

FALL 2019

CROSS SECTION



PAGE 8: **CONTRACTOR MEMBER PROFILE:** LOUNSBURY EXCAVATING, INC.

PAGE 12: **ASSOCIATE MEMBER PROFILE:** MCCANN INDUSTRIES

PAGE 20: **MITA'S NEW SAFETY POLICY**

PRST MKTG
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LANSING, MI
PERMIT NO. 370

MITA, Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association
P. O. Box 1640, Okemos, MI 48805-1640

mita
*Michigan Infrastructure &
Transportation Association*





**Get exceptional value
with small business
and individual health
coverage from the Blues.**

Contact our Blues Administrator, Association Benefits Company, today to learn about the benefits that are available to MITA members. They work with all insurance agents.

248.356.3366

association

benefits

company

A DIVISION OF SALUS GROUP

Services, Savings, Solutions, Simplicity





SAFETY GROUP DIVIDEND PROGRAM

for Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association Members (MITA)

- Competitive premiums for all major lines of coverage including Workers' Compensation
- Program effective date is October 1. Coverage can be bound at any time! Policy effective dates do NOT need to follow program effective date.
- Potential Group Safety Dividend*



Penny Kirk, CIC, CAWC

Construction Risk Management Specialist
616.301.6713; cell: 616.9142652
penny.kirk@hubinternational.com

HUB International Midwest East
hubinternational.com



HUB International is a leading insurance and bond agency for the construction industry. We are known for our construction and bonding expertise, as well as comprehensive programs like this one that allow you to protect what matters most, for the most effective price.

CONTACT HUB FOR MORE INFORMATION

Program is accessible to all BITCO agents.



Administrator of the Program: HUB International
Insurance Company: BITCO Insurance Companies
Endorsed by: Michigan Infrastructure and Transportation Association (MITA)

*Dividends cannot be legally guaranteed and are subject to approval by the BITCO board of directors.

CROSSSECTION

FALL 2019

COVER PHOTO:

Night work with C.A. Hull Co., Inc. and Ajax Paving Industries, Inc., on I-96 and M-59 in July 2019. Photo by MITA's Matt McClintick.



CONTENTS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5 Executive Comment | 29 Partner News |
| 8 Member Profile | 36 Member News |
| 12 Associate Member Profile | 40 MITA Staff News |
| 14 Vice President of Engineering Services Comment | 43 Know Your Owner |
| 18 Vice President of Government Affairs Comment | 36 MDOT News |
| 19 Director of Safety and Compliance Comment | 48 Member Voice |
| 20 Legal Issues | 50 MITA PAC Update |
| 22 Underground Spotlight | 55 ARTBA News |
| 24 New MITA Members | 57 MITA Events Calendar |
| 25 Problem Solver | |

Contractors Insurance Bonds Pension Plans
Group Health & Life



ZERVOS GROUP, INC.
INSURANCE & BONDS

24724 Farmbrook Rd. P.O. Box 2067 Southfield, Michigan 48037-2067
(248) 355-4411 www.zervosgroup.com

Staff of 40 to provide "Service with Zervos"

Gus E. Zervos, CEO Steve M. Zervos, President Angelo G. Zervos, VP Michael G. Zervos, VP
Don Burden Dave Lange Dominic Nicita

For Cross-Section Magazine advertising or editorial inquiries, contact Nancy Brown at 517-347-8336 or email her at nancybrown@thinkmita.org.

©2019 Cross-Section Magazine. All rights reserved. Reprints or reproductions only with written consent of MITA.

MITA
P.O. Box 1640
Okemos, Mich. 48805-1640
Phone: 517-347-8336
Fax: 517-347-8344



Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association



Mike Nystrom

Executive Vice President

contract for multiple preservation, rehabilitation or replacement projects that help owner agencies reduce costs and address strategic program goals.

During the summer months, MITA's Safety and Compliance Director Matt McClintick prepared MITA's new Safety and Health Field Book (page 20), which is available to all MITA members. The book contains a wealth of information, including general rules for fall protection, workzone safety, traffic regulations and much more. MITA staff also coordinated legislative jobsite visits (page 23) to put the spotlight on the need for increased infrastructure funding throughout the entire state.

As we move into fall, MITA staff will continue working on your behalf every day, and preparing for yet another awesome annual conference, to be held January

21–23, 2020 at the Soaring Eagle Casino and Resort. Stay tuned for details on this event. But it is not too early to mark your calendars, and also plan to attend one if not all the MITA Holiday Parties (page 57) in December.

Other news in this issue includes an article submitted by the Salus Group on page 20, which outlines our Association Health Plan for MITA members. Salus Group is a benefits consultant that has had a longstanding relationship with MITA and their team can assist you in finding better rates for your employee health plan.

We hope all the articles in this issue assist you in some way with the day to day operations of your business. If there is ever a topic that you want to see featured in the magazine, give us a call. We are here for you!

MITA's final golf outing of the season in August wrapped up a record-breaking year with attendance at these events, at the same time that members, such as Lounsbury Excavating (see page 8), were extremely busy focusing on many current projects and bidding new ones. For a look at an emerging concept for project bidding, see an article on page 14 by MITA's Vice President of Engineering Services. The article discusses the merits of project bundling—the awarding of a single



GBM
COMPANIES

Recycled Concrete & Asphalt Products
www.gbmrecycledconcrete.com

- Chilson Road, Howell
- Kensington Road, Brighton



Natural Aggregate Products
www.gbmsandandgravel.com

- Hogan Road, Fenton

Operated by: DCF Recycling, Inc.

PO Box 1357 • Brighton MI 48116 • Phone 810-522-6474 • Fax 810-522-6499

MITA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President
Brandie Meisner
M & M Excavating Company

President-Elect
Brian Hoffman
Hoffman Bros., Inc.

Vice-President
Pat Dunigan
Dunigan Bros., Inc.

Treasurer
J.W. Fisher
Fisher Contracting Company

Executive Vice President/
Secretary
Mike Nystrom

DIRECTORS

Past President
Mike Malloure
C.A. Hull Co., Inc.

Past President
Jim Doescher
Dan's Excavating, Inc.

Director at Large
Rinaldo Acciavatti
Pamar Enterprises, Inc.

Director at Large
Steve Maranowski
Spartan Specialties, LTD

Director at Large
Mike Peake
Action Traffic Maintenance

Director at Large
Jack Dykstra
Jack Dykstra Excavating, Inc.

Director at Large
John Zito
Zito Construction Co.

Director at Large
Karl Schweitzer
GM & Sons, Inc.

Director at Large
Chad Listerman
CL Trucking & Excavating, LLC

Director at Large
Scott Velting
Velting Contractors, Inc.

Director at Large
Deb Edgecomb
Sanches Construction

Director at Large
Lincoln Noel
Payne & Dolan, Inc.

Director at Large
Mike DeFinis
Angelo Iafrate Construction Co.

Director at Large
Aden Shea
P.K. Contracting, Inc.

Director at Large
Chad Loney
Reith-Riley Construction Co.

Director—Concrete
Angelo Lanni
Florence Cement Company, Inc.

Director—Bituminous
Alan Sandell
Cadillac Asphalt, LLC

Director—Structures
Jeff Stover
Toebe Construction LLC

Director—Specialties
Pete Scodeller
Scodeller Construction, Inc.

Director—Utilities
Remi Coolsaet
R.L. Coolsaet Construction Co.

Director—Excavating
Troy Broad
Team Elmer's

Director—Underground
J.W. Kalin
Kalin Construction Co., Inc.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER COUNCIL

Mike Buck
Salus Group

Dale Chambers
Jensen Bridge & Supply

Amy Trahey, P.E.
Great Lakes Engineering
Group, LLC

STAFF

Mike Nystrom
Executive Vice President
mikenystrom@thinkmita.org

Rob Coppermsith
Vice President of Membership
Services
roboppersmith@thinkmita.org

Glenn Bukoski, P.E.
Vice President of
Engineering Services
glennbukoski@thinkmita.org

Lance Binoniemi
Vice President of
Government Affairs
lancebinoniemi@thinkmita.org

Rachelle VanDeventer, P.E.
Vice President of Industry
Relations
rachellevandeventer@
thinkmita.org

Nancy Brown
MITA Cross-Section
Magazine Editor
Director of Communications
nancybrown@thinkmita.org

Matt McClintick
Director of Safety and
Compliance
mattmcclintick@thinkmita.org

Mariam Robinson
Director of Strategic Affairs
mariamrobinson@thinkmita.org

Ken Bertolini
Director of Workforce
Development
kenbertolini@thinkmita.org

Mary Moody
Accounting Coordinator
marymoody@thinkmita.org

Danielle Coppersmith
Events Coordinator
daniellecoppersmith@
thinkmita.org

Sara Schaibly
Membership Services
Coordinator
saraschaibly@thinkmita.org

Ellen Nystrom
Receptionist
ellennystrom@thinkmita.org



Brightwater Tunnels | Shoreline, WA



University Link Light Rail | Seattle, WA



First Street Tunnel | Washington, D.C.

A Reputation of Excellence

Our work underground makes the surface world more livable. Specializing in heavy underground construction, Jay Dee Contractors, Inc. has been a leader in the industry in complex tunneling and underground construction for the past 50 years.

A team comprised of experienced and dedicated industry professionals, our commitment to quality is evident in everything we do. We have built an impressive project portfolio varying in size, scope

and complexity. Projects include tunnels, pump stations, shafts, caissons, raw water and waste water facilities.

Such a wide scope of projects and quality of work has proven Jay Dee's resilience, fortitude and experience to carry out even the most challenging of projects in the most difficult ground conditions. To this day, we continue to build upon our reputation of excellence by continuously delivering innovative, quality and reliable underground tunneling.



From left to right: Jeff Lounsbury, project manager; Mike Hiestand, president; and Mike Lounsbury, vice president.

Lounsbury Excavating, Inc.

Lounsbury Excavating, Inc. was built on a strong foundation by the Lounsbury's almost 75 years ago. Recently, the new generation has strategically grown the company into a commercial construction leader throughout Southwest Michigan.

The company is entirely focused on industry leading technology, innovative management approach and a company culture built on strong character, family-like values,

and a relentless commitment to safety. With this, they continue to empower their employees to grow and strengthen themselves to create the best possible product for customers.

Being a member of MITA has helped the company in many ways, including collaboration on projects, peer to peer relationships and overall support of the industry statewide, according to the President Mike Hiestand, who is also one of

the company owners.

MEET THE OWNERS

For the past 33 years, Mike Hiestand, who has served as president of the company since 2016, has been involved in the construction industry working as a site foreman, estimator, and project manager covering all phases of building construction. He oversees all departments as well as business development and leading



Lounsbury Excavating, Inc.

www.lounsburylexavating.com

32673 East Red Arrow Highway
Paw Paw, Mich. 49079

Email:
contact@lounsburylexavating.com

Phone: 269-657-4446

Fax: 269-667-4884

OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday:
8 am–5 pm

SPECIALTIES

COMMERCIAL EXCAVATION

- Complete site preparation
- Mass earthwork and grading sites
- Foundation excavation and backfill
- Site demolition
- Tree and stump removal
- Final site restoration
- SESC

COMMERCIAL SITE UTILITY WORK

- Storm & Sewer Drain—Repair & replacement
- Detention & Retention
- Sewer—Sanitary, laterals, storm, mains, box culverts, and sewer repair
- Water—Water main infrastructure and repairs
- Trench Digging

COMMERCIAL DESIGN-SITE PLANNING

- Corporate headquarters
- Urban developments
- Early knowledge of total project cost
- Ongoing budgeting and value-engineering
- Reduced change order potential
- Single entity responsible for design and construction

CURRENT PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Portage Public Schools
- Western Michigan University
- Advia Corporate headquarters
- Hilton Hotel
- Stryker Campus

MITA Member Since 1997

the company in new directions in this ever changing economy. His expertise in the industry has helped grow the company into what it is today—a commercial construction leader throughout Southwest Michigan. Although originally growing up in Chicago, the majority of Mike's career has been here in Michigan with his wife, Mary, of 20 years and three teenage kids, Madison, Michael and Megan.

Mike L. Lounsbury began working for the company in 2001 while attending Western Michigan University. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in business, he began his professional career at Lounsbury Excavating as a project manager and became Vice President

in 2016. His degree from WMU has been a key in the success of computerized scheduling, resource tracking and GPS training.

"The biggest change since I started is our technology," Mike said. "We were the first to have the GPS technology and have mastered the use on even the smallest of projects."

Mike has three children and a wife, Kristy, and enjoys spending his time with family away from work. He also enjoys coaching youth soccer and following NFL football.

"I enjoy working at Lounsbury Excavating because of its family-like values and relationships, even though it's not a family business today," he added.

Jeff Lounsbury has been with Lounsbury Excavating since he graduated from high school. He started as a talented operator who leaped to management/part owner. Jeff assists the field with day to day operations and scheduling of manpower.

"It's fascinating to me to have witnessed our growth," Jeff said. "I remember driving old 1970 dump trucks that were falling apart. The company has made strategic decisions to move from a residential to commercial business that has allowed for larger and newer equipment."

In Jeff's time away from work, he

Continued on page 10

MEMBER PROFILE

Continued from page 9



The Lounsbury Excavating team in Paw Paw, Mich., is proud of their success over the last nearly 75 years.

enjoys traveling and off-road trail adventures with his wife, Christina. Jeff loves working on and restoring vintage 1980 vehicles.

