

CROSSSECTION

FALL 2018



PAGE 8: **MEMBER PROFILE:** PETE'S CONTRACTING, INC.

PAGE 10: **ASSOCIATE MEMBER PROFILE:** REHMANN

PAGE 30: **MITA MEMBER MILESTONES**



*Michigan Infrastructure &
Transportation Association*



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CONTENTS

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 5 Executive Comment | 26 Outreach Spotlight |
| 8 Member Profile | 28 Did You Know? |
| 10 Associate Member Profile | 30 MITA Member Milestones |
| 16 Vice President of Membership Services Comment | 36 2018 MITA Summer Conference |
| 18 Vice President of Industry Relations Comment | 38 2018 MITA Golf Outings |
| 20 Letters to MITA | 41 MITA Members Giving Back |
| 21 New MITA Members | 47 MITA PAC Update |
| 24 Vice President of Engineering Services Comment | 56 ARTBA News |
| | 60 MITA Scholarship Fund |

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Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association



Mike Nystrom

Executive Vice President

Your association continues to work daily on your behalf to address many important issues that face the entire heavy construction industry. Safety is number one, and our vice president of membership services and director of safety and compliance review the importance of having a company safety policy in an article on page 16.

Legislative issues, namely the upcoming November elections, are discussed by Lance Binoniemi, vice president of government affairs, on page 18. Please take time to get to know the candidates. Many candidates running for office are saying that they will make fixing our roads and other infrastructure in the state their number one priority. But it is important to ask them, how?

It is also important when voting this fall to consider the dilemma when your personal beliefs conflict with your business goals. An article

by Mariam Robinson, director of strategic affairs, covers this topic on page 26.

In the area of labor, the state prevailing wage is still confusing for many MITA members. You may ask: Didn't the state prevailing wage get repealed? Glenn Bukoski, P.E., vice president of engineering services, answers this seemingly simple question in an article on page 24.

And on a lighter note, many of our members are celebrating key anniversaries this year. Check out stories and ads recognizing their history and achievements starting on page 30. Also, please support those who support MITA by looking over the photos and sponsor logos from this year's summer conference (page 36) and golf outings (page 38).

Details on other upcoming events, including MITA's popular holiday parties, can be found on page 28. We hope to see you soon! 🏠



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Pete's Contracting, Inc.



From left to right: Pete Vandenberg and Brad Forbes of Pete's Contracting, Inc.



With his own backhoe and dump truck, Pete Vandenberg ventured out one spring day 24 years ago and decided to "see how it goes."

He was still working for a contractor in Traverse City while he began doing small residential work in the Falmouth area, near Cadillac. His determination to make it on his own paid off, and the first year he added one employee and the second year another.

"We just kept building and building and today we have 28-30 employees at the peak of the season," Pete said. The family business includes his wife of 25 years, Toni; brother, Willie, shop foreman and mechanic; his cousin, Brad, superintendent; his uncles: Aaron, Charlie and his son, Joe and nephew Chase, who works in the field; and daughter, Kimberly, who helps in the office along with Heather.

"And all our employees feel like extended family as a majority have been with us over 10 years plus," Pete said. "They look out for us, and we look out for them."

"We do residential work, plus municipal work, water and sewer, street repair, MDOT work, utility work for gas and power companies, and work for large dairy farms. We are diversified and that has kept our business going and helps us get



through the slow times because we are not dependent on a certain type of work.”

In August, Pete’s Contracting, Inc., was busy doing site work for Lake City schools and an addition at the Kirtland Community College in Grayling.

“My favorite project of all time that went well for us was a large dam removal project in Chesaning 10 years ago,” recalled Pete, who also finds time to run a small beef cattle farm in Merritt. “It was on the river with DEQ, the city, DNR, the feds and other agencies. In spite of all those hands in the action, we had fun and the project was a success.”

What he likes the best about the business: “The stress,” he joked. “Actually being my own boss is the best part of running this business. Our philosophies...work hard, retain great skilled employees, maintain great business relationships with our suppliers and vendors and put money back in to the business to grow. This year purchases included the GPS systems for our bigger dozers. We will commit to continually meeting our customers’ needs now and in the years to come.” 🚧

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Member of MITA since 2001



From left to right: Andy Rose, CPA, CGMA, CCIFP; and Bob Nagle, CPA, CGMA, of the Rehmann accounting and consulting firm. They are proud members of MITA, and their diversified firm provides a wide variety of tax, accounting, consulting and business management services to clients in Michigan, Ohio and Florida.

Rehmann

With 11 offices in Michigan alone, MITA members have many opportunities to be exposed to the services that Rehmann provides its clients. Most likely they will come in contact with two key assets within Rehmann's dedicated construction practice: Andy Rose, CPA, CGMA, CCIFP and Bob Nagle, CPA, CGMA. Combined they have more than

50 years' experience working in the accounting field and frequently attend MITA's networking functions and support other MITA projects.

"We are proud to offer a cross-functional team approach," said Andy, who has been with Rehmann for his entire 22-year career. "Our team uses a progressive service model that focuses on delivering our clients peace of mind and

confidence. We offer our clients access to associates from all service lines who are dedicated to working collaboratively as an everyday business partner to cultivate more ideas, more service and more experience."

Andy earned his Certified Construction Industry Financial Professional (CCIFP) certification through the Construction Financial



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Continued on page 12

Continued from page 11

Management Association (CFMA). The certification is earned by individuals with construction industry finance expertise through training and testing in the areas of tax, law, accounting, human resources, contracts and more. Many construction industry chief financial officers and controllers have earned the certification themselves, Andy said, and expect it from accounting professionals who want to bid to provide accounting and other services.

Bob, with 33 years' experience, started with Rehmann in 2009 when his firm merged with Rehmann. He explained further that the services Rehmann offers clients what they need to succeed: tax and assurance services, consulting (from cost estimation to procurement of financing or bonding), mergers and acquisitions, retirement plans and more.

"We always expect and are aware that our competitors do an excellent job," Bob said. "But we have a different approach than most firms. Our team approach is unique in the industry, and we have strategies to provide CPA firm offerings, integrated with personal and financial services, investigative security services, background checks for critical employees, back office business management services and much more."

Andy, who like Bob, has a great sense of humor that can put new, potential clients at ease, joked that they could take up the entire MITA magazine talking about what their company does for its clients, and he added that Rehmann now offers

full-service IT technology services with the addition of Trivalent Group in 2018.

With every service offered, Rehmann adheres to the firm's core values when assisting clients:

- Put people first.
- Be obsessed with client success.
- Cultivate business wisdom.
- Embrace an entrepreneurial spirit.
- Exhibit unwavering integrity.

"We are results oriented, just like contractors" said Bob, the father of two daughters – one, age 26, is a University of Michigan graduate. The youngest, age 23, graduated from Michigan State University – making football season an interesting, but fun challenge, he joked. Bob said he and Andy are passionate about the construction industry – working hard and having fun. "If you can't have some fun, something is wrong!"

Andy quickly added to the results-oriented conversation: "We get 'er done, just like the entrepreneurial types of leaders who own construction firms that are members of MITA." Like Bob, and like MITA members, Andy is a big family man, who enjoys spending time with his three boys, ages 20, 13, and 9.

A Quick Look at Rehmann

Initially founded in 1941 by Jack Rehmann as a traditional accounting firm, the company has grown to become one of

the largest CPA, business consulting and financial services firms providing forward-thinking solutions to clients. Additionally, through a unique combination with Trivalent Group®, a top 100 managed IT service provider, the company expanded their technology capabilities and launched a managed IT solutions practice. Rehmann has nearly 900 associates in Michigan, Ohio and Florida, and is a member of Nexia International, a leading worldwide network of accounting firms, we can help our clients do business around the globe.

Rehmann is a top 40 accounting and advisory firm nationally and the 4th largest in the Great Lakes region according to Accounting Today. The firm serves clients all over the United States and internationally and has earned Inavero's 2018 Best of Accounting award for client service excellence for its third consecutive year.

The History of Rehmann

The family business was in trouble.

Technological advancements in dry cleaning introduced greater competition into the market and threatened the Rehmann family's wholesale dry cleaning business. Jack Rehmann, who joined the business full time following a two-year stint in the Navy after college, had to consider a career change.

Armed with an accounting degree, Rehmann started hunting for work. He landed a job with the

firm Wagar, Lunt & Oehring, which started in Saginaw, Mich., in 1941 with only two people but had grown to two offices, 35 employees and three partners.

Sharing typewriters...and cigarette smoke

The staff room in which Rehmann would begin his career was short on frills: It was a large space with desks lined up along the walls, where everyone shared two typewriters, one phone, one adding machine (which printed sums on a roll of paper similar to today's markedly smaller desktop adding machines) and one Marchant calculator (picture a calculator the size of some of today's desktop computers). They also shared cigarette smoke – this was back when ads for cigarettes featured doctors extolling their virtues –

and depreciation schedules were written by hand.

Though technology had presented challenges for his family's business, Rehmann still appreciated the changes that rolled into the firm. At one point, a printing company rented office space in the same building and the firm's employees had access to a copy machine for 25 cents per page, which is about \$2 today.

"We were very excited because we could run upstairs and ... bingo!" Rehmann recalled. Until the cost for all that miraculous copying crossed the boss' desk, anyway.

"When Wayne (firm founder Wayne Wagar) got the first month's bill, that ended that," Rehmann laughed.

A new name, new challenges and one big checklist

By the early 1960s, Rehmann became a partner and the firm was rechristened Wagar, Lunt & Rehmann. By the end of the decade, he was named managing partner.

