



Nature Delivers Infrastructure Lessons

DARIN RATHBUN, PE, PRINCIPAL

Many residents in towns and villages throughout the northeast spent a large part of this summer cleaning up after catastrophic floods. As consultants for municipalities, we immediately reached out to water system operators and highway managers to offer assistance. The responses have been courageous, but the reality of so much infrastructure being overwhelmed is challenging to say the least.

Our Towanda, PA, offices were among those inundated by the floodwaters from Hurricane Lee in September. We've moved back in, thanks to the vigorous efforts of The Progress Authority. Our staff has been busy assisting code officials as they inspect damaged buildings. At the same time as we are getting ourselves back in our offices, we stand ready to assist our clients in looking after their assets.

As we continue the work of inspecting and repairing roads, bridges, and structures, it is useful to note that assistance is available, both in terms of professional engineering consulting, and also funding for inspection and repairs. We are familiar with FEMA funding streams, and how to put relief money to work repairing or replacing damaged infrastructure.

It is notable that founder Bob Hunt began the initial expansion of this company following Hurricane Agnes in 1972, when water systems throughout the Susquehanna River Basin were damaged. The profession of engineering sometimes involves more remedial work than we would prefer to do in a perfect world. The reality is that we live in an unpredictable environment. Events like recent flooding remind us of our responsibility to learn from what occurred, then to use that knowledge to ensure that our infrastructure is ever more safe and durable as we move ahead.

Darin L Rathbun

Corning Park Honors Veterans

A group of area veterans convened in Corning, NY, for the dedication of the renovated Veterans Memorial Park. A November 11 ceremony commemorated the completion of the design additions to the Civil War Monument site along Park Avenue.

HUNT completed the site plan and electrical design for the memorial. Site designer **Tim Insinger** and electrical designer **Franc Gomez** worked with **Don Creath**, a Korean War veteran and coordinator of the project. Renovations to the memorial included spotlights on the U.S. flag and the monument, a commemorative apron at the base of the flagpole, electric service, and landscaping. "The HUNT team working with us did a yeoman's job all the way around," said Creath.

"The existing features of the site led to the concept of the folded flag for the Memorial Park," said Tim. "The committee embraced the concept, and everyone brought lots of enthusiasm. This project was exceptionally rewarding in that it was all-volunteer. Everyone donated their time—the planning committee, designers, and the crew that did the work. Everyone had expressed a lot of pride and devoted a lot of effort on a project we are all proud of."

The Corning Rotary Club this past year led a project that created a handicap walkway apron around the monument. Custom-engraved bricks installed at the base of the flagpole helped support the costs of the project.



Landscape architect Tim Insinger (center) and electrical designer Franc Gomez (left) join project volunteer Don Creath at the Veterans Memorial in Corning, NY.



Road Use Agreements Protect Municipalities as Well as Developers

When developers begin activity in a community, whether it's wind turbines, gas wells, or new industrial operations, the effects on infrastructure are predictable.

New and expanded buildings need utilities, parking, and access roads. Wind farms need access roads, often in remote areas as dictated by their very nature. Gas wells need access roads to bring in the rigging equipment, lubricants and fluids, and piping in large quantities. All these activities can take a toll on road surfaces and bridges.

"When considering what kind of wear-and-tear road surfaces and bridges will take during development, it helps to remember why we build roads and bridges in the first



Murl Sebring, PE, describes road use agreements as instruments that protect the interests of municipalities and developers alike.

place," said **Murl Sebring, PE**, HUNT transportation engineering consultant. "Increased development is an indicator of a community's growing prosperity, with increased use of roads and other infrastructure as a natural consequence. The trick is to prepare for what you can predict."

HUNT's services to municipalities include crafting road use agreements, or RUAs, that can be used for a wide range of development.

The Town of Wayne, NY, was experiencing infrastructure damage from heavy equipment associated with the modular housing industry on a narrow road with steep embankments along Keuka Lake. Murl and HUNT project coordinator **Tom Johnson** met with town officials in 2010 to produce an RUA that would be applicable for any development.

"This involved the town council, the planning and zoning boards, town supervisor, town attorney, town highway superintendent, and code enforcement officer," said Murl. "The basic premise was to tie the process to the land use regulations in the town at the outset of development."

In the Town of Prattsburgh, NY, the development of a wind farm brought new issues to the municipality's docket. Tom, who often consults with towns and villages about road use and maintenance, worked closely with the town to craft a road use agreement.

"When considering what kind of wear-and-tear road surfaces and bridges will take during development, it helps to remember why we build roads and bridges in the first place."

