2019 E2



## O'CONNELL ELECTRIC

News and information for our employees, retirees, and friends





## Our strength as a full service electrical contractor is rooted in the diversity of our services

Victor/Rochester

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### **Syracuse**

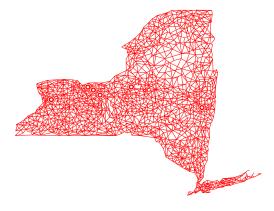
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- Airport - Bridge - Highway







#### On the cover

Syracuse University's Carrier Dome is undergoing a \$118 million construction project to update their roof and inside the facility - read more on page 12.

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O'Connell Electric Newsletter is a publication of O'Connell Electric Company, Inc.

For comments, inquiries, or to be added to our mailing list, email john.miller@oconnellelectric.com



## Victor Salerno

As we approach the Thanksgiving Holiday all of us at O'Connell have much to be thankful for. Our business performance continues to be very strong and on pace to set a new sales record in the \$275 million dollar range. We can't thank you all enough for your hard work that allows us to enjoy our success. Because of you we are truly an industry leader.

How proud we all are with our Chairman, Walter Parkes, being selected by the Rochester Business Journal as an Honoree of the ICON award along with Dave Emmi being selected as a member of this year's 40 under 40 group and Bob Acquilano receiving the inaugural construction industry award for Estimating. Much congratulations to all of them. In Syracuse we received a Craftsmanship Award from the Syracuse Builders Exchange for a project we completed for IBEW Local 1249. Great work and congratulations to the Syracuse team.

Walt and I have worked closely together for over 40 years and having him receive the ICON award along with his many other achievements makes me very proud of him for all of his success. None of us should ever take his accomplishments for granted. He has worked extremely hard over the decades to help us all succeed.

The first phase of our headquarter expansion project is now complete and I am trying to settle into my new office after 47 years in my prior location. The addition is beautiful and if you are in the area please stop by to check it out.

Due to our growth and our expansion we are continuing to welcome many new individuals to our team. Please help our new employees any way you can to have a successful career with us.

A final note in regard to our new fabrication factory located adjacent to our Power Group office in Henrietta, NY. We finally received our certificate of occupancy from the town and are begining to ramp up production. The facility is approximately 20,000 square feet and cost more than two million dollars. Please take full advantage of it for your various projects. It should substantially increase our productivity and allow us to win more projects and help us to expand our IBEW represented workforce.

Thank you all and as always, do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Follow us online. Submit your photos to be shared on our social media sites.





## **REGIONAL & NATIONAL RANKINGS**



We are proud to maintain our status as a Rochester Top 100 Company, coming in this year at #29. It is an honor to be recognized among the fastest growing privately owned companies.

Fun fact! - In 1991, O'Connell was #1 on the list.



#40

EC&M

#33

Both Engineering News-Record and EC&M reported that business has been good for all electrical and specialty related contractors from coast to coast this past year.

O'Connell continues to stay right in the mix, reporting 2018 revenues at just over \$248 million, enough to position the company at #40 for ENR, and #33 for EC&M respectively.

Our success could not be sustained without the hard work and dedication of our employees. We encourage everyone to continue motivating each other to produce your best work as safely as possible.

# Congratulations NECA Project Excellence Award | Substation Category

The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) named 17 exceptional contractors from around the U.S. for its 2019 NECA Project Excellence Awards to recognize electrical contractors across different market sectors who have done remarkable work in the previous calendar year.

O'Connell was chosen for the Substation Category for our Rochester Gas & Electric Station 122 project.

"The level of excellence demonstrated in this year's entries is phenomenal. Each year, our members' passion shines through."

- David Long, NECA Chief Executive Officer

This year, 48 firms submitted projects to be considered for an award based on aesthetics, application, difficulty, innovation, and originality. The entries feature small and large projects ranging from hospitals, sports stadiums and commercial office buildings.

Honorees were recognized at the NECA 2019 Show in Las Vegas on September 16. Tim Ehmann, Manager of Substations, accepted the award.





## welcome our new VICE PRESIDENTS



**DON COON**Vice President
Syracuse Operations



Wice President Power Group



JOE LEGGO

Vice President
Technical Services Group



BRIAN RITTENHOUSE

Vice President

Construction Services Group

In September, our Board of Directors and Executive Team announced the next chapter of leadership for O'Connell Electric.

As they assume the duties of Vice Presidents in their respective endeavors, Don, Joe, Michael, and Brian will serve at a senior leadership capacity to assist our executive team in fostering greater collaboration, innovation, and operational excellence.

"This distinction is one in which each of them should be proud. It recognizes their achievements, motivation, determination and willingness to be team players, and it reflects our trust in them to be long-term assets to the Company."

