

KEARES ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING, INC.



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Keares procures contract for Target

On Dec. 10, Keares began work on the second Target store for which the electrical company procured a contract, with construction of the current store taking place in Temple, Pa. For the 125,472 square-foot building, Keares is completing the electrical work for the entire structure from the ground up, including underground feeders and the full interior.

"This is our second Target," said Matt Auker, project manager at Keares Electric. "Last year, we completed another Target store in Mechanicsburg."

Presently, there are three Keares employees

performing work on the Target site in Temple: Jason Fabian, Tim Flynn, and Don Broomell, who is the foreman on the job. "We have the same crew of guys on this Target as the last one," said Auker. "Using the same crew will prove to be beneficial when it comes to the knowledge and layout of the site when obstacles arise.



Pictured is the future sales floor for the Target store in Temple, Pa., which is currently under construction.



"We've already foreseen some issues and corrected them before they became problems, something we wouldn't have been able to do without past experience."

Although there are only three Keares workers at the site currently, once the job is running at full speed the number of Keares employees performing work will

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Company receives Merit Construction Award

Keares Electric, a member of the Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter of the Associated Builders & Contractors, received a certificate from the ABC organization honoring its contribution to the Bard Complex, an award-winning facility in Spring City, Pa.

The Bard Complex,

which contains 61 one-bedroom apartments for seniors, was formerly the Spring-Ford Knitting Co. mill. The entire structure was renovated and an addition was built onto the edifice, as well.

Construction of the apartment complex, which took approxi-

mately a year and a half, was undertaken by C. Raymond Davis & Sons, Inc., the general contractor for the job.



Getting to know....Jerry Bugar



Jerry Bugar, 69, of Valley Township, began his days of employment at Keares Electric in 1985. And, the variety of the job is what has kept Bugar satisfied for the duration of his employment.

"You're always doing different things, so you don't get bored," said Bugar. "If you do the same thing every day, that's going to wear on you."

Along with variety on the job, Bugar also has variety in his hobbies. Three of Bugar's favor-

ite hobbies are reading, gardening and golfing, although he is not currently participating in all three of these activities.

"I used to golf, but I don't have time to now," he said. "And I like to garden, but I am too old to do that now."

Bugar, a 1956 graduate of the former Scott Senior High School, also enjoys watching movies, especially comedies. "A good sense of humor will carry you through a lot of bad days," he said.

Informing the public of electrical safety

At Christiana Fire Company's most recent open house, our very own electrician/Safety Chair John Moore manned an exhibit that informed attendees at the event of the proper safety practices and procedures to follow for holiday lighting and extension cords. Moore also discussed wire sizes and how to avoid overloading circuits.

"We were basically trying to revolve it around the holidays," said Moore.

The open house, which took place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

on a Saturday afternoon, was attended by roughly 50 residents. Those who were present at the open house were more than eager to acquire information from the exhibitors who were on hand.

"There were quite a lot of people that asked a lot of questions," said Moore.

He showcased a two-table exhibit, which took approximately an hour to set up, at which participants of the occasion could ask questions.

Helping Moore to disseminate information at his exhibit was

Alex, his 14-year-old daughter who just became a junior fireman.

At another table that Moore was exhibiting at the event, equipment used by Keares electricians was on display.

"There was another table with our stuff," said Moore. "There were items such as a face shield, hot kits, high voltage gloves, and low voltage gloves."

Moore, along with the other exhibitors at the open house, fulfilled a worthy cause by helping to prevent fires during

the holiday season.

"We wanted to show the public not to overload circuits on the holidays, so we weren't going and putting out a fire at their house," said Moore. "It was basically to warn people to watch what they are doing."



TARGET

increase to at least 12, according to Auker.

So far, the job has run smoothly and the only problems faced were results of the weather conditions. "For a couple of days it was a sheet of ice; that kind of delayed things," said Auker. "And then when the ice melted and

we started digging, then it was a mud pool."

Having to deal with the "mud pool" were Steve Hoopes and Rich DeRemigio, who performed all of the site underground for Keares Electric. "Steve Hoopes was up there for the site work," said Auker. "He did all of the digging for the underground feeders."

While the same crew that undertook the work for the Target store in Mechanicsburg is performing the labor

for the Temple facility, Keares employees will face new obstacles due to the difference in the layout of the two stores. But as a team we will surpass any and all obstacles.

The pre-manufactured EDCs from Texas were set in place by our crews and our Crane Sub Contractor on Feb. 1 as the scheduled dictated.

Our general contractor is Jeffrey M. Brown Associates and the Grand Opening is set for Oct. 13, 2008.

Being the Best is Great, but Safety is Better

Being the best is great, but the prosperity of Keares Electric means nothing if the employees of the company are practicing unsafe methods, which lead to injuries and lost time.

As President Bob Keares has stated many times before, "Being the best electrical company is meaningless if we are not safe." No statement is more true than the aforementioned one that proceeded from the lips of Keares. Ask yourself: Does it matter how much money I make if I receive a debilitating injury or am involved in a fatal accident?

