



Everyone is looking up at St. Rita's, due in part to the crane at the site of the new patient tower building. By the time you receive this issue, the crane will be getting ready to set steel for the framework.

I hope everyone has been enjoying the improved traffic around the Medical Center thanks to the opening of Baxter Street outside the new Loading Dock and the synchronized traffic lights at Market and Collett, Charles and North, and Baxter and North. The Baxter and North light is at the entry to the Medical Office Building parking lot which is the only entrance to the lot. With the left turn signal and push-button pedestrian crossing light, the entrance is much safer and has eliminated the bottleneck some experienced before the light. We very much appreciate the work and cooperation of the City of Lima in getting the lights installed and operational.

Two new visitor lots are now complete at the west end of the property near Charles and visitor Lot #1 is being renovated. The picturesque bridge over the "wet pond" is finished even though the wet pond itself will not be operational until 2006.

This will be our last monthly Construction Corner... we will be publishing every other month from now on. You should receive your next issue the end of October. As always, I appreciate your comments about the newsletter and the overall Medical Center of the Future project.

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TOWER CRANE AT WORK ON THE PATIENT TOWER



"I'm glad that's not my job" or something similar is often heard as people view the Tower Crane*. Fortunately, everyone doesn't feel that way.

"I love my job and can't wait to go to work every day," said crane

operator, A. J. Steinke. "There are not a lot of people who can say that."

Steinke, who grew up in Wapakoneta, has been doing this job for 11 years. He has primarily been working out West including Seattle, San Francisco and, most recently in Denver.

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In the Spotlight

Mike Stewart, McCarthy Assistant Project Engineer, is a 2005 graduate of the University of Missouri at Columbia, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration.



Although the Medical Center of the Future project is his first assignment as a McCarthy professional, he has a long history with the McCarthy Company. A native of St. Louis, Mike grew up just one mile from the McCarthy Corporate offices. His mother is an estimator for McCarthy and has been with the St. Louis office for 24 years.

"During high school I worked as a laborer or 'yard dog', Mike said, "and summers when I in college, I worked in the McCarthy offices... which is a much cooler place to be in St. Louis in the summer".

When asked if he was predestined to work for McCarthy, Mike said he looked at other opportunities, but he knew first hand what a great company McCarthy was to work for...a great family company, in his case, both literally and figuratively.

Even though the job has long hours and an enormous amount of paperwork, Mike says he enjoys working with such a large and extensive project.

In his free time he enjoys riding mountain bikes, snow skiing and camping...interests he shares with his girlfriend Katie.

TOWER CRANE AT WORK ON THE PATIENT TOWER

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"It's the first time I've been able to work 'back home'" he continued.

A member of the Operating Engineers Union, Local # 18, Steinke has all the required professional credentials and OSHA certifications.

"I originally got the opportunity to become a tower crane operator because of my experience operating heavy equipment growing up on the family farm in Wapakoneta. I received really good training and it has been a great career path for me," he said.

This is his first job on a McCarthy site and he has been very impressed with the company. "The McCarthy people are very professional. The company has the utmost regard for safety," he said.

He walks the 220 steps to the cab where he has all the amenities, which is good since he currently spends about 10 hours a day in the crane cab... some 220 feet from the street. Steinke refers to the climb as good cardio exercise. As soon as he enters the cab he puts on his safety harness.

Also in the cab with him is the oiler who does maintenance on the crane and is in and out of the cab. The oiler is Keith Gorman from Cridersville, who is also getting to work close to home. He has been doing most of his work in the Columbus area.

High winds and other weather related occurrences are the only things that could impact the Tower Crane work. It is not impacted by regular weather including rain, or snow. The cab is grounded so even if it is hit by lightning, the cab is safe.

According to Mac Dunn, Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing Project Superintendent, the Tower Crane, which will be on site for the next year is currently preparing to set steel for the framework.



Oiler, Keith Gorman (L), Todd Freed, McCarthy Project Director, and Operator, A.J. Steinke(R) get a bird's eye view from the deck outside the cab.



A.J. Steinke Crane Operator(L) and Todd Freed, McCarthy Project Director in the Tower Crane Cab.

"The Tower Crane is very impressive in many ways," said Dunn. "Although it may be a first in Lima, these cranes are common at major construction sites. The Tower Crane is used to lift steel, concrete, large equipment like air handlers, chillers and cooling towers, as well as many other building materials. The base is bolted to a large concrete pad that supports the crane. After a certain point, the crane actually builds itself one section at a time. The Tower Crane can lift over 40,000 pounds depending on where the load is carried. The closer the load is to the mast (tower), the more weight it can carry. Loads farther along the jib (long arm) must be lighter.

An on-board computer helps the operator know just where he is in the crane's 360 degree circle capacity for complete placement accuracy which is obviously, extremely important".

* The name of the "giant" crane is actually a Tower Crane...not just because it is building our Patient Tower.



Now that Materials Management/ Distribution has moved to their new location, preparations are underway to start the demolition of the old area. The area is being demolished to make way for the new dietary area. The fence that has been constructed on High Street has been extended to enclose the old loading dock so demolition can begin.



Two new visitor lots at the west end of the property near Charles are complete. The lots have added some 250 spaces for visitor parking.



The new Loading Dock is in business.



Baxter Street between Market and High is resurfaced, refinished and reopened.

Material Services Manager Scott McConnell (C) and Materials Management Director Terry Bay(R) review the new storeroom with materials handler Mathew Howard.



St. Rita's Construction
CORNER

Q&A

Question and Answer

Q. What keeps the Tower Crane from falling over?

A. You will notice that there are no cables or support wires to hold the crane in place – but there are a number of features designed to keep it from falling over

- 1.) Prior to the crane's arrival a large concrete pad was poured - 30 feet by 30 feet by 4 feet thick which weighs over 400,000 pounds. The base of the crane was then attached to large foundation anchor bolts embedded deep into this concrete.
- 2.) At the top of the crane there are 5 counter-weights weighing 13,500 pounds each mounted on the tail of the jib (horizontal arm). As loads are picked, these counter weights are automatically adjusted to balance the jib.
- 3.) There is also a computer on-board that calculates the maximum pick load based on how

far out on the jib, a load is being picked. It will automatically weigh the load and shut the crane down if it is too heavy.

4.) Lastly, there is a manual safety switch, designed to monitor how far the tower deflects or bends. If the tower deflects too much (picking up too heavy of a load) then it will automatically shut down. With all that being said, high winds can still be a concern. To eliminate the crane catching the wind and acting as a sail, you will notice that it is free swinging like a wind-sock when not in use – so don't be concerned when you see the crane blowing in the breeze!



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