But times weren't always prosperous. Federal Trade Commission rules and more competition brought challenges to the firm, which at its most difficult point employed just six people. However, soon enough, the firm experienced growth that boosted its employee count up to 40.

Two more business combinations in 1979 doubled the number of employees overnight ... and brought with it another name change, this time to Rehmann, Robson, Osburn & Co. Faced with such an enormous organizational change, Rehmann signed up for a course called "Management for Results."

Impressed with the course, Rehmann invited the instructor to evaluate the firm's processes. After the evaluation, the instructor returned with 92 recommendations and the firm adopted nearly all of them. The effort paid off, with improved manager and associate satisfaction that in turn boosted business success. By the time Rehmann retired in 1992, the firm boasted 225 associates.

Rapid growth and a new "experience"

Steve Kelly was named CEO of



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Continued on page 14

ASSOCIATE MEMBER PROFILE

Continued from page 13

what was then called Rehmann, Robson & Co. in 1985. The firm experienced rapid growth after he assumed the helm.

"Our development can be directly attributed to our consistent focus on our clients and helping our associates become as successful as possible," Kelly explained.

It was that focus that sparked the company's next period of momentum. Noticing that client satisfaction results had leveled off and, despite their positive numbers, looking to raise them even higher, Kelly and some associates interviewed top clients to identify where the firm could improve its service offerings.

The result of their efforts: The Rehmann Experience. This forward-thinking service model familiarizes clients with associates from all service lines who are committed to working collaboratively to provide more ideas, service and experience. It has served as the firm's north star ever since and has indeed bolstered client satisfaction results to unprecedented heights.

In 2015, 33 years after joining the firm as an intern, Randy Rupp succeeded Kelly as CEO.

To Rupp, developing The Rehmann Experience was a bold and important move, but there's something else he feels also left an indelible mark on the firm's growth.

"It wasn't one good year, one person we hired or one client we served that brought Rehmann success: It was a combination of efforts from everyone involved," Rupp reflected. "Our leadership and associates have held true to our values and built an incredible company culture. This is what makes Rehmann the firm it is today."

This history of Rehmann was first published in the Spring/Summer 2016 edition of Rehmann's "BWD Magazine." The magazine is available at www.rehmann.com/resources-insights/bwd. ▲



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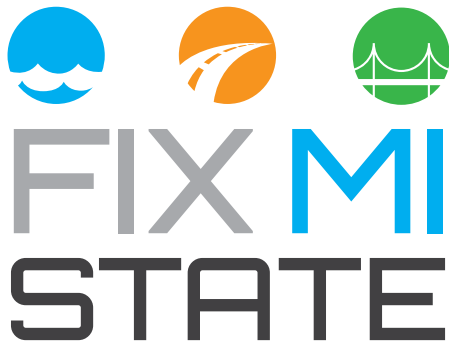
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A safety program means a lot of different things to a lot of different people. To some it's a document that collects dust underneath a pick-up seat; to others it is the holy document that explains everything to the nth degree and should be followed without exception. The truth most likely lies somewhere in between. However, every contractor should ask themselves a few key questions regarding their safety policy. Is it current? Is it

Words or Action; You Decide

By Rob Coppersmith and Matt McClintick

available to the employees? Do we as an organization live up to the spirit of the document or just maintain it in the event of a MIOSHA inspection? Most will wait until the unfortunate happens and then get serious about safety. The "it will never happen to me mentality" is literally getting people killed.

Across the nation, there is a renewed push to improve and establish robust safety and health programs. This is deemed to be one of the most effective ways at protecting your employees, because it is supposed to be their guidance document. If you use a proactive approach with your employees to foster a culture of "finding and fixing" workplace hazards before an employee is exposed to a hazard that leads to an injury or illness, your safety program will stop being paper and start to become a culture. However, cultures are based on traditions and that is where things get tough, the sustainability aspect. Historically, the approach has been reactive to an employee's injury or illness, finding the root cause and then modifying policy or procedures to prevent that injury or illness from happening again. In a "find and fix" culture you take your organization out of the cycle and move forward toward an organization that if not free from accidents is full of workers that are correcting potential hazards and looking for safer ways to perform work, rather than waiting for someone to tell them a new way once an accident has occurred. I suspect that outcome of such an environment would create numerous positive results.

MITA staff is currently working on a new version of our "build your own safety program." The goal is to give members the necessary tools to protect employees, plus maintain production and compliance with regulations. The MITA "build your own program" gives a member the opportunity to expand and grow their safety program to better fit the needs of their company. There are seven core elements that are recommended for a successful safety and health program. They are:

- Management leadership and involvement
- Worker participation
- Hazard identification and assessment
- Hazard prevention and control
- Education and continued training
- Program evaluation and improvement
- Communication and coordination to all employers and agencies on site

Most of this might seem cliché or too cerebral; top down, worker involvement, continual education, communication, yada, yada, yada. Well, it's nothing earth shaking or terribly new. Just a commitment that we all can do better and these are the tried and true elements that make a program work! Guess what? Most of it revolves around human behavior and a commitment to the process by everyone in an organization, especially at the top. This means you can't just say you have a program – you have to put it into practice. To be honest, MITA is doing the easy part, and all the updates should be available to members by the start of

work next spring. The hard part has been left up to the rest of you who have to implement it together. I can see some of the faces already, but you must march on to be successful in this area. Do you really want to be the person staring at the ceiling the night after a terrible incident thinking we could have done more?

MIOSHA has adopted many of the OSHA standards in the past several years which prompted MITA to do a complete overhaul of our safety policies. It all started with the new crane standard that MITA was successful at getting the excavator portion segmented out of the crane standard in order to provide clarity to what applied to excavators. A couple more that you may be familiar with are the confined space standard and the new crystalline silica rules. MITA does have updated company policy available for members in confined space and crystalline silica. As a reminder, MITA developed Enter Right (www.enterright.com) a website to assist foremen in determining confined spaces and allow for the results to be stored and emailed to whomever should be monitoring field crews. MITA will continue to put tools in the toolbox. It is important for you to use them.


On a final note, Governor Snyder has challenged all agencies in the state of Michigan to review and address all residents' exposure to lead, from the Flint Crisis to protecting employees who may be exposed to lead at work. MIOSHA has addressed this by looking at the lead standards that are on the books for general industry (Part 310) and construction (Part 603) by holding a handful of meetings throughout the state. As the rulemaking was being developed, several parties reflected on two other states attempting to make changes to the Blood Lead Levels (BLL's). Currently, the construction rule allows for BLL's up to 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ (micrograms per deciliter) before an employee

has to be removed from significant lead exposure, and employees are permitted to return to work when their BLL is 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ or lower. The proposed new levels for Michigan will see a removal limit of 30 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ and the ability to return to work after two consecutive tests below 15 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$. This may seem like a dramatic shift but will mirror what the federal standard is in the process of putting in place. The Michigan version will be less dramatic than other states because it will not be expanding the scope of workers who will


need to be tested, which is a good thing. However, the dramatically reduced removal and return to work requirements could prove difficult to meet in our hard to control work environments.

If you have questions or comments, please contact Rob Coppersmith, MITA's vice president of membership services at roboppersmith@thinkmita.org; or Matt McClintick, MITA's director of safety and compliance at mattmcclintick@thinkmita.org. 


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Lance Binoniemi

To contact Lance Binoniemi, email him at lancebinoniemi@thinkmita.org or call the MITA office at 517-347-8336.

Now that the primary elections are behind us, and our TVs are on overdrive with campaign commercials, things are starting to take shape a little for the November 6th elections. Following this article, you will find a brief write-up on all the statewide ballot proposals. You will likely see some local ballot initiatives, as well, including many road and other infrastructure millages that we strongly encourage you to support.

If we learned anything from the primary elections, it's that anything goes when it comes to the electorate. Some candidates that seemingly had an easy road to victory either had to work harder than they thought or ended up losing their seats altogether. On the flip side, some candidates that didn't seem to have a chance of winning pulled off a few miracles with hard work and determination. The era of term limits in Michigan certainly has made elections much less predictable.

The general election will be an exciting one on multiple fronts. From

2018 Elections: Take Some Time and Get to Know the Candidates

the top of the ticket down to your local races, our television sets will air non-stop political ads until election day. And if we believe the news and the political experts, there could be a shift in the current political party dynamics that have reigned for the past eight years under complete Republican control. The gubernatorial election, as well as many House and Senate races, will be extremely competitive, and it will be up to the individual candidates to get their supporters to the polls.

That means it is increasingly important for voters to be as educated as possible when picking candidates. If there is one thing that is clear, it is that all politicians are very good at telling the public what they want to hear. For example, every candidate running for office is jumping up and yelling at the top of their lungs that they will make fixing our roads and other infrastructure in this state one of their top priorities if elected. But it is essential that we all ask the question, how? How are we going to fix our deteriorating infrastructure? How are we going to raise enough investment to cover the \$3 to \$4 million annual funding gap that exists? How does this fit into their platform? These are the questions that we at MITA ask candidates every single day, and we need the public to ask, as well.

Fixing our state's deteriorating infrastructure isn't going to come

from existing funds within our state government or from economic growth. We pay for roads, bridges, water, sewers and other utilities through user fees. By taking a stand against any increases to user fees, which many politicians do, they are essentially telling the public and MITA members that they are not willing to increase revenues going into our infrastructure systems. And if there is one thing that we can all agree on, it's that we desperately need more money to fix infrastructure.

