55 years, and a new location

Longevity prevails at Purdy McGuire. L.R. Sandi Danna has been with the company 43 years, and Brad Regle has been there for 30. "It’s been 55 years since the Dallas-based mechanical-electrical engineering firm now known as Purdy-McGuire opened its doors. This is shaping up to be a banner year for the award-winning firm originaly known as Ratliff-Hardy-Purdy, which is celebrating both its anniversary and the grand opening of a new office in Fort Worth, which opened its doors on May 1. "We have a lot of really good clients in Fort Worth, and we have a lot of really nice projects out there, but you really need to have a presence in Fort Worth to work on those really nice city projects," said CEO Dianne Fletcher, who has been with the company 51 years. "We decided it was the right time, and that we had the right person to manage it.”

Doug Ekstrom, the firm’s director of commissioning, will take over as director of the new location, said Fletcher, who said it would be convenient for her employees that handle clients in both markets. "We have employees working out in Grand Prairie and Fort Worth, and this will be a great place for them to stop between meetings and get some work done,” she said. “We’re getting really plugged in out there, but not at the expense of our Dallas clients.”

Fletcher hasn’t always been the CEO of the firm, which employs 34 workers. "We have a lot of really nice projects out there, but you really need to have a presence in Fort Worth to work on those really nice city projects,” said CEO Dianne Fletcher, who has been with the company 51 years. "We decided it was the right time, and that we had the right person to manage it.”

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A new hospital for McKinney

Many business and civic leaders will tell you that building a state-of-the-art hospital encourages the growth and development of a community. If that’s the case, expect the developing north Texas community of McKinney to see its population growth take off after July 6, when the Baylor Health Care System opens the doors to a new hospital and adjoining medical office building at the corner of US 380 and Lake Forest.

MECO Construction served as general contractor on Baylor Medical Center at McKinney, a hospital that cost $91.7 million to construct, with an adjacent medical office building with a conduction cost of $153.3 million. Located on approximately 60 acres, the 469,000-sf, six-floor hospital is opening with 95 beds, and is built to expand as the community’s medical needs grow. Ninety-six more patient beds can be added on two shelled out floors, and eventually, the hospital can accommodate 400 beds and multiple professional office buildings on the campus.

“It is more than just bricks and mortar,” said Denward Freeman, president of MECO Construction. “We are part of a commitment to a community to bring excellence in healthcare and to touch lives in a significant way. We appreciate the opportunity to be a part of this great project.”

Surgical services, imaging, cardiovascular services, the intensive care unit and emergency department will go on the first floor. The second floor holds the birthing center, private neonatal intensive care rooms, well-baby nursery, and labor-and-delivery, and the third floor contains medical-surgical telemetry suites and the dialysis suite.

The new six-floor Baylor Medical Center at McKinney recently opened with 95 beds.

Some sage advice

You might call John Benton, owner of Omni Services Group, something of a swami, because he’s good at giving advice in a succinct, to-the-point fashion.

While his Dallas office — headquarters for his business, which does commercial electrical contracting — doesn’t exactly look like the top of Mt. Fuji, Benton has been around the block, especially with starting a business out of one’s garage and adopting dogs.

“There’s a word of advice for you,” said Benton, leaning back in his chair. “If someone sends you a mass text message asking if anyone can adopt a dog, and you say, ‘Maybe I can take him,’ you’ve just adopted yourself a dog.”

He didn’t take his own advice, though. For the past six months, the avid outdoorsman has been the proud owner of a dog he adopted after it was rescued in Lubbock by his sister. It turns out the name for the 60-pound, 1-year-old dog isn’t apropos, though.

“There is no hunt in Hunter,” Benton lamented. “He just wants to play.”

But adopting dogs isn’t the only thing the business owner has found himself gaining knowledge on. He’s kept the lights on and the doors open at Omni Services Group since 2003 — no small feat in this economy. The company, which literally started in his garage, employs 22
Since 1992, Perma-Pier Foundation Repair of Texas has been giving buildings of many shapes and sizes “a necessary lift” when their foundations go awry.

For about three of those years, Vice President of Commercial Construction Robby Brown has been with the company, lending his expertise to a company that is celebrating its 20th anniversary and 10th anniversary under current owner Shawn Lawson.

Brown’s been in the industry since 2000, and comes from a long line of foundation repair professionals.

“The only thing we don’t touch are high-rise buildings, or buildings over five stories,” Brown explained. “If the foundations on those are bad, you’re looking at a total teardown.”

Foundation repair businesses keep their doors open in Texas thanks to the state’s clay soil that easily contracts and expands.

A unique repair service the company offers is mudjacking, Brown explained. “It’s a non invasive way to lift a slab, street or swimming pool,” he said. “You inject a slurry – which is a sandy loam cement mixture – to lift it. It’s something probably 95 percent of our competitors don’t do.”

At this time, the company’s anniversary is being met with little fanfare.

“We really feel like we’re just getting started,” he said. “We think we’re going to be around for as long as this service is needed.” –ms

Robby Brown is the Vice President of Commercial Construction at Perma-Pier Foundation Repair of Texas.

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Bonding experience

Grownups sunk their lures in the pond, their putts on the green and their teeth into barbecue. Trampoline springs squealed, paddle-boat pedals squeaked and swimming pool water splashed from the energy of the children’s feet. Butterfly nets caught all manner of flying creatures buzzing above the crackling grass. A private plane performed daredevil stunts in the summer sky before the sun could set and allow the fireworks to begin.

Two scorching days into the month of June - after what many considered a hectic May - attitudes were being adjusted, which was the reason for the fete in the first place. The 28th Annual Attitude Adjustment Party, hosted by PCL Contract Bonding Agency’s Clem and Pauline Lesch at their Valley View farm, offered employees, friends of the company and their families a chance to bond with each other, recalibrate their attitudes and remember just how fun a Texas summer can be. Guests were also invited to bring their obsolete forms and old files to throw into a “bond fire” giving everyone a chance to do a little “summer cleaning.” –mjm

PCL’s Michael Ross enjoys some shade with Clem Lesch’s brother, Gerald and Merchants Bonding Company’s Aaron Raschke.