What are the results of a debilitating injury or fatal accident? While the list is rather extensive, this article will list a few: 1. An employee will no longer enjoy his current standard of living, both financially and physically; 2. An employee will no longer have the ability to enjoy playing freely with his children, or future children; 3. Financial troubles will abound for an employee and/or his family due to a loss of income.

In order to avoid accidents, or drastically reduce the occurrences of such incidents, Keares Electric implemented a Safety Committee in 2006. The committee is comprised of electricians who work in the field every day, office personnel and management. By having members on the

"Being the best electrical company is meaningless if we are not safe."

*—Keares Electric
President Bob Keares*

committee from all areas of the company, Keares Electric plans to have as many points of view as possible in an attempt to prevent accidents before they occur. In the unfortunate event that an accident transpires, the knowl-



Pictured above are samples of the Safety T-shirt (left) and the Incident Bags that Keares recently purchased. The t-shirts are given to employees who offer safety suggestions and individuals who promote safety through their actions. The Incident Bags will contain incident report forms, a checklist for procedures to follow, a disposable camera and caution tape. The bags will be placed in each company vehicle and utilized in the event that an accident occurs.

edge and expertise of each individual on the committee will merge in an attempt to troubleshoot the problem so that there is no further occurrence of the incident in the future.

The committee has implemented some new strategies this year to help employees increase enthusiasm in regards to safety. The TVs in the back of the Downingtown shop, which play a different DVD every day informing workers of various safety issues, and the t-shirts that are awarded to employees who provide safety suggestions, are both intended to help employees get excited about safety.

For the 2008 year, Keares Electric's Safety Committee has set goals that will enhance worker safety and help the company as a whole to excel. The following is a list of goals that the Safety Committee has set and plans to accomplish in the calendar year of 2008:

- *Solicit more feedback and communication from workers in the field* — Employees are encouraged to keep an eye out for unsafe situations and practices. In the event that an em-

ployee becomes aware of an unsafe situation, he is encouraged to fill out a Safety Suggestion Form and place it in one of the Safety Suggestion Boxes, which are located at both the Downingtown and Lancaster shops.

- *Receive certification in ABC's Safety Training and Evaluation Process (STEP) program* — This program will show us the areas of safety in which we are strong and those areas in which we can improve as a company.
- *Reduce losses associated with company vehicles and drive more defensively* — Defensive driving will lead to both greater employee safety on the road and reduce costs associated with the company vehicles. A defensive driving course was administered by Beth Hentzler, from Brown & Brown insurance, in order to teach employees how to drive defensively.

Reworking of Best Buy a 'major deal'



"It's a major deal," said Jim Dreyer, the project manager for Keares Electric who works out of the company's Lancaster office. "It's a total gut and re-build."

The major deal that Dreyer is referring to is the Best Buy that is under construction in the Ashbridge Square Shopping Center. The building in which the Best Buy will reside was formerly

occupied by a Cropper's Market grocery store.

Due to the different needs of the building's former occupant, the edifice will have its electrical room totally reworked.

"We're taking the existing electrical room and it's getting totally gutted," said Dreyer. "And the building is getting a 1,600-amp service, so we have to move all of the conduits."

Presently, Keares has 7 workers on the job, which is headed by veteran foreman Lee Miller. Along with Miller, other Keares employees currently working on the project are: Ted Guzman, Chris Peranzino, Jaime Tello-Chavez, Carlos

Montanez, Gerardo Flores, and Carlos Regalado. We are doing the work on the Best Buy for Massachusetts-based Groom Construction.

"They (Groom Construction) have built Best Buys before, so we are able to draw on their expertise," said Dreyer.

According to Dreyer, overall the job is running smoothly and the only delays were results of extensive demolition that had to occur. Smooth operation of job duties will continue as Keares Electric and Groom Construction cooperate to produce a structure that is of superior quality.



Ted Guzman looks over the plans for the Best Buy, which had many changes implemented.

350Z garners first place honors

Start out with a 2004 Nissan 350Z Roadster. Then pour \$4,000 worth of upgrades into the car, including 20-inch Sevas rims, eyelids on the headlights, a front end aerodynamics kit, after market tail lights, indoor trim reworking, cold air intake, and exhaust work. What is the end result of all of the time, effort and money that is placed into the car? The answer is a first place trophy at a car show.

Jon Williams, project manager at Keares Electric, won first place in the car show that was held at Billows' Downtown Pig Roast over the summer. But, very rarely does

Williams sit behind the wheel of this gem.

"It's my wife's car. I only get to drive it on weekends and holidays," said Williams, concerning the Nissan, which currently has 27,000 miles on the engine.

Although he rarely drives the automobile, Williams performed all of the work on the car, except for the paint. "Nate, from Bumpers Etc., did all of the detailed painting," he said.

Along with the 350Z Roadster that his wife possesses, Williams himself owns a 1990 Nissan ZX. "Here is a



350Z, which is an upgrade to mine, which is a ZX," said Williams.

Both Williams and his wife are actively involved in a Z

Club, and he has not ruled out showcasing the 350Z Roadster again. "We may enter it in another car show in the future," he said.