

## Community Service

### Adopt a Family

Friends in Action of the Eastern Panhandle recently extended a thank you to all of the contributors who are making their fight against poverty in the Eastern Panhandle possible. On Feb. 6 Minghini's General Contractors received an Adopt a Family Award in recognition of their contributions, which funded an entire 12 month mentoring period for a local low-income family. Executive Director of Friends in Action, Teresa Warnick, met with Berniece D. Collis to present the award and to express her thanks on behalf of the staff, board, and all Friends in Action supporters for their generosity throughout 2008. Collis and Warnick also discussed the positive, long-term outcome that was seen following their donation to the community. Friends in Action is a newly emerging non-profit that

has been fighting poverty in Jefferson and Berkeley counties using the power of friendship to bring about positive and permanent change in the lives of low-income families. Since its incorporation, FIAEP has managed to create a local network of volunteers from all faiths and ethnic backgrounds whose common interest is to provide caring outreach to families in need. They have also collected a comprehensive database of services and helping organizations that allows them to serve as a referral source for families in crisis. For photograph see: <http://www.journal-news.net/page/content.detail/id/515776.html> ■



John Abbruzzese, CEO  
Mike Abbruzzese, President  
Joanna Abbruzzese, CFO  
Potomac Construction Industries  
Martinsburg 304/263-3327  
[www.pci.potomac.com](http://www.pci.potomac.com)

## Supplier Profile

Potomac Construction Industries Inc. is a family-owned and operated company that has provided ready-mix concrete and asphalt for many of the key infrastructure projects across the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia and Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. Founded in 1938, PCI's concrete plants are state-approved and operate automated, computerized batching systems. The company employs 40 full time employees and operates a WV State Certified materials testing laboratory staffed with technicians having more than 10 years of service at its Kelly Island Road site. PCI plants are WVDOT, MDOT and VDOT certified (NRMCA & CCRL). PCI like many other subcontractors used by Minghini's is an avid supporter of community causes, including Big Brothers and Big Sisters of the Panhandle, United Way, the Gateway Foundation, Hospice, CASA and many more. States company president, Mike Abbruzzese, "It's really nice working with a local general contractor who is so easy to work with." ■

## Staff News

*Craig Collis has now given 125 pints of blood to the American Red Cross in his personal crusade to make life available to those in need.*

*Minghini's has built a new house for newly weds Jacob and Tia on the Collis farm in Shepherdstown.*



## Community Profile

Jan Callen, Executive Director  
United Way Agencies of the Eastern Panhandle  
[www.uwayep.org](http://www.uwayep.org), 218 King Street, Martinsburg  
304/263-0603

Last year the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle distributed \$1,392,037 to local causes, including 50 partner agencies. Another \$100,000 was distributed to other community groups. However, the campaign giving was down \$200,000 over the previous year's contributions and Jan Callen anticipates that 2009 will be even lower due to the recession. In that employee donations are the bread-and-butter of the campaign, he is hopeful that more employees will give to help the truly needy through payroll deductions or other payment methods. Even a piggy bank on a dresser will help.

The non-profit has a vision of building STRONG FAMILIES, nurturing THRIVING CHILDREN, and supporting INDEPENDENT SENIORS by focusing on the building blocks of a better life: HEALTH, EDUCATION, and INCOME.

Here are a few of the agencies that receive United Way support.

- American Red Cross E.P. Chapter
- Arts Center (Boarman Arts Center)
- Berkeley Senior Services
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of the E.P.
- Birthright of Charles Town
- Boys & Girls Club of the E.P. Inc.