"The road use agreement served the municipality as well as the developer, because there was a clear understanding up front about what kind of wear-and-tear was likely to occur, and how the town and developer would work together to restore the infrastructure to its original condition," Tom said. "In this case, parts of the wind farm were on land where there were no access roads to begin with, so the town increased its capital assets in the process."

"The road use agreement worked well," Tom continued. "The wind farm is up and running, the roads are in good shape, and there's a plan in place to maintain them."

Five Questions about RUAs

A road use agreement (RUA) can be a valuable document for both the municipality and the developer. The following five questions can help you determine if your municipality is prepared for development that may occur in your community:

- 1.) Does your municipality have a road use agreement in effect?
- 2.) Is your road use agreement usable for any type of development?
- 3.) Do your municipality's land use regulations specify to developers the process for accessing and using local roads?
- 4.) Does your municipality have a highway work permit process that specifies the process for development to occur along your municipal roads?
- 5.) Do the various entities responsible for land use in your municipality coordinate with the highway superintendent when a proposed development may impact the local road network?

If the answer to these questions is "no" it indicates that it is time to put a road use agreement in place. The consultants at HUNT are ready to assist you in crafting an RUA that protects your community's infrastructure while preparing for future development.

Continued on page 6

Tim Steed Named New Director of Site/Civil Engineering Group

HUNT is pleased to announce that Timothy Steed, PE, has been promoted to director of the site/civil engineering group.

Tim joined HUNT in April of 1999 as a civil engineer working in water, wastewater, and drainage. He graduated from Syracuse University with a bachelor's degree in environmental engineering, and a master's degree in engineering management.

Licensed in 2003, Steed is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the Finger Lakes Water Works Conference.

At HUNT, Tim is responsible for municipal water system computer modeling, pumping system design, water and wastewater treatment facility design, water distribution design, sanitary sewer collection system design, and site development design.

Tim became a principal in the firm in 2008. Tim is a native of Pine City, NY, where he and his wife, Michelle, and their four children now live.



Tim Steed, PE

HUNT Welcomes Three New Members to the Professional Staff

HUNT welcomes the following new people to our staff:

Marc Maser, PE, joins HUNT as a project engineer in the civil engineering department. Marc is a 2006 graduate of SUNY at Buffalo where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering Degree.

Marc has experience in civil engineering, including construction inspection, project management, and design of infrastructure projects including stormwater, wastewater and sanitary sewer systems for municipal, commercial, industrial, and educational facilities. Marc lives in Corning, NY with his wife, Stacey.



Marc Maser, PE

building and facility types, including laboratories, hospitals, and manufacturing facilities. Chris lives in Horseheads, NY.

Jeff Everett is an M/E/P engineering professional with more than 21 years of experience working as a designer. After earning his associate's degree in applied science at Corning Community College, Jeff began his career as an architectural designer and plumbing designer. After several years he shifted his focus to electrical design work and has excelled in that specialty ever since. Jeff has gained extensive experience working on numerous projects in various roles from electrical designer to lead electrical engineer.

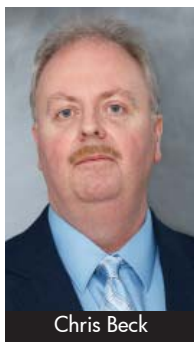
Recently, Jeff has successfully engineered and coordinated multiple large educational projects from the schematic design phase through construction. Jeff lives in Watkins Glen, NY.



Jeff Everett

Chris Beck brings a wide range of skills and experience to HUNT's M/E/P engineering team. Chris earned his Bachelor of Science

Degree in Mechanical Engineering from SUNY at Buffalo.



Chris Beck

He is a specialist in HVAC, plumbing, piping systems, and equipment for industrial, commercial, educational, and institutional buildings. Chris's experience includes M/E/P system design and layout for chilled water systems, boiler plants, and HVAC control systems for a wide range of

Be Sure to Visit the New HUNT Web Site

The redesigned HUNT website went live recently, with new features and more interactive capabilities. There is an expanded portfolio section, and an enhanced link page with websites that are relevant to the architectural, engineering, and survey professions.

Check us out on line at www.hunt-eas.com. And please feel free to use the contact feature to send us your thoughts and suggestions.

If you have the requisite app on your phone, you can scan the icon to load the website link directly to your portable device.



Engineers Present Schuyler County Bridge Project at Annual Conference

Two professional engineers at HUNT, **Chris Bond, PE** and **Cristina Brush, PE**, were invited to make a presentation on the Van Zandt Hollow Bridge over Glen Creek at the 17th Annual Statewide Conference on Local Bridges. The conference is sponsored by the Cornell Local Roads Program in collaboration with NYSDOT's Structures Division, and is intended to provide a forum about bridge issues for local governments.