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

As Lounsbury continues to grow, they are excited to expand the company and grow from a small family business to a large commercial corporation.

“We will not lose focus on maintaining our values,” Mike Hiestand said. “We are a leader in excavation technology and pride

ourselves in using the latest tools and technologies to ensure precision and accuracy on all of our projects.”

Lounsbury Excavating’s dedicated and well-trained field personnel are the true assets of the company, Mike added. On-site equipment and methods training is provided to all personnel, as is preventative maintenance training for all equipment and tools.

“The focus of all members of the company team is to provide a quality product, safely and timely,” Mike said. “By using innovative

management tools in both budgeting and our field operations, we can help clients bring projects to completion on budget and on schedule.”

As Lounsbury Excavating approaches their 75th anniversary in 2020, they are excited to roll out a year long campaign to celebrate this milestone with staff, customers, friends, family and the community. They are proud of where they came from and excited about how they have grown in the construction industry. [A](#)



Dick, Scott or Tim
(517) 529-9406

Scott (517) 206-5423 (cell)
Tim (734) 552-2667 (cell)
Fax (517) 529-4504

MDOT, INDOT, ODOT Prequalified

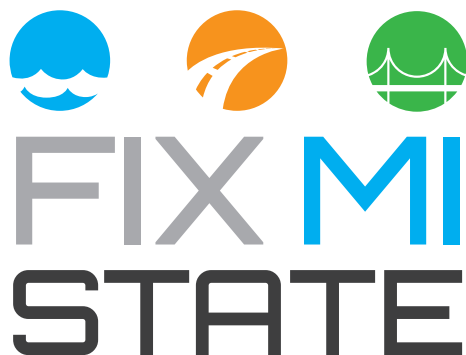
2535 Bader Road • Horton, Michigan 49246

Boring and Jacking

Pipe Jacking

Tunneling

**Horizontal
Directional
Drilling**



Learn about the state's infrastructure
needs at www.FixMIState.org



Limestone

Denniston • Maybee
Newport • Ottawa Lake

Sand & Gravel

100th St. • Bauer • Burmeister
Moscow • Patterson
Paw Paw • Pit 9 • Wicks • Zeeb

Rail & Recycle

Ann Arbor • Flint
Grand Rapids • Lansing

www.stoneco.net • (734) 241-8966



*Serving Michigan with over 100 years of excellence.
MDOT certified and providing all grades of construction limestone, sand, and gravel.*



McCann Industries recently announced that a new, 12,400 square foot building was open for business in Marne, west of Grand Rapids.

McCann Industries

Richard (Dick) J. McCann founded McCann Construction Specialties Company in Villa Park, Illinois in 1967 to sell concrete forms and accessories. Over the next 30 years, he steadily expanded the company to represent manufacturers of construction products and light equipment.

McCann Power & Equipment was established in 1995 with the acquisition of two Case Construction Equipment dealerships in Illinois and one in Indiana. Five years later, the two companies merged to become McCann Industries Inc., and the company now provides a full range of equipment, contractor supplies and services for the construction industry.

Dick passed away in 2013, but his legacy lives on in the day-to-day operations at nine locations in Illinois, Indiana and Michigan. His son, Jim, is president and CEO of the company, which represents 400 suppliers and manufacturers, as well as provides equipment service and repair and supplies for a wide range of contractors.

At the forefront of the Michigan operation is James J. Maioho, Michigan Branch Manager, who was happy to announce recently that a new, 12,400 square foot building was open for business in Marne, west of Grand Rapids. This permanent location replaces a site in Dorr, which was a temporary rental while they were searching for the site of their new Michigan

flagship store. A year ago they signed on the land in Marne; they broke ground on the eight-acre site in the late fall of 2018; steel was up by winter, and they moved into their new facility in the middle of July.

“Our focus is on heavy construction equipment in Michigan,” Maioho said. “We sell the CASE brand specifically, and in the future we will offer other equipment from other suppliers as well. CASE is doing a great job turning around their market in Michigan and reinvesting in Michigan with this brand will help them regain market share.”

Maioho, who has worked in the industry for 30 years, said McCann is a great choice for construction



McCann Industries

www.mccannonline.com

1064 Franklin St.
Marne, Mich. 49435

Phone: 616-302-0356
Fax: 855-536-1338

MAIN CONTACTS

James Maioho

Michigan Branch Manager
jmaioho@mccannonline.com

equipment because CASE is engineering their equipment to meet TIER 4 environmental protocols, which has helped differentiate their products from others in the market. They are also refocusing on the customers, which is an advantage over other equipment suppliers whose plates are extremely full.

"We are focusing on the small to medium size road builders and we give them a lot of attention," Maioho said. "We are a well-funded, well-established company with much success in the industry."

Maioho, who is from Pierson in Montcalm County, has lived in the Grand Rapids area all his life. His experience in the industry includes sales, consulting, and launching brands for major equipment

companies. In addition to his work with McCann, Maioho serves as a commissioner on the Vital Streets Oversight Commission for the City of Grand Rapids, and is a volunteer with Habitat for Humanity.

He appreciates being a member of MITA because of the fellowship at events, such as the annual conference, where he is able to interact with MITA members, in addition to industry leaders.

"This gives us credibility from an

organization that is a great advocate for the overall construction industry," Maioho said. "We are growing with the industry, and taking our market share up from zero, adding staff, and gratefully we have nearly quadrupled our market share in year one and look forward to gaining even more ground. Every deal is hard; every inch is a victory! We are making new friends every day! It's a great time to be in the Michigan construction industry." [▲](http://www.thinkmita.org)

SPECIALTIES AND SERVICES: (Chicago-Indiana locations currently)

COMMERCIAL EXCAVATION

- Building Supplies, Equipment
- Construction Equipment Financing and Leasing
- Asphalt Equipment (plants, pavers, rollers, compactors, spreaders)
- Heavy Equipment (tractors, loaders, excavators, cranes, shovels, earthmovers, dredging, generator sets, pile drivers, graders, fine graders, boring equipment)
- Light Equipment (compressors, pumps light plants, mortar mixers, chippers, saws, welding, pipe bursting, winching equipment).
- 24/7 on-site service
- Certified technicians
- Best brands
- Rental equipment delivery
- Extensive inventory

CONTRACTORS SERVED

- Residential and commercial concrete
- Grading and excavating
- Sewer and water
- Underground and utility
- Landscaping and nurseries
- Concrete and masonry restoration
- Waterproofing and caulking
- Municipal and governmental agencies
- General contracting firms

BUSINESS AFFILIATIONS:

- Member of MITA since 2018
- American Public Works Association
- Associated Construction Distributors
- Associated Equipment Distributors
- Concrete Contractors Association of Greater Chicago



Glenn Bukoski, P.E.

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

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) describes “project bundling” as the awarding of a single contract for multiple (a few to several) preservation, rehabilitation or replacement projects that help owner agencies reduce costs and address strategic program goals. Nationally, project bundling is a proven practice where the realized benefits include: expedited project development, through the streamlining of various project development requirements (i.e. environmental agreements and standardized designs); reduced costs, through the use of common elements and standardized designs that achieve economies of scale in both project development and delivery; and contracting efficiencies, through the awarding of a single contract for several similar projects saving procurement and administrative time and costs.

Several state departments of transportation (DOTs), acting

"Project Bundling" ...Is It Coming to Michigan?

on their own or in concert with their local units of government, have successfully executed project bundling initiatives to take advantage of funding opportunities to quickly address, in a majority of the cases, critical bridge infrastructure needs. The DOTs in Delaware, Georgia, Missouri, Ohio, Oregon and Pennsylvania all have executed bundling projects of various scopes and size to address long-standing bridge network needs.

In Pennsylvania, the DOT partnered with their county

agencies to conduct a three-county bundled contract that rebuilt, replaced or removed 41 county owned structures. And following upon that success, the Pennsylvania DOT pursued a single bridge bundling contract to repair or replace 558 structurally deficient bridges around the state. In Oregon, the DOT will replace or repair 271 bridges utilizing 87 project bundle contracts, while in Ohio the DOT will repair or replace 220 county bridges over the next

Continued on page 16

Each red marker represents a Michigan bridge graded in poor condition.





Avoid layoffs. Keep your skilled workers. Save money.

Work Share is a program that helps employers to maintain operational productivity during declines in regular business activity. With Work Share, rather than being laid off, eligible employees work a reduced number of hours in the work week and receive a portion of weekly unemployment benefits. Employers are able to retain skilled employees and avoid the expense of recruiting, hiring and training new workers. For more information about Work Share, visit our website at michigan.gov/uia or call 1-844-WORKSHR (967-5747).

A Smart Alternative to Layoffs



WorkShare
michigan.gov/uia

Continued from page 14

three years using a series of bridge bundling initiatives.

In early March when Governor Whitmer made her budget presentation to the state legislature she boldly proposed a 45-cents per gallon increase in the state gas tax to raise more than \$2.5 billion that is needed annually to stop the rapid condition decline of Michigan's roads and bridges. A strategic component of the Governor's proposed "road funding" plan to rebuild Michigan's critically deteriorating bridge infrastructure is a "Local Agency Bridge Bundling Initiative" that has a goal of "Zero serious, critical or closed bridges by 2025".

Almost 500 bridges on Michigan's local roads (roads under the jurisdiction of a county, city, village or township) are rated in serious, or critical condition, and over 1,000 have load restrictions due to their condition or structural capacity. Commerce, emergency services and basic transportation are restricted in several areas of the state due to some 58 local bridges that are so severely deteriorated, they are closed for public safety reasons.

Current estimates by Governor Whitmer's administration indicate that Michigan's local bridges need \$850 million to \$1.2 billion to meet their aggressive 2025 goal. Although there are questions as to how the necessary revenues will be generated to fund the Governor's proposed "Local Agency Bridge Bundling Initiative", her administration has said that from the new revenue raised by the proposed 45 cents gas tax

increase, \$85 million per year will be committed to local agency bridges.

At the time of this writing, the final outcome of the Governor's proposed "Local Agency Bridge

Bundling Initiative," and the strategic gains it could make in addressing the critical needs of Michigan's local bridges, lays in the hands of our elected officials ... stay tuned!! [A](#)



Move your business *forward*
with Confidence.

It's a world of risk. And a steadfast partner who understands that risk can be the key to accomplishing your goals.

VTC is that partner. Our one business is protecting yours: helping identify and manage your risk environment with insurance coverage that's specifically tailored to your needs. The tools we use are the most respected, high-value insurance and surety bond products in the world, put to work for you by insurance professionals who are uniquely proactive. And absolutely accountable.

The result? Confidence to pursue your goals. The same confidence our customers have enjoyed for nearly sixty years.

For insurance, surety bond and employee benefit solutions, VTC offers the most comprehensive, high-value lines available anywhere.

Get your quote now.
Call 248-828-3377.
www.vtcins.com

Auto-Owners
INSURANCE
LIFE • HOME • CAR • BUSINESS

VTC 
INSURANCE
GROUP

Confidence. For What's Next.™

MEETING YOUR NEEDS FOR BONDS AND INSURANCE

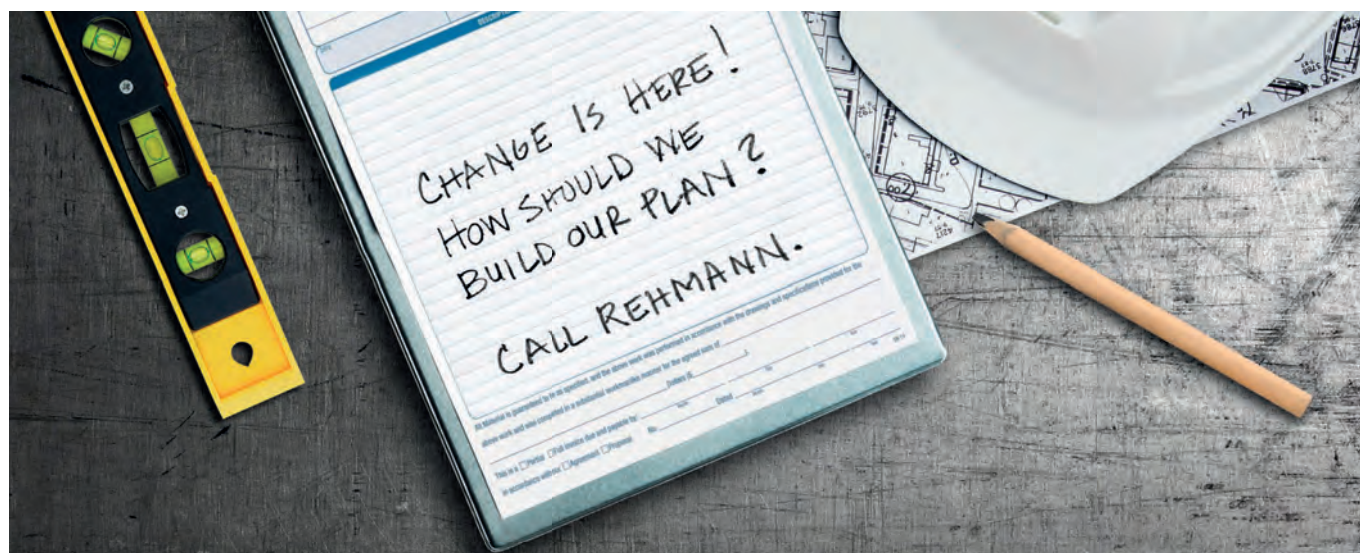


(517) 371-2300
615 N. CAPITOL AVE.
LANSING, MI 48933

*Affiliations: NASBP, MITA, AGC, ABC
Serving Michigan Since 1933*



*Service Beyond the
Contract Nationwide*



Changes in the construction industry present an opportunity to assess your overall business. From the effects of tax reform and technological advances changing the workplace to cyber security concerns, your first call should be to someone who knows you and your industry. Our trustworthy advice, answers and guidance take the stress out of every challenge and change.