So become as educated as you possibly can. And we don't mean by reading the hundreds of fliers that you'll receive in the mail, listening to the countless TV and radio ads or paying attention to the robo calls. Read all the information candidates put out on their websites. Attend a campaign event, or even better, a debate. Go to the local town halls and coffee hours and while you're there, ask a few questions. Get specific, because it is likely that you know more about infrastructure spending than they do. Educate them on your business and how various policies affect you and your company, and see how they respond. Outside of the 30-second commercials, you will get a better sense on where all the candidates stand. We, as the MITA community, have an opportunity to affect change by putting this issue front and center in this election cycle. 🚧

STATE OF MICHIGAN STATEWIDE
BALLOT PROPOSALS
NOVEMBER 6, 2018 GENERAL ELECTION

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PROPOSAL 1—COALITION TO REGULATE

MARIJUANA LIKE ALCOHOL: Proposed initiated law to authorize the personal possession and use of marihuana by individuals aged 21 years and older and control the commercial production and distribution of marihuana.

PROPOSAL 2—VOTERS NOT POLITICIANS: Proposed constitutional amendment to create the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission and authorize the Commission to adopt reapportionment plans.

PROMOTE THE VOTE: Proposed constitutional amendment to regulate the timing of issuing absentee ballots, authorize no-reason absentee voting, require a straight party voting option on general election ballots, provide for automatic voter registration, require post-election audits, and other voting changes.

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LETTERS TO MITA

Dear Mike:

Kudos on the passage of legislation creating the Michigan Infrastructure Council and Water Infrastructure Council. See you hands all over it! Great job!

William D. Toohey, Jr.
ARTBA

Dear Mike:

Thanks for fighting this fight (prevailing wage repeal)! I completely agree with fighting this repeal. I own a bookkeeping agency, specializing in the construction industry. I know, weather dependent jobs in the Midwest make life harder on the contractors and the employees,

economically, than other areas of the country. The excavators only get about 30–38 weeks a year to work. Those contractors and employees need to make their 52 weeks of income in those short weeks. The employees need to earn the higher wages. Keep up the fight!

Maureen Weick
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Dear Mariam:

Thank you for selecting me to be one of the 2018 scholarship winners. As summer boils down to the last few weeks, I get more and more excited about continuing my education at Ferris this coming fall. Because you awarded me with this gift, college will be more affordable. It has been so motivating to know that people care about the younger generation and that they offer opportunities like this scholarship.

During this summer, I have been part of an AIS training program. I have gained additional knowledge and skills that will benefit me greatly in college from working full time in a shop with other technicians. I am truly excited for my future as a heavy equipment technician and thanks again for investing in my future.

Nathaniel Pytlowany

Dear Ken:

Thank you so much for volunteering at the JA Reverse Job Shadow/Career Day at Everett High School! This event would not have been possible without your help. We understand this is a very busy time of year and appreciate you taking time out of your schedule to give these students career exposure and inspiration.

Jamie Sartor
Junior Achievement of Mid Michigan 🇺🇸

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Glenn Bukoski, P.E.

To contact Glenn Bukoski, email him at glennbukoski@thinkmita.org or call the MITA office at 517-347-8336.

On June 6, 2018, the Michigan legislature passed legislation that repealed Michigan's long-standing prevailing wage law, PA 166 of 1965.

That 53-year-old law required that prevailing wages and fringe benefits (i.e. union-scale) be paid to workers on "state" projects for public buildings, schools, bridges, highways and roads that were authorized by a contracting agent. The law defined "contracting agent" as "... any officer, school board, board of commission of the state, or any state institution ... authorized to enter into a contract for a state project."

In lay terms, the repeal of PA 166 of 1965 simply eliminated the requirement for state prevailing wages on school and public works projects contracted by state supported institutions, agencies and departments.

In conversations MITA has had with the Michigan Department of

Didn't State Prevailing Wage Get Repealed?

It Did, But its Use is Not Prohibited

Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), Wage & Hour Division leadership, they concurred with MITA's understanding that the repeal of PA 166 of 1965 does not prohibit any public agency or private owner from including a "prevailing wage" requirement on projects they may be contracting for that may or may not involve some state funding.

Since the June 6 repeal of state prevailing wage, many MITA members have informed staff that several public works and private projects have been advertised and bid with bid documents that included a State of Michigan Prevailing Wage Schedule and the typical certified payroll reporting protocol requirements. For those and similar future projects, we recommend that bidders contact those project owners pre-bid to verify the inclusion of a prevailing wage requirement. If the project owner verifies it is their intent to bid and award the project with a prevailing wage requirement, then it is a contractual requirement that all bidders should conform to.

As MITA has historically

supported the implementation of a prevailing wage at both the state and federal level, we continue today to encourage Michigan's public and private owners to include prevailing wage requirements in their project bid documents going forward. Since LARA's Wage & Hour Division is no longer updating, maintaining and publishing state prevailing wage schedules, we suggest that project owners use and incorporate the federal Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements, as those wage determinations are updated and maintained by the US Department of Labor.

Everyone should understand that the repeal of Michigan's state prevailing wage has no impact on federally funded projects. For federally funded projects the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements and compliance protocols remain unchanged.

If you have any questions about prevailing wage, please don't hesitate to give staff a call at the MITA office. 📞



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Mariam Robinson
Director of Strategic Affairs

Voting in an election is one of our greatest privileges as citizens, and it is also one of our most important responsibilities as active members of society. Every once in awhile, a big election rolls around, and some people find themselves in a quandary as they contemplate a big vote, like the one for the state's next governor.

We all have strong personal beliefs, and we are all passionate about the work we do on a daily basis to move Michigan forward. It's what makes us all individuals, but it's also what makes us American. We have the right to our opinions and the right to express ourselves, as well as that wonderful right to vote for whomever we choose, regardless of what anyone else may think.

The trouble is, sometimes the choice that may be the best for your industry might also be the opposite of what you would automatically vote for on a personal level, and vice versa. In this regard, elections can be quite tough. Do you vote your conscience or

The Big Voting Dilemma: When Your Personal Beliefs Clash With Your Business Goals

By Mariam Robinson, Director of Strategic Affairs

your bottom line? Do you vote on behalf of your company or your family values? These can be difficult choices, because in many instances like this, you can't have your cake and eat it, too.


At MITA, while we cannot and will not tell you who to vote for, we would strongly encourage you to consider both candidates, now that the primaries are over, and what they have or have not pledged to do on behalf of your industry and the investment that is sorely needed for infrastructure on a long-term basis in our great state.

As someone who works very hard in this industry day in and day out to keep your company solvent and growing strong, you know better than any other citizen just how important your contributions are to Michigan and to the people who rely on your leadership and expertise to get big jobs done. You also know how reliant the industry is on funding from the state, and how the governor's office plays a key role in ensuring that

funding gets the attention and forward momentum it deserves.

When you enter the voting booth in November, please keep in mind that when MITA supports one candidate over another, they are doing so with the industry in mind, and staff personal beliefs play no role in the choice. We have a variety of beliefs in the office, but the number one priority is always what is best for the membership and the industry, so the association's choice of candidate is a direct reflection of that.

We hope you exercise your right to vote, and we hope that you will consider choosing a candidate who will sincerely look to move the industry and the needs of the state forward if they win the governor's office. 🇺🇸



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DID YOU KNOW?

In an effort to help you plan your future, here's a list of upcoming events, which includes the mother of all training and networking events—the MITA Annual Conference. For more details, visit www.thinkmita.org or call the MITA office at 517-347-8336.

MITA WESTERN HOLIDAY PARTY

December 11, 2018
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
TBD
Grand Rapids

METRO HOLIDAY PARTY

December 20, 2018
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Somerset Inn
Troy

MITA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

January 23–24, 2019
Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort
Mt. Pleasant, Mich.

MITA CENTRAL HOLIDAY PARTY

December 14, 2018
11:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Country Club of Lansing
Lansing

MITA SKI WEEKEND

January 10–13, 2019
Boyne Highlands
Harbor Springs, Mich.
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March 2-9, 2019
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MITA MEMBER MILESTONES

Congratulations to Milbocker & Sons, Inc., M & M Excavating Company, Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C., Site Development Inc., and Mersino for the anniversaries they are celebrating this year.

If your company is interested in being recognized for your anniversary in the future, please contact MITA's Director of Communications and Cross-Section Magazine Editor Nancy Brown at nancybrown@thinkmita.org.

Milbocker & Sons, Inc. Celebrating 50 Years

Those who are familiar with Milbocker & Sons, Inc., are well aware that it is a serious oddity in this industry. Part of the company believes that it is a bridge builder and the other part believes that it is an excavating/road building company.

In 1955, Milbocker & Harris was founded by Sylvester (Sy) Milbocker and James Harris. The company performed light underground work and county road projects. Its equipment consisted of one grader, one crane, one dozer and four scrapers.

When Milbocker/Harris split in 1960, the family business, Milbocker & Sons, was formed. The company ran out of a Quonset hut on the family farm. It was said by Moe "back then, if it was zero degrees outside, it was zero degrees inside." Sy and his sons, Buster, Moe, Jim, Gene and the younger brothers, David and Mike, along with 12 to 15 employees made up the original crew. Sy Milbocker passed away in 1965. The company was incorporated

in 1968 and then became Milbocker & Sons, Inc. Buster said it was

tough as young men in their 30's to ask the local banker to loan them some money so they could buy more equipment. The banker took a chance on what he called some "snot nosed kids" and with a hand shake and a couple of dollars in their pockets, they forged their way into the industry. Around then, their typical annual sales volume might average \$500,000. Today, the cost of one piece of equipment can be at or above that.

