

CRMC okays expedited permitting for Fortified Homes™

By Paul F. Eno *Editor*

Dwellings built to at least the “bronze” standard of the Fortified Homes™ program are now eligible for expedited permitting – no more than five days -- thanks to rule changes the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) has approved after input by the Rhode Island Builders Association.

“We’ve been developing a lot of information to look at our long-term risk in coastal areas. That involves things like sea-level rise and coastal storm events,” CRMC Executive Director Grover Fugate said as he

addressed the RIBA Board of Directors on November 1st. *Story on page 6.*

“We find that the Fortified Homes standards will strengthen structures, help our economy because businesses will realize that we are prepared for the future risks along the coast, and they will bring more work for the residential construction industry,” he added.

The regulatory changes have been approved by the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR) and have been filed with the Office of the Secretary of State.

The amendments expedite CRMC permit-review

see EXPEDITED ...page 29

FEATURED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

Center Section

Rhode Island Home Show is now...

The Rhode Island Home Show is now the Rhode Island Home, Garden & Flower Show, with greater marketing opportunities than ever for you!

Page 11

Take advantage of the Member Rebate Program!

Earn enough money back to cover your annual RIBA dues through the Member Rebate Program. Get rebates for products you use every day.

Page 12

Fugate explains coastal issues

Grover Fugate, Coastal Resources Management Council chief, tackles coastal construction issues in an in-depth interview.

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Trump and housing

The National Association of Home Builders outlines what the new president has to do to improve the housing market.

Page 2

RIBA brings back Member Christmas Party!

Join your fellow members for an evening of dining, dancing and networking as the Rhode Island Builders Association brings back a great tradition: The Annual Member Christmas Party! *See page 12 for details.*

WHEN: Thursday, December 15th, 6:30 p.m. to whenever.

WHERE: Quidnessett Country Club, 950 North Quidnessett Rd., North Kingstown

COST: \$20 for the first 100 members, their employees and spouses, \$52 per person thereafter. Registration and pre-payment required.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER and PRE-PAY: December 1st

FOR INFORMATION & TO REGISTER: Contact Elizabeth Carpenter at (401) 438-7400 or ecarpenter@ribuilders.org.



Home Show 'treehouse' gets new home

Under the guidance of their instructors and Rhode Island Builders Association contractors, hundreds of students from nearly all Rhode Island career and technical education (CTE) programs reassembled the Ultimate Solar Treehouse, from the 2016 Rhode Island Home Show, at the Boys and Girls Club of Providence in October. See pages 7 and 8.



NAHB: Trump, new Congress must reduce regulation, protect small business

By Jim Tobin

National Association of Home Builders

One of the most divisive election campaigns in our nation's history is finally over. Defying pollsters and election prognosticators, the Republicans, now led by President-elect Donald J. Trump, will control the White House and both houses of Congress for the first time since 2005-2006.

While the House was predicted to remain in GOP hands, the fate of the Republicans' four-vote majority in the Senate had been very much in doubt. Despite the unbalanced Senate map, the GOP held on to its majority by at least two seats.

Still, judging by the electoral vote, the nation remains deeply divided. Lacking a 60-vote, veto-proof super majority in the Senate, Republicans will have to work with

the Democratic minority to advance their legislative agenda.

For the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB), this presents great opportunities. Our association has a long-standing tradition of reaching out to both sides of the political aisle to work on important housing issues that affect the livelihood of our members and millions of households across the land.

When the new Trump administration celebrates its inaugural and members of the 115th Congress convene in Washington early next year, we know there will be plenty of unfinished housing business, and we plan on being there to make sure they get the job done.

We need to reduce the costly burden of excessive government regulation. We need to ensure that any tax-reform efforts protect small businesses and recognize the importance of vital housing tax incentives such as the mortgage interest deduction and the Low Income Housing Tax Credit.

Ease credit

We need to ease tight credit conditions for home buyers and ensure that small businesses can get loans. We need to advance comprehensive housing finance reform



JIM TOBIN

with the federal government acting as a backstop in times of crisis to protect the 30-year mortgage and bring private capital back into the marketplace.

During this campaign, NAHB took unprecedented steps to elect pro-housing candidates to Congress by elevating housing as a national issue.

NAHB honored deserving members of Congress with Defender of Housing awards, and for the first time endorsed congressional

candidates for office.

We will visit our old friends in the Congress and meet new advocates to ensure that we translate our political support for them into legislative accomplishments that will benefit the entire nation.

