



The Finishing Touch

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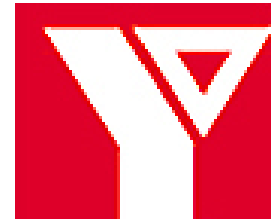
Feature Project David Hunting YMCA Grand Rapids, Michigan

General Contractor: Visser Brothers

Kent Companies: Mike VanBemden – General Superintendent

The Grand Rapids Concrete group began work on the YMCA with all the typical challenges that occur when working in the downtown area. The space available to work was very limited. Once a plan of attack was put together, the next set of challenges set in with the soils and groundwater. The team from Kent Companies worked very close with Cal from Visser Brothers to work our way out of the lower level and pool area. This work consisted of large spread footings and tall cast in place walls. All foundations had to be coordinated to allow for the large precast plank to be erected. Once the precast was in place, Kent Companies installed the topping slabs and a unique elevated running track. The running track is continuous around the perimeter of the building. The track transitions from a topping slab on plank to a slab built up on foam. A special feature of the project was one of our last tasks. On a special day in July, local children were invited to place their handprints in an elliptical pad of wet concrete. This will allow those children who use the facility to have a unique memory and place to look back on for many years to come.

The YMCA was truly a successful project for Kent Companies in many ways. Our special thanks go out to Bruce, Bill, Roger and Jahn of Visser Brothers for allowing us to participate in a project that truly gives back to our community.



Local children making handprints in wet concrete

Thank You!

We wanted to report to you the results of the company fundraiser for Katrina hurricane victims. You may recall the payroll insert that challenged all Kent employees to make a donation to the Red Cross to help those devastated by the storm. All pledges, up to \$100.00 per employee, were to be matched by the Company. I am pleased to report that 40 employees took the challenge and pledged. Some even pledged amounts greater than \$100.00. The total amount raised, including the match, was \$6000.00. Roger and I would like to thank all employees who accepted our challenge and made a donation.

After we developed the fund raising payroll stuffer, Mark Tromp shared with us that the Louisiana Maxxon dealer and his employees had been right in the middle of the storm and had sustained a lot of damage. Maxxon Corporation, in an effort to help out, made a plea to all their dealers for help. In light of this situation, we decided to send all money raised in both underlayment divisions, including the match, to Maxxon to help out our contractor and employee friends in Louisiana. The portion of the \$6000.00 sent to Maxxon was \$1020.00.