- Victor Salerno

This is a historic and unprecedented move for O'Connell as we look ahead to decades more of success with everyone's help. It is also a major step forward in succession planning to ensure continued leadership for the future of the Company.

## congrats RECENT PROMOTIONS

Along with our newly appointed Vice Presidents, recent leadership announcements include Dave Emmi, now Manager of Transmission and Distribution, and Tim Ehmann, Manager of Substations.

In his role, Dave will oversee all underground and above ground T&D project management and operations, while Tim will oversee substation projects for our utility customers.



**DAVE EMMI**Manager of T&D



**TIM EHMANN**Manager of Substations

# 2019 JBX GOLF TOURNAMENT

to benefit the

MARY PARKES CENTER FOR ASTHMA, ALLERGY AND PULMONARY CARE





Let us start by saying,

thank you!

To all of our volunteers, sponsors, donors and supporters. Without all of you, this event would not be what it is each and every year.









#### A RECORD YEAR FOR THE MARY PARKES GOLF TOURNAMENT

September 5th was the perfect day to teeup for this year's 24th Annual Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Mary Parkes Center for Asthma, Allergy and Pulmonary Care. It wasn't too hot, there was a blend of sun and overcast, and more than 300 golfers experienced steady play amongst great company on the course at Victor Hills.

The tournament raised a record-setting \$259,463 to support the Mary Parkes Asthma Center, an affiliation of the University of Rochester Medical Center.

Planning and executing a tournament of this size takes a lot of coordinated effort. Each year, a committee of twenty people spend months in advance planning the event, and another twenty volunteers to help coordinate the day's activities, which include a silent and Chinese auction, food and drink accommodations, and tending to various activities on two 18-hole courses.

Mary Parkes is far more than the namesake of the Asthma Center; she is a daily inspiration for the center's patients and caretakers. Though Mary suffered for many years with severe asthma, she was first and foremost a nurse. As a critical care nurse at a local Rochester hospital, Mary was known for her unfailing optimism and perseverance. Mary understood the challenges of being a patient as she was hospitalized more than 50 times for her severe asthma. As a result, she carried a special understanding with her to every patient's bedside.

After a long struggle with the disease, Mary died at age 32 on April 2, 1991. Soon after Mary's passing, her parents, Walter and Carmina Parkes, siblings, family, friends, and physicians who cared for her, started a support group for individuals and their families struggling with asthma. This led to the building of the first Asthma Center in the area in Mary's memory as well as providing a Center of Excellence to those who need specialized asthma care. The Junior Builders Exchange chose to support the center after learning about Mary's story and the commitment of those who helped create the center. Working closely with the Parkes family and OCE, the JBX has seen the tournament grow from raising \$4,000 in its first year to now more than \$259,000 in 2019.

Funds raised allow the Asthma Center to further its ongoing initiatives, technological advancements and research efforts while continuing to build upon and expand its excellence in patient and family care.

On behalf of the entire Parkes Family, our sincere appreciation and thanks for your continued dedication, commitment, support and involvement this year and in past years!

~ Susan Parkes-McNally









The Junior Builders Exchange (JBX) prepares the next generation of construction leaders through relationship and team building with like-minded up and coming industry leaders. JBX members share problems, develop solutions, and work collaboratively through educational and social programs that cultivate their natural talents and leadership potential.







Safety Award Recipients, Henry Marrero and Jeff McCann, with Jeff Harter, Safety Committee President and Tom Parkes, COO.

"Safety trumps productivity. We care deeply about the well-being of our employees and our safety picnics deliver that message."

~ Victor Salerno, CEO

In August, we hosted our Annual Safety Picnic, bringing together 800 of our employees, customers, vendors and friends for a full day dedicated to safety.

The safety picnic is setup in a trade show style. We invite many vendors and community organizations to setup tables where they can show new equipment/tools and share safety related messages that help our employees live and work safer at home as well as on our project sites.

New for 2019, we hosted several safety education sessions to provide specific knowledge on certain topics. Dival Safety conducted fall protection/harness awareness; Hilti provided information and techniques for using their tools for core drilling; Altec conducted bucket truck operation and safety awareness training; and Travelers Insurance hosted sessions for our office staff on office safety, including ergonomics and general safety awareness.

Notable guests and presenters included Wesley Wheeler, National Safety Director for the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA), Mike Welsh, International Vice President for the IBEW's Third District, and Bruce Bolger, a Certified Safety Professional, who provided our keynote presentation on human performance.



Tom Parkes, COO, and Dan Oberlies, Director of Safety and Risk Management display their commitment to safety by signing our safety banner, now proudly on display at our Construction Services Office.



Attendance was over 800 people, including employees, vendors and guests.

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## **AVANGRID SAFETY COIN**

Shoutout to Relay Technician, Rich McHugh for being recognized by AVANGRID.