While the 2016 elections have brought new leaders to the forefront, NAHB remains steadfast in its mission to keep housing a national priority and to seek common ground on which our nation can build a brighter future.

For more information on NAHB and any of the issues facing our industry, visit <http://www.nahb.org>.

Jim Tobin is NAHB's executive vice president for government affairs and communications.

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Vice President..... Timothy A. Stasiunas
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DEADLINES FOR THE JANUARY ISSUE

All copy, ads and photos must be to us by

Friday, December 2

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see NEW MEMBERS ...page 28

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LOOKING AHEAD!

♦ **TBA: Asbestos and Mold Awareness Seminar** - RIBA headquarters. Course is FREE for members and their employees. For more information and to register, contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

♦ **December 2nd: Festive Holiday Event with the Professional Women in Building Council and the National Association of Women in Construction** - Beginning at noon. Renaissance Providence Downtown Hotel, 5 Avenue of The Arts, Providence. Cost: \$55 per person. Free valet parking. Please register by November 29th. Contact Carol O'Donnell at (401) 339-4903 or crmmodularhomes@aol.com.

♦ **December 8th-9th, January 24th-25th OSHA 10-Hour Course** - 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day at RIBA headquarters. Course is FREE for members and their employees with a \$40 materials/registration fee, \$125 for non-members with a \$40 materials/registration fee. For more information and to register, contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 20.*

♦ **December 15th: RIBA Monthly Board of Directors Meeting** - 6 p.m., Quidnessett Country Club, 950 North Quidnessett Rd., North Kingstown, RI 02852. RIBA members are invited to attend for informational purposes. For more information and to register, contact Elizabeth Carpenter, ecarpenter@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 12 and 28.*

♦ **December 15th: RIBA Annual Christmas Party** - Begins 6:30 p.m., Quidnessett Country Club, 950 North Quidnessett Rd., North Kingstown, RI 02852. This annual RIBA tradition returns in 2016, with dinner and dancing. Cost is \$20 for the first 100 members, their employees and spouses, \$52 thereafter. Registration and pre-payment required by December 1st. For more information and to register, contact Elizabeth Carpenter, ecarpenter@ribuilders.org or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 12.*

♦ **January 10th: 4-Hour Lead-Safe Refresher Class** - RIBA headquarters, East Providence, 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. FREE for members and their employees, with a \$40 materials/registration fee. \$75 for non-members, with a \$40 materials/registration fee. You must pre-register for this class. No admittance without pre-registration and payment. To register, contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 21.*

January 10th-12th: International Builders Show - Largest annual light-construction trade show in the world, sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders, Orlando, Florida. For more information and to register, visit www.BUILDERSSHOW.com. *Details on page 26.*

♦ **January 19th: RIBA Breakfast, New Member Orientation, Open House and Networking Event** - RIBA headquarters, East Providence, between 8 and 10 a.m. Participants may stay longer if they wish. This FREE event is held for new and current members who want to learn more about their member benefits and to meet the RIBA team. RSVPs requested. To RSVP or if you or your company would like to sponsor a breakfast, please contact Cheryl Boyd at (401) 438-7400 or cboyd@ribuilders.org.

♦ **February 1st: 8 Hour Lead-Safe Remodeler/Renovator Course** - 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., RIBA Headquarters, East Providence. Course is FREE for members with a \$40 materials/registration fee, \$110 for non-members with a \$40 materials/registration fee. This course is required to obtain or renew a Lead Safe Remodeler/Renovator Certification, which is necessary for work in all pre-1978 buildings in Rhode Island. To register, contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 21.*

February 24th: 7th Annual Expo & Education Fair - 9 a.m. at the New England Institute of Technology, East Greenwich Campus, One New England Tech Boulevard, East Greenwich. Sponsored by the Rhode Island Building Officials Association. Contractor renewal credit classes will be offered at no charge, and there is no charge for contractors to attend. For information, contact Wayne Pimental (401) 886-8617 or wpimental@eastgreenwichri.com.

♦ **March 30th-April 2nd: Rhode Island Home, Garden & Flower Show** - Sponsored by the Rhode Island Builders Association. Exhibit space on sale now. *Details on page 11.*

More information, registration and payment for most

RIBA events is available at RIBUILDERS.org.

♦ Indicates a RIBA-sponsored event.



Designates a course eligible for Rhode Island state-mandated continuing education credits. Contact RIBA for confirmation.

