

BLAINE PEIFFER – OCTOBER



JUSTIN SCHAFER – NOVEMBER



SHAWN MOWEN – DECEMBER

DRB Homes newest townhome community is in an area known as the “Gateway to the Shenandoah Valley” – Martinsburg, WV. DHM has a long relationship with DRB Homes, and we were glad to partner with them on The Gallery.



GEORGE WALLING
SUPERINTENDENT

DHM Superintendent George Walling took the lead to prepare the site for 55 townhome lots. While it may sound like a simple project, the prior landowner had the land drilled, blasted, and removed all the material leaving solid rock. George said, “The DHM crew began work on November 6, 2023. We started drilling and blasting rock to place 22,588 cubic yards of fill to make the roads and building lots. We completed a 1.5-acre storm pond and installed 2,320 linear feet of curb and gutter to get the roads in and paved. We also completed 2,397 square feet of sidewalk. The utility crews completed all the underground water, sewer, storm and electric.”

Ian Smith, Land Development Manager for the DRB Group, said that “The exceptionally rocky site and plan discretions that worked out in the field were challenges that we worked through. Communication was extremely easy with George and DHM.”

George agreed and said, “We needed to install a 60” storm pipe under Klee Drive, but there was also a live 10” water main that ran along it with solid rock directly underneath. We used the trackhoe to ram the rock out.”

Ian adds, “The relationship with DHM and George Walling has been easy going, a smooth and enjoyable process. Working through plan problems/change orders was relatively easy with DHM. I am glad to work with all of you.”

The project wrapped up on September 5, 2024. Martinsburg is a quaint town filled with history. It won’t be long until families turn the townhomes into homes and add to the beauty of the “Gateway to the Shenandoah Valley.”



Before



After



KIRK MARTIN
OWNER & PRESIDENT

It has been an incredible 17 years since I became one of the owners at DHM. Where has the time gone? In that span, how many projects have we successfully completed? How much dirt have we moved? How many lineal feet of pipe have we installed?

While the answers to these questions might intrigue some, do they truly measure the real impact that our company has on other businesses and clients? I would venture to say “no” — these metrics alone do not capture the essence of our contribution.

Every day, I am struck by the multitude of opportunities we have to make a positive difference in the lives of others. A simple smile, an encouraging word, or even just a listening ear can go a long way. How many of these opportunities do we let slip by? Are we too busy, too tired, or perhaps simply indifferent? It could be any of these reasons, or maybe we have simply grown unaccustomed to acting on these impulses.

When I reflect on the older generations, I often find them to be more relational, family-oriented, and genuinely caring. There's a charm and warmth in that approach that I believe resonates deeply with all of us.

I truly hope that our company and our employees have not lost the vital art of caring for others. This quality can be what distinctly sets us apart from other companies in our industry. I can look across each of the divisions within DHM and see the relational values shining through. Whether it's our HR department demonstrating genuine concern for an employee's health and supporting them through a crisis, our residential crew leaders organizing a fun evening of axe throwing for team bonding, or employees

selflessly donating their vacation time to assist colleagues facing difficult situations, I see evidence of compassion and connection everywhere within our company. This is not just encouraging; it fills me with pride to carry forward the values that were established long before I came along. These principles have a profound impact on people's lives, and they truly matter!

This is what the vision of DHM is fundamentally about. While we will undoubtedly accomplish a great deal of work along the way, the manner in which we get that work done and the positive influence we have on others is what truly matters. It's this aspect that people will remember about us, setting us apart as a unique company in the industry.

I want to take a moment to give a heartfelt thank you to all the talented individuals working here at DHM. You are the heartbeat of the company, the faces that represent us in our communities, and the embodiment of what people think of when they hear the name DHM. I couldn't be more proud of these remarkable men and women who come together every day to transform our world physically, while also making a meaningful difference in the lives of those around them. Your dedication and spirit inspire me and elevate our mission to a higher level. Thank you for being part of this incredible journey!



Photo by Jeremiah Cushman



STANDING LEFT TO RIGHT

- Justin Schaffer | Bryan Brown | Trent Myers | Tyler Hess | Jay Hess | Jarrett Morrison
Steve Martin | Tony Beck | Jeff Mays | Mark Stannert | Tony Smetzer | Justin Halteman

“The Assistant Superintendents play a vital role as a “boots on the ground” position at DHM. They generally have a good understanding of the designed plans for the project and what DHM's scope of work is. While they are often expected to operate equipment, they also coordinate daily activities with the Project Owner, General Contractor, or other Subcontractors that we are working with, have alternative plans to account for weather or unforeseen circumstances, provide suggestions to Superintendents on ways to increase efficiencies and production, and provide leadership and training to newer or inexperienced co-workers.”

