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BLUEPRINT for Progress

FALL 2010

CONSTRUCTION NEWS & INFORMATION FROM MINGHINI'S GENERAL CONTRACTORS, INC.

IN GOD WE TRUST; IN AMERICA WE BELIEVE

Founding Fathers' Billboard on I-81



Like millions of freedom minded citizens across our great land we were becoming increasingly concerned about the path our country was following under the current national leadership. We saw folks just like us taking action all across our nation, speaking up about freedom and liberty.

A group of like-minded liberty-loving friends decided to do what many are doing across our great country – put up a billboard reminding folks that freedom and liberty are precious and need to be protected. We decided the message would be the simple, yet powerful statement by John Adams: "Liberty Once Lost, is Lost Forever" !!!

We approached a local billboard company (Leatherman Outdoor, LLC)

and were pleasantly surprised to find how cooperative they were in helping us with this project. They have helped us get our billboard up as fast as possible even though we had not yet raised the funds necessary. We explained that we wanted this message to be viewed by as many Americans as possible before the November elections.

The billboard is up. You can see it if you drive north on Interstate 81. It is on the right side of the road just past exit 20. It looks great. You cannot miss it! The billboard company tells us that our freedom message will be seen by over 64,000 persons a day !!! Together "we the people" will preserve our precious freedom and liberty for generations to come. ■

New and Completed Projects



Minghini's just completed and dedicated the new addition to South Jefferson Elementary School, in Charles Town which was constructed in the 70s. Today the student population is around 500. This new addition houses 9 new classrooms for Kindergarten and 3rd grade, a teachers' work room and a bank of student restrooms. This wing will house more than 200 students who were formerly housed in portable classrooms. Principal, Rick Jenkins commented that this is the first time that all the students will attend classes together under one roof and that he couldn't wait to see the faces of the students as they were going to their new classrooms! Also included in this project is the installation of a sprinkler system and new suspended ceilings in all corridors. A 30,000 gallon water tank had to be erected for the sprinkler system, as well.

New Projects

- Martinsburg North Middle School Classroom Addition
- Musselman High School Classroom Addition
- Berkeley 2000 Recreation Center 2010 Addition
- Southern States Charles Town Retail Facility (New Building)

In Progress

- South Jefferson Elementary School Classroom Additions
- Hampshire High School Career Training Center Addition
- Asbury United Methodist Church Renovations
- Eastern Panhandle Transit Authority Addition

EASTERN PANHANDLE CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Subcontractor



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About Sue Marks

Founded in 1996, The Design Center offers a complete line of decorating and renovation services. The company manages entire project – including developing floor plans, finding the perfect trades-person, sourcing furniture, appliances, fixtures and hardware, scheduling installations, tracking progress and providing follow up service. The company also handles wallpapering, painting and floor coverings.

States Sue, "Over the past six years I have been blessed with being able to work with Minghini's General Contractors... they are an awesome company and group of individuals. They are ethical, will do anything in their power to assist others in the best manner possible while not thinking of themselves, and they are responsive and responsible. Minghini's is the epitome of the highest standard of integrity... just a wonderful team to work with!!!"

What It Means To Be An American

By Sue Marks

Being an American stems from a very few but very essential and precious precepts. We are a nation whose foundation is built upon our compulsion for being free, our dedication to the family, our faith in God, the tradition in and of itself of being American, and, lastly, upholding the principals of our Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Volumes have been written on each of the above items. And, I know there would be those who might argue against some of these precepts. However, those people are the ones that in their own hearts and minds, as Eisenhower put it, "... value their privileges above their principles..."!

The compulsion for being free comes from the very core of the people that have made up our nation for over two hundred years. OUR people became part of OUR nation because they made the choice to leave the limitations and restrictions of the nations where they had endured to become a part of the freest nation on earth. For Americans to continue to live and succeed and flourish as individuals, our government should allow them their constitutional freedom to succeed, or fail. The freedoms we have as a nation are not unlike those in the family structure. We have the right and the freedom to make the right choices or the wrong ones. If a family or business spends money it does not have, it will bankrupt itself. If a family, through its freedoms, chooses not to protect its members, the family (or business) will cease to exist. And so it is in the America that has lasted these two hundred and some years. ■

Look for articles from Maggie Witherbee and Hoy Shingleton in the next issue.

Supplier Commentary

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What does it mean to be an American?

We rise in the early morning, gather ourselves together for another work day or day of pleasure. After we eat our breakfast, drink our coffee/tea, read the newspaper and off we go. We enter our work place, turn on the lights, make another pot of coffee, read our e-mails and prepare for the day, but what have we forgotten? The one thing we all need to do; thank God for our day, health, family, friends, employees and, yes, our Country we live in. We, as Americans, take too much for granted and place too much dependence in our elected officials. Our Constitution gives us rights and freedoms to express our feelings by pen or voice at the right time. However, these rights are being challenged by the politicians and the people who take our American freedoms for granted. Next to my God and family, being an American and living in this great country is more than any one could ever ask for. The right to own and run my own business, worship as we please, and try to make our lives better for our children is a true American dream.

