As we start a new month today, kids are back to school in some fashion, we are a few days from a holiday weekend and winter is just around the corner.

If you are asking yourself "where did the summer go?" I cannot answer that, but I can tell you that the Farmer’s Almanac is calling for a winter of “Sheets of Sleet.” Can anything else happen in 2020? How do we make lemonade out of lemons (my mother used to say that when a challenging situation arose)?

While some things may seem a bit unsettled, I want to share with you some important updates and items that the board of directors, staff, committee members and industry peers have been working on behalf of our members.

ACEC/PA continues to represent you and be at the table working on various items such as: PennDOT’s e-ticketing initiative; Digital Delivery (by 2025); TQI; QBS; educating municipalities/townships on working with consultants through the Municipal Services Committee and partnering with other associations; the Construction Restart, which was an extensive effort that began the day after projects shut down and continues through our meetings/discussions; Design Activities restart, which began a few weeks after the construction restart and continues; and our newly created Environmental Permit Subcommittee dealing with PennDOT, DEP and industry challenges and creating a better path forward for partners.

Our Technology & Construction Services Committees are engaged in various application and innovative processes with PennDOT & PTC; we continue to work with PTC on several important initiatives; we have three ACEC/PA Task Forces meeting with partners discussing various items including Port Authority of Pittsburgh, City of Philadelphia and DCNR; a DGS workgroup consisting of AIA & ACEC/PA and high level DGS staff meets bi-monthly; PennDOT’s Quality Task Force; the creation of PennDOT’s Quality website for the industry; DRPA/DRJTBC and SEPTA discussing challenges, concerns and successes; and the Multimodal Committee is working directly with PennDOT on significant items.

ACEC/PA and ACEC are working with various partners including AASHTO and others on FAR audit compliance, PPP impacts, overhead rates and other items for the industry; we have representation on STIC and on the planning committee for
PennDOT’s Project Delivery Workshop (old TMTW); we are directly engaged with the ACEC Trusts of Business Insurance, Health and Retirement and so much more. We also continue to work daily on items that impact our members- including when your payments are delayed from Treasury or questions/concerns with PTC or PennDOT districts, constantly engaging non-transportation and non-state government clients in environmental, water, energy, forensic and many other areas as we are not only a transportation focused association.

With any of our 22 committees you can review documents, agenda, meeting minutes at any time as a member or if you choose to be an active participant you can join a committee.

And finally, ACEC/PA has been more engaged than ever before in our legislative happenings. While it was just seven years ago, we had the final push for Act 89. This was a major focus on funding for transportation and infrastructure, while fixing revenue and other issues at hand using the legislation as a conduit. We currently are working on several legislative issues as they were back in session for voting. We are focusing on environmental, design build, P3, county revenue bills, professional licensure, QBS, insurance and worker’s comp and many more issues along with the funding crisis at hand for our industry.

This is why we need you to be a part of the Advocacy Team and sign up today. Grassroots is key to what we do and our legislators want to hear from businesses and constituents in their communities. Please sign up for text alerts and join the team today by going to our Legislative/PAC page and follow the links.

As we celebrate the upcoming holiday weekend, I encourage you to spend some time with family and friends. To help, I'm passing along my great great great (yes three) grandmother’s (Elizabeth McConnell) homemade lemonade recipe. It is worth the extra time and love put into it. Try it and maybe this weekend you can add the adult piece….

Ingredients:
4-6 large lemons
1 cup sugar
1 cup water (for the simple syrup)
1 cup lemon juice
3 to 4 cups cold water

Instructions

- Make the simple syrup by combining sugar and water in a saucepan and bring to a boil.
- Reduce heat and let simmer until sugar is completely dissolved. Let simple syrup mixture cool.
- While sugar is dissolving, use a juicer to extract the juice from the lemons, enough for one cup of juice.
- Add the juice and 1 cup of the simple syrup, (sugar/water mixture) to a pitcher.
- Add 3 to 4 cups of cold water
- Refrigerate 30 minutes
- Serve with ice, sliced lemons or lime, or a sprig of fresh mint.
ADULTS: Add 1/2-2/3 cup Bourbon - (depending on your taste) and 6 cups ginger ale replacing 2 cups of the cold water.