The following message details Rich's actions.

"Just wanted to let you know that I gave Rich McHugh, Relay Technician with O'Connell Electric, a coin for his outstanding safety attitude. He informed me of a potential reliability condition at Station 71 Transformer T2 CT's.

Last week there was a fault on one of the 12kV lines that is attached to T2. This fault caused T2 to trip offline. Rich took it upon himself to review the CT settings that were provided by SEL and found that they had an error in their calculations. Once the calculation error was verified by SEL, Rich asked about an upcoming outage that was scheduled for July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

His concern was if ECC were to give us our outage only T2 would be operational and with the known trip possibility there was a great chance that T2 could trip leaving the station completely offline. We contacted ECC Systems Operations and explained the situation and they said that we could not have any more outages until T2 CT issues were corrected.

Even though having our Monday outage canceled, which is causing delays to our construction, Rich felt it was necessary to inform ECC of the potential risk to their system.

I think it was a great catch."

Dennis Walton Field Construction Manager - Power Labella Associates

Submitted by Jeff Freund, Safety Coordinator



## OCE SAFETY MOMENT FROM DAN OBERLIES - DIRECTOR OF SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT

## PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT











"It doesn't fit right," "I didn't know I needed it," "I am only going to be one minute, I don't need it," "I have never gotten hurt," "My boss never gave it to me!" These are all excuses we may have heard from our employees when it comes to PPE. Probably the best one is "I always wear it, you just caught me at a bad time."

Personal Protective Equipment is PERSONAL by definition. It is for YOU! No one else. No one other than YOU benefits from wearing the required PPE. If you do not wear personal protective equipment and you are injured, no one suffers more than YOU.

Always wear your PPE. Even if you are alone or working with just one or two others on a job site, don't leave your PPE off just because you "won't get caught." Getting hurt is "getting caught" unprotected. No one needs to be around when you get hurt.

So why not be selfish about PPE? It's provided by O'Connell! You get it when you ask for it. You have been trained on when and how to wear it. Be selfish, and put it on for YOU!

When your PPE gets damaged, worn beyond usefulness or lost, it is your responsibility to ask for new PPE. YOU are responsible to be sure you have all the required PPE readily available for your job task. If you do not have the required PPE, don't do the task! Contact your Supervisor and make them aware of your situation.

Be selfish! Don't proceed unprotected or half-protected.

PPE is all-or-nothing.

If you are still struggling with wearing all required PPE every time you perform a task, think about the ones you love. Think about the joy that being with them brings to you and them. Be selfish, wear your PPE so you can continue to enjoy those times with loved ones.

When it comes to wearing your required PPE, it's OK to be selfish!

## SAFETY SHOUTOUT



Jeff Wozniak, a Foreman on the job, assisted a member of the public in putting out a small ground fire adjacent to a hospital in Buffalo. A passerby threw their cigarette butt out the window which started the fire, it could have been much worse if it went unnoticed.

Submitted by Brian Chamberlain, Safety Coordinator



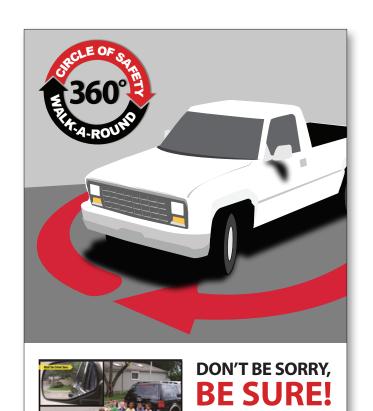
Jeff Pratt, a PM in the Syracuse Office, was riding his motorcycle and witnessed a young girl run across the street in front of him. He noticed a large dog chasing after her, pushing the girl up against a fence and biting her arms and back. Jeff acted quickly, driving onto the sidewalk to distract the dog long enough for the young girl to get into a car for protection. Riding by later, there was an ambulance on site administering aid to the girl. Had Jeff not recognized the situation and responded, this story could have ended much differently.

Submitted by Matt Yonts, Safety Coordinator



Huge shoutout to Foreman Josh Shoff and his crew for working 70 hours a week for three months this summer to get a project done on schedule without a single incident!

Submitted by Steve Briem, Project Manager, and Matt Yonts, Safety Coordinator



## — **SAFETY** — OUR NUMBER ONE PRIORITY

Have you noticed our Circle of Safety sticker on any of our company vehicles yet? Chances are you have, or you will soon! The stickers were produced to be placed near the driver side handle on OCE vehicles to reinforce our 360 degrees vehicle check. It is required that employees walk completely around their vehicle before they begin driving.

Our Field Safety Committee has made it their mission to take things a step further. Soon signs will be on display at our office locations and field offices emphasizing "don't be sorry, be sure!" A photograph showing a couple dozen children behind a SUV truly expresses the severity of not paying attention. We all need to take that extra few seconds and conduct a 360 degree walk around our vehicles. Safety First!