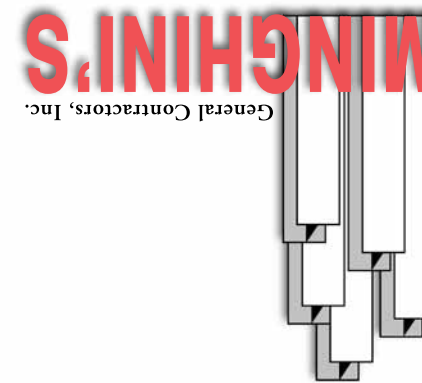
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Minghini's Golf Team placed 1st in the ABC Annual Golf Outing. This outing benefits the Barr Construction Institute, a non-profit trust set up to train individuals for the construction industry. Pictured: Terry Jackson, Corey Jackson, Justin Jackson, Morgan Collis, Joan Warner, President of ABC and Jim Rock of GRC, Chairman of the Board.

- CASA of the E.P. Inc.
- Boy Scouts of America Shenandoah Area Council
- C- CAP Loaves & Fishers
- Community Networks
- E.P. Free Clinic
- E.P. Information & Referral Center
- Friends in Action of the E.P.
- Girl Scouts of Shawnee Council Inc.
- Good Shepherd Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers
- Habitat for Humanity
- Humane Societies
- Meals on Wheels
- Salvation Army

**Please Get Involved ... help with your time and/or funding.**



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# BLUEPRINT for Progress

*Give Life!*

SUMMER 2009

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

## CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY AND FAMILY OWNED BUSINESSES

This issue of "Blueprint" examines how the Eastern Panhandle's social service safety net is holding up under the extra weight of increased unemployment and economic challenges to the private sector. Corporations and the communities in which they exist are not separate entities. Rather they are interconnected and interdependent ... essentially the warp and weave of the community cloth. Therefore,

the success and fate of one has a direct bearing on the other. Astute business owners realize this early in their careers and just naturally do as much as they can to make their social context as good as it can be. This is especially true of family owned businesses that have deep roots in their communities and human branches that extend across all social segments. As one will see from the profiles in this issue,

local business owners often adopt a cause or an agency and it becomes, in effect, another important project that they give their time and money to on a consistent basis. Their "pet" community project(s) benefits from the know how, dedication and resources of the business as well as its influence on other community leaders, customers, associates and employees. Giving to the community is a win-win for all concerned. ■



## New Projects

- Loy Cultural Center (sprinklers and roof), Romney
- Jefferson County Emergency Services (new construction), Ranson
- Shenandoah Village Apartments (renovations), Martinsburg
- Eagle School Intermediate (addition), Martinsburg
- Martinsburg Correctional Centre (addition), Martinsburg
- James Rumsey Technical Institute (HVAC/renovations), Martinsburg



Jefferson County Emergency Services groundbreaking in Ranson.

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Dusky Chilcote,  
Regional Sales Manager  
Kegerreis Outdoor  
Advertising  
Chambersburg, PA  
717/ 658-4760

## Supplier Profile

Dusky, a dynamic and value-oriented individual, joined Kegerreis 4-1/2 years ago. The 30 year old company started by three brothers painting signs now serves three states and 15 counties' needs for outdoor advertising. It has over 730 panels and two digital billboards on display.

Kegerreis understands that nonprofit organizations have needs for awareness as well but often don't have the budget. Consequently, if the company has billboard space available, it will give it to a nonprofit agency (the agency pays only the out of pocket costs to Kegerreis for the artwork).

States Dusky, "We like to be involved with the communities we serve as much as we can. Berniece and Craig have a company that reaches out to the community, their partners and the Industry. Berniece has such a positive vision about the future. I enjoy working with her so much. Our company mindsets parallel one another."

One local organization helped recently by Kegerreis is the Mission of Mercy Free Dental Clinic (in Hedgesville) which provided last year 1,153 free dental services and treatments to people from throughout the region. ■

## Professional Associate

With more than 30 years of professional architecture experience between the husband and wife architecture team of Matthew Grove & Lisa Dall'Olio, the company offers full services in the areas of new construction, renovation, restoration and adaptive reuse projects. Grove & Dall'Olio is dedicated to serving its clients' needs through the development of designs which are appropriate in size, scale and style. Included in its service profile are all phases of program analysis, budget preparation, architectural design and drafting, specifications writing, contractor bidding negotiation, construction supervision and public relations. Additionally, the firm is a certified WBE (woman-owned business enterprise) and is also LEEDs-accredited.