L-R: Leo and Barb Lesch, hosts Pauline and Clem Lesch, Eric and Melissa Lesch, and Trico Electric’s Gary Menzies and Brandon Menzies

PCL’s Roger Bales and Linda Borhau and Traveler’s Roger Bumgarner

L-R: Leo and Barb Lesch, hosts Pauline and Clem Lesch, Eric and Melissa Lesch, and Trico Electric’s Gary Menzies and Brandon Menzies

L-R: Liberty Mutual Surety’s Jon Petranek gets in some tee time with son, Dale

L-R: Stacey Colca and PremRock Commercial Drywall’s Victor Munoz

L-R: Pauline Lesch greets LEMCO Construction Services’ Judy and Paul Lembke.

L-R: Robby Brown is the Vice President of Commercial Construction at Perma-Pier Foundation Repair of Texas.
Running his company’s operations from Watauga and the financial office from his home just wasn’t cutting it anymore for Larry Cano, owner of Cano Electric.

“We decided to go ahead and bring everything under one umbrella,” said Cano, who moved the entire business into a space on Gravel Dr. in Fort Worth.

The business has steadily grown since its inception in 2009, but for the first six months or so, Cano was a one-man band, he said.

“For the first six months I did all the work myself,” Cano said. “I had not worked with my tools since 1997, and I was improving. I hired three people that could tell the economy for the industry myself into!”

To unwind, Cano and his wife, Deb- ra, who have two grown daughters, like to get away to the Floridian coast or the high seas.

“I have my wife take at least one cruise a year, and we like to head out to Key West if we can spring out there,” he said. “We try to get away at Spring Break, or right after Christmas.” -ms
Michael and Lisa Brown
Owners
Michael E. Brown & Associates, LLC.

Married for 12 years and running a successful business for four, Michael and Lisa Brown will admit that they’ve had “Mars” and “Venus” moments straight out of a Dr. John Gray relationship advice book. But, whether they are working feverishly in their offices, or in opposite rooms of the home-office, seeing side-by-side at a Mars game, there’s no doubt these two planets have aligned.

How did you two meet?
Michael: [It was on] it a blind date for her. We had a mutual friend that thought we might get along.
Lisa: We met at this play and just really hit it off. That is interesting is the first time I met Michael, after the play we walked around inside and just chatted, and he was talking about this window – the window and the really talking about doors and the architecture of the buildings. I could see he was so passionate about his work, and I just found that attractive.

And you of course enjoyed meeting Lisa, Right, Michael?
Michael: Yes. In the beginning, I was, probably, intimidated by her, and didn’t think she liked me. When I asked her if she would meet me for cappuccino – I didn’t think she would do that because I had never met her before in a conference; you just sort of take it for granted because it’s glass and aluminum and you don’t think about it. But he was literally passionate about his work, and I just found that attractive.

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How do you deal with the challenges?
Michael: When we got married, I could do just about anything. I never thought I would have to do that. I had a very different feeling this time around than in 2000 when we were first talking about it. He was ready.
Lisa: Michael: There are moments when I think, “I am about to commit financial suicide!” but I had enough confidence in our bond just starting that we believe it, you shouldn’t do it; however, you still never know.

It’s a huge risk to simply walk away and say that I’m not going to launch this business. To make that leap was probably the scariest thing I’ve ever done.

Well, then it’s great that you had Lisa to help you!
Michael: She brings a skill set that I don’t have. I would just stumble through it and do it on the fly.

Lisa: He is the smartest person I’ve worked around. Her ability to adapt to an industry [she was unfamiliar with] has been impressive.

We have been a part of a community, served as generals, and then been a vice president, I’ve done a little of everything. I moved from New Hampshire to Dallas/Fort Worth construction news • Jul 2012

Spotlight
Michael and Lisa Brown

Michael E. Brown & Associates, LLC.

L.

Michael and Lisa Brown are still talking a rain check on the cappuccino.

Michael: I think I would say both as well. I think you know your spouse when they talk about their work and you go, “Oh, yes, that’s how he is” based on what you hear them talk about, when they talk for a separate company, I would hear things from Michael when he came home from work that was unfil-

Lisa: We haven’t lately. Our doctors would say that it is a “Mars/Venus” kind of thing – but it’s the way we communicate, and I think we have seen that in our business communications with each other. It is such a cliché, but it’s true.

He will say things like, “Is this how you communicate at work and at home and I’m thinking, “I have never had any-

Lisa: I think the best parts of our partnership is that I’ve always been a part of a community, served as generals, and then been a vice president, I’ve done a little of everything. I moved from New Hampshire to Dallas/Fort Worth construction news • Jul 2012

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The easiest way to transfer ownership of your construction company is to sell it to family members if they can afford it and want to buy it.

You can transfer ownership by gift or in trust, over time, so there are potential gift tax liabilities with this. It won't generate an income stream to carry you through retirement. Also, if you are ready and able to make a larger transfer this year, you can take advantage of the record high $5.12 million to make tax-free gifts. The exemption is scheduled to drop to $1 million in 2013, though Congress may extend the current exemption or make other estate tax law changes.

A trust is another alternative for transferring ownership without the tax obligations. One option is a grantor retained annuity trust (GRAT) which provides income for a term of years and then distributes the remaining assets to the beneficiaries.

Involving your advisors

Get your CPA, lawyer, insurance advisor and family business consultant involved to help you consider all circumstances and obstacles. This will help you create an unbiased succession plan.

Your plan should state whether and how, if at all, you'll stay involved with the company. Consider the repercussions of staying too involved as it may inhibit your successor from taking over fully.

Your plan should include a management structure that will take hold after your departure and keep the business sound while ensuring acceptable liquidity to fund the retirement. Include a buy-sell agreement in the succession plan, which allows you to restrict transfers of ownership interest and can help minimize income and estate taxes.

Follow through

People talk about the need for a succession plan within their business but few actually follow through with creating one. The people taking over need to be trained and experienced in being a leader, therefore, it is critical to start the process several years before you plan to retire, ideally a decade or more from the ideal retirement date.

While these new requirements have been in effect since January 1, 2012, the "safe harbor" provision that protected owners and contractors who "attempted to comply" with the statute expires on August 31, 2012. Consequently, any release executed after August 31, 2012 that does not substantially comply with the mandated forms will be unenforceable. Below are some practical considerations for the construction industry.

The Statute:
The statute provides that a waiver and release will release the owner, the owner's property, the contractor, and the surety on a payment bond from claims and liens only if (1) the waiver and release substantially comply with one of the forms prescribed by Section 33.284; (2) the waiver and release is signed by the claimant or the claimant's agent and notarized; and (3) in the case of a conditional release, evidence of payment to the claimant exists.

Tex. Prop. Cde § 33.281. The boundaries of "substantial compliance" with the statutory lien release forms have not yet been defined. Regardless of the precise limitations however, it seems clear that any effort to expand the scope of the release will likely render it unenforceable.

