

### C O N S T R U C T I O N V I E W S Education | Recognition | Networking

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# Awards of Excellence

Each year the Minnesota Construction Association (MCA) recognizes construction projects and members that make substantial contributions to the community and the Association through the Awards of Excellence. Mark your calendar for the 2016 Awards of Excellence Gala being held on Wednesday, January 27, 2016.

#### Nominations are Open for the 2016 MCA Awards of Excellence Project Excellence Awards

Nominations will be accepted from MCA Members in good standing during 2015 and 2016. Contractors, Subcontractors/ Specialty Contractors and Construction Services Providers are invited to nominate a project completed between 2013 and 2015. The project must be substantially completed when nominated. Early bird entry fee is \$225 if submitted on or before November 13, 2015. Entry fee is \$300 if submitted November 14 -December 7, 2015.

Click here to download a Project

Excellence Award nomination form and submit it by December 7, 2015.

#### **Register Today!**

Reservations are required if you plan to attend the Gala on Wednesday, January 27, 2016 from 6:00-9:00 PM at the Minneapolis Golf Club.

You may reserve a table for 8 persons for \$680 or a half-table for 4 persons for \$340 (members or non-members). Individual reservations are \$85 for MCA members or \$95 for nonmembers.

Registration deadline is January 13, 2016. All attendees must register in advance; onsite registration will not be available for this event.

#### **Online Registration**

#### **Printer-Friendly Registration**

#### Sponsorship Opportunities

You can help make the Annual Awards Gala a night to remember by becoming a sponsor! Sponsorship opportunities include:

- Dinner Sponsor \$450
- Wine Sponsor \$300
- Post-Gala Cocktail Party Sponsor - \$250
- Dessert Sponsor \$200
- Reception Sponsor \$150
- Signage Sponsor In-Kind

To become a sponsor, please complete the Awards Sponsorship Form and return it by January 9, 2016.

#### Online Sponsorship Form

Printer-Friendly Sponsorship Form



A <u>separate payment form</u> must be submitted along with your nomination form (you may submit a single payment form for all nominations entries).

**Mission:** The Minnesota Construction Association fosters education, recognition and networking for all industry professionals who collaborate, plan, create and sustain best construction practices.

Vision: The Collaborative place for the building industry

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monday, October 19, 2015 MCA Board Meeting

Thursday, November 5, 2015 Second Annual Soiree

Monday, November 16, 2015 MCA Board Meeting

Monday, December 14, 2015 MCA Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 27, 2016 Awards of Excellence Dinner & Gala

Wednesday, June 8, 2016 Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament



## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

#### CHAD RETTKE

As we are bringing the summer rush of construction projects to a close, most in the construction industry will have some time to take a breath and reflect on hopefully another

successful season. At the MCA we have been very busy with our internal committees' planning.

Our Student Outreach committee has been in full gear as we ramp up our connections with our college partners. They include: Dunwoody College of Technology, Iowa State University, Minnesota State University Mankato, Minnesota State University- Moorhead, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, University of Minnesota, University of Northern Iowa and University of Wisconsin- Stout. MCA has started up "Construct\*ium". Construct\*ium is your complete industry collaboration tool that is committed to linking all current and future industry professionals together by focusing on 4 core areas–Collaboration, Competition, Careers, and CourseShare. Check out our website for more information.

We are in full gear to fill our committees and board for 2016, so if you have any interest in volunteering, please email our office at info@mnconstruction.org

Our MCA Twitter account is up and running. We are tweeting great information on our events, and retweeting some great information on our industry and what our members are doing. If you or your company are on twitter, please reach out to us at @MCAConstruction to follow. Our Communication Committee has also been busy planning on updates to our website and the content. Look for updates soon.



**@MCAConstruction** 



Education. Recognition. Networking.

#### PLEASE HELP MCA WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBER:

#### Matt Bergmann – Laketown Electric Corporation

LEC is a design-build commercial and electrical contractor entering our 40th year of business in 2015. We have grown to 35 full-time employees specializing in the construction and maintenance of healthcare facilities, commercial and industrial buildings while working within two hours of the Twin Cities metro area.

www.laketownelectric.com

#### PLEASE HELP MCA WELCOME OUR NEWEST STUDENT MEMBERS:

North Dakota State University

Connor Mann

**University of Wisconsin - Stout** 

Brandon Cesafsky Brenden Davis

### MCA 2015 **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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**Chad Rettke** Kraus-Anderson Construction Company

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> Nick Reynolds Rochon Corporation

**Ryan Rydberg** Knutson Construction

**Grant Tentis, CPA, MBT, CVA** Blanski Peter Kronlage & Zoch, P.A.

#### **STAFF**

**Corinna Hastings, CAE** Executive Director & Editor

## S REGISTER TODAY MCA SECOND ANNUAL SOIREE A GATHERING OF CONSTRUCTION PROFESSIONALS

When: 4-6:30pm, Thursday, Nov. 5, 2015

Where: Kip's Pub, 9970 Wayzata Blvd St Louis Park, MN 55426

This event is open to all members and non-members. Join us for networking, food, drinks and a short program.

