

## President's Message: Inspiration From South America

Dear friends -

What a beautiful fall we have been blessed with this year. I hope you have all had a chance to get outdoors and enjoy it often (we all know what's coming!)

I assume that many of you, like me, have been captivated by the rescue of the Chilean miners this past month. What an amazing story they have to share and what an incredible example of a country pulling together. It has been inspiring to watch and contains many important lessons for us all: of teamwork, faith, and what is really important in life.

As I watched the rescue, I thought how

these men are being reborn. Facing the reality of death every day for 69 days, they literally were

given another chance at life - out of the darkness, into the light. It will be interesting to see how the experience changes them.

And, I hope, it changes all of us in some way. To better appreciate what we have, instead of focusing on what we do not. To slow down, to reach out, to reexamine our lives and our goals.

Some of our FS family members are doing just that: Kellie Rygg and Jaroslav Solc have new babies in their lives. Nothing helps you focus on the important things like a baby! We wish them much happiness.

In other FS news, we are finishing up several long-term projects. The 23rd St. NW reconstruction in East Grand Forks has been completed. That two-year project was important for the continued development of the community.

The Shelly and St. Hilaire sewage ponds have also been completed. Those two

projects were many years of engineering work, as well as working with the communities to get funding. We understand the budget constraints of small towns - Rural Development Authority and other funding sources are crucial to these cities

improving and updating their utilities. We were proud to be a part of these important projects.

See you next spring!

- Greg Boppre, President



23rd St. NW in East Grand Forks



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# Civil Talk

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## Shelly Ponds Project Offers Obstacles and Opportunities

The residents of Shelly, Minnesota have brand new sanitary sewer ponds, a new lift station, and a completely relined sewer system, thanks to FS Engineering and Hough Construction. The project was completed this past summer, but actually began over 6 years ago and has had its share of challenges along the way.

The City was forced to take on a new sewage pond project when the banks of their existing secondary pond started to erode into the Marsh River. FS Engineering proposed an emergency repair that involved abandoning the existing secondary pond and separating the primary pond into two parts. This \$80,000 temporary fix was completed in 2005 and kept the sewer system operational while FS designed a more permanent pond, just north of the existing structures.

Unfortunately, the existence of a small area of wetlands in that area prevented construction of the original design and the City was forced to look farther north. This delay affected the community's Rural Development Authority funding, which further complicated the project schedule.

FS Engineering worked closely with the landowner and City officials



**The new primary sewage pond for the City of Shelly is located just north of the existing pond. The odd shape is due to a small area of wetlands that had to be avoided.**

to design the most cost-effective pond layout possible, given their restrictions, in a short amount of time. The project was finally bid in May of 2009 and Hough Construction out of Detroit Lakes was the successful bidder.

Once actual construction began,

officials learned that there was no clay liner under the original ponds. So the FS design team went to work again, designing an 18 inch layer of clay to serve as a liner and amending the

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## Warroad Campground Maps Enhance Visitors' Experience

Nestled along the edge of the Lake of the Woods and near Warroad Point Park is the Warroad City Campground and bike trail. A popular camping site during the summer months, the area also hosts a new playground, public access beach, picnic shelters, and swimming pool.

To help visitors find their sites easier, the City of Warroad asked FS Engineering to put together a campground map for the area. Using FS's utility maps of the City of Warroad and satellite photos, FS's Senior Engineering Technician Mark

Anderson put together two different maps for the community - an overview of the Point area showing the bikepath and a closeup view of the campsites.

"It was a fun little project," noted Anderson. "And since my family and I used to camp a lot, I know how valuable it can be to have a map like this - especially if you're unfamiliar with the area."

Kathy Lovelace, Warroad's City Administrator, agrees. "The maps have worked out great for us. We are able to send them to prospective visitors as well

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construction schedule to include the additional work.

“Although it delayed the project having to put in the clay liner, it was good that the community had the chance to do it right,” noted Jaroslav Solc, FS Engineering’s engineer on the project. “They just didn’t have the same regulations years ago when these ponds were first built.”

The total project cost approximately \$1.9 Million. ♦



“Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I don’t like that attitude. I can assure them it is much more serious than that.”

- Bill Shankly

“Nobody in the game of football should be called a genius. A genius is somebody like Norman Einstein.”

- Joe Theismann



“Football is a mistake. It combines the two worst elements of American life. Violence and committee meetings.”

- George F. Will

Meet our staff: Travis Suedel



Originally from Grand Forks, Travis Suedel started working for FS Engineering during the summer of 2004 as a surveyor’s assistant. He’s worked every summer through 2008, has graduated with a degree in Geomatics (Land Surveying and Mapping) with a minor in GIS, and now works full-time for the company as a survey crew chief. Travis and his

wife Kari live in Grand Forks and have a dog, which came to them already named Puppy (NOT Travis’ first choice!).

