



When the Pennsylvania Turnpike opened in 1940 it spanned 160 miles with 2.4 million annual travelers. Today, it spans 565 miles with 550,000 daily travelers.

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**HUNTER MARTIN**  
DISPATCHER

JEB Environmental Technologies, Inc. is known for their convenience store, gas station, retail and restaurant construction and remodeling work. DHM has completed several hauls for them in the past few years. The most recent being the Midway Travel Plaza project.

Laurie Pettengill, JEB Project Coordinator, shared that "JEB was hired by 7-Eleven to replace the gasoline and diesel facility located at the Midway Travel Plaza on the Pennsylvania Turnpike. Our work included the removal/replacement of the existing underground fuel storage tank system and dispensers." When removing old tanks, there is contaminated soil that must be hauled to a facility for proper remediation.

DHM Dispatcher Hunter Martin said, "We began working with JEB several years ago hauling for them on projects very similar to this one. We were contracted by JEB to haul contaminated soil from the Bedford South Travel Plaza to Clean Earth in Hagerstown, Maryland. This was roughly 125 loads of material. Our drivers hauled two loads each day and were typically done by 1:00. We did a variety of different hauls to finish out their day."

DHM tri-axle drivers Dale Barr and Bob Erwin were two of the drivers who were tasked with hauling the loads. Dale said, "Each haul was approximately 200 miles, and we did two trips a day (400 miles)." When asked what they enjoyed about this job, Dale said, "It was a longer, peaceful haul." Bob added, "The people at JEB were nice to work with and worked well as a team. They loaded the contaminated dirt into our trucks, then we drove to Clean Earth, and repeated the process. I enjoyed the long hauls, the country scenery, and how fast the day goes."

Laurie finished by saying "DHM has been very supportive providing the trucks to keep our projects rolling and flexible when issues arise, and schedule adjustments are needed. We have had the opportunity to work with DHM on several projects over the last couple of years and will continue to call them for assistance when we work near their facility. It is always a pleasure to work with your team – Hunter, Grant and Paula."



ROB SNIVELY - MAY



LYNN EBERLY - JUNE



ANDREW LONG - APRIL





“When Grandpa began the business in 1968, he hauled slate out of a local slate pit that wasn't ours and we paid the owner by the load. We bought what is now known as our Chambersburg Pit in 1990 and permitted it to be a slate quarry. We did this because it would be more cost effective to have our own pit than pay someone else.”

– Kirk Martin, President

Today, DHM owns five slate pits throughout Franklin County where we mine and sell slate fill, cow path slate, driveway slate and shot slate. Owning and managing a slate pit requires meticulous detail to regulations and permits. Grant Benedict, Vice President of Operations, spoke of the men who keep them up to code and running. “The slate pits have been an integral piece of the daily operations of DHM Excavating for over 35 years. As regulations and material demands have evolved over the years, we continually adjust operations as needed. For many years Jeryl Martin worked with mining inspectors, blasters, equipment operators, and truck drivers to extract the material as needed. Currently, Gary Sensenig manages the permitting and reporting processes while Brian Fraker provides the operational oversight. Brian is constantly communicating with equipment operators and truck drivers as well as looking ahead to make sure we are well prepared for upcoming needs. Brian and Gary work together to ensure we are staying within the regulatory guidelines of our mining permits.”

Brian Fraker joined DHM 33 years ago as a hylift operator and has held different positions within the company. When his friend and mentor started having health issues, Brian was asked to dig in and learn the ropes from Jeryl. Brian took a few hours to give me a tour to see what lies underground at the Funk Pit.

When DHM acquires a slate pit, engineers lay out a map of the pit. It is divided into sections with a design for each section. A sedimentation pond is also incorporated into the section to control storm water. The first 12” of topsoil that is removed is placed on a pile and a sign is posted that reads, “SLATE PIT TOPSOIL.” This designation alerts everyone that the pile cannot be sold or used. When finished with that section of land and ready to reclaim it, the topsoil is returned to that specific section. The land is then ready to be used for farming purposes. The second layer is slate fill that can then be sold. We continue by removing the blue shale and then blasting the hard shale when necessary, staying 10’ above the water table. Large pieces of blasted shale are fed into

our crusher where they are broken into smaller pieces, and then pass through a screener for sizing, and then on to the appropriate sized pile. Much like a stone quarry, this screened shale produces a very consistent product.