Grove and Dall'Olio have worked with Minghini's on the award-winning CapertonTrain Station Renovation in downtown Martinsburg, and are currently collaborating on the Loy Cultural Center in Romney.

The architects' public service initiatives are many and varied including supporting United Way and having served on the City of Martinsburg Planning Commission, Historic Review Commission, and (currently) Board of Zoning Appeals. Within the arts they have served on the Board of the Boardman Art Center, and on the WV History and Archives Commission.

States Lisa, "We volunteer so much in the community because there is a tendency for people to be critical but passive. We choose to be active in working for positive change."

In many ways we are similar to Minghini's. We're both husband and wife operated outfits and each of us are knowledgeable about the detailed aspects of the projects we work on. We enjoy the close communication and understanding we have established over the years with Minghini's."

The Dall'Olio and Grove team have two children, Taylor and Olivia, and they live at Broomgrass Organic Farm Community, a green (eco-friendly) subdivision in Back Creek Valley that they have developed. See [www.broomgrass.com](http://www.broomgrass.com). ■

## Client Profile



Scott, Stan & Steve Roach,  
the third generation to  
manage Roach Energy.

R.M. Roach & Sons, Inc.  
[www.roachenergy.com](http://www.roachenergy.com)  
Martinsburg 304-263-3329

Roach Energy supplies the Eastern Panhandle and Washington County, MD with propane, heating oil and air conditioning products and services. It also owns and operates 16 Roach Oil Company "ROC" gas stations and convenience stores. The family owned business R.M. Roach & Sons was founded in 1952 by R.M. Roach, Doug's father. The company has been continued by Doug and Joan and their three sons, Scott, Stan Corwin-Roach, and Steve Roach. The corporation employs approximately 130 full time and 50 part time employees in its various operations.

This business family is the very epitome of corporate social responsibility. As a family and a business they have been supportive of many essential community organizations. Doug has served on the area Boy Scouts Council for a number of years. He also was among the founding members and the first President of the first Board of Directors of the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation. Joan was among the founders and has held every possible position at the Congregational Community Action Program (C-CAP), a Christian social services agency that provides referral services, emergency financial aid, budget counseling and food to the needy. At 78 years old she continues to work there and actively support it. Additionally, Joan was instrumental in getting Berkeley County's Meals on Wheels program started and has volunteered consistently for the Red Cross.

Currently, Scott serves on the Berkeley County Recreation Board; Steve serves on Young Life of the Eastern Panhandle; and Stan serves on the Board of the Boys and Girls Clubs of the Eastern Panhandle. In addition to board leadership, Roach Energy provides financial support to these community organizations. Roach Energy's customers and employees have enabled it to be among the biggest supporters of the March of Dimes for the past several years. Moreover, various members of the family have volunteered labor and financial support to a great variety of organizations working to improve the lives of youth, the marginalized and others in unfortunate situations. Included are Loaves and Fishes, Habitat for Humanity, and local sports teams and leagues. To this calling, Doug has served on the Board of United Way for a number of terms.

Notes Stan, "We (The Roach family) have a strong sense of "We're all in this together" , all of us, not just those who look like we do or take home a check about the size of ours, or have the same beliefs as we do. It's called Community, all of us together working to make life better for "the least of us" and all of us, as sometimes an unintended result. In these hard times we feel it is especially important for those who are fortunate to dig a little deeper to keep worthy programs running in a time of greater need. This will help insure a better future for our community, both locally and worldwide."

Having built a number of ROC gas stations and convenience stores, Minghini's has been Roach Energy's builder for 15 years. The two companies share a high level of mutual respect. Observes Stan, "We have had a good working relationship with Minghini's and hope to maintain that for a long time." ■



Lisa Dall'Olio, Architect  
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complete, and answers are protected by law and strictly confidential.

"The participation of community leaders, organizations and local governments can help make the 2010 Census the most accurate census in our nation's history," said Arnold A. Jackson, Associate Director for Decennial Census.