Exceptions to Use of Mandated Forms:

Although the statute requires the use of the mandated forms, it also provides several exceptions to these requirements. Notably, owners and upstream contractors may still require downstream contractors to sign broader releases if: (1) the waiver or release made in a broader form includes an agreement to indemnify and satisfaction of a specific identified payment dispute; (2) the release or waiver is part of an agreement related to a case pending in any court or arbitration proceeding; or (3) the release is part of an agreement executed by the parties after a lien affidavit has been filed or a bond claim has been made. Tex. Prop. Cde § 33.287.

Additionally, the prohibition against contractual waivers of lien rights is no longer applicable to contracts for residential construction, provided the original contract containing the waiver was made before any labor or materials were provided under the parties’ agreement. Tex. Prop. Cde § 33.282(a)(1). This exception however does not apply to material contractors requiring unconditional final releases from subcontractors to prevent general contractors from getting unconditional final releases from subcontractors prior to final payment in full. When using the conditional release forms, owners and upstream contractors should secure evidence of payment separate and apart from the release itself, as the release cannot be enforceable absent evidence of payment.

Expanded Coverage for Landscape Contractors:
The revisions to Chapter 53 of the Property Code also contain an amendment that is very important to landscape contractors. Previously, landscape contractors were only granted a lien if they had a direct contract with the owner. The revisions expanded the lien rights of landscape contractors, subcontractors, and contractors. The new statute provides labor, plant material, or other supplies for the installation of landscape improvements from the owner. The new statute provides labor, plant material, or other supplies for the installation of landscape improvements from the owner. The new statute.

The recent changes to the lien statute, including the statutorily mandated forms, present numerous new challenges for landscape contractors. The new statute also presents opportunities for landscape contractors, subcontractors, and contractors. The new statute also presents opportunities for landscape contractors, subcontractors, and contractors. The new statute also presents opportunities for landscape contractors, subcontractors, and contractors. The new statute also presents opportunities for landscape contractors, subcontractors, and contractors.

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The Richland High student is the son of Scott Ganske Plumbing. Sixteen-year-old Championships for plumbing, and will compete at the national level. Early indications are that plumbing must run in the Ganske family. in Fort Worth, and the grandson of Bryan Ganske, owner of Bryan's Plumbing in Richland Hills. –ms

“Don’t worry,” Jim told me. “I’ve already started my pension and it’s guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC).” That was a relief since Jim and his wife were in their 70s. I didn’t see them again until 2006 when I was reminded that nothing stays the same. Jim shared with me that, in spite of his original pension agreement, the PBGC was allowing United Airlines to renegotiate pensions and Jim’s monthly payments were reduced by more than half. In 2005, the federal government and the PBGC allowed United Airlines the largest corporate pension default in American history. It was a slap in the face for all the UA retired employees and for Americans in general, at least the ones who were paying attention.

A history lesson is important here. Over the past 80 years, the federal government has encouraged American employees to retire with some degree of financial security. The first monthly Social Security Retirement Benefits began in 1937. In 1934, the federal government passed the Employee Retirement Income Security Act, ERISA, to encourage private sector employers to offer retirement programs for employees. ERISA rules required the formation of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, the “PBGC.”

The PBGC is a federal government agency responsible for guaranteeing benefits of pension plans, operating as an insurance company. It’s important to remember that there are 2 primary types of private industry retirement plans. One type includes 401(k) and 403(b) plans which have regulations on deposits into the accounts and the employees take the risk of growth; these are not pensions. The other type is the traditional pension which has regulations on the payments out of the plan and employers absorb the risk through the PBGC insurance. Many labor unions and large corporations still offer pension plans. As I mention above, the PBGC is an insurance company and is not funded by taxes. It collects insurance premiums from employers and invests in market instruments so the funds may grow to cover future guaranteed pension payments. Pension payments are adjusted yearly for the 28,000 active pension plans in existence as of 2012 and the 34,000,000 pension participants. As of 2010, retirees at age 65 may, or may not, as we’ve seen in Jim’s case, receive a maximum of $4,500 per month. At ages above age 65, the guarantee increases.

So, that was the good news. Here comes the bad news. We have a population of over 300,000,000 Americans and we are in transition to having 2 active retirees for each 1 retiree. In fact, virtually every developed country must face these cruel facts primarily because of the aging Baby Boomer Generation. Theoretically, the younger working generation pays into the system so the older retirees will continue to receive their retirement benefits. At this ratio of 2:1, it’s going to be very difficult.

As of 2008, the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation has an $11,000,000,000 deficit. That’s right. 9 zeros. Active plans now have $470,000,000,000 of underfunded liabilities. This is a nightmare waiting to happen.

If you are relying on your employer’s pension plan and your government’s protection to assure that your retirement will match your dreams, think again. Recent economic challenges and the wounded stock market are hurting everyone. Is this possible to overcome? Absolutely. There are solutions in the marketplace. These solutions include:

1. Use conservative “investment” strategies with guarantees.
2. Take control of your own financial security and future.
3. If your advisor has not explained these issues to you, find someone who knows.
4. If someone calls you about the latest, greatest stock news, hang up!


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The 16th Annual AJA Dallas/ACME Brick Golf Tournament at Texas Star Golf Course punctuated late spring for the association. The sold-out tournament brought architects, engineers, vendors and a variety of industry-related players together to compete. L–R: Perkins+Will’s team of Steve Milner, Patrick Glenn, Cary Garner and David Collins took home the coveted Firm Trophy.

SUBMITTED TO CONSTRUCTION NEWS

Future pensions and the PBGC

Angela P. Smucker, LUTCF FSS Central Texas Independent Insurance plus CFI Insurance & Risk Management Austin, TX

In 2004, I was in Wisconsin offering retirement planning and insurance services. At a community event, I met Jim, a retired United Airlines employee. Since United Airlines had filed for bankruptcy protection in 2002, I was concerned for Jim’s financial security.

submitted to construction news
As we enter into the heart of the summer, we must adjust our game plan on a daily basis and stay focused on our tasks each day. Water clarity changing daily due to wind speed and direction can make staying on fish a challenge. All of this, combined with the added pressure of our brown tide conditions, makes my decision difficult, to say the least, as I push away from the dock each morning.

