

# THE WHITFORD QUARTERLY



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## FEATURE JOB BLANK ROAD LIVONIA CULVERT REPLACEMENT

By: TIM DIXON

LC Whitford was awarded the Blank Road, Livonia, NY Culvert Replacement on August 8, 2023. This culvert had failed and the banks have caved in over both ends of the culvert prompting the Town of Livonia to close the road. The superintendent for the project is Jack DeAgazio, and his workforce consists of Jeffery Reisman, Eric Decker, Timothy Dieter and Dave Ford Jr.

The Blank Road Culvert Replacement requires tree removal, coffer dam installation to divert water, excavation of the road, removal of the failed culvert, installation of a new box culvert including waterproofing, installation of wing-walls, backfilling, paving and the installation of new guiderails. This project has presented us with several challenges.

One of the first challenges we faced was the existing overhead utilities, which were in the swing radius of the crane. The utility company engineered and implemented a plan without LCW input and installed a new pole in a location that was still in the crane's swing radius, so they had to move the pole again. This delay at the beginning of the project pushed back the start to February 2024.

With the bank failure at this culvert, each end of culvert was buried, so the exact elevation of the inlet and outlet were unknown making the excavation more difficult. A crane is being used to set the new box culvert and the setback required by the excavation changed when it was determined that the excavation would be deeper and wider than originally designed.

The original contract had the Town of Livonia hauling excavated material, but with sanders still on their trucks they were not able to support this activity. We ended up using our own equipment to haul excavated materials. Arrangements were made with the adjacent landowner to spoil this material behind his house, but with spring rain comes soft ground, and we were leaving ruts two to three feet deep in his driveway and yard. To keep moving forward, crane mats were placed on the haul road so excavation could continue.

While excavating to depth, it was discovered that the side walls and bottom slab of an old box culvert were left in place when the culvert was last replaced. This meant not only excavation of unanticipated materials, but a change in the culvert invert elevation. The side walls were removed and the base slab was left in place necessitating a 5% slope for the new culvert as opposed to the 2% as designed.

The next thing needing attention was the wing walls. The plans provide options for either a pre-cast or a bin-block wing wall system. Due to problems procuring pre-cast wing walls, a bin block wall system using geotextile reinforcement was designed. After reviewing the shop drawings, we realized the excavation for this type of wing wall system would be too extensive, so with input from the field the decision was made to approach the designer about doing cast in place wing walls. We are currently awaiting engineering and shop drawings for a cast in place wing wall system.

Whatever the challenges have been on the Livonia Culvert Replacement project, the project team, led in the office by Paul Sisco and in the field by Jack DeAgazio, has risen to the occasion and found a workaround to solve them. Challenges in the work are nothing new for any of us, but by working together as a team we can overcome any of them. The Blank Road Culvert is just one example.



*Blank Road Project - Livonia, NY*



*Excavation - Livonia, NY*



*Load Number 620 Being Removed*

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## EQUIPMENT COMPANY – JUSTIN SNYDER

I would like to start by highlighting some of the achievements of an outstanding customer, A.M. Logging. They recently announced the acquisition of T.C Transport's mulch division; a company with a strong presence in the central Pennsylvania mulch market, and a reputation for providing quality products and services since its inception in 1980. The acquisition will help A.M. Logging to continue to strengthen its position in the mulch market and provide customers with premium products at competitive prices. Andrew Miller of A.M. is confident that they have the infrastructure and resources, and "the transition will be nearly seamless for T.C. customers". A.M. was also awarded in 2023 as the national outstanding logger of the year by the Forest Resources Association. We love to see our customers succeed and excel and are proud to provide them with the service, parts, and machinery it takes to realize and further their goals!

As spring approaches and temperatures are on the rise, sales are starting to heat up as well. We have managed to move a good amount of aged equipment in recent weeks and have had an increase in solid leads and machine inquiries. The Equipment Company is also happy to announce the first Morbark new inventory sale of 2024; with the 223 stand-alone flail going to a Mr. Jim Weber. A used Morbark Model 23NCL Chip harvester was also sold to Jack Baker of Rapid City, South Dakota, and promptly delivered with cooperation from Deb and Mark.

