

# CHESAPEAKE BUSINESS FORUM

## SPEAKER BIOS

### Albert Todd

Al is the Executive Director of the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay. Founded in 1971, the Alliance is a trusted leader in Bay restoration known for building partnerships and supporting local action to protect and restore the Bay and its watershed. Prior to taking over the reins of the Alliance in 2011, Al had an exciting 33 year career that began as a hydrologist with the US Forest Service. There he gained experience with watershed management on National Forests in Idaho and California, as the Director for watershed restoration programs in the Lake Tahoe Basin, and later overseeing forest and watershed conservation efforts across a 20 state area which included the Chesapeake Bay. Al worked for over 16 years as Forest Service liaison to the Chesapeake Bay Program and then as the Chesapeake Bay Team Leader for the USDA Office of Environmental Markets. Al has worked on water issues from the local to the national level. Al received a B.S. in Environmental Resource Management from Penn State University and a M.S. in Watershed Hydrology from the University of Arizona. He has authored forest and water policies and technical papers related to stream restoration, riparian buffers, and watershed management and is the winner of 2 national awards for watershed stewardship. Al lives with his family near the Magothy River in Annapolis, Maryland.

### Dr. Jorge Ribas

Dr. Jorge Ribas is a co-founder and the first President and CEO of the Mid-Atlantic Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, a multi-state business organization based in Washington, DC. He has been recognized as an effective and visionary team leader who enjoys fast-paced, entrepreneurial environments. He has published over 50 scientific papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals, written chapters for medical textbooks, and has made numerous research presentations here and abroad.

After serving 14 years in active duty and 14 years in the U.S. Army Active Reserves, Dr. Ribas retired with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He spent most of his scientific and administrative career as a neuroscientist and as a research pathologist specializing in infectious and parasitic diseases, and as a program officer and hospital administrator at the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, D.C. There, he served as a key team member planning and implementing congressionally mandated programs that included the biological basis of drug addiction in Vietnam Veterans, HIV infection and AIDS, and the Gulf War Syndrome. For nearly 25 years, Dr. Ribas was a professor of human anatomy (gross anatomy, neuroscience and medical histology courses) and of human and comparative pathology in several medical schools.

Over the years, he has been appointed by several Maryland Governors and Montgomery County Executives to serve in a number of Commissions, and has had over 40 years of executive management and Board of Directors' leadership roles in various business, community, healthcare and nonprofit organizations.

Dr. Ribas is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University (A.A.), Southwest Missouri State University (B.S.), and the University of Missouri - Columbia where he earned a doctorate in Veterinary Medicine. He pursued postdoctoral training in the neurosciences at the University of Rochester Medical School and completed a residency in comparative pathology at the University of Alabama Medical Center – Birmingham. For the past 45 years, Dr. Ribas and his family have lived in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, in Montgomery County, MD.



## Brian Herrington, Esq.

Brian Herrington serves as the Director for State and Local Government Affairs for The Scotts Miracle-Gro Company. The Scotts Miracle-Gro company provides market leading consumer lawn, garden and home protection products in North America and around the world. The team Brian manages is focused on developing relationships with state and local executive, legislative and policy leaders here in the United States. This team also provides strategic insights on government policy to the company's business teams while working to cultivate relationships with NGO's and industry partners on key issues. Brian serves as a Vice Chair to the Consumer Specialty Product Association's State Government Affairs Advisory Committee. Before joining Scotts Brian worked on several political campaigns and held positions in state and local government including serving as Assistant Director of Intergovernmental Affairs for New York State Attorney General Andrew Cuomo. Brian lives on Long Island in New York with his wife Maria and two children and currently serves as a Trustee for the Village of Flower Hill as well as a board member of the Manhasset Bay Protection Committee. He is admitted to practice law in the State of New York and is a graduate of Hofstra School of Law and the State University of New York at Plattsburgh.

## Luck Companies' Facilities Team

Mark Williams, Luck Companies Environmental Manager and *Businesses for the Bay* Steering Committee Member, and the corporate Facilities Team (Mike White, Jeff Sechrest, and Jeremy Harvey), will lead small groups on a tour of the Luck Companies Corporate Headquarters.