Last month I had a chance to be a part of an outing during the Texas Deer Association (TDA) Tournament that included a group of gentlemen who were injured in war while serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan. Combat Marine Outdoors (CMO), established in 2005, helps these wounded warriors get away from the hospital, in an environment of friendship, camaraderie, and fellowship with fellow Marines in order to accelerate their recovery from the traumatic injuries they sustained in combat. In many cases, these service members did not want to leave the confines of the hospital, but it was (and is) crucial to begin to re-inculcate back into society. Combat Marine Outdoors, headed up by Rusty Hicks and MygSgt Arturo G. Garcia set up this fish.

My heart really goes out for these heroes who have sacrificed so much for our freedom, and I was proud to be a part of their healing process by getting them out on the water. This was just one of the adventures that some of these guys experienced. There are tens of thousands of patriotic Americans who truly care about these brave warriors and are willing to show their appreciation and support by providing once-in-a-lifetime adventures in some of the most incredible places in the world. The camaraderie, friendship and fellowship associated with each outing have had an incredible healing property and, in many cases, were a turning point in the emotional recovery of these Marines, Sailors and service members. If you have access to a ranch or special hunt and would like to provide your services to CMO, feel free to contact Rusty Hicks at 713-419-6023.

I’d like to express special thanks to all that were involved in putting this adventure together: Captains Mike Hart, Mike Singletary, Chuck Mathews, Mike Schultz, Ryan Joyce, Ernie Butler, Mike Moore and Kelly Bell. Sponsors included Holiday Inn Sun Spree, Snoopy’s Pier, Aggregate Haulers, E-Z Bel, Bear Ready Mix, Traugott Painting, Holes of San Antonio, Capital Concrete Pumping, Marker 37 and Clem’s Marina. Without the generous support from these folks, adventures for the wounded warriors of our country wouldn’t be possible.

For more information or to schedule your next bay fishing trip, give Capt. Steve Schultz a call at 361-949-7359 or 361-813-3716 or email him at SteveSchultzOutdoors@gmail.com. Good Luck and Good Fishing.
Have you noticed that it’s summer?

Do you step outside after work and wonder how it could get so hot? Have you noticed that you feel ready for bed and it’s still light outside? Maybe the calendar shocked you this morning. It seems like it should only be April.

That, my friend, is summer slipping up on you! Come on now, it happens every year; it shouldn’t come as a surprise. I think the last couple of years have been extra tough on everyone though. We are redefining the way we work and go about life as we adapt to our new economic climate, so we don’t have much time for things that take care of themselves, like the passing of the seasons.

Trust me, you don’t want to let summer pass you right by without getting a good taste of it. This is very true if you have kids. I know summer can be a hectic blur of childcare, athletic competitions and lessons for everything from flute to tae kwon do. Listen to me now when I tell you that the days of stinky baseball shoes, little girl tea parties, braces, and seas of laundry and dirty dishes will pass you by all too soon.

I know, I remember people telling me that when my kids were growing up too. I remember thinking that grown kids couldn’t come soon enough. Those older folks were exactly right though; kids don’t stay little but just a short while in your life. I guess the reason this comes to mind for me is that as a charter-fisherman, every year I see a rush of people who seem to realize that summer is winding down only a week or two before school starts again. That is when the panic sets in and everybody tries to get out with the family before they run out of summer. Sending the kids to camp is fine, but spending time with them yourself is more important by far.

You are not safe if you don’t have kids, either. Haven’t you seen the beginning of dove season or deer season arrive before you realize that you never even wet a hook this year?

Now you know you need to get control of the situation. You need to work in some playtime this summer. It doesn’t matter if you want to travel or sit in the backyard with your feet in a wading pool and a cold beverage. If there is something you have an itch to do, you will be better off to just find the time to go do it. Your work and responsibilities will still be there when you get back, but you will be more able to deal with it all after you have a break.

You know I’m right. The fish are biting good this year and the weather is a little milder than last summer. Deals and discounts for places to go and things to do are easy to find and don’t forget what a bargain our wonderful state park system can be. You can be as fancy or frugal as you need to be. The idea is, don’t let this summer pass you by!

Ken Milam’s Fishing Line
Sponsored by Tropical Marine and Honda Marine

My name is Ken Milam and, for the past 26 years, I have been guiding fishing trips for striped bass on Lake Buchanan in the Texas Hill Country. Over the years, I’ve had the opportunity of getting to know a good many folks in the construction trade.

Have you noticed that it’s summer?
The sanctuary has become home for a few peacocks.

A tortoise enjoys a colorful salad at the sanctuary in Kendalia.

Animals are also rescued from farms. These sheep are staying cool in the shade.

Mountain lions – many missing their fangs or claws as a result of the pet trade – have a safe place to rest and roam.

Monkeys – former pets, former laboratory subjects and carnival/circus acts – often find their way to the Kendalia sanctuary.

Keeping our wildlife safe

Our wildlife is precious. The birds and the bees, the squirrel, the rabbit, the wolf, the coyote, the twists in the trees. They’re the ones who keep the balance. It’s up to us to help them. It’s our responsibility to protect, to nourish and to care for them.

How to call, how to help

Visits to the Kendalia sanctuary are not encouraged and seldom allowed.

“This is the private home for these animals,” Cuny said. “It would be like if a stranger walked into your living room.”

However, help is needed, and donations are always welcome. Donations can be made by visiting www.wildlife-rescue.org, or mailed to Wildlife Rescue & Rehabilitation, P.O. Box 369, Kendalia, TX 78207.

What do you do if you see an animal in trouble, the best thing you can do is pick up the phone, she said. “It all starts with a telephone call,” she said. “Just call us.”

A sanctuary for creatures

Tired of seeing wild animals exterminated, Cuny made an executive decision in 1977 – she was going to form an organization that would help wildlife.

“I knew there was a more humane way to help and save them – not just doing away with them,” she recalled. “If you want something really, really bad you’ve got to do it yourself, so I started a nonprofit organization to help them.”

The 187-acre piece of land that contains the organization’s various facilities and sanctuaries, which was purchased thanks to a $1 million donation from an individual, serves as a utopia for a wide range of animals. Nestled in the Hill Country between San Antonio and Blanco, the land is home to about 600 animals, including cows, mules, donkeys, pigs, monkeys, mountain lions, geese, ducks, sheep, goats, bears, parrots, raccoons, foxes, lemurs, ring-tailed cats and even a jaguar.

“People will take a fawn home and give it cow’s milk, and it will have massive diarrhea and cannot be saved,” she said.

This can especially be problematic at construction sites, where the area being developed is often home to many varieties of fauna.

“These trees are someone’s home,” said Cuny. “Don’t do anything. Just call us.”

