

Spring 2008

Established in 1910

Women First Opens In Cape Girardeau

Many of us harbor memories of doctor's offices as tetragon-shaped buildings housing unengaging, sterile spaces. Remembering childhood anxiety concerning "the visit to the doctor," we recall how our torment was amplified at each step across the parking lot to the building, and then how the apprehension built as we lingered in a sterile and austere waiting room, and then, finally, genuine panic ensued when our name was called.

How many can remember looking down a narrow hallway for an escape route as you slowly walked toward that small and lonely exam room? Can you still smell the

disinfectant after these myriad years? Those childhood memories may well continue to impact us as adults, and be the cause for some of us to allow minor health issues to persist, rather than to seek medical assistance when needed.

Penzel Construction Company recently completed construction on a new medical office

building that challenges much of the traditional medical building design theory. Doctors Scot Pringle, Chris Rosenquist and Eric Morton required that their new modern facility take a unique approach toward patient care. Rather than being confining and rectangular, the new state-of-the-art facility gives the impression of two buildings joined in harmony, forming a unique marriage of form and function.

The concepts for the building and the design, detailing and final finish selection processes were conducted as part of a team effort involving Dr. Morton and his wife, Kelly (part owners and representatives of the OB-GYN Specialists of Southeast Missouri



Women First's new facility at 1111 N. Mount Auburn Road in Cape Girardeau.

Corporation) and Ameer Boettcher (project architect, of Pellham Phillips, Springfield, Mo.). The owners wanted a pleasing building where patients would feel comfortable, one in which the staff could work proficiently while enjoying their work environment. It was also important to have a covered drop-off area for patients as they enter the building.

Kelly Morton brought inspiration, starting with the use of leaf-patterned acrylic sheets formed into waves suspended from the cathedral ceiling in the waiting areas. The same material was also used at windows in the area. Kelly also envisioned a vivid pattern to cover the floor leading back to the exam areas. The use of color in paint and vinyl composite tiles, along with the use of stained concrete, balanced to provide a pleasing, yet affordable, environment.

Crucial were strategies involving cutting-edge equipment. The new facility is equipped to deliver some of the region's most advanced and innovative diagnostic and therapeutic applications of science and technology. The interaction between the

physicians and these new technologies augment the doctors' expertise to help serve the evolving needs of their patients.

The expansive sense of the large parking lot is diminished with strategic green spaces and large planters created with stone matching that of the building. A large stimulated stone fountain provides ambiance at the main entry.

Along with opening this modern, welcoming facility came a new name. To reflect its attitude toward patient care, OB-GYN Specialists of Southeast Missouri became Women First. This physicians office offers more than a just routine visit to the doctor.

Luke Miget served as Penzel's project manager, with Jack Conklin, Jr. serving as the site superintendent.



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Huddle House Prepares To Open

One of Cape Girardeau's busiest interchanges is about to become home to a 24/7 restaurant. Penzel Construction, as general contractor, is completing the new Huddle House for American Landmark Properties, owned by Matt and Robin Goehman.

A Huddle House on this site looks to enjoy attributes desirable for a very successful venture. A classic neighborhood diner offering a wide variety of cooked-to-order food fresh off the grill for breakfast, lunch and dinner is welcomed in Cape.

In addition, they serve any meal all day, while delivering unmatched value.

Located at 511 North Kingshighway, it is considered the companion restaurant to the Town House Inn, which provides a direct customer base. Kingshighway serves as the business loop for I-55, with a spotlight at the Broadway/Kingshighway intersection that stops traffic directly in front of the restaurant, and the site offers easy access. Cape Girardeau is the regional shopping hub for Southeast Missouri, with an in-city population approaching

40,000, which is well above Huddle House's demographic prerequisite. Finally, a four-year, 10,000-student university is less than a mile away.

Obviously, success cannot be guaranteed, but with Matt and Robin's commitment to excellence, this venture seems to have much better odds than most new businesses. Bob Sachse is serving as site superintendent on the project. The Penzel Construction team wishes the Goehmans the best of luck in their new enterprise.

Project Updates

- The **Nell Holcomb R-IV School District** project was completed ahead of schedule. Penzel started work on the \$2.3 million, approximately 11,000-square-foot project on July 5, 2007. Phil Penzel was the project manager and Dennis Ward was site superintendent.
- The High School Campus Development for **Jackson School District** is on schedule for spring completion. The new structures and existing high school buildings are being brought together under one roof with a gross floor area of approximately 110,000 square feet. Howard Hemman is project manager and David Mirageaux the project superintendent.
- The **Missouri Delta Medical Center** project is on schedule to finish at the end of April. The work involves a major renovation and addition to an important health care facility that must remain open at all times. The project manager/site superintendent is Tim Johnston.
- The **American Railcar Industries** project finished in February, less than four months after it began. It is a 9,900-square-foot

building addition to their facility in the Jackson Industrial Park. This design/build project marks Penzel's sixth major project for ARI. ARI employees began work in the new building immediately after completion. Penzel's site superintendent was Mike Williams, with Luke Miget serving as project manager.

- **Route 72 widening project** between Jackson and Patton has been awarded. Penzel is doing grading, drainage and concrete work, in association with Apex Paving's general contract on this MODOT project. Work started this past February, with a December completion planned.
- **Deerwood Bridge** will be completed this spring. The project is a new 75-foot concrete bridge with concrete paving, dirt work, box culvert extensions and riprap, and it requires managed traffic control work. Bid on October 3 of last year, Penzel was able to start work on November 14. The winter weather presented occasional difficulties with pouring concrete for both the structure and paving. Job superintendents were Dave Conrad and Jack Conklin, Jr.

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