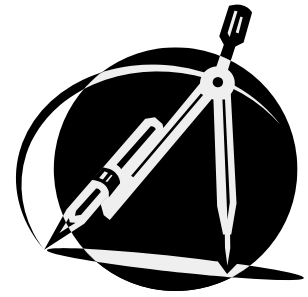


The Compass



Volume VI, Issue I

Winter 2009

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From the Desk of Bill Viox

While the winter season brings cold weather, it also brings busy times for our staff. This is the season to get designs ready for early spring/summer bidding.

On January 1, 2009, Speedway Motorsports, Inc. became the new owner of the Kentucky Speedway. SMI Plans to make improvements to the facilities over the next year or two. Our staff has enjoyed working on various project designs for SMI. In fact, the staff has had **fun** being part of this excitement. The Kentucky Speedway continues to be a great facility and, hopefully, will bring the BIG RACE to this region soon.

We have completed the design of another leg of the new rural water lines in Boone County. The first leg of this improvement will include approximately 2.3 miles. The plan is to extend water mains to

rural western Boone County for a total of 8.9 miles.

Our staff currently is assisting R.E. Hayes Associates on an addition to St. Barbara's Church in Independence and the replacement of Woodfill Elementary School in Fort Thomas.

Another project, Paddock at Richwood, has cleared its first hurdle. The Paddock is a multi-use retail and office center, including a new Walgreens. The project was recently approved by the Boone County Planning Commission and is now headed to the Boone County Fiscal Court for final approval.

Other projects in the design stage or in the bidding process include: Wallace Avenue and Miriam Street sidewalk and street improvements (Florence); improvements to Fuller, Banker, and Merchants Streets (Florence); new pedes-

trian walkway system along KY 18 near the Florence Mall; and water main extension project for Nordman and Overlook in Crescent Springs for Northern Kentucky Water District.

In addition, the Dixie Highway streetscape improvements have now moved beyond the public comment period and is proceeding to the final design stages.

Finally, congratulations are in order for several members of our staff. Jonathan Brown, P.E., PLS recently completed his requirements for licensure in the State of Ohio as a Professional Land Surveyor. Justin Verst, P.E. was recently appointed to the Campbell County Municipal Planning and Zoning Commission. He continues to serve on the Campbell Co. Board of Adjustment and the Campbell County Building Appeals Board.

Viox & Viox Begins New Project at Kentucky Speedway

On January 1, 2009, Speedway Motor Sports, Inc. (SMI) became the new owners of the Kentucky Speedway. SMI, based in Charlotte, North Carolina, owns eight other major racetracks across the United States. SMI plans extensive improvements to the Speedway. This very aggressive plan includes improvements made by this June.

SMI has a "family friendly" approach to the entire racecar sporting industry. Their

plans include better access, better parking, better restrooms, and better viewing opportunities.

Phase I of the new Speedway Project includes: relocating the outer loop road, adding convenient parking, construction of new ticket kiosks, and adding RV parking for 400 vehicles in the infield. Construction on Phase I will begin immediately to be completed before the beginning of the 2009 racing season in June.

Phase 2 will include the following: new restrooms, additional seating, a 95-acre RV Park, new inner loop road, and tram service. It has yet to be determined when construction will begin on this phase of the project.

Viox & Viox is proud to be part of the design team for improvements to the Kentucky Speedway and we look forward to a long partnership with the professional staff at SMI.

Viox Teams with Hayes on Fort Thomas School Project



Samuel Woodfill Elementary School in Fort Thomas was originally constructed in the 1920s.

The existing Samuel Woodfill Elementary School at the corner of Alexandria Pike and South Ft. Thomas Avenue in Fort Thomas was built in three phases. The original building was constructed in the 1920s and additions were added in the 1950s and 1970s. The school is currently using a portable trailer as additional classroom space.

Viox & Viox has partnered with R. E. Hayes Associates architects to replace the outdated building. The existing school is situated on approximately 3.4 acres. Because the new school will need to be placed on the existing acreage,

this difficult construction project will be split into two phases.

Part one of the first phase will open by Christmas 2009 and will include the construction of a kitchen, cafeteria, stage, and several classrooms and should not interfere with the existing school building. Construction on part two of the first phase will begin in January 2010 and will require the demolition of the 1920s and 1950s additions. Part 2 will include a new entryway, main lobby, common areas, offices, media center, classrooms, and parking lot.

Phase two of the project will require the demolition of the 1970s addition and the removal of the trailer. Phase two will begin sometime in the future, when funds become available and will include more elementary classroom space, preschool classrooms, a gymnasium, parking lot, loop road, and outdoor playgrounds.

Viox & Viox is currently designing the grading, paving, storm water and miscellaneous utilities while Hayes and Associates have been completing their architectural sketches. Construction on Phase I, Part I will begin in the spring.

Below: View of Centre of Erlanger from intersection of Houston and Donaldson Roads; Centre of Erlanger Retail Complex



Centre of Erlanger To Open This Summer

Construction has been moving along on the new 5-acre commercial site at the intersection of Donaldson and Houston Roads in Erlanger. The Centre of Erlanger should be open for business in early June 2009.

