west virginia Constructionnews _{May/June 2022}

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CAWV Congressional Fly-In Meet New Members Workforce Development Initiatives CAWV Events



85 Years













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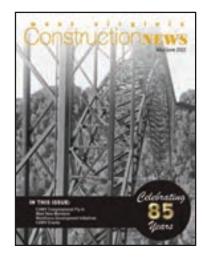
CAWV Administrator Cheryl R. Clark

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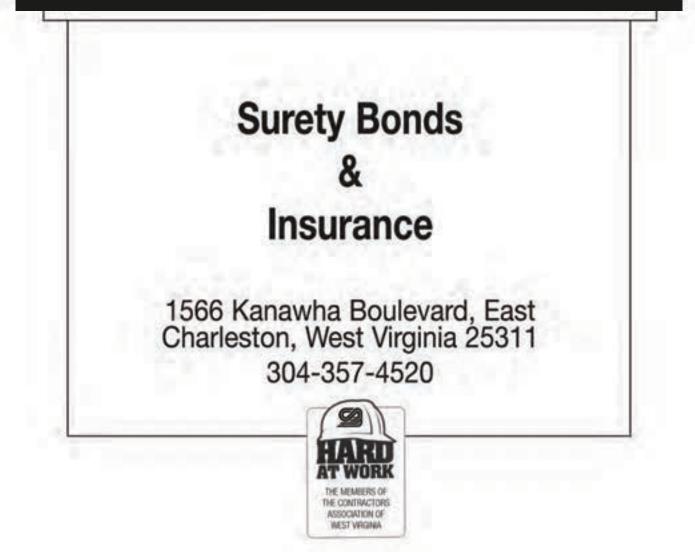
West Virginia Construction News marks its 85th year in circulation in 2022. The publication, which is the "Voice of Construction in the Mountain State," has represented the best of the best in West Virginia's construction industry. WVCN looks forward to continuing its purpose of presenting the views and objectives of the industry, as well as keeping members informed of the issues and activities of the Contractors Association of West Virginia. Cover photo of the iconic New River Gorge Bridge, a project that was featured in a 1976 issue. To read more on WVCN's 85-year history, see page 6.

The Contractors Association of West Virginia is a nonprofit trade organization representing the building, highway, heavy and utility contracting industries in West Virginia. Its services include establishment of a close working liaison with state and federal agencies; worthwhile educational and informational programs; the regular dissemination of pertinent information to its members; strong legislative and media relations; as well as all other activities deemed necessary and proper to promote the general welfare of the construction industry. The CAWV is a certified chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association.

West Virginia Construction News, the official publication of the CAWV since 1937, is published bimonthly. Advertising and editorial deadlines are on the first of the month preceding the month of publication. Material may be reprinted only with the permission of the editor. Advertising and editorial offices are at 2114 Kanawha Boulevard, East, Charleston, WV 25311, Telephone (304) 342-1166, Fax (304) 342-1074, Web Site www.cawv.org, Email cawv@cawv.org. Yearly subscription rate to CAWV members, \$7; non-members, \$8; single copies, \$1.50.

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West Virginia Construction News (WVCN) marks its 85th year in circulation in 2022. The publication, which is the "Voice of Construction in the Mountain State," has represented the best of the best in West Virginia's construction industry.

WVCN, the official publication of the Contractors Association of West Virginia, has played a major role in representing the building, highway and utility construction industries in West Virginia.

First developed in 1937 by P.J. Walsh, executive director of the old West Virginia Contractors Association, WVCN was published twice a month and contained project bid information, similar to the weekly CAWV newsletter members receive today.

The publication has seen five editors over 85 years including William T. Brice (1958-1977), Maureen Gentle Knoll (1977-1981), Scarlett Lee Foster (1981-1982), and Michael L. Clowser (1983-present).

Today, WVCN reaches a pass-along readership of over 3,000 and consists of contractors, engineers, architects, legislators, government officials, business and industry, and suppliers of goods and services throughout West Virginia, surrounding states, and beyond.

The purpose of the publication remains: To present the views and objectives of the construction industry in West Virginia and to keep members informed of the activities of the association. In 2023, the Contractors Association of West Virginia will celebrate its 100-year anniversary. Members will learn more on the history of the association and *West Virginia Construction News* throughout the year. See below some interesting features WVCN has published over the years.



February 1961 - West Virginia Road Commission bridge engineer shows his designed model of the I-64 Nitro bridge that was completed in 1966.



January 1970 - The new Silver Memorial Bridge was dedicated two years after the historic bridge collapse in Point Pleasant.



August 1963 - The association's headquarters was moved from the Ruffner Hotel to the Kanawha Hotel in Charleston.



March 1974 - Plans were unveiled for the \$10.6 million Science and Culture Center, now known as the Culture Center and State Museum.





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CAWV Returns to Capitol Hill for 2022 Congressional Fly-In

The first in-person CAWV Congressional Fly-In since before the COVID-19 pandemic was held May 17. CAWV President Nate Orders, president of Orders Construction Company, Inc., St. Albans, led this year's delegation to Washington, D. C. to meet with West Virginia's congressional delegation and discuss issues of importance to the state's construction industry.

The last fly-in to Washington was 2019 but West Virginia's congressional delegation met with members last year at the CAWV headquarters. This year's event was, again, held in conjunction with the May 15-17 Transportation Construction Coalition (TCC) conference, which was attended by over 300 construction, engineering, highway and transportation representatives from around the nation. The co-chairs of TCC are the Associated General Contractors (AGC) of America and the American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA).

"We normally come to Washington seeking money for infrastructure projects," President Orders told lawmakers. "But, thanks to Senator Shelley Moore



CAWV members went to Washington on May 17 to meet with West Virginia's congressional delegation and discuss issues of vital importance to the state's construction industry. Attending the 32nd annual Congressional Fly-In were (from left): John Crane, Asphalt Pavement Association of West Virginia; Keith May, IVS Hydro, Inc.; Mike Clowser, CAWV; CAWV President Nate Orders, Orders Construction Company, Inc.; Kevin Kemerer, Precision Pump and Valve Service, Inc.; Derick Foster, Paramount Builders; U.S. Senator Joe Manchin, D-WV; Dan Flesher, Trimble Engineers and Constructors, Inc.; CAWV Senior Vice President James Ridgeway, March-Westin Company, Inc.; Matthew Bourne, March-Westin Company, Inc.; Senator Chandler Swope, formerly Swope Construction Company; CAWV Secretary Tripp Dailey, W. Harley Miller Contractors, Inc.; and Pat McDonald, CAWV.

Capito, Senator Joe Manchin and Rep. David McKinley, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) is providing \$6 billion for infrastructure projects in West Virginia. The funding is there for highways, bridges, water and sewer, airports, broadband and abandoned mine land (AML) projects. Unfortunately, the federal permitting and environmental review process is delaying construction," President Orders stated.

The CAWV has long advocated for needed reforms to expedite the project review and permitting process without sacrificing existing environmental protections. While there have been meaningful improvements in this area, the prolonged process for many projects still leaves room for improvement. The CAWV told lawmakers that the One Federal Decision rule would provide early coordination across federal agencies to streamline the permitting process.

Senator Capito and Senator Manchin were instrumental in crafting the bipartisan infrastructure bill which passed the Senate 69-30.

"I'm really proud of the bill and I got the \$500 million for West Virginia bridges put into the final bill," Senator Capito, ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee (EPW), told the CAWV delegation. "Representatives of U.S. Fish and Wildlife are appearing before the EPW tomorrow. The federal government should 'not be putting its foot on the scale to affect its position.' We need to

PAT MCDONALD PHOTOS

get highway and infrastructure permits approved and not hold up Corridor H or other projects."