## **ELECTRICAL SAFETY AWARENESS TRAINING**

O'CONNELL ELECTRIC COMPANY Safety First, Last & Always

SYRACUSE - ROCHESTER - ALBANY - BUFFALO

Just last month, we finished our first-ever Electrical Hazard Awareness Training Program in Syracuse. The intent of the program is to give as many of our employees who work inside and not with high voltage, an opportunity to be trained and educated on a number of important electrical safety topics.

The topics covered over two days included: Rubber Good Policy, Arc Flash Clothing, Grounding Policy, Multi Meters, Wire Guarding Duty, Working with Generators and Core Drilling. We also reviewed and practiced Quality Tailboarding and discussed First Aid Kits, Water Gel Kits and AEDs. We had an excellent explanation of the differences between the Delta and Wye Systems found on utility poles.



We welcome anyone who thinks they would benefit from the class, and especially encourage our Project Managers to attend. Next trainings will be in Rochester and Albany.

A special thanks to the entire Safety Team for their work in developing and executing the training, and Tom Parkes' support to make it happen. Pictured above: Our partners at Hilti attended the training sessions to present new tools now available for coring.

OCE has committed to providing new, modern coring kits that are currently being distributed to each office. We have invested over \$160,000 in new coring tools.

## **FOREMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**



Left to right: Larry Cardinale, 41; Tim Printup, 237; Joe Graham, 41; Steve LaJoie, 41; Kyle Tuper, 910; Dan Yearsley, 236; Tim German, 86; Matt Visconti, 43; George Widas, 1249; Rich Lang, 86; Jon Olszowy, 236; Kris Near, 236; Dylan Wicker, 86; Josh Shoff, 43; Nick Garnier, 86; Rob Prince, 43; Tim Bush, 840; Jason Jones, 43; Mike Mattice, 43; Nate Yacuzzo, 840; Tom Reap, 43; Corey Horvatits, 41; Ian Glaser, 86; John Clark, 86; Bruce Vassallo, Instructor, retired 86 (not pictured: Zech Hamm, 236)

In June of this year, 25 Foremen kicked off our inaugural Foreman Development Program, eight months of classes designed around 13 modules created to position these individuals for future success working for O'Connell.

The program was developed after several management meetings, it was agreed that O'Connell, and our industry altogether, need to put more effort into training our front-line field employees.

Pictured: Groups work together on a communication exercise. Foremen gained perspective that what we say may not be interpreted how we believe it will.

Our continued success with projects will hinge on developing well-rounded foremen that think and act in a leadership capacity, inspired to exemplify the core values necessary to motivate our employees to perform at the highest level of craftsmanship and integrity.

Participants were selected by the individual's respective Division Managers. Two class groups makeup a diverse team of foremen from each region we operate – from Buffalo to Albany.

The modules include classes on OCE specific procedures as well as general leadership and communication techniques. With each class, foremen have been exposed to, in great detail, everything from estimating a project through startup, material management, labor relations, manloading and managing production through documentation, change management and project closeout. Specific classes were also hosted just to address leadership and communication as well.

Feedback has been very positive over the duration of the training. The program will conclude in mid-December. Another class is expected to begin in mid to late-Spring. Participants will again be selected by Division Managers to attend.

## OCE UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE, INNOVATION, LEADERSHIP.



## **SU CARRIER DOME RENOVATIONS**

Renovations have been well underway at the Carrier Dome in Syracuse, NY. Home of the Syracuse Orange, the Dome opened its doors in 1980 to host Syracuse University's football, basketball, and lacrosse programs as well as outside events including concerts, Monster Jam, and much more.

O'Connell is continuing its long-term relationship with Syracuse University by providing electrical services to the \$118 million renovation project. SU plans to install a permanent roof, a vertically hung scoreboard, air conditioning, state-of-the-art sound and lighting systems, wireless internet and other amenities to provide an unforgettable experience to its nearly 50,000 cheering fans.

The project timeline was strategically planned not to affect the football, basketball, or lacrosse seasons, as work began this summer.

Kicking off the project required a very comprehensive plan and multi-contractor collaboration just to prep the project site for the arrival and installation of a 580 foot tall, 2 million pound crane. JK Tobin Construction leveled a hill. Lagging walls were created and soldier piles were installed 30 feet deep. During the excavation process, an old electrical duct bank was uncovered sitting in the midst of where the crane pad is, requiring O'Connell to install a new duct bank to run electricity to the surrounding campus buildings. Murnane Building Contractors poured about 30 yards of concrete to encase the new duct bank which then allowed The Hayner Hoyt Corporation to move forward with the crane pad.

