

# THE WEST END WIRE



An Internet Publication For The Information And Enjoyment Of Our Employees  
And Friends Of WEST END ELECTRIC CO., INC.

APRIL & MAY 2011

WestEndElectricCo.com

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## WELCOME SPRING!

Spring is my favorite season of the year. After seeing the gray landscape that comes with a harsh winter, I'm always ready for the changes that spring brings to us each year. Seeing the trees and flowers respond to the warmer temperatures and rains, and the sound of birds singing again is always a welcome sight. After a long gray unemployment landscape for the past two years, the area's work picture seems to show signs of new life as well. With the new Steel Distribution Facility, the New Boston PK-12 School Facility, and a long overdue highway upgrade project on Route 52; the work picture in and around New Boston looks very promising. In Portsmouth, SOMC continues to perform misc. projects that manage to keep around 25 to 30 construction workers busy the year around. Ground breaking is expected any day now for a new Medical Office Building being built on Kenney's Lane. SSU also has projects on the drawing board that should hit the streets in the near future. I've also heard of plans the Wheelersburg Local School District has for a new Athletic Complex.

A little North of Portsmouth, decontamination and demolition projects at the A-plant have been funded and are expected to keep construction workers busy for years to come. The ACP Project has been gearing up on the management side for a couple of months now, and looks very promising for all of us. This is basically a very large "shovel ready" project that has materials and equipment sitting on site, waiting to be installed. It has been predicted that the Obama Administration should be signing the loan guarantee this July, and work is expected to get started within 6-weeks or so.

From all indications, we have a golden opportunity to get back to some steady work in our area once again. We also have an opportunity to put our best foot forward and let our good works shine. We need to show our elected officials the positive side of organized labor, and protect our middle class jobs being threatened by House Bill 5. I have read where many communities have chosen not to take advantage of the changes House Bill 5 has made available, because they believe in their Police, Fire, Teachers, and other organized work forces. Many of these employees have already made concessions in their wage and benefit packages to help their communities get through these difficult times. Our communities are proud of those serving in their public safety, city services, and education. These are people doing God's work. They are not in this for the money, but to serve their neighbors and friends, and give back to their communities. They deserve the benefits they have worked hard for over the years.

As middle class America, we also need to show our customers and elected officials that we too are not in it just for the money. We earn an income and health benefits to raise and care for our families. We pay our fair share of taxes, we donate to our churches, little leagues, fund raisers, programs in our schools, and the down and outs of our area. We also provide funding from our own wages to support our training programs, continuing education programs, special licensing for many of our workers, and specialty training for the ever changing technology systems in our world today. Now more than ever, we need to educate our elected officials to how organized labor benefits many, and show them that the system works! We are better than ever, and striving to be even better each day. We need to prove the old saying, "If it isn't broken, don't try to fix it".

Ecclesiastes 9:10 tells us: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with all thy might." We all need to make this our number one priority, to work these employment opportunities with all our might. With the right attitude, the good things will come.

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### *Birthdays:*

*April: Dennis Beekman  
Daryl Wolfe  
Matt Jordan*

*May: Dina Fraulini  
Paul Caplinger  
T J Mershon*

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*Happiness does not come from doing easy work but from the  
afterglow of satisfaction that comes after the achievement of  
a difficult task that demanded our best!*

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## WASHINGTON-NILE M.S. ON SCHEDULE

Work has been progressing very well on the new Washington-Nile Middle School. Permanent power is on and distributed throughout most of the building. Permanent power has been installed and in some cases, turned on to HVAC equipment. There's been a lot of lighting fixtures, lighting controls, and devices installed already. Most of the Classrooms are nearly completed, and the next two months will really make a huge difference in this place. Led by Bill Mershon, the following Electricians have been hard at it on this project: Dan Maple, JB Cronin, Rod Hensley, Dave Huff, Bill Holland, Tucker Smalley, Will Mershon, Jason Russell, and Kenny Stewart. We really do appreciate the opportunity to work again, for the good folks on the Washington-Nile Local School District. No serious injuries reported on this project, and that's great news.