Have a safe and wonderful rest of your week and holiday weekend!

Leeann Sherman, MPS, CAE
Executive Director

---

**LEGISLATIVE**

Stay on top of issues pertaining to transportation and other legislative matters.

- **Transportation Recap** - [Read it here](#)
- **Capitol Recap** - [Read it here](#)
- **Bill Tracker** - [Read it here](#)

Advocate now for engineering industry priorities in economic relief package
ACEC is calling on members to contact their Congressional delegations to highlight urgent industry priorities in legislation to support the nation’s economic recovery…[Read more](#)

NASA says an asteroid is headed our way and will get here the day before the presidential election in November
There’s an asteroid out there barreling towards Earth and it has a “slim chance,” according to a Business Insider report, of entering our atmosphere on Nov. 2…[Read more](#)

PennDOT earns regional America's transportation awards for operations excellence and best use of technology
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) recently received regional America's Transportation Awards for operational excellence and best use of technology…[Read more](#)

Wolf Administration announces more than $8 million in funding to support water and sewer projects in 22 counties
Governor Tom Wolf announced the approval of more than $8 million in funding to support H2O PA Flood Control, High Hazard Dams, and Water, Sanitary Sewer, and
Stormwater projects through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA)… Read more

Engineer developing out-of-this-world solutions for COVID-19 challenges
Xin Ning, an assistant professor of aerospace engineering, specializes in developing materials for use in space… Read more

State transportation needs, funding topic of house committee hearing
The state House Transportation Committee held a two-day informational hearing last week to discuss a series of legislative proposals promoted by the House Transportation Task Force… Read more

PennDOT earns regional America's transportation awards for operations excellence and best use of technology
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) recently received regional America’s Transportation Awards for operational excellence and best use of technology… Read more

Thousands allowed to bypass environmental rules in pandemic: AP report
Thousands of oil and gas operations, government facilities and other sites won permission to stop monitoring for hazardous emissions or otherwise bypass rules intended to protect health and the environment because of the coronavirus outbreak, The Associated Press has found… Read more

Gov. Wolf urges legislature to pass proposals for safe and secure elections
Governor Tom Wolf urged the legislature to quickly pass his plan for safe and secure elections that ensures voters will receive mail-in ballots early, have time to return them, and that counties will have the time they need to quickly count the anticipated historic number of votes cast… Read more

Interest rates will stay ultra-low even after inflation picks up, the Federal Reserve says
The Federal Reserve announced a significant change Thursday in how it manages interest rates by saying it plans to keep rates near zero even after inflation has exceeded its 2% target level… Read more

Traffic on toll facilities up from April but still down from last year
Five months ago, a national emergency for the COVID-19 pandemic was declared, keeping people home and dramatically decreasing traffic… Read more
As we continue to follow the guidelines and restrictions still in place in Pennsylvania, we have moved our upcoming meetings to a virtual platform. We assume you have used many platforms over the last 6 months, but we want to ensure you have all you need to make your experience with our meetings a success. We have created a quick video providing step-by-step instructions on registering for our virtual meetings and hope you find it helpful.

While the 2020 Fall Conference will also be virtual, we will be hosting that on a separate conference platform including breakout rooms, exhibit space, a virtual networking area and so many other exciting things that will create an amazing experience for you. More information and registration will be available soon.

As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact any member of YOUR ACEC/PA team (Leeann, Amanda and Tina) at 800-651-1946 or via email.

---

**2020-2021 Calendar of Events**

Please mark your calendars for these important dates of our upcoming conferences, networking, educational opportunities, scholarship fundraising, board meetings and more.

