

● Mapping

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treatment plants and started the process of sending its sewage to the Indianapolis treatment plant.

"Now, there are fish in the streams; it's much cleaner water. There's much more regulatory red tape to clear (today), but it is good for the environment," he said.

The engineers and builders of the past didn't purposely do things to harm the environment, but people just didn't know about the long-term effects of some chemicals or practices, he said.

Jerry helped with the demolition of a building in Martin County. The federal government built it in the 1950s and it was full of asbestos.

"It's an example of what it is we didn't

know about. We know better now," he said.

Engineers can help keep the environment clean, he added, by encouraging builders to do things such as leaving a buffer zone of trees along a stream bank.

"I have a small part in my job," he said. "We need to be responsible and do things in a manner that's friendly to the environment so we can leave something for our grandchildren," he said.

Helping others

Using his skills to help others is Jerry Ott's favorite aspect of his job.

He accepted a part-time consulting job from Martin County and will help them design an industrial/technological park to take advantage of their proximity to Crane Naval Surface Warfare Center and try to attract business to the area. An economically depressed area with a county budget of only \$4 million, Martin County cannot afford a full time economic

development director.

Jerry Ott also served as president of the Johnson County Economic Development Corporation about 10 years ago, served on the Greenwood Chamber of Commerce board and is a Greenwood Rotarian.

"Those are things I'm doing that are different from engineering," he said.

Brad Ott is also using his skills to help others.

He attends Franklin Community Church and had a chance to meet the Rev. Matthew Sakeuh of Anderson. Sakeuh, who immigrated from Liberia, is the director of People for Missions/Houses for Hope, Liberia — a Christian organization that is trying to build houses, schools, hospitals and orphanages.

The country has lost much of its infrastructure because of civil war and neglect by corrupt public officials. Almost half of the country's citizens are children and many of them are orphaned.

Sakeuh talked to the Franklin congregation about his project in Monrovia, the capital of Liberia, to build a 52 acre campus that includes a church, hospital, school and living spaces.

"We just embraced his work," Brad said.

Brad asked for the computer blueprints of the projects. He and Jerry have been going over them, ready to offer advice. Brad said he may get more involved in the project in the future, too.

The father and son team have run the Franklin office since it was founded in May 2000, with Brad as the president and Jerry as the principal. Their interests are different and seem to fit well together and allow the business to serve a variety of clients. Jerry enjoys being in the community and working on the public projects, while Brad works more with the private sector clients and enjoy the science, history and preciseness of the field.