More than 11,000 state, local and tribal governments have registered for the Local Update of Census Addresses (LUCA) program to update the Census Bureau's address information for their communities. Communities also can begin planning

for Complete Count Committees, a team of local government, business and community leaders, who are appointed by a governor for a statewide committee or by a community's highest-elected official for a local committee.

Members of the committees work to make sure their communities are counted. During Census 2000, more than 11,800 Complete Count Committees were formed to help develop and implement locally based outreach and recruitment campaigns.

"The 2010 Census is the consummate partnership between local, state, tribal and federal government," said Keith Hite, president of the National Association of Towns and Townships and executive director of the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors.

Preparing early for the 2010 Census is a great way for local leaders to learn the makeup of their communities and what they need from local government. Reasons for residents to be aware of the upcoming census and the need to participate are:

- The federal government uses census numbers to allocate more than \$300 billion in federal funds annually for community programs and services, such as education, housing and community development, health care services for the elderly, job training and more.
- State, local and tribal governments use census information for planning and allocating funds for new school construction, libraries and other public buildings, highway safety and public transportation systems, new roads and bridges, location of police and fire departments, and many other projects.

## Editor's Insights

By Berniece Collis



Berniece Collis  
Vice President

It's said you don't know who your friends are until you really need them. The same is true of companies that give back to their communities. In tough economic times, these companies – small and large – somehow continue to remain true to their values and give of their time and resources to help worthwhile organizations and individuals in need.

Although the Eastern Panhandle is comparatively healthy compared to other parts of the State of West

## Passing it Around

Virginia, we too have experienced a downturn in construction opportunities. Many companies have had to lay off employees and hold off on expansion plans.

With the United Way facing a tough 2009 campaign year, after losing 15% of its support in 2008, each business can help by encouraging giving among its employees. If more people give, then we can spread the load among many and it won't weigh down the companies struggling themselves from this crisis. Just the amount a person spends on a cup of coffee or a soft drink a day can add up to a significant amount in a year. And it feels so good to know you are making life better for others.

It's pretty evident from reading the profiles of the people and organizations presented in this newsletter that many of our businesses are incredibly astute when it comes to caring about the community. They know that giving is not about building a brand or polishing a public image, but about who we are inside. It's about being

able to walk down the street and feel connected and responsible for what we see around us.

We at Minghini's are committed to continuing our support of important causes, such as the Shawnee Girl Scouts Council, United Way, the American Red Cross Blood Drive and Adopt-a-Family. If you are considering a financial gift to the United Way, please be aware that if you want it to support a specific agency, you must designate your funds to that agency, as I do for the Girl Scouts.

I know in writing about social responsibility, I'm singing to the choir because of all the wonderful community work and amazing generosity of the clients, subcontractors, suppliers, associates and employees with whom we work. I want you to know how much we appreciate all that you do, and hope you will weather these times in stride and continue to play an important role in the community and in the Construction Industry of the Quad-State Area. ■



By Elizabeth Guthrie  
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2010 Census  
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## Countdown to 2010 Census

The countdown to the 2010 Census has begun, and the U.S. Census Bureau is looking to national, tribal, state and local officials and community leaders to ensure an accurate count.

With Census Day in less than a year — April 1, 2010 — the Census Bureau has launched a critical national effort that affects the apportionment of congressional seats, and how the federal government annually allocates \$300

billion in federal assistance to state, local and tribal governments.

The 2010 Census will have one of the shortest census questionnaires in the history of the United States, dating back to the nation's first census in 1790. The 2010 Census will ask for name, gender, age, race, ethnicity, relationship and whether the householder owns or rents their home. The census form will take only about 10 minutes on average to

In local communities, the Census helps to determine State and Federal contributions for social programs and infrastructure projects, so it is a critical tool in funds allocation.

For information about forming a Complete Count Committee, contact the Detroit Regional Office at <http://www.census.gov/Detroit>.

More information about the 2010 Census can be found at <http://www.census.gov/2010census>. ■