The steady growth of the company and its solid reputation for producing quality work allowed the brothers to enter other aspects of the heavy construction industry. Gale Rewa joined the company in 1972 as the company's chief estimator and corporate secretary and helped grow the company into what it is today. During the



next few years the company bucked the trend of just doing road construction and site excavation. In 1976 Milbocker took on its first bridge job, Butters Avenue in Coldwater, Mich. Currently they employ up to or above 100 seasonally with current average annual sales of \$30 million.

Three generations later, Scott Milbocker is now president of Milbocker & Sons, Inc. A list of key personnel can be found at www.milbocker.com. Many individuals, past and present, have worked together to create the foundation of Milbocker & Sons, Inc. The men and women, in the office and in the field, are the infrastructure of this company. Their dedication and hard work is what has kept the company going for 50 years and will keep it moving towards the future. ▲

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M & M Excavating Company: Celebrating 45 Years

It all started in 1971, when two brothers moved "Up North" from Detroit. With one bulldozer for rent in front of their small gas station, they began clearing not only Northern Michigan land but also clearing the way to a new future. That excavating business grew and built a reputation of honest quality that became highly sought after. Experience building roads to oil well sites during the oil & gas boom of the 80s, led to MDOT pre-qualification. And as they say ... the rest is history.



M & M Excavating Company of Gaylord is celebrating 45 years of doing business.

Continued on page 32

M&M Excavating Company

Celebrating 45 Years in Construction

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Today, the M & M Family expands far beyond the brothers to children, grandchildren and cousins. And before too long, co-workers, whether related by blood or not, become family. Together they take pride in the legacy they leave on each project, often recalling “we built that.” And looking to the future, they take pride in the legacy they leave for generations to come.

It’s the work they do as a family that makes them proud. 🏠

Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C. Celebrating 40 Years

Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C. is a business law firm concentrating on the representation of middle market companies throughout the State of Michigan and beyond. Established in 1978, the firm started with three lawyers and focused its practice primarily on companies engaged in the automotive supply, aerospace, manufacturing, and construction industries. From its beginning, Kotz Sangster has been located in the Renaissance Center in Detroit and was one of the original tenants.

During the 1980s and 1990s, the firm focused on developing relationships with commercial banks, accounting firms, financial and business consultants, insurance agencies

and construction-related entities to achieve an established profile in the business community. In addition, during this period, Kotz Sangster solidified its expertise as a business law firm and developed specialized practice areas in Mergers and Acquisitions, Financial Services, Construction Law, and Health Care Law. Notably, in Construction Law, Kotz Sangster’s services cover contract review/negotiation, development work, risk mitigation, and claims matters, including litigation and arbitration.

In the 2000s, Kotz Sangster expanded its platform and established a Bloomfield Hills office, as well as four offices covering Grand Rapids and Southwest Michigan.

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Site Development

Celebrating 40 Years

Site Development, Inc. (SDI) is a construction company in Southeastern Michigan that specializes in earthwork and underground utilities for any type of building program. Over the years SDI has had steady growth in the industry and when it comes to the work they do, many owners say their building programs have benefited by having SDI on their projects, since SDI provides complete site development services. If it's outside the building, SDI self-performs many critical aspects of the work and those they don't, there is a very competent group of subcontractors, material suppliers and trucking firms that work with SDI on many projects.

Leonard J. Theisen is the sole owner and president of the company. The firm began operations in 1978 as a general contractor and the construction crews worked on small-scale renovations as well as new building construction. In 1986, SDI had the largest workload with the Army Corps of Engineers in Michigan. After having out of state offices in Kentucky and Florida, Leonard found it beneficial to focus on the Detroit area and spend time with his family. Being that Leonard was most interested in earthwork construction, he guided the company in that direction, discontinuing general contracting at that time. SDI continues to be a leader in the industry and specializing in complex earthwork and underground utilities.

Leonard, a "hands on leader," has guided the company to many successful projects in healthcare, churches, airports, automotive manufacturers, retailers and government agencies. Leonard knows well how many facets there are to the business and has surrounded himself with very trusted and technically competent people in the office and in the field. He says "We take care of our employees and in turn they take care of us. We owe our success to the people that work for us."

The project managers, project engineers, estimators, general superintendents and administrative staff work hand in hand from

estimating through completion of the project, which creates a great teamwork, family like environment, and a sense of accomplishment for the entire team. Everyone has input that is helpful in winning the bid and successfully completing the project.

Teamwork is such a strong value that the concept of "partnering" was implemented in the mid-1990's. SDI continues this as a standard way of doing business to this day.

Safety is extremely important throughout the construction industry particularly in the specialty of earthwork as there are many unknowns during excavations and the installation of underground utilities. However, SDI has a great safety record and has received many safety awards over the years.

SDI is also a construction community advocate for starting new companies. Several years ago, a Detroit based minority firm, Blaze, was formed with the help of SDI as a specialty company similar to SDI. After several years of mentoring and utilizing SDI personnel and equipment, they are now a stand-alone company working on many projects in the Detroit area.

Seeing the success, SDI ventured again in helping establish another Detroit based minority firm, RBV Contracting. RBV has worked with SDI on several joint venture projects and also performs work on many projects of their own. This is another great success story in the making.

In the last several years, SDI has promoted long standing employees to positions of more responsibility and looks forward to many more years of successful projects. 🏗️



Mersino

Celebrating 30 Years



Mersino was founded in 1988 by Rod Mersino, coming from an extensive background in specialized drilling and construction site dewatering, Mersino Inc. has evolved into a multi-faceted corporation able to engineer and deploy a full-service approach to groundwater control and pumping solutions. Mersino considers its people, the Mersino Team, as their most valuable asset and strives to maintain a culture that inspires dedication to customer service. Whether a planned project or an emergency response, Mersino, available globally, is positioned to meet client challenges with expertise, equipment, and service anytime, anywhere.

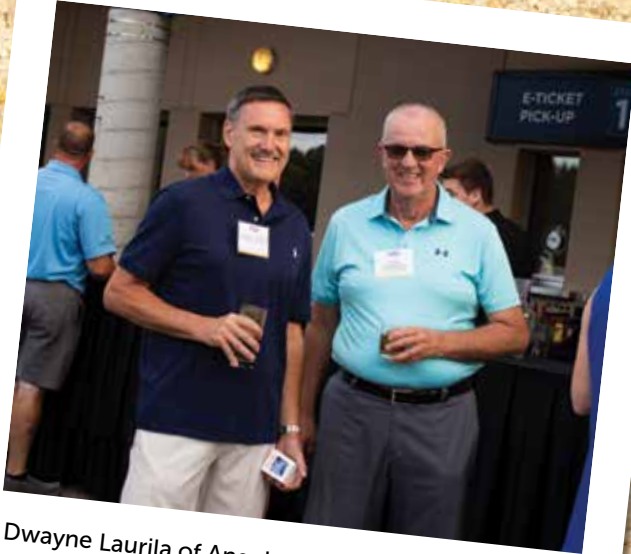
Mersino's array of services is reflected in its slogan, "The Only Full-Service Solution." 866-MERSINO. 🚧



Mersino is proud this year to celebrate 30 years of successful operations.



2018 Summer Conference



Dwayne Laurila of Angelo lafrate chats with MITA Board Member Dale Chambers of Jensen Bridge.



Thanks to all the sponsors for their generous support of MITA's 2018 Summer Conference, which was held in July at Crystal Mountain in Thompsonville. If you missed this event, stay tuned to your bulletins. You will get another chance to attend next summer!



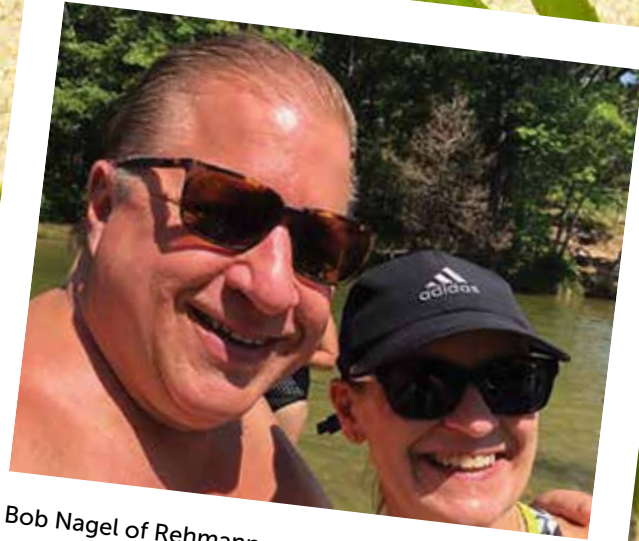
Sienna Marulli enjoys the dessert.



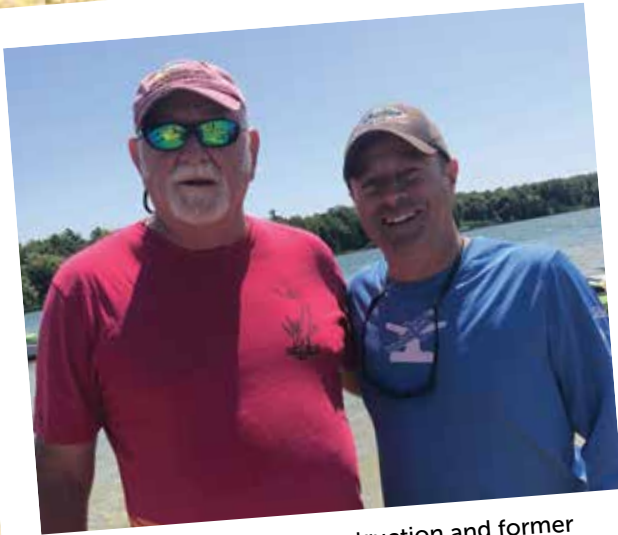
Paige Mattice and Haleigh Lemke getting tough on the mountain top.