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### A Little Story....

*This is a story about four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody, and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it. Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job. Everybody thought Anybody could do it., but Nobody realized that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have done!*

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### Wastren's New Office Building Nears Completion

Work has moved along at light speed on Wastren's new office building being built on Shyville Road, on the North Access Road to the A-Plant. Chad Hawes, Pete Nichols, and Nick Kingrey have been working on this project, and are doing a great job keeping up with the tight schedule. Completion of this new facility is later this month. With the work picture slowing down at the A-plant, this has been a great filler to carry our crews over until things pick back up. It has been a pleasure working with the folks from Geiger Brothers, the General Contractor on this project. There have been no injuries reported on this project, and that is always good news.

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*What really matters is what happens in us, not to us.*

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## **Fleming County Traffic Signal Work Begins**

Andy Eldridge, Dwane Johnson, & Brandon Kuhn will begin the traffic signal work next week. We have been contracted by Glenwood Electric to perform the traffic signal work that is associated with the new Fleming County Courthouse project currently under construction. We have been awarded a contract to replace the existing traffic signal installation at the intersection adjacent to the new Fleming County Courthouse being built. Traffic signal work should wrap up in a week or two.

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## **SOMC Pharmacy Renovations Almost Done**

Renovation work on the SOMC Pharmacy should wrap up this week. The Pharmacy looks great, and is more user friendly for customers and employees. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton have been performing the Electrical on this project. It's always difficult to renovate an area that is occupied, but it is worth it when it's finished. No injuries have been reported on this project. Great news!

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*Every day do something that will inch you closer to a better tomorrow.*

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## **Campbell Elementary School Is Under Way**

Work continues on the New Cafeteria and Kitchen Addition being installed at the Campbell Elementary School; in Raceland, Kentucky. Danny Beekman and Ian Egbert have been installing conduits and boxes, and recently started pulling wire. This project is expected to be completed before this Summer. No injuries reported to date. Keep up the good work!

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## **Small Projects Continue @ Manchester Schools**

Recently, we received orders to install surge protection on the two Manchester Schools, and replace bad CCTV cameras on the exterior of the buildings. Kenny Stewart will be scheduling this work in the very near future. We really appreciate the opportunity to work for the fine folks with the Manchester Local School District.

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**Congratulations to Dwane & Leslie Johnson, on the birth of their newest daughter; Alea Shay.**

## **SOMC Sewage Grinder Project Finishes**

Our SOMC Crew recently completed the Electrical work for the new Grinder stations installed at SOMC. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton assisted with the motor rotation and start-up this week. Grinder motors were installed at the two sewer lines exiting the SOMC Campus, to assure no large “objects” flow through the lines and cause blockage to the City’s sewer system.

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*A happy life consists not in the absence, but in the mastery of hardships.*

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## **ACP FUTURE...VERY PROMISING**

We continue to patiently wait on progress to start back up on the American Centrifuge Project. We’ve been told that the big announcement of the 2-billion dollar loan guarantee will come around July of this year. That news won’t get here quick enough. Activity continues on the management side of USEC, on the ACP site. It sure looks like something is going to happen, and we want to be ready to say how high when they say “Jump”. Our crew continues to perform small projects at the Plant. Led by Pete Nichols, Chad Hawes, Mike Cantrell, and Nick Kingrey have been taking care of this work. We are very optimistic that things will finally come together this year.

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## **Rubyville Community Church Moves April 10, 2011**

The congregation at Rubyville Community Church will have their dedication service on April 10, 2011. This will also be their first Sunday in the new sanctuary. While work continues with classrooms in the lower level of the building, folks will be worshipping in their new sanctuary upstairs. I would like to encourage everyone to come out on April 10, 2011 for one or both of the services planned that day. The morning service starts at 9:30 AM, and the evening service starts at 7:30 PM. There will be special speakers for both services. Dwane Johnson continues to be involved in the Electrical work on the lower level, which is expected to be completed later this year.

