

The Berwick Connection.



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Memorial Hospital Jobsite: Behind the Scenes

A lot goes on “behind the scenes” at a hospital. Although the coordination of various hospital workers, doctors, nurses, patients and schedules seems obvious, what you might not notice are the complex, electrical processes that sustain the hospital itself. Learn more below about BEC’s opportunity to work in this exciting area.

Raising the Roof: Electrical Upgrades

When it comes to wiring a hospital, BEC’s electricians can compete with the best. In one current project, BEC electricians are working to upgrade the electrical system at Memorial Hospital in Colorado Springs, Colo. One aspect of the upgrades includes switching out two of the hospital’s massive boilers. “In order to replace the boilers, we actually have to remove part of the roof from the building,” Project Foreman John Luther explained. “This makes for a very interesting day on the job.”

In addition to unique building challenges, project success also requires detailed coordination with other trades. “To me, everything we do is interesting,” John said. “It’s always a challenge to efficiently coordinate with the other trades on the job. We have foremen meetings almost daily, and we use CAD drawings and software like Bluebeam to help things run smoothly. Our crew also uses iPads to work out details with the other crews on a job.” Working well with the other trades is a must, and BEC

makes every effort to stay up-to-date on the latest industry standards.

While working to upgrade the hospital’s boilers, BEC’s team is also involved in a multi-phase project to replace the air handler units. “These air handlers facilitate all of the air changes for the north part of the hospital,” BEC Electrician Ray Rincon explained. “It’s a great, challenging project.”

Containing Construction

Working on electrical upgrades is only one aspect of BEC’s current work at Memorial Hospital; the ambitious company is also completing electrical wiring for the construction of a new pharmacy inside of the hospital.

“Working on a construction project inside of an operating hospital is a challenge. You really have to take extra measures to ensure that germs and construction particles aren’t spread throughout the hospital,” John explained. “One way we accomplish this is by creating a negative air pressure inside of the construction area. This keeps dust and other particles contained.” Innovative problem solving is a staple of project success.

BEC’s electricians genuinely enjoy the challenge of strategically implementing state-of-the-art upgrades at Memorial Hospital.

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A JOB OF “OLYMPIC” PROPORTIONS

The buzz surrounding the Olympic Games is palpable; years of training and sacrifice culminate in competition as the world watches. But what the world may not always see are the teams of people devoted to creating and maintaining the training facilities — world-class training environments. With the U.S. Olympic Training Center in its backyard, Berwick Electric Co. (BEC) has had the opportunity to help maintain the best training environment possible for both national and international athletes. We recently had the privilege of chatting with BEC Foreman Cathy Starr about her experience installing a Mass Notification System on the U.S. Olympic Training Center (USOTC) Campus in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Berwick Electric Co. (BEC): Describe your work at the USOTC.

Cathy Starr (CS): We are currently installing the first non-military mass notification system in Colorado Springs. In the event of an emergency, this system allows all of the buildings on campus to communicate with each other, and it also provides immediate lock-down areas for added security. We've been working on the installation on and off for about four and-a-half years. We are just about to finish the ninth building, and we have about one more year until the job is complete. The current project has been the smoothest; we're kind of in the zone after updating so many buildings.

BEC: You seem very passionate about your work. What are the things that captivate your interest?

CS: To me, it's all interesting. It's fun to observe all of the different cultures and activities that collide on the USOTC campus. During the



BEC Electrician “Junior” completes wiring at the USOTC.

time I've been here, wrestling teams from China, India and Sweden have visited. Working with the staff here is also a very pleasant experience. It makes life very easy.

I also like that I get to deal with so many people throughout the day. From contractors, HVAC technicians and painters, to electricians and the USOTC's maintenance staff, I enjoy interacting with so many different trades. Working in a variety of locations is also interesting.



BEC Foreman Cathy Starr at the USOTC.

No two days are the same. I also enjoy working with fire alarm systems — safety is important!

BEC: What is it like to work in an Olympic training facility while the winter games are taking place in Sochi?

CS: Well, the athletes who train here are the summer sports athletes; I don't know of any athletes from this area who are in Sochi. However, a lot of the USOTC staff are in Sochi now, so it will be interesting to hear all of their stories when they return.

