

COMMERCIAL • GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

SPRING 2009

2009 HGM Scholarship Award

Jennie Jester, a senior at Gulfport High School, Gulfport, Miss., has been selected to receive the 2009 HGM Scholarship Award. Throughout her high school career,



2009 H.G. Myrick
Scholarship Award
recipient Jennie Jester.

Jennie has maintained a position in the Accelerated Curriculum and the Principal's Honor Roll. She has been a member of Mu Alpha Theta, Beta Club, Key Club, FBLA, Spanish Club, and a Who's Who Among High School

Students nominee. She played on the Junior Varsity Soccer Team her freshman year, and has been on the Varsity Soccer Team at goalkeeper her sophomore, junior and senior years, serving as Team Captain this year.

In addition, Jennie held the record for the most shutouts in one season her junior year, when the Lady Admirals soccer team won its first ever 5A Mississippi State Championship. In her senior year, she helped lead the Lady Admirals back to the MS State Championships.

We commend you, Jennie, on your achievements and wish you the best in the future as you continue your education.



Good, Cheap or Fast? You Can't Get All Three!

Some people seem to think that when there's a downturn in the economy, most contractors take on as many new jobs as they can just to keep everyone busy. They think that our business has such high profit margins that there's plenty of room for us to reduce profits and provide "bargains." The plain truth, however, is that room for us to reduce profits and provide "bargains." The plain truth, however, is that gross margins in our industry are among the lowest of any business. Construction costs are not fixed; each job is different and the associated costs are only an estimate. It's legalized gambling.

You'll find that there are two kinds of construction companies—the low bidders and the value adders—and that there are no real "bargains." The low bidders do anything they can to get the job, without regard to the necessity of providing quality workmanship or meeting schedules. The value adders, however, focus on understanding and meeting all of the owner's needs, with enough upfront money budgeted to fulfill their expectations.

While competitive in price, the value adders are typically not the cheapest in town (as is neither your doctor nor your attorney). They do, however, differentiate themselves by taking full responsibility for what they sign up to do.

Those who consistently furnish dependability, coupled with enough budgeted fair pricing to be able to complete the job exactly the way the owner expects it to be completed, provide the best jobs.

This is a great time to build! If you or someone you know is thinking of building or renovating and want to discuss ideas with a first class contractor, please don't hesitate to contact H. Gordon Myrick, Inc. We celebrate more than 40 years of building successful projects and relationships in the commercial and industrial sectors. We're very proud of our reputation for delivering the results our customers expect.

Get ahead of the competition—give us a call. Nothing ventured, nothing gained!

Esoteric Knowledge

- 1) In 2009, coin collectors will celebrate the 100th anniversary of which of the following?
 - a) the Lincoln penny
 - b) the Jefferson nickel
 - c) the Washington quarter
 - d) none of the above
- 2) Which of the following makes the sport of doubles tennis different than singles tennis?
 - a) the ball is heavier
 - b) the court is wider
 - c) the net is higher
 - d) the scoring system is different
- 3) What is the name of the U.S. Post Office's fastest delivery option?
 - a) Speed Mail
 - b) Priority Mail
 - c) Lightning Mail
 - d) Express Mail
- 4) The late Clara Peller was best known for reciting what oft-parodied commercial tagline?
 - a) "I've fallen and I can't get up!"
 - b) "It's not nice to fool Mother Nature."
 - c) "Where's the beef?"
 - d) "It's the quicker picker-upper."
- 5) Which state was *not* admitted to the U.S. during the 20th century?
 - a) Utah
 - b) Hawaii
 - c) New Mexico
 - d) Oklahoma

—from *mental_floss*

Answers: 1) a (The coin was first minted in 1909, the centennial of Abraham Lincoln's birth year.) 2) b 3) d 4) c 5) a (Utah became the 45th state in 1896.)

Go Fly A Kite

It's kite-flying season and from the World Kite Museum (www.worldkitemuseum.com) come these facts:

2000, although a train of eight kites reached a height of 31,955 feet in August 1919.

working.

made of leaves.

Workloads And Burnout

Smaller staffs and bigger workloads could be increasing stress levels in the workplace. 60 percent of the respondents felt burned out. Forty-six percent of respondents said their workloads had increased over the past six months, while 45% described their workloads as "heavy" or "too heavy." Nearly a quarter said they were dissatisfied with their current work/life balance.

Rosemary Haefner, vice president of human resources at *CareerBuilder.com*, says, "Sixty-one percent of workers said taking advantage of flexible work arrangements has made them more productive and 21% said it actually improved their career progress."

The three most popular work/life programs that workers took advantage of were

Are You A Workplace Martyr?

If you feel the weight of the world on your shoulders and tell yourself that you really can't take time off because there's just too much to do and you'll be hopelessly behind if you leave—it's a pretty good indication that a) you should definitely take some time off, and b) you're overestimating your own importance in the workplace.

When coworkers hear you saying such things, it's likely to raise their ire, because in a sense it's a criticism of those who do take time off to get away and refresh themselves. It also sends the message that you don't trust your coworkers to handle things in your absence.

Even if you're a competent or high-achieving worker, the truth is that it's unlikely that the workplace will fall apart in your absence. Your energy might be missed, but in a well-run, balanced workplace, there should always be time and opportunity to take some well-deserved time off.

Count Your Blessings!

If you woke up this morning with more health than illness, you are more blessed than the million who will not survive the week.

If you have never experienced the danger of battle, the loneliness of imprisonment, the agony of torture or the pangs of starvation, you are ahead of 500 million people in the world.

If you have food in the refrigerator, clothes on your back, a roof overhead and a place to sleep, you are richer than 75% of this world.

If you have money in the bank, in your wallet, and spare change in a dish someplace, you are among the top 8% of the world's wealthy.

If you hold up your head with a smile on your face and are truly thankful, you are blessed because the majority can, but most do not.

If you can read this message, you are more blessed than over two billion people in the world who cannot read at all.

Have a wonderful day and count your blessings!



Larry Daigle (left), Area Manager for Butler Manufacturing Company, presents Mike Penny of H. Gordon Myrick, Inc. with Butler's Million Dollar Builder award.

The Strength Of Butler Builders

Throughout the construction industry, people depend on the strength of Butler Builders. It's the strength that comes from quality engineering, high technology manufacturing and the most cost-effective design possible.

As your Butler Builder, H. Gordon Myrick, Inc. can give you unequaled turnkey service, providing you with the initial design through completed construction. For information on how the strength of your Butler Builder can work for you, call us today.

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We're doing our part. This newsletter is printed on environmentally-friendly paper—50% recycled, using 25% post-consumer waste, and is composed of a mixture of fibers from certified forests, post-consumer recycling processes and fibers from other controlled sources.

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