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*A Government that robs Peter to pay Paul will always have the support of Paul.*

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*We want to express our condolences to the following families who have experienced the recent passing of loved ones:*

*Mike Lee, on the passing of his Father.*

*Dennis & Danny Beekman, on the passing of their Aunt.*

*The Felix Diaz family, on the passing of their son Tony Diaz.*

*Our thoughts and prayers are with these families during their time of loss.*

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## **Portsmouth WWTP Work Nears Completion**

Things are winding down on the WWTP Upgrade Project, Portsmouth's first Stimulus Money Project. Andy Eldridge and Brandon Kuhn have completed power wiring to the UV System and jib crane, and are ready for some pump motors to be replaced in other parts of the plant. It's been good to have had a piece of the work being performed on Portsmouth's waste water treatment facilities. This project, which started more than a year ago, is scheduled for completion this year. This project continues to be injury free.

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## **SOMC East Campus Gets Boiler Replaced**

Equipment has been ordered, and we are ready for the call from Mechanical Construction Company, to disconnect power to the existing boiler; and reconnect the new boiler when the installation is completed. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton will be performing this work. Small projects like this one add up quickly. This work is expected to begin once warm weather is here to stay.

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### *Real Headliners From Real Newspapers*

- *Deaf Mute gets new hearing in killing.*
- *Police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers.*
  - *Two convicts evade noose, jury hung.*
- *Quarter of a million Chinese live on water.*
  - *Farmer bill dies in house.*
  - *Iraqi head seeks arms.*
  - *Queen Mary having bottom scraped.*
- *Panda mating fails – veterinarian takes over.*
  - *New Jersey Judge to rule on nude beach.*
- *Dr. Ruth to talk about sex with newspaper editors.*

## **Emergency Contract With New Boston, Completed.**

Electrical repairs to the Electrical system associated with the New Boston Flood Defense System were recently completed by Dwane Johnson and Andy Eldridge. This work consisted of replacing a bad transformer, repairing medium voltage switches, and repairing high voltage wiring to several Flood Pump Stations. We appreciate the opportunities to work with the folks in the Village of New Boston.

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### *Service Work Continues...*

Dwane Johnson continues to stay busy with Service work and small projects. Lately, he has been working on the following: West End Real Estate Company, Shawnee Lodge, Minford Local School District, Praises, Masonic temple, Counseling Center, Village of New Boston, PNC Bank, Scioto County Jail, Goodwill Industries, Golden Years, The Portsmouth Public Library, Briar Patch, US Banks, and The Briarpatch; to name a few.

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*Pardon my driving, I am reloading*

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### **Clay PK-12 School Continues**

The new Clay PK-12 School building is taking shape. The basic building structure is nearly completed, but there's plenty to complete in the inside. The south wing, which houses classrooms, has been coming together quickly; while the northern half of the building should see noticeable progress in the coming weeks. Permanent power has been turned on in parts of the building, as needed. Low voltage systems cabling began a few weeks ago, and is making good progress. With warmer temperatures, we expect the work outside of the building to begin soon. There is still a lot of work to get done before school starts back up in August, but everyone is doing everything they can to make this happen. Led by Mike Snipes, the following workers are getting it done on this project: Ed Sommer, Justin Singer, Ryan Evans, John DeLaCruz, Paul Caplinger, Jeff Swords, Mike Cantrell, Will Collier, Tim Jenkins, Sarah Justice, John Messer, Steve Marth, Daryl Wolfe, Tim Literal, Kenny Stewart, and Ian Egbert. There have been no serious injuries reported by our Electricians, and we're working hard to keep it that way.

