



# The CONNECTION



## Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain (OMID)

With the temperature in the 20's, the wind gusting, and snow flying, it seemed like the perfect day to host a groundbreaking event. Yeah, right. It was definitely not a typical project groundbreaking, nor is this project a typical project. On February 23rd representatives from Macomb and Oakland Counties, the City of Sterling Heights, the State of Michigan, and several consulting firms celebrated the beginning of a historical project.

In January, Macomb and Oakland Counties took control of the gravity-operated 21-mile-long sewer interceptor known as the Oakland-Macomb Interceptor Drain. The interceptor runs 60 to 100 feet below ground through Warren, Sterling Heights, and Shelby Township. The interceptor is more than 40 years old and is in need of repair.

The Office of the Macomb County Public Works Commissioner hired the team of NTH Consultants, Ltd. (NTH), Anderson, Eckstein and Westrick, Inc. (AEW), OHM, and Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc. (SDA) to design Access Control Structures and Gate Control Structures. These structures will allow access to the interceptor to perform the much needed repairs.



Left to Right - Steve Mancini - Ric-Man; Fritz Klinger - NTH; Paul Gielegem - Macomb County Board of Commissioners Chair; Anthony Marrocco - Macomb County Public Works Commissioner; John McCulloch - Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner; Michael Gregg - Deputy Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture; Roy Rose - AEW, and Joseph Romano - Sterling Heights City Council, Mayor Pro Tem

### Inside this Issue

Clinton River Trail Bridge	2
The SDA/DBA Team	2
Energy Audits	2
Community Matters	3
A Note from the President	3
Employee Spotlight	4
Contact Information	4
SDA Owner's Manual	4

### Money Saving Tips

With limited funding, shrinking tax revenue, and shrinking revenue sharing, municipalities are finding additional ways to save money or limit spending. With Energy Audits, Leak Detection, Pump Station Evaluations, and Facility Assessments, municipalities determine areas where cost savings may be feasible. Energy Audits reveal where energy can be saved and where minor changes or simple maintenance may save a huge amount of money. Leak Detection in water mains can save a vast amount of wasted water equating to a huge amount of money. Pump Station Evaluations can reveal where modifications are needed to reap cost savings benefits. Facility Assessments review entire sites and systems, both internal and external, to evaluate where minor changes can reap huge benefits. Grant money is used where applicable to save additional municipal funds.

## Clinton River Trail Pedestrian Bridge over Telegraph

August 12th was a popular day for groundbreaking ceremonies, as a long-awaited project broke ground in Pontiac. SDA began design work for the City of Pontiac more than five years ago on the pedestrian trail bridge over Telegraph Road (US-24). This project is the result of successful collaboration and focused efforts by the City of Pontiac, the Michigan Department of Transportation, and Friends of the Clinton River Trail (FCRT). SDA assisted the City in capturing funding from the MDNRE Trust Fund (\$485,000), but it wasn't until Pontiac was awarded a \$2.1 million stimulus grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) that the project could proceed into construction. This bridge will complete a major link in the Trail that ultimately connects pathways from the South Lyon area all the way to Rochester Hills.

Enthusiastic speakers included Pontiac Mayor Leon Jukowski, Pontiac Council President Pro Tem Patrice Waterman, MDOT TSC Manager Mia Silver, FCRT Founder Dan Keifer, and Pontiac DPW and Utilities Director Allan Schneck. Councilmembers Randy Carter, Patrice Waterman, George Williams, Mary E. Pietila, and Kermit Williams joined the Mayor in donning hardhats and turning over the dirt (see picture below). Many Friends of the Trail turned out to celebrate this occasion, as well!



Allan Schneck, PE

Friends of the Clinton River Trail

## The SDA/DBA Team

Since February of 2009, Dietrich, Bailey and Associates, PC has been part of the Spalding DeDecker family. Like any other family, it takes time to combine each other's strengths and complementary attributes. When Macomb Township decided to build a Veterans and First Responders Memorial Park in front of their Township Hall, it seemed natural to draw upon the talents of both firms; Civil Engineering and Surveying from SDA and Landscape Architectural services from DBA. And what a team it was. Jim Van Tiflin, PE and Jack Knowles, RLA, along with supporting staff, put a fantastic set of contract drawings together.

A groundbreaking was celebrated on August 12th with Macomb Township Officials, Veterans, First Responders, families of fallen veterans, and supporters. The park will be officially dedicated on November 11, 2010, Veterans Day.

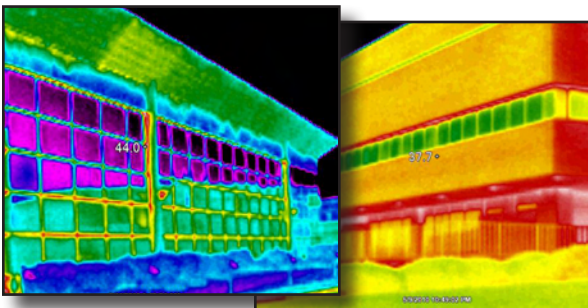


Twenty-one Gun Salute



Groundbreaking Ceremony

## Energy Audits



Infra-red scans depicting energy loss

During these economically challenging times, it is crucial that municipalities properly manage and maintain their assets. Should we upgrade or repair our energy systems? How much money can we save? Where are significant energy losses occurring? Can we receive grant money to upgrade our systems or make repairs? Today, tax dollars need to stretch as far as possible. Working with the Avrie Group, SDA can help you answer these questions by performing Energy Audits on your buildings. Energy Audits can be broken down into two phases.

Phase One - Building Envelope Evaluations - Several infra-red scans are taken of the outside building envelope. The different colors in the scans reveal areas where energy losses are occurring. To identify specific problems or issues, we physically observe and document interior and exterior evidence. All of the information is analyzed, and recommendations for repair and improvements are formulated.