When we were on the USOTC campus during the last summer games, there was a lot of energy and tension. Everyone was very focused, as they should be. It's exciting to be around that kind of energy! I feel very fortunate to have had the experience of working at the USOTC.

INTERESTING USOTC FACTS...

- From June through August, the USOTC provides 15 tours each day.
- The USOTC goes through 15,000 gallons of milk each year.
- 300,000 meals are served at the USOTC each year.
- 130,000 people visit the USOTC every year.
- The USOTC is sprawled across 35 acres.

Source: <http://bit.ly/1qwtbb4>

A NEW SEASON: BEC HONORS RETIREES

Clay Gafford. After nearly 40 years with Berwick Electric Co., (BEC), Vice President Clay Gafford is making the leap to a new life adventure — retirement. And although the staff at BEC wishes him well as he steps into a new season, the farewell is definitely bittersweet. Before we send Clay off into retirement, we would like to take a moment to honor all that Clay has contributed to BEC over the years.



Clay Gafford

Starting Out

Originally from Cortez, Colo., Clay began his electrical apprenticeship in 1975. **"I was drawn to the electrical industry, because a lot of the men I looked up to in my life were electricians,"** Clay said. "I had great mentors who were electricians for the construction field."

With a clear vision of where he could go in the electrical industry, Clay jumped in with both feet. After initially working with BEC as an apprentice and then driving a service van, Clay joined the contract department as a foreman. He then transferred to the residential department as a manager.

"After spending some time as the residential department manager, I



Clay enjoyed a variety of roles at BEC.

was then asked to be the assistant service department manager," Clay said.

"After that, I worked as the contract department manager, and then I was eventually promoted to vice president, where I was in charge of all the man power."

Career Growth

Clay's work ethic and desire to continually learn and grow served him well throughout his career. "The challenge of completing complicated projects was rewarding," Clay said. "I enjoyed coming up with creative solutions to tough problems. I always liked figuring out how to save the client money. The only thing I won't miss about my job is the paperwork!"

Clay's long tenure with BEC enabled him to watch the company grow through different eras. **"When I first started with BEC, the company had zero computers and one copy machine that copied one sheet at a time,"** Clay explained. "All of our estimates were done by long-hand, which took forever. The secretary typed all of our letters, and we used carbon paper to keep a copy of everything that went out the door. Tech-

nology has come a long way!"

Over the years, Clay had the privilege of developing strong relationships with co-workers whose vision was to see the company grow and mature.

"My most fond memories of working at Berwick are the friendships I formed over the years. Berwick brings in some of the most quality, high-caliber people that I've met. Those relationships have really meant a lot to me," Clay said.

"I also have some funny memories — you can't take life too seriously," Clay laughed. "I used to have a dog named Poppy that I would bring into the office with me," Clay said. "Well, one day I had a meeting with a female client who was wearing open-toed shoes. Poppy was under the desk and decided to lick this client's toes; this woman gave me the most shocked, disgusted facial expression. It was a pretty funny moment!"

Ready for a New Adventure

Although he will greatly miss the people and opportunities at BEC, Clay is ready for retirement. "I think I'm most excited about making my own

schedule and living for myself," Clay said. "Before, my schedule always revolved around work. **Now I'll have more time to hunt, fish, and explore the outdoors.** I plan to spend time in the mountains and the upper Midwest during the summers. During the winters, I plan to head down south."



Clay is looking forward to spending more time outdoors, hunting and fishing.

As he heads into retirement, Clay is very grateful for the many years and opportunities that BEC afforded him. **"I'm very thankful that I got on with a company that offered me so many opportunities to grow.** It's very rare to be able to start out as an apprentice and move all the way up to vice president," Clay said. "Because BEC has provided me with such steady employment, I'm able to retire early. BEC is very fortunate to have such a great management team. Their vision has enabled the company to diversify and stay on top of their game in the industry."

"One last thought — **I want to express my gratitude to Jim Peterson (current BEC president) for mentoring me,"** Clay said. "He's been a driving force in my life and career, and I'm very thankful that."

BEC is thankful to Clay for his many years of hard work, and the entire BEC staff wishes him the very best in retirement. *Continued on p.4*

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Martha Bynum. For nearly 20 years, Martha served as the service billing coordinator for Berwick Electric Co. (BEC). Martha's kind, giving nature will be missed around the office!

