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The following report is from NAPA regarding the federal transportation bill:

“With the start of the new Congress January 4, pressure is intensifying on lawmakers, state transportation departments, and the transportation construction industry to get the highway bill enacted. However, the same issues that confronted the previous Congress such as the tension between donor and donee states, inadequate funding levels, and an aversion by lawmakers to increase the federal gas tax, have not changed. In addition, the cast of characters remain the same in the White House, House of Representatives, and the U.S. Senate. Complicating the legislative agenda, Congress is gearing up to tackle high profile issues such as saving Social Security, tort reform, and making the tax cuts permanent. The President is also expected to call on Congress to reduce the burgeoning deficit by half when he submits the fiscal 2006 budget on February 7. Many domestic spending programs are expected to see flat funding or worse. Meanwhile, state transportation officials and industry representatives held a press conference January 11 to call on Congress to pass a well-funded reauthorization bill before Memorial Day. The Transportation Construction Coalition will host its annual Legislative Fly-In April 25-27, 2005 in Washington, D.C., one month before the current TEA-21 expires on May 31.”

For information on the Fly-in watch www.hotmix.org for the announcement.

Dick Stander Receives Honors

Richard R. Stander Sr., who retired as President and CEO of the Mansfield Asphalt Paving Company, Mansfield, Ohio, was recognized by the American Road and Transportation Builders (ARTBA) as one of the “Top 100 Private Sector Transportation Design and Construction Professionals of the 20th Century” at their meeting last year. More recently Dick Stander became the 2004 recipient of the George S. Bartlett Award from the Transportation Research Board (TRB). He was recognized for his outstanding career contributions to highway progress. Stander received the award on January 12, during the Chairman’s Luncheon at the Transportation Research Board (TRB) 84th Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Donald L. Bair Passes November 4, 2004.

Donald L. Bair, age 90, was retired from Central Allied Enterprises, Canton, Ohio, where he was Corporate Vice President. Born on February 11, 1914 in Canton, Ohio to Grace and Harry Bair, he passed away Thursday, November 4th, 2004, in Aultman Hospital after a brief illness. A Funeral service was held Sunday, November 7th in Trinity United Church of Christ, Canton, Ohio.

Don graduated from McKinley High School in the class of 1931 and attended Mt. Union College. He served on the Board of the McKinley Alumni Association and was a two term President. He served in World War II in the European Theater of Operations and was the recipient of bronze stars. He was a member of Trinity United Church of Christ where he served a year as president. Don was active in Boy Scouts serving on the Executive Board of the Buckeye Council. Don was a recipient of the Distinguished Eagle Scout Award and served Troop 4 as Treasurer. Don was a member of the Rotary Club of Canton and served as the President in 1980. He was a member of Hoover Lodge #770 F&AM, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite Valley of Canton, and Tadmor Temple. He was also a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Canton Elks Lodge, and Retired Executives and Professional Men's Association of Stark County. Don is survived by his wife of 67 years, June Macklem Bair and two sons, Bruce M. (Claudia) and David H. (Debbie) Bair both of North Canton.

Memorial contributions may be made to Boy Scout Troop 4 in care of Trinity United Church of Christ, Rotary Club of Canton 217 2nd St., N.W. Canton, OH 44702, or Trinity United Church of Christ 3909 Blackburn Rd., N.W. Canton, OH 44718.

It’s Conference and Seminar season in the Asphalt Industry and Flexible Pavements of Ohio has a full calendar of educational opportunities planned.

Here’s the rundown in chronological order:

The Ohio Asphalt Paving Conference, February 3, OSU Fawcett Center. The “must attend” technical conference on asphalt in Ohio. Sponsored by a group of public agencies and industry associations, the conference includes a full day of presentations of importance to the asphalt paving community.

Paver Operator Training, Beginning February 7 and continuing on various dates and at various locations in Ohio. Sponsored by FPO and conducted by Local 18 of the Operating Engineers, this one week course provides hands-on training on the operation of the paver and roller.

ODOT level 2 Asphalt Technician Training and Exams, Beginning February 16 2005,

Various Districts and Central Lab. This is the required training and exam to obtain ODOT level 2 approval as an asphalt technician.