Dale Klett, Klett Recycle, having a father-son moment on the Platte River with his son, Tyler.



Bob Nagel of Rehmann and wife, Nancy, enjoy a moment during Saturday's canoe/kayaking trip on the river.



Scott Bazinet, of Lowe Construction and former MITA board president, shares a laugh with Todd Schrader of Hardman Construction.



MITA Board Member Amy Trahey, of Great Lakes Engineering, LLC, and her family enjoy the lift chair during the Friday dinner reception.



Brannan's and Nunheimer's, summer conference attendees, on the lift!



Amanda Wagenmaker, with daughter Myka, posing before dinner on Thursday evening.

MITA 2018 Golf Outings

MITA's 2018 Golf Outing season has come to a close once again. Thank you to all of the golfers and sponsors who made these networking events, held across the state, possible. Stay tuned for details about next year's outings, and we hope you can join us!





Governor Rick Snyder and Lieutenant Governor Brian Calley joined other dignitaries at a July groundbreaking for the Gordie Howe International Bridge.

Gordie Howe Bridge Milestones: Groundbreaking and Preferred Provider

In July, the Windsor-Bridge Authority (WDBA) announced that another significant milestone in the Gordie Howe International Bridge project has been reached with the start of Michigan advance construction.

The groundbreaking ceremony, held at the U.S. Port of Entry site, saw delegates from all levels of government and key project representatives celebrating the start of advance work in Michigan, in preparation for full construction to start later this year.

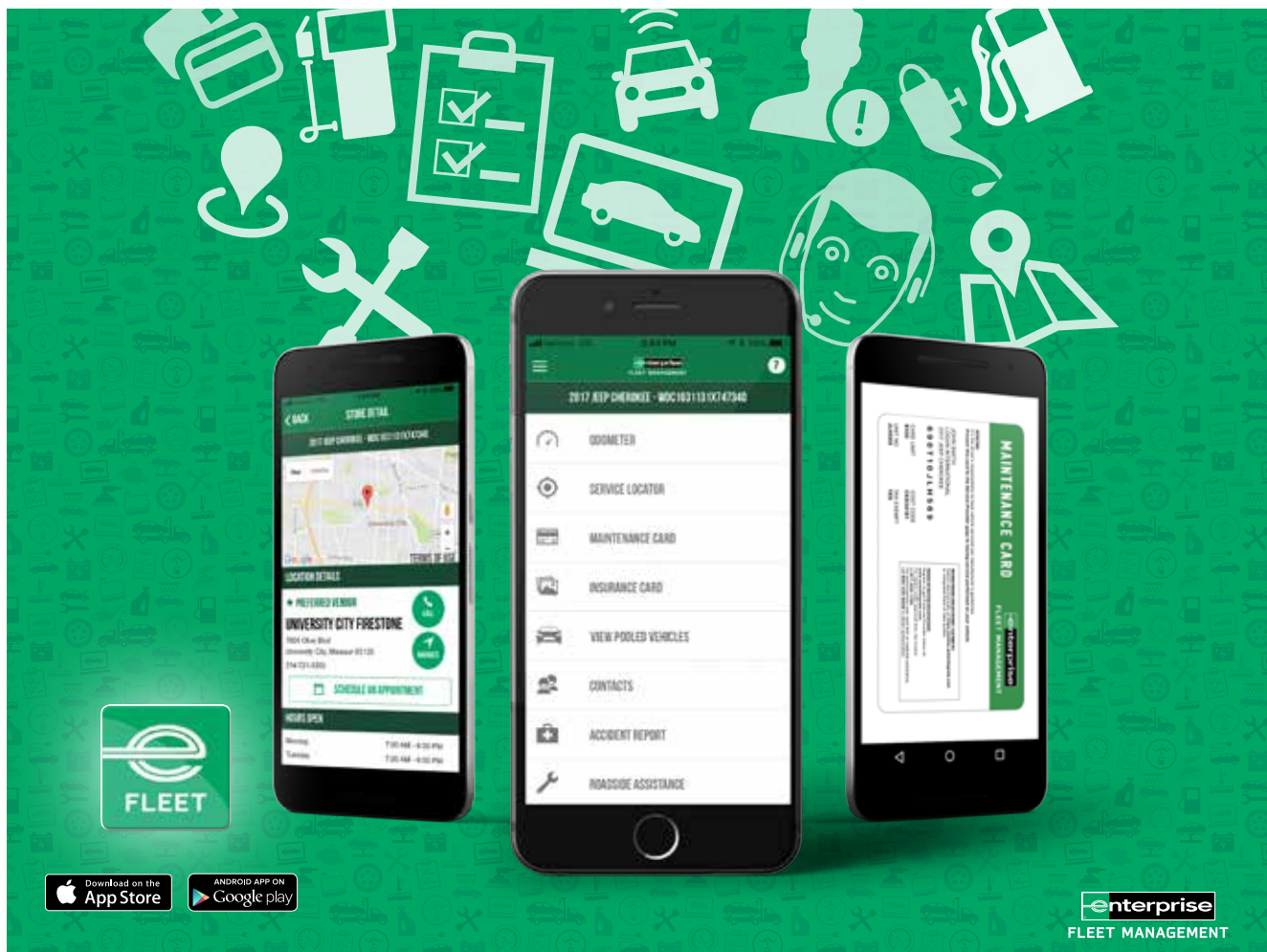
Bridging North America, the preferred proponent selected to deliver the Gordie Howe

Bridge project, began advance construction at the U.S. project sites, starting in July, including at the bridge piers, on the lands that will become the U.S. Port of Entry and at the Michigan Interchange. Bridging North America is able to undertake this work through a separate agreement.

In parallel to this work, Bridging North America and WDBA continued to work toward finalizing the public-private partnership procurement process to reach financial close by the end of September. Once financial close is reached, Bridging North America will officially become WDBA's

private-sector partner.

Governor Rick Snyder said: "This is an exciting day for Detroit, Windsor, Ontario, the United States, and Canada. "After more than seven years of hard work, we broke ground on what will be a thriving legacy named for a legend. Gordie Howe represented the best of Canada and the United States. And, thanks to the hard work of many people on both sides of the border, now this bridge to the future will represent our prosperous partnership for generations to come." 🚧



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- This feature increases productivity and decreases downtime!

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- Maximize your tri-brand discounts by locating fueling stations that participate in the fuel program.

3

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- Drivers can now check into their vehicles by using the App.
- As soon as drivers check into a vehicle, all of the vehicle's information automatically populates into the App.
- This also offers you full visibility into who was driving which vehicle and when.

4

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- Accurate mileage is critical to effective fleet management. Set a standard for your drivers to enter their mileage every time they fuel up or at the end of each month, this will enable accurate mileage tracking.
- With accurate readings – we can proactively manage your fleet, understand each vehicle's needs and develop a replacement strategy that could save thousands of dollars.

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- Eliminate the need to move maintenance cards from vehicle to vehicle, or to match the card to the vehicle.
- Take a photo or upload images of the vehicle's insurance cards and store them in the App so it's easily accessible at the time of an accident.



Instruct your drivers to download the App and share these tips. For driver login information, click on "Mobile Access" from the driver profile screen on the client website. The driver will receive an email with login information. Once the App is downloaded, your employees will have everything they need – whether they're in the office or on the road.

MITA Members Giving Back: Eagle Excavation, Inc.



Members of Flint's Eastside Improvement Association, with the help of MITA Member Eagle Excavation, made a facelift to a Flint playground possible. Top row from left to right: David Martin, Megan Heyza, Rosalie Ross, Ricky Nearing, Brian Pickel and family and Kris Johns. Bottom row left to right: Elizabeth Kelly and family, Brian Boaz, Javaughnte Williams, Tom Boaz and Vanessa Ferguson.

A playground on the eastside of Flint got a facelift recently, thanks to the generous assistance of Eagle Excavation, Inc.

Eagle Excavation picked up and delivered mulch to the Kearsley Park playground during a cleanup effort in July organized by the Eastside Improvement Association. The association, led by Megan Heyza, raised the money to buy the mulch and gathered 22 volunteers for the effort.

“Eagle Excavation picked up the mulch and delivered it the week of the cleanup,” Megan said. “It saved us a lot of trips and about \$200 in delivery fees. It helped make the event possible because, as a group, we do not have access to a truck that size!” 🚧



This is what the playground looked like before renovation...

Continued on page 40



... and after
renovation

Eagle Excavation, Inc., recently gave back to the community by helping with a playground renovation project in Flint.



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Tim Hurst

Tim Hurst was recently selected the new manager of Efficiency Production's Special Operations Shoring Division.

Hurst has been a slide rail installer and shoring specialist in the department for more than a decade. He has assisted in hundreds of slide rail system installations and has worked with countless contractors helping them understand how to use Efficiency's slide rail system.

Hurt's primary responsibilities will be managing dealer and customer relations, while also bidding, procuring and scheduling slide rail installations. Hurst will manage the other shoring specialists in the "special ops" department – Mike Ross, Dan Meredith and Joe Doerfner. He will continue to maintain a presence in the field consulting with Efficiency's sales team, and assisting in slide rail installations as needed.

