

# Maine Drilling & Blasting Celebrates Community

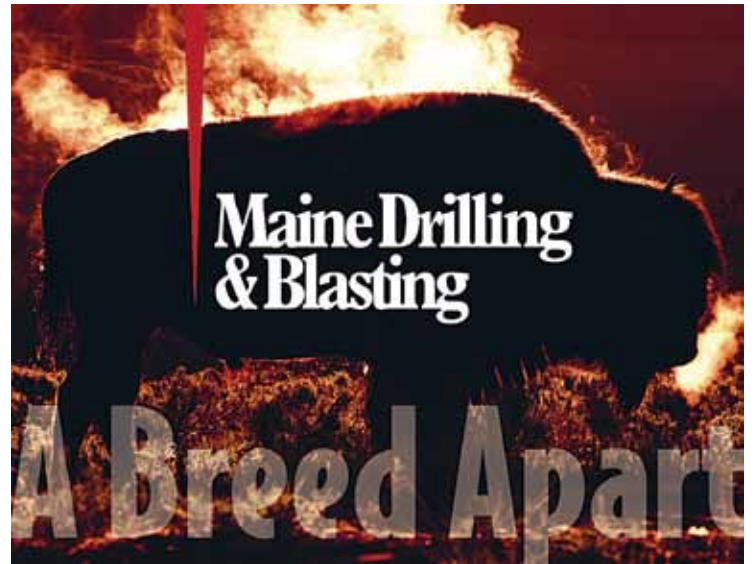
**M**aine Drilling & Blasting (MD&B), one of the nation's elite drilling and blasting companies, celebrates the importance of local service to its own success over the past 45 years by sharing its resources and wealth with various organizations that serve local community needs throughout the Northeast and across the country.

For MD&B, which provides drilling, blasting and related specialty services to the construction and quarry markets, it all started with service. Hard work, honesty and quality service were the bedrock upon which Ted Purington Sr. and his wife, Judy, founded the company in Gardiner, Maine, back in 1966. Throughout the years that followed, and the expansion of the company's footprint from Maine to New England, then on through the Northeast, from Pennsylvania to Virginia, these principles remained constant, along with a deliberate focus on local service. "We've always worked to grow regional markets with local people," explains company president and CEO, Bill Purington. "That means local employees and resources for supply and distribution. We've made it a point to commit to a local presence wherever we go."

MD&B has chosen to celebrate its 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary by stepping up its corporate-giving portfolio to in-

clude donations to an increased number of organizations. In addition to repeat recipients such as The United Way, Big Brothers Big Sisters and Maine General Hospital, The Unity House of Troy, N.Y., received for the first time from MD&B, a major monetary contribution to help that 40-year-old service agency continue to make life better for those struggling in New York's capital region. Not neglecting hands-on, boots-on-the-ground aid, MD&B also contributed labor, equipment and finances to the Kids' Kove revitalization project, to help rebuild a community playground.

Among the additional organizations that MD&B is supporting for the first time this year are Bucksport Community Concerns, Bucksport, Maine; The Upstate Northeastern New York Chapter of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America; Connecticut Northern Lights Girls Sports Inc.; the Vermont Chapter of the March of Dimes; Camp Men-O-Lan, Quakertown, Pa.; Nativity School, New Bedford, Mass.; and Mothers Kitchen USA of the MA Center in California. "We're very pleased this year to be able to support more organizations, the causes they further, and the lives they change," says Purington.



Earlier in the year, the company canvassed a cross section of its customer base to elicit feedback on the quality of the services being provided. "We weren't after candy coating," notes Purington. "We wanted to know what's important to our customers – what we've been doing right and what we can improve upon. As part of our inquiry, we also asked them to identify community needs and local service organizations important to them. I'm happy to say their recommendations formed the basis for the majority of the new 45<sup>th</sup> anniversary donations we're making."

## Leadership in Technology

Over the years, MD&B has taken the very mature business of explosives and mining, and applied new technology at virtually every turn. From being one of the first drilling and blasting companies to transition to hydraulic drills back in the mid-1980s, to most recently developing applications for electronic detonator technology, MD&B innovates with the singular purpose of productivity gains to benefit the company and its customers.

"Relevant technology can lead to expanded services and better service, which, in turn, spells success for all parties involved," notes MD&B vice president Mitch Green. "For instance, we've taken the performance of electronic detonators further than any other company in the country. This technology reduces vibration – making neighbors happy – and delivers improved quality in breakage and productivity gains in the way of expanded patterns, making customers happy."

At Maine Drilling & Blasting, technological innovation also means engineering proprietary solutions. Over the past seven years, bulk explosive has proven to be a good example. Pumping bulk



(Continued on Page 50)