The Van Zandt Hollow Bridge across Glen Creek.



Chris Bond, PE, and Cristina Brush, PE were co-presenters at the recent Local Bridge Conference hosted by the Cornell Local Roads Program.

The Van Zandt Hollow Bridge over Glen Creek in the Town of Dix, Schuyler County, NY, was replaced due to cracked and deflected longitudinal deck boards. The existing six-span timber bridge was built in 1977. The new bridge is a single-span prestressed concrete adjacent box-beam bridge on spread abutments founded on rock. The single-span replacement bridge improves the hydraulics at the site and decreases debris accumulation.

The project involved cold-weather concreting, which allowed the project to be successfully completed during the winter months.

County Consolidation Plan Earns Planning Association Recognition

Consolidation of services is an increasingly popular cost-cutting strategy being investigated by municipalities across the state. When Chemung County, NY, chose to study their options for consolidation, they turned to a team of experts, including the Laberge Group from Albany, HUNT and the University of Buffalo's Regional Institute.

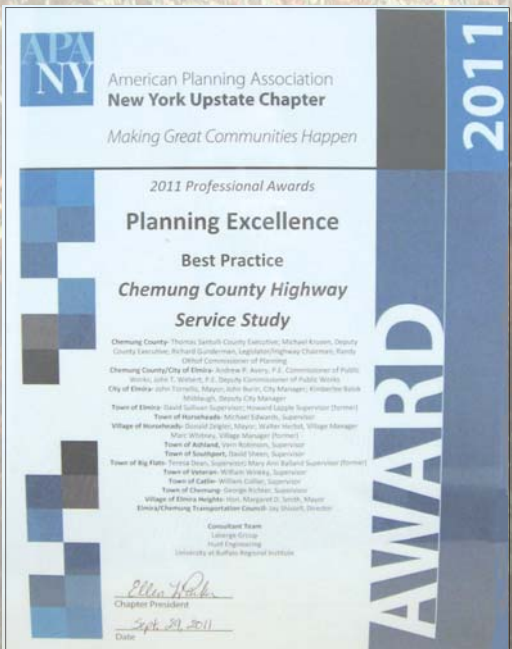
According to HUNT consultant **Murl Sebring, PE**, who represented HUNT on the team, the primary objective of the study was to identify potential areas of cost savings and efficiencies while increasing the quality of common highway services and activities for all municipalities. The plan was developed in partnership with Chemung County and a dozen municipalities.

"My role was to provide recommendations related to operations and equipment opportunities and savings," Murl said. "The study addressed urban/rural separations of responsibilities; consolidation of special services for bridges, culverts, signs, equipment repairs, and engineering; and consolidation services for pavement, drainage, mowing and snowplowing, and emergency response."

"Working with HUNT was like working with our own staff."

The study received a "Planning Excellence Award for Best Practice" from the Upstate New York Chapter of the American Planning Association. The award recognizes a specific planning tool, practice, program, project, or process that is a significant advancement to specific elements of planning.

Andrew Avery, PE, Chemung County Public Works Commissioner summed up HUNT's efforts this way: "HUNT's in-depth knowledge of the County and City of Elmira's DPW facilities, and their background working with Towns and Villages in Chemung County, helped to make this project a success," Andrew said. "Working with HUNT was like working with our own staff."



Groundbreaking Marks Start of Senior Housing Project

A 15-acre parcel of land in the Town of Erwin, NY, will soon be the site of a new 107-unit senior housing complex. HUNT engineer **Ben Gustafson, PE**, joined the ceremony at the Creekside Drive location, shovel in hand, marking the commencement of this project,



Engineer Ben Gustafson, PE, (fifth from right) joins municipal officials and developers at the groundbreaking ceremony for a new 107-unit senior housing complex in Erwin.

which will be called the Colonial Square Senior Village.

Colonial Square will feature 72 two-bedroom apartments and 35 one-bedroom apartments, with rents ranging from \$775 to \$975 per month, inclusive. All units will have central air conditioning and private patios. Other amenities will include a lounge and library with fireplace, a community room and an exercise room with workout machines.

HUNT completed the site design and agency approvals for the project. Construction is expected to be completed in the fall of 2012.

The site presented a challenge for the engineers at HUNT because there is a fairly major stream crossing the property. "We designed a very robust culvert for the stream to maximize storm water control," Ben said. "HUNT came to this project with extensive topographical and hydrological data on the site. The developers and the Town are confident they have an excellent project that fills a growing need for senior housing in the area."

