

"We look at a project and see what needs accomplished, then put the guys on that project that will work well with that customer but will also do best at the particular type of work that is required. We see them interact and perform well while leaving a great product for the customer. To have a customer happy at the end of the project is what is satisfying for me."

**BRAD KUHNS**  
VP OF RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Residential Division of DHM has dug thousands of foundations over the past 57 years. Our growing Environmental Division offers builders and homeowners a precisely dug foundation, erosion & sediment control, landscaping, retaining walls, etc. In this article, you will meet two homeowners along with their builders who relied on DHM to set the foundation and landscape of their dream homes.

meaningful relationships with the clients and their homes. We have a level of trust with them that sometimes can be hard to find in this industry. They are incredibly personable and treat each client and jobsite with the utmost respect."

DHM's scope of work for this job was lengthy, but Joe had faith in the DHM team. "Brad and Matt (DHM Project Coordinator) excel at envisioning the finished project even before the lot is cleared, ensuring a seamless and well-planned construction process."

What is involved in preparing a wooded lot for a future home? Brad shared with us the requirements for the Stuekerjuergen's home. "First, there is the job visit with the builder and then budgetary pricing is given to them. Once that is approved, we are ready to move forward completing the scope of work." DHM was responsible for the following:

- Call Miss Utility to mark underground utility lines
- Installation of 12" silt sock and stabilization of topsoil stockpile
- Remove stumps and brush, haul off the lot
- Furnish and machine place slate and stone for installation of driveway
- Cut the lot to subgrade and haul all material off the lot
- Excavate basement foundation and footers for new home
- Import and place 2b stone on foundation drain, furnish and place fabric on those 2b stone
- Backfill foundation
- Import and place slate and stone in garage, porch, and sidewalk areas for under concrete slabs
- Excavate and install 3/4" water line from the house to the on lot lateral
- Excavate and install 4" sewer line from the house to the on lot lateral
- Excavate and backfill for electric, telephone, and cable conduit piping from the house to the on lot lateral
- Excavate and backfill for gas line service to the house
- Excavate, furnish and install piping for underground sump pump line and underground down spouts
- Replace stockpiled topsoil on the lot
- Prep and seed the yard (Rob Snively, DHM Environmental



**Carl & Rita Stuekerjuergen**  
**Musser Home Builders**

Looking for a quiet, retirement friendly community, Carl and Rita Stuekerjuergen chose Franklin County and the Penn National Community. The Stuekerjuergen's said, "Our lot offered us the privacy of having the State Forest directly behind us and an unobstructed view to the west. It also provided us a place reasonably close to Northern Virginia where our kids still live."

For the Stuekerjuergen's, it was Musser Home Builders who checked off the boxes in what they wanted for a builder. "We were impressed by the quality of Musser's work and their unique process of detailing everything about the build design up-front before building – providing us real confidence in getting exactly what we wanted in the end."

Musser Home Builders have been renovating and building additions and custom homes since 1972. Joe Tuschak, Construction Operations Officer, was asked about the relationship with DHM's residential team, "DHM not only aligns perfectly with our core value, but they also build



TOMMY RAYHART - MARCH



SAM MUMMERT - FEBRUARY



DICK HOFFMAN - JANUARY





- Superintendent helped to oversee this work)
- Furnish and install Allan Block retaining wall, patio, and steps in the backyard to help with the steep slope up to the rear property line (Lynn Martin, DHM Environmental Manager and Rob helped to oversee this part of the project)

Brad said, "The elevation of the house was a question from the beginning. The existing lot was pretty high in elevation and the house could not sit that high. We had to have some discussion as to what elevation to sit the home." Joe added, "Whenever a challenge arises, they are not only an invaluable source of information, but they are also right there beside you, working together to find a solution. Their commitment to excellence and integrity in providing excavation and utility work is truly unparalleled."

Carl and Rita excitedly watched the process as they visited their future homesite every two weeks. They said, "The opportunity afforded us in asking detailed questions and participating in the process of tweaking final changes as the build progressed."

A favorite spot of Carl and Rita's new home is the firepit/patio area. They were pleased with how quickly and readily the residential and environmental teams understood what they were trying to accomplish. "We wanted to recapture flatter backyard area while burying downspouts to eliminate issues with water drainage. By doing so, they could add a beautiful backyard hardscape to accommodate a fire pit while providing access to the State Park trail. The DHM foreman was excellent to work with. He designed and built the terrace patio/stairs and retaining wall exactly as we imagined it."

Brad wrapped up by adding, "Carl and Rita were pleasant, kind and very nice to talk with when there were job meetings. As always, Musser Home Builders had the project very well planned and scheduled before we even moved one scoop of ground. They gave us plenty of notice in advance, so we knew when to be on site to perform our tasks." Looking to the future, Joe said, "DHM plays a crucial role in every custom home and addition we build. They will also be taking on more of our surveying tasks for new homes, ensuring continued precision and quality from the ground up."

