

# ASPHALT PRO

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## Lakeside Industries Symbolizes Stewardship

Stay Safe:  
Granite's Ergonomics

APAC Solves Milling Issue  
Rescue QC at the Baghouse  
Xtreme Plant Maintenance II  
RAS Expands Family Business

JANUARY 2012

ISSUU BETA

## National Level Programs Seek Participation

What are these wide-ranging programs and what do they mean for average contractors?

BY ASPHALTPRO STAFF

Many charitable organizations sent end-of-the-year letters requesting donations last month, hoping to capitalize on donors' desires to get a tax deduction in FY2011. While a deduction is an extra incentive to give, hopefully donors graciously pour their offerings on a charity of their choosing out of the kindness of their hearts. Members of the asphalt construction industry are not strangers to this concept.

Communities with the honor of having an HMA plant in their midst know the generosity of a freshly paved road when the plant overruns mix or a new playground when the old one looks rusty or boxes of food when the local food drive is running low. The list goes on. But how do industry members know when national campaigns are of local or personal interest? What do wide-ranging charitable programs offer to average contractors? Here's a look at a few that may be on your radar screen in 2012.

### CONSTRUCTION ANGELS

Construction Angels is a newly forming charity that held its first 50/50 raffle to raise more than \$1,000 for a family in need this fall. The board participated Dec. 10, 2011, in the Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., to raise awareness for its cause, which is to help families that have lost a loved one while working in the road and bridge construction industry.

President and Founder Kristi Ronyak explained that as soon as Construction Angels receives its 501(c)3 status, the board will organize fundraising activities such as biker runs, golf and fishing tournaments, and more. The intent is to raise awareness and bring in donations from anyone inside or outside of the construction industry. Monies raised will be available to families when a tragedy occurs.

"When there's an accident, often communication between the company and

family is hindered," Ronyak explained. "When Construction Angels is in place, the construction company or family of the deceased can contact us and we can provide immediate assistance and support to the family in need."

Ronyak anticipates expeditious growth from a local to a statewide charity. "We envision a nationwide Construction Angels organization with regional chapters holding their own fundraising activities. The venture is one that will help any road construction worker, but has the potential to outgrow even that limitation to include any construction worker in the nation," Ronyak said. For more information, visit [www.constructionangels.org](http://www.constructionangels.org) and watch for the launch of their facebook page this month.

### I MAKE AMERICA

The I Make America website homepage states "We need to dramatically increase jobs for America's equipment manufacturers so they are able to prosper and grow right here in the U.S. When they succeed, America wins." The equipment manufacturers AEM refers to, and is made of, includes the asphalt paving and production and aggregates mining and moving industries from which you purchase products, but it also includes farming, forestry, utility and building equipment that you may or may not be interested in supporting.

Of course, united we stand. By combining the interests of equipment manufacturers across the board, we can speak to legislators with one voice. "Every \$1 billion invested in highways supports 27,823 jobs and generates \$6.2 billion of economic activity." That includes the construction of roads and bridges that get farmers' goods to market. Our fates entwine on some level.

We create an economic foundation for America and for our colleagues and partners overseas under the auspices of I Make America. If that's a program you can get behind, then visit [www.IMakeAmerica.com/home](http://www.IMakeAmerica.com/home) to learn more.

### NAPA CARE

The Associate Members Council of the National Asphalt Pavement Association (NAPA) has raised money in the past to purchase equipment for the National Center for Asphalt Technology (NCAT), but more recently looked for a cause that people could respond to and feel excited to support no matter what the economy, according to council member Roger Sandberg. What the group came up with is a charity run through the NAPA Research & Education Foundation, Inc. (NAPAREF), 501(c)3 organization. NAPA Care will provide financial assistance to NAPA member employee families who have suffered a fatality in an asphalt work zone or plant site.

Due to legal restrictions, only NAPA members can donate to the NAPA Care Emergency Benevolent Fund and only NAPA member employee families can qualify for the funds. Sandberg anticipates the program will officially launch this summer when the council expects it will reach a minimum funding level of \$300,000. While every donation is tax-deductible, the NAPA website explains that recipients will not need to record the gift as income.

As Sandberg explained, "Research has shown that those families are living paycheck to paycheck. The last thing they need to worry about when they lose a family member is buying groceries or the little bills that mount while waiting for the insurance money to show up."

Sandberg explained that the associate members will pick up the tab for overhead so 100 percent of the donations to NAPA Cares will go to the program. As of press time, he shared that Charles Boan of Flint Hills Resources, Wichita, gave \$10,000 to NAPA Cares and challenged all AC suppliers to step up with a similar amount. The Texas APA pledged \$5,000 and offered a similar challenge to the other state associations. If you or your company is a member of NAPA, feel free to visit the easy donation form under NAPA Care at the Research and Education Foundation tab at [www.asphaltpavement.org](http://www.asphaltpavement.org). ☐