Click here to register today!



MCA is pleased to announce the 2015 scholarship recipients!

BRANDON CESAFSKY University of WI - Stout

**BRENDEN DAVIS** University of WI - Stout EDWARD GAJDOSIK University of WI - Stout JOSHUA PATIENCE University of Northern Iowa TIM RASCHER University of WI - Stout



The Awards of Excellence Gala is just around the corner which means that it's time to submit your project nominations. The early bird deadline is November 13th and the final deadline is December 7th. Hopefully you're able to take advantage of the early bird discount which saves \$75 per project.

There have been a few minor changes to the Awards this year. The largest change has been the creation of a new award called the "Subcontractor/Specialty Contractor Project." Instead of grouping subcontractors with general contractors as we have done in the past, we have created this new award which will recognize a subcontractor's or specialty contractor's work. Another change is how the payment form is handled for multiple nominations from one company. In the past, companies would need to fill out multiple payment forms for each project. This year, a new form can be used which will allow for only one transaction which should help save time and effort.

As always, we're on the hunt for projects worthy of consideration for the MCA Choice Award. Please email info@mnconstruction.org by October 23rd with the following information if you know of a project that should be considered for MCA's top award. Criteria for the award can be found on the MCA's website.

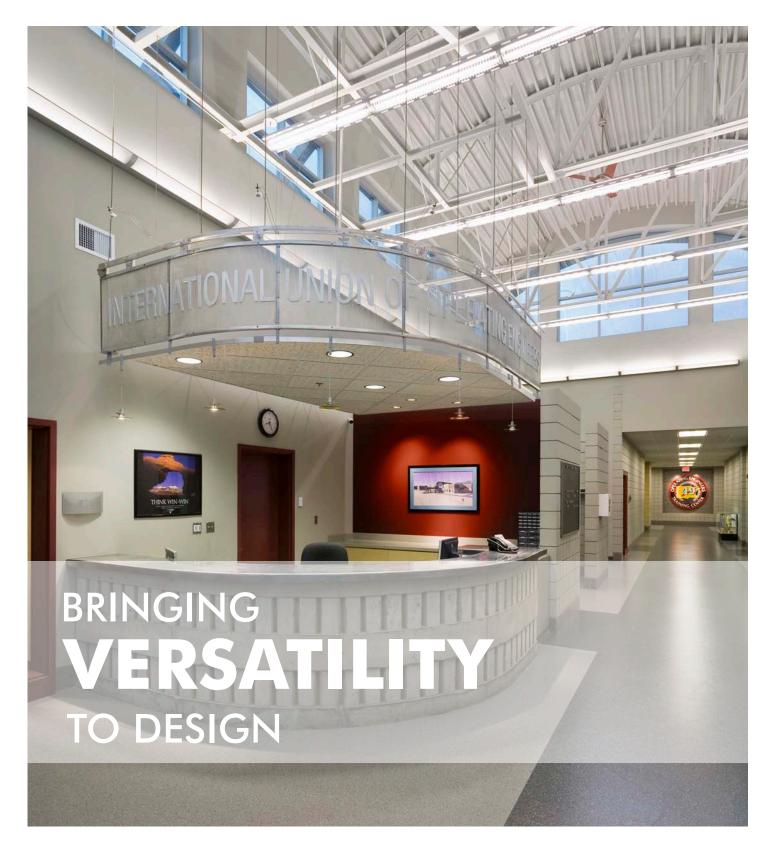
- Project name and location
- The Developer, Builder, and/or Owner
- Your Contact Information (including phone and email)

The Awards Committee is currently looking for new members. Please email info@mnconstruction.org if you are interested in joining the group. Meetings are held every month or two depending on the time of year. It's a great way to meet other members, build camaraderie and contribute to a great organization.

#### Dave Lyste (Rachel Contracting)



Mark Your Calendar! Awards of Excellence Dinner & Gala January 27, 2016





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Krech, O'Brien, Mueller & Associates, Inc. 6115 Cahill Avenue = Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076 651.451.4605 = komainc@komainc.com = www.komainc.com

## Important Information about Your MCA Membership Dues



MCA dues have remained at the same level (\$195 for individual and \$600 for company) for ten years. The Board of Directors felt it was time to review the current structure and price of membership dues and appointed a task force to review and make a recommendation to the board.

After careful and thoughtful consideration, the MCA Board approved a new membership structure and increased membership dues. This dues increase will allow the MCA elected leaders and staff to operate in a manner that is fiscally responsible, while continuing to provide you with the membership benefits you expect.

#### Key elements of the membership structure and price change are:

- All MCA memberships will now be a company based membership. One individual will be identified as the company contact and will receive dues renewal notices.
- There are three levels of membership for companies to choose from:
  - SILVER (\$250) Membership for 1 individual; Only this individual can attend programs at the member rate; A company can purchase up to two of these memberships at \$250 each (complete a separate application for each membership)
  - GOLD (\$725) Membership for 3-5 individuals; Only these individuals can attend programs at the member rate
  - **PLATINUM** (\$1,000) Membership for 6-unlimited individuals; Anyone from the company can attend programs at the member rate

This new structure and price took effect in August for new members and will take effect with 2016 membership renewals for current members. Additional information will be included with your dues renewal notice this fall.

