416	Gina Stewart   410-847-1422
David Huott   410-847-1408	Pete Sutcliffe   410-847-1436
Rick Jackson   410-847-1412	Norman Wilder   410-847-1402
Thomas Mullan   410-847-1401	John Zera   410-847-1409
Joe Rode   410-847-1421	

## DANYLE BROOKS, GRIMM AND PARKER

The youthful appearance and enthusiastic disposition of Danyle Brooks belies his more than twenty-one years of experience with Grimm and Parker, an architectural firm with offices in Beltsville and Baltimore, Maryland as well as Charlottesville and McLean, Virginia. He also looks like he could still skateboard proficiently, an avocation that he wanted to pursue as a vocation until his grandfather notified Danyle that it was not possible or feasible to become a skateboard professional.

Architecture was his next love. His father enrolled in the architecture sequence in college before the military called and his uncle worked as a draftsman for an aerospace company. So, the talent and passion for design runs deep in his blood.

Danyle specializes in the institutional sector, and his talented fingerprints are stamped throughout schools in Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania and the District of Columbia. "It is exhilarating to see the smiles and expressions of students and

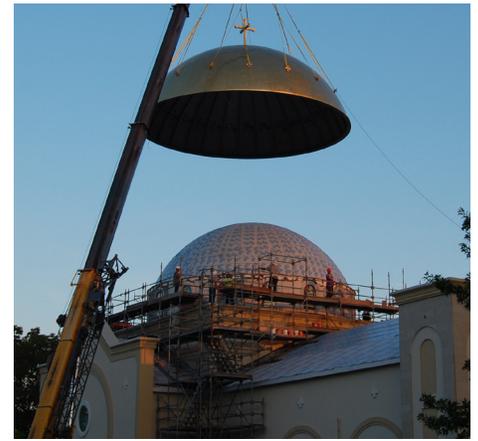


faculty members when they first walk into a school that was renovated and improved," Danyle explained. "The feeling of satisfaction never gets old. The process of working with the school to understand their vision and then to execute the plan is also extremely satisfying. These relationships and collaboration drive me."

The Senior Associate indicates that his "complete vision of the project" is his strongest asset. "At the early brainstorming sessions, sometimes the end-user has not fully grasped or cannot effectively communicate what the new project design is expected to accomplish. At that point, we start asking probing questions that lead us to successful conclusions. Our diverse experience with similar institutional work kicks in. We view this as a complicated puzzle and we are linking the right pieces together."

Danyle explains that constantly evolving technology being utilized in the institutional sector keeps his day-to-day job ever-changing and fresh. This includes inter-active white boards used by teachers, geo-thermal systems, connections for computers and natural lighting advancements, among others.

"The public perception of architects in movies and television is radically different than reality," he laughs. "It is not as glamorous as it is typically portrayed. We work long hours grinding designs out. But, I would not trade this profession for any other."



## AND, TO TOP IT ALL OFF ...

The Mullan Contracting "topped-off" the St. Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church with the placement of a five-ton, nearly 40-foot wide gold dome, as part of the addition and renovation of the religious institution. A tower crane carefully maneuvered the custom-designed piece in the air in an orchestrated installation process that required the dome to remain level during the entire time.

The gold dome is the most visible aspect of the 5,800 square foot addition to the Orthodox Church that was designed by Sanders Designs to reflect an ancient Byzantine style of architecture. The new structure is being manufactured of stone with the dome including towering spires and stained glass windows. The new addition was designed to blend seamlessly with the existing church, which has been in existence for more than twenty years.

"Among the key challenges of this installation was keeping the 10,000 pound dome perfectly level throughout the entire process," explained Joseph Rode, President of The Mullan Contracting Company. "In order to accomplish this, we needed to create a custom-designed rigging apparatus to accommodate the 40 foot wide dome and prevent the fiberglass piece from becoming egg-shaped. It took approximately one full day to prepare for the install operation and another full day to execute the strategy."

## PROJECT UPDATES

The Mullan Contracting Company has been awarded a contract from Priority 1 Automotive Group to construct a 7,920 square building that will house a new dealership and service facility for the Maserati brand of automobiles. Work has commenced, with delivery scheduled for January 2015. Penny Design Group, LLC is serving as the architect and Comprehensive Structural Solutions, LLC is performing structural engineering work for this project.

The structure will consist of a glass storefront system, with support from a metal panel facade. The interior will

feature sales and administrative offices, a showroom floor and separate service and repair bays, as well as a parts room and storage space.

The Mullan Contracting has been awarded a construction contract from the Anne Arundel County Public School System for renovation and new construction activities at Nantucket Elementary School, located at 2350 Nantucket Drive in Crofton, Maryland.

