



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS

CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT NEWS

ISSUE #14 WINTER 2022

Jacobetti Renovation

We are off and running on the Jacobetti Renovation! The plans are finalized, and work packages are being bid. It is currently being called the Career and Engineering Technology Facility Renovation. Time will tell if that sticks. Miron Construction is the CM, and Trevor Poupore (2016) is the Project Manager. Early May will bring a steady flow of construction and demolition to our home, which is a welcomed update. We will have a few disruptions throughout the 2022.23 academic year, but by the fall 2023 semester, we should have a fantastic updated facility with better than a \$28M investment.

As part of the project scope, nearly 45,000 sf will be demolished from the south side of the building. The south end of classrooms 115, 116, 117, and 118 will be the new exterior exposure. Hospitality Management and Cosmetology will be relocated to the Northern Center to begin the fall 2022 semester. As you look at



the exterior rendering for the new south façade, the west side will have a large glassed area, and it is being called Innovation Hall on the preliminary plans. It should be about 6,000 sf of space where we will have our annual Career Fair, Hard Hat Ceremony

and various other events we host. The view from inside the new entrance should be cool. Lots of natural light will be introduced and quite a few new architectural elements will highlight the primary egress. The last rendering is an interior view that shows a newer theme for academia...informal learning spaces for small group studies. These areas should provide our current and future students lots of opportunities to work on projects (hopefully prior to the last week of classes each semester ;)

The woodshop is scheduled for some updated stationary equipment, but other than that, it will take a significant residual balance in the contingency for any additional updates to our lab areas. Our faculty team is 100% on board, because every "new construction" simulation resulted in a significant loss of square footage for our programs. As a final note for this issue regarding the renovation: hopefully our alumni are not too disappointed, but all of the industrial orange and yellow 6" wide lockers are going away...all 2,000+ of them.

We will provide regular construction updates throughout the next 18+ months!



CONGRATS TO THE GRADUATES



This semester's graduates are an exceptional group. So many strengths in a variety of areas, and each with unique goals. The first fully in-person Hard Hat Ceremony was held in the Jacobetti Commons, where students and their families were invited to attend. Luke Oberdorfer (2011) ◀ provided the keynote address for the graduates. Following the ceremony, the graduates were asked to stand receive a round of applause from all attendees to congratulate them for their years of academic dedication. We then proceeded outside for a group picture.

Noah Brown ▶ (Menominee, MI) is heading to Madison, WI to work with Associated Housewrights and will also be a Platoon Leader for his National Guard Unit. Noah is flanked by Evan and Mike at his Commissioning Ceremony. ▼



Jake Dudeck ▶ (Manhattat, IL) wrapped up his senior season as a defensive captain for NMU's football team, and will be working for the Holiday Construction Group in Clarendon, IL.



Jace Dailey ▶ (Howard City, MI) accepted an employment offer with W.W. Clyde, and will be relocating to Orem, UT.



Carrie Duerksen ◀ (Ann Arbor, MI) is moving to Colorado, and is looking forward to the opportunities that are available there.



Charlotte DeYoung ◀ (Hartland, MI) completed the A.A.S. in Building Technology and will pursuing both a Michigan Residential Builders license as well as a Real Estate license.

Jared Fox ▶ (Portland, MI) got married, completed the A.A.S. in Building Technology, and is returning to continue working toward his Bachelor of Science.



CONGRATS TO THE GRADUATES

Nathan Gryspeerd ▶ (Utica, MI) accepted employment with The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company, and is scheduled to start in their Detroit, MI office



Danny Orticelli ▶ (Marquette, MI) completed the A.A.S. in Building Technology, and will continue working for Wilbur Construction in Marquette.



John Jukkala ◀ (Baraga, MI) is staying in the area, and will continue to be an Estimator for Prime Mechanical in Marquette. Along John's path, he served our country, married Courtney and their son (Oscar) was born the day before our Hard Hat Ceremony. John is pictured with

Oscar ▶ (7 lb 10.8 oz and 19.5" long), while Courtney was getting some well-deserved rest.



Flynn Powers ◀ (Bellaire, MI) will be a Field Engineer with Barton Malow when the New Year begins.



Rob Rigoni ▶ (Kingsford, MI) will be packing up and joining Mortenson's Civil Group as a Field Engineer.



Owen Morton ◀ (Ishpeming, MI) completed the A.A.S. in Building Technology, and will continue his employment with Ryan Skytta Contracting in Marquette.

Nathan Thomas ▶ (Freeland, MI) will be a Field Engineer for Hensel Phelps out of their Greeley, CO office, and likely returning to the project where he interned in Salt Lake City, UT.



L to R Kate Havel, Carrie Duerksen, Heidi Blanck & Charlotte DeYoung celebrate graduation ▶



NEW PARTNERSHIP

NMU Partners with WALDEN Institute

Northern Michigan University's indoor agriculture and construction management programs are partnering with the True North Treks Foglia Foundation WALDEN Institute, a wilderness retreat facility built into the cliffs of Lake Superior near Au Train, where young adults with cancer can connect with nature.

Two indoor ag students recently participated in paid summer farm internships as part of the institute's Food as Medicine program. Construction management students will build a garden shed and mini greenhouse for the property by the end of the semester as a senior capstone project.

True North Treks (TNT) is a national nonprofit organization that takes groups of young adults with cancer and their caregivers on free week-long backpacking and canoeing

treks in beautiful wilderness destinations. To reach more eligible participants through "mini treks" over long weekends at a retreat facility, TNT acquired the WALDEN Institute about three years ago. It not only shares the name of the pond where American writer Henry David Thoreau built a cabin and spent two years of self-discovery in the woods; it is also an acronym that literally stands for Wakeful Awareness in Life through Discovery and Encounters in Nature.



Evan Lucas

The retreat facility promotes TNT's core value of demonstrating the positive impacts of being immersed in nature "after something as un-natural as cancer treatment." It also enables young adults to connect with peers in similar situations, and with themselves through training in mindfulness meditation and yoga.

Escanaba native David Victorson is TNT's co-founder and executive director. He also serves as associate director of the Cancer Survivorship Institute at the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center at Northwestern University. He explained WALDEN's Food as Medicine Program.



NMU faculty and students meet with WALDEN facilities lead Kile Zuidema (partially hidden). Visible from left: Evan Lucas, Donna Maki, student interns Boyke-Johnson and Weinmann, and Kolasa.

"Getting reconnected to food is an extension of getting connected to nature," Victorson said. "It is incredibly important to health and well-being. There is growing science around the benefits of whole foods both during and after cancer treatment. Our goal is to grow organic vegetables, herbs, berries and fruit trees so our guests can rediscover and appreciate where real food comes from, what it tastes like, and how to reintroduce it into their lives back home. We also tapped 101 maple trees and created our own maple syrup." Emily Weinmann and Christopher Boyke-Johnson were selected from several applicants for the 12-week summer internships. They helped to determine the sun cycle on the property and built a large configuration of raised beds to make it easier for guests to walk around and engage with the garden. The students planted seeds and already-established plants, then assisted with maintaining the beds and harvesting a variety of produce. Their hands-on work was supplemented by readings, meetings to talk through their experiences and weekly reflection questions.

"I wanted to apply for this internship as soon as I first heard about it," Weinmann said. "It sounded like a really cool opportunity to get more practice at outdoor growing, while also being able to provide organic produce for people visiting the WALDEN Institute during health and wellness retreats."

NEW PARTNERSHIP



Intern Weinmann with WALDEN's Kile Zuidema

"This internship was an amazing experience," Boyke-Johnson added. "I enjoyed it even more than I thought I would. I learned so many different things during my time there that will help me in my career as I progress forward. It made me want to strive to do good things, not only for the community, but the environment as well."

Kim Kolasa, indoor agriculture assistant professor and program coordinator, said partnering with organizations such as the WALDEN Institute to offer real-world, hands-on internships for students is a goal of the program.

"Students experiencing the problem-solving nature of designing raised beds and determining which crops to grow at the site gave them applicable experience for their studies at NMU," she added. "Understanding outdoor gardening and the function of soil will only enable the students to become better professional growers for the indoor agriculture industry."

In addition to the shed/greenhouse project, the construction management seniors are building the slab, platform and shell for a sauna and hot tub structure on the property. The Northern Michigan Constructors student organization will complete the work beyond the fall semester.



Boyke-Johnson receives guidance from Kolasa

"We are thrilled to be working with such a great community partner," said Assistant Professor Evan Lucas. "David and his team have created a tremendous organization for a wonderful cause, and we couldn't be happier to be working with them. Being able to bring several programs to the table to help them achieve some of their visions is quite rewarding, and the students have not taken this opportunity lightly. We very much look forward to growing this partnership for many years to come."

Victorson said the WALDEN Institute is committed to collaborating with regional entities. In his online search for such opportunities, he discovered that NMU offers programs in the desirable disciplines of agriculture, construction, outdoor recreation and environmental sustainability. In addition to the summer "farmterns" and the constructors who will help complete a sauna and hot tub, NMU students might also perform a sustainability assessment to identify potential areas to incorporate cleaner, greener forms of energy at WALDEN.

"Community-building is important," Victorson added. "If you look around and are curious and open-minded, there's something that organizations can do to collaborate. We've found a sweet spot with NMU. The university has been an awesome neighbor and community partner for us."

Find more information on TNT's Foglia Foundation WALDEN Institute, see <http://www.tntwaldeninstitute.org/>

FUN BUNCH REPORT

Since our last update in June, we've been able to get some work done, and had a bit of fun along the way!



During the early summer, our team hosted new Construction students and their families at Lambros Park for a couple afternoons for various beach games and chit chat. The students were going through orientation, and we thought that a beach day was a nice way to break up the overwhelming amount of information they had to absorb in three days. Plus, we were at the beach.