His contact information is: Office: 517-676-8800; Mobile: 517-881-0784; Email: tim.hurst@trin.net.

G2 Consulting Group

www.g2consultinggroup.com

Justify isn't the only Triple Crown winner of 2018. Troy's G2 Consulting Group won its own Triple Crown in May when for the third year it was named one of the Top 100 "Hot Firms" nationally in the architecture, engineering and construction services industry. The award is based on G2's year over year revenue growth measured in both dollar and percentage change.

"Business growth fuels job creation and builds communities," said Chad Clinehens, CEO of Zweig Group, the leading industry research, publishing and consulting group that presents the award. "That's why it's important to celebrate these companies' success."

G2 Consulting is a nationally recognized leader and one of the fastest growing firms in geotechnical, environmental and

Continued on page 50



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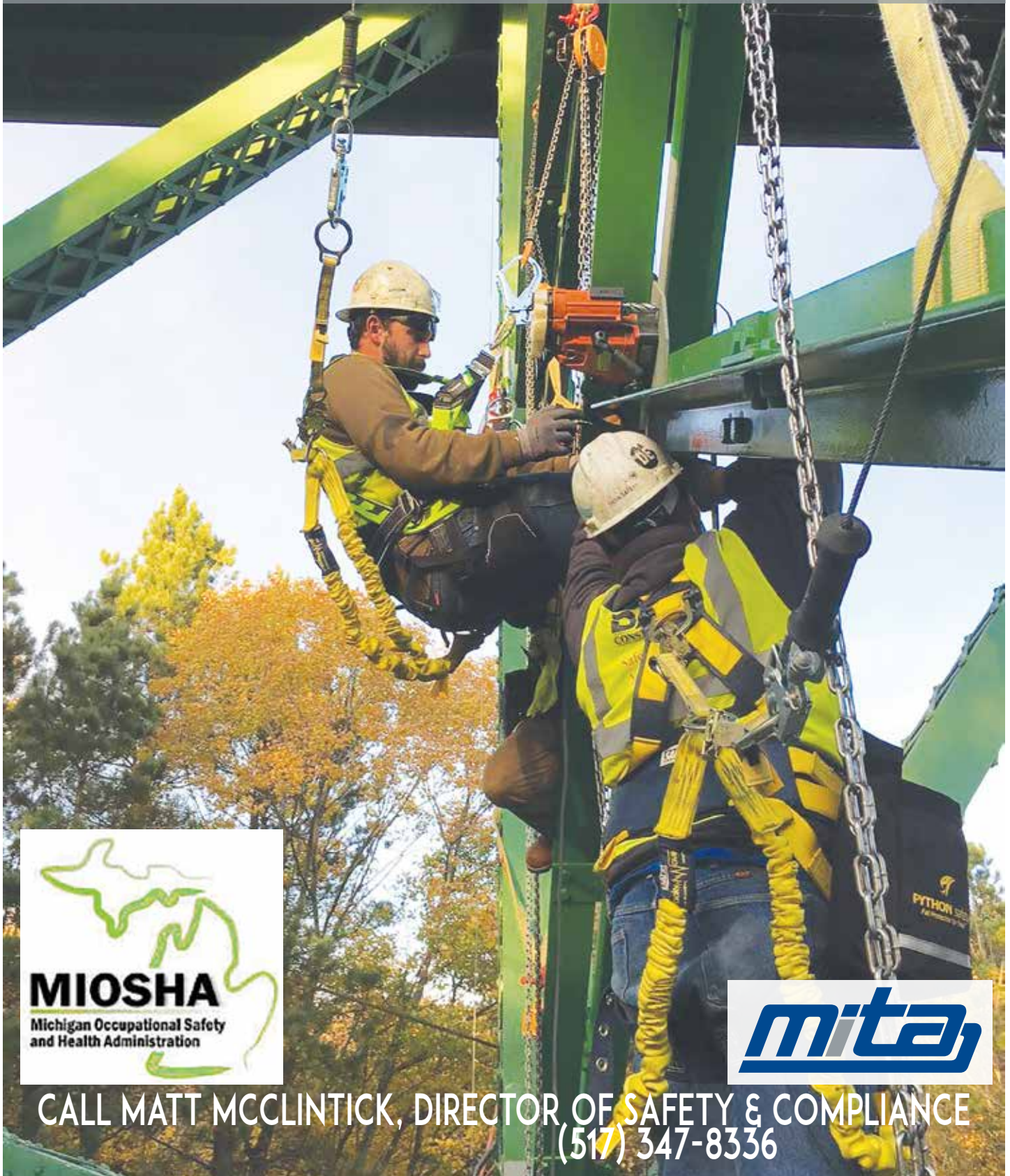
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FALL 2018: MITA PAC UPDATE

With the primaries behind us, election season is officially in full swing and will only continue to ramp up as we approach November and the general election. Don't forget that the entire legislature, as well as the Governor's office, the Secretary of State's office and the Attorney General's office are all up for election. Donating

to the MITA PAC in an election year is crucial to ensuring that the industry's voice continues to be heard loud and clear at the Capitol.

Thank you to all the members who have generously donated in the last year. We strongly encourage you to donate soon if you haven't already. Remember that you can donate online on the MITA website

and also via personal check made out to the MITA PAC and submitted to the MITA office for processing. Questions about the MITA PAC may be directed to Mariam Robinson, Director of Strategic Affairs, at mariamrobinson@thinkmita.org or at 517-347-8336. 📞

First Name	Last Name	Company	Donation
Derrick	Arens	Anlaan Corporation	\$100.00
Ron	Acciavatti	Pamar Enterprises, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Robert	Adcock	Angelo Iafrate Construction Company	\$2,000.00
David	Turner	C. A. Hull Co., Inc.	\$2,500.00
Brian	Schember	Dan's Excavating	\$500.00
Edward	Shaffer	EJD Trasport	\$500.00
Chad	Listerman	CL Trucking & Excavating, LLC	\$2,000.00
John	Lepien	CL Trucking & Excavating, LLC	\$500.00
Darrell	Kaltz	Kaltz Excavating Co.	\$6,000.00
Jim	Kloote	J.E. Kloote Contracting, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Dennis	Rozanski	Dan's Excavating	\$250.00
Paul	Navetta	Dan's Excavating	\$500.00
Steve	Maranowski	Spartan Specialties, Ltd.	\$3,000.00
David	Marsh	Peninsula Prestress Company	\$300.00
Paul	Marsh	Peninsula Prestress Company	\$300.00
Jim	Doescher	Dan's Excavating	\$500.00
Kurt	Shea	P.K. Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
Scott	Bazinet	Lowe Construction Company	\$3,000.00
Ryan	O'Donnell	Anlaan Corporation	\$2,000.00
Chris	Peyerck	Dan's Excavating	\$5,000.00
Mark	Campbell	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$200.00
Gary	Merkey	Jackson-Merkey Contractors, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Steve	Jackson	Jackson-Merkey Contractors, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Dan	Eriksson	Hoffman Bros., Inc.	\$7,500.00
Ron	Lammy	Modern Industries, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Pat	Dunigan	Dunigan Bros., Inc.	\$2,500.00
Tom	Peake	Action Traffic Maintenance	\$1,000.00
Michael	Peake, Jr.	Action Traffic Maintenance	\$1,000.00
Mike	Peake, Sr.	Action Traffic Maintenance	\$1,000.00

First Name	Last Name	Company	Donation
Joe	Cook	Pro-Tec Equipment	\$500.00
Andrew	Rose	Rehmann	\$250.00
Robert	Nagle	Rehmann	\$250.00
Evan	Weiner	Edw. C. Levy Co.	\$1,000.00
Karl	Schweitzer	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Ricky	Gallegos	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$150.00
Sean	Morrissey	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$200.00
Kurk	Schweitzer	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$200.00
Michael	Campbell	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$200.00
Dale	Klett	Klett Recycle, Inc.	\$1,500.00
Ron	Acciavatti	Pamar Enterprises, Inc.	\$1,001.00
John	Kloet	Upper Peninsula Concrete Pipe Co., Inc.	\$750.00
Alex	Williamson	Al's Asphalt Paving Company, Inc.	\$500.00
Brent	Gerken	Gerken Paving, Inc.	\$500.00
Ron	Measel	Ace Cutting Equipment	\$1,000.00
Christopher	Churches	M & M Excavating Company	\$500.00
J.W.	Fisher	Fisher Contracting Company	\$2,000.00
Tom	Larabel	Ferris State University	\$300.00
Brandie	Meisner	M & M Excavating Company	\$1,000.00
Ken	Nowicki	M & M Excavating Company	\$500.00
John	Landrie	M & M Excavating Company	\$500.00
Mike	Malloure	C. A. Hull Co., Inc.	\$10,000.00
Dave	Pytlowany	A.I.S. Construction Equipment Corporation	\$2,500.00
Jack	Dykstra	Jack Dykstra Excavating, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Mike	Miller	VTC Insurance Group	\$500.00
M. Todd	Chartier	M.L. Chartier Exc., Inc.	\$2,500.00
Luke	Fleischmann	Ferguson Waterworks	\$500.00
John	Zito	Zito Construction Co.	\$500.00
Nathan	Wagenmaker	Anlaan Corporation	\$100.00