*If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact the MCA Office at (952) 928-4646 or info@mnconstruction.org.* 



# Construct\*ium to Host International ASC Conference in April 2018

The international Associated Schools of Construction has selected Construct\*ium, an industry/ intercollegiate collaboration platform comprised of educational institutions within Region 3 and 4, to host the 2018 Associated Schools of Construction International Conference on the University of Minnesota campus. The International Conference is where the Construction Program Administrators, Faculty and students gather to provide a venue for the latest in constructionrelated research, presentations from graduate students, and competition amongst the students and colleges. Regions 3 and 4 encompasses the Midwest Region of the United States.

Please visit www.ascweb.org/ to learn more about this organization. Region 3 has one and Region 4 has eight participating colleges in the region that make up Construct\*ium, a collegiate/industry collaboration platform hosted by Minnesota Construction Association (www.mnconstruction. org), that was selected to host the conference. Dr. John Killingsworth, Director at University of Wisconsin Stout will lead the conference as Program Chair, Peter Hilger, AIA – Faculty Director, University of Minnesota, will be the Conference Chair, and Dr. Mohamed Diab, MN State University Mankato will serve as Program co-chair, along with faculty support from MN State Moorhead, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, Dunwoody Institute, and the University of Northern Iowa. Though still early in the planning stages, Peter can be reached at aphilger@umn.edu and John can be reached at killingsworthj@uwstout.edu for information regarding sponsorship, involvement, or attendance at the conference.

Log into www.constructium.org to learn more about what is going on with students and programs in the upper Midwest.



# Member to Member

**INSPEC, INC.** is pleased to announce that **PAMELA C. JERGENSON**, CSI, CCS, CCCA has moved from President-Elect to the position of Chapter President of the Construction Specifiers

Institute (CSI) Minneapolis-St. Paul Chapter. Pam Jergenson, a Senior Building Envelope Consultant at Inspec who

Envelope Consultant at Inspec who has been with the company for nearly 25 years, was installed as Chapter President of the CSI – Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter. The formal swearing-in was held on June 4th at the 2015 CSI Annual Golf Outing at Bunker Hills Golf Course.

Pam has been very active in the local chapter and has presented on numerous building envelope topics for over 15 years. Her educational presentation topics include finding exterior wall leaks, conducting façade inspections, through-wall flashing case studies, exterior wall management, and building code evaluations. ◆

CityPlace, located at I-94 and Radio Drive in Woodbury, continues its momentum by adding complementary uses to the existing Class A office building, advancing the implementation of a mixed-use corporate experience. The partnership of Florida-based Elion Partners and Minnesota's **KRAUS**-**ANDERSON** has signed leases with Caribou Coffee, La-Z-Boy Home Furnishings and Décor, Potbelly Sandwich Works and TU Nails.

Last year, Whole Foods Market was named as an anchor tenant, and leases have been secured with Verizon Wireless, new-to-market Café Zupas and Wedding Day Diamonds.

The 150,000-square-foot shopping complex and 416,786-square-foot Class A office building will also feature a 116-room Residence Inn by Marriott. The hotel component is another fundamental complement to the existing office building and key amenity behind the project's work-play concept.

In addition, with Whole Foods Market as an anchor, CityPlace is seeing increasing interest from strong national and regional brands that aim to leverage the grocer's drawing power, and capitalize on the sites prominent location in the vibrant Woodbury trade area. Juan DeAngulo, managing principal with Elion Partners says the overall activity is a true testament to the desirability of this location.

"We are excited about the momentum building at CityPlace," said DeAngulo. "We are confident our future tenants, both office and retail alike, recognize the built-in customer-base and firstclass amenities CityPlace has to offer."

The joint venture recently launched a new marketing campaign to reposition and tenant the existing 400,000-square foot office building as it continues to revitalize the 100-acre parcel.

The high-profile, master-planned development carefully weaves a mix of uses with pedestrian-friendly streetscapes. With Class A office space, shopping, restaurants and a hotel, CityPlace offers a unique mixed-use campus that caters to employers who value easy accessibility, walkability and a balance of work-life integration. Redevelopment of the 100-acre project is well underway with the first phase of retail set to open to the public in the fourth quarter of 2015. ◆



Bloomington's newly renovated 4200 W.

Old Shakopee Road Building has added a new tenant. **KRAUS-ANDERSON REALTY COMPANY** has signed a lease with Park Dental Group to occupy 4,675 square feet. Park Dental joins American Family Insurance, Sperides Reiners Architects, Inc., Kris J. Kalenda, D.D.S. and Executive Financial Services, Inc.

The exterior and interior tenant improvements were completed in April by Engelsma Construction. The 39,790-square-foot office complex – formerly a Wells Fargo Bank building – features a completely renovated first floor commons area, including the lobby, corridor and restrooms. Exterior improvements include a new double-door entrance with canopy, landscaping, curbing and trash enclosure, as well as a new Exterior Insulation and Finish System (EIFS), soffit and monument signage.