**Allan and Karen Mummert**  
**Bryan L. Hey Builder Inc.**

"It's common for companies to have logos on letterhead or their equipment like 'Excellence and Integrity', but for DHM, we found their people and performance to actually practice that motto." - Allan and Karen Mummert. The Mummert's relationship to DHM is a personal one – family. Their two sons are part of our DHM family. Micah is a dump truck driver, and Sam operates a 953 hylift for the residential team. Allan and Karen shared, "We have two sons working at DHM and

"I was off work that day, due to snow. After dinner I went down to the garage to have a cigarette. My wife came down a bit later and I told her 'I think I'm having a heart attack'"

– Terry McCarney, DHM Truck Driver

A snowy day on January 8, 2024, would forever change Terry. He was willing to share his story and the journey that he and his wife, Wanda, had been on.

After being in the garage, Terry went upstairs as he started to get pains down the left side of his ribcage. Once upstairs, he collapsed in the hallway, he got up, went to the bedroom and collapsed again. Wanda called 911. Terry said, "She kept talking and praying over me, until the medics got there." When they arrived, they quickly put Terry on a stretcher and took him to the ambulance. Terry having a love for motorcycles and cars remembers, "hearing the sirens and the four barrel kicking in. I thought to myself, wow, this must be the real deal!" Terry was rushed to Chambersburg Hospital with Wanda following close behind. He remembers being taken into a room with a lot of people and they kept saying his name over and over while telling him to "stay with us". He was also told they would be doing a lot of things to him in a short amount of time. That is the last thing he remembers before being taken to the operating room where two stents were inserted in his heart.

Terry said, "I was told when I was in the operating room, I went into AFib. They said I flatlined and I died for 7 ½ minutes. They shocked me

nine times to bring me back to life." After that Terry was flown to York Hospital. He remained on life support for 24 hours. Terry said, "They took my tube out and I could breathe on my own. What a miracle!"

Terry was released from the hospital on January 15, 2024, just one week after his heart attack. He was sent home with several medications and to rest. He said, "They wanted my heart to get strong again so they could do open-heart surgery. I had to wear a Life Vest 24/7 until the next operation." After successful open-heart surgery on March 11, he was released a week later. Terry quickly gives credit to the wonderful doctors and nurses in York. After lots of rest and TLC from Wanda, Terry returned to DHM and driving the big, brown dump truck in June of that year.

When asked if he had anyone he wanted to thank, he said, "I would like to thank Wanda for being there for me. She was my caretaker through all of this. A shout out to the EMT drivers and all the doctors for not giving up on me. When my Life Vest wasn't approved by insurance, Char in HR fought the insurance to get my vest – thank you so much! I also want to thank DHM for all the prayers and support in such a difficult time."

After going through something like that, it seemed fair to ask, "What words of advice do you have for your friends and co-workers?" Terry replied, "Live every day like it is your last, because I know that it could be. If you smoke, you need to quit! That is what put me where I was. I quit smoking cigarettes to this day, and I thank God every day that I am here." Terry, thank you for sharing your story with us. DHM is thankful that you are still here too!



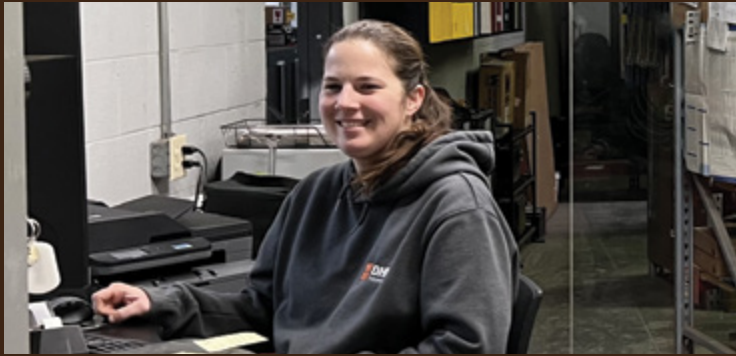


Big changes have taken place in the shop. As DHM has grown over the years, so has the need for an increased inventory of parts. In the past, parts and inventory were not as organized as we would have liked them to be. To fix the issue, we began a project last fall to gain better control over the inventory by extending the parts room and putting everything in one central location.

Sam Armakovitch climbed out of the DHM dump truck to take over the position of Parts & Inventory Manager in November. She had quite a challenge organizing the new parts room while keeping up with her daily duties. According to Shop Manager, Marty Rachilla, "Sam is responsible for all of the inventory that we keep and the amount in stock that comes in from outside vendors. Parts can vary from small bolts, washers, tape, hand cleaners, air fresheners, excavator teeth, cutting edges, dump truck brake drums, hydraulic cylinders to under carriages, etc. She deals with many employees and vendors alike and she is doing a great job."