▲ L to R: Kate, Jim, Mike, Heidi, David, and Evan



▲ L to R: Cody Berg (2019), Steve Hunter (2012), Mike Andary, Sean McFall (2013), and Curtis Brown (2012) got together for 18 holes of golf in Iron Mountain during the summer. It was not a great golf score, but it was great fun. Cody is with Gundlach Champion, Inc., while Curtis, Sean & Steve are working for Barton Malow.



Always willing to catch up with alumni when they are visiting, ▲ Evan, Jim & Mike hung out with Wynnie Maravilla (2018), and shared some laughs before she headed out to California to begin work on her Masters degree in Urban Planning at Berkely.

Jim ► went to Milwaukee, WI in July for a triathlon, and placed high in his age group. Standing behind his bike, the heaviest component of the bike is the water bottle...it's a sweet ride.



Following the Hard Hat Ceremony in December, the team gathered to celebrate another competed semester. Starting to the left of the fire pit, ▲ Evan, Nathan Thomas (very new alum), Kate, Heidi, Mrs. Kelly Conlin, Anna Burnett (NMU Student Success Specialist) and Jim.



FUN BUNCH REPORT



We got together at the Andary home for a barbecue and zip line party before classes started in August. The team had a nice night. ▼▼ David Lucas broke the velocity record for fastest four-year old on the zip line...likely a record that will never be broken. ▼ Evan raced Avery Blanck...and won!



With a grant funded opportunity at hand, ▲ Kate and Mike went shopping to update some tools for the cage. It was a fantastic December morning!



During the Marquette Women in Construction Event in October, the team was able to finally get a full team photo. ▼ Kate, Evan, Mike, Jim & Heidi were in the same place at the same time!



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ALUMNI GOLF



The annual alumni golf outing was held on Saturday, 02 October, and was considerably more well-attended than the previous year. A full complement of alumni and faculty, along with a few current students played a strong nine holes, and then headed to Susie's house for lunch. The alumni team of John Van Eizinga, Eric Judy, Dan Mayville, and Josh Reynolds took low overall with a five under par round.



▲ Taylor Hricovec is lining up a monster fairway iron from about 200 yards out...she put the team on the green. Dan Vince, Jim Chernosky and Hannah Bordinat were witnesses!



Small groups visiting after lunch



▲ Andary and Oswald sharing a moment



After the golf and luncheon, some folks still had a little energy for dinner and a night cap. (L to R: ▲ Evan, Mike, Jim, Chris Cardinal (2008) and Chris' friend, Jason Evans spent some quality time talking about concrete and time-card apps

CURRENT STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Will Jaeger (2023) Dayton, Minnesota

Will is a Junior at NMU, and making solid progress toward his goal of a Bachelor of Science degree in Construction Management, while

maintaining a 3.8 g.p.a. He is adventurous, inquisitive and a natural leader in the classroom and beyond.

He spent the summer of 2021 working for First Contracting. It is a Grand Rapids, MI company, but had a couple major renovations in Marquette – at Lake Superior Village and Pine Street apartments. He worked as carpenter doing some framing, but mostly vinyl siding, rigid insulation, and a little drywall finishing. Prior to that, he worked for a smaller residential firm in his hometown. He did a lot of decks and kitchen remodeling while gaining valuable experience in the skilled trades.



Most Proud of: He is very proud of the amount of experience he's gained academically. He was diagnosed with dyslexia in middle school, so there was a considerable struggle for quite a while with all things related to academics. He has learned a lot about himself since then...most importantly is to continue working through challenges in order to achieve goals.

Professionally, he feels a great deal of pride at the completion of every construction project – whether through an employer or the NMC. He loves the feeling of accomplishment that comes with a job well done.

Plan: He is looking to progress to a Project Manager role in the future. He envisions working with a larger General Contractor or Construction Manager. He loves the Plains, but may be heading toward the mountain ranges of Colorado, Montana or Wyoming. As a bit of a head start, Will is scheduled to intern with Hensel

Phelps this summer, out of their Greeley, Colorado office.

Most Memorable: In his 2.5 years at NMU, making and installing the lighted sign for NMU's Women's Soccer Team was great. Designing and building it with other NMC folks was a cool experience. Last year's NMC Executive team was very good with younger students, so it was fun to be a part of the group. Seeing the sign light up when the varsity soccer team walked into their locker room was really cool.

Why NMU: He did a campus visit during his senior year of high school, and met some key people that showed a lot of interest in his goals. He appreciated the attention shown to him and his family during the visit. Additionally, the geographic location of Marquette is incredible...it was a big draw. Will enjoys most everything outdoors. When not in school, he can be found mountain biking, surfing, hiking, snowboarding, skiing, camping, and having bonfires with friends. As shown in the picture, Will is not a passive mountain biker...the more challenging the terrain, the greater the thrill. He is thankful the incredible opportunities he has been able to experience since coming to NMU.

Since day one, he has appreciated construction management team helping ingrain a sense of community, which is really important to him. Being involved with the Northern Michigan Constructors has been a tremendous plus for Will. As a freshmen he was an engaged active member. As a sophomore, he was more active, and took on the leadership role of Secretary. This year, he is the President, and has been very active within the program and community. He has most definitely been leaving things better than he found them.

In his spare time, Will is an active member of the NMU Catholic Campus Ministry. He is involved with their weekly meetings, and volunteers when available.



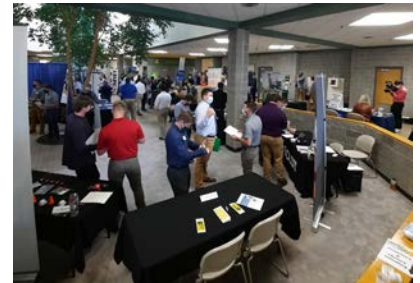
CAREER FAIR

The Construction Management Career Fair was held on Thursday, the 30th of September. It was a reasonable return to quasi-normal, as we were able to host more than 40 companies and organizations

for an in-person afternoon event. It was our first live event in quite a while, and it seemed to be received very well by the attending folks – which was almost 90% alumni. We also retained the virtual event that occurred in the morning of the 30th, and it gave another 20+ companies (mostly staffed by alumni) the opportunity to meet our students and hang out with the faculty team.



Center. Once construction is complete, the 2023 gathering will be in the brand new "Innovation Hall" of the freshly renovated Jacobetti Complex.



The in-person Career Fair pictures show a beehive of activity in "the pit", which is the last career fair to be held there. The 2022 version will likely be in either the High Bay Lab, or the Northern



AFTER THE CAREER FAIR

As shown in some of the pictures, our alumni visitors were able to enjoy really Marquette and the company of each other for a couple days. Information sessions were held on Wednesday, the 29th, and alumni from Boldt, Miron, Mortenson, Power, and Whiting Turner all provided our current students an exceptional overview of their respective firms. After the information sessions, some folks gathered for dinner and water. Following the career fair, a larger group of folks visited Black Rocks for some sunshine and water.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

David Sauld (1996) President of National Enclosure Company

Family: Being an Iron Mountain, Michigan native, NMU was attractive because it was close to home. David was able to attend a year's worth of classes at Bay Community College, to successfully complete some general education courses before coming to NMU. Through his time growing up, he always had a healthy respect for the skilled trades, but knew that he did not want to spend a career as a skilled tradesman. A baccalaureate degree was his goal, as he understood from a young age that education does present a lot of career development opportunities.

David really liked the smaller class sizes, and the closeness to the faculty that NMU provided. Don Hamari and Jimmy Jarvis (original authors of, and faculty for, the Construction programs at NMU) were very good people, and cared about the students. They were dedicated, and genuinely wanted to help the students succeed. There have been zero regrets about his decision to attend Northern, and earn a degree in Construction Management.

He married his Kindergarten sweetheart, Jennifer, more than 25 years ago. Pictured ▲ with their three kids: Erika (16), Kate (10) and Michael



(9). All three are very active. Swimming, tennis, soccer, field hockey, baseball, and Cub Scouts require steady family movement, all which keeps the Sauld family jumping from place to place. Together, they work in Ypsilanti, Michigan and live in Ann Arbor.

Career: Upon graduation from NMU, David accepted an employment offer from Harmon, and moved to Minneapolis, MN. In 2001, Harmon was purchased by Ch Holdings and the company of Enclos was established. While employed by Enclos, he and Jennifer moved to Las Vegas, Nevada, Sacramento, California, and then the East Bay of California. They moved back to SE Michigan in 2007, and David became a Senior Project Manager with National Enclosure Company (NEC). His role progressed into the Director of Operations in 2009. The President at the time had a few health issues, which led to David being appointed President – a role he has held since 2010.

Most of the work NEC does is east of the Mississippi river, but will follow clients when it is appropriate. National Construction Enterprises,

the parent company of NEC, has 12 companies under their umbrella, and NEC is one of them. NEC is a premier designer and installer of custom curtain wall systems. In the picture, David (standing, second from the left) is cooking with his colleagues at a company outing. The team is very close, and he is proud of the culture that is fostered within the company. One particularly memorable project was a Federal courthouse in Las Vegas. It was the first blast-

proof curtain wall system in the United States. As one can imagine, there were multiple engineers involved with the design. The initial design concept was one of utilizing rigid framing members, but that morphed into a flexible system which absorbed the force rather than deflect it. A scaled model unit was brought to a nuclear test site facility in White Sands, New Mexico. The test involved setting off an explosive, which was placed approximately 15' away from the exterior of the façade. There were many criteria for the pass/fail however the main objectives were that no shards of glass could enter the intended occupied space 2'-0" above finished floor, and no components could fall off the test specimen. Not only did the initial test pass, but a decision was made to test again with double the blast charge – which also passed.

David, and the company, had a lengthy list of lessons learned from that project. A runner-up in his "very interesting project" portfolio was a federal office building in Cleveland, Ohio. It was a 52 story high rise re-skin, and it was his most difficult project during the last 25+ years. A typical project involves 15 installers, whereas this particular project had more than 100 working in two shifts. It was a new façade over the original façade, which created countless challenges and many sleepless nights.