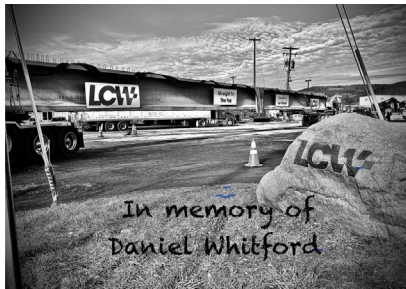
The L.C. Whitford Equipment CO. is glad to welcome our new salesman this month, Ken Kent. Ken comes to us with 30 years of operational experience on a variety of equipment, most recently he was involved in a materials company on Long Island where he worked on and operated a horizontal grinder. Ken brings with him hard-working hands and an eager mind; I am pleased with his can-do attitude and willingness to communicate. With a great team behind him and a bountiful inventory, he is set up for success!



*Wood Hog 6600*

## MATERIALS COMPANY – KEVIN SHARPE

It's 2024 already, how time flies. This has been a challenging first quarter. We started the year out on January 8th producing PENNDOT PA Bulb Tee Beams and Spread & Adjacent Box Beams to get a head start producing beams indoors. We started pouring NYSDOT box beams and are currently producing a NYSDOT New England Bulb Tee Beam that will deliver to Essex County sometime in May. We currently have 209 Beams on the books with our last pour scheduled for November 22nd, with a great possibility for several more beams for 2025.



*Beam Dedicated to Daniel Whitford*

I would like to highlight a certain beam job we produced in February. They are 61" PA Bulb Tee Beams that are 107'-6" Long weighing approx. 51 Tons. The bridge location is located on SR 0208 over Scrubgrass Creek in Clintonville Township, Venango County, PA. The customer is Francis J. Palo, Inc. We produced the first beam on January 16th and finished producing the last beam on February 1st (Total of 5 Beams). This job means something special to all of us who work in the Materials Company. We lost our boss, friend and more importantly brother Dan Whitford on February 5th. We dedicated one of the beams to Dan and will never forget what he meant to each and every one of us.

Personally, I miss the talks we had and how much he truly cared for me and my family and friends. I know that others here at LCW have memories of Dan as well. I still wait for him to come around the corner and say hey bud, how was your weekend, straight to the top or is the juice worth the squeeze. Dan you will forever be missed. We will give it our all to communicate and be the best of ourselves, which is what he always asked of us.

Below, is the pic of the beam dedicated to Dan. For our kickoff Materials Company meeting we have annually in March each year, we were all given t-shirts and hoodies with the dedicated beam which is the new logo for Materials Company. On the back, the hand pointing up saying straight to the top.

## PRESIDENTS CORNER – BRAD WHITFORD

As most people reading the newsletter already know, we lost my brother, Daniel Hayes Whitford on February 5. It would be an understatement to say that my family and I are still in state of disbelief. If you knew him at all, you know it is hard to imagine someone packed with more personality. I had the pleasure of spending time with him almost every day for the last 20+ years, and it still wasn't enough. I lost my brother, my best friend and business associate all in the same day. I miss him a lot. The outpouring of love and support from within the company and from outside the company has been nothing short of mindboggling. It has helped and I thank you. I wanted to share his obituary one last time for anyone who missed it. It sums him up perfectly.

*Regards,  
Brad*

## Justin Fillhart Promoted To Vice President - By Brad Whitford

I am thrilled to announce that Justin Fillhart was promoted to Vice President of The L. C. Whitford Co., Inc. on March 1, 2024. It is a momentous thing considering that Justin is only the 5th VP in the company’s 108-year history! Justin has been the Operations Manager for LCW since being promoted to that position in the fall of 2022. Justin continues to bring insight gained from his years working for Allan A. Myers and Glenn O. Hawbaker and his varied positions here at LCW. Congratulations Justin!

### GEORGIA NEWS - BY KARL YOUNG

#### Project #23002 – Bridge Repairs at Snapfinger Road

This project was awarded through a special invitation bid process by GDOT. The job site was located at Snapfinger Road over Snapfinger Creek Bridge in a western Atlanta suburb of DeKalb County. The main scope of work was to remove and replace three concrete pier caps.