Rehabilitation of Concrete Pavements Using Asphalt, February 23 2005, Quality Inn, Richfield, OH. Municipal Engineers and Public Works Directors are invited to register for this seminar and trade show to learn how to improve the performance of their asphalt overlays.

Mix Design Seminar & Exam, February 28 –March 4, 2005, ODOT Central Lab, Columbus, OH. This is the required training and exam to obtain ODOT level 3 approval as an asphalt technician.

FPO Annual Meeting and Equipment Exhibition, March 30-31, 2005, Midwest Hotel & Conference Center, Columbus, OH. This is the annual convention of the asphalt industry in Ohio. The convention features general and technical presentations, an equipment display and trade show and three concurrent seminars as follows:

Asphalt Plant Operation and Maintenance, March 30 2005, Columbus, OH. The staff of ASTEC will present a full day of training on operating asphalt plants for greater efficiency, economy, profit and environmental compliance.

Compaction of Hot Mix Asphalt Pavement Mixes, March 30 2005, Columbus, OH. Technical staff from SAKAI America will present a half-day presentation on compaction of HMA.

Design of Porous Asphalt Pavement Structures, March 30 2005, Columbus, OH. Kent Hansen of NAPA will present a half day of education on the design of porous asphalt pavement structures for storm water management.

(Special note – we recently mailed out notices of the 3 seminars noted immediately above. Unfortunately, those mailed notices omitted a line to note your credit card number. We thank those who brought this error to our attention. If you are using one of those notices to register for a seminar, either just write in your credit card number or print out the corrected form from our website calendar pages at www.flexiblepavements.org We apologize for the inconvenience.)

To obtain more information or to register for any of these seminars, visit the calendar page at <http://www.flexiblepavements.org/events.cfm> There you will also find announcements of many other educational opportunities being offered by other agencies.

Or call FPO: 1-888-446-8649, toll-free in Ohio.

Specification Changes Coming

The asphalt industry has grown accustomed to frequent specification changes in recent years and this year will be no exception. Not only will ODOT issue a new spec book this spring, but several significant asphalt specification changes are looming as well. ODOT has indicated that specification changes are coming in the pavement warranty specifications, with regard to achieving better longitudinal joint densities and in adopting the International Ride Index (IRI) in the pavement smoothness requirements. To learn more about these changes attend the ODOT specification update presentation at the Flexible Pavements Annual Meeting and watch for an article in Ohio Asphalt magazine.

More new Diamonds

Ohio's asphalt industry is graced by two more plants earning the Diamond Achievement Commendation from the National Asphalt Pavement Association. Kokosing Materials of Ohio has recently earned the award for its Fredericktown and Mansfield plants. FPO extends its congratulations to Kokosing and all of the other Diamond Achievement Commendation Award winners in Ohio.

Quiet Pavement Website

The Asphalt Pavement Alliance has launched a website devoted specifically to the issue of pavement noise. It's interactive and has all the information you need regarding the issue of pavement-tire generated noise. Visit the site at www.quietpavement.com to learn more about the issue.

Flexible Pavements of Ohio Website

Speaking of websites, have you recently visited the upgraded FPO website, www.flexiblepavements.org ? In November we rolled out an improved version of our website that included many new features and a lot of new information. All of the old features are still there as well. You'll want to visit often as we constantly are adding new information. And, you can help us eliminate the inevitable "bugs" by letting us know of any errors you encounter.

Heard a good asphalt pavement story lately?

Bill Christensen told us this one:

A guy walks into a bar. He sets a large slab of asphalt on the bar and tells the bartender, "gimme one for the road".

Heard or seen an amusing asphalt story or cartoon? Send it to us at info@flexiblepavements.org

We need your other news-worthy items as well.

Are you on our mailing list?

In addition to this e-news letter, FPO publishes a quarterly magazine, **Ohio Asphalt**. The Winter 2005 issue of **Ohio Asphalt** will be mailed in February, 2005. To add your address to the mail lists for the e-news letter and/or the magazine, send a request with your address information to flexpave@ameritech.net

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