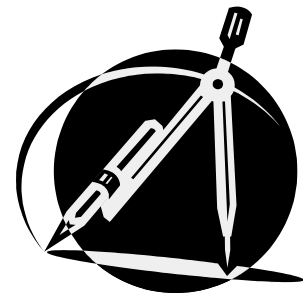


# The Compass



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## The View from the Top by Jim and Bill Viox

The winter of 2006/2007 provided time to continue our expansion plans. We have now moved into two-thirds of the new space made available to us in the Ameristop Shopping Center on Erlanger Road. The final suite will become available in June 2007. The total acquired space will make Viox & Viox the largest occupant within the shopping plaza. When considering the other three buildings which we continue to occupy on Erlanger Road, we now have the space needed for our immediate future.

We continue our search for professionals that fit our corporate culture, while encouraging our staff to excel. We are very proud of our employees and their achievements. Matt Bogen, EIT began work with us in the fall and has been a great addition to our engineer-

ing staff. Jason Thorwarth passed his SIT exam. Jonathan Brown, EIT is preparing to take the P.E. exam. Justin Verst, P.E. was elected President-Elect of NKSP. Michelle Bollman, P.E. was again elected as Director of NKSP. Megan de Sola, AICP was appointed KAPA's new Professional Development Officer. In addition, Megan recently attended the National APA Conference in Philadelphia.

We are also continuing to sharpen our employees' skills by adding software, hardware, and additional training. Dean Tanner just completed certification in "InRoads", a transportation design software. Dean is primarily focused on transportation and utilities related to road improvements. Dean, Mary Etingher, P.L.S., and Matt Bogen, EIT are all involved in transportation work (roads, water, sewer, etc.).

Michelle Bollman, P.E. is heading up our company's expansion into traffic analysis. This is an area that has become important due to public concerns in the region. Michelle and her staff recently completed a traffic count for an upcoming zone change hearing in Boone County.

We are also moving into marketing using our 3-dimensional capabilities. Carter Dickerson, Aaron Duesing, Caroline Weltzer, and Megan de Sola are currently working on a promotional DVD.

As we will soon be advertising for additional professionals, innovation, forward-thinking, and performance are high on our demand list. Our culture is and will continue to evolve and improve.

## Viox & Viox Names New Partner

On May 1, 2007, the Board of Directors at Viox & Viox voted unanimously to make **Greg Larison, P.L.S.** a partner; a first for the firm.

Viox & Viox initiated the Associate/Partner Program approximately two years ago. Shortly thereafter, several employees applied and were accepted as Associates of the firm. Mr. Larison, who was named as an Associate in 2005, is the first to be elevated to Partner.

Greg was hired by Viox & Viox in 1998. He is a

1991 graduate of Northern Kentucky University with a degree in Industrial Technology/Construction Management. Greg manages the Surveying Department at Viox & Viox. His specialty is large land area surveys and Global Positioning System (GPS) services. He is currently serving in his fifth year as Boone County Surveyor; an elected position in the county. In addition, he just completed terms as State Director of KAPS and Chairman of the Northern KY Chapter.

Greg resides in Florence with his wife, Meredith, and their three children.



Greg Larison

## Weaver Road Commercial Center Awaiting Final Approval



Saddlebrook Center Concept Plan

Recently, Boone County Planning Commission unanimously approved a zone change for a new commercial center on Weaver Road in Florence, Kentucky. The developer, Noll Properties, is currently waiting for final approval from the City of Florence.

The project, Saddlebrook Center, is located on 9.71 acres on Weaver Road, between Evergreen Drive and Kentucky Farm Bureau. The property was zoned for commercial use, but had several

restrictions placed on it. The zone change was held in order to remove most of those restrictions. In preparation for the zone change hearing, Viox & Viox conducted a traffic analysis on Weaver Road.

In addition, Viox & Viox were hired as the designers of the site plan. The proposed plan includes seven lots which will be sold to commercial businesses which have not yet been determined. The proposed uses include office space, retail, a daycare facility, and/or a bank with a drive-thru.

## World of Sports Lake To Be Removed



World of Sports Entrance Monument

The City of Florence and Northern Kentucky University's Center for Applied Ecology have teamed up to take on a stream restoration project at the World of Sports Golf Course. The lake, which can be seen from I-71/75, has become a maintenance problem for the City and the existing dam is in need of substantial repairs.

NKU has secured stream mitigation funds in order to remove the lake and

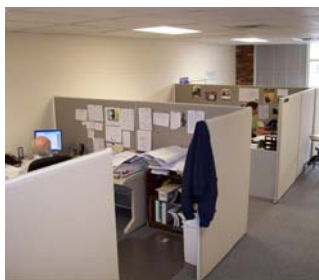
restore the natural stream channel that existed prior to construction of the lake.

Viox & Viox has been hired as the designer of this project. The project will include the following: construction of a new culvert under Woodspoint Drive, draining the lake and removing the dam, removing the old train track and trellis over the lake, relocating the irrigation pump house and cart path, and restoring the natural stream

channel. The newly reformed channel banks will be lined with native vegetation.

Project design is currently ongoing. Justin Verst, P.E. is heading the project and expects design to be completed by early summer. Construction will likely begin this fall and be completed by early winter of 2008.

## Viox & Viox Moves Into New Office Space



Dean Tanner and Kenny Courts recently moved to their new offices in the Ameristop Shopping Center on Erlanger Road.

This past February, another four staff members from Viox & Viox made the move to their new "digs" in the Ameristop Shopping Center next door. In all, currently 14 Viox employees are now housed in three suites within the plaza. By the end of this year, another suite should be remodeled and open to another group of Viox's growing staff.

