

# Partners in Excellence



## **Barrett Asphalt expands to Fallsington**

By Jon Otto

"The automobile is here to stay." While this sounds like a 1910 quote from Henry Ford, it's actually a remark John M. Barrett Sr., owner of Barrett Asphalt, made to me just this year. Jack stated the obvious and the not so obvious with that quote; of course the automobile is "here to stay" and critical to our economy.

Before discussing the importance of the automobile, let's go back to 1940 in Cape May Courthouse, NJ. It was there that Gerald A. Barrett mustered the resources to purchase an asphalt plant. This was a gamble. In 1940 very few roads of south Jersey were macadam. They were gravel or "tar and chip" which is road gravel mixed, oiled and rolled for a firm base and to keep down the dust. Gerald had good fortune; he won a contract to resurface the county airport. That contract helped to keep his new business afloat.

World War II and the post war boom changed our country dramatically. Gerald Aloysius Barrett's asphalt company was a beneficiary of this change. "Blacktop" began to displace tar and chip. The business grew, Gerald's sons became involved. New plants were built in Hammonton and Woodbine, New Jersey. The construction arm "Arawak Paving" thrived.

In 1972 the brothers divided the business. Jack Sr. took Hammonton and the north along with Arawak Paving. As growth pulled Barrett north into Burlington and



was right, the transportation links excellent and the business climate in the Township of Falls was friendly. The choice was easy.

Mercer counties, another plant became a necessity. For several years Jack searched Burlington and Mercer counties for sites. Then, almost on a lark, he looked across the river to Fallsington, Bucks County. The zoning

In early 2004 the Barrett family started to design their new plant. Penn Valley Constructors was chosen as the design build contractor.

In May of 2005 the plant opened with twenty associates. Jack expects to ship 200,000 tons of blacktop out of the new Fallsington site in 2005, almost double his initial projections.



Business is good, but it is also more complicated. Part of the Fallsington facility is a state of the art quality control lab. In this lab Barrett's technicians are constantly testing their own product for quality assurance. PennDOT has its own secure lab within the Barrett lab to perform its own random testing.

Some things don't change; when asked what their business philosophy was, both Jack Sr. and Jr. said, "To provide the top quality product at the lowest possible price" and "to make it right."

When asked about the future of the business, Jack Sr. said, "The automobile is here to stay." Roads will be built, rebuilt and repaired at an increasing level every year.

Penn Valley Constructors would like to thank Jack Barrett for choosing us to be part of their construction project. To learn more about Barrett Asphalt, Inc. call 609-561-4100 (NJ) or 215-428-4030 (PA).

## Spring Starts

By Jon Otto

In June of 2005, Penn Valley Constructors started site work for the new **Team Toyota** building on U.S. Route 1 in Langhorne, PA. This project represents the ninth major project Penn Valley has constructed for partners Jack Thompson and Paul Muller. The new building has a total floor area



of over 135,000 square feet. It will house seventy air conditioned service and detail bays, a 35,400 square foot, state of the art collision center and a Toyota parts center. The service write up and customer waiting area are large and comfortable, designed for customer convenience. Completion is anticipated in late spring of 2006.

In 1996, we designed and built in Yardley, PA the **Abrams Hebrew Academy's** multi-purpose building and developed a relationship that can best be called a friendship. When in the winter of 1999, Rabbi Budow called us back to start working on the design of a new classroom building, we were thrilled to be part of the project. Late in 2004 the fundraising movement got underway. The generosity of the friends of the school made it immediately apparent that a spring 2005 start would become a reality. And so it was that in late April we broke ground on the new three-floor, seventeen classroom building. A late fall completion is anticipated



In May of 2005, Penn Valley Constructors broke ground for the new headquarters for **Reilly Sweeping Inc.** The new Reilly building is located on a three acre site on Kresge Road in the Penn Warner Park. The new Reilly headquarters is actually two buildings; a 4,000 square foot pre-engineered office building with exterior split faced masonry walls and a standing seam roof and an 8,000 square foot clear span pre-engineered maintenance, service and parts building. In late October of this year, the building will be home to Reilly's fleet of state of the art street sweeping machines.

## New Employees

By Pieter L. Grover



From 1978 to 1984 **Kenneth Lutz** worked for us as a superintendent, then went into business with his brother. For twenty years the Lutz Brothers worked as carpentry subcontractors on our projects. He now rejoins us. Welcome back, Ken!



**Patrick Wahl** brings to Penn Valley Constructors over twenty years of construction supervision experience with a large residential home building firm. He will hold the position of superintendent.

***Penn Valley Constructors, Inc.***

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Isn't it time to call us  
for your next project?  
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