Dave Stalsberg, Kraus-Anderson Realty's leasing agent, says the realty company is leasing an additional 10,000 contiguous square feet on the first floor with existing drive-thru lanes, along with several smaller suites on the second floor. Building naming rights and signage are available to a larger tenant. ◆



KRAUS-ANDERSON® CONSTRUCTION COMPANY

(KA) has broken ground on a new 130,000-square-foot neuroscience building for HealthPartners in St. Paul. Located at 295 Phalen Boulevard near I-35E, the four-story, regional medical office building will bring together nationally recognized programs for stroke, spine care, dementia, Parkinson's disease, brain and spine tumors and other neurological disorders.

The medical center is the largest freestanding neuroscience facility in the Upper Midwest and one of only a few in the country.

HealthPartners is making this commitment to neuroscience at a time when stroke and Alzheimer's are among the leading causes of death in the U.S., the number of people with dementia is expected to double in the next 20 years, and pain is one of the most common reasons people visit the doctor.

Designed by BWBR, the neuroscience clinic will also include administration offices and a four-story, 298,000-squarefoot parking ramp with 600 stalls. The building will be designed to add two future floors, totaling 192,000 square feet; a 32,000-square-foot partial basement; and two additional parking levels, extending the total parking capacity to 960 stalls. The building is expected to be completed in early 2017.

Kraus-Anderson (KA) has deep experience in healthcare construction and is currently ranked 11th in the nation by Modern Healthcare.

KA, which has worked with HealthPartners for over 10 years, has served as Regions Hospital's onsite construction manager since 2007. The neuroscience building is the third HealthPartners building that KA has constructed along the Phalen corridor. Others include Regions Hospital Rehabilitation Institute located at 401 Phalen Blvd., completed 2005; and HealthPartners Specialty Center Orthopedic & Sports Medicine, located at 435 Phalen Blvd., completed in 2007.

KA was also the construction manager for Regions Hospital's 11-story, 420,000-square-foot patient tower and expansion completed in 2009; and an 8-story, 115,000-square-foot Regions Mental Health Building, completed in 2012. ◆

#### **DEWITT MACKALL CROUNSE &**

**MOORE** and its affiliate DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C. today announced three of its attorneys were named by Minnesota Super Lawyers<sup>®</sup> as top attorneys in Minneapolis for 2015. Additionally, Paul Almen was once again recognized as Minnesota Rising Star<sup>®</sup>.

Attorneys selected for inclusion in 2015 Minnesota Super Lawyers and Rising Stars are:

Super Lawyers: **ROBERT W. DUE** – Family Law **DENIS E. GRANDE** – Family Law **WILLIAM J. O'BRIEN** – Closely Held Businesses



Rising Star: **PAUL ALMEN** – Construction Litigation The selections

for Minnesota Super Lawyers are made by

the research team at Super Lawyers, which is a service of the Thomson Reuters, legal division based in Eagan, Minn. Each year, the team conducts a thorough selection process that includes a statewide survey of lawyers, independent evaluation of candidates by the attorney-led research staff, a peer review of candidates by practice area and a good-standing and disciplinary check.

The final list of Minnesota Super Lawyers features the top five percent of attorneys in more than 60 practice areas. Lawyers featured on the Rising Stars list are selected based upon similar criteria as Super Lawyers; however, a candidate must either be under 40 years of age or in practice for 10 years or less, and a peer evaluation is not conducted.

**KRAUS-ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** (KA) has promoted **STEVEN MCKENDRY** to the newly created position of director of field operations.



An industry veteran with more than 25 years experience, McKendry joined Kraus-Anderson in December 2014 as senior

project manager. In his new position, he will be responsible for overseeing all field operations at Kraus-Anderson construction sites.

"Steve's leadership, oversight and understanding of best practices will provide strong enhancement to our field operations and position us to further develop new business," said Al Gerhardt, COO of Kraus-Anderson.

Prior to joining KA, McKendry was the senior regional preconstruction manager for Minneapolis-based Target Corporation, where he coordinated preconstruction activities on \$2.5 billion in project estimates, resulting in the funding of \$500 million in projects annually. Prior to Target, he was managing partner for Crown Construction Entities in Denver. He received his B.S. in Construction Management and Real Estate Finance from the University of Denver.

Kraus-Anderson also has hired the following staff in Minneapolis:

- **STEFAN WICKBOLDT** – IT Support Specialist

- MARI GRONQUIST - Project Accountant

- SHANE ROEPKE - Estimator

In addition, **KEN FRANCOIS**, project manager, has received his Professional Engineer certification. ◆

DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C., and its affiliate **DEWITT MACKALL CROUNSE & MOORE S.C.**, today announced its partner **BRYAN C. ESCH** was appointed to its Executive Committee. Esch will join 8 other Executive Committee members in assisting with the governance and strategic direction of the firm.