"Permitting takes too long and it's driving up the cost of construction," Senator Manchin said. "It shouldn't take 10 years to get a permit to build a project." The senator said he, too, was proud of his vote on the infrastructure bill and that it will pay dividends over the next 10 years.

"I hope there is enough work to employ everyone in West Virginia," said Senator Manchin, who is chair of the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. He and Senator Capito are both members of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Reinstating the One Federal Decision rule was one of the CAWV's issues discussed with West Virginia's delegation. The others were: Oppose repeal of the federal gas tax; implement funding for infrastructure projects; and full funding for water and sewer projects.

Rep. Carol Miller, who serves on the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, discussed how to get people into the workforce.

"Being a business owner in West Virginia, I realize you take risks every day," she told CAWV members. "My committee is working on fair trade and international law agreements that could, ultimately, allow businesses to locate in West Virginia. I've met with over 50 ambassadors of other countries and currently working on a memorandum of understanding with Vietnam to use West Virginia timber and other products. This could lead to projects coming to West Virginia, much like Nucor Steel Corp. in Mason County."

CAWV members got to thank Rep. David McKinley for being one of 13 House Republicans to vote for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. He was defeated in the May 10 Primary Election by West Virginia's Second District Congressman Alex Mooney. West Virginia lost a congressional seat after the 2020 U.S. Census which required the two incumbents to run against each other in the Primary Election.



U.S. Senator Joe Manchin, D-WV, was instrumental in helping to craft the historic bipartisan infrastructure bill which passed the Senate 69-30 in November 2021. The Senator told members the bill will pay dividends over the next ten years.



Members spoke with U.S. Senator Shelley Moore Capito, R-WV, and ranking member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, on environmental permitting issues that are affecting West Virginia's construction industry.



CAWV members thanked Rep. David McKinley for being one of 13 House Republicans to vote for the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act and for his years of service to the citizens of West Virginia and for his courage to support the infrastructure bill.



Rep. Carol Miller, R-WV, told members that the House Ways and Means Committee is working on fair trade and international law agreements that could, ultimately, allow businesses to locate in West Virginia.

"We planted a tree. I know we did the right thing in supporting the bipartisan infrastructure bill," Rep. McKinley told members.

President Orders thanked the congressman for his years of service to the citizens of West Virginia and for his courage to support the infrastructure bill.

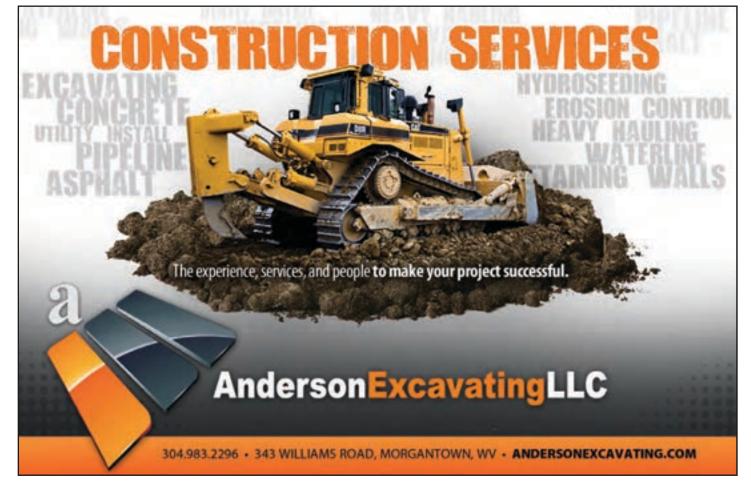
"I was ranked the 34th most effective congressman because of what I learned

in the construction industry," said Rep. McKinley, a registered Professional Engineer. Rep. McKinley has been a member of the CAWV, either with a construction company or the engineering firm bearing his name, since the 1970s. "Working with subcontractors and employees, you know that anyone can kill a project. It's easy to be against something. It's harder to get it passed. My staff and I worked across politics to get things accomplished."

A number of related topics were discussed with the state's congressional delegation during the May 17 fly-in. Work force development, B-2 Visas to get people registered in order to be hired as employees, Buy American Buy America (BABA) requirements for products used in IIJA projects, corporate tax rates, supply chain and material cost increases problems, and the CAWV's opposition to repealing the federal gas tax.

"I think everyone was glad we could once again go to Washington and meet with West Virginia's delegation and their staff in their offices," said President Orders. "There is optimism that the bipartisan infrastructure bill will create jobs and improve the quality of life of many West Virginians. Now that the bill is passed, Congress must provide annual allocations to fund the programs in a timely manner and we have to get the One Federal Decision rule fully implemented so we can streamline the federal permitting process. Our senators and representatives have a good grasp of our concerns. I think they generally appreciate hearing from West Virginians on the issues that affect West Virginians."

Joining President Nate Orders for the 32nd annual Congressional Fly-In were: James Ridgeway and Matthew Bourne, March-Westin Company, Inc.; Tripp Dailey, W. Harley Miller Contractors, Inc.; Dan Flesher, Trimble Engineers and Constructors, Inc.; Derick Foster, Paramount Builders; Kevin Kemerer, Precision Pump and Valve Service, Inc.; Keith May, IVS Hydro, Inc.; Senator Chandler Swope, formerly Swope Construction Company; John Crane, Asphalt Pavement Association of West Virginia; and Mike Clowser and Pat Mc-Donald, CAWV.



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Introducing the Newest CAWV Members

The CAWV Strategic Planning Committee developed a plan that is a vision of the association's future and the steps required to achieve the desired objectives. One of the goals in the 2020 – 2022 Strategic Plan is to increase membership to keep the association strong in order to vigorously advocate for West Virginia's construction industry. In this issue of *West Virginia Construction News*, a few of the newest members of the Contractors Association of West Virginia are featured. **Members are encouraged to call upon these new firms and use them when bidding projects.**

If you are a new member and would like to be featured in a future issue of WVCN, contact Cassidy Webb at cwebb@cawv.org, or call (304) 342-1166.



3M Safety Equipment

3M was established in 1902 and originally stood for Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, specializing in abrasives. Since then, 3M has continued to grow and innovate to become one of the nation's leading scientific manufacturers, specializing in markets such as healthcare, personal safety, industrial, consumer, and more.



A 2019 CAWV/Encova Safety Seminar, led by 3M, taught attendees the proper usage, inspection, and maintenance of all parts of a fall arrest.

The 3M Personal Safety Division was developed in 1972 and introduced respiratory and hearing protection solutions. They offer a comprehensive, diverse portfolio of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) solutions providing respiratory protection, hearing protection, fall protection, reflective materials for high visibility apparel, protective clothing, protective eyewear, head and face protection, confined space retrieval systems, welding helmets, and other adjacent products and solutions such as tactical safety equipment, detection, monitoring equipment, active communications equipment and compliance management.

3M has more than 10,000 employees worldwide and is the world leader in safety technology and, as such, has resources and support personnel (certified trainers, customer service, application engineers, safety specialists) that are all dedicated to bringing workers home safe. 3M offers a variety of Fall Protection training classes that can be given on-site or at one of their state-of-the-art training centers. Fall Protection Specialist Tucker Burguest covers the entire state of West Virginia and Core Safety Specialist Ryan Yoshida covers most of the state.

Whether it leads to cleaner water in Mumbai, roadway improvements in London, or lives saved on the battlefield, 3M helps keep everyone safer in a changing world. Across diverse industries and applications their technology, expertise and energy drive innovative solutions to help control environments so industry workers can focus on the job at hand.