S Class will be taught in Spanish.



David A. Caldwell Jr.

President's Message

As RIBA strengthens, let's bring back events

The holiday season gives us the opportunity to celebrate for many reasons. It's a time to come together with friends and family, reflect upon the work of the past year, share thoughts for the year ahead, and give thanks for the blessings and opportunities of our great nation.

For the first time in many years, the Rhode Island Builders Association will hold an all-members Christmas party at the Quidnessett Country Club on December 15th, as detailed on page 12.

This is our time to share some camaraderie among the membership, pride in RIBA, and have a little bit of fun. We have all worked hard, and we should celebrate. I personally believe this is a vital part of membership and a great historical strength of RIBA culture.

Honoring 'Stevie G.'

For those of you who may not know him, and I can't believe there are many, Steve Gianlorenzo has been a RIBA member for almost four decades. He is a past president, board member and

treasurer. His tireless commitment to RIBA is without peer, and he has been a solid rock of support during some choppy times for our association.

This past summer, Steve volunteered to pass the baton of treasurer in order to focus more efforts toward his other work as chairman of our Events Committee.

Tough economic times and budget constraints had curtailed membership events, but as our association returns to stronger financial footing, it's time to return a focus to the camaraderie of our membership.

In addition to the Annual Clambake and Golf Classic, we are sponsoring the Christmas Party, and Steve is planning on some other events in 2017. There is no better person to spearhead this vital mission than "Stevie G.," and I'm looking forward to enjoying the results.

I look forward to seeing our members, and spouses, on December 15th, and lifting a glass of Christmas cheer to the continued good health of our members and the Rhode Island Builders Association. And for everyone, and their families, I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy, and Prosperous, New Year in 2017.



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CRMC chief outlines coastal dangers facing R.I., proposes solutions that could benefit builders

By Paul F. Eno *Editor*

Rhode Island and its 420 miles of coastline face serious consequences from sea-level rise over the next few decades, but steps can be taken to mitigate it and residential contractors can benefit in the process.

That was the word from Grover Fugate, executive director of the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC), as he addressed the Rhode Island Builders Association's Board of Directors on November 1st.

"There's a logical alliance between us and RIBA on this because our building stock has a lot of exposure and we'd like to start reducing that. As (RIBA President David A. Caldwell) says, we have to build our way out of it," Mr. Fugate stated.

He cited the Fortified Homes[®] standard, which CRMC has embraced as a prime method to strengthen buildings, especially homes, against projected higher storm surges and higher base flood elevations.

"More business will come to Rhode Island if they know we have taken these steps to protect property in the future," said Mr. Fugate.

CRMC now offers expedited permitting for homes built to the Fortified standards. *Related story on page 1.*

In other business, RIBA Executive Director John Marcantonio reported that the association's learning management system (LMS) and the first five online courses were to debut in December at www.RIBAEducates.com. *Story on page 20.* As with other RIBA educational offerings, the online classes will be free for members and their employees, and some will fulfill state-mandated continuing-education requirements for contractor registration renewal.

In addition, RIBA is taking steps to have appropriate online courses approved for credit in Massachusetts as well as Rhode Island.

In the matter of regulations, Mr. Marcantonio told the board that the state Building Code Standards Committee has received a

see BOARD ...page 28



Above, Coastal Resources Management Council Executive Director Grover Fugate explains the future challenges of construction in Rhode Island's coastal and floodplain areas to the Board of Directors at the November 1st meeting. Below, the board welcomed three new members that evening. From left are John Pesce of Consolidated Concrete Corp., John Pagliaro of J.P. Construction Inc., and Kevin Moran of Moran Home Improvements.



Hundreds of CTE students participate

RIBA donates 'Treehouse' to Boys and Girls Club of Providence

Attraction from 2016 RIBA Home Show will be a permanent addition to facility for Providence children.

By Paul F. Eno Editor

The student-built Ultimate Solar Treehouse, which captivated thousands of visitors at the 2016 Home Show, was reassembled at the Boys and Girls Club of Providence during the week of October 16th, and many of the same students participated.

In fact, between 120 and 160 students per day participated in the rebuild for five days, and nearly every career and technical education (CTE) program in the state was involved, according to Louis Cotoia of P.S.I. Property Maintenance/Arnold Lumber Co., secretary of the Rhode Island Builders Association, which donated the treehouse to the Boys and Girls Club.