Business solutions. Peace of mind. That's The Rehmann Experience.

rehmann.com/construction | 866.799.9580

 **Rehmann**

No Road Funding Deal During Summer Recess As State Budget Stalls



Lance Binoniemi

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

A looming road funding deal has been circulating Lansing ever since Governor Whitmer proposed (back in March) increasing the gas tax by 45 cents to raise \$2.5 billion annually, which is what is needed to get 85% of all Michigan roads in good or fair condition. Since then, the legislature has been relatively quiet on the issue and only speculation has suggested that the Republican controlled Legislature will actually come up with their own plan.

Governor Whitmer has threatened to veto the state budget if in fact the legislature doesn't send her a real solution to fix our road and bridge problem. She has also said, in her mind, anything that does not raise \$2.5 billion and isn't constitutionally dedicated to roads and bridges isn't a real

solution. So, the question remains, will the legislature and Governor get on the same page before the end of the fiscal year, September 30, or will we see a government shut down like we saw during the Granholm administration? In recent weeks, there has been some talk about a potential budget continuation beyond the September 30 deadline to allow for continued discussions on a road funding deal.

MITA has been supportive of the Governor's plan since its inception and continues to push the legislature to pass it. However, we have continued to be open to any plan that raises the necessary revenues and ensures that those revenues are constitutionally dedicated. There have been a lot of concepts that many have argued could fund our infrastructure, but only through true user fees like gas tax, registration fees and toll roads being constitutionally dedicated to transportation funding.

Any other measures to raise additional revenues for roads could be redirected in future years by future legislatures.

The early stages of negotiations between the two Republican

leaders in the legislature and the Governor seem to be going well. There is slim to no hope of the Governor's 45-cent gas tax proposal passing the legislature. But, there is significant hope that the legislature and the Governor will come to an agreement regarding a large investment into our transportation network. At what level that investment will be or where it will come from remains to be seen.

Lawmakers will have an extremely busy month of September, and the Senate Majority Leader says "that's OK". The one thing that gives us some confidence that a deal can be reached on road funding is the fact that everyone wants it. House Republicans are worried about going into the 2020 elections without a concrete road plan in place, as they could lose their majority in the House. The Governor also wants to deliver on her campaign promise to "Fix The Damn Roads". [A](#)

ADA SOLUTIONS, INC.
DETECTABLE WARNING SURFACES
FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS

Michigan's Largest Distributor of ADA Tiles **IN STOCK NOW**

Compliant with MDOT & City of Detroit
Cast in Place • Surface Mount • Replaceable
Available in Assorted Colors & Sizes

Visit us online at **acecutting.com**

25806 Novi Rd., Novi, MI 48375
(248) 449-4944

ACE CUTTING EQUIPMENT & Supply, Inc.



Matt McClintick, CHST

To contact Matt McClintick, email him at mattmcclintick@thinkmita.org or call the MITA office at 517-347-8336.

Several months ago, MITA released a new and updated company safety and health policy. This was a replacement to the one that many members have adopted as their go to policy. If a company is not consistent in looking for ways to improve all aspects of the company, they could open themselves up for troubles. MITA's new safety and health program is the groundwork; it is the minimum requirement for the 21st century jobsite according to MIOSHA. The basic program allows for each member to have all the most common rules covered. There are several supplemental policies that are available for crystalline silica and confined spaces.

A good safety program should have some key elements such as: Management Commitment, Employee Involvement, Safety & Health Training, Worksite Analysis and Hazard Prevention and Control. All of these elements were designed into the new MITA program and allow the individual member to find the most logical and effective means of implementation of

MITA Releases New Company Safety and Health Policy

each element. The idea of “one size fits all” will not work when you’re a bridge contractor and trying to use an underground program, though certain aspects of each job will crossover and that is where a healthy in-house training program will move all employees in the same direction. A formal training program that consists of formal training from MITA, then followed by tailgate or pre-task talks and finally strengthened by having a MITA jobsite inspection will help protect employees from hazards.

With all that being said, how can you, the contractor, facilitate these changes? Many companies use the MITA Trench Safety Handbook, which was recently updated earlier this year. The handbook is used as a reference book and by foremen giving a tailgate or tool box talk. MIOSHA requires that employees have access to the company safety program and that one is available on the jobsite. MITA has created a Safety & Health Field Guide for the jobsite and/or work truck. For the companies that use the MITA safety and health program, they are a one to one comparison, only in a smaller book version to keep you compliant and make available for new employees if they are given one when hired. The book can be used for everything; but, due to the site-specific nature of confined spaces and crystalline silica, those programs have been kept separate.

As always, if you have any safety questions or concerns, give me a call at 517-347-8336 or email me at mattmcclintick@thinkmita.org. 🚧



Comprehensive Geotechnical Engineering Services

- Foundations
- Excavation Support Systems
- Construction Support
- Groundwater
- Tunneling
- Flood Control
- Forensic Engineering & Litigation
- Coastal Planning & Engineering
- Geotechnical Support Services
- Instrumentation & Vibration Monitoring
- Bridge Monitoring

GEI designs solutions for a unique mix of challenges, such as tight space, neighboring buildings, contamination, complex regulations, community concerns and more!

www.geiconsultants.com



For information call: 734.680.1598

Offices in Lansing, Ann Arbor, and Marquette

MITA Members:

What Keeps You Up at Night?

What keeps you up at night? We asked. The response? “The success and sustainability of my business while providing excellent and affordable benefits for my employees.”

You care about your employees. Your employees who are like family. You care about your employees’ health and well-being as well as their spouses and children. The extension of your family.

The cost of healthcare is increasing at a staggering rate, year after year. The rising costs of healthcare outpace the rate of inflation. Since 2008, annual deductibles for covered workers have increased EIGHT TIMES as fast as wages. Between 1999 and 2016, the mean cost of a family

health insurance plan increased 4.7 times faster than average household income. Managing your employee benefits program continues to grow in complexity, cost and time.

Situations change. For example: Many of MITA’s Non Bargaining Unit members have had recent changes where they are searching for new healthcare options.

We are Salus Group. The Benefits Consultant with a longstanding relationship and history with MITA and its valuable members. Because we know your industry we’ve anticipated your challenges and have customer solutions to meet your needs.

Salus Group has a variety of ways we can help employers not only control the cost of the

healthcare they provide, including a sought after Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan™ (BCBSM) solution that is exclusively for association members, but also provide services to offload many of the time consuming tasks of your Human Resources Department.

Our Association Health Plan (AHP) for MITA members:

This allows small & large businesses to band together to obtain healthcare coverage as if they were a single large employer. Larger volume = better rates! Our program includes multiple comprehensive BCBSM plan designs to pick from, competitive pricing and BCBSM primary on auto-related claims (reducing auto



Administration

- Online enrollment
- Carrier administration for all lines of coverage
- Member education
- Payroll integration
- Claims assistance
- Medicare services



Billing

- One consolidated bill for all lines of coverage
- Monthly enrollment audit and reconciliation
- You are billed based on actual enrollment – your team no longer has to wait for the carrier to reflect enrollment changes



Compliance

- Summary Plan Descriptions
- ACA Mandated Reporting & Filing
- 5500 Filing
- COBRA administration
- Compliance Notices
- Creditable Coverage Letters
- Online HR software with unlimited licenses for your staff (includes tutorials, templates, state mandate notices, videos, sample letters, handbooks, etc.)

We keep things clean and simple. Let us go to work for you!
Don’t worry, we’ve got you covered. These are just a few of our services:

insurance costs), just to name a few of the benefits.

We also offer pooled self-funded options as well as fully insured plans with a variety of different carriers. Do you need comprehensive dental, vision, life and disability coverage? We work with national carriers to provide the best benefits for the price.

This is just the beginning. You

need help. Your staff is wearing multiple hats and many times beyond capacity. At Salus Group, our success was built by becoming an extension of your Human Resources department. We also partner with the CEO and CFO to assist in managing your employee benefits budget to strategically gain control of the rising costs.

Contact Salus Group today for a comprehensive benefits evaluation!



Mike Buck

President of Salus Consulting
Direct Phone: 248.359.6491
Email: mbuck@thesalusgroup.com

Stacy Harris

Vice President of Special Markets
Direct Phone: 586.554.7672
Email: sharris@thesalusgroup.com

Clean. Simple. Uncomplicated
www.thesalusgroup.com



616.531.8705
www.gebsafety.com

Michigan's Premier provider of traffic control services and equipment



Warning Signs to inform traffic of changing conditions

Delineator Devices to direct traffic flow away from work zones



Innovation in traffic control equipment to maximize work zone safety

Barricades to close work zones from roadways and walkways



Exceptional Expertise and Customer Service for the ultimate traffic control partnership

Precise Traffic Plan Designs and deployment throughout Michigan



And SO MUCH more!

Call our traffic control experts today!

Pledged to Traffic Safety Excellence

GRAND RAPIDS
2610 Sanford Ave.
Grandville, MI 49418
616.531.8705

JACKSON
3201 W. Michigan Ave.
Jackson, MI 49202
517.459.0643

MARQUETTE
100 Industrial Dr.
Marquette, MI 49855
906.249.1892

SAGINAW
3302 W. Sawyer Dr.
Saginaw, MI 48601
989.752.6333

TRAVERSE CITY
6502 M-37 South
Kingsley, MI 49649
231.263.6625



Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association

More Money for Underground Infrastructure in Governor's Proposed Budget

The majority of the news regarding infrastructure and Governor Whitmer's proposed budget is a proposed 45-cent gas tax to "Fix the Damn Roads". While we continue to see a lot of discussion surrounding the road funding debate (which you can read more about on page 18), the Governor has also recommended an additional \$120 million to support efforts to ensure safe, clean and affordable drinking water in Michigan.

The support comes in a variety of ways. The proposal includes the following:

- \$37.5 million would be dedicated to the implementation of the new requirements for Michigan's revised lead and copper rule, including lead service line replacement and support for 35 local drinking water advisory boards.
- \$30 million would go towards PFAS and emerging contaminants cleanup efforts.
- \$40 million would be dedicated towards the Drinking Water Revolving Fund Loan Forgiveness to increase participation through the grant process. This would open up opportunities for local communities to invest more.
- \$7.5 million would be put towards integrated asset management programs.
- \$5 million would go towards research and innovation.

As the legislature and the governor debated the budget over the summer months, clean water was a large part of the discussion. Governor Whitmer is dedicated to fixing Michigan's infrastructure and investing at the state level for underground re-construction for the first time in decades. It is estimated that we need close to \$1 billion more

annually for our underground infrastructure, and local communities cannot handle the burden on their own. Funding our massive need for all types of infrastructure improvements in Michigan will require local, state and federal assistance.

Unfortunately, we often respond to a crisis rather than plan ahead when it comes to our underground facilities. Unlike poor roads and bridges that are in clear sight, the general public believes that everything is running smoothly underground because they can't see it. In reality, we have pipes underground that are way beyond their life expectancy and are on the verge of failing at any moment. As we move forward with integrated asset management at the state level, educating the public and lawmakers will become easier as the data will be readily available for dissemination. ⚠️



**CORRUGATED STEEL PIPE
WATERMAN GATES
GEOTEXTILE FABRICS**

SANDUSKY

400 Stoney Creek Drive
Sandusky, MI 48471
810-648-3000
Fax: 810-648-3549
www.jensenbridge.com



LEGISLATIVE JOBSITE VISIT Jackson, Mich.

House Transportation Chairman Jack O'Malley, along with MITA and MDOT, hosted a legislative jobsite visit at a Dan's Excavating project on I-94 in Jackson July 26. Also in attendance was Representative Jason Sheppard.

Others in attendance included: MDOT Director Paul Ajegba, MITA Board Member Jim Doescher

from Dan's Excavating, plus representatives from Michigan Paving & Materials Co., and Stoneco, who graciously supplied lunch. MITA's Vice President of Government Affairs Lance Binonemi, and MITA's Vice President of Membership Services Rob Coppersmith were also at the event, along with Matt McClintick,

MITA's director of safety and compliance.

From time to time, MITA hosts legislative jobsite visits to put the spotlight on current projects MITA members are working on. These visits also help further MITA's goal of highlighting the need for increased infrastructure funding throughout the entire state. [A](#)



New MITA Members

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

CDM Smith
Value Engineering LLC
Zoet Financial



CAPITOL BARRICADING INC.

TRAFFIC SAFETY SPECIALISTS

- Complete Work Zone Protection
- Temporary & Permanent Signing
- Equipment Rental & Sales
- Moving Lane/Shoulder Closures
- Traffic Regulator Services (Flaggers)
- Full Sequence Set-up & Operation or Personnel Only

Project Manager/Estimator: Ken Brandt
kbrandt@capitolbarricading.com

Superintendent: Ken Wolverton
kwolverton@capitolbarricading.com



517-372-1291

info@capitolbarricading.com

MDOT Certified - 06028

Proudly Serving Michigan

I N S U R A N C E



SECURA
INSURANCE COMPANIES

B O N D I N G

Our Primary Client Goals:
Protect Your Assets
Control Your Costs
Provide Exceptional Service

OAKLAND INSURANCE

COMMERCIAL INSURANCE | BONDS | PERSONAL INSURANCE

ISO 9001:2000 Certified Co.