Brian said, “We try to reuse what we can. We have permission to store clay in our slate pits. Clay is used for sand mounds, ponds, motorcycle BMX tracks, etc. When our projects require trees and brush to be removed it is often taken to the pits where it is ground up for bio mix to be used later in swales and ponds.” Brian's days are never dull. Whether he is loading trucks, moving products around the pits, or dealing with invasive trees and overgrowth, he keeps busy.

As mentioned previously, the land is divided into sections. DHM Lead Surveyor Gary Sensenig is involved in laying out the drilling of those sections for the blasters. Gary said, “As the material is used and more material is needed, the blasters will drill a section to break the shale and make it easier to access. My job is to help the blasters make sure that they are drilling to the right elevation so that we can get the maximum amount of material available to use without wasting explosives, etc. Sometimes there is a need to know how much material was left in the shale pit. I use the drone to take aerial photos to determine the volume of material remaining.”

Gary is also responsible for reporting to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). “Water samples are taken twice a month and tested for various constituents, such as suspended solids and pH. Sometimes they require other items such as iron. The results are then reported to DEP quarterly. At the end of each year, I report to the DEP the amount of material taken out of the shale pit. This information is obtained by the load counts that have been compiled over the year.”

DHM continues to be a leading regional source for slate and topsoil. We know that Brian and Gary will keep the trucks loaded and moving while continuing to protect the environment and area where we live.



“The Summer of 1970, I started working for David H. Martin Excavating. For the first four years, it was just Dad and me. My brother, Jeryl, joined us in 1973. He ran the dozer and I was in the hylift. My most favorite memory during that time was Jeryl and I working together. It always felt like a symphony...like we could read each other's minds. We didn't stop and talk, somehow, we just knew what the other one needed and were there doing it without exchanging a word.”

– Edwin Martin

In June, Edwin reached fifty-five years of service with DHM. It seemed fitting that we talked with Edwin about family, faith, changes, and to reminisce a bit.

You may think that someone working at the same place for 55 years would not have had any other jobs, but that isn't true. At the age of 14, Edwin rode his bike seven miles to his Uncle Leonard's home. Leonard was a carpenter and Edwin helped him by pounding nails. Other jobs included washing dishes at Menno Haven, delivering oil for Diller's Oil, and six months operating an off-road hauler for Brake Excavating. When Edwin started at DHM, he and Judi were newly married and only had one vehicle. Judi would drop him off at his parents early in the morning, drive to her job, then pick him up at the end of the day. He was very thankful when he got a company truck.

Edwin has seen many changes. In the beginning there were three pieces of equipment and his mom, Thelma, took care of the office work. He spent 10-12 hours a day running equipment and then went to look at perspective jobs in the evenings. Judi, Kirk and Jeff would accompany him in the truck. There were no computers to type up estimates. Everything was done with paper, pencil or typewriter.

In 1987 Edwin, Jeryl and David Henry bought the business. Edwin served as President of DHM from 1987 – 2018. In 2011, he was named Business Person of the Year – Greater Chambersburg Chamber of Commerce. Edwin smiles as he recalls receiving the honor. Kirk and Jeff were part of DHM at this time, but it was during those years that Edwin and Judi's grandsons, Hunter and Chase, started spending their

summers learning the excavation business. “Having our sons and grandsons being part of DHM is one of God's blessings in our lives. It is an honor to have them build on our foundation, to be able to enlarge and grow the business. We are so proud of them! It has always been a goal of DHM to serve our community by providing jobs, to make our community a better place to live and raise our families”.

Edwin and Judi have relied heavily on their faith over the years. Excellence and Integrity is the DHM motto. Edwin said, “Both were modeled for us by Jesus when He walked the earth and are taught in our scriptures. We are instructed to love one another and help each other be the best that we can be and to enlarge our God-given gifts.”

While Edwin is no longer running a hylift for 10-hour days or working on estimates, he can be seen during the summer months sifting topsoil for our large customer base. In 2005, Edwin added the topsoil line to DHM, and it has flourished. He is quite proud of the quality product DHM produces. The topsoil piles even have names, Mt. David and Mt. Edwin.

Edwin and Judi miss the challenges of the business world at DHM. However, they are learning to adjust to life's seasons at Menno Haven. You can catch them enjoying a golf cart ride on a summer evening or on a trail along the Conococheague Creek. If you are travelling in the area on a Saturday morning, you may see, or hear, a loud, bright orange 1940 Ford truck. Be sure to wave, it could be Edwin flying by.