One student working that week was Darin Silvia, 23, of YouthBuild Providence. *The Rhode Island Builder* found Darin helping to reinforce the Treehouse structure and secure roof.

"My future plans are to become a carpenter, and I'm getting my certifications through YouthBuild," said Darin, who has also worked as an HVAC technician.

"Becoming a professional takes time. Don't give up!" he advised other students. "If you get tedious jobs, you can still learn and pick up little things you can use in the future. If you're passionate, don't give up, be safe and don't be scared."

Taylor Davidson, a senior at the Providence Career and Technical Academy who was among nearly 300 CTE students to work at the 2016 RIBA Home Show, also was on-site. He plans to "go into a trade and go to work."

"You have to have a positive attitude," was Taylor's advice. "Listen to people who

see **TREEHOUSE**next page



Among those visiting the Treehouse rebuild on Friday, October 21st, were, from left, Providence City Council President Luis A. Aponte, Gov. Gina Raimondo, Providence Mayor Jorge Alorza, Boys & Girls Club Executive Director Nicole Reilly, John Bentz of Property Advisory Group and Darin Silvia, a student at the New England Institute of Technology.



Darin Silvia

Taylor Davidson



Supervised by their instructors and members of the trades, Hundreds of students from Rhode Island career and technical schools participated in rebuilding the Ultimate Solar Treehouse, from the 2016 Rhode Island Home Show, at the Boys and Girls Club of Providence during the week of October 16th. Here, project coordinator Louis Cotoia of RIBA instructs a group of students before they begin.



National Building Products donated a lift for the week. ▲



Under the supervision of an instructor, students get ready to rise to new heights during the rebuild as Mr. Cotoia instructs one in the use of a safety harness and other jobsite precautions.

TREEHOUSE...from previous page

know more than you do. But you have to be in a trade you like to do it best. Everybody gets tired, but if you love it, it's still fun."

On Friday, October 21st, Gov. Gina Raimondo, Providence Mayor Jorge Alorza and other dignitaries visited the rebuild site.

Activities attract schools

Activities such as the rebuild, along with the much-publicized participation in the Home Show by CTE students, have CTE programs around the state calling RIBA to see how they can get involved.

"We have signed on many new schools this year to participate in our CTE activities, and we're working to get middle school students excited about CTE programs and about careers in construction going forward," Mr. Cotoia said.

Regarding the treehouse rebuild, it was "a huge undertaking," he added.

Mr. Cotoia thanked all the participating CTE programs, along



with RIBA members who supported the effort. These included Eric J. Wishart of Civil CADD Services for engineering help, Ronald J. Caniglia of Stand Corp. and his team, and National Building Products for donating use of a hydraulic lifter for five days. Thanks also went to Sunwatt Solar, Andersen Corp. and National Grid.

"That lifter made a world of difference," Mr. Cotoia commented. "Ron Caniglia donated a lift operator, a former CTE student Ron hired after he graduated, and one who had worked on the Home Show. And Kevin Moran of Moran Home Improvements donated a lift operator for four days."

Mr. Cotoia also praised John Bentz of Property Advisory Group for "rallying the politicians to come in on Friday."

"We have made many inroads with the schools over the past year. Many that weren't involved with our activities are now calling us. They realize that we can give students hands-on experience."

To find out more, contact Cheryl Boyd at RIBA, (401) 438-7400 or cboyd@ribuilders.org.

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Arnold Lumber Contractor Night draws students, instructors

By Paul F. Eno *Editor*

Construction students and instructors from several Rhode Island career and technical education (CTE) programs were guests at Arnold Lumber Company's Contractor Appreciation Night on October 27th at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Cranston.

Students and/or instructors attended from Coventry Regional Career and Technical Center, East Providence High School and Career & Technical Center, New England Institute of Technology, and Providence Career & Technical Academy.

Students were welcomed as part of Arnold Lumber's support for the Residential Construction Workforce Partnership and the Real Jobs Rhode Island Program, according to Louis Cotoia of P.S.I. Property Maintenance/Arnold Lumber Co., secretary of the Rhode Island Builders Association. *Related story on page 7.*

"We always invite CTE students to this annual event to help them feel part of our industry, to give them a chance to get to know contractors and suppliers, and so they can see the vendors and their products," Mr. Cotoia said.



Above, instructor Thomas Galligan of East Providence High School and Career & Technical Center brought students Eric Bianco, center, and Chris Hussey. Many members of the Rhode Island Builders Association enjoyed the evening as well. Below are Ronald and Cynthia Smith of Ron Smith Homes, with, right, Cheryl Boyd, RIBA's director of membership and education.