CAWV members can reach out to 3M Personal Safety for on-site hazard assessments, product and/or safety demonstrations, general product information, or best-in-class training programs.

Tucker Burquest Fall Protection Specialist (412) 518-2853 jburquest2@mmm.com

Ryan Yoshida Core Safety Specialist (Head, Eye, and Face Protection) (651) 230-6182 ryoshida@mmm.com



GeoStabilization International *Geohazard Mitigation*

GeoStabilization International was founded in 2002 and has performed emergency and routine geohazard mitigation across the globe. The company uses a unique integrated design and construction process that provides the greatest value and minimal environmental impact through the newest technologies. GeoStabilization's comprehensive service capabilities include:

- Slope/ bluff stabilization
- Landslide remediation
- Rockfall mitigation
- Grouting & foundations
- Temporary shoring
- Retaining wall repair
- Rail subgrade and embankment stabilization
- Micropiles, ground anchors & underpinning
- Bridge rehabilitation

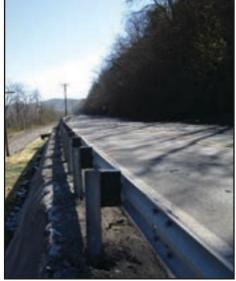
For twenty years, GeoStabilization has provided more than 5,500 cost-effective, technically superior solutions, many completed under FEMA declared natural disasters and requiring expedited design and rapid mobilization. The team of geologists, geotechnical engineers, equipment operators, and rockfall remediation technicians is strategically decentralized across the United States and Canada. This ensures crews are available to respond to emergency sites within 24 hours.

With a primary focus on supporting geohazard mitigation in emergency response scenarios, the company's West Virginia project development operations are based out of Ripley. GeoStabilization's integrated engineering and construction offering provides clients the fastest possible response time, ensures seamless integration of design and construction, and allows for rapid assessment and implementation of design changes when unanticipated subsurface conditions are encountered.

GeoStabilization currently employs 35 West Virginians, including engineers, landslide technicians, project managers, rockfall remediation experts, and equipment operators. Visit www.geostabilization.com for more information.

> Bryan Radabaugh Project Development Engineer 2 White Oak Drive Ripley, WV 25271 (304) 964-0923 bryan.radabaugh@gsi.us





GeoStabilization International has partnered with the WVDOH on projects such as a landslide mitigation project on WV 82 in Nicholas County (left) and stabilization project on WV 2 in Pleasants County.



Gregory Highway *Guardrails*

Gregory Industries was founded by Thomas Gregory (Thomas Gregory Works TGGW) in 1896 in New York. Over the course of 125 years the business become a nationwide leader in galvanizing and roll-form fabrication. Gregory Industries services multiple industries through four distinct divisions: Gregory Highway, Gregory Strut, Gregory Tube and Gregory Fence.

- Gregory Highway serves roadside safety industry as a leading producer of w-beam, thrie-beam guardrail and distribution of guardrail end terminals (MSKT and MFLEAT).
- Gregory Strut serves electrical, plumbing and many other industries as a leading producer of strut hanging material and strut hanging accessories.
- Gregory Fence provides high security and residential type solutions for perimeter fencing protection.
- Gregory Tube serves multiple industries with tube solutions for multiple applications and a primary provider for the car port industry.

Gregory Industries employs over 250 in multiple locations in Ohio and Alabama and provides roll-formed material that is continuously galvanized prior to being roll formed. Visit www.gregoryhighway.com for more information.

Mark McDonald Regional Sales Manager 4100 13th Street SW Canton, OH 44710 (330) 477-4800 mmcdonald@gregoryhighway.com



Houck Services, Inc. Roofing & Sheet Metal Fabrication

In 1947, Lawrence E. Houck started a small masonry contracting business. In 1980, his son, Gary L. Houck, bought the company and in 1982, he purchased Bader & Son Roofing and Flooring Company. Over the years, the Houck companies have been honored with numerous local and national awards in recognition of their craftsmanship and commitment to safety. What first began as a two-man operation, has grown to service the entire Mid-Atlantic region.

Better known as the Houck Group, Inc., the organization consists of two

subsidiaries, Houck & Company, Inc. and Houck Services, Inc., working throughout PA, MD, VA, DC and the Mid-Atlantic region.

Houck & Company, Inc. handles masonry restoration, concrete rehabilitation, caulking/joint systems, waterproofing and protective coatings.

Houck Services, Inc. handles roofing, roof maintenance, industrial repair and flooring system installations. They install all types of resinous flooring, along with roofing systems that include green and garden systems, single-ply, hot and cold applied, built-up, modified, copper, slate, shingles and structural and architectural metal. In addition, they offer preventative roof maintenance programs – including 24/7/365 routine and emergency roof repair service as well as the installation of rooftop solar systems.

Most recently added to the Houck group of companies is Houck Industrial LLC, which consists of industrial welding, fabrication and installation, plant maintenance and supplemental millwrights, process piping and ductwork, fabrication and installation of chutes, safety guards, handrails, bollards, and walkways. The Industrial Electrical division handles equipment wiring and power distribution, custom control panels and systems, PLC programming and the wiring of photovoltaic systems.

Houck has notably worked with Hershey Foods to mobilize and do work at their Monterrey and Guadalajara plants in Mexico, as well as TE (formerly known as Tyco) in their San Juan plant in Puerto Rico. Other jobs of note include: The Canadian Embassy in Washington DC; Meadowlands Arena in New Jersey; Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore; Beaver Stadium and the Bryce Jordan Center in State College, PA; Valley Forge Monument in Valley Forge, PA; Pennsylvania Monument in Gettysburg, PA; Hersheypark Arena and Stadium and the Giant Center in Hershev, PA: and the Veteran's Eternal Flame Memorial and Veteran's Grove in Elizabethtown, PA.

Houck has approximately 300 field and office employees and is headquartered

out of Harrisburg, PA, and has offices and warehouses in Greencastle, Shippensburg, Palmyra, Elizabethtown, and Ephrata, PA. 2022 marks Houck's 75th year in business. Visit www. houcks.com for more information.

> Brenda Tadych Operations Coordinator 7464 Linglestown Road Harrisburg, PA 17112 (717) 657-3302 btadych@houcks.com



Laurita Inc. Heavy/Highway Contractors

In 1959, Joseph Laurita's trucking operation expanded into the excavation business when Jim Laurita and his brothers joined the company. Soon, the Laurita name could be seen on









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E.D. Etnyre & Co. www.etnyre.com 800-995-2116 many construction sites in the Morgantown area. In 1969, the Laurita family business expanded even further with the purchase of the first of many coal mines.

The company became a third-generation business when Jim Laurita's son, Tom, joined the team. Tom worked for his father as a foreman of a coal barge loading facility in Morgantown.

By April of 1984, Tom had incorporated Laurita Inc. Using only a CASE 450 track loader and hoe attachment, Tom performed residential excavation, septic system installation, and trucking.

Today, Laurita Inc. and its affiliates take on projects in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Maryland, DC Metro, and Virginia.

First established in 1984 as a residential and small commercial excavation and trucking business, steady growth necessitated, and concentration has been solely on commercial and governmental contracting for the last 32 years. Services include general contracting, excavation, wet and dry utilities, and demolition for multiple commercial and governmental entities.

Laurita is currently on year three of an I-66 widening project in Manassas, VA, that is one of their largest projects to date.

Another notable project was for Homeland Security at the old St. Elizabeth Hospital in Washington, D.C. This project uncovered the perimeter foundation which was about 1,800 feet long in preparation for underpinning. Additionally, the floor elevation was lowered inside the building and multiple drainage and utility improvements were made on campus.