When BEC needed to fill a critical position in its billing department 20 years ago, they found a great fit in Martha Bynum. "It's hard to believe that I've spent nearly two decades here at Berwick," Martha said. "I've really been very proud to work with a group of people who are very happy to provide excellent customer service."

Although Martha will be missed, she is genuinely looking forward to her retirement. "I'm excited to have more time to garden, read, and go hiking and biking with my dog," Martha said. "However, I will definitely miss the people that I worked with."

Martha Bynum Service Billing Coordinators Rhonda Kahn and Wendy Campbell will fill Martha's shoes — and those are big shoes to fill! Originally from south Texas, Rhonda has nearly 26 years of experience in the construction field. "I really enjoy working with the variety of people and situations that I encounter on a daily basis here at Berwick," Rhonda explained. "Outside of work, I enjoy camping, riding ATVs and snowmobiles and hunting. I also have one daughter."



Wendy Campbell

Wendy, originally from Ft. Collins, will also work alongside Rhonda in the service billing department. Although Wendy has tried her hand at a variety of careers, she has nearly 20 years of accounting experience. "I enjoy math. There's always a consistent way to get the answer," Wendy said. "When I'm not working, I like to jet ski and go boating with my husband and three kids. I also love animals and raise pheasants, quail and fainting goats. It's a lot of fun!"

BEC is very thankful for all of the years that Martha contributed such great work, and we wish her a fabulous retirement! The company is also very pleased to welcome Wendy and Rhonda to the team, and the Berwick team looks forward to strengthening the reputation of excellent customer service for which BEC is known.



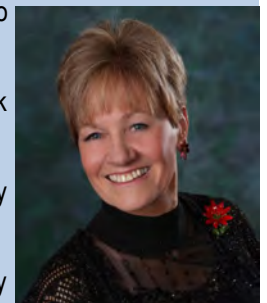
Rhonda Kahn

Ruth McGuire. For 10 years, BEC was privileged to enjoy Accounting Assistant Ruth McGuire's spirited laughter and can-do attitude. With Ruth's retirement, the BEC team will miss the years of experience that Ruth brought to the table.

"Ruth was always very upbeat and encouraging," Payroll Specialist Susie Kellogg said. "She was always very easy to talk with on both a personal and a professional level. She will be missed around here!"

Originally from Northern Illinois, Ruth has been part of the BEC team since August 2003. "I really enjoyed the variety of my job — it kept things interesting," Ruth explained. "I will miss interacting with all of the other staff members!"

Although Ruth will miss the BEC office, she's excited for retirement! "I enjoy being outdoors; I love anything I can put my hand to, such as gardening, landscaping changes, etc.," Ruth said. "My husband and I will also have more time to enjoy our cabin in the national forest, as well as more time to spend with our grandchildren." Ruth was a huge asset to BEC, and she will be missed! We wish her all the best in retirement!



Ruth McGuire



Stephanie Hansen

Stephanie Hansen will take over Ruth's former duties. BEC is very pleased to welcome Stephanie to the team! Originally from Minnesota, Stephanie and her husband moved to Colorado Springs in October 2013. Prior to working with BEC, Stephanie worked for an electrical contractor for nine years. Stephanie will assist the accounting department and support the project managers. "So far I really enjoy my job! It is challenging, the people are very nice, and parts of it are very similar to my previous job," Stephanie said. "I'm a very independent, detail-oriented person, which will serve me very well in this position."

Outside of work, Stephanie enjoys riding her horse, Sassy. She also enjoys reading, gardening and cooking. Please join us in welcoming Stephanie to the BEC team.

VETERANS AFFAIRS CLINIC SET TO OPEN IN JUNE

Nature is not only beautiful, but studies show that it can also aid healing. Soon, veterans and active duty troops will be able to take in the gorgeous sights of Pikes Peak while receiving state-of-the-art medical care at the new Veterans Affairs (VA) Clinic in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Since its foundation work began in early 2013, the new VA Clinic has come quite a long way. With the exterior of the building complete, the final details are coming together. "Working under Jacobson Construction on this project has been a great opportunity," Project Manager Mark Norman said. "John Travers, Dale Butterfield, Dylan Alley, and Ryan Hurless are leading the power and lighting installation." They, alongside their crews, are working diligently to finish the project.

