

Our Mission

To be the leading consultant solving the engineering or land surveying problems unique to rural-urban communities and their enterprise—government, business, and agribusiness. And in the process, to build trust and lasting relationships with the people among whom we work and live. ◀

PROJECTS

Storm Lake has additional drainage work

New CREP projects begin in Algona

SEVERAL NEW Monona County drainage projects have been added to the Storm Lake office project list; and in Algona, work begins on an additional CREP (Conservation Resources Enhancement Program) project located in Kossuth County.

Says Ivan Droessler, "KPL has been directed to proceed with the reclassification of the **five Gray Lateral districts in Monona County**. The field review of overlapping boundaries will begin immediately with reclassification to be completed by July." Approximately 6000 acres are involved in the project. Jaylin Dahlhauser will lead the effort.

Kuehl and Payer has also been appointed engineer by the **Little Sioux Drainage District** to complete a right-of-way review. "The review will involve GIS mapping for approximately three miles of the Monona-Harrison Levee District. The preliminary report is due in mid-May.

"We've also been asked to be the engineer with district
Continued, PROJECTS, page 2

Neal Kuehl presents case study at ASCE conference

NEAL KUEHL was one of a select group of experts to make presentations at the 45th Annual ASCE Environmental and Water Resources Design Conference held March 22 in Coralville, Iowa.

The conference focused on challenges that face engineers and managers working to improve and maintain the quantity and quality of Iowa's water resources. A number of issues were highlighted during the day long program including recent "record" flood events in Iowa, the rapid increase in

Iowa's suburban growth, an aging stormwater system infrastructure, and land use.

Neal spoke during the Water Quality Session presenting a case study and paper entitled: Drinking Water Quality—Control of Distribution System Nitrification and Nitrite Control.

Conference participants were primarily practicing engineers, scientists, urban planners, developers, and administrators from both the public and private sectors. ◀

Can you identify this project?



Nine years ago this spring the first issue of *InterActive* was published. Since then, many KPL projects have been pictured in its pages. Can you identify this one? Four more appear inside. Answers on the back.

**PROJECTS,
continued**

watchman responsibilities for the **Nagel Drainage District**, also in Monona County.”

The **annexation** of additional land to **Drainage District 10, Calhoun County** has been completed; annexation reports for **Drainage District 81 Sac County and Joint Drainage District 19 and 26 Sac and Buena Vista Counties** have been filed with hearings scheduled for April 17. A right-of-way acquisition report for this joint drainage district has also been filed with a hearing scheduled in May.

The Commissioners’ report on **reclassification** for **Drainage District 10 Calhoun County** has been filed and the hearing scheduled for May. The Commissioners’ report on reclassification on **Drainage District 81** was filed on April 17; and the reclassification report on **Joint Drainage District 19 and 26, Sac and Buena Vista County** will be filed April 24.



2. Can you identify this project? Answer on the back page.

Construction on the **clean out** work on **Drainage District 10 in Calhoun County** will begin in May as will the work on the partial clean out of **Joint Drainage District 19 and 26, Sac and Buena Vista County**. The completion of **pipe**

installation and spoil bank leveling on **Gray Lateral E, Monona County** will be completed as soon as the weather is fit.

Work begins in the Algona office on a new **CREP project** in Kossuth County. “And as soon as winter leaves, we anticipate wrapping up two or three of the CREP projects currently in house,” says Don Etler. “Design work on two more will begin.”



3. Can you identify this project? Answer on the back page.

“A bid letting was held March 8 for the **Luverne Magor Drainage Conservation Association, LLC, to construct a large drain tile system** for land south of Corwith. This will enable the closure of two agricultural drainage wells. Work will be completed this summer. The project features a 30 inch tile main approximately 20 feet deep over a reach of 1.5 miles. This association is a nonprofit organization formed by area farmers to apply for a grant from the Iowa Watershed Improvement Review Board. A grant for \$389,000 was received. It will pay for 45% of the project.

“The large **reclassification** of **Joint Drainage District 77, Pocahontas and Palo Alto Counties** is complete and has



4. Can you identify this project? Answer on the back page.

been filed with the joint boards. This project was done using GIS software and LiDAR data.

“Work continues on several other projects, we have seen an increase in requests for wetland appeal assistance and also for reviews related to property line drainage disputes between land-owners.”

In other Algona project news, Curt Wiseman reports that the **wastewater treatment lagoon improvements** for **Early and Pomeroy** are in design. They had been held up by environmental clearances and land acquisitions. He adds, “we are also in the planning process for a **subdivision in Alogona**, we’re doing design now, with construction this summer. This will add 16 new lots to the east side of Algona.

“We will also be doing the **civil work for a building addition for Snap-On Tools**. This will be a fast-track project. Bids should be let privately in the next couple of weeks with the building up and complete by November.

“We have completed the design for a hog confinement unit, permits have been issued and the construction will begin as soon as the weather allows. We’ll be doing the

inspections. Two other construction projects are in progress—the new **pellet-making building**



5. Can you identify this project? Answer on the back page.

at the **Cherokee Landfill** and the **swimming pool for Hospers**.

The slide for the pool came in last week and the pool will definitely be done in time for the swimming season this summer. Also underway, a study for **Algona** to solve some **storm sewer** problems and a study of a **wastewater treatment plant for Oak Lake**, a suburb of Algona.

Kent Rode reports that construction on the **Battle Creek Trail** that will connect the back of the school to a city recreational area is scheduled to begin this month. **The First Street Project in Alta** will begin in June, and we're working on permitting for several hog buildings."