Viox & Viox staff is now spread throughout four

buildings on Erlanger Road. The office building located at 462 Erlanger Road houses the surveying/construction staking department. The main office and its connected neighbor at 466 Erlanger Road is home to administration and landscaping/planning. One engineering team also occupies space in the main office building, however, their intention is to move when the final suite at the shopping plaza becomes available. The Ameristop Center will eventu-

ally house the entire engineering department, as well as the boundary surveying and construction staking division.

The new space has received high marks from staff members. Jonathan Brown, EIT stated, "The office is continuing the move toward better efficiency with most {and soon all} of the engineering department in one place." Kenny Courts added, "I have more room and everyone seems to work well with each other in one place."

## Employee Happenings

### Viox & Viox Employment Anniversaries

The following employees are celebrating employment anniversaries this spring:

#### 3 Years

**Ryan Hartig** (Hired on April 7, 2004)

#### 6 years

**Jonathan Brown** (Hired on May 7, 2001)

**Aaron Duesing** (Hired on May 7, 2001)

**Justin Verst** (Hired on March 13, 2001)

#### 9 years

**Michael Miller** (Hired on April 30, 1998)

#### 11 years

**Michelle Bollman** (Hired on March 25, 1996)

#### 19 years

**Mary Etingher** (Hired on April 4, 1988)

#### 36 years

**Mike Utz** (Hired on May 5, 1971)

Congratulations to everyone - Viox & Viox appreciates your hard work and dedication!

### Spring Birthdays

**Pat Jones** - March 7

**Justin Verst** - April 2

**Ricky Faulkner** - May 20

**Michelle Bollman** - May 29

### Announcements

- Congratulations to **Justin Verst**, recently named NKSPE's President-Elect; **Michelle Bollman**, continuing her term on NKSPE's Board of Directors; and **Megan de Sola**, appointed KAPA's new Professional Development Officer.
- Congratulations to **Sandy McMillan** for recognition of achievement by both the Community Press and No. KY Chamber of Commerce (see below).
- Congratulations to **Jason Thorwarth** who recently passed the Surveyor In Training (SIT) exam.



Top: Michelle Bollman and Justin

## Sandy McMillan Recognized As One of No. KY's Best

Anyone who has ever entered the front door of Viox & Viox during the past few years can attest to Sandy McMillan's ability to make every customer smile and feel welcomed. That is just one of the many reasons why she was recently recognized as one of Northern Kentucky's best administrative professionals.

Sandy was featured in the Community Press' "Catch A Star" campaign in April. Her picture appeared in the Com-

munity Recorder newspapers. In addition, Sandy was also given a certificate of achievement from The Northern Kentucky Chamber of Commerce in recognition of her nomination as the "Outstanding Administrative Professional of 2007".

Caroline Weltzer, who nominated Sandy for the awards stated, "She treats all of our customers so well." She added, "Sandy is so efficient and organized - she makes

everyone else's job much easier." Her fellow employees and clients agree that Sandy's positive attitude is always appreciated. She works hard, but yet, always has a smile on her face.

Sandy has said that she is happy to have the responsibility of keeping customers happy. Regarding her position, Sandy gushed, "This is the best job I've ever had. My coworkers are just like a little family for me."



Sandy McMillan displays her recent awards

## Co-op Works Hard To Earn Scholarships

Erin Cummings will soon be starting her third year at the University of Louisville's School of Engineering, and she shows no signs of slowing down. The Lakeside Park native and 2005 graduate of Notre Dame Academy was awarded two scholarships at a University banquet on April 24th; testament to her continued hard work and dedication, both in and out of the classroom.

Erin was awarded the "John Mark Mann Memorial" scholarship, given to deserving female engineering students. The scholarship is worth \$1000 per semester, and it is the second time that she has been given the award.

In addition, Erin and one other student were given a scholarship from the Kentucky Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE). The award was given to stu-

dents who demonstrated excellence both academically and through volunteer work. Erin volunteers her time to ASCE as a student member. She has helped out with several special projects for the society.

Erin's focus is on civil and environmental engineering. She completed her second co-op semester with Viox & Viox on May 4th and expects to return in the fall.



Erin Cummings



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We're on the Web!  
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#### Important Dates and Upcoming Events:

- **May 13** - Mother's Day
- **May 25** - Viox & Viox floating holiday (office is closed)
- **May 28** - Memorial Day (office is closed)
- **June 17** - Father's Day
- **July 4** - Independence Day (office is closed)

**Viox & Viox began providing engineering and surveying services to Northern Kentucky in 1945. The firm, originally founded by James H. Viox, Jr., P.E., L.S. and George Rassenfoss, P.E., is now owned by Mr. Viox's two sons, James H. Viox, III, P.E., P.L.S. and William R. Viox, P.E., P.L.S.**

**Viox & Viox has grown and expanded their services over the years and currently employs approximately 35 employees. Viox & Viox currently offers services in municipal engineering, commercial, industrial and residential planning, public utilities, surveying, Global Positioning Systems (GPS), and landscape architecture. With over 70% of its employees from Northern Kentucky, the firm is closely connected to the local residents and the issues and challenges that face the community. It is our intent and hope to continue to progress and produce the high quality of professional services for which we are known.**

#### **Our Mission Statement:**

**To continue to serve a diverse spectrum of clients in an accurate and timely manner.**

**To make Viox & Viox a positive work environment that will enable employees to grow both professionally and personally.**

**To continually progress in the area of technology so as to serve our clients by the most advanced methods available.**

**To be the premier Civil Engineering / Surveying / Landscape Architecture firm within the Tri-State area with a solid reputation of delivering excellent service from a professional staff in the most cost effective, timely, and accurate way possible.**

*Creating innovative pathways through progressive design...one client at a time.*