

# C. A. RASMUSSEN, INC. TRACKS



Fall 2017 • [www.carasmussen.com](http://www.carasmussen.com)

## Rebuilt Right by Rasmussen

A few summer heat waves were no match for Rasmussen crews working to rebuild eight miles of roadway in Victorville, where the existing asphalt had started wearing away and developing potholes.

The majority of work on the project was a dig-out and replacement, however the road medians required only a grind and cap – paving directly on top of the old material, without any dig-out.

“They were having issues with parts of the roadway, and that’s why we had to rebuild the whole section,” said Project Manager Jesus Garcia. “They had run a

5-foot diameter storm drain line under the street, and didn’t compact the trench well, so a lot of that road was falling apart and was generating a lot of potholes.”

“Our contract was to not only rebuild that section to make it thicker, but to go all the way down and dig to the storm drain line, and then re-compact all that trench back up. That way, when we pave with brand new material, it won’t settle so soon again.”

The project was mainly divided along two main stretches of La Mesa and Amethyst roads in the city of Victorville.

The rehabilitation used

60,000 tons of base rock and 30,000 tons of asphalt. Additionally, the contract included more than 130 handicap ramps and driveways to be rebuilt, and 1.5 million square feet of Type 2 slurry seal.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

- 30,000 TN Asphalt
- 3,000 TN Paved a day
- 60,000 TN Base Rock
- 1.5 million SF Type 2 Slurry Seal
- 130 Handicap Ramps & Driveways



Rasmussen’s paving crew works along La Mesa Road in Victorville.

The original contract called for three months, however a change order was approved to extend the job, allowing one additional month to complete the work. All this was accomplished in

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## Company Helps Build Veterans Memorial

Charlie Rasmussen and C. A. Rasmussen, Inc. have donated their forces to an effort to install a new monument at Veteran’s Historical Plaza in Old Town Newhall.

The new granite monument will honor 47 fallen veterans from the Santa Clarita Valley. Santa Clarita resident Bill Reynolds came

up with the idea for the memorial more than two years ago, and has worked ever since to receive approval for it from the city.

“The City Council had mandated this be a community-funded project when they first

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### Coming Soon

October 1 - 31  
Fall Food Drive: Bring your non-perishable food donations to the corporate office for our annual drive benefitting the Santa Clarita Food Pantry.

December 7  
Foremen’s Dinner: Save the date for the Winter Foremen’s Meeting, which will be held at our Corporate Office.

### Find us online



@CARasmussenInc  
[www.carasmussen.com](http://www.carasmussen.com)

From the Desk of ...

Alex Ptolemy &  
Chris Quillen



## Let's Make Our Equipment Great Again

We may have stolen our slogan from our new president, but since Alex thinks Twitter is something that a bird does, you can be assured the equipment department will not be blasting anything on social media anytime soon.

The equipment department has set a goal, and we're committed to making sure C. A. Rasmussen, Inc. operates the most efficient fleet of heavy construction equipment in our industry. We have some of the best mechanics in the industry working for us, but they can't do everything alone. In order to achieve our goal, we need some help from the field.

### Equipment Inspection:

It is mandatory that you inspect your piece of equipment before operation. This is true whether you're driving a pick-up truck or operating a bull dozer. Don't be that guy that operates a machine with no oil or water because you failed to pull a dip stick or pop the hood. If you're not sure how to inspect your rig, please just ask us. We'd be happy to give you some guidelines. This is important not only for you, but also for the people you work with. Hoping on equipment without inspecting it first is dangerous and irresponsible.

### Communication:

We've come to accept that no one ever calls the equipment department just to say hi, or to thank us at the end of a successful day. In fact, we know that almost every phone call we get is going to be bad news. So if you're having a problem, don't hesitate to call us. We need to determine – as quickly as possible – what level of emergency the breakdown may be. We need to know if your machine is breaking or already broken. This information is added to our log so we can schedule the repair and track its completion.

We appreciate the hard work everyone puts in to keep our equipment looking and performing at its best level possible. Help us to help you perform at YOUR best possible level.

## MEMORIAL, from page 1

approved it in August 2016," Reynolds said. "Charlie Rasmussen was one of our early contributors who generously pledged all labor to install our granite monument."

