



STORYLINE

STORY CONSTRUCTION NEWS & VIEWS

SPRING 2012



Mike Espeset

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Striving for what matters most

I have spent much of my life striving for things – never satisfied, always seeking to improve, to accomplish, to try, to experience. Striving. I had an experience over Spring Break that may explain where some of this comes from. I attended the national AGC conference in Hawaii and was able to take my parents with me. They have never been to Hawaii, nor have my wife and kids. It was the trip of a lifetime.

It was a particularly special trip for my mom and dad. My dad was diagnosed with stage IV pancreatic cancer in March 2011. Shortly after the diagnosis, it was easy to see the glass as half-empty. He needed to strive for the future, for better health and for good things to come. I was cheering him on, but he needed to do the work.

When we booked this trip last December, he was feeling good; as the trip approached, he was feeling great. His medications are working, his energy is good and his outlook is positive. We are all grateful for all of this and not willing to waste a minute. While we were in Hawaii, we set out to do two hikes: Manoa Falls and Diamond Head. My uncle Bob encouraged my dad to do the Manoa Falls hike with the challenge that my grandmother (their mom) had done it when she was 90 years old. My grandma is still going strong at 95, but my dad still did not want to be shown up.



Mike (far right) stands with his family at the base of Manoa Falls after completing their hike.

I will tell you that it was a challenging hike through the tropical rainforest in the mud with poor footing; every step needed to be "on purpose." Like my grandma before us, my dad and I made it, striving to meet our goal and finish.

The next day we hiked Diamond Head. My dad did not set any speed records, but he kept one foot in front of the other until he made it to the top. The following day he said to me, "A year ago I had one foot in the grave and the other on a banana peel, and yesterday I hiked Diamond Head." He was

proud of the accomplishment, grateful for his health and the opportunity to do it and glad to be able to share it with my mom and my family. It will always be a reminder to me to keep striving for things that matter in my personal life, at home, at work and in the community. Because, when all is said and done, that's what matters most.

Mike Espeset, President

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PROJECT FOCUS

Remodeling improves quality of life at Montrose Health Center



Residents at Montrose Health Center, a skilled-nursing facility located near the Mississippi River along the Iowa-Illinois border, are enjoying an improved quality of life thanks to a recent project in which Story Construction served as the design-builder to remodel eight double-occupancy rooms into eight private rooms with their own ADA-compliant restrooms.

Private rooms in health care facilities not only enhance residents' lives by offering more privacy, but also allow for better disease management to reduce the spread of infection among this vulnerable population. In addition to remodeling the rooms in the center's Oasis wing, Story also demolished an existing wall to open the dining/activity room up into the corridor and gave the entire space a face lift with a fresh coat of paint. The open concept enables more socialization among residents and staff and provides a more home-like atmosphere.

Before completing the two-month project, Story also reworked the entire HVAC system to provide fresh air exchange in the newly remodeled wing and brought all electrical systems up to code.

Owner: Montrose Health Center

Industry: Senior Living

Delivery Method: Design+Build

Project Manager: Larry Dix

Project Engineers: Jon Hand, LEED AP®; Brett Walker

Architect: John Snyder, AIA, DBIA Story Design, Ltd.

Project Size: 3,600 square feet

Completed: November 2011

SMALL PROJECTS FILE:

Des Moines Area Community College Science Rooms and Maintenance Facility

OWNER Des Moines Area Community College

DELIVERY METHOD General Contractor

PROJECT MANAGER Randy Cummings

PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT Ron North

PROJECT DESCRIPTION In 2011, Story's Small Projects Group completed several jobs for Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) at four of the organization's campuses. At the Des Moines Urban Campus as well as those in West Des Moines and Newton, Story remodeled existing classrooms to convert them into science laboratory space. Work included demolishing existing finishes, removing existing concrete flooring for new underground plumbing and associated mechanical and electrical demolition. The new construction included wall framing, drywall, epoxy resinous flooring, ceilings, new Hamilton Fisher laboratory casework and installing new mechanical and electrical systems to create a working lab space for their students.

