

Happy Birthday!!!

Joshua Ferguson (7/2)
 Julius Ceasar (7/3)
 Frederick Goins (7/3)
 Monica Boone (7/15)
 Jacob Sharp (7/15)
 Kendrix Byrd (7/20)
 Adrian Bell (7/22)
 Richard Castille (7/25)
 James Rissmiller (7/30)

Thank You for Your Service!

Johnny Vidrine (31 yrs)
 John Taylor (17 yrs)
 Jennifer Rayburn (13 yrs)
 Philip Cason (11 yrs)
 Taurus Johnson (5 yrs)
 Michael Batiste (3 yrs)
 David Beaudoin (2 yrs)
 Joshua Ferguson (1 yr)
 Zachary Phillips (1 yr)



this issue

Safety Topic **P.2**

I'm Batman! **P.3**

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Corporate Update

LAPA Convention

Several of our executives attended the 2023 64th Annual Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Association (LAPA) Convention. LAPA is a statewide association that serves its members by promoting the Louisiana Asphalt Pavement Industry; working toward a better transportation infrastructure; partnering with governmental transportation departments; encouraging ethical behavior, sound business methods and practices; and being the chief advocate of better asphalt production.

The conference included several keynote speakers from LAPA who spoke about federal fundings and regulations. Speakers from LA DOTD covered upcoming specification changes in asphalt paving. While other guest speakers spoke about suicide awareness in the construction industry. (<https://www.lahotmix.org>)

Job Update

The Bridge Crew recently finished working on North 16th Street in Alexandria and are wrapping up work on the Amaco Bridge and Dorcheat Project.

Asphalt and Stabilization crew are working on the Hwy 167 job and should be 100% complete by the first part of August.

Soil Cement crew finished working the Ruston City Street project and are currently in the Sikes area.



Pop Quiz

What company was originally called “Cadabra”

Email News@diamondb.com if you know the answer. Answer to the quiz will be published on the next issue.

Answer to previous quiz:

How many sides does a circle have?

Two – inside & Outside

Congratulations to Darrell Hoard for emailing News@diamondb.com the correct answer!

Someone said...

“Things may come to those who wait, but only the things left by those who hustle” - Abraham Lincoln



If you would like to participate and share an inspirational quote from your desk calendar or have a challenging pop quiz question - email News@diamondb.com and we'll let you know if your submission is selected for the next issue of the Road Runner



Bridge Crew

Do you drive a company vehicle? Your worst nightmare could be right around the corner. Recent studies have revealed that each year, more than one in three company vehicles are involved in an accident. According to the National Safety Council, two thirds (2/3) of these accidents were at least partially caused by a driver error while traveling on the highways.

Let's avoid being the driver contributing to negative statistics. As a driver, it is your responsibility to continuously evaluate and recognize accident-producing situations. Safe driving practices are the key to preventing or minimizing accidents. Here are some safe driving tips to exercise while operating your personal or company vehicle.

Whenever possible, **pre-plan** your travel route by study a map or getting directions.

Safety Topic

Safety Driving Tips

If you are traveling along an unfamiliar route, schedule a little extra time into the trip. Consider such things as: the weather conditions, know traffic hazards, congested areas, and the type of roadway.

- **Buckle up.** Always use your seat belt.
- **Obey all traffic laws and don't exceed the speed limit.** Your performance as an employee counts behind the wheel too! Evaluate the traffic conditions all around you. Be prepared to adjust your speed accordingly.
- **Keep your eyes on the road and be attentive.** Always be prepared for possible obstructions, slowing, or stopping vehicles, or pedestrians who may run or step into the traffic lanes.
- **Use two-way radios and cellular telephone minimally.** If a lengthy or detailed conversation begins, pull over to the side of the road and stop the vehicle, or offer to return the call once you get to your destination. Remember that driving safely is the priority . . . NOT talking on the telephone!

Safety Reminder: Hydration

Drink plenty of water...

- **Adjust mirrors** before your trip and use them often to monitor the traffic around you.

- **Know your vehicles** blind spots and take them into consideration when making any move.

- **Don't tailgate.** Allow adequate maneuvering space. Try using the “four second” rule. This method of staying a safe distance behind the next vehicle works at any speed. The “four second” rule leaves you enough room to react to the unexpected.

- **Do not create a situation** that allows yourself and other drivers to be “trapped”. Be considerate and signal your turning or braking intentions early.

IT IS YOUR CHOICE TO OPERATE A VEHICLE SAFELY. PRACTICE SAFE DRIVING EVERYDAY. MAKE EVERY TRIP AN UNEVENTFUL ONE!

(W27)

HR and IT

Ready to Quit Tobacco? We're Ready to Help.

Quit For Life® on Rally Coach™ is designed to give you the confidence you need to quit tobacco for good. Get a personalized Quit Plan and 1:1 access to coaches via phone, chat, or text. Plus, group video sessions, nicotine replacement therapy, and more. All at no additional cost as part of your benefits plan.

Get started at quitnow.net or call 1-866-QUIT-4-LIFE TTY 711.

The Dynamic Duo Strikes Again!