With 55 years at DHM under his belt, we had to ask, “What advice do you have for someone who is just starting their career?” Edwin answered, “Find something that you love and do it the best that you can. Show up. Work hard. Live by the standards that God has for us in His word – you will be blessed!”

## FUN FACTS ABOUT EDWIN

- FFA Member
- Owned Horses and Llamas
- Has taken hunting trips on horseback
- Has hunted in PA, WY, CO, UT, GA, IL, WV, Saskatchewan Canada, Hudson Bay Canada, and South Africa
- Hobbies included Golf & Harley Davidson Motorcycles
- Commencement Speaker at Shalom Christian Academy







NEW HIRES

- Ryan Parkes, Pipelayer

Brad Leedy, Equipment Operator (Rehired)

Alex Hughes, Equipment Operator, Utility

Clay Hampton, Equipment Operator, Residential

Justin Ulsh, Laborer, Site

Scott Barkdoll, Utility Foreman

Ryver Marpoe, Driver

Chris Jones, Laborer, Utility

Zaen Miller, Estimator
- Matt Harbaugh, Driver, Environmental

Jason Braithwaite, Equipment Operator, Site

Riley Snyder, Laborer, Environmental (Rehired)

Noah McMath, Laborer, Utility

Elijah Shore, Laborer, Utility

Lonnie Esswein, Equipment Operator, Site

George Baker, Buggyman, Site

Matthew Kackley, Buggyman, Site

Adam Cornell, Laborer, Site

ELEVATING THE GRADE

- Travis Carbaugh, Utility Crew Manager

Britton Osman, Lead Person
- Sam Mummert, Project Coordinator, Residential

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Shawn and Kelsey Halteman  
welcomed their third child, son, Winston

Colby Newton and Kenna Badorf  
welcomed their second child, son, Cooper
- Tommy and Jamie Rayhart  
welcomed their first child, daughter, Chesney

Tucker and Cassandra Hess  
welcomed their second child, daughter, Madelyn

WEDDINGS

- Bob Wible and Laila Bunker, June 17

Brandon and Emily Martin, June 21
- Robert Tedrick – 4/11/94 – 6/13/25

DHM is a Workforce Partner with the Franklin County Career and Technology Center. Harrison Benedict, a diesel mechanics student, began a work co-op with DHM in January. Harrison shared what piqued his interest in diesel mechanics. "Growing up, I was always around farm machinery and heavy-duty equipment, and I enjoyed learning about how they work. A few years ago, I realized it was in my best interest to enroll in the Diesel Mechanics program at FCCTC to further my knowledge. That decision is what ultimately led me to pursue a career as a diesel mechanic."

Kevin Grove was Harrison's instructor and Kevin had this to say this about his student, "Harrison has been a joy to work with. He always has a positive attitude and doesn't stray away from difficult tasks. Harrison is also quick to help others if they are struggling on a task. I know he will be successful in whatever the future holds for him." When asked how the Career Tech prepared him for his future vocation, Harrison said, "Career Tech did an excellent job of preparing me for the workforce and life after school by providing real-world training and practical knowledge in this field. So far, my experience working at DHM has been just as great as I expected."

Marty Rachilla, Shop Manager, was pleased to announce that, "Now that Harrison has graduated high school and the Franklin County Career Tech, he is a full-time employee. We are excited to have him on board. He has been doing a great job working with the other mechanics while on co-op. He has purchased his own toolbox and is working on filling it up. We will be using him in all departments from trucks, equipment, parts room, to topsoil. We are glad to have him here."



HARRISON BENEDICT

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.

APRIL 2025



ELVIN ROBLES  
Driver



JAY CHRISTOPHEL  
Equipment Operator



JEREMY HESSONG  
Environmental Foreman

MAY 2025



HUNTER MARTIN  
Dispatcher



KEN HARBAUGH  
Project Coordinator



REGINA HISSONG  
CHAR VINK  
BRENDA BEATTIE  
HR Department



MARSHA MYERS  
Front Desk Assistant



MILES STANDISH  
Driver

JUNE 2025



SHAWN MOWEN  
Estimator



TRAVIS MINIUM  
Leadman



HUNTER RHOE  
Equipment Operator



BRYAN BROWN  
Assistant Superintendent