8031 M-15, STE. 100, CLARKSTON, MICHIGAN 48348

248-647-2500

| WWW.OAKLANDINSURANCE.COM

| FAX 248-647-4689

Problem Solver

MITA staff often gets calls regarding permit and inspection requirements on projects. These situations can be very frustrating for contractors because often times these questions and issues arise well after the project has started. On several instances where MITA has been involved, the inspector has even asked that the water main or catch basins be uncovered in order for a full inspection to take place.

When it comes to plumbing permits, the easiest way to know whether or not you might need to be proactive is to know if you are working on private property (school projects are considered private under the code). If in fact you are on private property, there may be a chance that a state or local plumbing inspector may ask for a permit and inspection access (especially if you are working on a building site where inspectors frequent the job site).

Another way to think about it is if you have another public official doing inspections on your job, such as a municipal owner representative, you are likely on a “public” project.

Ultimately, the cost of a permit is minimal, maybe a couple hundred dollars. However, the cost of finding out after the fact that a permit is required and having an inspector ask that you uncover completed work is very costly. If you have questions on this or any other issues that arise on your job sites, feel free to reach out to the MITA staff, we are here to help! [A](#)



WHEN YOU MEAN BUSINESS, SO DO WE!

**Construction Claims Attorneys.
Aggressive. Determined. Successful.
Billions recovered nationally over 35 years.**

McAlpine, PC - Attorneys & Counselors
3201 University Dr., Ste 200 | Auburn Hills, MI 48326
(248) 373-3700 | www.mcalpinepc.com



Eyes in the Sky

Sometimes you need another set of eyes on your project.



CONSULTING GROUP

Troy, MI 248.680.0400
Ann Arbor, MI 734.390.9330
Chicagoland, IL 847.353.8740

Drone and UAV services play a vital role in today's construction projects. G2 uses drones for mapping, monitoring job sites to ensure safety and security, aerial overviews of completed projects for client presentations and approval, inspection of bridges and difficult structures, and more.

> Smart.Results.Fast.

G2 engineers have accurate, real-time data when decisions or modifications need to be made.

LEARN MORE about G2 Consulting Group
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqGmA1_aHXf32jc-6I308KA

POWER UP

Master's degrees and graduate certificates

Architecture and Design | Arts and Sciences
Business and Information Technology | Engineering

Learn More

ltu.edu/gradprograms
ltu.edu/applyfree

Lawrence Technological University
SOUTHFIELD, MICHIGAN Possible is everything.

Seize Control



Our newest state-of-the-art wash plant uses a computer controlled density separator that lets us supply consistently superior, virtually lignite-free sand at competitive prices. Controlled quality has made Levy a Pre-Qualified State Aggregate Supplier with:

- 10 State-Certified Aggregate Technicians
- 5 MDOT-Certified QC/QA Labs
- MDOT/ODOT Spec Products
- 14 Locations in SE Michigan
- Concrete/Asphalt Aggregates ■ Base/Fill Material
- Decorative/Roofing Stone ■ USGA Golf Course Sand
- Septic Stone ■ Road Gravel ■ Mason Sand

Seize your phone and call (313) 429-LEVY.
Or contact our web site: www.educlevy.com



BUILT FOR SAFETY!



SLIDE RAIL SHORING



ALUMINUM TRENCH SHIELDS



STEEL TRENCH SHIELDS



STREET PLATES



PRO-BRACE HYDRAULIC FRAME



PRO-GRIDS & STONE SAVERS



A DIVISION OF:
TRINITY SHORING PRODUCTS, INC.
A TRINITY MINING & CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT, INC. COMPANY

**Michigan's Most Complete Trench
Shoring & Shielding Rental Fleet!**

**Contact Pro-Tec Equipment
Today!**

800-292-1225

www.pro-tecequipment.com

Three *STOCKING* locations to best serve you!

East Michigan

**33100 Beechwood St
Westland, MI 48185
888-292-1225**

Central Michigan

**4837 West Grand River Ave.
Lansing, MI 48906
800-292-1225**

West Michigan

**5460 36th St. SE
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
877-292-1225**



**We are your full service Milling,
Pulverizing and Stabilizing Contractor**
www.wecanmillit.com



We perform the
"Full Depth Reclamation Process"
which is environmentally friendly! This is a LEED® certified process.

Our crews log over two million square yards of combined experience per year.

We have three Wirtgen Pavement Profilers capable of 7' 3" wide cuts up to 13" deep with one pass. In addition, we have three Wirtgen 2500 pulverizers to take care of your cement/lime stabilization/FDR asphalt services.



Call for a free estimate 313-963-4263

We offer Superior Service No Job Too Big or Small

407 E. Fort Street, Suite 407 • Detroit MI 48226
Email: juddlickert@wecandigit.com • PH: 419-466-7917 • FX: 313-964-8835

MICHIGAN ROAD PRESERVATION ASSOCIATION

The Michigan Road Preservation Association (MRPA) focuses on preventive maintenance of roads through practices such as crack treatments, chip seal and micro surfacing. It may represent a small segment of Michigan's overall construction industry, but it has a powerhouse public relations pro helping guide its operations.

Governed by a board of directors, comprised of five contractor members of the association, MRPA's Executive Vice President Monica Ackerson manages operations for MRPA, establishes policies and oversees the association's services and finances.

Ackerson recently also drew on her public relations expertise, and her years as a legislative aide, to coordinate the release of a public affairs (legislative education) project on behalf of the overall road building industry. The study is based on data from the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council and highlights the deteriorating condition of roads across the state by legislative district.

Ackerson recently took time out to tell us a little about herself, MRPA and why what they do is vital to the health of the heavy/highway construction industry.

1. What is a brief history of MRPA?

The Michigan Road Preservation

Association (MRPA) was formed in 1998 to represent the unique needs of the preventive maintenance contractors in Michigan.

Throughout the 1990s, MDOT was blazing a trail as one of the first states to adopt a Capital Preventive Maintenance (CPM) program. MDOT staff was faced with developing specifications for the treatments and guidelines for their use. Unlike the asphalt and concrete industry, the CPM contractors didn't have an association to work through. MRPA was formed to bring a common voice and perspective to the unique needs of our segment of the industry.

2. What is the mission of the Association?

MRPA is committed to:

- Promoting the preventive maintenance of state and local paved roads.
- Educating road agencies on quality, safety features and effective uses of CPM.
- Developing quality specifications to ensure maximum increases in pavement service life.
- Providing education on the importance of pavement preservation—the strategic use of preventive maintenance to extend the life of roads.



Monica Ackerson, APR
Executive Vice President

"I'm passionate about pavement preservation! It's easy to sell a concept you believe in. If road agencies do what's best for the network, our treatments sell themselves."

Continued on page 31



Michigan 

**MacAllister
Rentals**

 **T H E
Rental
STORE**

Brownstown Twp.

19500 Dix-Toledo Hwy.
Brownstown Twp., MI 48183
(734) 479-5800

Macomb

12550 23 Mile Road
Shelby Twp, MI 48315
(586) 997-5300

Wixom

52700 Pontiac Trail
Wixom, MI 48393
(248) 714-8300

Kalkaska

3990 U.S. Highway 131
Kalkaska, MI 49646
(231) 258-8265

Saginaw

3141 Wolf Road
Saginaw, MI 48601
(989) 752-7300

Byron Center

6190 Clyde Park Ave SW
Byron Center, MI 49315
(616) 530-2233

Grand Rapids

7700 Caterpillar Ct.
Grand Rapids, MI 49548
(616) 827-8000

Lansing

7650 Millett Hwy
Lansing, MI 48917
(517) 699-4800

Traverse City

4195 Meadow Lane Dr
Traverse City, MI 49685
(231) 932-2255

Power Systems

25000 Novi Road
Novi, MI 48375
(248) 349-7050

Kalamazoo

5140 Meredith St.
Portage, MI 49002
(269) 383-7880

Niles

2147 S 11th St.
Niles, MI 49120
(269) 262-4600

Novi

24800 Novi Road
Novi, MI 48375
(248) 349-4800

Lansing

7825 Northport Dr
Lansing, MI 48917
(517) 394-2233

Midland

3213 South Saginaw Rd
Midland, MI 48640
(989) 496-7511

1-888-CAT-RENT WWW.MICHIGANCAT.COM

PARTNER NEWS

Continued from page 30

3. Who are the key players in the Association (MRPA Board of Directors)?

MRPA serves a small segment of the industry. Board members include:

Troy Carlson, President
Fahrner Asphalt Sealers;
Vice-President Michigan

Matt Sharkey, Secretary/Treasurer
Scodeller Construction Company;
Division Manager

Adam Hartley, Director
American Pavements, Inc.;
Project Manager

W. Pierre Peltier, Director
Strawser Construction Inc;
GM Manufacturing, Sales and
Business Development

Stewart Schwikert, Director
Pavement Maintenance Systems, LLC;
Vice President

4. How long have you been with the Association? What is your role? What is your background/education?

I have served as MRPA's executive vice president since December 2015.

I worked for the Michigan House of Representatives for 11 years handling public policy issues for legislators. In 2007, the County Road Association of Michigan (CRA) hired me as their first in-house PR staff, replacing a large and well-respected PR firm. I had to learn fast as change was happening at light speed with the issues facing county road agencies, with rising road funding challenges and new technology in the PR field.

A few years later, Kelly Rossman-McKinney,

APR, at that time head of the Rossman Group, challenged me to consider what seat I wanted to be in next, hers or my bosses, and to take the steps to get there. At that point, ironically, I hadn't thought about serving as an association director. In 2011, I completed the grueling process to become nationally accredited in public relations. Now, I still hear Kelly's challenge as I pursue the CAE, certified association executive.

I served as manager of the PR and development functions for CRA until the spring of 2016, overlapping my start with

Continued on page 32

Bid Better. It's That Simple.

All active solicitations in one online hub. Automatic error-checking. Omission alerts. Historical and competitive bid analysis through Bid Express® Advantage. Easy plan sheet access through Online Plan Sheets.

There are plenty of reasons to choose the Bid Express service, but they all add up to the same thing:
a better way to win bids.

Want to know more?

Visit bidexpress.com or contact customer.support@infotechfl.com.

With Your Help, We're Creating the Next Generation of Contractor Software

We've supported MITA contractors for over **20 years** with Info Tech's FieldManager® and FieldManager Contractor® software. As we work to develop new software to meet the evolving needs of the contractor community, we'd love your input on the direction we should take as your technical solutions provider.

Contact us at customer.support@infotechfl.com with your thoughts.

 **InfoTech**

Copyright © 2015 InfoTech, Inc.

PARTNER NEWS

Continued from page 31

MRPA. It was important that the transition be smooth, for all involved. The programs and services that I built while at CRA continue to serve their members well.

While at CRA, I worked closely with the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council and helped to establish the tone and early messaging for conversations on pavement preservation. I had the opportunity to be an active part of the process to help lawmakers understand the need to increase

road funding and develop award-winning PR campaigns and strategies used in those discussions.

The move to MRPA shortly after the 2015 road funding package became law allowed me to grow with the evolving conversation. It was a natural shift from talking about the need for additional road funding to how preventive maintenance ensures tax dollars are used most cost-effectively. Every \$1 used to preserve a road in good condition saves \$6 to \$14 as the road's

condition deteriorates.

Now, asset management and pavement preservation are important to helping legislators once again understand the need for additional road funding.

The road funding debate is starting to feel a bit like Groundhog Day!

5. What key initiatives are you working on at the moment?

While the past year has been busy with updating the 2020 MDOT Spec book and a variety of technical projects, most of the big projects on my desk now are communication related.

I've been spending a lot of time on a PR project financially supported by MITA and all associations within the road building industry. The effort takes data on state and local pavements and breaks it down in maps by legislative district. The goal is to help Michigan legislators understand deteriorating road conditions. The costs to repair roads will continue to go up each year until a long-term funding solution is in place to provide enough funding to stop the deterioration—at least \$2.5 billion and climbing.

I've also been working on a PR campaign to highlight the importance of pavement preservation. Industry has spent the past 15+ years talking about fixing the potholes. We need to start a conversation about keeping good roads good—about preventing Michigan potholes. What kind of



GUY HURLEY
INSURANCE & SURETY SERVICES

Elevating and
Exceeding Expectations



Full-Service Insurance & Surety Provider

Property and Casualty Insurance
Professional Liability Insurance
Cyber Insurance
Surety
Claims Advocacy
Captive Insurance

ghbh.com

future does Michigan deserve? MDOT is a national leader in asset management and has one of the most robust preventive maintenance programs in the country. Michigan needs to go from being known for the worst potholes, to preventing them.

We're also making improvements to MRPA's website, creating a series of videos and have established goals for new educational programs. It's a busy time, but exciting growth is happening and that makes the work rewarding.

6. What else does the Association do on a regular basis, such as events, projects, etc?

MRPA hosts specialized trainings for MDOT regions and an annual Local Agency Workshop to educate municipalities and county road agencies on preventive maintenance treatments. We also work with the Michigan Transportation Asset Management Council (TAMC) and other groups to provide educational sessions at their conferences.