The parallel walls were bolted together with steel rods encased in hard protective plastic tubes to create necessary tension and stability before being back-filled with six feet of compacted stone.

All of this before the crane could start to be delivered on campus!

The assembled crane is currently one of the largest in the country. A creative SU student named the crane Walt and created an Instagram account for it that has garnered hundreds of followers and plenty of attention.

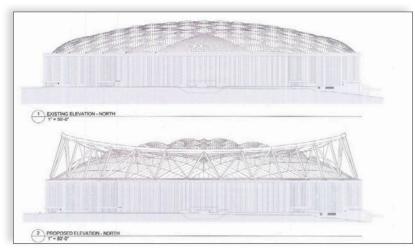
A unique, state-of-the-art, custom lighting design is planned to truly express that the Dome will be a feature arena for NCAA sports and regional events when it's complete. OCE will be installing hundreds of LED fixtures designed to take the fan experience to a whole new level. These unique lights offer unparalleled capabilities to use full-spectrum color flooding to create thrilling, custom effects to make the excitement of the lighting second only to that of the game. Entertainment possibilities are endless.

The O'Connell Electric Syracuse division is both excited and honored to be part of the construction team for the Carrier Dome renovations.









TOP: EXISTING ELEVATION. BOTTOM: PROPOSED ELEVATION





Syracuse University and The Hayner Hoyt Corporation created a website to showcase the project, display a live construction camera, and provide periodic updates as work progresses.

Check it out at www.cuse.com/feature/dome

Division: Syracuse Construction
Project Managers: Don Coon & Jim Penoyer
Lead Foremen: Dave Rivers & Andy Schaffner



#### **OSWEGO CANAL - LOCK 7 REHAB**

Lock 7, the first lock in the Oswego Canal, only a short distance from the entrance to Lake Ontario, has undergone serious upgrades over the year to ensure its stability, safety and operational consistency for the next century.

The New York State Canal Corporation determined a complete rehabilitation of the structure was necessary for the safety of visitors and canal users.

The Oswego Canal, which last underwent a major overhaul in 1970, is part of the 524-mile New York State Canal System, which also includes the Erie, Champlain and Cayuga-Seneca canals.

OCE supported the electrical infrastructure for the state-funded rehab project that included:

- A new lock house and lock operator shelters
- Installation of a cofferdam and rock anchors
- Refaced lock walls and approach walls
- The refurbishing of operating machinery and more

Division: Syracuse Construction Project Manager: David Curtis

Foreman: Jake Kelly



## WILLARD DRUG TREATMENT CENTER UPGRADES

Located in Seneca County, NY, Willard Drug Treatment Center is a 900-bed, specialized state prison focusing on treatment of drug-addicted convicts.

O'Connell was contracted to install a significant electrical service upgrade from 4,800 volts to 12,470.

The project team utilized our Construction Services Group for several value engineered design changes including layout of the 31 transformer and switch locations, creating more room in re-designed manholes for space to work, and a re-designed support system for the 5-inch PVC conduits much better than the original plastic chairs, allowing for prefabrication of 80-foot sections of pipe to be assembled ahead of time, staged and installed all at once.

Work included upgrades to a NYSEG substation, a new switchgear inside the powerhouse consisting of 11 sections, installing a new 1500 kw generator, 59,000 feet of 5-inch PVC underground conduit throughout the facility, 54 manholes and 64 vaults for transformers and switches, and 31 new transformers with 15kv switches. The team also pulled 100,000 feet of medium voltage cable from the substation to the power house and vaults, and terminated in 15kv switches.

**Division: Victor Service** 

Project Manager: Andrew Perry

Foreman: Matt Doster



## **NORTH COUNTRY 20MW BATTERY STORAGE**

In August, the New York Power Authority (NYPA) awarded O'Connell a contract to build a 20-megawatt battery storage energy system in Northern New York.

The project supports NY State's efforts to produce and store 3,000 MW of clean energy by 2030, the equivalent electricity to serve approximately 240,000 - 300,000 homes.

O'Connell was awarded the threeyear contract through a competitive bidding process for engineering, procurement, construction and commissioning of the project. The proposal included showcasing a collaborative partnership with TRC Companies to assist with engineering and environmental controls.

We also partnered with NEC Energy Solutions to provide NEC's GSS endto-end grid storage solution and its energy storage controls software.

The system includes a flexible design to accommodate wholesale market opportunities in the NY ISO market.

The energy storage system will supply the New York wholesale energy and ancillary service markets and will contribute to the adequacy, economy and reliability of the supply of electric power in New York.

**Division: Power Group** 

Project Manager: Paul Carpino

Foreman: Paul Kemp



## **GORE MOUNTAIN PUMP HOUSE IMPROVEMENTS**

Gore Mountain was recently awarded the esteemed Golden Eagle for Overall Environmental Excellence by a ski area, the industry's most prestigious award for sustainability.