– GRANT BENEDICT, VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS

DHM has twelve Assistant Superintendents with a combined 155 years of service with DHM. They include – Tony Beck, Bryan Brown, Justin Halteman, Jay Hess, Tyler Hess, Steve Martin, Jeff Mays, Jarrett Morrison, Trent Myers, Justin Schaffer, Tony Smetzer, and Mark Stannert.

DHM's more seasoned employees have mentored the younger employees, teaching them the skills of machine and jobsite operations. Jarrett Morrison, who has been with DHM for four years, gives credit to Tony Smetzer for working with him. “Tony will take the time to show someone how to run a piece of equipment and offer tips and pointers. He was a big help in teaching me to read job plans and prints.”

How does a day on the jobsite start? Jay Hess answered, “I get to the jobsite early and get my dozer checked and ready for the day. I go over the plan with the other employees and subs working with us. I also complete a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) form.” Mark Stannert agreed saying, “A typical day begins with paperwork, a crew meeting, problem solving, and some laughs.” Mark believes building relationships is important, and communication is key. He adds, “I never put myself above my crew. I wouldn't put them in harm's way. I want everyone to go home safe.”

Bryan Brown shared some responsibilities they have during the day. “We help with the planning and scheduling of jobs, coordinate supplies, make sure the job and employees are productive, take care of safety issues and reports, coordinate with other contractors, check grade, solve problems, run equipment, fill in where needed, keep superintendents and the dispatcher informed, and set a good example for the employees.” Jarrett agrees and adds, “We try to keep the jobsite organized – all of our materials and those of our subcontractors.”

With all the responsibility they have comes a few challenges. For Tyler Hess that is “Trying to get my own dozer work done, while also trying to

keep an eye on the other guys and the jobsite. Trying to find the right balance between moving as fast as we can, while also being safe can be a challenge. Slowing down is sometimes the best solution.” Justin Halteman and Trent Myers agree that the weather is their biggest challenge. Bryan adds, “Weather conditions and to work or not to work. How to deal with what might be profitable for the workers, but not the company.”

Jeff Mays spoke of a job a few years back that was particularly challenging. “We were mucking and grading the ponds at Market Square. It was one of those jobs that we had to figure out as we went. In my opinion, those are also the kind of jobs that are the most fun to do.” Mark adds, “The Martins Pastry job was a bit stressful for me, couldn't have done it without the help of a good team.”

What has kept these twelve gentlemen at DHM for 155 years? Justin Schaffer said, “The people that work here.” Jeff agrees that “Our biggest asset at DHM is our people.” Bryan appreciates the good equipment, benefits, and that ownership is accessible.” Tony Smetzer adds, “The Superintendents are great to work with and the employees work together. DHM is a great family-owned company and Kirk will gladly take time to talk to you.” Tony Beck joined DHM a year ago after working for various construction companies. Tony said, “They treat everyone with respect and understanding. They took a chance on me at one of the worst times in my life, and I'm grateful. The support with the company about personal and family matters has been more than appreciated.” Trent summed it up by saying, “We are a team, a family, and we really all have the same goal at the end of the day.”

DHM is fortunate to be represented in the field by these twelve excavating professionals.

What does a 43,000-pound D5 dozer have in common with a 4-pound RC car? DHM equipment operator Jeremy Gehrett says, “Both require good hand-eye coordination.”

RC racing is a hobby that Jeremy enjoys with his son, Shane. Jeremy began playing around with RC cars and racing them back in the 1980s. When asked exactly what makes an RC car, Jeremy said, “They are a toy car that you control with a remote.

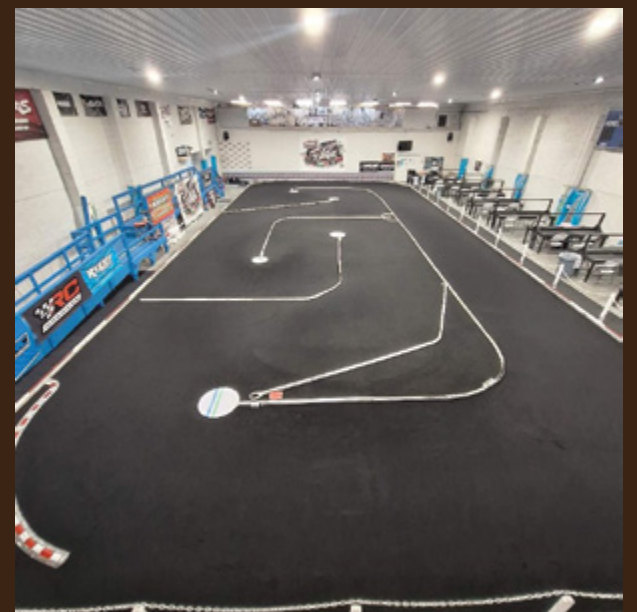
However, there isn't much “toy” about them, they are very sophisticated machines. They come in many styles and sizes, as well as battery and fuel powered.” The father son duo race at 997 RC Raceway in Quincy, PA. Jeremy said, “there are usually between five and ten different classes on a race night. Each class has a rule list stipulating your motor, battery pack, tires, and other modifications you can have. Each race heat is four minutes long. The races are run as fast as you can, but there is also a class that has a minimum lap time which is fairly slow. Everyone tunes their car down, and the most consistency wins.”