MRPA also works cooperatively with MDOT through the Pavement Preservation Operations Committee (P2OC) to continually improve CPM specification and construction processes.

7. Why is what the Association does important to the health of Michigan's infrastructure?

MDOT and each industry

association that has testified before the Michigan Legislature this year has talked about the importance of making repairs to roads at the top of the deterioration curve, where repairs are most cost-effective. This is preventive maintenance! MRPA's role is to promote pavement preservation, the strategic use of preventive maintenance.

The media and the majority of the construction industry focus on fixing the potholes and the heavy construction needed to rebuild our aging, crumbling and outdated infrastructure.

While big ticket projects get the most exposure, the treatments MRPA members do (crack seal, chip seal, micro surfacing, cape seals and more) keep good roads good, or bring roads from fair to good condition. I like to refer to it as Preventing Michigan Potholes.

The reality is every pothole starts as a crack in the pavement surface. The CPM treatments MRPA members provide is ultimately pothole prevention.

From an industry perspective it's a balance. Preserving roads with lower cost treatments gives MDOT and local agencies the money they need to rehabilitate and reconstruct the roads and bridges that are at the end of their service life.

8. How does your Association partner with MITA on an ongoing basis?

I've been communicating on roads and the need for adequate road funding since joining the

County Road Association in 2007. Road funding is essential to all segments of the industry! I'm sure my background added a new element to the traditional partnership between MRPA and MITA.

Now, in addition to providing input on industry specific issues, MRPA has become an advocacy communication partner to MITA.

9. What is it like to work in a male-dominated industry?

I worked for the Michigan House for 11 years and another 8.5 year for CRA before taking the helm as executive vice president for MRPA.

There have definitely been positive changes to the way women are perceived in the industry from when I first joined CRA in 2007. That transition was a culture shock. I had to work twice as hard to prove myself. But, I did. The old attitudes have retired, and the environment is more professional now.

When MRPA approached me about being their association director, I was excited for the new opportunities the move presented. MRPA's contractor and supplier members are incredibly respectful. It's obvious they appreciate the dedication that I bring to serving them. In this transition, it was more challenging being accepted by some in the industry because I wasn't an engineer.

The other industry associations are either run by or have staff engineers. It was a bold and

Continued on page 34

Continued from page 33

smart move by MRPA to hire a professional communicator. They could teach me what I needed to learn about their treatments and specifications, but I'm passionate about pavement preservation! It's easy to sell a concept you believe in. If road agencies do what's best for the network, our treatments sell themselves.

People tend to think of diversity in terms of race and gender. Just like the addition of women to a male-dominated field caused positive change, the addition of varied backgrounds and perspectives is important to the future of Michigan's construction industry. ▲

**For more information
about MRPA,
email Monica at
monica@
preservemiroads.org
or visit
preservemiroads.org.**



MICHIGAN PIPE & VALVE

Complete Water & Sewer Distributor



SAGINAW

Justin Jaime, Jon Jaime, Theresa Jaime

(989) 752-7911

Saginaw@michiganpipe.com

JACKSON

Tom Ryan, Jeremy Richmond, Kyle Richmond

(517) 764-9151

Jackson@michiganpipe.com

TRAVERSE CITY

Mike Crowley Jr., Tim Brugger

(231) 929-7473

TraverseCity@michiganpipe.com

MT. PLEASANT

Bryan Reedy, Tim Brugger, Justin Jaime

(989) 817-4331

MtPleasant@michiganpipe.com

GENESEE

Robert Kovich, Justin Jaime

(810) 547-7154

Genesee@michiganpipe.com

5 *Locations to Serve You!*

www.michiganpipe.com

ACEC/MICHIGAN ELECTS NEW PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The American Council of Engineering Companies/ Michigan (ACEC/M) has announced Steven Gravlin, PE, PS, of Michael Baker International, as its 2019–2020 President.

Steve Gravlin was born and raised in Michigan and is a product of Michigan Lutheran Seminary, University of Michigan, Michigan Technological University and California State University. He grew up working in his father's survey company and on the family farms in the thumb of Michigan. He is a Vice President of Michael Baker and a partner in the wholly owned subsidiary, Baker and Associates. He is both a professional engineer and a professional surveyor.

Steve is a great supporter of the MDOT/ACEC partnering charter, having been involved in several of the iterations of the charter over the years. He has chaired the ACEC Transportation Committee, co-chaired the MDOT Contracts and Finance Committee and chairs the Promotion, Networking and Recognition Committee of the Board. He has served on the ACEC/M Board of Directors for seven years. He is an avid reader and boater. He loves the outdoors, rooting for Michigan and traveling with his wife, Wendy. They live in Grosse Ile and have two sons, Nick, an MTU Huskie and EMU Eagle, and Alex, an MSU Spartan. [A](#)



Steven Gravlin

2019–2020 ACEC/Michigan Officers:

President: Steve Gravlin, PE, PS, Michael Baker International, Detroit

President-Elect: Jack Wheatley, PE, ROWE PSC, Flint

Treasurer: Christopher Cook, PE, Abonmarche, Benton Harbor

National Director: Michael Cooper, PE, Harley Ellis Devereaux, Southfield

Past-President: Sean Kelley, PE, The Mannik & Smith Group, Inc., Detroit

ACEC/M is the association representing the business interests of Michigan engineering, surveying, architectural and related scientific firms who provide professional knowledge to the built environment and strive to protect the health and safety of the public. ACEC/M is part of the American Council of Engineering Companies. Headquartered in Washington DC and representing thousands of companies, ACEC is the voice of the engineering industry throughout the nation. With roots dating back more than 100 years, ACEC is a federation of 52 state and regional councils representing more than 600,000 engineers, architects, land surveyors and other specialists. ACEC's primary mission is to strengthen the business environment for member firms through government advocacy, political action and business education. For more information, visit the ACEC/M website at www.acecmi.org or contact ACEC/M at 517.332.2066.

2019–2020 ACEC/Michigan Directors:

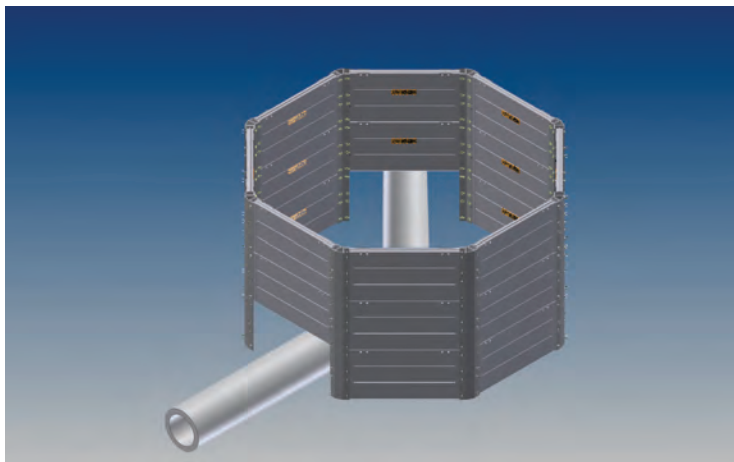
- Rick Chelotti, PE, Bergmann Associates, Inc., Lansing
- Paul Galdes, PE, Fleis & VandenBrink Engineering, Inc., Grand Rapids
- Chuck Gemayel, PE, SME, Plymouth
- Jon Kramer, PE, OHM Advisors, Livonia
- Eric Morris, PE, HNTB Michigan, Inc., East Lansing
- Jayson Nault, PE, Tetra Tech, Brighton
- G. Ramanujam (Ram), PE, Somat Engineering, Inc. Detroit
- Jeffrey Schumaker, PE, Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber, Inc., Grand Rapids
- Oge Udegbumam, Tyme Consulting Engineers, Inc., Livonia
- Michael Weingartz, PE, SmithGroup, Detroit

Efficiency Production Unveils New Trench Shield

www.efficiencyproduction.com



Efficiency Production's new octagon-configured trench shield.



Efficiency Production, “America’s Trench Box Builder™,” recently unveiled the newest innovation to its industry-leading Build-A-Box™ Modular Aluminum Trench Shielding System: a lightweight, aluminum Octagon Box.

The Octagon Box is comprised of standard Build-A-Box™ aluminum panels, pinned in exclusive 135° angle vertical posts. The result is a safe, lightweight, “manhole shield” that is perfectly designed to shore tightly around odd-angled laterals and other manhole leads.

Features of the Build-A-Box™ Octagon Box include:

- Comprised of standard 2’ tall Build-A-Box™ aluminum panels; from 2’-5’ lengths
- Inside diameter space ranging from 61” to 148”
- Provides eight different lateral pipe access points by leaving out 2’ bottom panel

“Many precast utilities structures, such as manholes and wet-wells are round, not square,” explains Rod Austin, Efficiency Production’s General Manager. “As a result, contractors frequently need to excavate more dirt than is necessary to install square or rectangular shaped trench shields which can increase time and cost to an underground utility project. With the Build-A-Box Octagon Box, excavation contractors can literally ‘cut corners’ to safely save time and money.”

Since 1989, Efficiency Production’s Build-A-Box™ has been the Industry Standard modular aluminum trench shielding system. Build-A-Box™ can be assembled in minutes to a wide variety of two, three, or four-sided configurations; and now an eight-sided octagon configuration. This flexibility enables work crews to make on-the-spot design changes to meet job requirements in conditions ranging from light to extreme. Most systems are easily transported in a pick-up truck or trailer for quick application. Build-A-Box™ is exclusively compatible with Efficiency Production’s XLAP™ Aluminum Shield.

Efficiency Production, “America’s Trench Box Builder™,” is an Arcosa Shoring Products company. Efficiency provides the widest selection of standard and custom trench shielding and shoring systems. Efficiency’s versatile products are designed specifically for safe and cost effective installation of utility systems and infrastructure improvements. All products are P.E. certified to meet OSHA standards.

Continued on page 38

If your employees are working in a **TRENCH**, they are working in a **DANGEROUS** place.

Protect them by using a **trench shield** or other **shoring** equipment from **Efficiency Production**.

EFFICIENCY
PRODUCTION
America's Trench Box Builder™
800-552-8800



Trench Shields



Slide Rail System



Build-A-Box™



Hydraulic Shoring



Stone Mizer Bedding Box

KOTZ SANGSTER Acquires Van Eck Law Firm



Todd Van Eck



Haley Clough

Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C., a leading Michigan business law firm, recently announced the acquisition of Van Eck Law Firm in Rockford, Mich. Kotz Sangster has been serving West Michigan for 10 years, and the acquisition positions the firm for continued growth in corporate and business law.

"We have been impressed with the breadth of Van Eck's corporate transactional and litigation experience,

KOTZ SANGSTER

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

their business acumen, and their desire to expand the services they provide in West Michigan," said Greg Wysocki, president of Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C. "We are confident that this acquisition will strengthen our firm's Grand Rapids community involvement and ability to service middle market businesses in the region."

Van Eck Law Firm was founded in 2009 by Todd Van Eck, who has over 22 years of experience in business law, tax law, litigation, real estate and estate planning. The firm partners with primarily high-growth businesses in real estate, development, manufacturing and professional services.

"To accommodate rapid growth, we were looking for a strong acquisition partner to better serve our clients with a full breadth of resources," said Todd Van Eck. "Kotz Sangster was the right-size fit for us because they expanded our clients' access to experienced, diverse counsel, but they don't sacrifice on their dedication to responsive, client-focused service."

As part of the acquisition, attorneys Todd Van Eck and Haley Clough as well as their office administrator Brittney Houseman have joined Kotz Sangster. They will continue to serve clients from their Rockford, Mich. location and Kotz Sangster's downtown Grand Rapids offices.

About Kotz Sangster

Kotz Sangster is a business law firm, serving clients across Michigan with responsive service, excellent legal advice and winning solutions. Founded in 1978, the firm has 35 attorneys with offices in Detroit, Bloomfield Hills, Grand Rapids, Rockford, Niles, South Haven and St. Joseph. [A](#)



Scott Kehrer, PS

Scott Kehrer, PS rejoins Spalding DeDecker as Survey Project Manager

Spalding DeDecker, a leading civil engineering and surveying firm headquartered in Rochester Hills, Michigan, is pleased to announce that Scott Kehrer, PS has rejoined their team as a survey project manager. With more than 19 years of experience in the survey industry, Kehrer will be responsible for new client development and management of survey projects.

Scott earned his bachelor's degree in land surveying from Michigan Technological University in Houghton, Michigan and his master's of business administration from Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich. Most recently, Scott spent 14 years as a Plat Examiner for Wayne County Register of Deeds. In this role, he was responsible for the review of plat maps and condominium documents to ensure compliance with the State Land Division and Condominium Acts. He also performed research, support, and review of the Wayne County Remonumentation Program.

"I am very excited to have Scott back at Spalding DeDecker," said Steve Benedettini, president of Spalding DeDecker. "Scott's experience in the government sector will be extremely valuable to help our clients submit compliant documents for recording."



Larry Dropiewski, PE

Larry Dropiewski, PE hired as Transportation Senior Project Manager

Larry Dropiewski, PE has joined the team as a transportation senior project manager. With more than 25 years of experience in the transportation industry, Mr. Dropiewski will lead Spalding DeDecker's transportation group, managing both MDOT and Local Agency projects.