The "Fast Five" with David

1 What is your favorite movie?

National Lampoon's Vacation – really funny.

2 What is your best NMU memory?

Intramural broomball – tremendous memories and a great deal of fun playing outside each winter.

3 What is your greatest professional accomplishment?

Being involved with fantastic teams through the years. The opportunity to grow, and particularly being part of the culture at NEC. David has pushed forward a culture of promoting from within, and seeing new hires become executives over time has been particularly rewarding.

4 What is the best part of coming back to Marquette?

He has only been back twice, but both times went around Presque Isle for some wonderful hikes. The local restaurants are also exceptional.

5 Who is the person you would most like to meet?

His maternal grandfather Lincoln Edwards. David never got to meet him, but very much would have liked the opportunity to spend some time with him. He came from a large family, and he was built tough to survive and thrive through the hardships of life.



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DONOR FUNDED SCHOLARSHIPS



The Donor Funded Scholarship program is still going strong. The Construction Management Advisory Committee (CMAC) selected nine excellent recipients from a pool of applicants. The students, standing in the back row (L to R) are: Hannah Reaman, Logan Normand, Garrett Carpenter, Soren Hanson, Devon Pietila, Brandon Martens, Will Jaeger and Cody Nehls. CMAC members that were able to attend in-person are seated (L to R): Jim Johnson, Adam Glover, Curtis Brown, Chris Cardinal, and Cole Thoreson.

Through the generosity of our donors, the scholarship program has awarded nearly \$100,000 since its inception. The faculty are overwhelmed by the success, and the students are sincerely appreciative for the ongoing support through the years.

GUESSWHO

This one should be easy – like an Andary quiz:

This person...

- Is pretty good at designing stuff
- Has shrunk since graduation
- Is not a professional football coach
- Loves Dunham's sports store
- Has Upper Peninsula roots
- His left arm looks like this ▶



From Issue #13 (Summer 2021), Thomas Walhstrom (2018) correctly identified Mr. James T. Conlin as the mystery "guess who". For the record, Jim was not wearing the speedo



NORTHERN MICHIGAN CONSTRUCTORS



The Northern Michigan Constructors had a busy fall. They kicked off the semester building heavy duty benches ▲ for the Noquemanon Trail Network (NTN). It involved transporting 10 - 8' x 3' (3" thick) slabs of wood to the shop for fabrication. They trimmed, planed, sanded and stained the unique pieces, and then delivered them to the NTN. Shown in the picture, Garrett Carpenter and Will Jaeger (among others), did a great job of completing the unique project....and doing a lot of sanding. The finished and installed benches, ▼ will be a favorite spot for skiers and bikers (depending upon the season) to take a breather.



Another project involved building a shed ► for the Native American's Studies Department. The purpose of the shed is to house a maple syrup evaporator that will be used while teaching specific classes in their curriculum. It provided a great opportunity to instruct younger NMC members in the program about some fundamentals of carpentry. Will Jaeger took on the overall framing plan, while Eye Nye helped design and build the rafters and instructed on how to calculate them. Charlotte DeYoung and Raija Stille provided expertise on the final finishes and trim work. Quite a few other members were engaged in the project as well.

This is a progress photo ► showing the rafter pattern for the shed roof system.



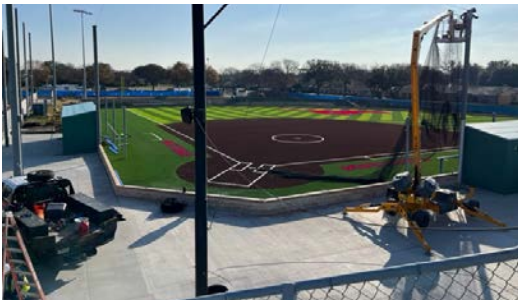
The final product! Garret carpenter (Vice President) used some of his experience from his welding class to fabricate a custom sign - The Sugar Shack - above the door to highlight the project. ▼

The Boldt Company provided an information session prior to the Career Fair. Afterwards, the presenters gave the NMC \$500 worth of cordless tools and accessories for the NMC to use during their community service projects. (▼ L to R: Daniel Vince, Garrett Carpenter, Charlotte DeYoung, Raija Stille and Will Jaeger are accepting the tools from current Boldt employees: Andrew Plomer (2019), Austin Goode-nough (2021), and Darrin Pursley (2014) - all alumni.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Connor Bruinius (2021) is an Assistant Superintendent with Hill & Wilkinson. Since graduation, he has been working on a three-year public school addition/renovation in Richardson, TX. He is in the process of wrapping up Phase I, which included a new Varsity/JV softball stadium with synthetic turf, upgrading the existing Varsity/JV baseball stadium, and adding more parking to accommodate for the two boys and girls athletic facilities.



Phase II is in full swing, and includes multiple additions. One of the additions will house classrooms, while another



is a cast-in-place concrete storm shelter, which is now a building code for all schools in the area.

The scope of Phase III will be renovating most every part of the existing school. There will be both major and minor renovations, in terms of scope. Connor has been enjoying his limited free time hunting and, being outdoors by taking in a lot of what the DFW area has to offer.

Chris Cardinal (2008) is the Vice President for Mark Cardinal Concrete Construction in Fon du Lac, Wisconsin. All of the divisions had a solid 2021. Concrete walls and flatwork continue to be the staples, but curb and gutter is now in their wheelhouse, which should make for a strong 2022 and beyond.

Chris is with his family at the ribbon cutting ceremony outside the new CCC office and shop. He and Kenna have their hands full with Cal, Cohen, and Cleary.



The Cardinal sons are each checking out their own ride-on trowel machines. Cal (nearest), Cohen (middle), and Cleary (furthest) have quite a few generations of concrete expertise in their DNA. Hopefully some (or all) end up in the NMU Construction Management program.



An "all hands on" the slab view of a self-storage building....just getting started on grade.



An aerial view of the same building after some progress.



The newest addition to the fleet. A stringless curb machine that can place more than 1,000 lf of curb and gutter in less than five hours.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Chris Crittenden (2003), President of DeVere Industrial, LLC in Alpena, Michigan shared a few project photos.



Some repairs are being done on a primary conveyor leg in Presque Isle (near Alpena), MI



A sizable boiler tube replacement and repairs in Alpena, MI with a couple different views



Nathan Hayes (2020) is an Assistant Superintendent with Barton Malow, and is working in Lordstown, Ohio. His project is the first Ultium Cells Battery Plant, which is a joint venture between General Motors and LG Energy Solutions. He is working on Barton Malow's self-perform side of things as they are moving heavily with the interior fit out. The main structural steel is complete, and are installing miscellaneous metals. All of the first and second floor concrete slabs are poured throughout the building, and more than 50% of the cold formed metal framing and drywall installation is complete.

He oversees the interiors, structural steel, and the balance of site concrete and civil work. Nathan is planning for an August completion for the 2.3 million SF battery fuel cell manufacturing and testing



facility. He is proud of his progress, because he started by helping one person manage one trade, and is now overseeing four sizable bid packages.

Toward the tail-end of 2021, Nathan purchased his first home. He lives in Royal Oak, Michigan, and was able to celebrate Christmas with his college sweetie (Sarah) in his new place.

Craig Heinonen (2011) is wrapping up nearly eight years as a Real Estate professional in Marquette, with each year being better than the previous. He has met a ton of people and built some fantastic relationships. He is also a mentor for a number of new agents entering the real estate business.

In 2020, Craig became a Michigan licensed real estate broker (Associate Broker with Coldwell Banker, which is now Schmidt Realtors). It was a professional goal that he had been working towards for a number of years, so it was a fulfilling achievement. For 2021, he was on track to close two deals per week, with over 12 million in volume. He hired his brother as a full-time licensed assistant, and he also has a part-time licensed assistant who helps when needed. Business is great, and he is looking forward to many more great years to come. He believes in the philosophy that if you love what you do, you never have to work.

Craig and his wife (Anna) ▼ found their forever home a few years ago just outside of Negaunee. They have 10 acres to enjoy, and it provides great privacy. They like watching all of the deer that move throughout the property during the fall and winter. Their son, Carter, is three and loving life. He is an avid hockey fan, so the Heinonens are season ticket holders for NMU Hockey.



Carter is now skating, and loving that too. Teddy is the family dog, and a great fit for the family. They purchased a property in the Copper Country (hometown for both, but rival high schools), and will be making it a VRBO.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Jason Kehrer (2011) continues to own and operate his successful business – Pine State Builders – in Whiting, Maine. Business has been good. He has grown PSB into a six-person operation in a very short period of time, and there are a couple of new builds on the books for 2022.



His most recent project is the conversion of the Clark Perry House in Machias, Maine into a brewery and restaurant. The House was built in 1868 and the only building on the historic registry in Machias.



BAD LITTLE BREWING

He also will begin the reconstruction of a 260 year old home that was built in Cape Cod, moved to another town, disassembled, tagged and cataloged and placed on a trailer that he had transported up to Maine.



101 COURT STREET, MACHIAS, ME

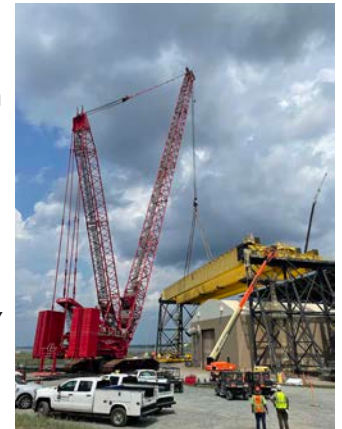
Matthew Kehrer (2011) is still a Lead Superintendent at Gilbane. On a personal note, he and his wife (Samantha) welcomed their second child. Emilia Virginia was born on August 12.



Michael LaFleur (2015) is a Senior Integrated Construction Coordinator with Mortenson, and is working in Athens, Georgia.