"Bryan brings to the firm a strategic and thoughtful approach to its business operations and we are excited to appoint him to our

Executive Committee," said Bradley C. Fulton, DeWitt's President & Managing Partner.

Esch, who has been with DeWitt for 19 years, is the Chair of its Business Practice Group and focuses his practice on business, mining and natural resources, real estate and estate planning. He represents business owners, companies and families on a full range of legal issues. He earned his J.D., cum laude, from the University of Wisconsin Law School and his B.A., summa cum laude, from Marquette University. Esch is an active member of St. Maria Goretti Catholic Church and is on its Athletic Board. Additionally, he is a past President and current Board Member of St. Thomas More Society of the Madison Diocese and is active in the University of Wisconsin Family Business Center. Esch, a resident of Fitchburg, is active in youth sports and has coached baseball, softball, football and basketball.



#### KRAUS-ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (KA) will begin construction on University

Heights, a new \$3.7 million student housing project adjacent to the Bemidji State University campus. A groundbreaking ceremony will be held at 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, July 28 at 1725 Bemidji Ave North.

Bordered by Bemidji Avenue on the east

and 15th Street on the south, the land was formerly owned by the Bemidji State University Foundation and was once home to Bemidji High School. In 2015, the foundation sold the land to Bemidji-based Peterson Developers, LLC, which is developing the complex.

Designed by MJ Architectural, University Heights' multi-phase project will begin with a 26,444-square-foot apartment building near 18th Street, scheduled to be completed in May 2016 and ready to open to residents in August of 2016. The four-story structure will have 16 apartment units with individual rooms for a total of 56 students.

Subsequent phases will feature five additional apartment complexes and 12 townhomes, with the second building scheduled to be completed by August 2019. Four of the apartment complexes will include first-level retail businesses.



**DORAN COMPANIES** announced today the addition of **TONY KUECHLE** as Vice President of Development and **MELISSA PAHL** as Director of Development.

Kuechle, who will lead the Doran Development team, is an accomplished real estate professional with over 20 years of experience in real estate development, acquisitions and asset management and has had multiple successful experiences developing and managing projects for Sherman Associates, Hempel Properties, and United Properties—all respected Minneapolis-based development companies. Kuechle is a graduate of St. Cloud State University where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Real Estate and Finance.

Pahl, who will work with Kuechle to achieve community acceptance and municipal approvals for Doran developments, has 12 years of experience working on commercial real estate developments and community economic development projects mostly in Chicago area markets. A graduate of the University of Wisconsin, La Crosse with a Bachelor of Science in Finance, Pahl is also active in the International Council of Shopping Centers.

Kelly Doran, the founder and owner of Doran Companies said the addition of Kuechle and Pahl became necessary as his company has grown. "When you are in the process of developing four major projects at one time it soon becomes clear that this is no longer a one person show. While I'm not going anywhere, bringing in Tony and Melissa will add to our strength and credibility in this market."  $\blacklozenge$ 

LARKIN HOFFMAN, long known for its dedicated real estate litigation practice, is proud to announce that four of the region's top construction, surety and mechanics' lien practitioners will be joining the firm on

August 1, 2015. **DAVE HAMMARGREN, PAUL MEYER, JASON TARASEK** and **JIM SANDER** will be moving just a few miles from their current offices on American Boulevard in Bloomington to Larkin Hoffman's new offices in the 8300 Tower at Normandale Lake Office Park.

Dave Hammargren and Paul Meyer have been representing contractors, subcontractors, sureties, design professionals, owners and lenders in all types of construction and surety litigation and arbitration for nearly 30 years. Together, they founded Hammargren and Meyer, P.A. in 1996. "We have had an excellent professional relationship with Larkin Hoffman throughout the years," said Dave Hammargren. "We are looking forward to joining a leading real estate litigation practice that also has the full support of a general practice firm in important areas for our clients, including real estate transactional work, government relations, land use, taxation and general corporate and litigation work."

Jason Tarasek and Jim Sander, who will also be joining Larkin Hoffman from the same firm, echoed the sentiment. "Larkin Hoffman presents an excellent platform to build my practice far into the future," said Jason Tarasek. Jason and Jim focus their practices on construction, especially in defects litigation, and creditors' remedies, including mechanics' liens and the collection of payments for contractors, engineers and architects.

Bill Griffith, president of Larkin Hoffman, welcomed the new attorneys as part of the firm's long-term goal to provide a strong regional practice for business clients. "For nearly 60 years, Larkin Hoffman has been an innovative firm in the delivery of service and value to clients. We are thrilled to welcome these top-rated construction litigators to our well-known and successful real estate practice. They bring a wealth of knowledge and experience that will help those we serve." ◆

#### The Duluth office of **KRAUS**-**ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** (KA) has hired **JERRY PALMQUIST** as project superintendent.

A 36-year industry veteran, Palmquist previously served as president and co-owner of Virginia, Minn.-based P&M Construction. He has managed numerous projects in multiple industry sectors, including healthcare, retail and hospitality, and is currently working on the new campground of the Lake Vermilion - Soudan Underground Mine State Park in Soudan, Minn. ◆

The Bemidji office of **KRAUS**-**ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** (KA) has hired **RICK OSTER** as project superintendent.