FALL 2018: MITA PAC UPDATE

Mike	Corrigan	Corrigan Oil Co.	\$1,000.00	John	MacInnis	JRM Consulting LLC	\$100.00
Tom	Horton	Centurion Insurance Agency	\$200.00	Dan	Timmer	Diversco Construction Co., Inc.	\$1,500.00
Kurt	Shea	P.K. Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00	Donn	Ellis	CSI Geoturf	\$500.00
Dave	Sturuss	Grand Valley Concrete Products	\$750.00	Denny	Scully	Mapes Insurance Agency	\$200.00
Jason	McLelland	VTC Insurance Group	\$500.00	Marc	Van Til	Give 'Em A Brake Safety	\$1,000.00
Jacque	Katterman	Katterman Trucking, Inc.	\$300.00	Edward C.	Levy	Edw. C. Levy Co.	\$1,500.00
Frank	DiPonio	DiPonio Contracting, Inc.	\$1,500.00	Andrew	Ross	Utility Contracting Co.	\$200.00
Bob	Nobbs	Edw. C. Levy Co.	\$500.00	John	Fortier	Bacco Construction Co.	\$1,000.00
Jeremy	Lemke	Give 'Em A Brake Safety	\$2,000.00	Brian	Hoffman	Hoffman Bros., Inc.	\$5,000.00
Amy	Trahey	Great Lakes Engineering Group	\$1,002.00	Mike	Buck	Association Benefits Company, A Division of Salus Group	\$500.00
Darrell	Kaltz	Kaltz Excavating, Co., Inc.	\$1,000.00	Robert	Wilson	Mid Michigan Materials	\$500.00
Douglas	Kaltz	Kaltz Excavating, Co., Inc.	\$1,000.00	Paul	Muscat	Cortis Brothers	\$200.00
James	Pieprzak	T.R. Pieprzak Company	\$200.00	Michael	Davis	Davis Construction Co.	\$2,000.00
Terry	Pieprzak	T.R. Pieprzak Company	\$200.00				
Rod	Mersino	Mersino Dewatering, Inc.	\$1,000.00				

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Continued from page 44

construction services. The company works in more than 30 states on projects including highway, road and bridge construction, port and harbors, schools, stadiums, telecom, health care, renewable energy and more. G2 has reported double digit growth in each of the past six years.

G2 Consulting Group's Expertise in Telecom Helps Keep America Connected



"Can you hear me now?" has become a punchline in TV commercials, but clear communication lines are no laughing matter for telecommunication companies.

As wireless data traffic has increased exponentially in the past few years, telecommunication companies are under enormous pressure to provide quality services to their customers wherever they may be and whenever they may be there.

Easier said than done.

Telecom facilities, including small cell, distributed antenna systems (DAS) and traditional towers, are springing up everywhere.

And the next generation of 5G telecommunications will bring infrastructure even closer to the end user, making site selection even more crucial. Finding these favorable locations and environments requires special know-how and skills. Enter G2 Consulting Group, a Troy-based geo-technical, geo-environmental and construction services firm steeped in the telecom industry.

G2 has been an active and trusted player in the telecom construction business for years, helping America to stay connected and telecom providers to stay on time and on budget with their time-sensitive projects.

G2 has conducted thousands of geo-technical investigations, environmental site assessments, and National Environmental Policy Act regulatory reviews for telecom sites ranging from cornfields to mountain tops and from historically and culturally sensitive areas to dense urban environments across the country. As technology demands increase, so do the demands on existing towers and G2 has proven

to be a valuable partner for structural engineers by providing foundation mapping and soil analysis to allow optimization of a tower's capacity.

"Over the past couple decades, we've become leaders in this field," said G2 principal Mark Smolinski, P.E., "and with the constant demand for better, broader communication receptivity, backed by the strong partnerships we've built, G2 expects this area of our business to continue to grow."

Having worked on over 20,000 telecom projects in 35 U.S. states and Canada for all major carriers, G2 has a deep understanding of complex compliance issues and helps its clients meet all levels of regulations. At the same



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time, G2 reviews site information to determine qualifications for any exceptions under the most recent FCC guidelines. All project data is then inventoried in a comprehensive database for quick and complete client reporting.

“Telecom projects are highly specialized and require a full understanding of the geo-technical and geo-environmental conditions at and near the proposed site,” Smolinski said. “We’ve built our partnerships and expertise in this sector over the past 20 years, so it has become a significant part of our business.”

Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc.

www.hrcengr.com



Todd Sneathen, P.E.

Hubbell, Roth & Clark, Inc., is pleased to announce the appointment of Todd Sneathen,

P.E., to their board of directors.

Sneathen, vice president, runs the HRC Delhi Township office. He has over 25 years of experience providing highly regarded infrastructure design and management for a wide variety of projects. He rejoined HRC in 2014 after serving in a variety of municipal positions. These roles included working for the City of East Lansing for more than 20 years, most recently as the director of the Department of Public Works.

Continued on page 52



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Continued from page 51

Lawrence Technological University listed as top Midwestern school

www.ltu.edu

Lawrence Technological University (LTU) has again been named one of the best in the Midwest, according to the Princeton Review. Only 159 colleges and universities in 12 Midwestern states made the list for 2019.

The Framingham, Mass.-based education services company lists LTU among the “2018 Best Colleges: Region by Region” at www.princetonreview.com/college-rankings?rankings=best-midwestern.

“We chose Lawrence Tech and the other outstanding institutions on this list primarily for their excellent academics,” said Robert Franek, Princeton Review’s editor-in-chief. “We also give careful consideration to what students enrolled at the schools reported to us about their campus experiences on our student survey for this project.”

“As in past years, this recognition from the Princeton Review is a tribute to the hard work of our students, faculty, and staff,” LTU President Virinder Moudgil said. “It continues to demonstrate that Lawrence Tech’s ‘Theory and Practice’ approach to education molds well-rounded graduates that not only succeed in their careers, but who contribute to building a better society.”

The Princeton Review’s list is based on an 80-question student survey, a survey of administrators at several hundred colleges in each region, staff visits to schools, and the perspectives of college counselors and advisors whose opinions the company solicits. Students rate their institutions on several issues, from the accessibility of their professors to the quality of science labs to campus life.

“We designed our survey to include questions that prospective applicants might ask on a campus visit,” Franek said. “Only schools that

permit us independently to survey their students are eligible to be considered for our regional ‘best’ lists, and only schools at which we see a strong level of satisfaction among students make it to our final slate of regional ‘best’ college selections.”

The Students Say section of LTU’s listing on the website noted the Lawrence Tech student body is “smart,” with athletes being “the most sociable.” There are also a “lot of nerdy kids who love video games and engineering,” and “artsy kids as a result of the design programs,” as well as “car enthusiasts, both engineers and designers.” Everyone is a “techie,” and “most of the students are dedicated to their studies, especially those in higher level classes.” For those living on campus, there’s a “big focus on community service, and a lot of students contribute to the Detroit metro area in some way.”

The Princeton Review also ranks Lawrence Tech No. 34 in the country for top undergraduate programs in game design.

The Princeton Review’s “regional best” lists constitute about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges. The colleges that the Princeton Review chose for the “Best in the Midwest” list are located in Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin.



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Lawrence Technological University, www.ltu.edu, is a private university founded in 1932 that offers more than 100 programs through the doctoral level in its Colleges of Architecture and Design, Arts and Sciences, Engineering, and Management. Pay Scale lists Lawrence Tech among the nation's top 100 universities for the salaries of its graduates, and U.S. News and World Report lists it in the top tier of best Midwestern universities. Students benefit from small class sizes and a real-world, hands-on, "theory and practice" education with an emphasis on leadership. Activities on Lawrence

Tech's 107-acre campus include more than 60 student organizations and NAIA varsity sports.

McCann Industries, Inc.

www.mccannonline.com

McCann Industries, Inc., is pleased to announce that their territory as the exclusive full line dealer for CASE Construction Equipment has been expanded in both Indiana and Michigan. The company is opening a new branch in each state to provide a reliable option for the construction industry. Both locations will offer the full line of CASE Construction Equipment for sale or rent, plus parts and service

and a line of construction tools. The Indiana location is in Mishawaka, just east of South Bend, and the Michigan location is in Dorr, a few miles south of Grand Rapids.

"We are proud that CASE has expanded our territory, and we look forward to earning the business of equipment owners and operators in these markets," said Jim McCann, president and CEO of McCann Industries. "At McCann, we know uptime is everything. Equipment owners expect responsive service and need quick parts availability backed up with quality service, completed on time and on budget. Exceeding

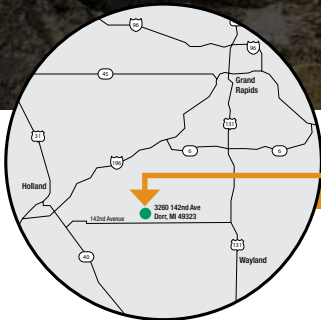
Continued on page 54



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Learn More about Your New CASE Dealer at www.McCannOnline.com

Continued from page 53

this expectation is our goal.”

In addition to offering the full line of CASE Construction equipment, McCann stocks an extensive inventory of tools and light equipment to assure contractors have the products they need to get their projects done on time and on budget. Certified technicians are available for routine maintenance and emergency repairs either in the field or in the shop for any make or model of equipment.

The new locations are located at the addresses below:

Michigan:

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Dorr, Mich. 49323
616-371-7250

Indiana:

14077 Esther Ave.
Mishawaka, Ind. 46545
574-406-6800

McCann Industries Inc., has been selling contractor supplies since 1967. The company added heavy equipment to their offerings in 1994 and now has nine locations throughout the Chicago, northern Indiana and southwestern Michigan areas to service the construction industry. Equipment manufacturers represented by McCann Industries include: CASE, Takeuchi, Wacker, Neuson, Towmaster, Sullair, Husqvarna, Stihl, Honda and the finest brands available for contractor supplies. For more information, visit their website at www.McCannOnline.com.