Employee Spotlight

Avid Hiker Eric Stender Tackles the Appalachian Trail

The phrase, "take a hike" means different things to different people. To HUNT architectural designer **Eric Stender**, it's an invitation to do one of his favorite things.

"My hiking hobby began with a group of us friends taking day hikes," Eric said. "We started hiking longer and in more remote places, and now we take at least one long trek each year, which we've been doing for the past three years"

This season, Eric and his friends completed the eastern Vermont portion of the Appalachian Trail. The Appalachian Trail is a 2,175-mile-long public footpath from Maine's Mount Katahdin to Georgia's Springer Mountain, winding through 14 of the eastern states. The Vermont – New Hampshire Upland Section covers a distance of 96 miles from west-central New Hampshire to eastern Vermont. Elevation along this trail ranges from 600 to 3,000 feet.

Also this past summer, Eric added four more summits to his list, completing some other hikes



Eric Stender (right) with his hiking companions, Adam Ruckdeschel and Liz Dunne, on the summit of Armstrong Mountain in the Adirondacks.

in the Adirondacks High Peaks area, summiting Gothsic Mountain (4,736 feet), Armstrong Mountain (4,400 feet), and Upper (4,185 feet) and Lower Wolfjaw (4,175 feet) Mountains.

Eric enjoys keeping up with the technology of hiking. "Hiking gear is constantly improving," he said. "Someone is always coming up with lighter tents and sleeping bags, or better water purifiers—not to mention how portable GPS has changed navigation and mapping. Half the fun is keeping up with the latest stuff."

To stay in shape, Eric hikes locally near his home in Rochester, including Mendon Ponds Park and Letchworth Park, and sometimes travels south to the Finger Lakes Trail. "And in a pinch," he said, "if I'm really short of time I'll resort to working out at the gym to stay in shape for the next hike."



published by Hunt Engineers,
Architects & Land Surveyors, P.C.

Airport Corporate Park, 100 Hunt Center, Horseheads, NY 14845-1019
phone (607) 358-1000

4 Commercial Street, Suite 300, Rochester, NY 14614-1008
phone (585) 327-7950

1 Elizabeth Street, Suite 12, Towanda, PA 18848
phone (570) 265-4868

Website: hunt-eas.com, E-mail: info@hunt-eas.com

Road Use Agreements

Continued from page 2

What's more, the same road use agreement is in place for any subsequent development that might take place in the town.

Tom points out that the main purpose for an RUA is protecting the municipality's infrastructure, and, therefore, the taxpayers, from unforeseen expenses due to the increased use, both now and in the future.



Tom Johnson, HUNT project coordinator

"HUNT is now working with the Town of Prattsburgh to craft a model road use agreement that will work for any subsequent development that might take place in the town," Tom continued.

"Responsible development is key to our region's future growth, and we should do whatever we can to support those who are investing in our communities," Tom concluded. "There's nothing like a clear understanding, documented in writing, to maintain good relations with developers and the communities they work in."



The Town of Cohocton crafted a road use agreement in advance of development on a wind farm in the Village of Prattsburgh.

Would You Prefer to Receive an Electronic version of *Hunt News*?

If you would like to receive the *Hunt News* electronically, please let us know by e-mailing us at: info@hunt-eas.com. Just write "Hunt News" in the subject line, and tell us how you would prefer to receive our quarterly newsletter.

We would be happy to continue mailing you a printed copy, too. Please let us know if you would like us to send you the electronic version only. If you would like an electronic copy and also continue to receive an issue in the mail, we are happy to oblige.

Back issues are also available at the "Publications" feature on our website: www.hunt-eas.com.



HUNT Congratulates Two New Appointees

Two of HUNT's clients have been tapped to assume leadership roles in their respective professional organizations.

Mary Beth Fiore, Superintendent of the Elmira Heights Central School District, has been named Vice President of the New York State Council for School Superintendents (NYSCOSS).

NYSCOSS is a professional and advocacy organization that provides its more than 800 members with numerous professional development opportunities, publications and personal services, while advocating for public education and the superintendency.

Brian Bentley, Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds at the Greater Southern Tier BOCES, was named New York State Superintendents of Buildings and Grounds Association (NYSBGA) President.

The NYSBGA serves as a voice for more than 600 directors of school facilities, facility managers, head custodians, health and safety coordinators, and other key school facilities personnel. The association provides members with professional development opportunities, legal advice, facilities resources, education, and training.

