

Ritchie-Curbow Construction: Building relationships and better business

BY JABRIEL SHAKOOR

From conception to completion, the building process has always begun with an idea. From big-bang theories and symphonic masterpieces to space flight, these ideas have fueled the progress of society. For Ritchie-Curbow Construction, bringing ideas to life throughout the Virginia Peninsula has been an experience that is brushing change over our cityscape.

Established in 1973 by former mayor Joe Ritchie and partner Gary Curbow, Ritchie-Curbow Construction has built a reputation for excellence throughout the area. Now continuing under the leadership of Joe Ritchie, Jr.

the company plans to carry on the philosophy of building quality buildings and personal relationships with clients.

Recently Ritchie-Curbow relocated to its new headquarters at Fountain One Plaza in City Center. While the building is operational, it is still undergoing some minor construction to which Ritchie, Jr. says, "the move was fairly painless and we are happy to add to the growth of City Center."

Ritchie, Jr. began his career as a Navy pilot for 10 years, then went on to work for NASA before coming to work alongside his father for 10 years.

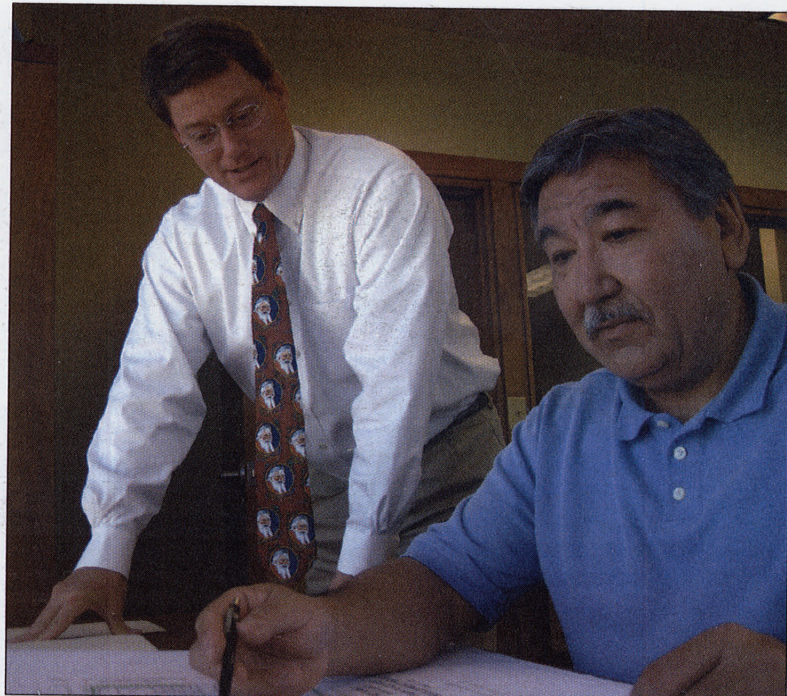
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of respect. To which he adds, "This is what we are all about. We value our product and set our goal to meeting the clients' schedule, vision, quality standards while building lasting relationships."

Ritchie-Curbow practices personal honesty and accountability in each project undertaken. "It's our four-way test," says Ritchie, Jr. who noted the strip of paper taped to his desktop monitor:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

Ritchie, Jr. elaborates on these principals, saying "our business is not to put together bricks and mortar and walk away; we enjoy the feeling of giving back to our community and by making it a beautiful place to live. We are proud to be a part of the improvement that instills pride in living on the Virginia Peninsula."



Ritchie-Curbow president Joey Ritchie (left) discusses construction plans with Gene Wilson, vice president, preconstruction services. Not pictured: Carl Beale, VP, operations. TESS GOLDBLATT

During that time he was able to learn fiscal responsibility, corporate leadership and customer relations.

Among his experiences with his

father, Ritchie Jr. says his father has a charisma when dealing with clients and treated everyone with a high level

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TO THE Point

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Some of Ritchie-Curbow's more recent projects include Templin Hall at Thomas Nelson Community College, Red Star Tavern in City Center, the five-story parking complex in City Center, and Fountain Plaza One, also in City Center.

With the ability to build comes the possibility of positive change. With Ritchie-Curbow standing on 30 years of growth and development, we can see a brighter skyline overlooking the Peninsula, says Ritchie, Jr. "We have a fairly tight-knit group of well qualified tradesmen fueling our company. We stay competitive and we are proud of our longevity and our ability to serve our clients." ◀