Larry earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Wayne State University in Detroit, Mich. and achieved his bachelor's of science in Geophysics from Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Mich. With more than 24 years of experience working directly for MDOT, he previously served in University and Metro Regions, holding positions including Brighton TSC Development and Operations Engineer, Metro Region Pavement Management Engineer, Oakland TSC Assistant Delivery Engineer, Metro Region Geotechnical Unit Leader, and Metro Region Property Manager for Right-of-Way Clearance. Larry also has four years of environmental engineering experience and four years of real estate experience.

"Larry will be an excellent addition to our team," said Steve Benedettini, president of Spalding DeDecker. "He has worked at MDOT for nearly 25 years and brings a wealth of design, construction, geotechnical, and real estate experience." [A](#)



Mike Nystrom Appointed to the UP Energy Task Force

Governor Gretchen Whitmer recently announced appointments to the UP Energy Task Force, including MITA's Executive Vice President Mike Nystrom.

"I'm committed to ensuring UP residents have an energy supply that is affordable, secure, and environmentally sound," said Whitmer. "The members of this task force have a wide variety of knowledge and perspectives, who will make recommendations to ensure the UP has a reliable propane supply and to identify solutions for lowering costs."

Executive Order No. 2019-14 established the UP Energy Task Force which is charged with addressing the significant energy challenges that UP residents are facing. This task force will look for alternative, long-term solutions to rein in UP energy rates in regions facing the highest costs and identify alternatives to meeting the UP's current propane-supply needs.

The Task Force will complete its final report in two stages. First, the Task Force will submit a propane plan to the governor by March 31, 2020. Second, the Task Force will submit the remainder of its report by March 31, 2021. Ninety days after issuance of its final report, the Task Force will dissolve.



Lance Binoniemi Named Top Lobbyist

Congratulations to Lance Binoniemi, MITA's vice president of government affairs, for being named one of the top lobbyists in Lansing by Michigan Information & Research Service (MIRS).

Binoniemi has been at the forefront of MITA's lobbying efforts for increased infrastructure funding since he joined the association in 2011. As vice president of government affairs, Lance manages political and legislative concerns on behalf of MITA. He is a registered lobbyist with the State of Michigan and spends the majority of his time working tirelessly at the Capitol in Lansing on issues that are important to the industry and the membership of MITA. Due to Lance's dedication, MITA has a solid working relationship with most legislative leaders in the House and Senate.

MIRS names top lobbyists on an annual basis, in addition to being a major source of news and analysis of state government delivered daily to subscribers that details the activities of the House, Senate, Judicial and Executive branches of Michigan state government. [A](#)



The Democratic Governors Association conference was held at the Book Cadillac in Detroit on June 27. MITA was well represented. From left to right: Eric Morris, HNTB Michigan, Inc.; Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer; Mike Nystrom; Jeff Cranson, MDOT; Mark Johnston, Ajax Paving Industries, Inc.; and Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker. [A](#)

Is Your Company Celebrating a Major Anniversary?



MITA Member Milestones—that's a tongue twister that is actually a fun project meant to remind us all about the longevity and strength of the heavy/ highway and underground construction industry. What better way to pat ourselves on the back than to wish another company well for their success?

You can get involved in this project by first letting us know if you are celebrating any major milestones, which we think are 25 years, 50 years, and 100 years. Anyone that hits 125, let us know—please!:)

Please contact MITA's Director of Communications Nancy Brown with your anniversary date and she will take it from there. The history of your company, your logo and photos will be published in the magazine, along with ads from vendors or associates who want to wish you well.

Don't delay: Contact Nancy today by calling the MITA office at 517-347-8336 or email her at nancybrown@thinkmita.org. And thank you in advance for helping us pat the industry on the back!

SPARTAN BARRICADING & TRAFFIC CONTROL INC.

A group photo of the Spartan Barricading & Traffic Control Inc. team. They are standing in front of a construction site with various traffic signs, including a "WHERE WORKERS PRESENT 45" sign and a "WORK AHEAD" sign. The team is wearing red shirts, and there are orange and white striped barrels in the foreground. A red pickup truck is partially visible on the right.

NEW LOCATION

SPARTAN
BARRICADING & TRAFFIC CONTROL INC.
EST. 1974
517-244-1500

781 Hull Road, Mason, MI, 48854
Phone: 517-244-1500 | Fax: 517-244-1587

In a joint event, C.A. Hull Co., Inc., and Dan's Excavating, Inc., came together for MIOSHA's annual "Take a Stand for Safety" event during the week of May 6–10. Eric Allen, MIOSHA's construction health and safety manager, spoke to the employees about the hazards faced by workers. He gave the workers different statistics about the Fatal Four: Falls, Electrocutions, Caught In/Between and Struck By. The Fatal Four account for nearly 70 percent of all fatalities in the construction industry. [A](#)





Dennis Kolar

Know Your Owner

Dennis Kolar, Managing Director, Road Commission for Oakland County

1. What is your background?

I am a registered, professional civil engineer (PE). I have been with the Road Commission for Oakland County (RCOC) for 34 years and have been the managing director since 2012. Prior to that, I served as the deputy managing director/county highway engineer from 2005 to 2012 after having held a variety of other executive-level positions with the agency, including director of the Central Operations Department, director of the Highway Maintenance Department and head of the Design Division of the Engineering Department. Prior to joining RCOC, I worked for the Michigan Department of Transportation.

I am also active in several related organizations, including the County Road Association of Michigan (CRA), the Transportation Improvement Association (TIA) and was previously involved with the Intelligent Transportation Society of Michigan ITS Michigan. I am a board member and former president of CRA, a board member and

current chairman of TIA and former Board member and president of ITS Michigan.

I earned a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Lawrence Technological University.

2. How do you interact with MITA members?

Each year we undertake a substantial road improvement program, which involves millions of dollars worth of road construction projects. Most of those projects are constructed by firms that are MITA members.

I also work with MITA administration and members, who are partners in the effort to seek increased road funding from the state Legislature and governor.

3. Given the increased funding that public owners are seeing, what is your outlook for work in Kent County?

Unfortunately, due to the decades of disinvestment in our roads, the needs are great on RCOC's road system. When the governor and Legislature passed the 2015 road-funding package, the RCOC Board and I committed to putting the vast majority of the new money directly into the paved road surface. Since

those dollars started to come in 2017, we have done just that.

In 2019, we have the largest-ever preservation overlay program (simple asphalt resurfacing), in which we are investing \$25 million in resurfacing close to 100 miles of roadway.

While we are making progress improving our roads thanks to the new funding, we also know that by 2025, even with the additional funding, the overall condition of the roads will begin to deteriorate without additional revenue. That is why we are hopeful the governor and Legislature will be successful in obtaining additional funding—the only way we will ever get the system back into decent shape will be through adequate funding, and we're not there yet. 🚧

RCOC Contact info:

Road Commission for Oakland County

Phone: 248-645-2000

Fax: 248-645-0452

E-mail: dcsmail@rcoc.org

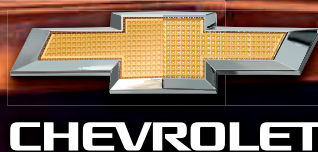
Website: www.rcocweb.org

Facebook: @RoadComm

Twitter: oaklandroads

Instagram: oaklandroadsmi

GARBER
CHEVROLET MIDLAND



**BUSINESS
ELITE**

**Silverado Medium Duty
Coming Winter of 2018/2019**

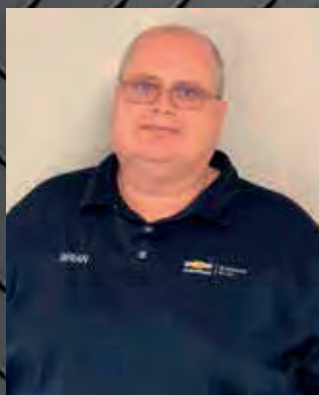
- 2017 GM Business Elite #1 Sales Volume in Michigan
- Work Ready Loaners available for all MITA Members
- Largest Work Ready Commercial Inventory in Michigan
- 2017 GM Business Elite #1 Dealer Fleet Sales Volume – North Central Region
- Expertly Trained Account Representatives to assist with all your business vehicle needs



**Michigan's largest commercial
vehicle inventory!**



GAGE MASHUE
989-839-8980



BRIAN STRONG
989-817-6219



GARBERFLEET.COM

GARBER
CHEVROLET MIDLAND

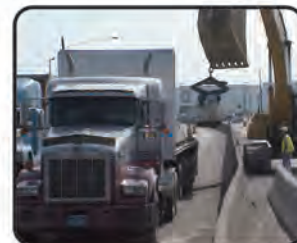
WE'RE THE LIGHTWEIGHTS IN OUR INDUSTRY. AND PROUD OF IT.



At James Burg Trucking Company, our lightweight equipment can scale over 115,000 pounds. Which means you could save time and money by reducing the number of trips it takes for us to haul your job. We've been serving the construction industry with Michigan flatbeds for over



14 years moving concrete products, brick, bagged cement, steel sheathing, and trench boxes efficiently throughout Michigan, northern Ohio, northern Indiana, and Ontario. In fact, our on-time delivery ratio exceeds 99%. So whether you need one truck for one load or twenty trucks for two weeks, call us. Because when it comes to superior customer service and on-time delivery, we're the heavyweights.



On time. Time and again.

National Search Yields New Mackinac Bridge Authority Executive



Kim Nowack

Citing her vast experience and familiarity with the Mighty Mac, the Mackinac Bridge Authority (MBA) board approved longtime Chief Bridge Engineer Kim Nowack as the new executive secretary. Nowack, who has been the chief engineer at the bridge since 2002, is the first woman selected to serve in that role and the executive secretary position.

Nowack, who has been serving in that role in the interim since the May retirement of former Executive Secretary Bob Sweeney, said she considers it an honor and a privilege to be the next administrator of the bridge. She expressed her commitment to the safety of staff and travelers, continued innovation, and community partnerships in a presentation to the board prior to her selection.

"It's a passion of mine to care

for the bridge, and I love that I work with such a talented and dedicated staff," she said.

MBA Board Chairman Patrick "Shorty" Gleason praised Nowack for her leadership in helping to maintain the Annual Bridge Walk held on Labor Day. On the recommendation of the Department of Homeland Security, the MBA in 2017 began prohibiting personal vehicles and pedestrians from sharing the bridge during the event.

"When state and federal safety officials asked for those changes, our staff faced some of the biggest challenges since the bridge was built," Gleason said. "Kim and her team worked with the communities on solutions to ensure the safety of all involved and allowed this important Michigan tradition to continue."

Michigan State Transportation Director Paul Ajegba, who selected Nowack in consultation with the MBA board, expressed confidence in Nowack's performance in this new role.

"As chief engineer on the Mackinac Bridge, Kim has been an innovative thinker, putting the safety of

travelers first while finding ways to move traffic efficiently," Ajegba said. "I am very pleased that she will lead the team maintaining our state's signature icon."

For the past 17 years, Nowack has overseen bridge maintenance work, as well as contracted design, inspection and construction work. A Grand Rapids native and St. Ignace resident, she is a member of the International Cable Supported Bridge Operators Association and a 1985 graduate of Michigan Technological University.

Prior to her tenure at the bridge she held several positions with the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), including stints as a general engineer with the department's construction division in Kalamazoo; project design, construction and assistant resident engineer in St. Ignace; and delivery engineer in MDOT's Newberry Transportation Service Center (TSC). [A](#)



Corrigan Propane

HOME HEAT • CONSTRUCTION HEAT
PROPANE DISPENSING STATIONS AND CYLINDER EXCHANGE SERVICE

775 N SECOND ST. • BRIGHTON, MI 48116
(810) 229-6323 • (800) FAST-OIL
FAX: (810) 229-4970

CORKTOWN DETROIT

The Road **Forward**

BID PREPARATION | CONTRACT NEGOTIATION | MEDIATION
CLAIMS MANAGEMENT | LITIGATION, ARBITRATION AND APPEALS

BSJZ | LAW

BLEVINS SANBORN JEZDIMIR ZACK PLC

A Winning Legal Team

Specializing in Construction Law

Visit us at bsjzlaw.com

NTH Extends the Service Life of Existing Infrastructure

- Asset Management
- Condition Assessments
- Bridge Inspection and Scoping
- Pavement Assessment / Rehabilitation
- Subsurface Utility Engineering
- Geotechnical Evaluations / Design
- Environmental Permitting
- Fugitive Dust and Erosion Prevention Planning



NTH Consultants, Ltd.
Infrastructure Engineering
and Environmental Services

nthconsultants.com
800.736.6842

UHY ^{LLP}
Certified Public Accountants

WE UNDERSTAND YOUR INDUSTRY LIKE WE UNDERSTAND OUR OWN

- Dedicated team of knowledgeable professionals who specialize in the construction industry
- Ability to identify and address trends, accounting requirements, and regulations as they change
- National Construction Practice led out of our Michigan offices
- Provides "The next level of service" – a high-quality personal service and exceptional product

John J. Gallo
National Construction Practice Leader
jgallo@uhy-us.com
248 204 9339



An independent member of UHY International

*The next level
of service*

Does the Line 5 tunnel make sense to be built, or should the pipelines be removed from the Straits of Mackinac?