Part of the ski resorts success in achieving such an environmentally friendly status was a recent project that involved essentially rebuilding its snow making system.

Gore Mountain integrated new snow making technologies, introduced hundreds more of the industry's latest snow making machines, and developed an all-new infrastructure for increasing and improving water pumping capacity and distribution.

O'Connell supported all associated electrical requirements for the pump house expansion which included installation of a metal building and overhead gantry crane system, an on-site wastewater treatment system, snow making process pumps and motors with all associated instrumentation and controls, and instrument air and vacuum pump systems.

The resort can now make more snow in less time, which is better for both the environment and visitor's skiing experience.

Division: Albany Construction Project Manager: Mark Radler

Foreman: Pat Arnold



#### THE LOUNGE AT YELLOW BRICK ROAD CASINO

You can now satisfy your itch for sports gambling at The Lounge, a new luxury betting area at the Yellow Brick Road Casino in Chittenango, NY.

The grand opening was celebrated in early September a day before the NFL season kickoff. It is the largest sports book in New York State.

The nearly 9,000-square-foot venue is designed to accommodate more than 250 sports fans, featuring a custombuilt 32-foot LED screen and more than 35 additional large-screen TVs for the ultimate viewing experience from any location in the lounge.

Adding to the excitement is the introduction of six exclusive "fan caves," which offer private loungestyle viewing areas with luxurious leather couches and chairs, guest controlled screens along with food and beverage services.

O'Connell Electric's scope of work included selective demolition, temporary light and power, wiring devices, lighting fixtures and controls, fire alarm, normal and UPS power branch circuitry, cabling for datacommunications including security access, security cameras, audio-visual

systems and speakers along with installation of televisions, displays and monitors, as well as soda and beer line PVC piping.

This was a very fast-paced project that accumulated 4,100 man hours in six weeks. The crew was working five 12-hour days and an 8-hour day. The project was completed on schedule with no loss time or injuries.

Division: Syracuse Construction Project Manager: Steve Briem

Foreman: Josh Shoff



#### MICHIE STADIUM AT WEST POINT

Army West Point Athletics installed a new, state-of-the-art Daktronics videoboard in the north end zone of Michie Stadium. The new system is considered a significant upgrade and will greatly enhance the fan experience at all of West Point's games and other events hosted at Michie Stadium.

The new videoboard stretches 3,100 square feet, is more than three times bigger than the previous videoboard and will provide high-resolution imagery and production capabilities.

In addition to the new videoboard, Daktronics installed a LED ribbon board display along the upper deck that provides supplemental content and statistics for game day fan experience. The display measures 3.5 feet high by 396 feet in length. Another LED display was installed in the south end zone, stretching 9.5 feet high by 130 feet wide.

Late in the project, O'Connell was called in to provide support for installing conduit, pulling wire, and mounting panels to meet a tight deadline. Our LU 363 Journeymen in the lower Hudson Valley stepped up and performed flawlessly to satisfy two customers, Daktronics and West Point. Well done, team!

Division: Albany Construction
Project Manager: Scott McCarthy

Foreman: Stephen Sarvis

## **RENOVATION UPDATES**

at HQ and 400 Systems Road

Construction at our headquarters office is continuing at a rapid pace. Phase one is complete and everyone has moved into their new locations.

Drywall will be complete by mid-November to allow for painting and completion of phase two shortly after Thanksgiving.

Our main entrance is now open! Upon completion of phase two the new campus wide security system will be rolled out and activated.

At 400 Systems Road, everyone is just about settled in. For phase two, the certificate of occupancy was received in early November so the production floor is available for prefabrication assistance with new projects.

The foreman office area, break room and spray booth complex design is complete and in the permitting stages. This area will be the last bit of construction work required to finish the production floor build out.

Despite the dust, noise and musical desks, our spirits are high! Everyone has been patient with construction and taking it in stride.

Your support is greatly appreciated!

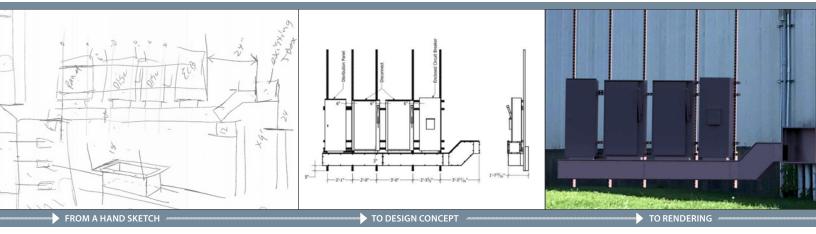






A look in our Fabrication Shop: On the bottom, work is taking place on the Auburn Correctional Facility CCTV System. All of the required data racks are being built along with the Inmate Cell Radio system components for the Inmate Radio System Project also taking place at the facility. The upper left hand side is the fabrication of duct bank sections required for the new SUNY PI Substation Project. While the total completion of the Fabrication Shop is still under construction, O'Connell has been given the green light to work in certain areas of the Shop in order to meet the requirements from the field.

