

the LANDSCULPTOR[®]

A PUBLICATION OF THE MICHIGAN GREEN INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

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INDUSTRY NEWS, PEOPLE PLACES

Promoting the Industry

Diane Andrews, MGIA Executive Director promotes the association and its members at one of the numerous consumer shows in Metro Detroit. "The MGIA offers a Referral Service for consumers where they can call or access our membership listing online to obtain the names and contact information of members," said Andrews."



Welcome Mike

Milarch Nursery Inc. would like to welcome Mike Milarch to the family business after six years of serving the construction industry at Cougar Sales & Rental Inc.

Mike will now be serving the green industry through outside sales and assisting in the purchasing at the nursery. With his background in the nursery, degree from Michigan State University, and five years of outside sales experience, Mike will add great support to all of our customer's needs through on the job support. He will also be available to assist you for any direct shipments.

Milarch Nursery once again welcomes Mike to the nursery and we look forward to doing more business with you.

PACE, Inc. hosts another successful Ferris Seminar!



Nearly 150 mechanics and sales representatives from five states came to Plymouth, Michigan for the annual Ferris lawnmower school. Participants received specialized, hands-on service and sales training from Ferris technicians. Dealers must be

factory authorized to sell and service Ferris equipment. The seminars ensure that dealers are well qualified to provide their customers with exceptional service. PACE, Inc., the Ferris distributor for all of Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, and West Virginia, hosted the two-week event on-site in their state-of-the-art training facility.

Michigan CAT is proud to announce the appointment of Bob Kain as Lansing Division Manager.

Michigan CAT's Chairman of the Board, Jerry Jung, is pleased to announce the promotion of Bob Kain to Lansing Division Manager. Kain joined Michigan CAT eleven years ago, and has worked in the equipment business for 28 years.

"I was born and raised in Lansing, so it is particularly satisfying to have contributed to positive growth in this area. This business can be challenging, but I'm proud to serve the Lansing community and I'm excited to have the opportunity to lead a great team at the Lansing Michigan CAT location."

Michigan CAT is the exclusive Caterpillar dealer for Michigan's Lower Peninsula. With locations in Novi, Macomb, Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids, Kalkaska, Lansing, Saginaw and Brownstown Township, they offer sales, rentals, financing, service and parts for new and used heavy construction equipment, engines, aggregate equipment, and a variety of related products. For more information, call 1-888-MICH CAT, or visit the website at www.michigancat.com.



MGIA Proud of New Certified Landscape Professional

The Associated Landscape Contractors of America (ALCA) announced that Steve D. Thoms, of Thoms Brothers Landscaping, Inc. of Ray, MI, recently passed the Certified Landscape Professional (CLP) exam.

The six-hour exam covers all aspects of working in the landscape industry. It is divided into five sections: Business, Risk, Law and Contracts, Human Resources and Health/Safety, Interior or Exterior Production/Operation and Horticulture, and Sales Marketing, Communications, and Public Relations.

MGIA hosts the CLP exam each year during the MGIA Trade Show & Convention. We are extremely proud of Mr. Thoms, said Diane Andrews, Executive Director, MGIA.

MTF Announces the Appointment of Executive Director

The Michigan Turfgrass Foundation (MTF) is pleased to announce the appointment of Thomas M. Smith as its new Executive Director effective February 1, 2003.

"MTF is very fortunate to be able to replace Gordon LaFontaine with a man with the vast industry experience and leadership that Tom will provide," said MTF President Gerry Grossi. "Tom has served nine years on the Foundation Board of Directors and held the office of President, additionally he has served this past year as Assistant Executive Director. This experience will be invaluable to the Foundation as we meet the challenges of our industry."

Smith's almost thirty years of industry-related experience includes owner of Grass Roots, Inc., an East Lansing design and build company. That span of industry experience includes working in the golf industry, research and teaching assistant at MSU and teaching numerous industry classes around the state. Smith commented, "The MTF is the premier turfgrass foundation in the world. I am honored and enthused to continue the legacy of Gordon LaFontaine and to take the Foundation to the next level in support of turfgrass teaching, research and extension."

Michigan CAT Appoints Rob McCollum to Position V.P. of Product Support

Michigan CAT is proud to announce the appointment of Rob McCollum to the position of Vice President of Product Support.

Michigan CAT Board Chairman Jerry Jung announced: "we are excited to announce that Rob McCollum, former Division Manager at Kalkaska, will fill the vacancy created by Bob Bowman's departure. Rob is our new Vice President of Product Support. Rob brings to this position an exceptional knowledge and background relative to our business. We look forward to his development and implementation of an innovative and focused emphasis on product support initiatives throughout all of Michigan CAT."

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PGMS Issues Salary Survey Results

The Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) has just completed its annual salary survey for grounds personnel. The study, based on 2002 historical data, suggests the continued elevation of the grounds management profession as evidenced by increased reported salaries and levels of education. Call 410-752-3318 or by email at eric@assnhqtrs.com