His project is about halfway through Phase B, and some of the cool scope items include: Replacing/refurbishing steel structure; preservation, blast cleaning, and recoating of structural steel – 1.3m SF surface area of steel; concrete repairs; refurbishment of flooding roller gates; refurbishment of super-flooding, dewatering, drainage, and pressure relief systems; replacement of mechanical piping and electrical systems; refurbish ancillary buildings; refurbish steel caisson – the caisson is similar to a bath plug. This sits at the end of the dry dock and keeps water out, because it has floating/sinking capabilities. It is able to move out of the way for submarine transportation in and out of the dock; and refurbishment of overhead cranes, rail, and elevators – A Manitowoc MLC650 was used to pick a section of an overhead crane. The 205 foot long crane section weighs approx. 318,000 lbs.



Zach Lange (2018) is a Project Manager for Payne & Dolan in Marquette. His sizable project for 2021 was the Business Corridor of US-41 from the South Marquette Roundabout all the way out to the Walmart Roundabout



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

(about 3.3 miles). It included quite a bit of concrete pavement removal, new curb/gutter and all new asphalt paving, among lots of other pay items. He had a dozen other local projects, but the scope and scale of the US-41 project occupied most of his time. Payne & Dolan was recently awarded the next stretch of US-41 from Front St. to Furnace St. in South Marquette. Zach is confident that every person with a car that drives into, or away from, Marquette is going to be angry with him again. He will have disrupted travel through Marquette for the second straight season, but progress is a good thing!

Zach and his wife Reegan welcomed their daughter, Lucy Ann, on the 12th of November. Lucy was 8 lbs and 10 oz, while 20" long. The family is doing well while planning some major projects for their home and property in 2022.

Kevin Manning ▶

(2012) is a Senior Project Engineer with BNBuilders in Seattle, Washington area. He is currently wrapping up a combined elementary and middle school project. Kevin's responsibilities involve managing all self-perform awarded bid packages including structures, case-work, doors frames & hardware, drywall & framing, flatwork & site furnishings, and various interior finishes. The pic-



ture is a helicopter view of the project in Kent, WA – about 20 minutes south of Seattle. Interestingly, BNB hired the helicopter, because it was considerably more cost effective than hiring a firm with a drone. He really enjoys working on self-perform awarded bid packages, because the higher risks can turn into greater rewards and high morale, when you have a dynamic and proactive team.

Outside of work Kevin still enjoys all things outdoors, including getting out on his bike during the week, skiing with a social ski racing club, kayaking local lakes with his girlfriend (Erika), and exploring all of what the Pacific Northwest has to offer. He is shown with Erika, and the backdrop is Mount Shuksen, which is a bit East of Bellingham, Washington.

James McDonough ▼ (2020) is a Field Engineer

with Rockford Construction Company, and is on their Meijer Construction team. He spent most of 2021 in Tipp City, Ohio on a Meijer distribution center. While there, he was the Superintendent for two projects that upgraded the automation systems in preparation for the new distribution center. He is back in Marshall, Michigan working on a large greenhouse project until the next distribution center starts later this year.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Tyler McGuire

(2017) is a Superintendent with Whiting Turner's, Baltimore, Maryland office. His current project involves a large developer in Baltimore that is transforming the Port Covington area. He is working on three cast-in-place concrete buildings, and is responsible for the brick, steel, windows, metal panels and a variety of other scope. He was thankful for the warm weather throughout December, because it made the masonry work go smoothly. Evidently, the crews don't mind sunny and 55 degrees when laying brick.

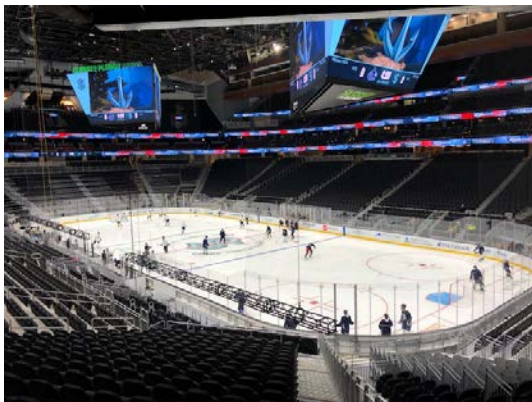


The McGuire family is happy and healthy. Tyler, Brianna and their daughter, Emilia (3.5 years already) have been enjoying their time together. Tyler and Emilia are shown at Harper's Ferry, West Virginia, where they are experiencing the beautiful outdoors. His one bummer from the fall is that he only has one deer in the freezer.

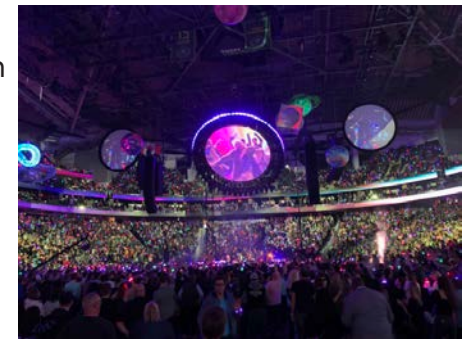


Travis Mellon

(2007) is a Superintendent with Mortenson's Sports and Entertainment Group. His most recent project was the Climate Pledge Arena in Seattle, Washington. The project took 30 months to build, with a construction cost of \$900+Million. On 22 October 2021, the new Climate Pledge Arena was opened for the Seattle Kraken – the National Hockey League's newest team. The capacity for hockey games is 17,000 spectators. It is the first electric arena/stadium of its kind in the world, and also the first net zero



carbon emission venue. It is also home to the Women's National Basketball Association – Seattle Storm. The first three events in the arena were a concert with the Foo Fighters, a concert with Cold Play, and a Seattle Kraken hockey game. Inside the Kraken locker room is really nice.



Since completing the stadium, Travis' new project is a Data Center for Facebook in the Midwest.

JR Mooney (2012) is a Field Manager for Dick Anderson Construction in Bozeman, Montana. It has been a lot of grueling work, but he has had some fun along the way.



He completed a unique nine-story hotel in the heart of downtown Bozeman.

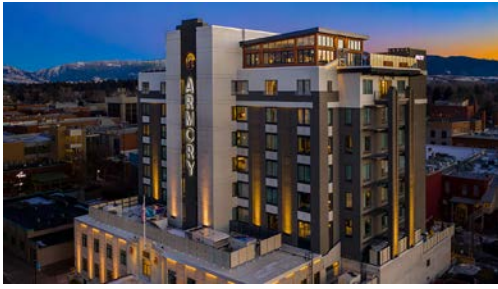
The structure was a United States Armory from



1941 until it was abandoned in the 1970s. It was an amazing transformation to what it became...a 118 room motel with a music venue, three restaurants, a couple bars, and

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

rooftop pool. Most of the existing structure was left in place, while added onto and updated. What started as a modest 2.5 story building became something amazing. He also recently completed a sizable K-8 school renovation.



He has been able to stay an avid hunter and fisherman during his time in Montana, while him and his wife (Kait – also a NMU alum) ▲ have been able to squeeze in some hiking and skiing at Big Sky. JR was able to knock down the mule buck in the Madison Mountain Range outside of Bozeman.



Luke Oberdorfer (2011) is a Project Manager with Miron. One of his projects is the new ship building facility in Marinette, WI. The picture does not provide an accurate view of the colossal size of the structure. It's over 100' tall and longer than a football field.

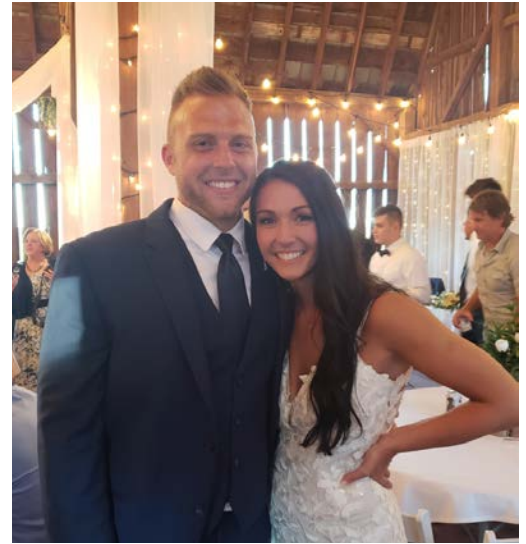


Luke and his wife (Paige), along with their son (Reece – now five years old) live in Norway, MI – which is just a stone's throw from Luke's home town of Kingsford.



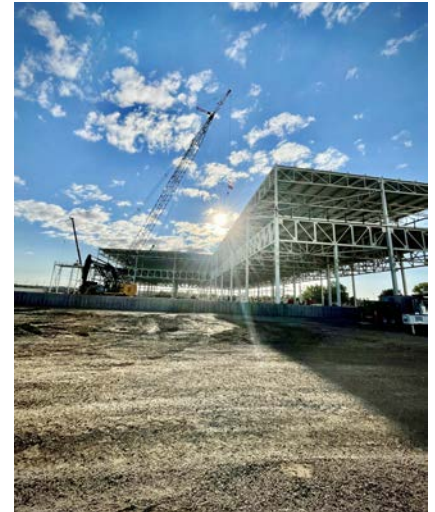
Morgan Pelach

▶ (2021) has stayed plenty busy since graduation last May. She is a Project Engineer with Clark Construction out of their Lansing, MI office, and working in Flint on the Kettering University Learning Commons Project.



She got married in June, and she is living in Saginaw with her husband, Justin. He coaches the Saginaw Heritage high school varsity football team.

Ryan Pietila (2021) is a Project Engineer with Barton Malow. He is currently splitting time between their civil and interiors divisions, and working on a General Motors battery research lab.



Bryce Ruppert (2021)

is a Field Engineer with W.W. Clyde out of their Sandy, Utah location. His current project involves a pretty significant amount of earthmoving and grading in the arid conditions of the desert.



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Trevor Poupore ▶ (2016) is a Project Manager for Miron Construction out of their Neenah, WI office, and has been with them since returning from the mountain region about four years ago.