Reynolds said the pledge inspired more and more contributions. "Charlie was a driving force," he said.

"I am so pleased to be able to do this for our community," Charlie said. "Being a veteran myself, it's truly an honor to be a part of this effort."

One of Rasmussen's veteran superintendents, Paul Biere, has been overseeing construction on the project.

Construction broke ground in early-September, and is expected to wrap up prior to Veteran's Day Holiday in November. An unveiling ceremony is planned for Wednesday, Nov. 8 at 10 am at the Veteran's Plaza, located at 24275 Walnut St., Santa Clarita CA 91321.

## Office Gossip!

- Congratulations to **Tera Cooney** on her marriage to her now-husband, **Logan Foley**! The lovebirds tied the knot October 6.
- Next in line to walk down the aisle is **Michelle Benitez**, who is engaged to marry her fiancé, Juan Huerta, next fall.
- The baby boom continues! **Victor Espinoza** became a first-time grampa earlier this year with the birth of his granddaughter. **Stacey Klein** gave birth to her baby girl, **Emelia June**, on March 24. **Jeremy Francis** is expecting his third baby, a little girl, this October. Finally, **Scott Morse** has a second baby boy on the way.
- Look out for **The Station** to make an appearance on your small screen! Netflix hit "The Santa Clarita Diet" filmed at the location for a week in September. Rumor has it Drew Barrymore herself used Ken Schaefer's office as her dressing room.
- Welcome to the latest new hires joining our team! Our front receptionist, **Diane Peña**, whose husband, **Sergio Peña**, works at The Station; **Hilda Rosette** and **Bianca Alvarez** in our Accounting Department; our newest mechanic, **Mario Harrison**; and **Brian Werner** in the Estimating Department.

Got news to share? E-mail it to [sklein@carasmussen.com](mailto:sklein@carasmussen.com)



The Tracks Newsletter is a publication of C. A. Rasmussen, Inc.  
For more information, contact Stacey Klein at [sklein@carasmussen.com](mailto:sklein@carasmussen.com) or 661.367.9075



## Family Ties

### Jesse & Trevor Camarillo

Labor Foreman Jesse Camarillo started working for Rasmussen back in 1986, when a labor foreman who knew his father got him into the union. "I've been with the company for 25-plus years," he said, adding that he left for a little while, but opportunity brought him back. "And I'm still here."

Now, he gets to work alongside his son, laborer Trevor Camarillo, who has been with the company since 2011.

It's rewarding to work next to his son every day, Jesse said. "I've gotten a lot more headaches.

But I also get to see him mature and make

a little money. He's improved and he's doing well. He's still in the learning process. With the help of the other laborers – they're teaching him, and I'm teaching him. He's still learning, every day."

On working with his father, Trevor said he too feels headaches sometimes. "But I'm thankful – he keeps me busy, and I get a ride (to work) with him. That's a plus, even if we have to be there an hour early."

The balance between family and work is manageable, Jesse said. "The key in construction is not to bring any work home with you. I try not to talk about work, but sometimes we have to, you know, try to make a game plan for the following day. But you can't bring work home with you the whole weekend."

While on the clock, Jesse said he doesn't show any favoritism to Trevor.

"I treat him not as my son, until after work. From 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., he's just another worker. Then after that, he's my son," Jesse said.

Asked whether his father is harder on him than other laborers, Trevor quickly responded "Without a doubt."

Jesse says he is grateful to be working for a family-owned company. "I started with Carl, and then the brothers, and then Charlie and now Adam. I'm grateful – everything I have is because of them. I appreciate them getting Trevor in."

Trevor said he intends to stay with the company for a long time. While he doesn't yet have a son, Trevor laughed and said maybe one day his daughter will get an office job with Rasmussen.

This is the first in a series of stories profiling the many families who work together at C. A. Rasmussen, Inc.



### VICTORVILLE, from page 1

the allotted contract time by assigning crews to work at multiple locations on the jobsite at once.

Work was phased so that crews could be grading in one spot while paving in another. This meant two grading crews – one headed by Eladio Gonzalez with a 6-man crew on the La Mesa Drive stretch, the other by Tim Markley with his own 6-man crew for the Amethyst Drive portion – had to work as quickly as possible to keep ahead of the paving crew, which was headed up by Bruce Ortiz and Hector Caldera.

