## FEBRUARY 2024 Women of Asphalt Spotlight

WEST VIRGINIA BRANCH





"If you don't like the road you're on, start paving another one." -Dolly Parton

## **MEET ELIZABETH DEAN**

Elizabeth was born into this industry. She is the daughter of Daron and Lisa Dean, owners of Blacktop Industries. She didn't start on a paving crew until 2017, at 16 years old, but hasn't stopped since. Prior to that, she had run a paver, roller and a grader for a science fair project pertaining to asphalt with RAP, vs. asphalt without RAP and how it holds up. This project took her to the regional competition where she won the Yale Engineering award, and then the state competition. From 2017-2019, Elizabeth worked part time on the crew, filling in as needed. In 2019, she did her first complete handwork job, and did not enjoy the experience. That's when she knew she wanted to be an operator. She started working full time on the crew as a laborer, shoveling and raking. She started at Marshall University in 2018 and continued working throughout graduation in 2021. She even took her last final for Marshall on the paver in Logan, WV. Her favorite position on the crew is running the paver, but this year she started splitting her time, helping out with all of the administrative duties required for running a company. Her future plans are to take over running Blacktop Industries and American Asphalt. Her dream is to continue to grow the business, reaching in to more states. Being third generation in the asphalt business. She just wants to make her Dad and late Grandad proud.

In her personal time, Elizabeth loves crafting, crocheting, painting and making gemstones. She has a little gemstone business called <u>Ellie May Rocks</u> that has some beautiful pieces. This passion came from her dad that always brought her cool little rocks from jobsites and now she does the same. **Thank you Elizabeth for representing Women of Asphalt WV so well in the field!** 

WOULD YOU LIKE TO NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR OUR NEXT ISSUE? PLEASE SEND TO

WOFA@ASPHALTWV.COM

VOLUME 3

UPCOMING EVENTS & NEWS

Please wear PINK

on March 27th for WOMEN OF ASPHALT DAY

& send a picture in to wofa@asphaltwv.com to be posted on our social media pages!!

Come see us at the APA WV Paving Conference on February 28th

Join us at booth #203 at the WV Construction & Design Expo, March 20th & 21st!





## March 27th, 2024 Women of Asphalt Day

This year we celebrate the first ever Women of Asphalt Day. Help the West Virginia Women of Asphalt celebrate by wearing pink on the job site and office. Snap a picture in pink and send to WOFA@asphaltwv.com