This time Adrian Bell (Safety Dir) & Joey Martin (HR Rep) visited Michael Howell's Asphalt Crew (Hwy 167), Jamie Floyd's Transportation Crew (Monroe), Zach Drodgy's Bridge Crew (McManus Rd), Brian Meiling's Trucking Crew (Alexandria), and Brad Beaudoin's Northport Plant Crew (Alexandria). They shared information about employee benefits, company paid programs and recent safety incidents. Adrian reminded the employees the importance of safety in the workplace.

I'm Batman...

Jeff Davis (Sales) had a visit from Batman (Mo Bossier). The two discussed the weather and its effects on asphaltic concrete pavement.

Batman also spoke to Jeff about the imposters claiming to be the Dynamic Duo, whose dastardly deeds of spreading information about employee benefits and company paid programs has been causing start-up delays at the job sites. Not to mention, their cunning ways of luring crew members away from work by offering free donuts and kolaches.

Watch out imposters - your days are numbered. Batman is on the case!



New Employees

Welcome to Diamond B

Bridge Crew
Kealion Duncan
Michael Wilson

Soil Cement Crew
Datren Eggins
Brandon Giddens

Asphalt Crew (Monroe)
Skyler Ellis
Anthony Pleasant

Transand
Tony Pennock
Katelyn Hogan
Dontel Hollis
Derek Briggs

Northport Plant
Austin Richardson

Monroe Plant
Antron Coleman

LOL 😄

- 5 ants rented an apartment with 5 other ants.

Now they are tenants together.

(Submitted by JRayburn)

-How does NASA organize a party? They planet.

(bestlifeonline.com)

Submit a Joke - Do you want to be recognized for your comedic talent? Or just want to share a funny "Dad Joke" – email News@diamondb.com. Your submission may be selected for the next issue of the Road Runner. Please keep it PG Rating 😊

This Month's Q&A Technology Tips

Q: What Is ChatGPT?

A: ChatGPT is a conversational AI chatbot created by OpenAI. It is designed to answer questions, provide information, solve a range of problems, and communicate the response back to you in a human-like manner.

You can think of ChatGPT as someone who has read extensively about different subjects. When you ask ChatGPT a question,

it searches through its memory to find relevant information (based on what it has "read" in the past) and uses it to generate a response.

In this sense, ChatGPT is like a very knowledgeable and well-read human who can engage in conversation with you, but without the constraints of a physical body, emotions, or other human limitations.

(makeuseof.com)





Employee Spotlight

Stephen Rodgers

-Asphalt Crew
Superintendent

- Has 3 kids: Samantha,
Jazmin, Stephen

- Born in Monroe, LA

-Last Movie/TV Show
watched – NCIS

-Favorite Music: R&B

Getting to Know – Stephen Rodgers

- **Hobbies?**

Fishing, motorcycle riding, and spending time with family.

- **Who was your hero growing up?**

My Grandfather. He worked hard for his family. He made me who I am today.

- **Hidden Talent (...we promise not to tell anyone)**

Working in flower beds, gardening, and interior decorating.

- **Where would you be if you were not in the construction industry?**

Coaching Basketball

- **How did you end up working for Diamond B**

Darrell Hoard recommended me. I started as a truck driver.

- **Best thing about working at Diamond B**

You have a chance to grow if you stick with it.

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Alexandria Office
2090 Industrial Park Road
Alexandria, LA 71303
318.427.1300

Monroe Office
5700 McArthur Street
Monroe, LA 71210
318.387.5854

Articles by: Toshia, Sharon, Jennifer, Joey, and the internet. (webroot.com, GoodHousekeeping.com) **Edited by:** HR Staff

-What is ChatGPT – by Maxwell Timothy, Published Jan 6, 2023

- Batman (DC Comic)

Thanks to all who contributed on this issue of the Road Runner. Especially, Stephen Rodgers for participating and making the interview process fun 😊

Do you have a story or article you want to share for the next issue? Let us know by emailing News@diamondb.com. We'll let you know if the story makes the cut.

Company Benefits & Programs for Employees

- **Access2Day Health**

Not feeling well? Visit your nearest Access2Day location. This is a company-paid benefit for employees who are currently enrolled in the company medical benefit plan.

Visit their website at access2dayhealth.com/locations to find the nearest clinic.

- **Quit for Life**

If you've thought about quitting tobacco, Quit For Life® on Rally Coach™ can help. Get all the tools and online resources you need to quit — and stay quit — at no additional cost.

Get started at quitnow.net or call 1-866-QUIT-4-LIFE TTY 711.

- **401k**

Employees 21 years old or older that have worked for Diamond B for at least a year can participate in the 401k program. Email Wanda.Bourque@diamondb.com for more information.

- **Employee Assistance Program (EAP).**

* Work/life services for assistance with relationships, financial issues, childcare, elder care, and adoption.

* Up to 3 in-person or telephonic sessions to help with short-term issues.

* 24/7 toll-free phone and web access.

* To access services, go to www.liveandworkwell.com or call 866-248-4094, Access Code: **canaan**