



BRAMBULL

NEWS AND INFORMATION FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF
DAVID A. BRAMBLE, INC.

NOVEMBER 2005

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy Thanksgiving

Once again we are entering the home stretch of the construction season. After Thanksgiving, there will be four weeks until our annual Christmas shutdown. This has been a good year for the Company after the two previous mediocre ones. It would have been a great year had it not been for the relentless inflation in the cost of fuel and materials.

For the first time in my career, the stone suppliers raised their prices in the middle of the year. This was in addition to transportation surcharges that were imposed as fuel prices climbed. Concrete, steel and pipe prices rose steadily through out the year and even locked in prices didn't always hold. Fuel prices increased steadily throughout the first eight months of the year.

This was the situation when Hurricanes Katrina and Rita devastated the Gulf Coast. Diesel fuel prices rose 50 cents in one day, the week after Katrina; and the plastic pipe

p r i c e s

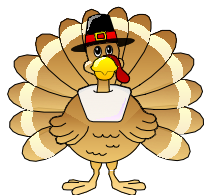
were even worse. For almost a month we

could not

get prices on PVC and PE pipe and then the quotes were good only for one day. This was a very difficult climate to buy materials in and to bid work. It was so difficult that we decided to turn down an apron expansion project at the Easton Airport that we thought had excellent prices on ninety days earlier.

Despite these challenges, we have had a very productive fall. The paving crews have completed all the scheduled work on the four county contracts and are waiting for the utility contractor in Millington to finish before we can complete some extra work there. We have finished the mainline work on the MD. 404 project and should complete the project in the next four weeks. The last large paving project we hope to complete is the US 301 job in Kent County where we are trying to work every day possible on the mainline paving so we can get all the road that we milled covered up. With a little help from the weather, we should finish paving before Christmas.

The grading and utility crews continue to make headway on our private work and we are on target to reach our goals at Symphony Village, Deep Harbor, The Pond and Coventry. While none of these projects will be done this year, we are in a good position to finish them early next year.



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The SHA work that involves grading and electrical utility work has not gone as well as our other work. We have had significant design delays on the MD 213 job in Chestertown and the truck weigh station project in Cecil County. Because of this, both of these jobs will have to be finished next year. The same is probably true of the J-Turn project which has had electrical hold ups that have delayed the paving to the point we may not complete it this year.

The Snow Hill project got off to a slow start because of design issues. But once we started, it has gone very well. We should have half of the job graded with borrow up to the capping borrow level by shut down.

We have just started the MD. 404 Denton Bypass Phase II job. The major task that we have to accomplish before shut down is getting access for our bridge subcontractor, George & Lynch to get to the water and start driving test piles.

Finally, despite all of our troubles the hurricanes caused us, we are very lucky that we don't live on the Gulf Coast and didn't have to live through a Category 3 or 4 hurricane.

The company made a contribution of \$5,000 to the hurricane relief fund, split between the American Red Cross and the displaced hot mix asphalt workers' fund that the National Asphalt Paving Association organized.

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE THANKSGIVING

FIRM HAPPENINGS

Kudos to everyone who participated in the Great American Smokeout on Thursday, November 17, 2005. Remember if you can quit smoking for even one day, you could be on your way to a smoke free life.

The Memorial Bench for Mr. David A. Bramble is in place at St. Paul's Churchyard. On November 20th, there was a brief dedication ceremony for the bench. And below is a letter that we received from Mrs. Bramble thanking us for the Memorial Bench for Mr. Bramble.

Dear Employees of David A. Bramble, Inc.,

The Bramble Family and I want to thank all of you for the memorial bench which you placed on David Bramble's grave at St. Paul's Cemetery.

Special thanks are due to Bill Wetmore, who originated the project, and to Libby Creighton, who took care of the paperwork and contacted the people who made and placed the bench on the grave. It is a beautiful bench and matches the gravestone perfectly. Please visit the churchyard at any time if you wish to see it.

David was always proud of the people who worked for him. He expected a lot from them and they gave a lot. Thank you for continuing the tradition

Sincerely,
y,

Margaret K.

Bramble

A portion of Tolchester Beach Road has been dedicated with a sign to the memory of Mr. David A. Bramble. The Kent County Commissioners and the Bramble Family participated in a small dedication ceremony on November 15, 2005 at the site of the memorial sign.

The Company's winter shut down date is Friday, December 23rd.



ROAD WIRE

from Wanda Woodall & Tony DiMaggio

NOVEMBER 2005 - What an interesting month it has been so far! We have not only been able to provide enough trucks for, AT 635- MD 404 project, (for the most part), but at the same time fulfilling the needs of the WO767-Snow Hill project! Immediately following the MD 404 milling, we jumped to KE455 US 301 north. It has been a whirlwind time jumping us from 40 plus trucks a day to 70 plus trucks a day. We do appreciate all those that have contributed to the success of our daily operations, not only the Drivers, but Mechanics, Foreman and Supervisors and for understanding the confines and restrictions that each job and truck demands.

Since our last Newsletter in August we have had the following changes:

New Drivers

Roland Roach - Easton Plant
Tim Glenn - Chestertown

Drivers that have left

David Schoolfield
Matt Fletcher
Wesley Sobolesky
Gary Griffin - has joined B37's crew
Donald Kirwan

We are also sure that everyone has noticed the 3 new dump trucks that arrived here on Thursday, Nov. 17, 2005. Gee they look funny sitting here black and white. Do believe they are on their way to the paint shop very shortly. Hopefully, they will join the fleet when we return next year.

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Shoulder Injuries

We hear a lot about back injuries and how they can keep you laid up and out of work for a long time. But the fact is that shoulder injuries often keep people out of work even longer than back injuries - sometimes nearly twice as long.

Nearly anyone can suffer a shoulder injury, but your risk increases when you do work that's above shoulder level, such as painting, certain types of assembly work, or repairing overhead equipment.

Is it serious or not? Even if you work safely, sometimes a shoulder injury can happen anyway. Reality: too many people ignore shoulder injuries, assuming the problem will work itself out. This can aggravate the condition and lead to bigger problems than the original injury.

If you think you might have a shoulder injury, consider these questions:

Are you experiencing a lack of strength in the shoulder that's interfering with your usual tasks?

Does your shoulder feel stiff? Can you rotate your arm in all positions?

Does it feel like your shoulder could pop out or slide out of the arm socket?

While pain is the most common symptom of a shoulder injury, a lack of pain can be deceptive. Varying levels of stiffness and a "locking" sensation can occur with

or without pain. Another possible sign of a shoulder injury is numbness or tingling in the arm. If you're experiencing any of these symptoms, seek medical attention as soon as possible.

Don't take chances. If you think you could have an injured shoulder you should:

Restrict lifting to light objects and keep them below shoulder height.

Keep your arms close to your body when lifting.

Avoid raising your arms above your shoulders.

Don't keep your arm in a sling unless advised to do so by your doctor, as this can further stiffen your shoulder joint.

Preventive measures. Obviously, you're better off not suffering a shoulder injury in the first place. One way to reduce your risk is to exercise caution when your arms must be elevated to perform the job. Don't reach to place or remove heavy objects above shoulder height; use a stepladder or other stable platform instead. Practice safe lifting techniques, using your legs for leverage rather than your arms and shoulders. Last, consider applying heat to your shoulder muscles before you begin work. Heat helps get the tendons and muscles ready for activity.



SAFETY NOTE