The Morgantown-based company employs approximately 120 employees and will open an office in Manassas, VA in 2022.

Tom Laurita President 3748 Dents Run Blvd, Ste. A Morgantown, WV 26501 (304) 296-7531 tom@laurita.com



Stratview Wealth Management *Financial Services*

William Moore, a Wealth Management Advisor with Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company, founded Stratview Wealth Management in Richmond, Virginia. Since 1992,



Moore

he has worked with individuals, families and businesses across the country to help them achieve their financial goals. Stratview has helped hundreds of families, business owners, and professionals find greater confidence and security in their financial lives by optimizing their wealth around their specific values. Every client, plan and implementation strategy is important and is adjusted through the years to match a



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Summit Community Bank Banking / Finance

Summit Community Bank was founded in 1883 as South Branch Valley National Bank in Moorefield, WV. With over 139 years in business, 45 branches, over 400 employees, and locations in three states, Summit is still a locally operated, West Virginia-based bank that's passionate about providing a banking experience that goes beyond what's expected.

Summit participates in the construction industry as a provider of debt in various phases and projects. They provide debt to construction companies for working capital, equipment, and asset purchases and also provides project financing for real estate and infrastructure projects.

"We believe in what we call Service Beyond Expectations," said Jennifer Kinty, Summit Market President in Morgantown. "This means we make it our personal mission that every relationship, every project, every interaction, every transaction has the highest level of care, is authentic, friendly, memorable, and truly gives the wow factor."

Kinty says that Summit prides itself on banking that is organic and community oriented.

"The people that serve in our branches and in our operations are local people in those communities," she said. "People that are literally your friends and neighbors, those you go to church with, those you see at the grocery store. Our bankers have a personal investment to understand the journey that clients are on and the challenges they face."

> Jennifer Kinty Market President 176 Courtyard Street Morgantown, WV 26501 (304) 581-6500 jkinty@summitfgi.com



Tetra Tech, Inc. Engineering Services

Tetra Tech, Inc. was founded in 1966 by four technical leaders to provide innovative solutions in the areas of coastal engineering, research and development, geophysics, and systems analysis. Over the past 56 years, Tetra Tech has grown into an industry leading engineering, architecture and consulting firm. They provide full lifecycle support in the water, environment, infrastructure, resource management, energy, and international development sectors.

The primary practice in West Virginia is focused on geotechnical, mining and environmental engineering with specialized focus on geotechnical design, environmental permitting, mine remediation and AMD treatment.

The company has over 21,000 em-

ployees across the globe and local offices in Morgantown and Charleston.

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CAWV'S NEWEST MEMBERS SINCE MAY 2021 The CAWV is pleased to welcome the following into membership. Members are encouraged to call on them for products and services.

MEMBER INFORMATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE CAWV ONLINE DIRECTORY AT WWW.CAWV.ORG.

2LMN, Inc. 3M ACCAD Corporation, Inc. Aster Oilfield Services Black Star Trading Company, LLC Blue Gold Development, LLC Brandeis Machinery & Supply Company Industrial Supply Solutions Inc. (ISSI) **Brown Communications LLC** Call Ditto, LLC ConServ **Contracting Engineering Consultants Cornerstone Drilling D&L** Contracting, LLC East River Aggregates, Inc. Empire Salvage & Recycling, Inc. **Erwin Commercial** Foster Construction, LLC GCC Construction Company, LLC

Greens Equipment Group **Gregory Highway** Harmony Environmental Bank **HCSS** Heartland Fabrication, LLC Houck Services, Inc. Kinsley Construction, Inc. L&T Construction Services LLC Laurita Inc. Lewis Brisbois Lewis Glasser PLLC Micrologic Inc Monticola Security Guard Services Prime Engineering Incorporated Promise Land Developments LLC Raze International Inc Skidabrader Group

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WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Mountwest Community and Technical College Partners with C.J. Hughes to Offer Utility Construction Program

Workforce development challenges have been a hot topic for the last several years, and West Virginia has initiated numerous efforts to support the work being done on this front.

State funding has been allocated through grants and other vessels, organizations have created programs in area high schools to showcase opportunities, and employers are searching hard for employees in numerous industries. Construction, manufacturing, and energy industries have been heavily impacted by the lack of employees available to fill jobs that are necessary to the survival of the industries.

C.J. Hughes Construction Company, Inc., a pipeline construction company based out of Huntington, was not exempt from feeling the struggle on hiring.



MacKenzie Morley, director of marketing for C.J. Hughes Construction Company, Inc., says they are actively recruiting employees nearly year-round but have struggled to fill open positions.



Officials with Mountwest Community & Technical College and C.J. Hughes Construction Company, Inc. announced a new Utility Construction Program on Thursday, March 3.

"We need employees; we are growing," MacKenzie Morley, director of marketing for C.J. Hughes said. "We have been actively recruiting employees nearly year-round, but given the lack of awareness of the utility construction industry and the lack of experience in the industry, we have struggled to fill open positions."

In September of last year, the leadership of C.J. Hughes approached Dr. Joshua Baker, president of Mountwest Community & Technical College, to discuss the potential of a partnership to rectify the workforce development challenges they were facing.

On March 3, they announced their solution to the press and select members of the community and the industry – the launch of the Utility Construction Program.

The Utility Construction Program will offer students the opportunity to learn

about the utility construction industry in the classroom, and receive paid onthe-job training with C.J. Hughes.

"This is what we love to do, create solutions for our community and our partners that will ultimately have a greater impact on our region," President Baker stated. "State funding and grant resources are what make this work, and we are fortunate to have these opportunities available to us."

The program will begin this fall and will consist of an 11-month certificate with the option to continue on to receive an Associate of Applied Science degree in the second year. Over the course of the 11 months, students will be exposed to multiple facets of the utility construction industry in the classroom and on the job. With the first eight weeks dedicated solely to safety training, the students will then begin their on-the-job training focused on natural gas and water distribution, followed



The program will begin in the Fall of 2022 and will consist of an 11-month certificate with the option to continue on to receive an Associate of Applied Science degree in the second year. Over the course of the 11 months, students will be exposed to multiple facets of the utility construction industry in the classroom and on the job.

with pipeline construction, industrial/ mechanical maintenance, and project management.

Morley has been a part of the development of the program and will serve as Program Coordinator.

"C.J. Hughes is growing, our industry has been brought to the forefront thanks to the bipartisan infrastructure bill, and we need individuals who are ready and excited to work in a field that is not just a job, but a career."

The bipartisan infrastructure bill is allotting billions of dollars for West Virginia roads and bridges, broadband development, utility infrastructure repair and replacement, water quality improvement, and transportation.

"The work that needs to be done with

this money is work that we do every single day. We need enough qualified workers to handle the workload, so that we can keep this work for our local businesses and employees. We are elated to partner with Mountwest and keep these jobs close to home," said Morley.

The partnership of Mountwest and C.J. Hughes is not a new or novel concept; Mountwest has collaborated with other employers to custom create programs to meet the needs of the employer, the community, and the industry. The difference with this program is that, thanks to state funding and the Learn and Earn program, the on-the-job training is fully paid. This means that students can enroll in the program and get a minimum of 20 hours a week fully paid.

Potentially, through grant and financial aid opportunities, students could go

through the program for free and get paid to learn.

Mountwest, originally established in 1975 as Marshall Community College, has been an accredited institution since 2003 and has provided high quality learning for students in the community.

C.J. Hughes is a pipeline construction contractor that has been in the industry for 75 years.

