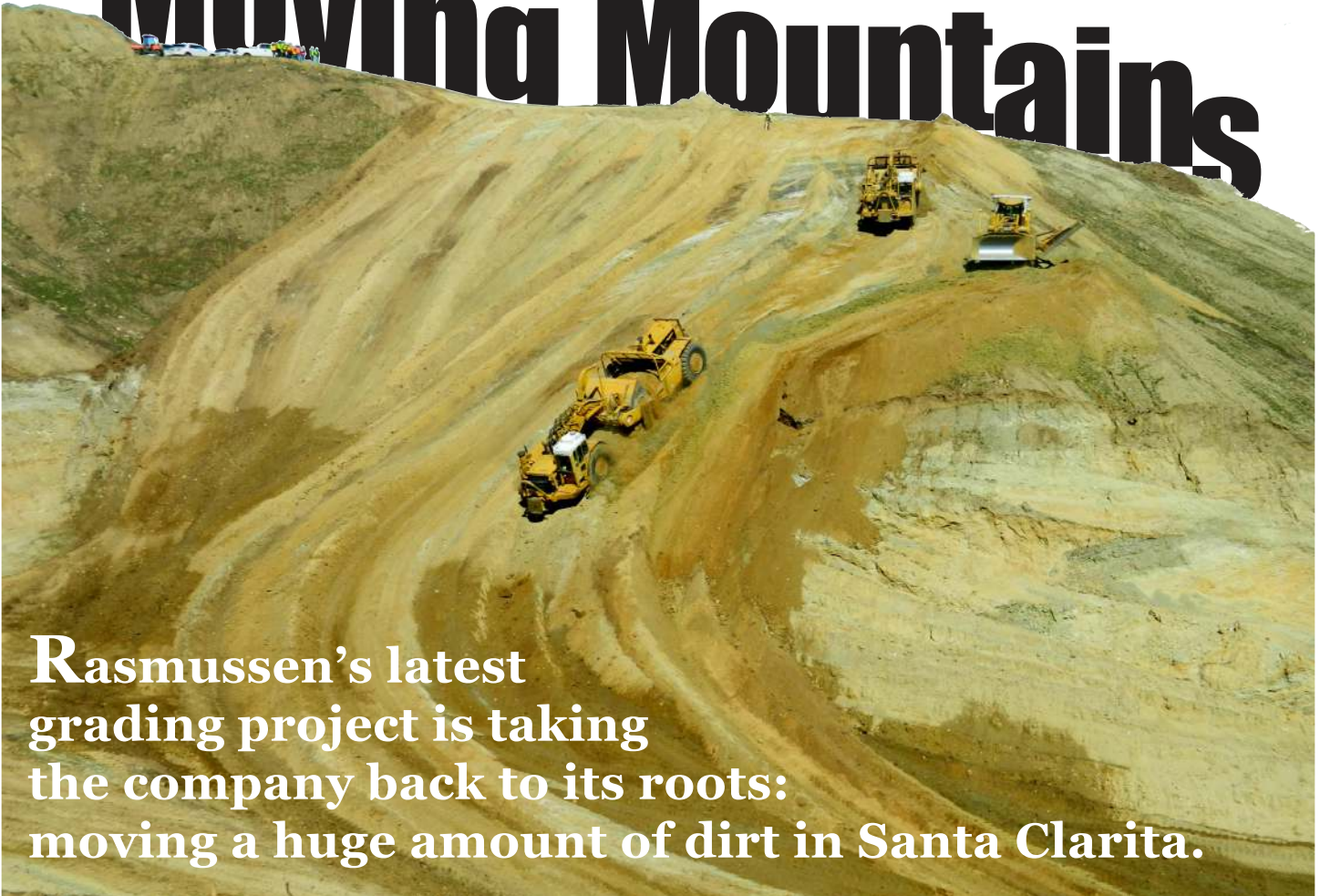


# C. A. RASMUSSEN, INC. TRACKS



Spring 2018 • [www.carasmussen.com](http://www.carasmussen.com)

## Moving Mountains



**Rasmussen's latest grading project is taking the company back to its roots: moving a huge amount of dirt in Santa Clarita.**

The Needham Ranch development, located along Sierra Highway in Newhall, is the future home of a 148-acre industrial park. Rasmussen was selected by Oltmans Construction to grade the mountainous site and create building pads to accommodate eight industrial buildings.

The project had been a target on the

company's watch list for years, due to both its proximity and its sizeable scope of earthwork.

