

John Walker

Ridgemount Quarries Update

This year's production at the Ridgemount Quarries has been the same as in previous years, with stone shipped to local construction projects. As usual, aggregate processing will shut down for a few months over the winter season, starting in December.

Nathan Wallace has joined the team of workers at the quarry, under the provincial

government's Experience Ontario pilot program. The program allows high school graduates to gain work experience in a particular industry, before deciding whether to pursue college or university education related to that industry.

Nathan is considering enrolling in a heavy equipment program at a community college.

Remembering John Walker

The Board of Directors and employees of Walker Industries Holdings Limited were saddened to learn of the passing of John Walker on May 26, 2016, at the age of 77. John was the retired, fourth-generation co-owner of Walker Industries, and as proud of his family legacy in business as in its community service and philanthropy.

John joined the family business after his studies at McGill University in 1962, starting as a superintendent of the company's quarry in Niagara Falls. He and his brother Norris later purchased the company from their father and uncle.

"John was a good judge of character and very good at sizing people up," recalls Norris. "He looked for and cared for hard-working, honest and loyal employees."

"We did for the community what we felt was right," John said of the company's community service in the locations where Walker had operations. "We were happy to do it and never expected anything in return."

John served on several national and international industry associations and received a number of prestigious entrepreneurial and achievement awards. He also served as a chair or member of numerous boards of directors in the Niagara Region where

– continued on back

Bike Racing is a Little Family Affair

Paul Little has been doing body and mechanical work on motorcycles since he was a child, and he has continued his passion in his job as a general labourer in the body shop at the Ridgemount Quarry. He applied for and received his position two years ago, after having worked in Hamilton as a heavy equipment mechanic. His employment at the quarry suits Paul much better, since it's only a half hour drive from his home in Welland. An added bonus is that he enjoys the work.

"I like it here and I enjoy what I'm doing," he says, adding that he likes working with the other employees in the quarry and at the shop.

During his younger days, Paul raced motorcycles at the professional level, participating in races as far away as Quebec, New York and Michigan. Now, in his spare time he can mostly be found working as part of a pit crew.

"I broke a couple of bones and had a couple of kids," he says, explaining the end of his professional career.

Paul and his wife Crystal often spend weekends taking their kids, Taia, 12, and Seth, 8, to motorcycle races across Ontario during the April to September season. "They were practically born on bikes," he says.

Now that winter is approaching, the family will soon be putting their bikes in storage and spending their recreational time snowmobiling on trails throughout Niagara and points further north in the province.



Paul and Crystal Little with their children Taia and Seth.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE

CUSTOMER PROFILE

A Customer Within its Own Company

One of the best customers of Walker Aggregates is actually one of Walker Industries' divisions – Norjohn Contracting. Norjohn was founded in 1973 to take advantage of stone and asphalt from Walker's Niagara quarries for local road and site development projects.

In some cases that means that Norjohn competes with Walker Aggregates' other contracting customers, says general manager John Blake. But he is quick to note that "we're careful which projects we bid on because we don't want to come in conflict with Walker's other customers. We want them to continue using stone from our quarries."

About 75 per cent of the asphalt produced at the Vineland and Walker Brothers quarries is used by Norjohn Contracting. The company uses both hot and cold recycled mix asphalt for its road



A crew from Norjohn Contracting lays down FiberMat® paving on a road in Haliburton.

reconstruction and pavement preservation. It also uses asphalt emulsion produced by another of Walker's divisions – Walker Emulsions in Burlington.

Norjohn has several unique paving technologies, including one that's used in road preservation projects across Ontario, called FiberMat®. Strands of chopped fibreglass are sprayed in place between layers of asphalt emulsion and then covered in stone. The FiberMat® paving technology prevents reflective cracking in existing road surfaces.

"Typically a road will require maintenance between year eight and 10," says John. "With FiberMat®, we can extend the life

of the road for five or more years before it needs to be resurfaced or rebuilt." The FiberMat® process takes crews from Norjohn to road projects in municipalities across the province.

Altogether, the company is involved in approximately 300 kilometres of road construction each year.

Norjohn has formed several subcontracting relationships with contracting companies throughout the Niagara Region for site servicing projects, sewer and water main construction, and curb and sidewalk construction projects. It employs between 65 and 70 local workers full time during peak construction season.

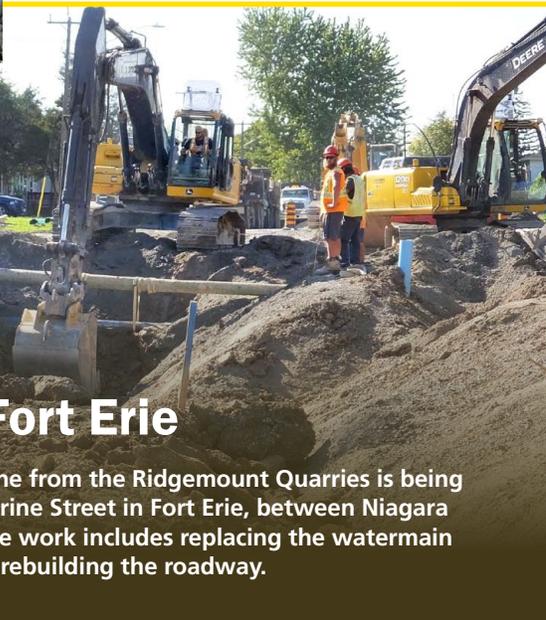


Where the Rock Goes



Catherine Street Reconstruction, Fort Erie

Approximately 40,000 tonnes of stone from the Ridgemount Quarries is being used for the reconstruction of Catherine Street in Fort Erie, between Niagara Boulevard and Concession Road. The work includes replacing the watermain and sanitary and storm sewers, and rebuilding the roadway.



Remembering John Walker – continued

he lived, including the Shaver Hospital, Knox Presbyterian Church, Ridley College, Shaw Festival Theatre, AIDS Niagara, YMCA, Niagara Peninsula Children's Centre Foundation and the St. Catharines General Hospital Breakthrough Health Care Campaign. He was an executive in residence at Brock University, where he received an Honorary Doctorate degree, was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002, and was honorary co-chair of the fundraising campaign to build a new hospital and cancer centre in St. Catharines.

John leaves behind his wife Carol, and children David (Jennifer), Wendy (Michael), Ian and Geordie (Adrienne), along with stepchildren Sarah and Rachel, and 11 grandchildren.



Ridgemount Quarries
2009 Ridgemount Rd, Stevensville, ON
L0S 1S0
905 382 2041

QUARRY MANAGEMENT

Mark Harmsworth
Quarry Superintendent
905 680 3760
mharmsworth@walkerind.com

www.walkerind.com

Frank Kielbowich
General Manager, Niagara & West GTA
905 680 3673
fkielbowich@walkerind.com



Printed on paper containing 100% post-consumer fibre