Prior to joining KA, Oster was a construction superintendent for St. Cloudbased Donlar Construction, where he managed

commercial construction projects in the education, retail and medical sectors.

Oster holds a LEED for Homes certification and an Erosion and Stormwater Management certification. He also serves as a residential energy auditor and was an instructor at Northwest Technical College in Bemidji. ◆

#### RJM CONSTRUCTION, a

Minneapolis-based general contractor, has been selected by the City of Eden Prairie to build a new baseball field for physically challenged players. The project is scheduled to begin on Monday, August 10.

Located at 15219 Pioneer Trail in Eden Prairie, the field will feature a cushioned rubberized surface, wheelchair accessible dugouts and a completely flat surface for use by physically challenged players. The various areas of the field are designated by different colors.

In the summer of 2011, an Eden Prairie 12 year old AAA baseball team watched a Miracle League game being played and decided that they should have one in Eden Prairie. After significant efforts by the team and various partnerships, the dream is becoming a reality.

"We are pleased to be working on a project that will make a positive impact to the community," stated Brian Recker, RJM senior vice president. "We support the league's mantra – every child deserves a chance to play baseball."

The project has received support from the City of Eden Prairie, the Eden Prairie Community Foundation, and the Eden Prairie Baseball Association. Beyond organized support, many private donors have made contributions to the project.

RJM has completed several projects with the City of Eden Prairie, including Round Lake Stadium adjacent to the Eden Prairie Community Center. They are also currently completing the Eden Prairie Aquatics Center. ◆

#### GARY BENSON, KRAUS-

**ANDERSON'S** director of project planning and development, has been elected board president of the Northeast Metro 916 Intermediate School District Education Foundation.

The 916 Education Foundation (www.916educationfoundation.org) is a nonprofit organization that helps the students, teachers and member districts of Northeast Metro 916 excel in programs that are not funded by public tax revenues. The foundation has supported the district for more than 25 years, and over the last five years has awarded more than a half a million dollars in scholarships and grants for students and teachers.

Benson is the vice chair of the board of the Minnesota Higher Education Facilities Authority (MHEFA), and is a member of the Minnesota Association of School Administrators, Minnesota Association of School Business Officials and Minnesota School Boards Association. He received his B.A. in Mathematics and Economics from Augsburg College and his M.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Minnesota. ◆

**STAHL CONSTRUCTION** recently completed construction of a new chalet facility at the Hyland Ski and Snowboard Area for Three Rivers Park District. The 36,000-square-foot chalet doubles the size of the original chalet built in 1974.

At approximately \$13.3 million, this 15-month project included demolition of the existing chalet and construction of the new chalet with a separate building for the ski patrol. In an effort to ease congestion and reduce traffic, Stahl also completed parking lot and site improvements at the chalet; reconstruction of the existing Normandale Lake parking lot; and a new parking lot adjacent to the existing Normandale Lake parking lot.

Located in Bloomington, Minnesota, the new chalet showcases several innovative and unique features including a butterfly roof, copper flashing and base, board formed concrete, and a window wall opening to the ski hill. The chalet's footprint incorporates expanded food and dining areas with a commercial grade kitchen, designated space for group activities, improved ticket booth and rental areas, and greater access for all.

Stahl Construction built the new chalet while the ski hills remained in operation for the 2014-15 season with patrons utilizing temporary facilities onsite. Winter construction ensured the facility would be open for the 2015-16 season. The ski patrol building was completed in time for use during the 2014-15 season.

"Stahl Construction helped deliver this complex ski chalet project on time and within budget. Stahl's services helped the Park District to successfully navigate through design decisions, value engineering, construction site access and staging issues, and tracking costs for separate funding sources" said Jason Zemke, Senior Manager of Architecture for Three Rivers Park District, "The Park District thanks Stahl Construction for their contribution to this beautiful, new year-round facility."

Stahl Construction worked alongside Minneapolis-based Partners and Sirny Architects to complete this project. A grand opening ceremony is scheduled for Saturday, September 26th at the chalet. ◆

AMERICAN ENGINEERING TESTING, INC. (AET) welcomes MICHAEL J BEHNKE as an Air Quality Engineer in the Environmental



Division. He is responsible for air quality dispersion modelling, air quality impact evaluations for Environmental Assessment

Worksheets (EAWs), air permit applications, and broader emission calculations for the group.

Mr. Behnke's career spans more than 25 years that includes air quality dispersion modeling/permitting, emissions control, compliance programming, and extensive environmental due diligence/regulation review in multiple states. His true passion is dispersion modeling. To that end he is a leader in the application of tools such as ISCST3, ISC-PRIME, and the AERMOD modeling systems. Mr. Behnke has analyzed data for energy generation, mining and ore processing, agricultural, manufacturing, and state environmental agencies.