He currently has two active (in construction phase) projects. One is a school renovation in Juneau, WI at the Dodgeland School District, which is a two year phased renovation that touches each area of the K-12 school. The project started in May of 2021 and will be completed in August of 2022. The scope includes a STEM addition that holds a new woods and metals lab, and also replacement of the entire roof on the facility, as well as MEP upgrades and new finishes through the school.

The second, and much larger project, is the South Terminal Expansion, which is at the Dane County Airport in Madison, WI. This is a \$47m 100,000 SF expansion that is being added to the existing airport. The expanded terminal will allow for increased flight schedules, additional destinations, and larger passenger planes to arrive and depart. Also included is a complete overhaul of the airport's chiller plant, demolition of an existing portion of the terminal, and updates to the mechanical, electrical, and plumbing within the terminal. The project broke ground in June of 2021 and will be completed in June of 2023.

He is very excited about his upcoming projects, which are both at NMU. The first being a renovation within the Northern Center, which will allow the Hospitality Management and Cosmetology programs to be relocated from the Jacobetti. It is underway, and will be completed in August this year. The second project is the large renovation of the Jacobetti Complex. This is a two-year multi-phased renovation that includes about 40,000 SF of demolition. Completion is scheduled for August of 2023.

Trevor and Bailey (Mrs. Poupore) got married in July of 2021, and have been living in Appleton, WI. They plan to relocate to Marquette early in 2022. Together, they are raising four daschunds ▶, and enjoying life. They are excited to getting back in touch with hiking, biking and all the fun things that Marquette has to offer.



Jon Slack (2015) is a Project Manager with Clark Construction Company out of their Lansing, Michigan office. Jon and his family live in St. Johns, MI.



He completed his project at FireKeepers in the fall. It was an eight-story 200,000 SF casino and hotel expansion. The expansion included 203 new guestrooms including high end suites, a high limits gaming area, lounge expansion, upscale restaurant, and new lobby with a bar.



Next on the docket for Jon will be a quick hitting interior renovation remodel at Trinity Health's 200,000 SF HQ in Livonia, MI. The premise of the project is to create the workplace of the future. A new floorplan is being developed to create collaboration spaces, and provide the opportunity to leverage technology to its fullest extent. It is still in the design phase.

On the home front, all is well for Jon and the girls ▶. The family is healthy and happy!



ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Caity Tefft ▶ (2017) is a Project Manager with Dickinson Homes out of Iron Mountain, MI. Her 2021 was pretty hectic. She got married in June, managed a sweet new residential project in Marquette throughout the summer and fall, and launched a new online home decor business called Linen + Hearth just after Thanksgiving. The aerial view shows the foundation, and the tight site along Picnic Rocks Drive, which is across the street from Picnic Rocks park/beach in Marquette. The other pictures show progress through the summer and fall.



Thomas Wahlstrom (2018) is a Project Manager for Gundlach Champion, Inc. in Marquette, MI. His current project is the Hotel Expansion and Water Park Addition at the Island Resort and Casino in Harris, MI. Current student, Gabe Johnson, has interned on that project as well.

Over the last 18 months, Thomas has overseen the construction of a new 138 room hotel, fine dining restaurant, and water-park to add to the overall experience of Island Resort patrons.



In Mid-December (two weeks ahead of schedule), the Island Resort hosted the project team, tribal council members, and business associates for a soft opening party in the 12th floor dining space. Guests also stayed in the newly constructed rooms on the upper four guestroom floors. GCI will continue to put on the finishing touches throughout the month of December and the project team is looking forward to rolling over into their next project, which will be constructing a smoking lounge for the Island Resort, starting January 2022.



Some of the Barton Malow team gathered for a meeting in their job trailer.

(L to R) ▲ **Melanie McNamee** (2019), **Nick Sexton** (2018), **Curtis Brown** (2012), and **Patrick Bishop** (2015) are talking through the daily plan.

MORE UPDATES:

Kayla (Voss) Billmeier (2011) is a Project Manager with McGough Construction in the Minneapolis, Minnesota area.

Jalen Brooks (2019) is a Field Engineer for Mortenson Construction, out of their Scottsdale, Arizona location.

Kurt Campbell (2009) is an Associate Project Manager with Faith Technologies around the Cedar Rapids, Iowa area.

Joshua Crim (2018) for starting a new position as Project Engineer at Granger Construction in Lansing, MI.

Peter Gibson is a Project Engineer II with Mortenson, and is working in the Mojave Desert of California on the world's largest solar and battery storage project with completion later in 2022.

Mitch Hanson (2017) is now a Project Controls Analyst at Black & Veatch in Dallas, TX.

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Bryan Kelnhofer (2009) is an Engineer at Komponenten Laminated Products in Plover, WI.

Suzette LaCasse (2019) is a Construction Manager with KCO Construction in Lake Linden, MI.

Eric Niggas (2005) and his family recently moved to Steamboat Springs, Colorado, where he is employed by Gerber Berend Design Build. The move from Illinois was prompted by an exchange of information with another alum (Steve "Skip" Warnke – 2002). Skip and Eric just started a large residential project together, where Skip is the Project Manager and Eric is the Superintendent. Eric is really enjoying the way these luxury homes are built into the side of mountains.

Zack Parent (2021) is an Assistant Superintendent with Barton Malow. He was unable to share pictures, but did provide the link to an article about his project: <https://www.clickondetroit.com/all-about-ann-arbor/2021/11/05/look-inside-klas-new-200m-headquarters-in-ann-arbor/#//>

Sam Peterson (2015) moved back to Michigan from Minneapolis and is now a Project Manager for Christman Constructors, Inc, which is their self-performing group.

Kellie (Smith) Berry (2009) is an Estimator for BlueLine Construction in Missoula, Montana, as well as a Pre-School teacher.

Vince Sochacki (2004) with Absolute Construction in Schererville, IN had a solid 2021. Expansion moved beyond New Jersey, and into states other states. His kitchen and bath business experienced a tremendous rebound following a dismal 2020. Other noteworthy fun stuff from 2021...Vince and Julie celebrated 15 years of wedded bliss. Their four kids were heavily involved with their academics and extracurricular activities. Stella (14) was all-in with choir and theater. Luca (13) tore it up in hockey and lacrosse. Vito (9) found his groove with hockey and baseball. Camilla (7) played a lot of hockey, and as the youngest, imposed her will on the rest of the family. Vince has been heavily involved by coaching a lot of hockey.

Jared Swajanen (2017) is a Project Manager with C.D. Smith Construction in the LaCrosse, WI office.

Mark Zielinski (2019) has relocated to Central Illinois to assist in starting a new division of CMF Group. He spent the last 18 months as a Project Manager at Rivian in Normal IL, and oversaw the installation of the body shop for the R1T/R1S, while also providing support to their plant maintenance and engineering team in all areas of the plant. He was able to help with speeding up production, and fixing things in a timely manner. Unfortunately, Mark could not share any photos, as most all of the work he does is covered under non-disclosure agreements (NDAs).

THROWBACK

This throwback photo goes back a bit. It's older than our current freshmen, and most of our sophomores as well. We threw it back to 2002, when the lucky 10 went to Las Vegas, Nevada. The intent of the trip was to attend the Associated General Contractors (AGC) annual national convention, and watch the national student competitions. At the time, the folks thought it was a pretty cool experience.

Top row ► (L to R): Jay Allan Thomas, Michael Colenso, Justin Hoffman, Brian Kloack, and Joe Solis. Bottom row (L to R): Matthew Hewson, Jed Sanders, Michael Andary, Brandon Bogue, and John Stenzel.



MESSAGE FROM THE INTERIM PROVOST



I wanted to take the opportunity to express a few thoughts about our Construction Management program. As Interim Provost, I see one of my most important responsibilities as fostering existing collaborative relationships. To me, this means those relationships with and between students, faculty and the community. To be sure, such collaborative relationships certainly exist in the Construction Management Program, as evidenced by several examples.

First, the curriculum is truly hands-on and offers students a variety of educational experiences at the associate and bachelor degree levels. Each level is distinct and builds upon a student's knowledge and skill base to assist them with being competitive in the job market. Such variety also positions students well for advancement to assist them in further educational achievement, whether it's for initial placement in a chosen career, or for the progression to more responsibilities in their current field. Additionally, the department's online program for construction management professionals offers educational flexibility for professionals with several years of working in the field. All of these examples are the result of true dedication by the faculty to offer new and prospective students the best possible educational opportunities to become leaders in the field.

Another example of faculty and student collaboration is the Women in Construction Day event. Created out of a need for women in the field, the faculty recognized the value of diversity in the construction field, both in and out of the classroom. Industry alums and potential students from a variety of places team up to work intensely for a day with faculty in real-world, hands-on experiences – a truly collaborative event. Finally, and certainly no less important, is the presentation of the senior projects at the end of every semester. Here teams of students, faculty, local construction employers and the community team up to identify semester-long projects for students to engage in from concept to completion. The students then present their projects to an advisory team of construction managers who evaluate their work and provide constructive feedback; another example of a collaborative relationship.

In conclusion, I have had the fortunate opportunity to speak with several students pursuing various construction management degrees, as well as attending both the Women in Construction day and the senior projects, and will continue to do so; it is one of the highlights of working in academics. All of these examples illustrate the dedication and commitment the faculty have to the program, the students, the university and to the community, and I am proud to be able to witness it. Thank you to the students, faculty, staff and community for making the Construction Management Program a true success.

UPDATE 2022 HOMECOMING & CAREER FAIR

Career Fair – Thursday, 22 September
Golf Outing – Saturday, 24 September

FACULTY CONNECTIONS



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WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION



Women in Construction has become a more significant and intentional set of actions. With the addition of Kate Havel to the team, capacity for outreach has increased.

Together, Heidi and Kate planned, organized and implemented two highly successful events during the fall. Preliminary plans are being made for at least two more next academic year.

