



Roofing & Construction

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Roofing & Construction Company Celebrates 31st Anniversary

Port Townsend, WA – April 21, 2008—In the summer of 1971, Jim and Marsha Eades left the big city of Seattle and hitchhiked to the Olympic Peninsula. Seeking a rural life, the couple spent the next two years living “off the grid” in a 100 year-old cabin in the woods.

Today, the Eades are celebrating the completion of 30 years in business as *Hope Roofing & Construction*, a family-owned operation with 25 employees and offices in Port Townsend and Poulsbo. These children of the 70’s have come a long way.

“We had no electricity, no running water,” remembers Marsha. “Our oldest son, Aaron, was born in the cabin, and delivered by Jim. It was a meager time, but we managed to get by and felt lucky to have found such a beautiful place to live and a great circle of friends.”

After a long, dark winter, cabin life began to lose its luster, and in the spring of 1974, the Eades moved into the “colorful” house on Van Ness Street.

“It was during those years that we really began to put down roots in this community” said Marsha. She and Jim are original members of the Food Co-op and ran the Proctor house from 1995-2000. In 1999, they were named Port Townsend citizens of the year.

Formerly a metal sculpture artist, Jim Eades began his construction career with Evergreen Roofing.

“I worked with Evergreen for about four years and then started T & J Roofing with Tim Thomas,” Jim said. “In 1977, Tim and I parted ways, and Hope was born.”

Because the economy at the time was slow, Jim picked up side jobs working as a welder for Thermionics, laying hardwood floors with Sound Hardwood Flooring and small construction projects.

The Hope name became synonymous with roofing; however, Hope Construction actually got its start in 1976 with HUD remodel projects.

“We’ve worked construction all along, but roofing was our primary source of business from about 1987 to 1998,” Jim said. “We were still building during that time, and built a couple of homes, but most of the projects were limited to skylights and smaller remodeling projects.”

It was in 1998, that the company started to undergo exciting changes.

“A friend gave me a copy of ‘The E-Myth’, by Michael Gerber—which was instrumental in changing the structure of Hope,” Jim said. “To excel, you need to rely on the talents of others.”

Jim also hired current lead estimator, Steve Ford, a new crew, and brought in sons Aaron, Joab and Zach. Aaron and Joab head up roofing in Kitsap and Zach manages construction.

By 2001, the Hope office had a new location, showroom and workshop on Louisa Street, across from Glen Cove in Port Townsend. Jim and Marsha hired additional office staff, and in 2006, sons Aaron and Joab opened the Poulsbo office.

“We had worked in the Kitsap area for twenty years,” Aaron said. “It made a lot of sense to have an office and showroom there as well.”

In 2006, Hope also broke ground on the Louisa Street Estates, a twenty-eight home development located just outside Port Townsend city limits.

“The Louisa Street development is our largest project to date,” said Zach. “We’ve built eight homes, with two in the process, and we plan to further expand the development in the future. Louisa is a great place for young families and people looking to retire in a friendly neighborhood. It’s surrounded by woods, but still close to town.”

Today, *Hope Roofing & Construction* is a tight knit group. Jim and Marsha Eades have created a company whose guiding principles focus on core values. As Jim says, it’s all about “how we treat each other, how we interact with our customers, and how we hold each other and ourselves accountable.”

Employee, Patty Norman, relates a story that sums up the Hope experience: “I’ve told my daughter, you’re never going to find the perfect place to work, where everyone gets along and enjoys their job - unless you’re me. You just can’t ask for better people to work for.”

In late May, the Eades celebrate the start of their 31st year with an open house at the at the Louisa Street location. Hope will also take part in the Jefferson County Home Show on May 3rd and 4th.

Established in 1977, *Hope Roofing and Construction* has built a reputation as one of Jefferson and Kitsap counties most trust-worthy and quality-oriented roofing companies. The company is a true reflection of the character of its owners, Jim & Marsha Eades, who share faith in the fruits of hard work, honesty and doing the job right.

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If you'd like more information, or to schedule an interview with Jim or Marsha, please call Hope at 360-385-5653 or e-mail info@hoperoofing.com.