After preparatory access work in September, we began the bridge work the last week of November. We constructed steel falsework on existing concrete footings to temporarily support the superstructure. The bridge beams were raised approximately 1/4” to remove bearing from the existing concrete cap. An excavator with hydraulic hammer was then utilized to remove the concrete cap and approximately two vertical feet of the existing concrete columns. Our crew further cleaned up the removal by hand.

The vertical columns were formed and poured back to the designed bottom elevation of the new concrete pier cap. The new steel sole plates were welded to the bottom of existing girders. We then formed the new cap, tied all new reinforcing steel, and secured the new anchor bolts in place. The new cap was poured with 24-hour accelerated strength concrete. Due to the cooler winter temperatures, we intentionally poured the cap at the end of a week which gave a few extra days of cure and strengthening over the weekend. Once the cap acquired the proper design strength (3500 psi), we lowered the superstructure onto the new cap; the sole plates came to rest on new neoprene bearing pads. The temporary steel falsework was then disassembled and relocated to the next bent for the process to start over again.

All three pier caps and bearings have been replaced. Joe Howland and crew did an excellent job working around occasional flooding and cold temperatures. We finished this project in mid-March, two weeks ahead of schedule and well under budget. Valentin Urista, GDOT certified welder and this year’s Safety Award winner, played a critical role in fabricating the temporary steel falsework structures to support the bridge. THANK YOU to all involved for a job very well done!!



Bent 2 - Constructing Falsework



Bent 4 - Pier Cap Demolition



Bent 4 - New Cap

### RAILROAD UPDATE - BY MATT INGALLS

The railroad division has started the New Year off incredibly busy with multiple projects in progress and many more to get started. We have a large bearing project wrapping up in Wilkes-Barre, PA in the coming weeks as well as ongoing work in Cleveland Ohio, Millersburg Indiana, and Attica Indiana. We have 4 span replacements to complete in 2024 and many bridge repair projects as well. The bidding schedule is busy as ever and doesn’t seem to be slowing down any time soon. The dedication and ambition the railroad division employs is second to none. I have no doubts that we will navigate 2024 with unmatched success and productivity. **“Productivity is never an accident. It is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning, and focused effort.”** – Paul J. Meyer



Bridge Replacement - Millersburg, IN



Emergency Repair - Scranton, PA



Bridge Repair - Brooklyn, OH

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FINAL THOUGHT

*“Every accomplishment starts with the decision to try.”*

*- John F. Kennedy*

**SAFETY UPDATE – COLTON SAULTER**

The 2024 season is off and our annual safety seminars were a great success. In New York we had Todd Wright with NYSDOT give a refresher on work zone safety. Todd Kinsman with Hanes Supply discussed the importance of proper rigging selection and inspection. Robbie Faulkner gave a great presentation about incorporating job safety into your plan. Jeremy Starr with MSA gave a refresher course on fall protection and was kind enough to supply us with a new style of harness to try out in the field.

Also, Bruce Bolger continued his discussion on emotional intelligence. A huge thank you to Amanda McCaslin, Deb Murray, Eric McDowell, Eric Neudeck, John Waters and Caleb Freeman for their assistance with this year’s safety seminar.

Our Georgia safety seminar was also a success. Todd Kinsman with Hanes Supply spoke on the importance of rigging inspection and selection as well as a fall protection refresher. Robbie Faulkner gave a compelling presentation on railroad safety in preparation for an upcoming job. Also those in attendance completed their first aid, CPR, and AED training. Thank you to Ashlyn Halder, Gary Hoagland, and Karl Young for your help.



*Rob Faulkner - GA Division Safety Seminar*



*Fred Roys - Presidents Award Winner, NY Division*



*Valentin Urista - Presidents Award Winner, GA Division*

Congratulations to our Annual President’s Awards Winners. Our NY Division President’s Award winner is Fred Roys and the Georgia Division Winner is Valentin Urista. Thank you for all you do and keep up the great work.