Phase Two - Energy Evaluations - Utility bills for each energy system are obtained from the owner for the prior three to five years. Detailed evaluations of these utility bills are completed to determine energy consumption and usage. Based upon these evaluations, the recommendations for improvements, repairs, or replacements are compiled into a report.



## Community Matters

SDA employee-owners have been extremely busy giving their time to local communities.

### Grace Centers of Hope

One chilly Saturday morning in April, 27 enthusiastic SDA volunteers convened at the Grace Centers of Hope church at the corner of Perry and the Woodward Loop in downtown Pontiac. Rachel Leas, Grace Center of Hope Volunteer Coordinator, gave a quick synopsis of the mission at Grace outlining the One-Year and Two-Year programs for those suffering from addictions of some kind. The group fanned out with their respective task leaders to begin working on each of the individual projects at a couple of homes within the Little Grace Village on Seneca Street, including brick paver repair; storage relocation; cobblestone footing wall repair; porch hand-railings addition; yard clean-up; and porch sanding and painting.



### River Day - Office of the Macomb County Public Works Commissioner in Clinton Township

On Saturday, June 12th, SDA employees braved the heat, humidity, poison ivy, mosquitoes, and mud to make a major dent in a very large log jam in the Clinton River. Many were in the river wearing their waders hauling logs to the river's edge where they tied a rope to them. While others were on top of the 10' riverbank playing tug of war with the logs to bring them up and stack in a pile. Macomb County Public Works was very appreciative of our help.



### Troy Rouge River Rescue & Plymouth Rouge River Rescue

On Saturday, June 5th, SDA volunteers helped in Troy at the Loyd A. Stage Nature Center by removing invasive plant species (Garlic Mustard and Dames Rocket), laying down wood chips on the paths, and removing log jams and brush in the river. Participants braved poison ivy, mosquitoes, and native rose plants with killer thorns. In short, everyone had a great time. Also, several SDA/DBA employees participated in the Plymouth Township Rouge River Rescue. The event took place at the Plymouth Township Park where native species were planted along the Tonquish Creek and in the prairie area.



### Plymouth Good Morning USA 4th of July Parade

On Saturday, July 3rd, the Fourth of July weekend began with a bang at the Plymouth Township Fireworks. The fireworks were launched from Hilltop Golf Course, and Plymouth Township Park was open to the public for viewing. DBA volunteered for the event by patrolling in golf carts to keep people from sneaking onto the golf course. We enjoyed a nice evening with front row seats for the fireworks.



Jay and Riley Czarnecki patrol the course

On Sunday, July 4th, the DBA house was open for the 7:30 AM Good Morning USA Parade. Both DBA and SDA employees enjoyed the parade, along with a selection of sweets.

After the parade, Plymouth Township held their 14th Annual 4th of July Picnic. The fun included games and prizes, as well as face painting, hot dogs, chips, soda, and ice cream for a small donation. DBA participated by passing out ice cream.



Stephanie Harbour and Mike Bailey serve ice cream at the Plymouth Township 4th of July picnic

## A Note from the President ...

*"I am honored to be appointed President and Chief Financial Officer by the Board of Directors. I am excited about using my business acumen to bring a fresh perspective to the opportunities and challenges that are presented to SDA. With our employee-owners and leadership team we have in place, I believe SDA has a very bright future," said Steve Benedettini.*



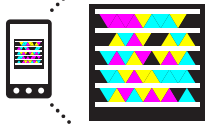
# DIETRICH, BAILEY AND ASSOCIATES, PC **DBA**

a subsidiary of Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc.

Engineering Consultants | Infrastructure | Land Development | Surveying | Landscape Architecture



SPALDING DEDECKER  
ASSOCIATES, INC.



Get the free mobile app at  
<http://gettag.mobi>

## Contact Information

The Connection is a publication of Spalding DeDecker Associates, Inc. Copyright © 2010. All rights reserved. The next Connection will be sent electronically via email. If you would still like to receive the paper copy, please send an e-mail to Catherine DeDecker at [cdedecker@sda-eng.com](mailto:cdedecker@sda-eng.com). For more information, please contact Steve Benedettini at [sbenedettini@sda-eng.com](mailto:sbenedettini@sda-eng.com) or Toll Free: 1-800-598-1600.

We're on the web at [www.sda-eng.com](http://www.sda-eng.com)

Offices: Cleveland, Ohio | Detroit, Monroe, Plymouth, Rochester Hills, and Trenton, Michigan

## Employee Spotlight

### Wanagat, MSPE Young Engineer of the Year

Scott Wanagat, PE, a Project Engineer for our Transportation Department, received the 2010 Young Engineer of the Year award from the Detroit Metro Chapter of the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers. The award was presented on February 18th at the 39th Annual Gold Award Banquet hosted by the Engineering Society of Detroit.



### Becht, APWA Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector

John Becht, Contract Administrator for our Construction Engineering Department, passed the American Public Works Association (APWA) Certified Public Infrastructure Inspector Certification Examination and is one of only two technicians certified in the State of Michigan.

## Detroit Office Space

We have relocated our Detroit office to 1435 Randolph, Suite 404, Detroit, MI 48226. The phone (313) 967-4700 and fax (313) 967-4707 numbers remain the same.



## SDA Owner's Manual (cont'd. from prior issue)

This manual is a reminder to SDA Owners of the culture and conduct that has made SDA a great company and will continue to do so. The Manual contains four engagement areas: Emotional, Spiritual, Physical, and Mental.

Excerpt from Physical Engagement: "The Corporate Health of SDA is dependent upon my physical health. I will strive to maintain a healthy lifestyle which includes a good diet, exercise, sufficient sleep, and preventive health care."