Working with Minghini's Construction (Craig Collis) is one of the freedoms I enjoy. He and Bernice are two of the most down to earth, honest, and caring people I have found in today's business world. Both are easy to talk to, gather information from, and deal with on a day to day basis. Their faith and honest approach in business will serve our community for years to come. ■

- A True American

Editor's Insights

By Berniece Collis



Berniece Collis
Vice President

Strategic Vision in Uncertain Times

I truly believe that America is the greatest country in the world and that West Virginians are amongst the most patriotic people in the Country. Our belief in American values is embodied in the high level of military service and community activism of our local population. But it is also manifested by the strong work ethic and sense of fairness we see on the job site daily. Especially in difficult times, such as 9/11 and the recent global economic meltdown, we see the resiliency and courage of everyday Americans.

What does it mean to be a patriotic American?

Here are some things I believe are important for all Americans to embrace:

- Support the values of America
- Be informed and vote
- Volunteer in the community
- Protect our civil liberties and religious freedom
- Support Free Enterprise
- Build a Sustainable Future
- Eliminate dependence on the Middle East
- Be willing to die for something
- Show compassion and consideration to all

These are the values that make our Country great. ■



Glenda and Berniece attend the Martinsburg/Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce's Administrative Assistant's Luncheon last May. (photo sent)

Community Service



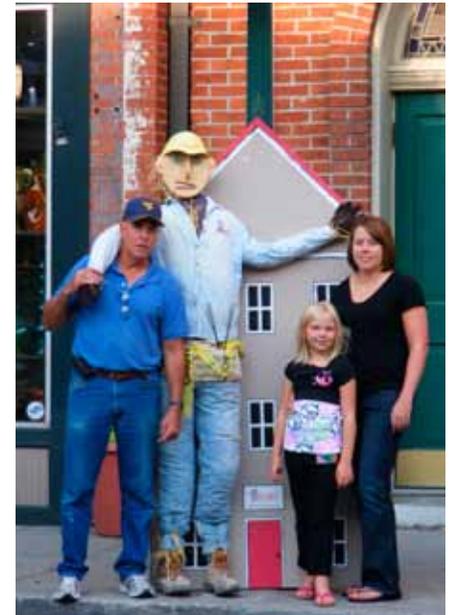
CHP Putt Putt for Panhandle Home Health

The ladies in this photo participated in CHP's putting tournament to benefit Panhandle Home Health. The participants included Laura Hall, Pat Henriques, Kyrsten Gossard and Lauren Epperly.



Boys and Girls Club Golf Tournament

Minghini's team in the golf tournament held October 1st at the Cress Creek Country Club included (from L to R) Jacob Collis, Morgan Collis, Corey Jackson, and Terry Jackson. The event raised money for after-school and summer programs for the youth.



Scarecrows Arrive in Town

This fall Minghini's has been displaying a scarecrow in downtown Martinsburg as part of a Main Street Martinsburg promotion. Dave Shroades, Jacob's father-in-law, and Tia Collis created the scarecrow. Shown from L to R are Dave, Allie Shroades and Tia.

Staff News



In August, Craig and Berniece's son Jacob joined the Minghini's team marking the third generation to operate the company. Prior to joining Minghini's as Project Manager, Jacob worked as a Project Engineer in a large commercial construction company in the DC Metro Area. Over the past five years he helped manage a variety of projects, including several apartment buildings, an assisted living facility, and a precast parking garage – to mention a few.

Jacob graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Pennsylvania College of Technology

in Williamsport, PA with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Construction Management. Subsequently, he obtained his LEED Certification in 2009.

States Jacob, "Throughout my life I have always admired my father and his success, which led me to a career in the Construction Industry. Now that I am a part of the family business, I plan to continue following in my father's footsteps-- just as he followed his father—and carry Minghini's into the next generation."

In his free time, Jacob enjoys working on the family farm, hunting, golfing and taking vacations to Myrtle Beach with his wife, Tia, of two years. ■

Congratulating Our First Retiree: Luther "Pat" Murphy

Luther "Pat" Murphy has retired at the age of 80 after working for Minghini's General Contractors (and its predecessor



company S.L. Minghini's and Sons) since 1949. A 63-year career is quite the accomplishment. Moreover, Pat is the first employee to retire since Craig and Berniece assumed ownership of the company in 1988. For more on Pat, see our website at www.minghinis.com. ■

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