The project by Eagle Development

is actually the redevelopment of a site which once included Peels Palace, Airport Inn, and the Vegas Supper Club. It is the hope of the City of Erlanger and Eagle Development that this site will be the impetus for future development in a large area which was recently left vacant by the old Showcase Cinemas.

The Centre of Erlanger is a three story (including a basement) retail/

office center. The lower basement level will be reserved for warehouse space, The first floor boasts over 26,000 sq. ft. of retail/restaurant space while the second floor will be used for office purposes. The site also includes four additional outlots.

Space remains available in this desirable commercial center. If interested in inquiring about leasing space at the Centre of Erlanger, please contact Rich Hearth with Eagle Development at 502-244-2302.

Below: Demolition begins soon at former Florence YMCA site; Architectural rendering of Ethos @ Main Street by Tucker, Booker, Donhoff of Louisville, KY



City of Florence Gets Excited About Ethos

The old Florence YMCA will soon be redeveloped into a Senior Living Campus called Ethos at Main Street. The property will be developed by Louisville's Ethos Senior Living group who specializes in independent and assisted living

facilities.

The City of Florence believes that the redevelopment of this 12 acre site will be an integral part of the Main Street District and will encourage further growth and development in the area.

development in the area.

Phase I will consist of the demolition of existing YMCA buildings and pool and the construction of 107 independent and assisted living units. Construction of Phase I should begin in the spring, with an anticipated opening in late 2009. Phases II and III will consist of 30-40 single-family homes designed especially for seniors.



Employee Happenings

Viox & Viox Employment Anniversaries

The following employee is celebrating an employment anniversary this winter:

5 years
Will Klayer (Hired on Feb. 9, 2004)

Congratulations Will! Viox & Viox appreciates your hard work and dedication!

Winter Birthdays

Ryan Hartig - Dec. 6

Vince Kahmann - Dec. 7
Jim Viox - Dec. 18
Aaron Duesing - Jan. 23
Jonathan Brown - Jan. 24
Will Klayer - Jan. 28
Mary Etingher - Feb. 4
Chris Boots - Feb. 22

Happy Birthday to all of you!

Announcements

- Congratulations to **Michael Miller** on his engagement to Brandy Sturgeon on December 25th, 2008. They are planning a fall 2009 wedding.

- Congratulations to **Jonathan Brown**, who recently passed the Ohio Professional Licensed Surveyor exam.
- Congratulations to **Justin Verst** who was appointed to the Campbell County Municipal Planning and Zoning Commission on Feb. 4th.



Snowy winter day at Viox & Viox

Viox Staff Helps Out Local Families

As always, the members of the Viox & Viox staff dug deep during the Holidays to help out the local community. As we are all aware, local charitable organizations have been suffering during the recession, but this did not hinder the Christmas spirit of giving around our office.

Viox & Viox sponsored five children recommended by the Erlanger Elsmere Family Resource Center during Christmas. The staff purchased much needed clothing items, as well as toys that were requested by the children.

In addition to the children's gifts, Viox & Viox decided this year that in lieu of gifts to our clients, a donation was made in their name to the Family Resource Center. The employees also participated in a "Split the Pot" raffle with half of the proceeds going to the Resource Center.

A letter to Viox & Viox from the Resource Center stated, "With our struggling economy, donations decreased this year, and families needing help increased considerably. But thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide a nice Christmas for so many deserving children."

ing children."

Additionally, a canned food drive was held during the month of December in order to benefit Erlanger Elsmere United Ministries (EEUM). EEUM provides food items to local families in need. Viox & Viox was able to deliver three large boxes of non-perishable food items to the organization. To promote the food drive, every person who donated at least 3 items were entered into a grand-prize drawing. Congratulations to Aaron Duesing who won a gift card to Crestview Hills Town Center.



Jim Viox helps sort the gifts to be delivered to the Erlanger Elsmere Family Resource Center.



Employees Find a Way to Celebrate the Holidays

Another casualty of these tough economic times was Viox & Viox's annual Employee Christmas Party. Although, it was just not possible to host an evening out at an event facility as in past years, this did not deter the thrifty party-planning elves to come up with something. Instead, on December 16th, a festive luncheon at the office was organized.

The lunch was a potluck affair and everyone enjoyed trying out and exchanging new recipes. The office provided several door prizes which ranged from a digital camera to a set of reindeer antlers. Several employees also took advantage of some friendly competition on the Wii game system that was set up in the

break room. The luncheon provided a much-needed break for everyone, and surprisingly, none of the employees missed the typical big night out!



Above: Rick Faulkner has fun at the Viox Christmas Party; Merry Christmas from the staff at Viox & Viox



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Important Dates and Upcoming Events:

- **Feb. 14th** - Valentine's Day
- **Feb. 16th** - President's Day
- **March 8th** - Daylight Savings Time Begins (Move your clock forward one hour)
- **March 17th** - St. Patrick's Day
- **April 12th** - Easter
- **April 15th - 17th** - Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers (KSPE) Convention held at the Northern Kentucky Convention Center in Covington, KY

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.