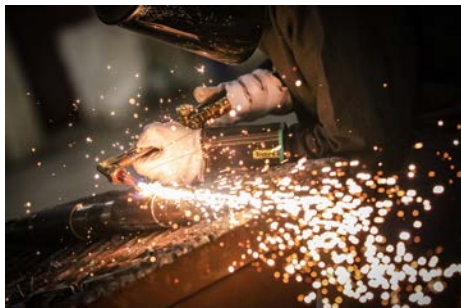
Through all of the weird occurrences of 2021, one thing stood out as unique and encouraging: 20+% of our fall 2021 freshmen classes were filled with females. The team is sincerely grateful for all of the support by sponsors, volunteers and NMU...the events would not be possible without everyone.



The Marquette Women in Construction event ran at North Michigan University this academic year. It ran at North Michigan University on a beautiful day in mid-October. Young ladies from all communities showed up to explore construction careers. They rotated through four stations:

- Building a wood-framed mirror
- Welding a tab on a metal sheet
- Learning about BIM technology
- Experiencing property development

lots of calculations and teamwork!

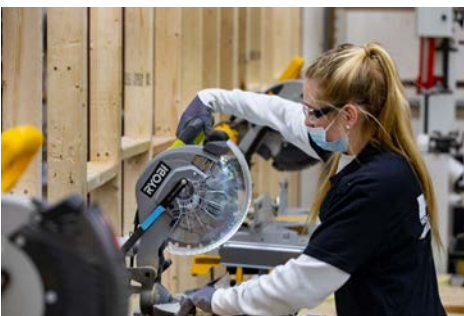




Construction event kicked off the first of its kind, reaching participant capacity during a beautiful day in Marquette. The event provides a variety of career options in construction. The event was held in the woodshop at Northern Michigan University, where participants had their name cut out of wood and worked with a variety of tools and equipment strategies using legos, wood, and other materials.



WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION



Heidi and Kate together in Cla...
tremely successful event. Plan...
Kate was networking with SE...
panies and organizations. Dur...
Paige Aubin ▶. Paige is the
Owner of Paige Construction,
staunch supporter of women i...
construction, and a long-time
President of the Detroit Chapt...
of NAWIC. She was a sponsor...
a volunteer, and a tremendous
supporter of the event. Paige...
was the first female Abatement
Professional in the state of Mich...
male-owned abatement comp...

The event included four stati...

- Woodshop project
- A BIM overview
- Leadership session
- Skilled trades introduction.

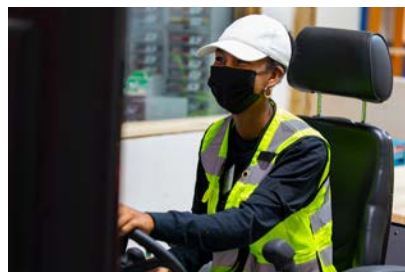
Present for the organized trad...
ers and Ironworkers of SE Mich...



Clarkston, celebrating an exciting semester that started back in April. Michigan Construction University is offering a visit, she had lunch with



Michigan and is still the only female-owned company in Michigan.



were the Operators, Laborers, and

PROGRAM OUTREACH

We stayed busy doing outreach and networking activities from the time of the last newsletter. A couple dozen campus visits, hosting the Associated General Contractors Student-Contractor Awareness Night, hosting the Clarkston, MI Construction Trades class, going to Just Build It in Ypsilanti, MI, and hanging out with Alumni in the Detroit area were a few things the team got to experience.

AGC SCAN – October

The NMU Construction Management team hosted faculty and students from MTU, AGC MI employees and industry professionals for a night of project tours and networking. 50+ folks met at the Northern Center (formerly the University Center), boarded a charter bus, and headed out for three project tours.



The Bacon Building (Wells Fargo Bank building on the corner of Wright and Front streets) was the first stop. It is getting a major overhaul by the developer, Veridea Group. Miron Construction is the GC, and Eyn Nye ▲ (NMU Junior) is the Field Engineer/Intern that led the tour there. Eyn has interned with Miron for two summers, and continues to be employed by them through this academic year. If all goes well, he'll also be assigned to the Jacobetti Renovation project.

The next stop was the M28 business corridor resurfacing. Zach Lange (2018) was the Project Manager, and provided an excellent overview of



the scope, along with a few of the complexities that came into play from April through October.



The third visit was to the Mariucci Family Beacon House, and Jeff Goodney (President of Closner Construction) led the tour. The Beacon House



is located adjacent to the new hospital, and is a lodging option for families with members in the hospital. Lodging costs are by donation only.

Once back at the Northern Center for dinner, the AGC provided industry updates and discussed opportunities for students through their Education Endowment (scholarships), as well as their summer work program. Gabe Johnson ▶ (2023) is an AGC Scholarship recipient, and spoke briefly about how much the award has helped him through the last couple of years.



NORTHERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY

<https://nmu.edu/tos/construction>



PROGRAM OUTREACH

"Just Build It" – October

The Washtenaw Contractors Association hosts the Just Build it event each year at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, MI. Area middle and high schools are invited to attend the event, and learn about careers in the construction industry.

Interestingly, Julie Tokarz (2022) and Ryan Pietila (2021) ▶ attended the Just Build It back in 2016 as high school students from Adrian and Hartland (respectively). They met folks from NMU, came to NMU and have either graduated or will soon graduate from the Construction Management program.



Evan and Jim attended in October, and Julie came along as well. Ryan (now with Barton Malow) was given the day to drive over and meet the team. Together, they chatted with over 1,000 students with the intent of teaching potential future students about what NMU has to offer.

Clarkston Visit – October

Steve Wyckoff and a few chaperones (Neil, Adam & Sarah) brought a group of high school students up from Clarkston, Michigan to visit NMU's campus. They got to play at the PEIF, attend a NMU hockey game, walk the campus, get some information about Financial Aid and Admissions, tour the Jacobetti and dine at the Northern Lights.



It was a whirlwind tour, but very fun for everyone involved. A few of Steve's former students, Jagger Woody (far left in picture), and Olivia Torres (second from right) ▼ are currently attending NMU and studying either Building Technology or Construction Management.



Alumni gathering in Detroit – November

Heidi, Kate & Mike invited Detroit-area alumni to join us for a drink in early November. It was a great night, and was wonderful to see many folks that our team has not seen in quite a while.

Attendees included: ▼ Curtis Brown, Steve Hunter, Mel McNamee and Makayla Kyre (all with Barton Malow) + Makayla's friend (Matthew) and her mom too. Jason Proctor (Sachse Construction), Jesse Tarr (Wind Secure), Julie Tokarz, Jacob Golab, Colin Urban, and Olivia Torres (current NMU students) Renee and Natalie Blanck (future NMU students)



SENIOR PROJECTS

Following the wrap-up of the senior projects, and the general business meeting with the CMAC, quite a few folks hung out together around town. L to R: ▶

Kate Havel, Evan Lucas, Chris Cardinal, Jim Johnson, Curtis Brown, and Mike Andary had a colored water at Black



Rocks prior to the NMU hockey game. We played the #1 team in the nation, University of Minnesota-Duluth. The Wildcats swept UM-D, and it was a tremendous weekend overall. L to R – bottom row: ▼ Gavin Leach (CFO), Andary, and Dr. Dale Kapla (Provost), along with

Top row: Adam Glover and Chris Cardinal enjoyed the Friday night game from the President's box. They have instant replay on the big screens, and really good food.



The **Community Action of Alger and Marquette (CAAM)** bought a bus through an awarded grant. Their hope was to create a mobile office that they could bring to families... especially for those that have difficulties with transportation. Our seniors (starting second from the left) are Ray Cunningham, Gus Reynolds, Sam Reynolds, Jake Dudeck, Jack Burdick, and Carrie Duerksen.



The team stripped the interior, added a new electrical system, climate control system, and all new finishes. It was an impressive interior transformation to be sure.

NMU's Olson Library team of (L to R) ▶ KC Brockel, Dan Gwidt, Noah Brown and Nathan Gryspeerd are shown during their final presentation. They had a tight budget, tight timeline and a very detail-oriented custom cabinet system to design and build.



The library requested a flexible "book case" that could be configured a few different ways, was mobile, and fit the motif of the library, and the team really delivered.



With a very small beginning budget, the red oak quickly pushed the estimated cost over the limit. Noah was able to secure a donation of all the necessary red oak from his former employer (a cabinet making company), which made the project possible. Retail costs for the cabinets were over \$7,000, while this system was completed for less than \$1,500. They spent a lot of time in the shop creating some very complex beveled dado joints, and the results were excellent.



The True North Treks (TNT) Community Partnership has been a very good fit for the Construction Management program. There were three groups of seniors that performed projects for the TNT during the fall semester. TNT was formed in 2009 as a nonprofit that empowers young adults that are affected by cancer. It provides cancer survivors, and their caregivers, an opportunity to reconnect with nature and themselves. The lodge was designed by Frank Lloyd Wright's last apprentice, Herbert Fritz, and is a spectacular structure. They operate a fabulous property in Alger County on 127 acres of Lake Superior Shoreline (www.tntwald-institute.org).



SENIOR PROJECTS

L to R: ► Brock Honn, KC Rinke, TNT Facilities Director, Ethan Williams, Cody Nehls, and Sawyer Kujala. This



team adjusted well to the changes throughout the semester. Fortunately, the students were able to roll down the list of TNT needs from the top flight projects to the next tier of priorities. Tent platforms were constructed on site for future campers at the property. It may not have been the original plan, but through no fault of their own, plans change.

The second team of students for the TNT group focused on a hot tub and sauna facility, which was originally planned to be a design-build. In the end, it became a design and budget development project. L to R: ► John Jukkala, Alec Gadzinski, Quinn Hupy, and Travis Van de Yacht are pictured with the TNT Director of Facilities.