Various jobs are wrapping up as the facility nears completion. "This project is coming together quickly, and a large portion of our electrical scope at the VA Clinic is winding down within the next month," Mark explained. "Permanent power was established mid-February, and the trim work is currently taking place. At the start of March, mechanical commissioning is scheduled to start."

Additionally, the telecomm cabling is well under way, and the communications rooms are coming together. "Shane Gebbink's (BEC datacomm manager) men, led by Paul Brumley, are doing a great job," Mark commented.

Toby Collins (part of Dale Butterfield's crew), is leading the fire alarm installation. This unique system includes the integration of the smoke evacuation system with the fire alarm, access control, door operators, and some mechanical fans. "Owner training is set to take place in late May, and the final turnover is planned for mid-June," Mark said.

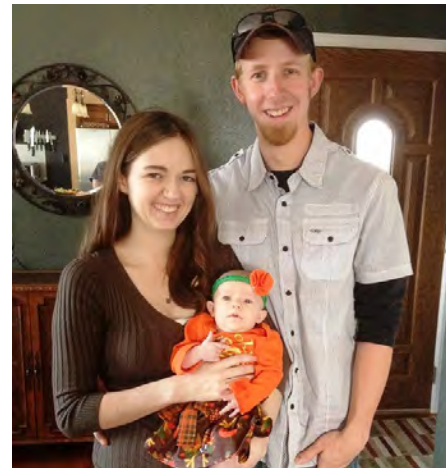
Once the facility is turned over and opens, it will support nearly 72,000 veterans and 50,000 active-duty troops who live in El Paso County. The clinic will offer health services such as CT scans, lab work, and other diagnostic services, as well as mental health care and treatment for traumatic brain injuries.

BEC is proud of each individual's dedication and hard work on this project!



Final details are coming together as the VA Clinic is prepped to open in June.

BEC'S NEWEST *LITTLE* FAMILY MEMBERS



Sarah, Payton, and Nathan Cinocco

For Sarah and Nathan Cinocco (a third-year apprentice), the birth of their first child was quite eventful! When Sarah (due 9/9/13) went into labor at 2:30 a.m., Nathan excitedly prepped the car for the trip to the hospital. But within 10 to 15 minutes, Sarah was unable to get up and move; she told Nathan that the baby was on its way—now! She was right. Nathan ended up delivering their daughter, Payton, just 50 minutes from the time Sarah's water broke.

"There was very little time, and I had to think fast. I delivered her (Payton), and the cord was wrapped around her neck twice. So I quickly unwrapped it and got her breathing," Nathan said. "I called the paramedics right after she was born. Payton's five months old now, and she is very happy and healthy! We couldn't be happier!"

Baby Payton weighed 6 lbs., 4 oz. Please join us in congratulating the Cinoccos!

BEC would also like to congratulate Andrea and Nathan Gallion, who welcomed their son Anthony David Gallion into the world on January 19 at 9:06 a.m. Anthony weighed 8 lbs., 6 oz., and was 20.5 inches long. Nathan is currently working on Mark Norman's VA Clinic project on John Travers' crew.

Congratulations to the Gallions! Baby Anthony is pictured at right.





SAFETY CORNER



Bounce House Safety. According to a study* from Ryerson University, children may be more likely to incur injuries from inflatable “bounce houses” than mechanical amusement rides.

Using 2010 data from the National Injury Surveillance System, researchers examined amusement park injuries and found a total of 476 cases among a network of 100 hospitals — which translates to 13,770 such injuries across the US. Bounce houses and other inflatables accounted for 42 percent of amusement park injuries, followed by roller coasters (20 percent), carousels and bumper cars (3 percent each). More than half of bounce house injuries involved children 15 or younger.

Researchers recommend that parents check the safety of bounce houses by ensuring the “inflatables” have proper license tags. Additionally, attendants should take time to instruct children on safe behavior, avoiding overcrowding, and limiting bounce times to children of similar ages.

This study was first published in the Feb. issue **Safety Science.*



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