Marty also explained what is involved when a mechanic needs a part. "The process of ordering parts involves several steps. Mechanics turn in a form for parts needed to complete the repairs in the shop and in the field. This request can involve many vendors. As those parts come in, they need to be entered into the computer system. As the parts are needed, they must go on a work order before leaving the parts room. Sam handles this for 10 mechanics every day."

Former Parts & Inventory Manager, Branden Rowe, has moved into the position of Assistant Shop Manager. Marty's office has been extended to make space for Branden. Marty said, "Branden's role is to oversee the parts department while helping me with scheduling and organizing the mechanics workload. He helps with the I-reports that are turned in daily by entering them into Dossier. We also cover for one another when one of us is off." Marty added, "Since Brandon has come to the shop, he has helped greatly with getting the parts room addition constructed and parts relocated, all while making changes in the computer and assisting Sam in learning her new job duties. Moving Branden over to the service side has helped me greatly with my tasks."



a new neighbor with sons that work there. We wanted our project's money to support the family and their employer."

The Mummerts selected Bryan L. Hey Builder Inc. as their contractor. They have been a family-owned business since 1995 with DHM completing their site work since 1996. Bryan said, "I appreciate the DHM team being well scheduled and organized. We have a great relationship with each of their team members. They have the resources to make the job happen in a timely manner and always bring professionalism to the job." For Bryan it is a "priority to give our customers the custom home building experience. We give attention to every detail and help them achieve their goals in home construction." DHM's scope of work for the Mummert job was very similar to the Stuekerjuergen job.

Allan and Karen lived near the property and shared their feelings with us on watching it unfold. "The opening week of groundbreaking in March was awesome. Brad honored our request to have our sons working on the project with Sam running the hylift and Micah doing the triaxle truck work. The boys demonstrated great professionalism in preparing the site for building. As they took out all the tree stumps while bringing the slate for the driveway was efficiency in action with each trip. Sam did well in grading the lot to meet township requirements along with those of the building contractor."

Matt Hultin oversaw the installation of the sewer line, well line, and electric conduits. Matt said, "We installed a tank to house grinder pump to take the sewage from the house up to the sewer main at the road where we had to tie into the 8" sewer main line under the shoulder of the road. Allan was very easy to work with and was interested in the details and set up of the grinder pump." Allan recalled a time shortly before they moved in when an alarm light was on at the grinder pump/pit. He said, "Within a few hours of a phone call, Matt was onsite to assess the problem and had it resolved quickly."

One thing Allan and Karen were not sure about was the required storm water management pond. Brad and Sam talked through it with them as to what it would look like once completed. Allan said, "After seeing the way everything was excavated to control ground water movement on the property, I am pleased with how everything turned out and actually see the value in the procedure."

Allan commended the Environmental Division as well. "Lynn Martin was helpful in getting the 21 plantings designed and planted with attention to getting us quality plants. He stood by his word and replaced the one plant that had died seven months after the planting, even though we had diligently kept them hydrated. The project was closing down in the Fall, it was great to have the lawn hydroseeded in time for growth before winter set in." When Sam and Micah were younger, they operated a lawn mowing business with their mom, Karen. Now, Karen will have a yard to mow that her sons had a part in creating. DHM wishes Carl and Rita, Allan and Karen many wonderful years in their new homes.



Photos courtesy of Santiago Marquez and Sam Mummert



NEW HIRES

Harrison Benedict, Mechanic, Co-op Student  
Jake Brake, Mobile Mechanic  
David Watson, Driller  
Devon Covert, Equipment Operator, Utility

Shade Smith, Equipment Operator, Utility (Rehired)  
Eduardo Orantes-Urbano, Laborer, Environmental  
Leyo Duarte Magana, Laborer, Environmental

ELEVATING THE GRADE

Trent Christophel, Mobile Mechanic  
Jeff Mays, Superintendent  
Jon-Luc Hailey, Lead Blaster

Jeb Newman, Utility Foreman  
Brandon Lambert, Fuel Truck Driver

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hunter & Amber Carbaugh  
welcomed their fifth child, son, Harlan

RETIREMENTS

Greg Wengert – 9/1/09 - 2/14/25

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.

JANUARY 2025



GARY WAITE  
Driver



JARRETT MORRISON  
Asst. Superintendent



LANE BRUNNER  
Equipment Operator

FEBRUARY 2025



ANDY YOCUM  
Fuel Truck Driver



KELLY KRAMER  
Safety Director

MARCH 2025



BRADLEE SHEAFFER  
Laborer



CALEB JOHNSON  
Mechanic



JOSH ERWIN  
Utility Crew Manager



DHM  
EMPLOYEE  
PICNIC

Mark your calendar for the DHM Summer Picnic. We have a new location – Cove Valley Camp in Mercersburg PA. We are planning a fun day in the mountains with lots of activities and delicious food.

Plan to join us on Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.