Garcia said this technique contributed to the company completing the job so quickly.

"We did the job in four months," he said, "but for the volume of work on this job, it ought to have taken about nine months to complete a job this size."

"The city of Victorville has been very easy to work with, and that's helped us on this job," Garcia said. "Recognizing our timeline, they've helped us in pushing stuff through, and that's enabled the job to flow quickly."

A school at the corner of La Mesa and Amethyst roads provided an obstacle at the beginning and end of the job.

Traffic control was a major issue, with lanes shut down and traffic backing up around the school area. Rasmussen had to begin working in other locations until school was let out for summer. Toward the end of work, a plan modification involving utilities in the area meant having to get creative with traffic control after school started again August 17.

The project also called for the reconstruction of 130 handicap ramps and driveways, keeping the concrete crew busy under Foreman Roberto Alvarado and Superintendent Gregorio Alvarado. The labor foremen for the job were Jose Alfredo Padilla and Brian St. Germain.

# SAFETY CORNER

with Joe Mack



The recent hurricanes and earthquakes are reminders that, as Southern Californians, we always need to be ready for natural disaster. Whether it is an earthquake, fire or mud slide that strikes, simple actions to prepare for an emergency can make all the difference.

## Pack a family emergency supply kit.

Be sure to include:

### Minimum 3-day Supply of Food and Water

- Water (one gallon per person, per day)
- Foods that are easy to make and won't spoil, such as canned soup, dry pasta, and powdered milk
- Manual can opener
- Basic utensils to prepare/serve meals

### Health and Personal Care Items

- 3-day supply of all medicines, at a minimum
- Soap and hand sanitizer
- Toothbrush and toothpaste
- Baby wipes
- Spare contact lenses or glasses

### Safety Supplies

- First aid kit – check dates
- Emergency blanket
- Multipurpose tool (that includes a knife, file, pliers and screwdriver)
- Whistle

### Electronics

- Flashlight
- Radio (battery-powered, solar, or hand-crank) for updates on the situation
- Cell phone with chargers
- Extra batteries

### For Children

- Baby supplies: bottles, formula, baby food, diapers, etc.

- Games and activities for children

### For Pets

- A 3-day supply of food and water for each pet. A cat or a dog will generally need 1 gallon for three days.
- Bowls or bottles
- Cleaning supplies (litter box, paper towels, trash bags, etc)
- A sturdy leash, harness and carrier to transport pets safely. A carrier should be large enough for the animal to stand comfortably, turn around and lie down. Your pet may have to stay in the carrier for several hours.
- Pet toys and the pet's bed, if you can easily bring it, to reduce stress

### Quick Tips

Keep it fresh. It's extremely important that all items in your kit are functional at the time of an emergency.

Check expiration dates on food, water, medicine and batteries at least twice a year, and replace any expired items.

Pack your supplies in easy-to-carry containers. Clearly label and store them where you can reach them easily. In a disaster, you may need to get your emergency supply kit quickly, whether you are sheltering at home or evacuating.

Remember that certain items, like medications and paper documents, need to be kept in waterproof containers.

Involve children. Families can make emergencies less stressful by preparing in advance and working together as

a team. Ask your kids to think of items that they would like to include in an emergency supply kit, such as books, games, and pre-packaged foods.

Know your house. Find out where your gas, electric, and water shut-off locations are, and how to turn them off.

Emergencies can happen anywhere. Remember to prepare supplies for home, work, and vehicles.

### Make a Family Communication Plan

You and your loved ones may not be together when a disaster hits. Make a plan for how you will connect to each other. Start by taking the following steps:

- Complete a contact card for each family member. Everyone should keep these cards with them at all times.
- Choose an emergency contact. Memorize the phone number if you can. A friend or relative who lives out of town might be easier to reach in an emergency. During an emergency, family members can text or call this person to let them know that they are safe.
- Make sure all your family members know how to text. Make sure everyone knows how to turn on a cell phone, find the text messaging app, type a message, and send it to a contact.
- Know emergency telephone numbers. Keep them in your cell phone and post them near your home phones. Some good numbers to have are your emergency contact, the fire department, police station, and hospital near you.