April 2019

ELCA makes donation following ICE raid

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The Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA) has donated $10,000, through its world hunger program (domestic hunger grants program), to the relief effort for those affected by the ICE raid at the Postville Harvest Festival which took place last week were Joe Young (left), director for Community Development Services and the Rev. Mark A. Anderson (right) Assistant to the Bishop for the Northeast Iowa Synod. Accepting the check are Paul Rad, director of Bridgett Ministry at St. Bridget Catholic Church and Rev. Steve Brackett, pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The organization has donated funds to this area disaster this year: the tornado in Parnersburg, the floods in eastern Iowa and, most recently, the ICE raid. Mr. Young said, "We are committed to support those in need and partner in any way we can with technical assistance and to help bring dignity to those who are suffering and are seeking answers." The money may be used for things such as technical assistance, legal consultation, personal items, education, the community, the minister, to organize to help Agprocessors know what is meant to be a good corporate citizen. It is planned that a group of community members will visit a list of standards and try to aid in this process. The check, the group emphasized, will be shared among the faith community that have been working tirelessly to help those affected by the raid.

Muller Concrete Construction opens state of the art facility; open house this Friday

Although Muller Concrete Construction Company has been in business since 1975, the focus has changed in the last decade causing the business to grow and expand in a new dimension. The company expanded into the external communications development market in 1997 as they began to focus in the site preparation for cellular towers. Betty Mueller explained, "We could see a real need for someone who could coordinate all side of this growing business. With almost everyone using high speed internet, there became a great need for towers to be placed closer together." The company now travels occasionally into other states focusing on new tower sites. Site preparation might include building the roadway to the site, trenching in the PVC for telephone and electrical lines, excavating the tower foundation and the building foundation, installation of grounding protection for the tower and backfilling and leveling of the site. The company explained, does not install the tower itself.

With the expansion of their business, the Mullers felt a need also to expand their facility. With expansion and growth in mind the company decided to move to the Postville Business Park in 2006. Bruce said, "We moved out of our old place in Decorah and decided to move to the most convenient, efficient and cost-efficient manner.

When walking into the main building one is immediately impressed with the polished concrete floors where stone reflects the light. From the office to where the employees enter. The main entryway has a compass as part of the floor design. What appears to be a stone planter in the entranceway is actually colored concrete as well.

Betty said, "Bruce designed the art work and set it to scale in each of the rooms in the building. The "continuum," "After the concrete was cleaned and polished, the designs were drawn out and colors were taped off as the colors were sprayed on. Each floor is also shaded and sealed.

The Mullers said they did not want to limit the decor for its beauty, but the company decided to show what you can do with all the possibilities.

When designing the building, Bruce wanted to maintain quality and efficiency in mind in all times. The main building not only includes several offices, there is a weight room, lounge, kitchen, board meeting room, and bathrooms. The shop, Bruce explained, has four pressure washer trucks and everything can be inside in the winter.

Betty said, "We designed the offices with future growth in mind. With what we have here we can take on bigger projects without expanding. It would be pretty hard for us to go outgrow this place with buildings that are 60 x 120 and 60 x 60." The company recently began the process of installing all gutters, heating and cooling in the office building. The Mullers said allowed them to heat and air condition the entire 90 x 60 office structure for $110 per last year. Betty added, "This way we can also decrease our energy consumption with a system that is cost efficient." The shop, Bruce added, has also been very economical to heat.

The Mullers credit Gary and Gayle, who startup and established the company to be very healthy and ready to work. In their field of work.

Senator Harken staff member tours Postville School renovation

Linda Lucy, a member of Senator Harkin’s staff, visited Postville schools last Thursday, October 16. Lucy was informed about the School Construction Grant Program started in 1998, through the Senator’s Office building. Through the Senator’s Office building, the GPP is a federal grant program that is available to all districts in the United States for up to 50% of the cost of renovation.

Senator Harkin visited the Postville Community School District, and met with officials and students at the school. The Federal Grants are made for the district to support education, and are made to support education.

Excellent schools do not just pop up like mushrooms after a rain. They are the product of creative, leadership, partnerships, and vision. The Postville Community School District is one of many districts in the United States who have received Federal Grants in the last decade causing the business to grow and expand in a new dimension. The company expanded into the external communications development market in 1997 as they began to focus in the site preparation for cellular towers.

Senator Harkin recently announced the 2008 School Construction Grant Program that is available to all districts in the United States for up to 50% of the cost of renovation. In the state of Iowa alone, according to a recent study, some 79% of school districts in the United States are in dire need of renovation or replacement. In many states an new school year has begun. As you know, Iowa public schools have an excellent reputation nationwide, and the Iowa student’s test scores are among the highest in the nation. Iowa’s education system has earned the reputation of being one of the very best in the nation because of the hard work and dedication of our teachers, along with the school board members.

Too often, our children visit ultra-modern shopping malls and planning great areas of our backyard, and public and private schools without thinking about the future of our educational system. The Federal Grants are made for the district to support education, and are made to support education.

Five marks the 10th year of the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program. That is formalized but it is a better Iowa among educators in Iowa as the program of the Harvard grants for Iowa public school. Since 1984, Iowa has been fortunate to secure a total of $12 million for the State government in Iowa, which select school district school districts to receive grants for a range of capacity and support equipment from updating for safety systems to building new schools or renovating existing facilities in many cases. This Federal funding is used to support public and private local facilities, and is an option with a tremendous multiplier effect in the school districts.

The Postville Community School District received a 2002 Harvard grant total giving $1,100 which is used to build help build and fund school and school projects. The Postville Community School District received a 2002 Harvard grant total giving $1,100 which is used to build help build and fund school and school projects.