---

**Government Affairs Breakfast the Speaker of the House Bryan Cutler (R), 100th Legislative District**

September 9 ● virtual

Register

---

**Central Chapter Meeting with Chris Drda, P.E. and Ben Singer from PennDOT; Michael Harter, NICET IV, Erdman Anthony Associates, Inc., and David Haverstock, P.E., Michael Baker who will provide an overview of the major projects on I-83.**

September 9 ● virtual

Register

---

**Western Chapter Meeting with Congressman Conor Lamb (D), PA-17**

September 10 ● virtual

Register
Eastern Chapter Meeting with Representative Martina White (R), 170th District
September 15 ● virtual
Register

ACEC/PA Fall Conference
November 18 ● virtual
For more information

ACEC/PA Diamond Awards
January 28, 2021 ● Lancaster Marriott at Penn Square

View the 2021 ACEC/PA Diamond Awards for Engineering Excellence Call For Entries information today.

ACEC/PA Spring Conference
May 12-14, 2021 ● Hilton Harrisburg

You Are ACEC/PA
We have 22 different committees looking for your leadership and expertise. Check out the committee page to see which one is for you. Those interested in learning more should contact the ACEC/PA office at (800) 651-1946 or ACEC/PA Executive Director Leeann Sherman.

PennDOT’s ‘Innovations Challenge’ invites students to develop solution to ensure adequate transportation funding for the future
The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) announced today that students in grades 9-12 are invited to participate in the fourth annual PennDOT Innovations Challenge, which encourages students to use their problem-solving, creative and strategic-thinking abilities to solve real-world transportation challenges in a competition among their peers…Read more

ACEC National Convention
ACEC is thrilled to deliver a dynamic event experience and space to connect with industry partners across the country…Read more
ACEC Research Institute podcast
The ACEC Research Institute podcast featuring WSP’s John Porcari discussing his work with the Institute on the “New Partnership on Infrastructure” project and the new policy document, “Community Serving Infrastructure: A Playbook for A New Infrastructure Partnership” that was produced by Accelerator for America…Listen here

ACEC diversity and inclusion
The engineering profession has always been grounded in integrity, fairness and service to community. Engineers build communities. We create space and by extension, we create social experience…Read more

3 critical steps for leaders to build successful data-driven companies
More and more businesses are arming frontline workers with data to help them make better decisions in the moment, but it takes more than just tools and technology for these investments to pay off…Read more

CEPA PAC is sponsoring an event for House Transportation Minority Chair Rep. Mike Carroll at Creed’s Seafood & Steaks. Please consider supporting!

Brian Kozy, P.E., joins Michael Baker International as national practice lead-bridge
Michael Baker International, a global leader in engineering, planning and consulting services celebrating 80 Years of Making a Difference, announced today that Brian Kozy, P.E., has joined the firm as National Practice Lead – Bridge…Read more

EBA Engineering news
EBA Engineering, Inc. (EBA) is pleased to announce…Read more

ACEC/PA Needs Your Help
- Do you have committee news to share or know of a colleague/firm making a difference? We’d want to share that news! Please send ACEC/PA Executive Director Leeann Sherman the information for inclusion in an upcoming edition of forward.
• We want to communicate with you. Please take a moment to update your profile with us so you don’t miss any important news or events.

**Did You Know?**
On September 1, 1752 the Liberty Bell arrived in Philadelphia.

**Connect with Us on Social Media**
News travels fast. Please follow ACEC/PA on social media to keep up-to-date with the latest company news and industry highlights, and benefit from a range of useful resources.

Copyright © 2020 ACEC PA, All rights reserved.
You are receiving this email as a member of ACEC/PA.

**Our mailing address is:**
ACEC PA
800 North Third Street
Suite 301
Harrisburg, PA 17102

Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can update your preferences or unsubscribe from this list.