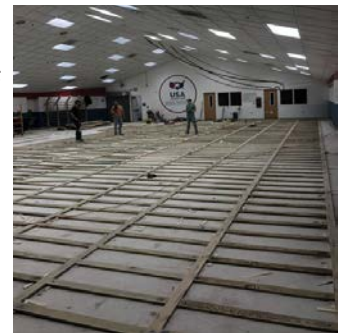
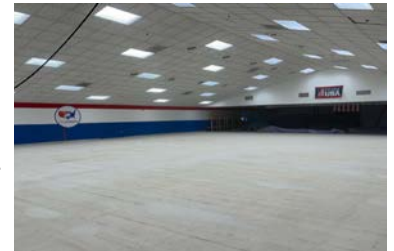


The third TNT student team put together a design-build project to enhance the facility's ability to grow food. The varying rooflines presented a challenge or two, but the talented group persevered. They developed a combination exterior storage area and greenhouse. Top row L to R: ► Jace Dailey, Greg Pietila, Russ Honkala, and TNT Program Manager. Bottom row L to R: TNT Facilities Director, Julie Tokarz, and Jackson Scandin.



NMU and the National Training Site for Wrestling

The team of (L to R) Gabe Johnson, Robby Rigoni, Blake Whitcomb, Jacob Golab, Nathan Thomas, Matthew Goss, Collin Urban, and Flynn Powers shown in the back row of the picture had a large scope for their senior project. They removed the old and replaced the flooring system on the second floor of the Superior Dome in the wrestling room of the National Training Site.



NMU added Women's Wrestling as a sport, so existing locker rooms were expanded and enhanced. The rest of the wrestling facility was scheduled to receive an upgrade, and the wrestling floor was in dire need of a re-do. After years of absorbing energy from body slabs, the plywood had broken and become a hazard to those walking on it. NMU put the project out for competitive bids, but the numbers came back around \$70k – significantly over budget. Evan was contacted about the potential of the project, and the team of seniors was able to complete the project for less than \$23k.

The scope of the project involved removing the entire existing flooring system down to the slab on deck, replacing the furring strips (moving from 24" centers to 16" centers), re-shimming for levelness, adding new fire-rated plywood, and then applying a coat of paint to the new 6,000 SF floor. Nearly 200 new sheets of ¾" plywood was installed over the furring strips...the strips were fastened to the slab on deck with a few thousand concrete anchors. Needless to say, the team drilled and screwed a lot of furring strips. Another few thousand screws were used to fasten the plywood to the furring strips. The wrestling team was able to move all of their equipment back to their room, and start the year in their "new" facility.



GUEST COLUMN

Applying Lean to projects of any size or scope: University of Chicago Medicine Homewood Clinic: Part 2: Implementing the Last Planner System

In the prior newsletter we learned about Lean in design and construction – its history, what it is and why we should embrace it (<https://www.flipsnack.com/northernmagazine/nmu-construction-management-newsletter-summer-2021.html>)

In this edition we look at the most important tool we have in the lean toolbox for successful project execution – **Pull Planning**. Defining success as best quality, lowest cost (least waste), shortest duration with the highest morale for the participants.

We're all pull planners whether we know it or not. Take for example a "project" called Getting to Class on Time. This project has two milestones (MS), a beginning and an end, let's call the first MS or target condition sleeping and the end milestone arriving at class on time. These are like two bookends on a shelf. First bookend is on the left and the next bookend is on the right – the timeline moves from left to right.

Then let's identify the steps or activities needed to move from the first MS to the final MS but instead of pushing out a schedule of activities needed to achieve our end goal or milestone..... let's pull a list of activities starting with the end goal in mind – arriving at class on time, let's also think about each activity in terms of scope (what it is that we're doing) and duration (time). The sequence of activities are somewhat intuitive for this example.

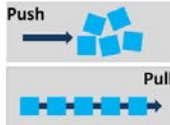
- 2nd MS: Arrive at class – no duration as it's the end milestone
- Activity: Travel from home to school, 20 minutes
- Activity: Make Coffee, Eat breakfast, 20 minutes
- Activity: Shower and get dressed, 20 minutes
- Activity: Turnoff alarm clock, 5 minutes
- Activity: Sleep, 8 hours
- 1st MS: Set alarm clock – no duration as it's the beginning milestone

Each step hands off to the next step – you have to first wake up to be able to shower/get dressed, eat breakfast and travel to school. You can't (or shouldn't) execute those steps in any other order or you'll not

What is Lean Construction?

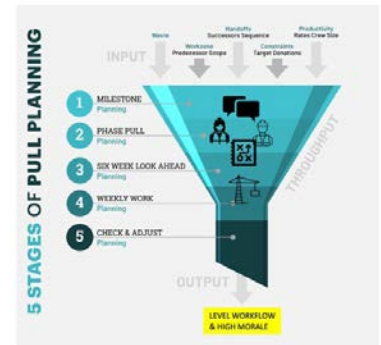
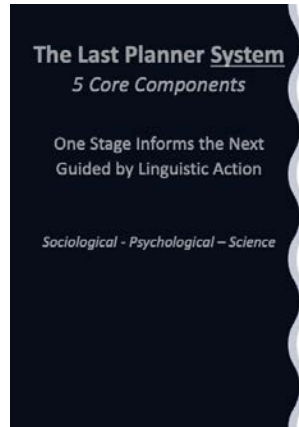
definition:

"a collaborative way of thinking and behaving that focuses on making work flow without interruption by eliminating waste and committing to hand-offs"



meet the final target condition or milestone, right? This phase pull plan has an overall duration of 9 hours 5 minutes from milestone to milestone.

It's pretty easy to see how this approach is used in almost any situation, project or circumstance. But there are some basics to learn and follow when applying pull planning in design and construction projects. Let's dig into some of the ground rules for running a pull plan. Remember lean and pull planning is simple but not easy. You have to follow the rules and be



diligent in your cadence or you'll not get the desired results: best schedule, quality with lowest cost (least waste) and high moral.

The Last Planner System: 5 connected conversations

There are a lot of different Pull Planning (manual & electronic systems) approaches planning in existence but the basic tenet is common among them all: **pull to flow**. Each step in a planned process feeds the next step and creates pull. Flow is what we seek on all projects because when projects have good flow they will out perform those that don't by a wide margin. Without flow we see waste, rework, defects, low moral, etc. Below are some images of tags we use for pull planning when in person. The concept is that by each trade having a unique color, filling out the tags completely and placing them on the planning horizon (white board, pre-printed poster, etc.) that person is making a commitment to deliver some action/activity or result

Trade: **Sparky's Value Creators**

Assignment (Specific): **Sparky's Value Creators**

Area Where Working: **A1 Corridor overhead rough**

Daily Productivity Goal: **200 lf**

Constraint: **A1** Quality: **Per detail E-91**

Crew Size: **4** Initials: **SVC**

6 WEEK LOOK AHEAD

Constraint: **Approval of C/O # 91 for VAV's**

Person Identifying Constraint: **Van Vent**

Responsible Person for Resolving: **Onerous Oscar Owner**

Date to be Received: **12/22/23**

Constraint #: **#91**

Target Condition
(Milestone)

Ready for overhead inspection Area A1

CPM Date: **2-5-21**
CPM Duration: **60 days**
Pulled Duration: **54 days**

Company Name & Trade:
Flow & Go Pull Plan
Assignment (general):
Layout and toptrack
Area Where Working:
Area A1
Predecessor Assignment (Hand-off):
Demo and reference pts.
Constraint:
RFI # 9
Duration (Maximum 10 days/tag):
3 days

that benefits themselves as well as the person working ahead of them (predecessor) and behind them (successor). When all parties understand what others need to do their work and what their commitments are as well as declaring what they need for their work to be done correctly, a very efficient value stream of project work flow is created. Resulting in the best outcomes for budget, schedule and quality.

You'll notice that there are different fields to be filled out when comparing the phase tag to the 6 week tag.

Waste Analysis	Resource Management
DOWNTIME	TIMMESS
• Defects	• Tools
• Over-production	• Information
• Waiting	• Material
• Non-utilized Resources/Talent	• Manpower
• Transportation	• Equipment
• Inventory	• Safety
• Motion	• Space
• Excess Processing	

Important to note that the 6 week tag represents a single day's activity while

the phase tag presents as much as 10 days worth of work. The Phase Pull represents a more general overview of planned work vs. the detailed 6 week day by day rolling forecast of work. We often say that the phase pull is the work we "should do" while the 6 week pull represents the work we "can do". Why the difference? The 6 week tags represent the impact of "con-

straints", see the orange diamond constraint tag? – it is a visual indicator that something is missing, an action needed or a condition that exists that will interrupt work if the constraint is not removed, remedied or a counter measure is put in place. The final tag for this particular version of the Last Planner System is the Target Condition tag – in essence a milestone that represents a significant event or achievement on a project – completion or commencement of a key "thing" (ready for inspection, completion of a design phase, ready for drywall installation, etc.) Also, important to note that there are two kinds of milestones or target conditions – those that are pacing in nature to let you know you're on track to hit the other more significant milestone. Pacing milestones might be for single trade or simple activity that is not a seminal event for the project as a whole (layout complete, pressure testing of a piping system, etc.)

So with these simple tools in hand and the proper mindset we assemble the project trades that are key to the intended phase of work we are hoping to plan and go to work!

In the last newsletter we learned a great deal about waste elimination and resources management. I encourage you to review it in the context of using pull planning.

Follow the 5 steps of LPS, practicing steps 3-5 weekly and you're guaranteed to have better outcomes than following the old school push planning approach to project execution.

