

SAUK VALLEY NEWSPAPERS

Dario DiMare
President
Dario Designs, Inc.
1 Elda Road
Framingham, MA
01701

February 1, 2000

Dear Dario,

It was in the fall of 1996 that our company determined that our facilities might not be adequate for the future. We budgeted some funds to have some preliminary work done by professionals to help us determine the best course of action.

Your firm was one of two that we met with and, of course, we determined that you and your firm best met our needs.

As per our contract with you, you did some existing conditions drawings for us and produced a program and masterplan.

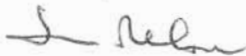
The personal interviews with me and my staff were certainly enlightening and your existing conditions drawing and subsequent recommendations to construct a new plant instead of expanding one of the existing ones proved "right on".

I think your depth of knowledge and personal touch really made the difference. Without your counsel I don't know which direction, if any, we would have jumped.

You told me when we first met that I'd be happy with your work and now that the project is nearing it's completion I am happy to report that you were right.

I appreciate your friendship and professionalism throughout the project and wish you well as you help others in the newspaper business build better, more efficient facilities.

Sincerely,



Jim Nelson
General Manager
Sauk Valley Newspapers

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