The scope of the work entails the renovation of two kindergarten classrooms and the construction of

four new classrooms. Activities have commenced and all construction work is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

Within the past year, The Mullan Contracting Company has completed various construction projects for institutions including Annapolis High School, The Calvert School, St. Ignatius Loyola Academy and McDonogh School.

The Mullan Contracting has completed construction activities on York Market Place, a 7800 square foot free-standing building situated at 1801 York Road near the intersection of York Road and Ridgely Road in the Lutherville/Timonium section of Baltimore County.

Mullan has also been awarded a contract to renovate the 160,000 square foot Cecil County School of Technology, located in North East, Maryland. The vocational school teaches high school students a variety of trades such as mechanics, carpentry, plumbing and construction. The nine-month project begins this fall.

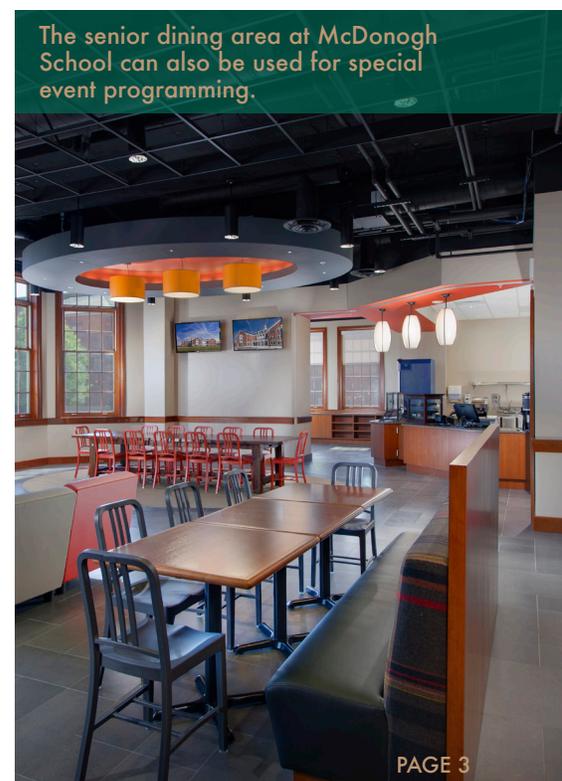


## FROM THE DESK OF NORM WILDER REASONS FOR OPTIMISM

In early August, the Associated Builders and Contractors released its 2014 Mid-Year Economic Forecast and its optimism for the short-term and long-term prospects for sustained construction activity on the national level, mirrors our experiences and confidence in the Central Maryland region. Here is a summary of that report.

- although tough weather conditions delayed or slowed construction activities over the winter, non-residential construction remains 4.6% ahead of last year
- more than 22,000 construction jobs were added nationally in July
- measurables including new jobs, increased consumer spending, energy production rising and accelerated industrial production points to continued momentum in the construction sector
- architectural billings are steadily moving up, which typically is a precursor for increased construction activity

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The Art Studio in the Edward St. John Learning Center was designed utilizing the concept of daylighting. This use of generous natural light minimized the need for electrical lighting within the space.

### WILDER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

A windshield tour around the Baltimore metropolitan region demonstrates sustained activity in all real estate product types, including retail, office, residential and entertainment. Towson continues to improve with several mixed-used developments underway. Baltimore City will soon welcome its first casino, which is anticipated to jump-start new ancillary projects in the immediate surrounding area. In addition, the improvements to Lexington Market should buoy the West Side. And, the long-awaited program to upgrade the City’s school facilities is expected to begin shortly.

We hope and trust you share our optimism.

Please let us know how The Mullan Contracting Company can solve your next construction management challenge.

**Norman W. Wilder,**  
Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
*The Mullan Contracting Company*

### GINA STEWART CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

to market the firm’s services without potential customers questioning the motives of ownership. Mullan has a sterling reputation throughout the industry.”

Stewart spent the first eight years of her career working in the design function for a health-care company, and several architectural firms, including RTKL. Yearning to make presentations and attend client meetings, she was given the opportunity when an economic recession required her to shift into business development for a contractor to brand their new ownership and pursue new projects. After excelling in this new position, she remained in this career path.

“I am detailed-oriented, understand how projects are designed and built and easily communicate with people,” Stewart said. “My foundation in architecture and design is an asset every single day.”

She also loves talking about her hobbies.

“I am passionate about things and activities that are stereotypically reserved for men,” she added. “I love football. I play golf. I shoot trap and skeet. And, I own a 2010 Dodge Challenger SRT-8 that I take to car shows and will one day race. I think this all started with my extensive Matchbox car collection as a kid.”

Gina Stewart can be reached at [GStewart@mullane.com](mailto:GStewart@mullane.com) or 410-847-1422.

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For additional information about The Mullan Contracting Company, please contact:  
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