RECENT CONTRACTS  
AWARDED

**Michigan**

- N.S./Conrail – Span Replacement Detroit, Michigan

**New York**

- NYSDOT – D265168, Region 6 Highway & Culvert Maintenance
- Silverline – Stevens Road Waterproofing, Cortland, NY
- NYSDOT – D265194, Bridge Replacement, Town of Carrollton
- Norfolk Southern – Bridge Repairs, Hornell, NY
- Falls Road Railroad – Falls Branch Bridge & Culvert Replacement, Monroe, Orleans & Niagara Counties
- Oakgrove Construction – NYS DOT-D264959, Repairs 8 Bridges, Buffalo, NY

**Pennsylvania**

- Borough of Galeton – Galeton Treatment Plant Rehabilitation
- PADOT ECMS 110818 – James Morrison Bridge Rehab.
- Norfolk Southern – Grout Pumping, Fleetwood, PA

**Virginia**

- Dominion – Blue Crab, Cannon Branch, Farmwell, Fredricksburg, North Anna, Club House

CHUCK’S CHUCKLE

**Putin Held Hostage**

Putin is held by a terrorist. A Russian truckdriver stops at the back of a long queue on the motorway. He sees a policeman walking down the line of stopped cars to briefly talk to the drivers. As the policeman approaches the truck, the truckdriver rolls down his window and asks. “Whats going on?”

Policeman: “A terrorist is holding Putin hostage in a car. He’s demanding 10 million rubles, or he’ll douse Putin in petrol and set him on fire. So we’re asking drivers for donations”.

Driver: “Oh, ok. How much do people donate on average.”

Policeman: “About a gallon.”

**SAFETY UPDATE**  
**THIS QUARTER**  
**78,331**  
**MAN HOURS WITH**  
**0**  
**LOST TIME ACCIDENT**  
**KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK!!!!**

# DANIEL HAYES WHITFORD

JUNE 22, 1977 - FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Daniel Hayes Whitford passed away on February 5, 2024, after a tragic accident at his home on Cuba Lake. Countless people have been impacted by his death, and his place in our shared history has been nothing short of legendary.

The Law of the Conservation of Energy says that energy can neither be created nor destroyed – only converted from one form to another. Daniel's love for his family, his life, and for other people was what defined him. His energy was positive, intense, seemingly endless, and will not be diminished, but carried on by all of us.

Born in Olean, New York to proud parents Chandler and Karen Whitford on June 22, 1977, Daniel grew up on Cuba Lake and was a graduate of Cuba-Rushford High School, Class of 1995. He graduated from Gannon University. He started his career in the family business, The L.C Whitford Co., Inc., in the trades during his summers off in high school, the same as his brothers. He then progressed through the ranks to his most recent appointment as vice president. Throughout all these roles, his compassionate and authentic personality contributed to the cohesiveness that is the fabric of the company.

Daniel is survived by his parents, wife Rochelle, son Ford, daughter Stella; brothers Brad, Rod, and Clint; nieces Ellie and Isa Whitford; and sisters-in-law Amanda Darling and Meghan and Lauren O'Keefe. To list his close friends would be impossible because of the immediate connections he made everywhere he went.

The life of Daniel has many themes: Family man, intense love, adventurous soul, and a mission of happiness. He was most passionate about his wife and children; swimming, fishing, or boating with them on Cuba Lake or at his favorite place of all – Lady Evelyn Lake in Ontario, Canada.

As the gallery below explains without words, Daniel lived an outrageously full life, adding color to the mundane or a lightning bolt to the party. But, above all, he genuinely cared about other people's feelings and happiness as much as his own.

Daniel leaves so many lives changed forever, and all for the better. To try and capture his life in a picture or paragraphs would be an impossible feat. His many friends have mourned his passing with some tales and moving remembrances, including living life to the fullest, amazing hugs, making you feel at home, spreading joy and happiness, lighting up a room, infectious smile, and the list goes on.

The Whitford Family invites friends to join them in celebrating Daniel during a visitation on Sunday, February 11 at Mark F. Rinker Funeral Home in Cuba from 1 to 5 p.m. A Celebration of Life will be held on his birthday, which is the summer solstice.

The Whitford Family will be establishing a memorial fund to honor Daniels's memory. Details will be announced before the celebration of life.

Don't forget Daniel's important mantra: "Straight to the top!!"