AET's Environmental Compliance Manager Gail Cederberg says "We are very excited to have a respected expert such as Michael join the AET team, we will be able to expand our environmental compliance capabilities with his knowledge and experience." Prior to joining the AET team, Mr. Behnke was an Air Quality Engineer/ Dispersion Modeling Analyst, and Project manager with Valentine & Associates. He earned his bachelor's degree in Materials Engineering and his master's degree in Environmental Engineering from Purdue University. ◆

**STAHL CONSTRUCTION** recently completed construction of a 118unit, four-story TownePlace Suites by Marriott in Bloomington, Minnesota. The 67,902-square-foot hotel features extended stay suites with fully equipped kitchens designed to provide guests with an enhanced environment for both working and relaxing.

Included in the project is a nearly

4,000-square-foot public plaza that was developed in collaboration with the city of Bloomington to link the project site with the overall vision the city has for the area. An artist was commissioned to create an original sculpture for the plaza. The city of Bloomington and the Bloomington Port Authority consider this project a cornerstone of the newly defined South Loop area.

Stahl Construction completed this project in one year while working underneath an active runway. Regulations of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) limited the allowable crane height. As a result, the Stahl Construction team had the crane placed three feet into the ground. The crane was used to set the panelized wall pieces into place utilizing a just-in-time system of delivery for improved efficiency. In addition, an acoustician was employed by the owner to ensure Sound Transmission Class (STC) requirements were not only met, but exceeded at the hotel.

Located at 2500 Lindau Lane in Bloomington, the hotel is positioned between the expanding Mall of America and the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport. The project was developed by Park City, Utah-based South Loop Hospitality and designed by Seattle-based Johnson Braund.

"The TownePlace Suites Minneapolis Mall of America is open for business and it goes without saying we couldn't have done it without the Stahl team" said Preston Lougheed, South Loop Hospitality's Area Director, "With Stahl's help I think we have the finest and most state-of-the-art TownePlace Suites in the entire brand and in the USA." A ceremonial ribbon cutting and grand opening for the new hotel took place July 27th.

Since 1990 Stahl Construction has completed over fifty hospitality projects including specialty work, renovations, Property Improvement Plans, additions, and new construction. Together these projects represent more than two million square feet and \$200 million in construction costs. ◆

**DORAN CONSTRUCTION** has begun construction on a \$12 million renovation of the Depot Renaissance Hotel in downtown Minneapolis. The owner, CSM, Corp. first developed the hotel in 2001 when it purchased the Milwaukee Road Depot at 300 Washington Avenue South and constructed the hotel adjacent to the historic railroad site.

The renovation includes the demolition of a water park inside of the hotel that will make room for an additional 110 guest rooms, a fitness center and indoor pool. The project also includes adding a floor—making it a total of six floors and 312 rooms.

Across Washington Avenue, Doran Construction is putting finishing touches on the Latitude 45, a 319unit 13-story Class A market rate apartment project they are building for Minneapolis-based developer Alatus. In the same Minneapolis neighborhood, Doran is the general contractor for The Encore, a 122 unit 12-story luxury apartment project being developed by Sherman & Associates at 935 Second St. S. in Minneapolis—across the street from the Guthrie Theater and Gold Medal Park. ◆



**KRAUS-ANDERSON® CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** (KA) will build a new \$1.9 million SPIRE Credit Union located at 1880 West

Credit Union located at 1880 West Perimeter Drive in Roseville, Minn.

A groundbreaking event will take place at 4:00 p.m., Monday, August 24 at the site. Representatives of the City of Roseville are expected to attend.

Designed by RSP Architects, the 5,000-square-foot credit union is expected to be completed in early 2016.

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The Madison office of KRAUS-ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (KA) has hired MIKE HOUCK as project manager and SHANON GUELETTE and JON BUSH as project superintendents.



A commercial industry veteran, Houck was most recently a project manager for Rockford, Ill.-based Cord Construction. He also served for 10

years as a senior project manager for The Rockwell Group, where managed numerous projects in education, healthcare and retail. Houck received his B.A. in History and Philosophy from the University of Wisconsin, Whitewater.



Prior to joining KA, Guelette was a superintendent at Green Bay, Wis.-based Immel Construction, where he managed projects for

Walmart, including Sam's Clubs in Green Bay, Geneseo, Ill. and Jefferson City, Mo.; Walmart stores in Green Bay and Whitewater, Wis., Hutchinson, Minn., Bloomingdale, Ill., Manchester, Iowa and Papillion, Neb.



superintendent for La Crosse, Wis.-based TCI Architects, Engineers and Contractor, where he supervised

Bush served as

construction for clients in various business sectors, including numerous projects for Gander Mountain in Wisconsin, Texas, Michigan, Ohio, North Carolina, Illinois and Florida. ◆

INSPEC, INC. is pleased to announce the hiring of GAVIN GRADY, a 2015 graduate of the University of Minnesota Duluth, College of Science and Engineering. Gavin earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Civil Engineering with an emphasis in Structural Engineering. He is a graduate of Hopkins High School in Minnetonka and was also a member of the Bulldog Football team at UMD.