- Stage 1:** Prepare and know the "job"
Pull as early as possible
Align on Milestones
Date your bookend (s)
Avoid too much detail
Be flexible

YOU GOTTA GET THIS RIGHT

SO YOU CAN GET THIS RIGHT

Planning

Execution

Who is this guy? type his name in the chat

LEGEND

Stage 1: Milestone Pull

CONSTRUCTION PHASE PULLING

Intent:

- Review contract work we "should do"
- Unify, align & kickstart the team
- See the big picture
- Set interval guideposts
- Define Target Conditions/Phases
- Identify long-lead items
- Inform the Phase Pull Plan (PPP)

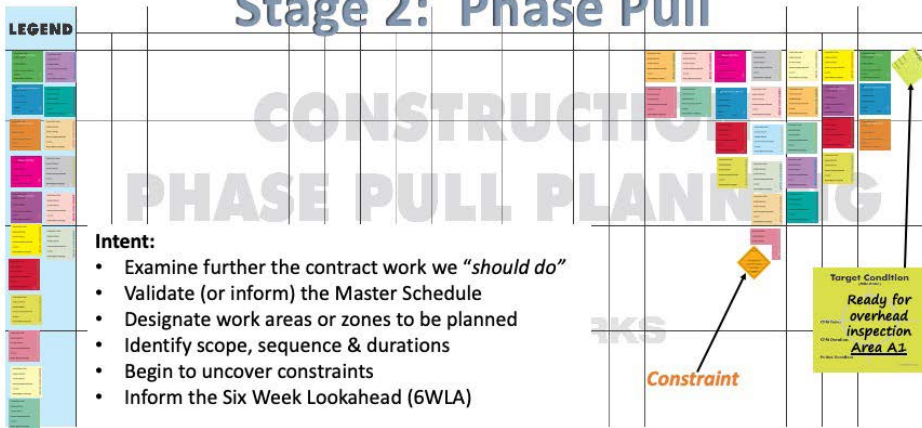
Target Condition
Ready for overhead inspection
2-5-21

Target Condition
Substantial completion
4-24-21

Bookend

Bookend

Stage 2: Phase Pull



Intent:

- Examine further the contract work we “should do”
- Validate (or inform) the Master Schedule
- Designate work areas or zones to be planned
- Identify scope, sequence & durations
- Begin to uncover constraints
- Inform the Six Week Lookahead (6WLA)

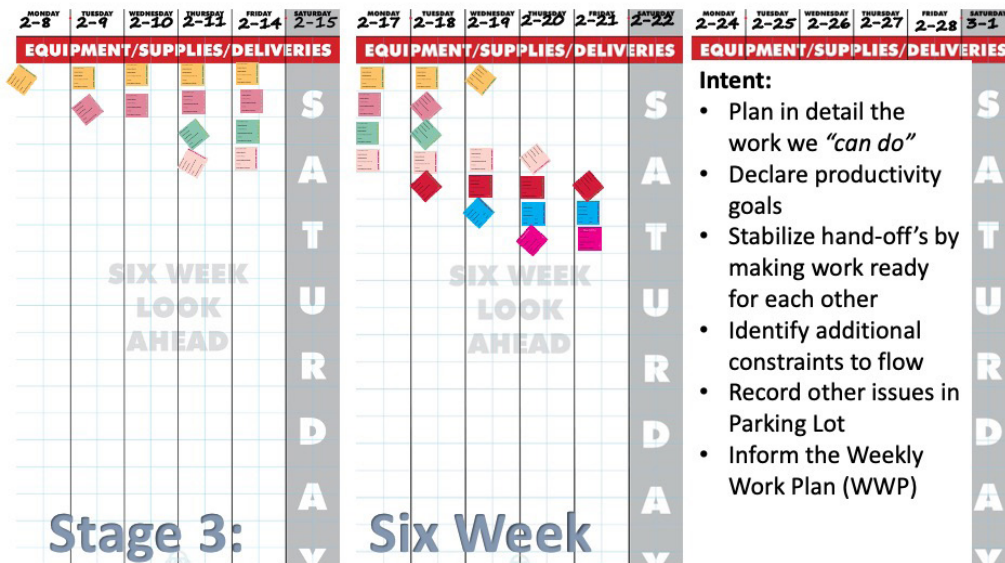
* Start by listing the roster and WBS

Stage 2:

- Start by breaking the work scope down
- Know your scope, sequence & durations
- Know your predecessors & successors
- Know who you work in tandem with
- Fill out all fields on tags
- Start looking for constraints to workflow
- Keep the Phase Pull use as a reference

Stage 3 & 4:

- Executed every week
- Completely fill-out all fields on tags
- Pull back on six week look ahead (6WLA)
- Turn first and last tag of value stream to indicate starting and ending – visual indicator
- Run Around-the-Horn
- Dig for constraints (TIMMESS) and waste (DOWNTIME)
- Listen-up
- You may have heard of the PDCA Deming Circle: Plan the work, Do the work, Check the work, Adjust the plan. In pull planning we talk about the 5 stages of planning with the final stage being focus on evaluation of the quality of planning.



Intent:

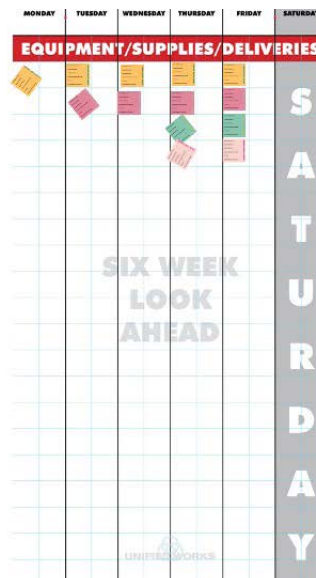
- Plan in detail the work we “can do”
- Declare productivity goals
- Stabilize hand-off’s by making work ready for each other
- Identify additional constraints to flow
- Record other issues in Parking Lot
- Inform the Weekly Work Plan (WWP)

Stage 3: Six Week

Stage 4: Weekly Work Plan

Intent:

- Review the unconstrained work we “will do”
- Continuations or part of the 6WLA which occurs weekly
- Analyze the Constraint Log and Parking Lot
- The more stable and reliable this detailed weekly plan, the better the Percent Plan Complete (PPC)
- Inform the Daily Huddle



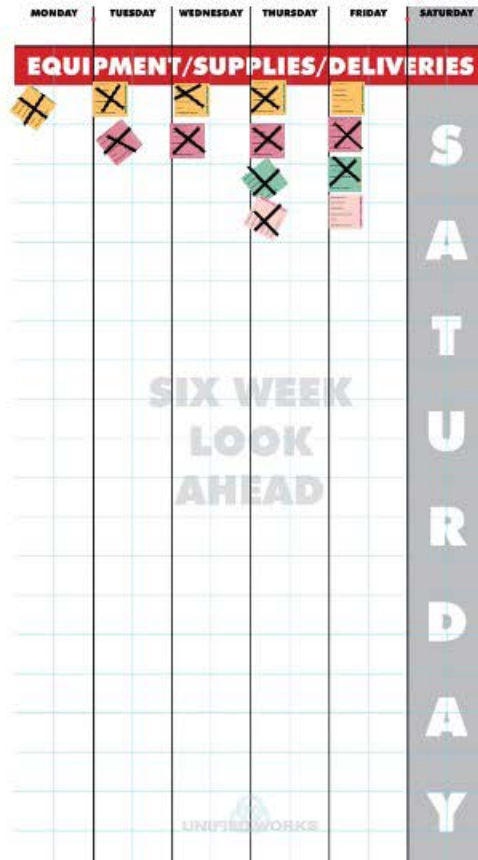
Did we get done what we planned or committed to getting completed?

We calculate a percent of planned work completed or PPC as a means to grade ourselves on the quality and accuracy of the planned commitments. 80–85% is considered a sound measure that a project is executing in a reliable and stable manner. Anything above 95% is highly likely that people are not being responsibly aggressive with their commitment making and sandbagging for better results. Anything below 70% indicates that there may be some fundamental issues with how the team is plan-

Stage 5: Check and Adjust

Intent:

- Determine how well you planned
- Calculate your (PPC)
- Identify reasons for Variances
- Replan and repopulate
- Increase accountability
- Advance teamwork



Variance & Percent Plan Complete (PPC) Log	
Project Name-	DATE
REASONS FOR NON-COMPLETION	
INACCURATE PLANNING	
PREREQUISITE WORK	
WAITING ON DECISION	
OWNER CHANGES	
DESIGN MATTER	
FAILED OR NO INSPECTION	
LABOR NOT AVAILABLE	
MATERIAL NOT AVAILABLE	
EQUIPMENT NOT AVAILABLE	
CONTRACTS	
CHANGE ORDER (CO)	
REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)	
SUBMITTALS	
WEATHER	
I FORGOT	
UNFORESEEN CONDITIONS	
VALUE ENGINEERING DELAY LONGER THAN ANTICIPATED	
NO ACCESS	
OTHER PRIORITY WORK	

Percent Plan Complete (PPC)	CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS	
	ACTUAL	PLANNED
100%		
90%		
80%		
70%		
60%		
50%		
40%		
30%		
20%		
10%		
0%		

ning and functioning. What PPC is not is a "grade" on the individual performance of any one person. We use variance analysis to look for trends in the reasons work doesn't get done; things such – open RFIs, submittal, decision not made by others, material/personnel availability, weather – all good examples of variances when evaluating our project PPC.



For a thorough and complete step by step guide to pull planning in construction my recommendation is the Pull Planning Playbook by Rich Seiler. An excellent guide written by the guy who taught me just about everything I know regarding pull planning and lean.

<https://unified-works.com/product/the-pull-planning-playbook/>

Guest columnist is Joel Klahn (1984). He is currently a Vice President for Bulley & Andrews in Chicago, IL, as well an Outreach Coach for Unified Works, specializing in lean training for design and construction. Additionally, Joel has been an active member of NMU's Construction Management Advisory Committee for more than a decade.

In the next newsletter we'll wrap up this whole conversation by completing the discussion of using Lean and LPS on the Homewood Clinic project for the University of Chicago Medicine



Joel Klahn is a Marquette Senior High School graduate, as well an NMU alumnus. He has experienced a long, productive and successful career in the industry.



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We are sincerely appreciative of the support by the donor organizations. Without that support we would not have donor funded Women in Construction tool/equipment outreach and mentorship for the students.



From our entire team



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Appreciative for the companies and as noted here. In support, we would not have provided scholarships, construction events, equipment upgrades, or marketing to find the workforce of tomorrow.

Thank you, team, thank you!



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