A tunnel beneath the Mackinac Straits is absolutely essential. It would provide a safe, manageable solution to place numerous utilities safely from the UP to the lower peninsula for this and future generations. Enclosing the pipelines and utilities in rock will provide the protection necessary to insure any future problems would be contained and able to be managed and repaired without damage to the Great Lakes or surrounding environment. In addition it will be paid for by Enbridge and it will provide a multitude of long term construction jobs to construct the tunnel and the termination facilities at each end. In my mind it's a no brainer: a new tunnel and years of economic benefit paid for by the corporation that owns the facility. It's good for all of us.

Scott Bazinet

Lowe Construction Company

Yes, the Line 5 tunnel makes sense to be built as it will be less of an ecological impact on the Great Lakes as well as creating jobs for the industry.

Brian Borich

Ajax Paving Industries, Inc.

Build it.

Curtiss Fontaine

Cripps Fontaine Exc., Inc.

Since the UP depends on Line 5 for much of the propane it needs to heat homes not able to be serviced by natural gas, the only question is how to make the lines safer. Removal of the lines off the floor of the Straits of Mackinac and placing them deep below the floor in a tunnel is a no-brainer. Doing anything to impede the completion of this project to score some political points is the definition of stupidity.

James Zalud

Isabella Corporation

The Line 5 tunnel needs to be built under the Straits of Mackinac. This tunnel is critical to the economy, fuel oil and heating costs in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Lincoln Noel

Payne & Dolan

What would be the alternative? Would they have to re-route the lines through Wisconsin? If not, then a tunnel makes sense.

Paul Roth

Action Traffic Maintenance, Inc.

Yes, build the TUNNEL!!!!

Ed Davids

Hoffman Bros., Inc.

Yes, I believe that the pipeline should be built.

Timothy (Mike Sr.) Peake

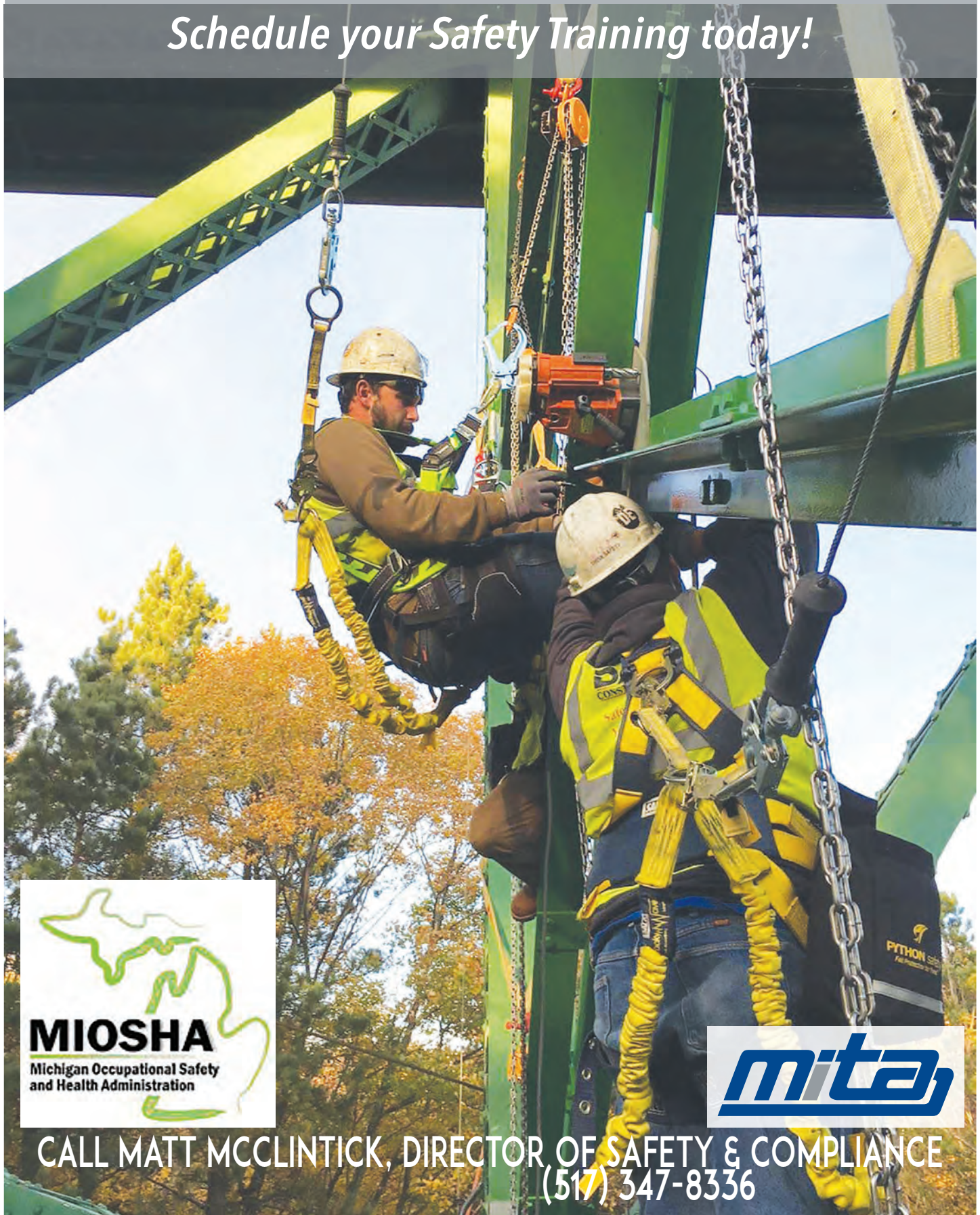
Action Traffic Maintenance, Inc. [A](#)



Photo by MITA's Nancy Brown

DON'T FALL FOR BAD BEHAVIOR

Schedule your Safety Training today!



CALL MATT MCCLINTICK, DIRECTOR OF SAFETY & COMPLIANCE
(517) 347-8336

FALL 2019: MITA PAC UPDATE

Due to an administrative error, a generous contribution from Jamie Lemke at Give 'Em A Brake Safety was not listed in the previous issue of the magazine. We wish to extend our apologies to Jamie for this accidental omission and to thank him for his support of the MITA PAC. Please note his contribution in the list below. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the MITA PAC this year. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. [A](#)

First Name	Last Name	Company	Donation
Scott	Bazinet	Lowe Construction Co.	\$3,500.00
Jeff	Stover	Toebe Construction	\$500.00
Patrick	Dunigan	Dunigan Bros., Inc.	\$2,500.00
Fernando	Casasanta	C & P Construction	\$500.00
Mike	Anderzack	Tenmile Creek Excavating	\$500.00
Mike	Peake	Action Traffic Maintenance	\$1,000.00
Gerald	Kalin	Kalin Construction Co., Inc.	\$1,500.00
Scott	Miller	Davis Construction, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Nick	Shea	P.K. Contracting, Inc.	\$1,700.00
Mike	Phelps	Z Contractors, Inc.	\$200.00
Gary	Merkey	Jackson-Merkey Contractors, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Steve	Jackson	Jackson-Merkey Contractors, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Mark	Davis	Davis Construction, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Joan	Shaffer	E.J.D. Transport, Inc.	\$500.00
Blake	Zapczynski	Z Contractors, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Brooke	Zapczynski	Z Contractors, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Tonya	Wildfong	Team Elmer's	\$2,500.00
Troy	Broad	Team Elmer's	\$2,500.00
Todd	Broad	Team Elmer's	\$2,500.00
Brian	Olesky	Pamar Enterprises, Inc.	\$500.00
Toni	VandenBos	Pete's Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
Pete	VandenBos	Pete's Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
David	Marsh	Peninsula Prestress Company	\$300.00
Alan	Sandell	Cadillac Asphalt, LLC	\$200.00
Deb	Edgecomb	Sanches Construction Company	\$500.00
Remi	Coolsaet	R. L. Coolsaet Construction Company	\$500.00
Lincoln	Noel	Payne & Dolan, Inc.	\$250.00
Mike	DeFinis	Angelo lafrate Construction Company	\$250.00
Dan	Eriksson	Hoffman Bros., Inc.	\$7,500.00
Tom	Peake	Action Traffic Maintenance	\$1,500.00
Mike	Peake	Action Traffic Maintenance	\$1,500.00
Dale	Chambers	Jensen Bridge & Supply Company	\$250.00

First Name	Last Name	Company	Donation
Andrew	O'Connor	C. A. Hull Co., Inc.	\$150.00
Kurk	Schweitzer	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$250.00
Ricky	Gallegos	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$150.00
Karl	Schweitzer	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$500.00
Paul	Marsh	Peninsula Prestress Company	\$300.00
Aden	Shea	P.K. Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
John	Kloet	U.P. Concrete Pipe Co., Inc.	\$1,000.00
Craig	Fons	GBM Companies	\$1,000.00
Peter	Scodeller	Scodeller Construction, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Bob	Adcock	Angelo lafrate Construction Company	\$4,000.00
Ron	Lammy	Modern Companies	\$1,000.00
Mark	Campbell	GM & Sons, Inc.	\$200.00
Ken	Nowicki	M&M Excavating Co., Inc.	\$500.00
John	Landrie	M&M Excavating Co., Inc.	\$500.00
Brandie	Meisner	M&M Excavating Co., Inc.	\$1,000.00
Ron	Measel	Ace Cutting Equipment	\$1,000.00
Tom	Larabel	Ferris State University	\$500.00
Jack	Dykstra	Jack Dykstra Excavating, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Derrick	Arens	Anlaan Corporation	\$200.00
Nick	Baker	Anlaan Corporation	\$2,000.00
Dave	TerBeek	AIS Construction Equipment	\$1,690.00
J.W.	Fisher	Fisher Companies	\$2,000.00
Tom	DiPonio	Jay Dee Contractors, Inc.	\$10,000.00
Mike	Malloure	C. A. Hull Co., Inc.	\$5,000.00
Bob	Nobbs	Edw. C. Levy Co.	\$500.00
Kurt	Shea	P.K. Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
Lee	Johnston	Johnston Contracting, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Brent	Gerken	Gerken Paving, Inc.	\$1,000.00
Brian	Dodds	D & R Earthmoving, LLC	\$500.00
Dennis	Scully	Mapes Insurance Agency	\$200.00
Keith	Rose	Rieth-Riley Construction Co., Inc.	\$5,000.00
Jim	Urban	Butzel Long	\$100.00

FALL: MITA PAC UPDATE

First Name	Last Name	Company	Donation
Terry	Pieprzak	T.R. Pieprzak Company	\$500.00
Ryan	O'Donnell	Anlaan Corporation	\$2,000.00
John	Zito	Zito Construction Co.	\$500.00
John	Fortier	Bacco Construction Co.	\$1,000.00
Jamie	Lemke	Give 'Em A Brake Safety	\$2,500.00
Ron	Acciavatti	Pamar Enterprises, Inc.	\$1,000.00
John	MacInnis	JRM Consulting, LLC	\$50.00
Jacquie	Katterman	Katterman Trucking, Inc.	\$200.00
Lincoln	Noel	Payne & Dolan, Inc.	\$250.00
Amy	Hall	Ebony Construction Co., Inc.	\$500.00
Dave	Sturru	Grand Valley Concrete Products	\$750.00
Andrew	Ross	Utility Contracting, Co.	\$200.00

First Name	Last Name	Company	Donation
Dan	Cortis	Cortis Brothers	\$250.00
Donn	Ellis	CSI Geoturf, Inc.	\$500.00
Remi	Coolsaet	R. L. Coolsaet Construction Company	\$500.00
Dave	Maas	Diversco Construction Co., Inc.	\$1,500.00
Ed	Boucher	Kotz Sangster Wysocki P.C.	\$500.00
Troy	Broad	Team Elmer's	\$5,000.00
Dale	Chambers	Jensen Bridge & Supply	\$250.00
Paul	Muscat	Cortis Brothers Trucking & Excavating	\$250.00
Marc	Van Til	Give 'Em A Brake Safety	\$1,000.00
Pete	Vandenbos	Pete's Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
Toni	Vandenbos	Pete's Contracting, Inc.	\$500.00
Andy	Rose	Rehmann Robson	\$500.00



Construction takes teamwork. And trust.

No matter what you construct, trust the attorneys at Butzel Long's Construction practice to be with you every step of the way. With deep industry knowledge in everything from government relations to project management to business and commercial litigation, solving problems and getting results is what we do, from bidding to – and beyond – completion.

Eric J. Flessland

P: 313.983.6901
C: 734.778.1964
flessland@butzel.com

Jim Urban

P: 517.372.4385
C: 517.930.4185
urban@butzel.com

Paul M. Mersino

P: 313.225.7015
C: 313.269.2651
mersino@butzel.com

Michael C. Decker

P: 517.372.4928
C: 248.379.6602
decker@butzel.com

A **LexMundi** Member



Trust. Always.

butzel.com

Michigan • New York • Washington, D.C. • Alliance Offices Worldwide

MERSINO® & GLOBAL PUMP® A MERSINO COMPANY

DEWATERING | ONE-PASS TRENCHING | BYPASS PUMPING | POWER GENERATION

Our mission is to be the premier provider of dewatering, one-pass trenching, bypass pumping and power generation equipment and services across a variety of industries.

Through our manufacturer, Global Pump, we offer a wide variety of economical, dependable and highly efficient dewatering pumps and jobsite equipment. As the largest user of our own products, we ensure that our equipment is designed to stand up to a variety of conditions in a multitude of applications.

