

BUSINESS

Krische Construction merges with KCI

By Tony Kindelspire

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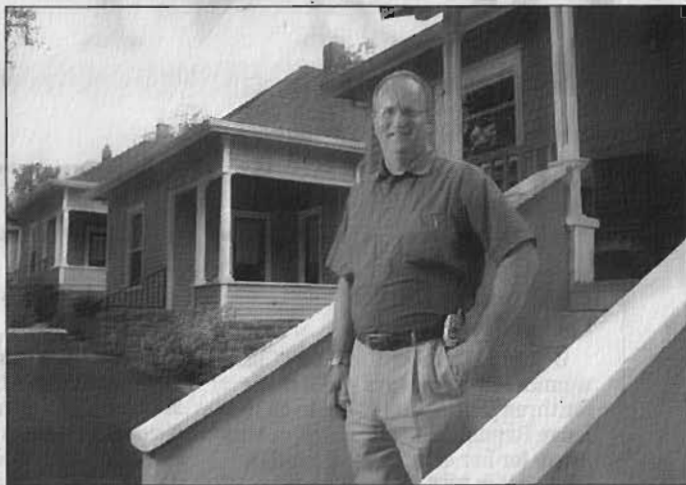
LONGMONT — Two Longmont construction companies with a combined 60 years in business are merging.

Krische Construction is buying the building and adjacent lot occupied by KCI Construction, 605 Weaver Park Road. Once the sale of the 5,800-square-foot building is complete in mid-July, the newly merged company will take the Krische Construction name.

Krische will move its headquarters from Kimbark Street over to Weaver Park Road in August, said Dan Krische, who co-founded the company with Mark Pilkington in 1986.

“(The merger) is bringing together two longstanding Longmont construction companies with similar reputations, similar cultures,” Krische said.

While KCI has a lot of experience in medical construction — including work with Longmont United Hospital — and with school construction projects, Krische does more work in the retail, commercial and multi-



Times-Call photo by Richard M. Hackett

Dan Krische co-founded Krische Construction in 1986 along with Mark Pilkington. Their company will merge with KCI Construction in a deal that will be finalized in mid-July, when the sale of KCI's current headquarters to Krische Construction is completed. The merged company will take the Krische name.

family housing areas, he said. The respective skills should complement each other well within the new company, Krische said.

“The sum of the two is greater

than the individual businesses,” said Carl Schurman, who had been president of KCI.

Schurman said he had approached Krische about a merger three or four months ago, af-

ter a KCI co-owner announced he was retiring.

With more than 30 years in the business himself — Schurman started with KCI in 1971 — he said he had been giving some thought to cutting back on his hours. As one of five KCI staff members joining the new company, he'll be working 40 hours a week instead of 60-plus, he said.

KCI was formed in 1968 by the late Jim Koch, and Schurman later bought out Koch's widow.

Schurman agrees with Krische that the cultures of the two longtime competitors will be a good match.

“I think we try to have a family environment here,” he said, adding he expects the same with the new company. “We treat the people that work for us as more than employees.”

Once the deal is completed, Krische Construction will employ more than 30 workers and will have combined revenues of about \$18 million a year, Krische said.

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