"C.J. Hughes is looking forward to the next 75 years," Morley said. "It all begins with this program. We are educating, training, and preparing individuals for careers that will be here for years to come. These jobs belong to our family members, our friends, our region, and Appalachia."

CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION OF WEST VIRGINIA RECENT EVENTS

The goal of the Contractors Association of West Virginia (CAWV) is to serve as the voice of the construction industry in West Virginia and to contribute to the success of our member firms. The CAWV offers members a number of opportunities to network and become involved in association and industry activities through social, educational, and community events, as well as through the CAWV committees and task forces. Featured in this issue of *West Virginia Construction News* are some of the association's most recent events.

CAWV "Doing Business with Nucor" Event

Over 60 members joined together on Thursday, May 19, to hear from Nucor Steel West Virginia's Construction Supervisor Jeff Rogers on what they can expect when it comes to the bidding process on the \$2.7 billion steel mill manufacturing facility that is currently underway in Mason County.

"This will be our sixth steel mill that we have in operation," Rogers stated. "Those are located in Indiana, Kentucky, Arkansas, Alabama and South Carolina, but the West Virginia location will be the largest for our organization and in Nucor history."

The site development package for the over 1,300 acre project has already been awarded and, after environmental tests are complete, they anticipate to start moving dirt July 1.

The next big package members can anticipate is the underground utility package followed by deep foundation, building erection, equipment, process piping, water systems and more.

Nucor's construction team will manage the infrastructure side which includes site development, highway, underground utility, foundations, and building erection. Another team will manage the equipment portion which includes piping and electrical processes.

"Our group will function similar to a general contractor, but we don't consider ourselves a general contractor,"



Nucor Steel West Virginia's Construction Supervisor Jeff Rogers spoke with members on the bidding process and bid packages on the \$2.7 billion steel mill facility being built in Mason County.

said Rogers.

According to Rogers, the structural erection of the buildings themselves will go in two different directions.

"We'll go pre-engineered metal building for some of our low load buildings," he said. "We make metal buildings so we like to use our own product."

Process piping is another package that will include water, hydraulic, and fresh air. All the piping that runs to equipment will be a separate package which will lump in with the mechanical portion of the project.

"The normal time frame from advertisement to award, ideally, is four weeks," he said. "That can be pretty aggressive especially when you have limited information."

He said that once they finalize the packages and determine who's going to be doing the bidding, they will push those packages out for everyone to review.

"Our team will go through the discussion of how we want to bundle these packages up," he stated. "When we let these packages out, we want to provide as much information as possible so that you and your team can give us the best guess on a cost schedule."

The CAWV will continue to work with Nucor and update members as new information becomes available.

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CAWV Committee Updates

Committee work is the lifeblood of the CAWV, helping to shape the construction industry and the association. Committee participation allows contractors to share ideas, develop policies and programs and establish valuable contacts with industry leaders and state and federal agencies.

A number of committees met recently to address issues the industry is facing and develop solutions to help CAWV members prosper.

All CAWV members, and their employees, are invited to participate in any of the committees. Contact Pat McDonald, assistant executive director, at (304) 342-1166 or email pmcdonald@cawv. org to learn more.

CAWV JOINT UTILITIES COMMITTEE

The CAWV Joint Utilities Committee met on June 23 and was joined by state and federal funding agency representatives. The meeting was focused on material price increases and delays over the last year.

At the May 12 Joint Utilities meeting there was discussion on how best to mitigate project delays and price increases due to supply chain issues. Several of the funding agencies have indicated they are willing to work toward a resolution that could involve the owner pre-purchasing supplies or allow the contractor to purchase the supplies and then permit the contractor to be paid on any substantial supply price increases.

During the meeting several scenarios were presented on how to best handle supply chain issues and committee members discussed the risk and benefits that would result from the different solutions proposed.

Chairman Scott Pierson, Triton Construction, Inc., recommended that a task force be formed with the funding agencies, suppliers, and contractors to develop a plan that will be presented to the full committee for further discussion.



Over 45 members and transportation representatives attended the CAWV Joint Cooperative Committee meeting that was held June 21 at the CAWV headquarters.

"I think we can definitely work through these issues and come up with a process that will help shorten the wait for supplies and hopefully lock in pricing that will benefit everyone involved," said Chairman Pierson. "It is truly an advantage to have funding agencies that are willing to work with industry to help resolve these issues to keep projects moving forward."

The first meeting of the task force is scheduled for July.

CAWV EDUCATION COMMITTEE & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE

The CAWV Education Committee and Workforce Development Task Force held a combined meeting on Friday, June 10.

Joining members were Alyssa Keedy White and James Coble from the West Virginia Department of Education, who spoke on the ways that the CAWV can become more involved in the Career and Technical Education schools and help steer students at the CTE schools to construction careers in West Virginia.

Also joining the meeting was Cindy Bailey from the Governor's Jobs & Hope program to discuss the implementation of the employer reimbursement program for hiring graduates of the program. This program will reimburse the employer for the first six months of salary and several CAWV members have already signed up to take advantage of this program.

CAWV Education Committee Chair Tia Reppert, Bear Contracting, LLC, led the meeting which focused on a number of important items, including an update on the BuildWV program.

The Workforce Development Task Force is currently commissioning a promotional video as part of the Build-WV program to encourage students to choose a construction career.

CAWV JOINT COOP COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 21, ushered in the return of the CAWV/WVDOH/FHWA Joint Cooperative Committee. An in-person meeting was held at the CAWV office for the first time since December of 2019.

CAWV members, numbering 25, were joined by 21 WVDOH and FWHA representatives, including Secretary of Transportation Jimmy Wriston, WVDOH State Highway Engineer Alan Reed, the Chief Highway Engineers, members of multiple WVDOH Divisions and FHWA Division Director Jeff Blanton.

"The CAWV is pleased to have the Joint Cooperative Committee meeting again after such a long time," said Shannon Hapuarachy, CAWV chair of the committee. "Our subcommittees have been meeting remotely during the pandemic, but it is not as effective as being around the table, together with industry, WVDOH and FHWA, to discuss issues and concerns."

The meeting began with a discussion of the events and activities of the joint subcommittees as well as WVDOH committees: Aggregate, Asphalt, Concrete, Construction, Utilities, Specification, Standards, and Materials Procedures.

Secretary Wriston reported on the 2022-2023 program, stating that the WVDOH has experienced some challenges this year but expects a good program, closing out the year with roughly 4,000 lane miles of paving and increased bridge program. The Secretary also announced an update to the Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) for 2023-2025. The STIP amendment comment period closes July 14.

Secretary Wriston also discussed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) and the over 700 different discretionary funding opportunities within the bill.

While Secretary Wriston did not go into detail on the program, he told members in attendance that he plans to discuss it further at the CAWV Highway/Heavy Division meeting at the CAWV Annual meeting at The Greenbrier on July 9.

Chairman Hapuarachy agreed with Secretary Wriston's comment that the anticipated increase in highway construction and maintenance due to IIJA funding will require greater coordination between the WVDOH and the engineering and construction industries.

Discussions were held on the WVDOH's new bid analysis procedure and newly implemented prequalification procedures. WVDOH representatives acknowledged their satisfaction with both systems. Shawn Smith, director of contract administration, spoke on the WVDOH's new prequalification procedures saying that the WVDOH was happy with the implementation of the procedure, and they believe that the rating process is going well. Smith added that the full implementation of bonding requirements, based on grading and are scheduled to begin January 1, 2023, may be delayed to mid-2023. This potential delay would be due to the limited number of ratings that contractors would have by the close of 2022.