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*Never take life seriously. Nobody gets out alive anyway.*

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## **SOMC Preventative Maintenance Work To Begin Soon**

We are waiting on SOMC to schedule a time when we can begin inspections, operations, and cleaning of the high voltage equipment and switchgear at SOMC's Main Campus. This work will need to be closely coordinated with the Hospital Staff, due to power outages and testing. Dwane Johnson is heading up this work.

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## **Small Projects for Portsmouth Flood Defense**

We were awarded two projects with the City of Portsmouth's Flood Defense Supervisor to perform work at the 3<sup>rd</sup> & Madison Sts. and 12<sup>th</sup> & Chillicothe Sts. Flood Pump Stations. High water and bad weather has prevented us from beginning this work, but as the warmer weather settles in; this work should get under way. Andy Eldridge will be heading up this work.

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*Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.*

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## **AP Green Awards More Work**

AP Green has written an order for West End Electric to perform Electrical work on their Batch Line Safety Project. We are waiting on the call to begin work. This project will be headed up by Andy Eldridge. We always appreciate the work AP Green sends our way.

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## **SOMC To Get New Cat Scan Rooms**

We were recently awarded a contract with River City Builders to perform the Electrical work associated with the installation of two new CAT Scan Rooms in the Hospital. Work began on the first CAT Scan about two weeks ago. Andy Eldridge and Brandon Kuhn have been working on the ED-CAT Scan Room. Work in this first room is expected to be completed in early April.

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## Renovation Work Begins In SOMC's Rarden Building

Minor renovations and HVAC Upgrade work begin last Month, in SOMC's Rarden Building. We have been subcontracted by B B & E to perform the Electrical on this project. Miles Lee Ferguson and Dustin Pendleton have been working on this project. Completion should be later this month.

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### *Fun Facts...??*

The average chocolate bar has 8 insects' legs in it.

The average human eats 8 spiders in their lifetime, at night.

A rhinoceros horn is made of compacted hair.

The shortest war in history was between Zanzibar and England in 1896. Zanzibar surrendered after 38-minutes.

A polar bear's skin is black. Its fur is not white, but actually clear.

Elvis had a twin brother named Garon, who died at birth, which is why Elvis' middle name was spelled Aron; in honor of his brother.

Dueling is legal in Paraguay as long as both parties are registered blood donors.

Donald Duck comics were banned in Finland because he doesn't wear pants.

More people are killed by donkeys annually than are killed in plane crashes.

Stewardesses is the longest word typed with only the left hand.

Shakespeare invented the words "assassination" and "bump".

Marilyn Monroe had six toes.

If you keep a goldfish in a dark room, it will eventually turn white.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

Right handed people live, on average, nine years longer than left handed people live.

The sentence "the quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter in the English language.

## *What we've bid, and will be bidding...*

- We bid the Electrical work on the new Russell, Ky. Field House on 2/01/11. It's our understanding the low bidder on this project was Carr Electric.
- T.L. Blackburn will be building the Medical Office Building on Kinney's Lane. We are waiting on the plans, so we can submit a quote on this project.
- We came in second on the Electrical bid for the New Boston PK-12 School. Accurate Electric was the low bidder.
- We recently bid the Electrical package on renovations to the Russell Middle School. We have not heard anything on the bid results for this project yet.
- Bids were submitted in December, for a large project at the ACP, in the X-3001 and X-3002 Buildings. We should be hearing something on this bid in April 2011.
- We recently quoted installation of a structured cabling system for Desco's main office. No word on this bid yet.
- We recently quoted Electrical testing for the Flood Pump Stations in the Portsmouth Area, to an independent Contractor performing other inspections on Portsmouth's Flood Defense System. No word has been received on the outcome of this quote.
- We continue to turn in a number of proposals for electrical projects with USEC. No awards have been given yet, but we have been told this work will be starting up sometime this Summer.
- We will be bidding the Electrical Package on the Lake Hope Dining Lodge, in Vinton County, that bids later this month.