Gavin joined Inspec's Exterior Wall and Window Department team performing forensic investigations, façade inspections, and assessments for Exterior Walls and Windows projects. While attending UMD, Gavin had internships with MnDOT providing inspecting/testing and observation of the Interstate 35 reconstruction in Duluth, and with Jamar Company in Duluth working in their Architectural Roofing and Siding Division. ◆



#### KRAUS-ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY (KA),

one of the Midwest's oldest and largest commercial general contractors and construction managers, has completed construction on a pre-K-4 elementary school, while an extensive renovation is in the works on a high school for grades 5-12. Both schools are in the Pine Island School District in Pine Island, Minn.

*Pine Island Pre-K-4 Elementary* Located at 8749 125th Street NW, the new 103,000-square-foot elementary school includes classrooms, media center, commons, kitchen, gymnasium and track and field complex. For the school to be open for the 2015-16 school year, construction was completed on an extraordinarily tight 10-month time frame.

Pine Island 5-12 High School The addition of a two-story, 36,732-square-foot high school auditorium and learning center for grades 5-12 plus approximately 175,000-square-foot of renovation brings the total space to more than 200,000 square feet. Located at 223 1st Avenue SE, the school is expected to be completed in September of 2016. ◆



KRECH, O'BRIEN, MUELLER & ASSOCIATES, INC. (KOMA) was the architect, structural engineer, and interior designer on the recently completed addition and renovations to three South Washington County School District 833 elementary schools: Grey Cloud Elementary in Cottage Grove and Middleton and Bailey Elementary schools in Woodbury. The projects consist of two phases; the second phase will be completed by the fall of 2016.

The existing schools each consist of approximately 110,000 square feet, much of which will be renovated over the course of the two year period. Main features of the renovation include new energy efficient systems, a security entrance, and a new administration office addition at the front entry (see photos). Martin Pevzner Engineers were the mechanical engineers, Paul Suby Associates was the electrical engineer, and Kraus Anderson was the Construction Manager. These were the twelfth, thirteenth, and fourteenth school that this team has worked on to improve HVAC, security, and aesthetics with District 833 over the past ten years.

The Rochester office of **KRAUS**-**ANDERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY** (KA) has hired **SHAWN LORTSCHER** as project manager and **MARK HAMMES** as project superintendent.



Prior to joining KA, Lortscher served as solutions construction manager for Johnson Controls, Inc., where he coordinated

preconstruction and construction

design, job site administration, subcontractor and materials scheduling, budget estimates and cost analysis. Lortscher received his B.S. degree in Construction Management from Minnesota State University, Mankato. He is a LEED AP and is ASHE Healthcare Construction certified.



Hammes served as a project superintendent for TCI Architects Engineers in La Crosse, Wis., where he managed government and retail projects,

including several Gander Mountain stores. He graduated from Western Wisconsin Technical College, La Crosse, and holds numerous industry and OSHA certifications.  $\blacklozenge$ 

AMERICAN ENGINEERING TESTING, INC. announces the addition of Mr. DENNIS MCCOMAS to the Environmental Division as a Senior Geologist. Managing Principal Gregory Beckstrom welcomes McComas speaking of his experience in the industry and markets, "He is a seasoned project manager with a sound technical background and a rich history of working in the greater Twin Cities and Upper Midwest markets. We are thrilled to have him as a part of the AET Environmental team!"



In his role as senior geologist with more than 26 years of experience, Mr. McComas will focus on hydrogeological

and environmental projects including environmental site assessments (ESAs), underground storage tank investigations, and voluntary investigations and cleanups. Combining his skills and love for solving multilayer problems with unique solutions, Mr. McComas has worked on a multitude of projects requiring intense review of the rules and regulations related to the environmental field. His past projects include work with railroad recovery services on an unpermitted dump where he coordinated with multiple agencies to develop response actions to accommodate the site and managing and performing a portfolio of due diligence for a petroleum products bulk delivery over the course of a year. Along with his experience, Mr. McComas has a B.S. in Geology from the University of Minnesota, is a registered geologist in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and is a long standing member of the Minnesota Ground Water Association. You can reach him at dmccomas@amengtest.com. ♦

**RJM CONSTRUCTION** has broken ground on a new 61,000 sq.-ft. charter school for Twin Cities Academy. When completed in July of 2016, the facility will serve students in grades 6-12 for the nationally ranked charter school.

Located at 690 Birmingham Street in St. Paul, the site is a former location

of concrete manufacturer Cemstone. Extensive remediation was required to prepare the site, including the demolition of an abandon plant and concrete debris removal.

The two-story building will hold 28 classrooms, a media center, gymnasium

space and activity rooms. The school has planned for continued growing enrollment, with capacity for 620 students.

"We've brought this project to life by adeptly planning for the future", stated Betsy Lueth, Twin Cities Academy executive director. "It's been an amazing journey to a new site for Twin Cities Academy."

In addition to RJM, the project team includes Kodet Architectural Group, Dougherty Financial, Cemstone and the City of St. Paul. ◆

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If so, please send all company press releases, announcements and updates to Corinna Hastings, Executive Director and Editor, at info@mnconstruction.org

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Corinna Hastings, CAE Executive Director and Editor

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