Supply chain issues and the potential need for escalation clauses were discussed in detail with regards to multiple materials and services being affected. The Committee agreed that a task force would be formed and should meet to determine the best line of action to handle the complex issues.

The Secretary commended both the WVDOH and industry members for the successful reduction in the time frame associated with the project finalization process. He said that on average projects are now being finalized within 136 days, whereas before the average was in excess of 400 days.

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YOUNG CONTRACTORS FORUM LEADS Successful Project at YMCA Camp Hi-Tor

The CAWV Young Contractors Forum (YCF) led a successful community project on Thursday, May 26 at the Putnam County YMCA Camp Hi-Tor located in Hurricane. Over 20 volunteers were successful in completing the project in one day, although the project was scheduled to continue to Friday.

"Thanks to all volunteers who helped with this community project for the Tri-County YCMA," said YCF Chairman Pat Haden, Tri-State Roofing & Sheet Metal Company. "Because of our efforts the camp is now safer for the children that will attend this year's summer camp."

The project consisted of replacing a cabin porch, installing handrails to four cabins, replacing a large wooden staircase, as well as other minor fixes.



A special thanks is given to 84 Lumber Company for their assistance in obtaining materials. See below the list of members that volunteered:

> 84 Lumber Company Devon Hankins Donald Ross Jodie Lane Tyler Arkell

Kelly Paving, Inc. Chad Taylor

Mid Atlantic Maintenance Corp. Russell Kocher Austin Edman Haley Zimmerman

> RK Construction, Inc. Brandon Wotring Drew Toler

Tri-State Roofing & Sheet Metal Co. Pat Haden Zach Whitten Charlie Bishop Josh Breedlove

> Triton Construction, Inc. Matthew Skeen Dane Chapman

West Virginia Paving, Inc. Chet Rodabaugh Jarrod Anderson Nathan Lanham











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Contractors Association of West Virginia

Scholarship Golf Outing 2022

The 2022 CAWV Scholarship Golf Outing was held June 3 at Berry Hills Country Club in Charleston. Over 130 CAWV members and guests played in this year's event. The CAWV Scholarship Foundation would like to thank all the golfers, sponsors and supporters who participated in this year's golf outing. Monies collected from this outing help support scholarships for construction-related degrees and civil engineering students.

Since its inception in 1990, the CAWV Scholarship Fund has contributed over \$200,000 to hundreds of deserving students. This year's event raised over \$16,000. Golf Chairman Bob Brookover, WV Paving, Inc., and CAWV Scholarship Foundation Chairman Gene Thompson thank all the golfers and sponsors for their support.

FIRST PLACE TEAM:

John Farley, Triton Construction, Inc. Brian Blankenship, Triton Construction, Inc. Bob Bubnick, Triton Construction, Inc. Doug Taylor, Triton Construction, Inc. John Logan Taylor, Triton Construction, Inc. Jay Farley, Triton Construction, Inc.

SECOND PLACE TEAM:

Matt Campbell, West Virginia Paving, Inc. Lee Cooperrider, West Virginia Paving, Inc. Roger Hite, West Virginia Paving, Inc. Scott Withrow, West Virginia Paving, Inc. Bill Grove, West Virginia Paving, Inc. John Gregory, West Virginia Paving, Inc.



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CONSTRUCTION BRIEFS



A preassembled, 470 foot long steel span was carefully lifted from the decks of two barges at the site of the new Donald M. Legg Memorial Bridge located on I-64. The \$224.4 million project widens the five-mile stretch of I-64 between the Scott Depot and Nitro exits to six lanes and creates a new St. Albans interchange.

The 470 foot long, 700,000 pound main span for the new bridge that will carry I-64's westbound lanes across the Kanawha River between the Nitro and St. Albans exits was slowly hoisted into place, bringing the structure to within about six months of its completion. Cranes carefully lifted the preassembled steel span from the decks of two barges where ironworkers were waiting to bolt it to newly build approach spans. The bridge is part of a \$224.4 million construction project that widens the five-mile stretch of I-64 between the Scott Depot and Nitro exits to six lanes and creates a new St. Albans interchange. The new bridge

will retain the name of the original span – The Donald M. Legg Memorial Bridge – in honor of a Putnam County construction worker who died from injuries received in 1962 when the original bridge was built. Contractor on the project is a joint venture of Brayman Construction and **Trumbull Corporation**, both based in Pittsburgh...

■ Paving is underway on a busy section of the West Virginia Turnpike under reconstruction in Mercer County. The work in the northbound lanes just north of the Bluestone Bridge covers just more than a mile. Crews are rebuilding the highway from the base. Construction began on the \$106 million project in November 2018 after a contract was awarded to Saint Albans-based **Triton Construction**, **Inc**. It was one of the original General Obligation Bond projects announced under Gov. Jim Justice's Roads to Prosperity program. The entire project is expected to be finished this summer...

■ Gov. Jim Justice recently joined West Virginia Department of Tourism Secretary Chelsea Ruby, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Director Brett McMillion, West Virginia State Parks leaders and other local officials at Pipestem Resort State Park

CONSTRUCTION BRIEFS

for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to celebrate the completion of over \$8 million in upgrades at the park. Upgrades at Pipestem include nearly \$4.4 million in renovations to the park's two lodges, cabin upgrades, and more than \$3.6 million in infrastructure improvements to the park's tram, wastewater treatment plant, and campground waterline. Contractor on the project was **Wolf Creek Contracting Company** of Waterford, Ohio...

■ A 42,000-square-foot indoor waste tire processing facility center is being planned for Preston County, the Solid Waste Authority (SWA) recently announced. Business partners Tim Davis and Michael Hovatter told the SWA of their intent to construct the recycling center on four acres in the industrial park at Reedsville. The project is still in the preliminary stages, both financially and in permitting. The facility is expected to be in operation in the first quarter of 2023 employing at least a dozen people...

■ U.S. Senators Joe Manchin, D-WV, and Shelley Moore Capito, R-WV, Ranking Member of the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee and both members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, recently announced West Virginia will receive \$54,790,795 from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) as part of Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations. Of that funding, \$40,000,000 will go towards bridge replacement rehabilitation and the remaining \$14,790,795 will go towards the Appalachian Development Highway System...

■ About a dozen roads are set to be paved this summer in Bridgeport as part of the city's annual resurfacing project. Anderson Excavating, LLC of Morgantown was the low bidder of \$501,954 to complete a number of resurfacing projects...

By a margin of 60 votes, residents of Wood County approved a \$60.85 million bond issue in May 10 election. Those funds will be coupled with another \$21 million from the School Building Authority of West Virginia. The bulk of the projects, \$68.4 million, would go for three new schools to replace Lubeck Elementary School, a new consolidated elementary school in North Parkersburg and a new consolidated elementary school in Vienna. Projects also were proposed in other schools that totaled \$13.15 million. These include classroom expansion at Madison and Blennerhassett schools; improvements to the seats and sound system in the auditorium and the concession area at the Rod Oldham Athletic Center at Parkersburg South High School; new balcony seats in the auditorium, more cafeteria restrooms and concession improvements at Parkersburg High School; and security improvements in schools. More than \$8 million was proposed for renovations and improvements to the athletic facilities at Stadium Field. Erickson All-Sports Facility and the football field at Williamstown High School...

