

# Lydic promoted to senior VP for finance at HEPY

John R. Lydic has been named senior vice president, director of finance and controller at Harley Ellington Pierce Yee Associates, Southfield.

A Rochester Hills resident, he is responsible for the company's financial operations, insurance programs and human resource management. He has been with HEPY since 1978 and most recently served as vice president and controller.

HEPY is the fourth largest architectural/engineering firm in the state.



John R. Lydic

Richard P. Joy III has joined the Bloomfield Hills commercial realty firm of McNabney & Associates as an associate broker. He will be specializing in commercial investment brokerage, property acquisition and consultation in metro Detroit.

Holtzman & Silverman Securities, the financing affiliate of the Holtzman & Silverman Cos. of Farmington Hills, has promoted Cheryl M. Guldenstein to vice president. She previously has been assistant vice president there.

An architecture and engineering career fair will be held April 2 presented by the Student Engineer's Council of ESD - the Engineering Society - at Cobo Convention Center.

Employers will be on hand to discuss employment opportunities with young professionals, recent college graduates and college seniors.

ESD members will be admitted free, while non-members will pay \$5 to attend. For more information, call Phil Komar at 832-5400.

Two five-week courses on blue-

print reading will be sponsored by the Builders' Association of Southeastern Michigan. Session I, blueprint reading for construction, will be held on the five Tuesdays of March. It will focus on reading and interpreting residential drawings, utilizing standard dimensional techniques, symbols, notes and methodologies.

Session II, blueprint readings, national construction estimator, will be taught Tuesdays, April 7, 14, 28, and May 5 and 12. It will emphasize task breakdown, unit pricing, and cost ad-

justments from a personalized data-

Students will receive certificates upon completion of all five sessions and a passing grade on the final exam. Sessions will be held 6-9 p.m. at the BASM board room, 30375 Northwestern Highway between 13 Mile and Inkster in Farmington Hills. Fees are \$125 for BASM members, \$225 for non-members and includes all course materials.

For registration information, call 737-4477 or 641-0400.

## Improvisation: a handyman's friend in time of need

AP— The difference between someone who really handy around the home and shop and one who is not lies in knowing how to solve minor problems quickly and effectively.

Here are some tips that can help you out in a tight spot:

• Need to bore a hole in wood for which you do not have the correct diameter spade bit?

You can easily make one from the next larger size bit. Adjust the tool rest on a bench grinder to maintain the same angle as the edge of the bit. Carefully align marking tapes on the bit to guide the grinding. Grind slowly, taking a little off each side and taking care not to overheat the bit and drawing the temper from the steel. When it gets hot to the touch, dip it in water to cool it. Bore trial holes in scrap wood to check progress and get a perfect fit.

• When nailing from the edge opposite a finished surface, don't pick nails directly out of the box.

All too often, over- and under-sized nails will be mixed in with those of proper size even in a brand new box. An oversize nail could break through the good surface. Spread a few nails on your workbench and then select the good ones from among them. Wrong sizes, uncut points and other defects will show up. In a random sampling, we

found five out of 13 from one box were over-size or defective.

• Drawing a straight line parallel to the edge of a board without having the pencil slip becomes simple if you file a tiny nick in the blade edge of your combination square.

File the notch in the center of the blade end just deep enough to keep the pencil point from slipping as you move the square along the board.

When marking, hold the pencil at an angle with the point facing towards the square. Keep it steady because changing the angle will cause the line to waver.

• Spreading glue can be messy work.

Plastic applicators designed to apply auto body filler make it easy and neat. They spread wood glue over wide areas quickly. The feathered edge lays on glue smoothly. What's more, cleanup is literally a snap. Let the glue dry on the applicator and then flex it to pop off the hardened glue. Auto stores sell these applicators in sets of three for about \$2.

• When sharpening the teeth of a hand or circular saw blade, smoke them with a candle.

Pass the flame quickly along the edge of the blade so the smoke blackens the teeth. Do not pause in any one place to avoid overheating and possibly drawing the temper

from the steel. As you file each tooth, the steel between shiny and smoked steel shows your progress.

• Boring a hole exactly where you want it in a piece of wood requires a lot of blowing to keep chips from obscuring your guide marks.

Save your breath and make a fan to blow them away when using soft wood like clear pine, cedar or redwood, you can avoid having to sand out places where pencil marks crushed the surface fibers by using soft chalk instead.

Then, a damp cloth removes the marks for final finishing and there are no dents in the soft surface to show through the paint or stain.

• You can turn a bench-type jig-saw into a power sander by screwing a hanger bolt into one end of a sanding block and mounting it in the lower chuck of the saw. This easy-to-make attachment consists of a block of soft wood measuring 1/2 x 1/2 x 3 inches with the wood-screw threads of the hanger bolt screwed into the center of the end grain. Bore a hole in the block so that the 1/4 x 2-inch

hanger bolt won't split the block. Then, using a hand or power drill, bore a coarse abrasive paper to one side and fine to the other. Or, use adhesive-backed paper like 3M's Pres'n Sand.

Clamp the protruding machine screw threads of the hanger bolt into the lower chuck of the saw. Different shaped blocks can be made to smooth specific workpieces. Turning on the saw will move the sanding block rapidly up and down to smooth the edges of a workpiece held on the saw table.

• You can prevent hammer dimples, often called Owl's Eyes, when nailing on soft wood by making a protective shield from one-eighth-inch thick plastic laminate. Cut the spoon-shaped shield so it has a 6-inch-long by 1/4-inch-wide handle with a 1/4-inch-diameter "bowl" on the end. Bore a 1/8-inch hole in the center of this round "bowl" of the spoon.

To use the shield, start the nail

and then place the shield over the head of the nail. Hold the shield flat against the surface of the wood with your fingers out of the way of the hammer. Drive the nail in until it's flush with the surface of the laminate shield. Then remove the shield and drive the projecting nailhead flush with or below the surface with a nailset.

• To make one wide board by edge-gluing two narrow ones, the mating edges must be perfectly true. Dressed lumber rarely has edges accurate enough for joining. But by using a portable circular saw, you can make the edges fit precisely.

Clamp both boards with their edges slightly butted together to the top of a pair of sawhorses. Clamp a metal straightedge as a guide so the saw kerf falls exactly on the joint between the two boards. Make the cut

precisely, adjust the boards in the clamps and make a second or third cut to close the gap. The result will be two straight and true mating edges that will produce a virtually invisible joint.

• Mounting a piano-type hinge on the edge of a piece of plywood can be tricky because the drill bit for the mounting screw holes can easily be deflected by a glue joint or a tough knot. Solve this problem by nailing a 1 1/2-inch thick pine reinforcement strip to the edge of the plywood. Punch the center marks and bore the holes through the strip. It will support the drill bit and keep it straight. Remove the guide strip before installing the hinge. This technique also works for installing hinges on other delicate surfaces where a slip might mar the finish.

## Planners look at growth

A new advanced training program, Preparing a Growth Management Plan, will be offered April 8 at the Sheraton Oaks, Novi, by the Michigan Society of Planning Officials.

It will explain the planning process used to prepare or update an existing master/comprehensive plan with a major emphasis on a growth management program for communi-

ties that are experiencing or anticipating accelerated growth.

The training materials are based on research initiated by the Inter-governmental Growth Management Consortium that includes Independence, Oakland, Waterford and West Bloomfield townships, the city of Rochester Hills, Meridian Township and Leelanau County.

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