Part of RC racing is the car crashing or flipping over. After you finish a race, you return to the track to “turn marshalling.” Four people stand at the corners and help recover wrecked or flipped cars. Shane has some experience at this and said, “If you ever race and you are marshalling, be sure to watch your toes!”

When Jeremy was asked what it means to share a hobby like this with Shane, he said, “It means a lot. It gives him something to be interested in. It's something fun to get both of our butts off the couch! There is a cool group of people down at the races for Shane to interact with.” Of course, we had to ask Shane who the better racecar driver is. He smiled and said, “Dad, he has been doing this longer.” (That's right, since the 80's!) Shane adds, “I like it because its good bonding time with Dad.”

Shane is a sixth-grade student at Big Spring Middle School and a member of the Cumberland County Goat Club and FFA. Shane raises market goats that are shown and sold at the Shippensburg Fair. You can always catch Linda and Jeremy assisting Shane with his projects.

Shane has a few years of school left, but when asked what his plans were after school, he said, “Well, farming or work at DHM with Dad and y'all.” With a smile, Jeremy adds “I like the group of people that work at DHM. I've been here for almost 18 years, so I guess it just became like home.”



NEW HIRES

Cross Copenhaver, Equipment Operator, Utilities (Rehired)

Ebert Eberly, Equipment Operator/Driver

ELEVATING THE GRADE

Colby Newton, 953 Operator, Residential
Mason Mowers, Skidloader Operator, Residential
Santiago Marquez-Chaparro, Obtained CDL

Branden Rowe, Asst. Shop Manager
Sam Armakovitch, Parts & Inventory Manager
Travis Minium, Leadperson, Utility

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trent Myers & Kayle Brooks
welcomed their first child, daughter, Charlotte

WEDDINGS

George & Stephanie Walling, 3/15/24
Kenny & Morgan Hershey, 11/9/24
Clay & Teresa Christophel, 11/27/24

RETIREMENTS

Bill Forsythe 4/15/96 – 12/31/24
Lee Lowery 1/30/06 – 12/31/24

At DHM, our employees work for and alongside some great people, and we wanted to offer the opportunity for them to receive recognition for what they do to help make this such a great company.

Employees can nominate coworkers who are innovative, dedicated, safety conscious, productive, have a strong work ethic, or a positive attitude.

Each month employees are chosen from the nominees. Help us congratulate the employees below as they strive for excellence and integrity in every aspect of their work.

OCTOBER 2024



ADAM GRESS
Project Manager



BILL HARRIS
Field Technician Foreman



BRENDA BEATTIE
Human Resources Assistant



JONATHAN HORN
Land Surveyor Technician

NOVEMBER 2024



BRIAN FRAKER
Assistant Superintendent



HUNTER CARBAUGH
Miscellaneous Operator



TOMMY RAYHART
Utility Foreman

DECEMBER 2024



BRANDEN ROWE
Assistant Shop Manager



HADEN OCKER
Equipment Operator



JEREMY HESSONG
Environmental Foreman

THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES WERE
RECENTLY RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR YEARS
OF SERVICE TO DHM

Bob Tedrick – 30
Brian Hershey – 20
Dwayne Judd – 20
Marty Rachilla – 20
Mark Rosenberry – 20
Bob Johnson – 20
Bob Wible – 15
Dave Fischer – 15

Greg Wengert – 15
Scott Hanley – 15
Dan Monn – 15
Steve Martin – 10
Toby Humphrey – 10
Jeff Mays – 10
Robie O'Donnell – 10
Missy Yeager – 10

Andy Yocum – 10
Brenda Beattie – 10
Terry McCarney – 10
Brady Corwell – 5
Fermin Gonzalez – 5
Travis Carbaugh – 5
Ben Helsel – 5
Tucker Hess – 5

Jeb Newman – 5
Lane Brunner – 5
Jon-Luc Hailey – 5
Shawn Halteman – 5
Jim Jenkins – 5
Jeremy Hessong – 5