A list of rescuers and rehabilitators for each county is available at http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/wild/rehab/list/.

The list was compiled in a months-long process that included research from state fisheries agencies, nominations from B.A.S.S. Federation Nation tournament organizers and a panel of widely traveled professional anglers, fishing writers and others,” stated a press release issued by B.A.S.S.

No. 1: Falcon
No. 6: Amistad
No. 15: Toledo Bend (shared with Louisiana)
No. 19: Sam Rayburn
No. 26: Fork
No. 39: Choke Canyon
No. 64: Conroe
No. 88: O.H. Ivie
No. 92: Toledo Bend (shared with Louisiana)
No. 95: Lake Texoma
No. 100: Lake Brownwood

The eight reservoirs in Texas making the top 100 list are the most for any state. Florida has seven.

“This supports the opinion we’ve long had that Texas has the best largemouth bass fishing in the nation,” said Dave Terre, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department’s Inland Fisheries Division chief of research and management. “The aggressive Florida largemouth bass stocking program in Texas coupled with the outstanding efforts of our fisheries biologists who direct our management efforts are responsible for making fishing great in Texas.”

Bassmaster editor James Hall said the rankings are based on a variety of factors, not just opinions. “The method was as scientific as we could make it,” he said. The 100 Best Bass Lakes list used state fisheries agencies electrofishing and creel survey data, tournament catch data and accessibility and fish stocking practices. The final list was developed by a panel that considered the current fishability of each lake, its history, big fish catches, overall quantity potential and the aesthetics of the surrounding area.
Most people have had part-time jobs as teenagers. Many of us don’t go back to work there as adults, though. And suffice it to say, it’s even less likely that one buys the business that gave him his first job.

Unlikely, but not impossible. Ladies and gentlemen, meet Mark Mancill, owner of Taylor Rental in Plano, which is celebrating its 40th year.

“I started when I was 14 in 1980 and worked here after school and on weekends when I was in high school, and during holidays in college,” said Mancill, a Tarleton State grad. “I came back after (finishing school) because Dwayne Appleton was a great boss. He treated me like family and everybody else here, too.

That continuity continues today at the business, which employs 11 people and rents equipment ranging from a 51-foot boom lift to trenchers to plumbing equipment.

“We’ve still got lots of long-term employees,” Taylor noted. “It’s always fun. There’s never a dull moment.

“When I go on vacation, I look forward to getting back to work. Love getting away, but can’t wait to get back, either.”

He doesn’t regret his decision to purchase the company from Appleton in 2004, saying it’s been a good ride.

“After a serious talk with my wife, Terri, she told me to go for it,” he recalled. “I told her I’d be putting everything I had into it and I’d be broke, but she said she’d been broke before, and that was OK. I haven’t looked back, and it’s been good.”

When he’s not leading his staff, the Mancills love to cool their heels at their cabin in southwestern Colorado.

“We ride motorcycles, 4-wheelers, fish and just hang out,” he said. “We cast fish and fly fish. Fly fishing is way more challenging than anything else.”

The company is planning a banquet to celebrate its 40th year. Friends and longtime customers will be on the guest list. –ms
As the need for digital storage space expands, the facilities that house the computer equipment, along with its necessary security, HVAC, lighting and communication infrastructure, are growing in size, as well as their demand for power.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) predicted power consumption of data centers would double between 2005 and 2010. The actual increase in consumption was only 36 percent, in part, because of a slowdown in the economy and because computer chips are being designed to consume less energy. However, electrical contractors preparing to enter the data center market should understand that energy conservation is going to be foremost in the owners and operators’ minds.

Let’s look at a few of the factors that affect data centers’ demand for power.

Reliability and Redundancy

Reliable, clean power is critically important to data centers. Companies stand to lose billions of dollars and employee work hours if servers go offline due to a flicker in power. When it comes to data centers, redundancy means a data center has at least two sets of every component, including uninterruptible power supplies (UPSs) and power distribution units (PDUs). The requirement for such redundancy is set based on the utility source that feeds the data center. Generally, standard utility service can’t be solely relied upon, and most data center operators aren’t willing to accept a single source of redundancy as enough.

The need for redundant reliability comes at a high price. However, the mega data centers created during the dot-com era run off of 500–600 watts [W] per square foot, while a typical commercial building operates at around 30–40 W.

As time passed and the economy changed, data center operators began to realize that energy efficiency and reliability remained vital, such measures could be scaled back. The tremendous electric bills caused by the demand for redundancy has led many data center designers to rethink the term “necessary,” and data center systems, such as redundant ones, are being re-evaluated for both more efficiency options or their necessity.

Cooling and Energy Efficiency

In data centers, keeping equipment and operators cool counts for upwards of 60 percent of the center’s power bill. Computer equipment runs hot and is susceptible to heat — and because heat can affect the equipment, cooling systems often have to be replaced well. Costs have increased as servers have become more dense and higher powered.

Integrating the data center’s building systems has been part of the solution for controlling costs. Upgrading components to more efficient models has been another. Integration allows for the monitoring of power usage, alarms and controls. When these systems are tied together, integration allows operators to be sent remote alerts at the same time to get problems solved.

Chris Smith in On365 cites replacing outdated cooling, which he recently wrote. “It combines external air with mechanically generated hot air to create the right temperature. The hot air is then extracted from the server room and mixed with cool outside air. This eliminates the need for electricity to cool a server room, which is often more energy-intensive than the main computing equipment itself.” Facebook’s 320,000-sf data center in Pineville, OR, constructed by DPR uses such a system and earned a LEED-Gold certification in 2011. Another way data centers are working to minimize power consumption is through more effective cabling. New standards coming into effect in these areas.

Can we create more efficient data centers?

Beth Margulies, Communications Director National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA)

Bethesda, MD

Ever wonder what’s happening to some of those decommissioned warehouses and manufacturing facilities that once provided the liefold of small, far-flung communities? It turns out many of them are becoming the next generation of data centers, the “server farms” of digital storage that host Internet “clouds” keeping everything from corporate records to family photos.

The focus is on energy consumption and improving efficiency. We are seeing the old cold war between server rooms and cooling in the past. One of the big challenges is how to improve the efficiency of water usage.

San Antonio has been fairly steady for us since the decline that began here a few years ago. There does seem to be a more competitive space today but those of us that are here are fortunate to be in San Antonio. There is still a lot of opportunity in the government arena and we are seeing more private projects in the area. A lot of people are working hard to attract new corporate clients, health care, specialty hospitals, mission critical facilities, manufacturing and others. The Eagle Ford Shale is also providing opportunities for contractors in South Texas.