The staff at HUNT offers our sincere congratulations to Mary Beth and Brian for their outstanding leadership of their respective professions.

Yanuzzi Drive Opens with Enhanced Access to Industrial Facilities

Members of HUNT's engineering group joined with government officials, Leprino Foods, The Central Bradford Progress Authority, and contractors to cut the ribbon on the newly renovated Yanuzzi Drive. The event marks the completion of a project that began 11 years ago.



Members of the HUNT engineering team, Darin Rathbun, PE, at the far left and Barry Dumbauld, PE, at the far right, join business owners and government officials at the Yanuzzi Drive ribbon-cutting ceremony in South Waverly.

park on the plant side of the street instead of crossing the roadway, and offers the potential for Leprino Foods to expand if the company wishes to do so in the future. It also eliminates congestion around the facility for local traffic.

The engineering and construction of the road was paid

Yanuzzi Drive, located in South Waverly, PA, is the main route to Leprino Foods from Interstate 86. The reconfigured road allows employees to

for by funding secured in 2006 through a Federal Housing and Urban Development economic initiative and the remainder was paid by Leprino Foods.

South Waverly Solicitor **Jonathan Foster** said The Progress Authority in Towanda served as the liaison between state agencies. He said **Tony Ventello** and **Lauren Hotaling** of The Progress Authority secured the grant from the federal government. Foster expressed his gratitude for assistance from New York State Senator **Tom O'Mara**, Pennsylvania State Representative **Tina Pickett**, and Pennsylvania State Senator **Gene Yaw**.



At the Yanuzzi Drive ribbon-cutting event, from left, Darin Rathbun, PE, HUNT Project Manager; Hon. Christopher Friend, PhD, representing the 137th District of the the New York State Assembly; and Barry Dumbauld, PE; HUNT Director of Transportation Engineering.

According to **Darin Rathbun, PE**, who managed HUNT's portion of the project, many entities were involved with the project. Yanuzzi Drive is in Pennsylvania near what will soon be Interstate 86. "We worked with The Progress Authority, Leprino Foods, and South Waverly Borough to bring the project within budget while still meeting requirements and milestones. The liaison work by The Progress Authority in Towanda was key to getting this done," Darin said.

HUNT completed the value engineering, project coordination, and construction inspection for the project. With the federal grant funding approaching sunset this year, the team was challenged with keeping the costs in line with a tight budget without sacrificing safety or quality.

"We had a strong team on this project," Darin said. "We were able to trim more than one-third of the costs from the original plan and still deliver a top-quality project. Efficient construction techniques employed by Dalrymple Construction of Elmira added to our savings.

"Many people share the credit for bringing this project in on schedule and within budget," Darin concluded. "With as many players as were involved, everyone had to perform well. Everyone did, and we met the challenge."



Yanuzzi Drive has been reconfigured for safer and more efficient access to and from the Leprino Foods plant in South Waverly.

HUNT Wins PSMJ Gold Award for Excellence in Business Practices

PSMJ Resources, Inc., a management consulting firm for the A/E/C (architecture/engineering/construction) industries, has named HUNT as a Gold Award Winner of its annual Circle of Excellence and Premier Award for Client Satisfaction Awards for 2011.

The 2011 PSMJ Circle of Excellence is determined by weighting each firm's ranking in the overall 2011 PSMJ A/E Financial Performance Benchmark Survey with respect to 13 individual benchmarks.

These benchmarks are indicative of performance in the various aspects of business operations, including cash flow, overhead control, business development, project performance, staff utilization, and overall profitability.

Established more than 35 years ago, PSMJ Resources, Inc. has grown to become a leading authority, publisher, and consultant on the effective management of architecture, engineering,



HUNT CFO Kim Abbott with the Gold Award plaque for excellence in business practices from PSMJ.

and construction firms. With offices in the United States as well as the United Kingdom and Australia, PSMJ offers over 150 titles in book, audio, and video format. In addition, the company publishes several monthly periodicals and delivers dozens of seminars, roundtables, conferences, webinars, and in-house training sessions every year for A/E/C professionals around the world.

PSMJ's sought-after consulting expertise covers a range of critical business areas such as strategic planning, project management, valuation, succession planning, and mergers & acquisitions.

"We work diligently to manage our business using the most efficient and effective practices," said HUNT Chief Financial Officer **Kim Abbott**.

"That's how we protect our clients' interests as well as our own. All of us at HUNT are honored to be recognized by PSMJ, who represent our peers, for our performance."

PRSR1 STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 588
BINGHAMTON, NY

Airport Corporate Park
100 Hunt Center
Horseheads, NY 14845-1019