## **Construction Services**



A recent project designed and installed by our renewable energy division, Rochester Solar Technologies, tapped into the expanding resources from our Construction Services Group.

From the design to fabrication, this project was started with a hand sketch and brought to completion. The project was a new electrical service equipment rack for the Raymond Corporation in Green, NY, that incorporated a newly installed 200kw Solar System. The solar project team had an idea and brought it to the table. From there the plan evolved into working drawings, contracts with a sheet metal and powder coating company and the procurement of all the needed materials.

Assisting with this project has allowed the Construction Services Group to establish accounts with two powder coating companies that can provide powder coating services regardless of size and quantity.



Any Project Managers in need of similar services are encouraged to contact the Construction Services team.



## Syracuse Builders Exchange 2019 CRAFTSMANSHIP AWARD

The Syracuse Builders Exchange selected O'Connell Electric as a 2019 Craftsmanship Award recipient for our work at the New York State Lineman's Safety Training Fund Office Building in Cicero, NY.

This was the second building in the complex that O'Connell helped build. The newly constructed office is home to executive offices, fund offices, and conference rooms for the 1249 staff.

We installed new 1200 amp services including security and fire alarm systems, a 400 kW backup generator, custom light fixtures, and a full tele data system.

With the combination of hard work and collaborative efforts among the O'Connell team, the project was completed two months ahead of schedule.

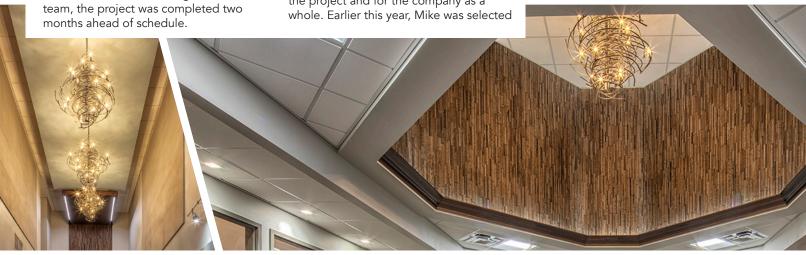
Foreman, Mike Mattice, has been working for O'Connell Electric for three years. When asked to take on the Lineman's Safety Training Fund new office project, Mike was eager to take on the challenge. He demonstrated exceptional leadership characteristics that set himself apart from his peers and led his team with a safety first mindset resulting in zero accidents for the duration of the project.

Along with working his rigorous schedule as a Foreman for O'Connell, Mike also carves out time to train apprentices at the Local Union 43 Training Center. We are continuously impressed with his dedication to our trade.

Mike's leadership had a huge impact on the project and for the company as a whole. Earlier this year, Mike was selected to attend O'Connell's inaugural Foreman Development Training Class, an eightmonth-long series of training sessions developed to position our foremen for future success.

Mike's team pulled off some elaborate conduit bends and installations, and installed several high-end custom lighting fixtures. Both the new office and training center are a huge point of pride for Local Union 1249.

This project was designed with an aggressive schedule. Mike was clearly committed to delivering a quality product on time as the project met its goals, resulting in a satisfied customer.







## **Supplier of the Year**

In October, O'Connell was honored as Supplier of The Year by Avangrid, a leading, sustainable energy company with approximately \$33 billion in assets and operations in 24 U.S. states.

One of Avangrid's two primary lines of business, Avangrid Networks, owns eight electric and natural gas utilities serving 3.2 million customers in New York and New England.

At an event held in New Haven, Connecticut, O'Connell was recognized with the Supplier of The Year Award among other business partners to celebrate achievements across a wide range of business categories.



Tom Parkes, COO, left, and Dave Emmi, T&D Manager, made the trip to receive the award as Supplier of the Year from Avangrid.

O'Connell stood out for embodying the highest qualities of partnership and teamwork while meeting Avangrid's high standards for quality and performance.

Nominations for the award are submitted by employees of Avangrid. Winners are selected by a steering committee as well as representatives of the Avangrid purchasing team.

## Parkes Family Honored with URMC Dean's Medal

In October, members of the George Hoyt Whipple Society presented the Parkes family with the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry Dean's Medal for their decades of philanthropy and volunteer leadership at URMC. The family's contributions have enabled the Medical Center to significantly advance the field of asthma care and research.

The Whipple Society is dedicated to the preservation and advancement of medical education, a cause to which Dr. George Hoyt Whipple, the first dean of the School of Medicine and Dentistry, devoted his life and intellect to. For 48 years, alumni and friends have supported the School through their leadership giving and membership in the Whipple Society.