What are the hot button issues in the electrical contractor industry?

They would include pre-planning, prefabrication, LEAN project delivery methods, and the use of technology. With today’s fast track schedules, all of the above help improve labor efficiency, reduce manpower peaks and reduce scheduled installation times.

The pending receipt of revenue in house to provide these services and a 12,000-sf prefabrication facility but not everyone has the luxury of working with manufacturers that can provide most of them and almost any stage of prefabrication from components to systems.

How is technology impacting the industry?

Keeping up with changes in technology is very important. We are seeing more Building Information Modeling (BIM) used on projects, especially those where the contract delivery method is an RFP process.

The general contractor, design team and major subcontractors work together to develop a BIM model that’s fully coordinated. This coordination reduces rework and adds value to owners.

The use of technology in our industry will only increase. How we integrate tablet PCs, Trimble, VeLa, Smart phones and other devices into our business operations to improve both office and field productivity is something we all need to address.

Reliability and Redundancy

San Antonio Electrical Contractors Association comprises 119 local chapters throughout Texas to improve both office and field productivity.

While we may not talk about reliability and redundant systems as much as we used to, they are still important. The electrical contractor industry has to make sure that all systems work together and are tied together. Integration allows alarms and controls. When these systems are tied together, integration allows operators to be sent remote alerts at the same time to get problems solved.

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What are the hot button issues in the electrical contractor industry?

Responding to the changing needs of the industry

In the electrical contractor industry, the growing demand for the use of technology in our industry will only increase. How we integrate tablet PCs, Trimble, VeLa, Smart phones and other devices into our business operations to improve both office and field productivity is something we all need to address. 

The biggest challenge we face is the pace of change.

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Electrical Industry

Other challenges does the industry face?

The most important challenge is how we manage the safety of our work. Costs and continue to reduce workplace injuries that effect us economically and impacts our employees and families.

The electrical contractor industry is another significant challenge our industry must face. It is more important than ever that electrical contractors to address this by focusing on recruitment, training and retaining new employees and younger staff members. It is necessary to get them ready to take on greater responsibility and leadership roles in our organizations.

How does green building changes impact the electrical industry?

The focus is on energy consumption and improvements in energy efficiency. We are seeing the old cold war between server rooms and cooling in the past. One of the big challenges is how to improve the efficiency of water usage.

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What are the hot button issues in the electrical contractor industry?
Excellence in masonry

Where would you like to live?

The Marriott Hotel at the Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport on June 5 provided the setting for the 2012 Dallas-Fort Worth Masonry Contractors Association’s presentation of the Golden Trowel awards. The annual awards recognize the best of the best in excellence in masonry construction and design excellence. Seven first place awards in various categories were presented to companies for projects they completed in 2011. The trophies were provided by Continental Cut Stone.

I wouldn’t change anything. Even with the mistakes I’ve made, it’s all been a learning process and God’s blessed me so much I wouldn’t change anything. If I didn’t know what I already knew about Plano, I think southwestern Colorado would be my next choice.

Mark Mancill, Taylor Rental

The Dallas Fort Worth area is the best place to be. In the last three or four years, you see a lot of growth happening here. Anyplace in Texas is good, still booming, and I think it will be for the next year to come. We have a lot of land around here, you get around and you think, look at all this land.

Dianne Fletcher, Purdy-McGuire

I’ve seen some pretty amazing places. I’ve run a marathon in every state in the US. Very wonderful towns big and small. And I suppose that if I got to choose anywhere I wanted to live it would be a good university town with good access to transportation. Right now I would pick somewhere in the Denver area because that’s where my son is.

Debra Anglin, IDS

Honestly, for a family, I love Dallas, so I’d stay here. I did a lot of traveling for my company, so I’ve seen a lot. There are no property taxes, I love the weather, and my family’s here. It’s a good hub in the middle of the country.

Robby Brown, Perma-Pier

That’s easy. South Padre Island. I like to go fishing, and I’ve been going there since before all the hotels and vacation spots popped up. The fishing is still great there.

Michael Trice, IVEY Lumber Sales

Munich, Germany would be my choice. Why? I love the culture, and I’m a big soccer fan. I love watching the World Cup. And, of course, there’s great beer there!

Patrick Giese, IVEY Lumber Sales

I’m pretty sure I’d pick Hawaii. Actually, I know I’m going to retire there. My son lives in Honolulu and he loves it.

Frank Lujan, Kwal Paint

It would have to be Steamboat Springs, CO. I love to go there during the Summer.

Steven Greene, Kwal Paint

I’d pick Canada. We went to the area around the Canadian/United States border a while ago, and I’d just love to go back. It’s very different, and very diverse.

Greg Cauley, HOLT CAT

I’ve never been to the Bahamas, but I’m pretty sure I’d like to move there. It would have to be someplace tropical with beaches.

Cassie Farrar, H&E

I just couldn’t say. There’s so much out there.

Daniella Rea, H&E
ASSOCIATION CALENDAR
Content submitted by Associations to Construction News

AIA - Dallas
American Institute of Architects
July 10: ASA North Texas Career Fair, Dallas Center for Architecture, Noon-1pm; $10 members, $50 non-members.
July 16: AIA Dallas Chapter Meeting, Dallas Center for Architecture, 7-6:30pm. Free event.
July 19: 2012 NTX Sustainable Showcase - Presented by AIA Dallas COTE, USGBC North Texas, CSI Dallas Chapter; Dallas Center for Architecture, 12:30-5pm; $45 AIA, USGBC, or CSI Members, $65 non-members.
July 20: Group B’s 10th Annual Golf Tournament, Sky Creek Ranch. L-R: NAWIC Chapter Volunteers Samantha Tiller, Traci Garner- Davis, Donna Clarkowski, Jennifer Clay, Lisa McDonald, Gracie Narey, Claudia Wade and Karoline Pitman. First place winners included Doug Spivey, David Caldwell, Doug Wasik and Anup Tamrakar. Spivey also recorded the tournament’s longest drive. –ms

IEC - Dallas
Independent Electrical Contractors
July 7: Journeyman License Exam Prep Course (Eight Saturdays), (972) 550-1133
July 7: Master License Exam Prep Course (10 Saturdays), (972) 550-1133
July 14: Continuing Education-4 hr course for license renewal, (972) 550-1133
July 18: Continuing Education – 4 hour course for license renewal, (972) 550-1133
July 26: Continuing Education – 4 hour course for license renewal, (972) 550-1133

NARI
Nat’l Assn. of the Remodeling Industry

NAWIC - Dallas
Nat’l Assn. of Women in Construction
July 25: Networking Social, 6pm, at Sambuca 360, Located in the Shops at Legacy at 7200 Bishop Road in Plano. For more information or to RSVP: brenda.corbett@mcclusugh-group.com

NAWIC - Fort Worth
Nat’l Assn. of Women in Construction
July 19: Mine Trade Fair @ Garden Restaurant at Fort Worth Botanical Gardens, 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd, Fort Worth. Fair – 5:30pm; Dinner – 6pm. RSVP to Karolene Pittman kpitman@tsbyrne.com Call Sharon Murphy (817) 293-1931 to reserve an exhibit table.