Tom Edgerton is doing the **final platting for a proposed Emmetsburg industrial park**, the **boundary and building layouts for Crown Prairie** hog confinement units and a number of topographical surveys.

In Storm Lake, Neal Kuehl says, "We're finishing two **pools**. They should be done by the end of May—in **Cherokee and Clear Lake**. We've been hired by **Akron** to do a planning study for a new pool and at **Belmond**—we worked with them to upgrade plans for modifying their pool—they are in a money raising stage."

Design for a major **water distribution project in Albert City** is finishing. "That should go to bid in May or June.

"Design of a **pump station for Camp Dodge in Des Moines** will begin within the next two weeks; we've contracted with **Sloan** for an **aerated lagoon system** similar to the one we designed for Strawberry Point."

The Strawberry Point system was Iowa's first covered aerated lagoon designed to remove ammonia year round (see *InterAction*, September-October, 2006).

Continued, PROJECTS, page 4

News about KPLers

Heidi Rode honored with engineering scholarship at ISU

HEIDI RODE, a freshman at Iowa State University majoring in Civil Engineering, was honored at the annual awards banquet of the Civil Engineering Society held at Hickory Hall on the university campus. Heidi who is active in the student chapter of ASCE (American Society of Civil Engineering) received one of three scholarships awarded. Her parents, **Kent and Robin Rode** went to Ames to see her receive the scholarship.

Professional activities

Neal Kuehl will be speaking to the Region Three Water and Wastewater Operators Conference to be held in Storm Lake in May. His topic: Iron Removal. Neal also presented a paper at a recent ASCE conference (separate story).



Heidi Rode

Don Etler spoke to the Leadership Algona class on March 12. The presentation covered Kuehl and Payer it's history, services, and personnel.

Don has also been appointed to another term on the ACEC Environment and Energy Committee. This will be Don's eighth year on the committee.

KPL family

Jo Fraser has a new grandson. **Evan Mitchel White** was born April 10 weighing in at seven pounds, seven ounces. He lives with this Mom and Dad and two brothers **Ian**, nine, and **Corbin**, three, in Cresco, Iowa.

Sports and academics

Jacob Droessler has started spring football training at Minnesota State. He has been moved to center from right guard. The spring game will be played on April 28.

Tangy Wiseman and her fellow basketball team members won five tournaments this season. Dad, Curt, was the head coach for one of the tournaments. "It makes me 2 and 0 as a head coach," laughs Curt.

Lucas Droessler is the varsity catcher on his baseball team. It is his senior year. He has been accepted at Iowa State

University where he plans to major in landscape architecture or graphic design. **Isaac Droessler** is graduating from the eighth grade and is playing on the St. Mary's junior varsity baseball team this spring.



Evan Mitchel White with brothers Ian and Corbin.

Happy birthday

To **Ivan Droessler** whose birthday is March 12; to **Peggy Johnson** whose birthday is March 24; and to **Tommy Wallerstedt** whose birthday is April 25. ◀◀

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Projects, continued ...

Neal and John Devitt are also getting the plans, specs, and bidding documents for the **City of Westside** project which goes to bid on May 3.

Construction on a number of projects has been slowed by rain and snow. Says Bob Payer, "It's been an unusual spring after such a mild winter. There are projects where grading and earth work are two to four weeks behind.

"On the **Storm Lake Elementary School project**, bids for the **storm water drainage and access roads** needed to get the building contractor to the site for the major part of construction are out to bid. The major work will be let in August."

Bob is also preparing the permit application for **closure for the Buena Vista County Landfill** in October of this year.

In **surveying** projects, Scott Shevel reports that work is starting on the **Highway 60 bypass staking in Sibley**; and on the **construction staking for the Sunset Bay Condominiums in Storm Lake**. "Also we will hopefully complete the **Great Lawn and Awaysis Lodge Parking Lot** this spring. We're putting the finishing touches on the **Sac City storm sewer mapping**, and there are **subdivision projects** underway in **Lost Island** and two in **Storm Lake**.

Clarence Krepps is conducting a **search for a new city manager for the city of Guttenburg**, Iowa. Guttenburg is located on the Mississippi River north of Dubuque.

If you have questions or want more information about these or similar projects, talk to any of the people mentioned. ◀

KPL engineers certified for EQIP funded projects

IVAN DROESSLER and Jaylin Dahlhauser have completed the required course work and have been certified by the NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) as Technical Service Providers (TSP) to provide design and engineering services for animal waste projects funded by that agency's Environmental Quality Incentives Program or EQIP.

EQIP is a voluntary conservation program that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality. One of the priorities of EQIP is to assist livestock producers to modernize their existing animal feeding operations to improve water quality.

"The financial assistance is intended as an incentive for producers to replace their older and environmentally unfriendly animal waste facilities," explains Ivan. In order to qualify for the funding, the design, planning, or engineering must be done by either TSPs certified by the NRCS or done by NRCS personnel. The certification program was established because the NRCS doesn't have the staff to meet the demand for technical assistance to do conservation work.

Certification requires specified training and different types of projects require different types of certification. "Since 2002 I've been a certified provider for waterway construction, farm ponds, grade stabilization structures, engineered conservation practices—up to the past year if you were a PE you could certify for animal waste without doing the special course work. Now you have to do the course work."

Although not all animal waste projects engineered by Kuehl and Payer are EQIP funded, the firm is completing an average of five such projects a year. ◀

ANSWERS: Can you identify this project?

1. (Front page) Clarion swimming pool
2. Rembrandt Enterprises
3. Strawberry Point wastewater treatment
4. Spencer Skate Park
5. Algona Downtown ◀