Due to the ongoing growth at DMACC's Boone Campus, a larger maintenance facility was required to house additional vehicles and equipment. Story's Small Projects Group expanded the existing maintenance storage building by constructing a 40 x 50' addition which included four overhead door openings and a man door. As part of the project, the existing building's sidewall, roof steel and trims were replaced so the exterior of the existing and new building would match.



PROJECT FOCUS

Story partners with Army Corps of Engineers to strengthen levees, dams

Vast experience with concrete and water control structures makes Story a valuable bid package contractor on federal infrastructure projects.

Major floods in Iowa's recent history have caused officials to strengthen the state's water control structures, including many of its levees and dams, to prevent further damage to communities situated near lakes and rivers. In 2011, Story completed work as a bid package contractor for two major projects along the Des Moines River initiated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

In June, Story finished work pouring concrete for five new and existing gate well structures and a new headwall and monolith structure for the Birdland Park Levee System, which is responsible for providing flood protection to downtown Des Moines. After failing during the floods of 2008 and damaging scores of homes and businesses, the Birdland Levee was deemed a priority by the Army Corps of Engineers, which contracted with Ceres Environmental Services for a three-year, \$12.2 million reconstruction project. In addition to making the levee wider and taller than its predecessor, the project included reinforcing shorelines, installing new gates and repairing pump stations to provide Des Moines with a more reliable flood line than ever before.

Further downstream, at the dam that feeds Lake Red Rock, Story worked as a bid package contractor for Kovilic Construction to repair damage to the reservoir's flood control facilities and mechanical systems that was caused by the floods of 2008 and 2010. This project consisted of building a new concrete platform and bulkhead system that juts out 65 feet into 15,000-acre lake, which included constructing a stairway and platform to access the bulkhead and forming and placing concrete for the bulkhead/platform structure and curbs, plates and angles. Because work required the access road to be shut down and traffic detoured, Story's ability to complete the quick-turnaround job in just six weeks was instrumental to the project's success.



Owner: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Industry: Government

Delivery Method: Bid Package Contractor

Project Manager: Jerry Long

Project Superintendents: Randy Lundstrom; John Rogers

Completed: November 2011



Major excavation was necessary before Story could properly pour new concrete for the Birdland Levee.



New gate wells along the Birdland Levee will better withstand future floods.



The platform and bulkhead system at the Red Rock Dam stretched 65 feet over the water.

PROJECT FOCUS

Phase I-A of Application Development Center completed for Sauer-Danfoss



In December, Story wrapped up work on Phase I-A of the Sauer-Danfoss Application Development Center – a state-of-the-art, multi-terrain facility that the company will use to develop and test the transmissions and associated systems it makes for off-highway vehicles in the agriculture, construction, road-building and specialty sectors.

Building on a long-term relationship with the global manufacturer, Story is serving as the design-builder for this multi-phased project that is anticipated to continue through 2014. Phase I-A included site grading, excavation and utility infrastructure work. Phase I-B, which is currently underway, involves laying the gravel track and sub-drainage systems, while Phases II and III will result in laying the quarter-mile, high-speed hard track and preparing a paved lot, maneuvering area and two hills. Phase IV will involve erecting a 12,750-square-foot vehicle maintenance building and an 18,000-square-foot all-season test building. Once it is finished, the facility will offer Sauer-Danfoss and its customers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to test the equipment it manufactures.

Owner: Sauer-Danfoss
Industry: Industrial
Delivery Method: Design+Build
Project Manager: Darrell Reeves
Project Superintendent: Dale Hofert
Architect: John Snyder, AIA, DBIA Story Design, Ltd.
Completed: December 2011



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SAVE THE DATE!

Story Construction's Annual Industry Appreciation Event



WHEN? Thursday, July 19, 2012
5-8 p.m.

WHERE? The Pavilion at Coldwater Golf Links
615 South 16th Street
Ames, Iowa 50010

WHY? Each year, Story Construction celebrates its relationships with subcontractors and suppliers by hosting an Industry Appreciation Event. We provide dinner and drinks and recognize firms with our Subcontractor and Supplier of the Year Awards.

Look for your invitation to arrive via mail or e-mail in June.
We hope to see you there!