The Parkes family's generosity also extends to cancer and neuroscience programs at URMC. The common driver for all of their philanthropy is the desire to make a difference in the lives of patients and their families.



Pictured left to right: Linda and Joe Clement, Tom and Brenda Parkes, Walter and Barbara Parkes, John and Susan Parkes-McNally, and Mark Taubman, M.D.

The Parkes family's longstanding partnership with URMC has been essential to the success of clinical, research, and education programs designed to improve asthma care. The family has been tireless in their efforts to advocate for patients and families with asthma and their commitment serves as an inspiration to others who are eager to make a difference in the Rochester community.



On October 12<sup>th</sup>, O'Connell Employees and family members participated in the JBX's Annual Kickball Tournament. All proceeds raised were to benefit the Rochester Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Unfortunately, Team OCE didn't win, but everyone had a great time despite the rainy weather. Better luck next year!







Coming together, sharing stories and supporting each other is what wearing pink is all about, and that's what we did on Wear it Pink Day, October 18<sup>th.</sup>

We're proud to support the cause and raise awareness for breast cancer.



Members of the OCE team attended the bi-annual International Construction & Utility Equipment Exposition in Louisville, Kentucky this Fall. ICUEE is the utility industry's largest trade show, covering 30+acres of indoor and outdoor exhibits, and bringing together more than 19,000 utility professionals every two years.

Our Chairman, Walt Parkes, made sure he covered every inch of it!







No better way for a little team building than manual labor! This Fall, employees in our Syracuse office spent some time laying twenty yards of mulch around the building and grounds. Looking good, team!

## **Employee News**

New Employees and Position Changes

Zachary Aviles-Presley Safety Coordinator, Albany

Jeffrey Becker Transmission Line Project Coordinator, 390 Systems Road

Brian Cass BIM Coordinator, 400 Systems Road

Gerald Clark TEGG Engineer, Victor Office

JohnL Gordon Design & Fabrication Coordinator, 400 Systems Road

Stephen LaJoie Project Manager, Buffalo Office

Douglas Marolf Project Manager/Estimator, Syracuse Office

**Scott McCarthy** Project Manager, Albany

Jeffrey Merrell Project Manager/Estimator, Syracuse Office

Brian Moll Warehouse Assistant/Truck Driver, 400 Systems Road

Jennifer Myers Purchasing Coordinator, Victor Office

Terrence Neary TEGG Engineer, Victor Office

Lexie Poudrier Marketing Coordinator and Graphic Design, Victor Office

Bradley Sargent TEGG Project Engineer, Victor Office

Andrew Spring Intern, Syracuse Office

# say hello

## Recent Additions to our O'Connell Family



Amalia Ennis

Daughter of Amanda McIntosh and Todd Ennis, Technical Services Division.



Emersyn Jo Merrell

Daughter of Kassidy Kelley, Technical Services Division and Jeff Merrell, Project Manager.



Austin Olszowy

Son of Elizabeth and Jon Olszowy, Foreman LU 236.



# Congratulations Recent Awards and Achievements



**Dave Emmi**Honored for the RBJ Top
Forty under 40 Award.



**Bob Acquilano**Honored for the RBJ Excellence in Construction & Real Estate Award for Estimating.



**John Dake**Received his FAA Part 107
Certification to fly unmanned aerial systems commercially.



#### **WALTER PARKES RECEIVES 2019 ICON HONORS AWARD**

Chairman, Walter Parkes, was selected to receive the prestigious ICON Honors Award in recognition as a business leader in the Greater Rochester Area over the age of 60 for his notable success and demonstration of strong leadership both within and outside the electrical construction industry.

To be selected, Honorees must have a long-standing commitment to the greater Rochester business community, must have a sustained commitment to community service and mentoring, and must be over the age of 60 to qualify.

Walter Parkes has more than six decades of experience in the electrical construction business. Through his extensive industry knowledge, strong leadership, and entrepreneurial vision for future opportunities and growth, Walt helped build O'Connell Electric into the successful organization it is today—one of the largest, highest ranked electrical contractors in the country.

Today, Walt remains highly active in the construction industry as well as in the community.



#### **CONSTRUCTION LAW - LAWYER OF THE YEAR**

Joe Turri, our inside counsel, was selected by his peers as "Lawyer of the Year" for his work in Construction Law in Rochester. Only a single lawyer in a specific practice area and location is honored with a Lawyer of the Year designation. Additionally, Joe has been recognized for his work in Construction Law and Litigation – Construction by Best Lawyers, the oldest and most respected peer review publication in the legal profession.

Congratulations, Joe!



830 Phillips Road | Victor, NY 14564



HAPPY