RHCA
Regional Hispanic Contractors Assn.
June 28: RHCA Membership Network Mixer, The Alamo Restaurant, 5pm, no cost, contact Yolanda (972) 786-0909
July 14: How To Start A Business, RHCA offices, 10am, FREE, Contact Yolanda (972) 786-0909
July 20-21: OSHA 10 Hours, RHCA offices, Fri-1pm, 6pm-Sat. 7am-12pm, Cost $50 members, Cost $55 non-members, Contact Yolanda (972) 786-0909

USGBC
USGBC Green Building Council
July 18: LEED Innovation & Pilot Credits: Demand Response. 11:45am. Contact the chapter for more information.
July 19: North Texas Sustainable Showcase; Dallas Center for Architecture 12:30pm – 5pm. Will focus on themes of water and energy conservation. Visit the USGBC website for details.

ASNA Texas
American Subcontractors Association
July 1: ASA Membership renewals due.
July 12: ASA Events Committee Meeting 10:30am, CEI Room 129.
July 12: ASA Membership Committee Meeting, Time and location to be announced.
July 18: Sales Tax Seminar with Lane Gorman Trubitt, PLLC – Pat McCown 8:30-11am. CEF – Haas Room. Must be registered. $55/person ($50/person for 2 or more). Contact ASA at (817) 649-8275 or contact CEF at (972) 574-3200.
July 26: ASA Board Meeting, 1:30 – 3:30 pm. Presidents Lounge, Las Colinas Country Club, Irving.

CFMA
Construction Financial Mgmt Assn.
July 19: Meeting Las Colinas Country Club, 11:30am-1pm, panel discussion regarding the general state of the construction industry. Cost – Members – Free, Non-members – $50, includes lunch and 1 hr of CPE. Contact Kenni Dwyer via email (w/digital photo, if available) dfweditor@constructionnews.net

Round-Up
This is a monthly section for brief company announcements of new or recently promoted personnel, free of charge, as space allows.

Round-Up Submissions
Email (w/digital photo, if available) with “Round-Up” in the subject line:
dfweditor@constructionnews.net

K&I Texas has added Frank Mills, AIA, as a senior project manager in the firm’s Dallas headquarters. Mills is a Registered Architect and Interior Designer with over 35 years experience in architecture, program management, and professional administration. He has managed world-class medical projects in the Middle East including the University Hospital in Dubai and a confidential Medical Center in Doha Qatar. He has served on the City of Dallas Urban Rehabilitation Standards Board, where he was vice chairman, as well as on the City of Dallas Electrical Review Board. -ms

Submitted to Construction News
A day for construction workers
The Regional Hispanic Contractors Association recently held The Day of the Construction Worker, an event where construction workers are honored for hard work and attention to safety. At left is Construction Worker of the Year Juan De Santia go, Caruco Painting Contractors. Also pictured is Safety Champion of the Year Derrick Akae, KS-WRP. –ms

Derrick Akau, KS WRP
Round-Up
Independent Electrical Associations
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- TDLR approved Continuing Education Classes
- Contractor Education Classes

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Website: www.iecdallas.com

I EC Fort Worth/Tarrant County Chapter
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Fort Worth, TX 76119
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What’s in a name?

The name may have changed, but the faces at IDS Engineering Group won’t.

A
fter 42 years as Pate Engineers, Inc., the engineering firm with a diverse range of services now hails by a new name: IDS Engineering Group, the company recently announced.

With the buyout of founder Gary Pate finalized in 2011, the new name reflects the firm’s evolution into a group of employee owners providing infrastructure design solutions to land development, municipal utility district, and public works clients, said Debra Anglin, who has been with the firm 28 years and served as president since 2006.

“We wanted to honor the employee owners,” she explained. “We’re now 100 percent employee owned, and it’s a broad base of ownership.”

The company maintains offices in Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth and San Antonio.

The name does not represent wholesale changes to the company, however. The staff members providing civil engineering, surveying and consulting services remain the same.

“Our clients can be assured that the people staffing their projects are owners committed to long-term working relationships,” Anglin said. “Unlike other engineering firms that have been bought out by national or international conglomerates, the employees of IDS Engineering Group decided to write our own destiny.

“Being employee-owned certainly makes every individual aware that the decision they make every day affects the viability of the firm and the bottom line.”

The company is governed by a board of directors with a wealth of experience.

Anglin, with 34 years experience, is president. Timothy Buscha, secretary, has been with IDS 9 years and has 20 years experience; Chad Abrams, treasurer, has been with IDS 12 years and has 36 years of experience; Teague Harris, director, has 30 years with IDS and 36 years experience, and Tobin Maples, director, has six years with IDS and 18 years of experience.

“We think it’s important to have multiple perspectives on the board,” Anglin noted.

People and has steadily grown, he said.

“Electrical work seemed like a good fit when I started,” he said. “You can put your time in an apprenticeship program, get your journeyman’s license, get your master’s license, and then open up an electrical contractor’s business. It’s not like being a doctor or a lawyer.”

While Benton acknowledges today’s climate is a tough one to start a business, he offers the following wisdom for those who might like to take a stab at it.

“Think long and hard about it, because if you don’t have kids, you have one now. It’s your baby,” he said. “If you’re not willing to put in all that sacrifice, it’s just going to lead to problems.

“Before you start, if you’ve got a car payment, pay it off. If you’ve got bills, get them as cheap as you can. Because as the owner, you’re the last person to get paid.”

continued from Page 1 — Some sage advice

The name may have changed, but the faces at IDS Engineering Group won’t.

She purchased the company in 1994 after being hired on as a receptionist in the 1960s. In the 1970s, she acquired stock in the company and worked her way up to serving as an officer on the board of directors.