■ The Wood County Commission is looking at five contracting companies to pick one who will do the renovation work on the former Suddenlink building to turn it into the new Wood County 911 Center. The commission chose ZMM Architects & Engineers, Charleston, to design and oversee the renovation of the 18,000-square-foot facility at U.S. 50 and Interstate 77. City Construction Company, Inc. of Clarksburg put in an initial base bid of \$3,331,000 for the building work with alternate bids of \$120,000 for paving and \$45,000 for the fencing. United Construction of Parkersburg put in an initial base bid of \$3,528,652 for the building work with alternate bids of \$112,419 for paving and \$62,870 for the fencing. Maynard C. Smith Construction Company, Inc. of Charleston put in an initial base bid of \$4,097,000 for the building work with alternate bids of \$220,000 for paving and \$65,000 for the fencing. Dan Hill Construction of Gauley Bridge put in an initial base bid of \$3,676,000 for the building work with alternate bids of \$115,000 for paving and \$67,000 for the fencing. Grae-Con Construction of Marietta put in an initial base bid of \$3,189,000 for the building work with alternate bids of \$160,000 for paving and \$65,000 for the fencing...

■ After several years of work, Barboursville has a new library. A dedication ceremony was recently held for the new location and the library was also presented with its 2021 National Medal for Library Service. The new facility is approximately 14,000 square feet, double the size of the former location. The library is the first in the state to have geothermal heating and cooling. Edward Tucker Architects, Inc., Huntington, was the designer on the project...

Gov. Jim Justice recently hosted an event near the site where the state's newest major highway through his Roads To Prosperity program will connect the Town of Welch with the Coalfields Expressway. The Governor joined officials with the West Virginia Division of Highways to announce that he has approved the bid award for this \$147.6 million project to Bizzack Construction, LLC, of Lexington, Kentucky. Roadwork will involve building a 5.12-mile section of highway from Welch to WV 16, connecting the southern West Virginia town with the Coalfields Expressway. The project includes

CONSTRUCTION BRIEFS

the construction of two ramps, two bridges, and will require more than 16 million yards of excavation. More than 10,000 feet of large diameter drainage pipe will also be put in place for the project. The project is expected to be complete in the summer of 2026...

■ The Kanawha County Board of Education has approved millions of dollars worth of heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system replacements for three elementary schools. Casto Technical Services, Inc., won the bid of \$2.3 million to replace the system at Shoals Elementary, and \$1.6 million to replace one at Montrose Elementary...

■ A \$6.4 million federal funding award will allow for a continuation of the Elkhorn Water Project in McDowell County, according to U.S. Senator Joe Manchin, D-WV. The \$6,480,000 award to the Mc-Dowell County Public Service District will fund phase III of the Elkhorn Water Project along the U.S. Route 52 corridor. The funding award is coming from the American Rescue Plan through the Economic Development Administration. A second award of \$1.2 million for **Regional Optimal Communications** in Princeton also was announced. That funding award will be used for the design of a statewide broadband implementation plan through a consortium of counties led by the Region 1 and 4 Planning and Development Councils in Princeton...

■ An approximately \$32 million project to build a new interchange on Interstate 64 near Culloden was among 20 projects included in the May 17 bid letting conducted by the WVDOH. The project, made possible through funding from Gov. Justice's \$2.8 billion Roads to Prosperity program, will connect U.S. 60 in Culloden with I-64 between Hurricane and Milton. Low Bidder was **Triton Construction, Inc.** of St. Albans for \$32.3 million. Other bidders included **Orders Construction Company, Inc.** of St. Albans for \$39.9 million, **A.L.L. Construction, Inc.** of Mt. Storm for \$42.9 million, and **Vecellio & Grogan, Inc.** of Beckley for \$47 million...

The City of Milton was recent-Iv awarded funds to fix issues in its sewer collection system. The funds, which are a \$2,552,000 grant and a \$41 million loan, come from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development's Water and Wastewater Disposal Grant and Loan Program. U.S. Sens. Joe Manchin, D-WV, and Shelley Moore Capito, R-WV, both members of the Senate Appropriations Committee, recently made the announcement. The dollars allocated for Milton will be used to support the expansion and improve the city's sewer collection system...

The aerial tramways serving Hawks Nest and Pipestem Resort state parks are set to be replaced after more than a half-century of carrying visitors on scenic round-trip journeys to the depths of two river gorges. West Virginia State Parks officials are hopeful new, improved aerial tramways will be operating at the two parks next year. The Hawks Nest aerial tramway has been closed since June 6. when a routine morning inspection by the state park's staff turned up a safety issue that required substantial remediation. The Hawks Nest tramway, which opened in 1970, typically carries more than 45,000 visitors annually on steep, 800-foot descents from the lodge to a marina on Hawks Nest Lake at the base of the New River Gorge. The aerial tramway at Pipestem, which began operating in 1972, carries visitors nearly two-thirds of a mile, descending from the rim of Bluestone Canyon and crossing the Bluestone River before arriving at Mountain Creek Lodge. Design specifications for the new state park tramways call for their gondola-topped passenger cars to seat up to eight passengers, doubling current capacity, and include open freight cars for carrying kayaks, bicycles and other gear into and out of the two river canyons. Contractor on the project is **Applied Construction Solutions, Inc.** of Bridgeport...

Guided hikes, a bird walk and presentation on West Virginia snakes and birds of prey was among the activities at the grand opening of the 6,500-square-foot Claudia L. Workman Wildlife Education Center at the Forks of Coal State Natural Area. The \$6.36 million wildlife education center features a vaulted timber-framed ceiling, a huge picture-window birdwatching area equipped with binoculars and an assortment of push-button accessible recordings of common bird calls, and active beehive with viewable interior and classroom space. Site contractor on the project was Bear Contracting, LLC, Bridgeport. General contractor was Wolf Creek Contracting Company, Inc., Waterford, Ohio. Architect on the project was ZMM Architects & Engineers, Charleston...

■ A project to replace guardrail along Corridor H in Hardy County is among ten construction contracts awarded by the West Virginia Division of Highways. The WVDOH also awarded a contract for a guardrail project on East River Mountain in Mercer County and several paving contracts. Mountaineer Contractors, Inc., Kingwood, was low bidder on a guardrail project on East River Mountain, with a bid of \$7,923,562. West

CONSTRUCTION BRIEFS

Virginia Paving Inc., Dunbar, was low bidder on a paving project between Barksdale and Sandstone. with a bid of \$4,981,129. Belt Paving, Inc., Cumberland, MD, was low bidder on a paving project in Romney, with a bid of \$476,187. Green Acres Contracting Company, Inc., Scottdale, PA, was low bidder on a guardrail upgrade project on Corridor H, with a bid of \$7,860,197. West Virginia Paving Inc., Dunbar, was low bidder on a paving project between Holden and Fountain Place Mall, with a bid of \$8,009,991. West Virginia Paving Inc., Dunbar, was low bidder on a paving project on Highland Trace Road, with a bid of \$982.975. Specialty Groups Inc., Lost Creek, was low bidder on a lighting project in Institute, with a bid of \$2,424,000...

A large building sitting on nearly three acres of land in Center Wheeling is being razed for potential redevelopment. Motorists passing by 2400 Main St., which is a former trucking depot, likely have noticed a large piece of machinery tearing down the building. The structure is located across from the Wheeling Water Pollution Control Plant. Public Works Director Rusty Jebbia said the property is privately owned and the city is not involved with the project. The company razing the structure is Reclaim Company, LLC of Fairmont...

■ West Virginia International Yeager Airport has received a multi-million-dollar grant that will fund the final phase of its threeyear Runway Rehabilitation Project, the airport officials recently announced. Nick Keller, West Virginia International Yeager Airport (CRW) Director and CEO said that the grant is over \$11 million and will put the runway in a good position for the next two decades. The total amount of this year's project is \$12,394,048. **West Virginia Paving, Inc.**, Dunbar, has been awarded the prime contract in the amount of \$11,742,280...