"I'm thrilled to see the private sector economy coming back to life, and that we won the bid for this long-anticipated project in Santa Clarita," said company President Charlie Rasmussen. "Part of our 2020 Strategic

Plan is to re-establish ourselves as a major earth-moving contractor in Southern California and this project is a major gateway to achieving that goal."

At project completion, Rasmussen crews will have moved a total of 4.1 million yards of dirt in 12 months.

Project Manager Jesus Garcia and

**See NEEDHAM, page 3**

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### Coming Soon

June 21  
Summer Foremen's Meeting. The location for the meeting will be announced soon.

August 25  
Save the date for our Founder's Day celebration commemorating Rasmussen's 54th year in business!

### Find us online



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

**BUILDING THE RASMUSSEN WAY**

From the Desk of ...

*Lisa Panches*



## Paying the Bills and Bringing Home the Bacon

We've only just finished the first quarter of 2018, but I'm already sure this will be one of the best years we've had in the past decade. How can I tell? Because of all the bills we've been processing.

Everyone has heard Charlie say construction is three steps: "Bid it, Build it and Bill it." My team is the "Bill it" part of the equation. Just as the phrase goes, we don't get our turn at bat until Ops has gotten on base.

This time last year, our Operations team was dealing with record rainfall, impacting the start of many of our jobs. This year we've had a mild winter, and that's translated into lots and lots of work going on in the field.

Starting 2018 off with a large backlog and clear weather has allowed Operations to move forward full-steam ahead.

The stronger our backlog, the more money Operations spends and the more bills we pay — and get paid. So far this year, our Ops team has given us plenty of bills. Lucky for me, I have my own team who does an excellent job processing all payments and collecting all bills for the company.

And let me tell you, it truly is a team effort.

Whether it's cutting payroll checks or paying vendors and subs, my entire team works together to make sure bills are paid timely and accurately.

Let's start with the reason we're all here to begin with: collecting a paycheck. Our foremen submit timecards to us daily from their iPads. Processing timecards for as many as 200 employees every week can be a challenge. By implementing a new software system, we've been able to streamline this weekly process and make it somewhat seamless.

Not only do we pay our employees, but we pay subs and vendors, too. We work with an average of 100 subcontractors and vendors each month. Tracking these payments and delivering them on time is no small feat. We do a great job of processing purchase orders and sub billings from the field to make these payments happen.

Now that everyone else is paid, it's time to collect for the company. You might think that sounds easy, but all clients are different. Collecting a payment from Caltrans is night and day from collecting from a private developer. We have processes in place to make sure we are paid timely and accurately, no matter who our client is.

Each of these duties and responsibilities is tied into the concept of Building The Rasmussen Way — that is, Bidding it, Building it, and Billing it, and doing it better than anyone else.

I'm happy with all we've accomplished in such a short time already this year, and I hope to see our momentum continue for a strong finish in 2018.

## COMPANY CALENDAR

|                     |                             |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday, May 28      | Memorial Day                |
| Saturday, June 2    | Operating Engineers Holiday |
| Wednesday, July 4   | Independence Day            |
| Saturday, August 25 | Founder's Day               |
| Monday, September 3 | Labor Day                   |

## Company News

- Congratulations to **Jeremy Francis** on the birth of his baby girl, Ivy Rose, last October.
- Welcome to new hire **Andrew Adams**, our Internal Controls Manager in the Accounting Department. Andrew also welcomed a new baby boy, Stryder James, in December.
- Another new addition to Rasmussen is Project Engineer **Clayton O'Kane**. Welcome to the team!
- Be sure to say hello to our new Safety Manager **Brandon Tapia**. And check out his new safety section on the back page!
- Welcome back to **Grace Fry**, who has returned to the company and joined our amazing Estimating team.
- Wishing **Ramiro Gamboa** all the best for a happy retirement after 35 years of working for Rasmussen.
- This April, **Alex Ptolemy** is marking his 29th year of working at Rasmussen and **Eric Landegger** is hitting 19 years.
- Congratulations to **Jaquie Ciraulo**, who finally got her own office ... again.

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.  
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# Family Ties

## Eladio & Armando Gonzalez

The Gonzalez family's history with C. A. Rasmussen, Inc. began back in 1983, when Eladio Gonzalez came to work for the company as a yard hand.

Through the years, he went on to work in the concrete division running a curb machine, moved on to be a supervisor in the rail division, and eventually worked his way up to become a fine grade foreman.