Superior Asphalt Inc. Wins National Award for Ecological Operations



Left to right: Craig Parker, current chairman of NAPA; Nathan (Nate) Voruganti, quality control supervisor, Superior Asphalt, Inc.; Stacie Newmann, public relations, Superior Asphalt, Inc.; and Dan Gallagher, former chairman of NAPA and vice president of Gallagher Asphalt, Inc.

The National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) recently announced that Superior Asphalt Inc., of Grand Rapids, Mich., is the winner of the 2017 Ecological Award. The award is sponsored by "Roads & Bridges" magazine. The company was recognized in July at a ceremony honoring the Operational Excellence Award recipients during the NAPA Midyear Meeting in Boston.

"NAPA members strive for excellence beyond constructing high-quality asphalt pavements," said NAPA's Craig Parker. "The five categories of the Operational Excellence Awards—Asphalt Operations Safety Innovation, Community Involvement, Ecological, Outstanding Brochure, and Outstanding Website—recognize a company's commitment to

operations that make them good contractors, good industry ambassadors, and good neighbors."

The Ecological Award recognizes asphalt plants whose streamlined production facilities improve productivity and safety. The goal is to demonstrate the asphalt industry's concern for environmental issues, detail practical methods undertaken to promote environmental stewardship within a company, and emphasize the inherent recyclability of asphalt pavements.

At Superior Asphalt Inc., the company's commitment to the environment comes from its president and founder, Jeff Kresnak. His love of nature is reflected in the beautifully landscaped Dutton, Mich., plant site. Located in an industrial cul-de-

sac, the site's aesthetics have been enhanced with more than 100 native spruce trees, which require little water, to screen the plant from its neighbors and with stone signage and hardscaping sourced from the plant's Portland, Mich., operations. Saving energy and water, and limiting waste are an important part of the company's values.

"We waste no materials and do our best to keep material out of Michigan landfills and waterways," said Kresnak. "We recycle everything—100 percent of our asphalt. Nothing goes to the landfill."

The company's decades-long mandate to recycle was the catalyst that motivated it to spend 15 years perfecting a winter hot mix it provides to its municipal customers.

"We are constantly working to improve our winter hot mix," Kresnak said. "It's tested on a daily basis to ensure it contains the 6 percent liquid asphalt or higher necessary to lock up."

In addition to Superior Asphalt's environmentally friendly values and innovations, the Dutton plant uses an efficient 300 ton per hour drum plant. Burners are checked regularly, and their efficiency is calculated and monitored.

Superior Asphalt Inc. uses 15–20 percent reclaimed asphalt pavement (RAP) in most mix designs and has the air emissions permit required by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to make RAP mixes. RAP is closely monitored at all times to ensure a quality asphalt material that is durable and reliable.

"We run the cleanest facility possible," Kresnak said. "Our Dutton plant is highly efficient, and we've had no noise complaints. The few emissions complaints we have had over the years were addressed immediately. The community truly

welcomes us, and we try to be the best stewards we can be for the community and environment." 🚧



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ARTBA Leader Pete Ruane Announces Retirement Plans



Pete Ruane

Pete Ruane, president and chief executive officer of the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), today announced he will be retiring from the organization in October after 30 years of service. He is the longest tenured head of the 116-year-old organization.

After Ruane's departure, ARTBA Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer William D. Toohey, Jr., a 33-year ARTBA veteran, will serve as acting CEO until the new top executive appointment is made and transitioned.

"It has been my honor and privilege to serve ARTBA and help advance its mission of ensuring solid investment in transportation infrastructure to meet the demand for safe and efficient mobility," Ruane said. "The nation's economy

and quality of life literally ride on the fine work done by the men and women in this industry. I'm proud to have been supporting them. This organization has incredibly strong volunteer leadership and an outstanding staff. I believe it is well-positioned to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future."

ARTBA Chairman Matthew Cummings, executive vice president of Americas Transportation for the international design and construction firm, AECOM, noted that when Ruane joined ARTBA in 1988, the total annual federal investment in the U.S. highway and transit programs was \$16 billion. Today, it is \$60 billion.

"Pete's passion for ARTBA's mission and his successful industry leadership over the past almost three decades cannot be overstated," Cummings said. "He has built ARTBA into a highly-respected, formidable operation on multiple fronts: government relations, policy development, economic research and analysis, safety training and promotion. He leaves behind a powerful legacy both in Washington and the industry. Pete brings an unrivaled industry presence, a dedication and drive that are truly one of a kind."

He noted that earlier this year he had appointed Immediate Past ARTBA Chairman David Zachry, chief executive officer of the Zachry Corporation, an international

construction firm based in San Antonio, Texas, to head a search committee for Ruane's successor. The process, he said, is well underway.

Ruane, who "Congressional Quarterly" called "the dean of transportation lobbyists," has been a leading force in federal transportation investment policy and politics in the nation's capital for over 40 years. He has been a fixture witness at congressional hearings and provided counsel to administrations from both political parties. He has advised and served on post-election presidential transition teams.

Ruane was instrumental in the creation and leadership of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC), now in its 22nd year, which includes 31 national associations and labor unions, the 105-member Alliance for Truth in Transportation Budgeting, which successfully pushed reforms to end the long-time impoundment of Highway Trust Fund revenue, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce-led Americans for Transportation Mobility (ATM), which he has served as vice-chair.

In a prescient move, in 1990 Ruane encouraged ARTBA to create its eighth permanent membership division—Public-Private Partnerships in Transportation—to help develop

Continued on page 58



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Continued from page 56

and move federal legislation that would foster private investment in transportation projects to supplement public funding. The association played a key role in opening this door in the 1995 highway bill which allowed, for the first time, states to be reimbursed with federal funds for bond principal, interest costs and insurance on Title 23 projects. The law also made significant changes in federal loan policies for toll highway and bridge projects.

For his leadership in the 1998 enactment of TEA-21, the \$198 billion guaranteed, six-year surface transportation authorization law, Ruane was the first association executive ever selected to receive the American Public Works Association's Distinguished Service Award. He was also selected as one of "Engineering News-Record" magazine's Top Newsmakers of 1998 worldwide. "Public Works" magazine named him one of its 2005 trendsetters for his leadership in enactment of the 2005 SAFETEA-LU surface transportation program authorization.

On Ruane's watch, ARTBA moved aggressively into the federal environmental litigation arena. In 1993, it sued the U.S. EPA over proposed expansion of the Clean Air Act transportation conformity regulations, and won. Among its many subsequent court victories, the association has earned landmark rulings thwarting state agency efforts to regulate and limit the use of heavy construction equipment on transportation project sites and also in ensuring the transportation construction industry

has legal standing in federal court challenges against approved state and regional transportation plans.

Under Ruane's stewardship, ARTBA also developed and launched nationally acclaimed economic research, safety and education programs. Among them are the following, which are all trademarked: the Transportation Investment Advocacy Center, the National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse, TransOvation and the Safety Certification for Transportation Project Professionals (SCTPP) Program. The SCTPP was awarded ANSI accreditation under the ISO/IEC 17024 international standard for professional certification in May 2018, a unique achievement.

Prior to joining ARTBA in October 1988, Ruane served nine years as president and chief executive officer of the National Moving & Storage Association. From 1970 until 1980, he served as

the deputy director of the Office of Economic Adjustment in the Office of the U.S. Secretary of Defense and the President's Economic Adjustment Committee.

Ruane is a past chairman and current director of the Small Business Legislative Council (SBLC), a permanent coalition of over 50 trade associations representing small business interests in Washington, D.C. He is also an officer of the International Road Federation (IRF) and a trustee of the ARTBA Transportation Development Foundation.

Ruane, a decorated U.S. Marine Corps officer, served in the Vietnam War. He earned a doctorate in public administration at the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., holds a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University and is a graduate of Loyola University in

Continued on page 60



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Continued from page 58

Baltimore, Maryland. He holds the professional designation Certified Association Executive (CAE).

A long-time advocate for Catholic education, Ruane has held numerous volunteer leadership positions in that arena. He has served as chairman of the Loyola College Board of Advisors and chairman of the St. Mary's Annapolis School Board. For

five years, he served as the first lay chairman of the Calvert Hall College High School in Baltimore. In 2015, Ruane was voted into the school's Hall of Fame.

He and his wife of 50 years, Pat, live in Annapolis, Maryland.

ARTBA is a non-partisan federation whose primary goal is to aggressively grow and protect

transportation infrastructure investment to meet the public and business demand for safe and efficient travel. In support of this mission, ARTBA also provides programs and services designed to give its public and private sector members a global competitive edge.

2018 MITA Scholarship Fund Contributions To Date

Anlaan Corporation	\$2,000.00	Donation
Diversco Construction	\$500.00	Donation
Velting Contractors	\$1,000.00	Donation
Give 'Em A Brake Safety	\$200.00	In Memory of David Snell

We'd like to thank every company that has made the effort to contribute to the scholarship fund this year. The scholarship fund does not grow and thrive without your support, so your generosity has not gone unnoticed. Every donation makes a difference and allows another young person to pursue their dream of establishing a career in the industry.

The MITA Scholarship Fund is always open to receiving donations or memorial contributions. Please consider supporting the fund today in an effort to help the industry bring the next generation forward. Questions about how to support the scholarship fund or how to apply can be directed at Mariam Robinson, Director of Strategic Affairs, at mariamrobinson@thinkmita.org or at 517-347-8336. 🇺🇸

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