■ East Fairmont High School officials and other community stakeholders recently gathered at the school to discuss a potential new sports complex to be hosted on East Fairmont's campus. The proposed sports complex is projected to cost between \$7 million and \$8 million, and, if built, will be located on the high school's practice football field...

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CONSTRUCTION BRIEFS

■ Electric school bus manufacturer GreenPower Motor Co. will begin operations at its South Charleston facility in August, according to company officials. GreenPower signed a lease /purchase agreement with the state in January for an 80,000-square-foot building to manufacture zero-emission, all electric school buses...

■ In partnership with Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks and Recreation, Michael Baker International, Charleston, conducted a field visit of the Lake Thomas area to begin studying the area for passive recreational opportunities and a trail system connecting Martinsburg's urban parks into a linear park system. Bob Williams, executive director of the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Parks and Recreation, said that this analysis and study connects back to the master plan for MBCPR. The plan will provide detailed steps and a vision for how to safely open and connect Lake Thomas to War Memorial and Oatesdale and to the planned Creekside and Frog Hollow trails, creating an urban linear park system through Martinsburg....

■ The dam portion of the Morgantown Utility Board's new Flegal Dam and Reservoir could be completed next month. MUB General Manager Mike McNulty said the earthen dam is about 16 feet from its final elevation of 1,069 feet above sea level. While that doesn't sound like a tremendous task, contractor Kanawha Stone Company, Inc., Poca, has to build the dam inches at a time to ensure the half-million cubic yards of clayrich soil is compacted consistently. Once completed, the dam will be 70 feet tall, 450 feet long and 850 feet wide. The \$50 million project began in March 2018 with tree removal across approximately 110 acres...

■ The official ribbon-cutting of the new Larlyn Patrick McKinney Bluefield Area Transit Regional Transfer Station was recently held. The 2,000-sq.-ft. facility will offer BAT riders an indoor facility, complete with heated and cooled restrooms and waiting areas. This will be the first indoor facility for riders, who have previously depended on open-air shelters with no amenities. Swope Construction, Co. of Bluefield constructed the state-ofthe-art facility.

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MEMBERS IN THE NEWS



United Bank names Julie Gurtis as new president

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGIN-IA - Richard M. Adams. Chairman of the Board of United Bank, announced the Board's approval of the promotion of Julie R. Gurtis to



President. effective April 1, 2022. Gurtis currently serves as United's EVP and Chief Commercial Banking Officer. In addition to managing Commercial Lending, she is re-

sponsible for overseeing Commercial Services, Business Banking, Loan Administration. Sales Management, and Marketing. Her 31year career at United has included roles as Commercial Lender, Market President, and Regional President. Gurtis previously served on boards with Charleston Area Alliance, YWCA Charleston, and West Virginia Symphony. She currently serves as Treasurer on the Board of West Virginia Independent Colleges and Universities. Gurtis earned a degree in Finance from West Virginia University and currently resides in Morgantown. Michael P. Fitzgerald, United's outgoing president, will become Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors.

CAWV members named 2022 **Sharp Shooters**

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA -West Virginia Executive magazine recently announced their Sharp Shooters Class of 2022. The class represents a variety of industries and are individuals that are fueling the state and pushing it toward a brighter future. Included in this year's winners are CAWV members - Adam Krason and Chad Prather.



Krason

Adam Krason is an architect and principal of ZMM Architects & Engineers in Charleston. Krason joined ZMM in 2003 and ioined the Board of Directors in 2007. He

serves on the West Virginia Board of Architects, the City of Charleston Planning Commission and the Charleston Historic Landmarks Commission. He also serves on several nonprofit boars including the Clay Center, West Virginia Symphony Orchestra, Charleston Main Streets. Charleston Area Alliance. as well as the Strategic Council and Government Advocacy Committee for AIA-WV. the Education Alliance and Goodwill Industries of the Kanawha Valley, Inc.

Chad Prather is the president of the West Virginia Region for Huntington Bank. In 2006, he joined Huntington Bank in the commercial banking group. After multi-



Prather

ple promotions, he was appointed West Virginia regional president in 2018 - becoming the youngest regional president in the bank's history. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Mountaineer Food Bank, West Virginia Bankers Association and West Virginia Chamber of Commerce. He is also the treasurer of the board for Leadership West Virginia.

Rollins Cleavenger Rollins names newest partner

CHARLESTON. WEST VIRGINIA -Rollins, Cleavenger and Rollins (RCR) recently announced its newest partner, Jason Staats, Staats has been with the firm for 15 years and is a graduate of West Virginia State University. RCR is Charleston's oldest accounting firm.



Staats

having been founded by Roy B. Rollins in 1921. Since its inception, the firm has had three managing partners: Roy Rollins; David H. Rollins, who is currently a consultant to the firm; and Ed Bailey, the current managing partner.



Hyundai Construction Equipment Americas announces agreement with Shafer Equipment

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA -Hyundai Construction Equipment Americas recently announced a dealership agreement with Shafer Equipment under which Shafer Equipment will sell and service Hyundai wheel loaders and excavators in West Virginia. Jim Shafer, owner of Shafer Equipment, said the agreement to represent Hyundai will help the dealership meet the growing demand for earth-moving equipment in key customer segments including pipeline construction, aggregates and general construction.

"We're very impressed with Hyundai's excavators and wheel loaders." said Shafer, who established the family-owned dealership in 2011. "They offer a combination of power, durability and technology that our customers will appreciate."

"Hyundai welcomes Shafer Equipment to our growing family of North American dealerships," said Bill Klein, Northeast sales manager,











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Hyundai Construction Equipment Americas. "With its primary focus on serving the pipeline construction market, Shafer can offer its customers a variety of great equipment solutions from Hyundai."

Shafer Equipment is a full-service heavy equipment dealership, offering sales, rentals, parts, attachments and service. For more information on Hyundai Construction Equipment Americas, visit www. hceamericas.com.

CAWV members honored as upand-coming West Virginia business leaders

CLARKSBURG, WEST VIRGINIA -The State Journal has been recognizing and honoring young professionals throughout West Virginia as part of Generation Next: 40

Under 40 for the past 15 years. The program was created to celebrate the state's outstanding professional people who are making a difference at work and in their communities. CAWV members and an agency partner were well represented in this year's 40 Under 40 and included: Elizabeth Frame, partner, Bowles Rice LLP, Charleston; Matt Harris, investment manager, Huntington Bank; Leland Moore, general manager, Dutch Miller, Huntington; Samuel Rich, land development market leader, The Thrasher Group, Beckley; Joseph Robinson, vice president. Civil & Environmental Consultants, Bridgeport; Zack Statler, south market president, United Bank; Alex Sutton, principal owner, Entegra Energy Solutions, LLC, Bridgeport; Michael Taylor, attorney and partner, Bailey and Wy-

ant PLLC, Charleston; and Lauren Turner, member attorney, Steptoe & Johnson, Morgantown.

Laurel Aggregates acquired by Arcosa Aggregates, Inc.

MORGANTOWN.WEST VIRGINIA-Laurel Aggregates announced May 31 that they have been acquired by Arcosa Aggregates, Inc. Since 1996, Laurel Aggregates has been a family operated quarry located near Morgantown. For over 20 years, they have provided DOT approved materials to customers located in Northern West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio. Arcosa, Inc., headquartered in Dallas, Texas, is a provider of infrastructure-related products and solutions with leading positions in construction, engineered structures, and transportation markets.



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