His son, Armando Gonzalez, said growing up with a dad in the construction industry, he was always eagerly waiting for the weekends, when Eladio would take him to the jobsite to see the heavy equipment up-close.

Armando joined Rasmussen in 2004, after he finished with school. He asked his dad to help him get a job with the company, and soon was working as an operator with the concrete crew. Three years ago, he was promoted to be a grading foreman.

"I still remember the day he told me to come to work," Armando said. "He told me he was going to try me out for two weeks. 'If you make it, you'll stay. If not, I'll lay you off,' he said. I guess I made it."

With Armando working for Rasmussen, Eladio said he took on the responsibility of teaching him the ropes, and seeing him succeed makes him very proud. "I always love to work with my son," he said. "It makes me very proud."

Armando said he also loves working with Eladio. "It's always good to work with your dad, cause they take the time to teach you."

Eladio's younger son, Daniel, completed an internship at Rasmussen last summer and is now studying construction management at Arizona State University.

Eladio said working together also fosters a competitive spirit, in that his sons challenge him to learn new things every day. "They teach me to be better than myself."



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

### NEEDHAM, from page 1

Project Engineer Luis Coyazo have been working on a tight schedule. "There are a few milestones we have to meet and it's been a challenge to get there," Garcia said.

Project Superintendent Rusty Petty has been focused on the first three building pads, which had an April 1 deadline for completion. The developer will begin construction here while other pads are being graded. The next milestone is set for the end of June with two more pads, and finally all being completed by November 2018.

At one point during construction, operators took down a mountain – dropping it about 100 feet – driving scrapers down a toe-curling 1:1 slope grade. Grading on the project has been overseen by Foreman Tim Markley.

The project has become home to a large segment of Rasmussen's heavy equipment fleet, putting to work eight 657 scrapers, eight 651 scrapers, two D10 dozers, two D9s, one D8 and two smaller John Deere dozers. More than 4,500 gallons of fuel are being consumed daily on the job.

Garcia said they have had to take some extra precautions with the surrounding environment, as the project is located



Drone footage shows an aerial overview of the grading project at Needham Ranch in Newhall.

next to a protected river area. Labor foreman Jesse Camarillo has been tasked with getting a water supply to the project, via miles of water line coming from a remote source.

The Needham Ranch project is also of sentimental value to Charlie, as it sits next to Eternal Valley Cemetery, where his father and company founder Carl Rasmussen is laid to rest. During the first phase of the project, scrapers and dozers could be seen hard at work atop the hill overlooking Carl's grave site.

# Focus on Safety

with Brandon Tapia



## Easy to Overlook, Tough to Live Without: Don't Forget Your PPE

It's one of the most common missteps I see when visiting a jobsite. Someone forgets to wear glasses or hardhats when working on the job. It's not only dangerous, but could be potentially deadly.

Personal Protective Equipment is the most basic safety requirement in the industry. From head to foot, it's important to be covered.

**Hard Hats:** Every Rasmussen employee receives a hard hat on their first day on the job. In the words of company President Charlie Rasmussen: "The Rasmussen Way is a Hard Hat Way."

**Glasses:** Clear, dark safety glasses are required to keep eyes covered and protected from debris.

**Safety Vest:** Class 2 and Class 3 safety vests are issued to each employee and are required for visibility to vehicles and equipment.

**Gloves:** Leather gloves are also issued to Rasmussen employees and are essential for preventing hand injuries, cuts, scrapes and blisters.

**Pants:** Clean-cut long pants — with no tears or holes — isn't as much a safety issue as much as an appearance issue. Let's look as good as our work out there.

**Boots:** Protect your money-makers! If your feet are hurt, you can't work. Be sure to wear boots that cover your ankles.

Brandon Tapia joined the Rasmussen Safety Team in February 2018. He has worked in the construction safety field for 10 years and comes to us with extensive safety training experience. Brandon has been working with the operations team to visit each of our jobsites and get to know everyone. He is excited about the opportunity to reinvigorate Rasmussen's safety program and is looking forward to ZERO last-time accidents!



## Wanted: Safety Award Nominations

Attention ALL Rasmussen employees!

Now is the time to submit your nominations for Safety Awards. If you see a fellow employee going above and beyond to create a safe work environment, let us know. Safety Award winners can receive up to \$500. Remember, you can receive a prize just for nominating someone! All employees are eligible, whether you work in the office or a jobsite. Send your nomination to [safety@carasmussen.com](mailto:safety@carasmussen.com).