What is your favorite part of the job so far? The money!!!!. I’m kidding I think the thing I like most is that I get to use my mind and muscle.

Where else have you worked? I’ve done it all! McDonald’s was my first real job. I’ve worked factory jobs like Amazon, American Crystal Sugar and a potato warehouse. I’ve pumped gas, worked as a cashier and mechanic in an auto shop. I’ve also worked with

adolescents at a drug treatment facility and was a residential specialist at a boarding school for 4th-8th grade Native American children that came from all over the United States. I’ve washed cars, been a cook at several restaurants, and lastly, a bartender.

What are your hobbies? Anything where I can create or work with my hands. I like working on cars and motorcycles, and recently developed a liking of home improvement.

Do you have a mentor or a person that inspired you? My parents.

If you could meet anyone in the world, who would it be and why? Jesus, for obvious reasons.

What’s your favorite TV show? Law and Order - the old reruns with Lenny.

Who’s your favorite superhero? Underdog. ♦



Behind the Scenes at FS: Babies and Babes



Congratulations to Jaroslav Solc and Kellie Rygg on the new additions to their families! Jaroslav’s wife Tabitha gave birth to their son Easton Jaroslav on July 5. Kellie’s daughter Kori had a baby boy on July 21 and named him Damien John. The boys are healthy, happy and making sure their parents don’t get too much sleep!

Also, we thought you’d enjoy a picture from our annual company golf outing. Here Marilyn and Randy show how to drive the cart in style!



Mayor Lynn Stauss and Council President Dick Grassel receive the City’s personal 7 Wonders of Engineering award plaque from FS Engineering President Greg Boppre.

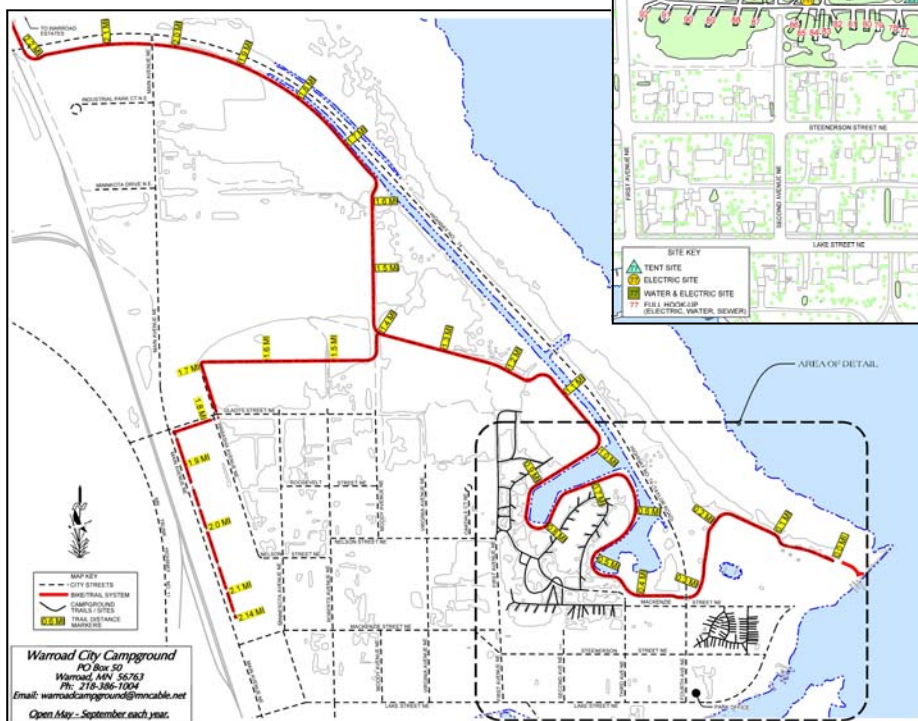
Oops! This photo ran in our last issue and we forgot to give credit to the photographer! So, thank you to Jordan Meyer and the EGF Exponent, for being so generous in sharing photos with us. We won’t forget next time!

Campground . . . Continued from page

as direct visitors to a specific site once they check in. We’ve also distributed them to law enforcement and emergency personnel to they can fine a particular site in a more timely manner if necessary.”

And, according to Lovelace, local residents have found the mileage markers on the bikepath useful as well.

If your community would be interested in a map for your campground or city, contact FS Engineering at 1-800-450-1185. ♦



FS Engineering’s Senior Engineering Technician Mark Anderson drew the biketrail map at the left and the more detailed campground map above for the City of Warroad. The biketrail map includes distance markers so users know how far they’ve traveled.

The Warroad City Campground is open from May 1st through September 30th every year. For more information, check out the city’s website: www.warroad.org.