

Bringing People Together...

D A R I E N

N E I G H B O R S

JUNE 2020

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Post 53

**The Front Steps
Project**

STAYING POWER:
THE FLAHERTY FAMILY



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Cover photo by Bambi Riegel
for the Front Steps Project
Pictured on the steps of Darien High School



Perfection By the Yard

BY PAMELA DEY VOSSLER

The property in Greenwich for which Hoffman Landscapes won the 2019 Judges Award for property maintenance from the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP), the highest Award of Excellence the NALP bestows

If the grass is always greener on the other side, chances are Hoffman Landscapes is on the job. With their help, anyone can have the greenest grass around ...and gardens and landscapes and yards that are as breathtaking from every angle as they are a catalyst for the lifestyle and needs of each owner.

From landscape architecture and outdoor construction to comprehensive property care, Hoffman Landscapes does it all ...and they have been doing it for more than 30 years, winning multiple local and national awards for their designs.

Owner Mike Hoffman started the business in 1987 as a way to put himself through college at the University of Connecticut and Clemson University where he studied civil engineering and finance.

He committed to it full time after college. The company, which now serves Fairfield, Westchester and Litchfield Counties, has grown every year since inception.

"We have become a destination for customers seeking the most qualified and professional company to partner with for their vision and care of their landscape," said Mike.

Testifying to his dedication to excellence, Mike became a Certified Landscape Professional in 2000, having demonstrated expert knowledge in all phases of horticulture and landscape management. Mike is also a CT-licensed Swimming Pool Builder, a CT SP-1 Spa and Pool Contractor, an APSP-Certified Building Professional, APSP-Certified Maintenance Specialist and an APSP-Certified Service Technician.

His staff of more than 150 dedicated employees mirrors his high standards.

"We hire them for their specialized expertise and support them in their ongoing professional development. As a result, we have exceedingly low turnover, while providing the finest level of service and commitment to our customers," said Mike. "Hoffman Landscapes has become a destination for landscape industry experts looking for a company that offers a true, long

term career opportunity," he added.

"I like the people that I work with. Not everyone can honestly say that, but I can. My interactions with coworkers and customers, and the opportunity to help them overcome challenges, are my greatest sources of inspiration," he continued.

Award-winning as their stunning gardens, stone walls, outdoor kitchens, swimming pools and other designs may be, Hoffman Landscapes also provides conscientious, proactive year-round maintenance including lawn and garden care, snow removal, spraying for ticks, irrigation services and more.

Hoffman Landscapes is driven by an allegiance to customers to "Do what we say we are going to do," said Mike. "When we make a promise, we keep it," he said adamantly. "We stand behind our work. We offer a lifetime warranty on plantings and on our swimming pools," he continued. "We also treat every customer like they are our only customer. We believe in giving our personal attention to every matter. There is no such thing as over communicating," he said.

The two pages of customer testimonials on the Hoffman Landscapes website provide a taste of just how well they live into these mantras. There's little they won't do to make a customer happy.

"We planted an orchard recently for a customer with young children. We could tell from the excitement that the kids were looking forward to big apples, pears and peaches," explained Mike who, with his crew, snuck back early to tie fruit into the trees on the day the kids would see the completed orchard. "There was quite a bit of excitement later that morning," he recalled, smiling.

For Mike, who lives in Redding with his wife Sandy where they raised three children—Dan, who is in his last year of grad school at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon, Matt, a graduate of the Maine Maritime Academy who is a Subsea



Hoffman Landscapes offers a wide range of outdoor construction including this unique ash granite gas-powered fire pit

Engineer for Seadrill Americas, and Heidi, who is entering her sophomore year as a nursing student at Belmont University in Nashville—gratitude rules the day.

"The pandemic situation is certainly top of mind at the moment," said Mike. "I wake up every day and think about how grateful I am to our customers who have chosen to continue their work with us, in spite of the challenges we have all faced during this pandemic. We were dedicated before, but this has been a great source of inspiration for us during the past two months. This unique situation has also given me the opportunity to reconnect with other business owners, including those in the landscape industry. I am thankful for all of the emails and phone calls and the opportunity to talk through our challenges together," he concluded.

For more information about Hoffman Landscapes, visit hoffmanlandscapes.com or email info@hoffmanlandscapes.com.

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