While she didn’t purchase the company until the 1990s, she had definitely been acquiring experience and education. Since she took over, she said the company has worked to diversify its client base – something she takes pride in.

“You have these huge roller coaster ups and downs,” Fletcher said. “The lessons we learned from the late 1980s and early 1990s is the importance of staying very diversified. You can’t have just one or two types of projects or clients.”

As for how they will celebrate their 55th anniversary, Fletcher says they plan to make it personal.

“For our 50th, we actually went to each of our clients’ offices and had breakfast with them,” she said. “We have such a diverse base, and we like to keep it personal.”

continued from Page 1 — 55 years, and a new location

The 60-acre plot of land that is home to the new hospital and adjoining medical center provides ample parking and space for future growth as the community’s needs increase.

Jim McSweeney, senior project manager, said the claver leaf building shape required complex field engineering work, but said a good team approach led to a polished final product.

“Each team member including owner, architect, City of McKinney and subcontract partners approached their individual tasks with a focused intent on collaborating on best approaches to getting work done and regarded each team member’s input as valuable,” McSweeney said.

Ronnie Robertson was project superintendent on the hospital portion of the campus. RTKL was the architect.

The hospital was constructed in just under 25 months, with construction wrapping up April 24. After construction began, LEED became a goal, and the project is on track for LEED Certified.

Construction of the adjacent 117,000-square-foot medical office building, which is owned by Duke Realty, took place from June 2, 2011 to June 15, 2012.

The building will house medical offices for cancer treatment, women’s services, and other healthcare needs.

Among the biggest challenges of building the medical office, said Project Manager Jessie Haus of MEDCO, was coordinating its completion with that of the hospital facility next door in time for a July 6 campus-wide grand opening. The two buildings connect via a ground-floor hallway.

Todd Sills was the office building project superintendent. RTKL served as the architect for the core, shell and shared areas, while Perkins+Will was architect for tenant interiors.

Zinser Grossman was structural engineer, Dale Coffey Engineers served as the MEP Engineer and Raymond L. Goodson, Jr. Inc. served as Civil Engineer on both the hospital and medical office building.

“It was a pleasure working with Duke, RTKL, and all the subcontractors associated with this project,” Haus said. “We had great communication and coordination with all parties to make this project a success.”

MEDCO Construction was founded in 1964 as the construction division of Baylor Health Care System (BHCS). In 1984 MEDCO incorporated as a for-profit entity allowing the company to provide full-service construction services to other entities in addition to BHCS.

continued from Page 1 — A new hospital for McKinney

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Lumber’s always been a big part of the construction industry, and these two guys at IVEY Lumber in North Dallas make sure contractors get the beams and planks they need to get the job done. L-R: Michael Trice and Patrick Giese, a college student who is majoring in business. –ms

A beaming duo

Construction News ON LOCATION

L-R: Arthur Waterman, project manager; Stephanie Sanchez, office manager; Jim Evans, project manager, and Dan Vafa, regional vice president.

Northward bound

Austin-based general contractor Journeyman Construction recently opened the doors to a new office in the Dallas area in response to an increasing number of projects in the Metroplex.

The company’s newest regional office joins existing locations in San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Diana and McAllen.

The new office is located in Dallas at 10830 N Central Expressway, Ste. 315.

“We are excited about opening the office in the DFW area. Our ongoing projects with clients such as DART, Madison communities and Austin Bridge and Road can get more personal attention with the opening of the Dallas office,” said Sam Kumar, president. “It makes sense for us to open our regional office in the Dallas Fort Worth area with all the work that goes on there.”

The new permanent office is led by new Regional Vice President Dan Vafa. Vafa brings to the team more than 15 years of construction management experience overseeing all phases of multi-million dollar construction, renovation and remodels for hospitality and residential clients.

“Dan and I have worked together successfully in the past,” Kumar said. “With Dan’s extensive background in hospitality and his aggressive marketing skills, we hope to get a good share of our revenues from that market.”

Also joining the team are project managers and LEED accredited professionals Art Waterman, a Texas A&M graduate with more than seven years experience in commercial construction, and James W. Evans, who has three decades of experience.

Holding down the fort is office manager Stephanie Sanchez.

Journeyman Construction was founded in 1996. It employs more than 100 workers, excluding hourly personnel in the field. –ms

It was a rainy, gloomy summer day when Construction News made a visit to Equipment Depot of Dallas, but you couldn’t tell that from the friendly folks working at that location. In good spirits were, L-R: parts specialist Eddie Bowman, inventory manager Carrey Caskey and mechanic Brad Wall. –ms

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Sixty-two teams of architects, designers, engineers, contractors and students stretched along Galveston’s East Beach Jun. 2. Folks worked non-stop for five hours to meticulously sculpt sand piles for a chance to win the prestigious Golden Bucket Award.

The 26th Annual American Institute of Architects Houston Chapter (AIA) Sandcastle Competition is one of the world’s largest amateur sandcastle competitions. Teams began months in advance generating ideas and developing designs. Judging of the sandcastles was rated on originality of concept, artistic execution of the concept, technical difficulty, carving technique and utilization of the site. –ab

Photos by William Hebel

Fun in the sun

Best Costume: CDI Douglas Pye: Enter the Dragon
Most Complex: Gensler: Beach Wonders
Most Lifelike: PDR: Cup Plete
Best Traditional: PGAL: Jack and the Beanstalk
AIA College Challenge: Prairie View A & M University School of Architecture: Project X Stars & Stripes: Spud Super Pac: Mr. Potato Head for President
Best Team T-Shirt: Texas Tech University College of Architecture: Banana Let the Games Begin: Walter P. Moore - Lego to Galveston

1st: Gold Bucket & Best Team Signage: Matrix Spencer Architects: Bedtime Stories by Mr. Sandman
2nd: Silver Shovel & Most Hilarious: Dow Sandcastlers: Storytelling with Sand
3rd: Bronze Shovel: CDA Architects: Hugo
5th: Honorable Mention & Best Architectural: Colby Design: Rome Was Built in A Day
6th: Honorable Mention: Rice University FE&P: Centennial Celebration

HOLT CAT in North Dallas assembled a large group of employees when Construction News recently paid it a visit. A few of the crew members worried they might not be photogenic, but we disagree.

L-R: Greg Caudle, Rick Emerson, Gary Brinkmeyer, Herberto Rodriguez, Keith Hene, Kevin Lewis, Kalil Mohammed, Byron Barry, Jason Hoff and Susana Sanchez. –ms

Construction News ON LOCATION

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