1.866.MERSINO
24 HOUR SERVICE
WWW.MERSINO.COM



MITA Members: Have prevailing wage jobs left you feeling like you have nowhere left to turn?

We can help.

With a supplemental unemployment plan from BCT Benefits, you provide a fringe benefit to your employees which pays them when work is not available.

Contributing to a benefit plan versus a cash raise can reduce your labor burden because fringe benefits are typically exempt from payroll taxes.

The money you save allows you to bid more competitively on prevailing wage jobs - knowing your bottom line won't have to suffer.



Go ahead. You get the jobs.

We'll help get you through the roadblocks.



**Call 877 - 924 - 3228
or visit
www.BCTBenefitPlans.com**

The company makes no representations or warranties of any kind regarding any benefit or service provided. Any service or benefit provided in on an "as is" basis and the Company disclaims any express or implied warranties, including without limitation, warranties of fitness for a particular purpose, merchantability, or warranties against infringement. The Company shall not be liable for any damages or losses, including indirect, consequential, special, incidental or punitive damages, lost profits, loss of programs or data, or interruption of business activity resulting or caused by the Content. The information in these materials should not replace professional advice. Company makes no legal representations and potential users of Company's website, benefits, products or services should consult with their own legal, tax, or other professionals before adopting any benefit plan or service offered. Company products, benefits, plans or services may vary state-to-state and are subject to the requirements, terms and conditions of each respective state. All products, services, plans and benefits may not be available or recognized in all areas.

Affiliated Local Unions of the

MICHIGAN STATE CONFERENCE of PLASTERERS AND CEMENT MASONS

OPERATIVE PLASTERERS & CEMENT MASONS LOCAL 514

Henry Williams, Financial Secretary
1154 E. Lincoln Avenue
Madison Heights, MI 48071
Phone: 248-548-0800
Fax: 248-548-0700



PLASTERERS & CEMENT MASONS LOCAL 886

Kenneth M. Vierling, Sr., Business Manager
4652 Lewis Ave.
Toledo, OH 46312
Phone: 419-478-2652
Fax: 419-478-0208

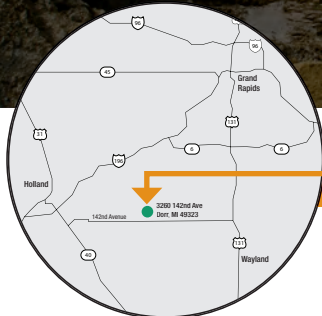
Joseph Ciacchi, Vice President
Phone: 740-590-9827



Your New CASE Dealer
We're Here to Help

Services to Increase Your Uptime

- Quick parts delivery
- On-site emergency service
- Repairs in our shops, completed as scheduled
- Rental equipment
- Matching the machines you need to your job requirements



3260 142nd Ave | Dorr, MI 49323 • (616) 371-7250



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



KOTZ SANGSTER

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

Detroit • Bloomfield Hills • Grand Rapids • Southwest Michigan

RESPONSIVE SERVICE. EXPERIENCED COUNSEL.

Kotz Sangster is your law firm.

40 Years of Construction Law

Contractors and Owners alike trust Kotz Sangster to provide a solid legal foundation for bidding, contracting, labor, litigation and more. In 40 years we've built a vast body of experience and a reputation for achieving winning results in Michigan's construction industry. *Here's to 40 more!*

Jeff Sangster (313) 259.8655 • Ed Boucher (313) 259.8582 • kotzsangster.com



HELPING YOU BUILD ON YOUR SUCCESS

Doeren Mayhew is proud to serve the specialized needs of more than 300 contractors nationwide. Whether you are a mid-size specialty company or a general contractor doing business globally, we can help you achieve your goals more effectively.

Call Doeren Mayhew's Construction Group today and put more than 85 years of industry experience to work for you.

 **DoerenMayhew**
CPAs AND ADVISORS

248.244.3000 | www.doeren.com
Florida | Michigan | North Carolina | Texas

Audit | Tax | Job Costing | Cost Certification | Litigation Support
Internal Control and Fraud Analysis | Payroll | Insurance

ARTBA Pressures Congress for Highway Trust Fund Fix



The transportation construction industry and business community launched an ad campaign on two fronts this summer to keep pressure on Congress and the Trump administration for action in 2019 on a permanent Highway Trust Fund (HTF) fix and a new transportation infrastructure package.

A key campaign component was a social media focused effort aimed at generating grassroots support. It used "Conversation Cards" targeted at the Twitter followers of dozens of key members of the House Ways & Means and Senate Finance Committees, which have the responsibility for developing the funding mechanisms for surface transportation legislation or an infrastructure package. Twitter followers of these lawmakers sent this message: "Our national transportation infrastructure is severely underfunded, which is crippling our economy and endangering lives. The time for Congress to fix this is now—ask @ to start work today to get our nation moving in the right direction again."

The effort was complemented by digital and Twitter ads aimed at members of Congress, their staffs and other D.C. policymakers that spotlighted the impacts of traffic congestion on the U.S. economy and highlighted how the nation is investing in infrastructure at half the rate of the Space Age nearly 50 years ago. The ads drove the target audiences to an opinion editorial in Politico. The piece noted the key priorities: "Job #1 is providing

a permanent, dedicated, growing, user-fee based HTF [Highway Trust Fund] revenue stream to support the increased transportation investments advocated by President Trump and members of Congress from both parties. Job #2 is ensuring expanded HTF [Highway Trust Fund] resources in a transportation infrastructure package are dedicated to projects that will facilitate long-term regional and national economic growth while creating new jobs."

The campaign was a joint initiative of the Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) and U.S. Chamber of Commerce-led Americans for Transportation Mobility (ATM) coalition. Established in 1996 and co-chaired by the American Road & Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA) and the

Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), the 31 associations and labor unions that make up the TCC have a direct market interest in the federal transportation program. A complete list of members can be found at: www.transportationconstructioncoalition.org.

The Americans for Transportation Mobility (ATM) coalition was established by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 2000. It brings together businesses, the labor and union sectors, transportation stakeholders, and the public to advocate a robust transportation infrastructure grid in the United States. This includes promoting ongoing and sustainable funding through policies and broad-based initiatives. [A](#)

SPARTAN SPECIALTIES LTD

SOIL STABILIZATION SOLUTIONS

— **GROUTING TECHNOLOGIES** —

FOUNDATION GROUTING
COMPACTION GROUTING
CHEMICAL GROUTING
MICRO FINE CEMENT

— **CONCRETE REPAIR** —

PREPLACED AGGREGATE
EPOXY INJECTION
FABRIC FORM GROUT BAGS
GUNITE

— **PILES** —

MINI PILES
SOIL NAILING
EARTH & ROCK ANCHORS

586-826-8811

6250 SIMS STERLING HEIGHTS MI 48313



We're in the creating solutions for your business business.

GREAT Products



Warranty: Chevrolet & GMC fleet vehicles are covered by a **5 years / 100,000 miles** powertrain warranty. **GM's warranty is fully transferable.** This means if fleet vehicles are disposed prior to the expiration of the coverage, the remaining warranty coverage is transferred to the second owner. This could increase the resale value of your fleet vehicles.

INNOVATIVE Business Solutions



Technology: GM Fleet offers a wide range of technology solutions to fit your needs. From 4GLTE Wifi-capable vehicles to a multitude of telematics solutions like Commercial Link and OnStar. Our **solutions are designed to safely transform your fleet vehicles into a mobile office.**

EXCEPTIONAL Customer Service



Service: GM has the largest dealer network in U.S., which means servicing your vehicles will never be a challenge. GM was **ranked highest in Sales and Service Satisfaction by J.D. Power.**

***Generous Fleet Incentives Available on Most
GM Models Exclusively to MITA Members.***

Contact us for details!



Michael Rhoads
Commercial District Manager
M: (313) 580-5948
E: Michael.Rhoads@gm.com

For details on these events,
visit the Events section of
www.thinkmita.org or email
daniellecoppersmith@thinkmita.org.

December 10

Western Holiday Party
Atwater Brewery, Grand Rapids

December 13

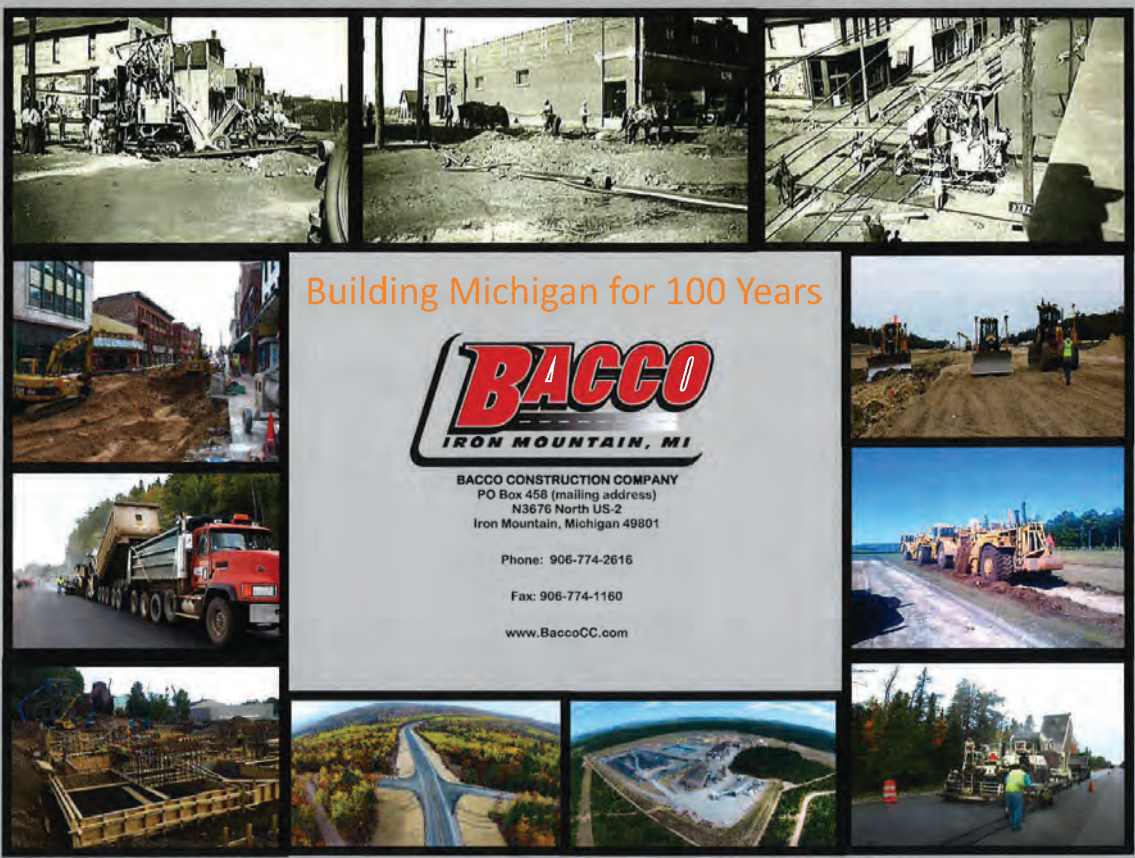
Board Meeting
Lansing Country Club

December 13

Central Holiday Party
Lansing Country Club

December 18

Metro Holiday Party
Somerset Inn, Troy





Building Michigan for 100 Years

BACCO
IRON MOUNTAIN, MI

BACCO CONSTRUCTION COMPANY
PO Box 458 (mailing address)
N3676 North US-2
Iron Mountain, Michigan 49801

Phone: 906-774-2616
Fax: 906-774-1160
www.BaccoCC.com

UNI 110x120

FULL BORE DIRECTIONAL BORING, INC.
6105 Birch, Flint, MI 48507
(810) 410-4325
www.fullboreinc.com

FULL BORE DIRECTIONAL BORING, INC.
is a contractor who specializes in directional boring for many types of products and services for the underground utility industry servicing telecom, water and sewer (forced and gravity) in Michigan and the Great Lakes Region. Our high quality service includes but is not limited to boring all sizes HDPE, Ductile Iron, PVC. Directional boring is now the preferred method on many difficult and technical underground projects. We have recently purchased a Universal HDD Uni-110x120, with a max thrust and pullback force of 110,000 lb. for the larger boring jobs. Full Bore Directional Boring, Inc., is MDOT Certified.

LiUNA!

Feel the Power



The Michigan Laborers' Training and Apprenticeship Institute developed the "Employee Engagement for Construction Laborers" course because today's competitive environment requires the highest level of productivity in all aspects of a project

 **MLTAI**
MICHIGAN LABORERS' TRAINING
AND APPRENTICESHIP INSTITUTE

www.mltai.org

(517) 625-4919

AIS CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT CORP.

THE PRODUCTS.



THE PEOPLE.



★ Traverse City

Saginaw

★ Grand Rapids

★ Richmond

★ Lansing

★ New Hudson

THE SERVICE.

WHERE YOU NEED US. WHEN YOU NEED US.



New Hudson
56555 Pontiac Trail
248-437-8121

Richmond
65809 Gratiot Ave
586-727-7502

Grand Rapids
600 44th Street
800-730-1272

Saginaw
4600 AIS Drive
989-777-0090

Lansing
3600 N Grand River
517-321-8000

Traverse City
8300 M-72 East
231-267-5060



JOHN DEERE



Allianz
SWEEPER

GRADALL®

LIEBHERR



VÖGELE



SAKAI

KOMATSU

HYDRO-AX



NPK

Broce Broom