Jobs Bank continues to rack up numbers

The industry is off to a good start in solving its own labor shortages if the numbers being racked up by the Residential Construction Workforce Partnership (RCWP) and its online Jobs Bank at www.RCWPJobs.com are any indication.

As of November 2nd, the Jobs Bank reported 46 resumes and 84 job listings posted. There were 137 job candidates, and 522 employers were registered.

Radio ad campaign

"We started a 12-week radio campaign at the end of October, and we saw a spike in Jobs Bank users right away," reported Cheryl Boyd, the Rhode Island Builders Association's director of membership and education.

"I really need feedback when an employer hires someone through the Jobs Bank," Ms. Boyd added. "That way we will know what's working best and what we need to improve. Please include the employee name, position and month hired."

Ms. Boyd said that a spread sheet is available to help employers track their Jobs Bank activity.

"RIBA members and non-members alike are welcome to sign up for free accounts at RCWPJobs.com," she continued. "If you need good employees, use the Jobs Bank, and don't hesitate to give me a call."



She also urged suppliers and others in the industry, when they host builders, to invite her and RIBA board member Louis Cotoia as well.

"We will come in and show them how to use the website, and what other great benefits come from RIBA membership. We're happy to go to schools and job fairs as well," she said.

In addition, a free e-mail Jobs Bank newsletter is now available via the website.

Sign up for this at RCWPJobs.com. Contact Ms. Boyd at (401) 438-7400 or cboyd@ribuilders.org.



Bigger Show...Bigger Opportunities!

The Rhode Island Home Show is now the Rhode Island Home, Garden & Flower Show!

WHEN: Thursday-Sunday, March 30th-April 2nd

WHERE: Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO EXHIBIT: Contact Bob Yoffe at Yoffe Exposition Services, (800) 963-3395.

Word continues to spread and excitement continues to build about the Rhode Island Builders Association's 2017 Home, Garden and Flower Show! Some elements of the former Rhode Island Flower Show will be contained in the new show format. This, along with many other new show attractions at RIBA's biggest – and expanding – event of the year will be eye-popping. And the show is certain to draw record-breaking crowds.

Try the Designer Showcase with 14 rooms instead of seven, as in past years. How about "Main Street America," a walkable exhibit designed and built by Rhode Island's career and technical education (CTE) students, supervised by their instructors and RIBA member contractors? And, for the first time, a Kitchen and Bath Showcase.

As part of the show's new and expanded interior and exterior home and landscaping format, 25,000 cut flowers will be professionally arranged and will be presented to all ladies visiting the show on Sunday, April 2nd.

The popular Energy Expo, along with solar energy exhibits and the Home Technology Showcase, will return. These exhibits will include a Solar Greenhouse, also built by hundreds of CTE students.

Your year to exhibit

Whether you have exhibited at the Home Show for years or whether you never have, and whether you're a contractor, supplier or a member of any other branch of the residential construction industry, this is your year to exhibit!

RIBA provides full guidance for exhibitors, and there is a special arrangement if you don't want to exhibit for all four days.

Contact Bob Yoffe at Yoffe Exposition Services, (800) 963-3395, to reserve your exhibit space now.



New show brings a new show logo



With the new show name comes a new logo (center) intended to capture the excitement and fresh features of the new Rhode Island Home, Garden and Flower Show.

RIBA's Home Show Committee decided to move from the old logo (far left) to the more colorful symbol that maintains traditional themes but captures the new elements as well.

Rebate Program: Save enough money to pay your RIBA dues!

"I submit every quarter for my rebates. Overall, I have received three-quarters of my (RIBA) dues in return. Not bad for 15 minutes of work every quarter!"

That's the word from Ronald J. Smith of Ron Smith Homes LLC, one of only a few builder and remodeler members who is taking advantage of a major benefit of belonging to the Rhode Island Builders Association: the Member Rebate Program.

"These are rebates that builder and remodeler members can earn each quarter on the products they use every day," said RIBA Membership and Education Director Cheryl Boyd.

"By filing your rebates every quarter, you will get checks that can nearly cover, cover or more than cover your RIBA dues for the whole year."

There are currently over 50 of the country's leading manufacturer brands participating in the Member Rebate Program, offering the same rebates as the "Top-5 Builders" receive, regardless of your volume.

There's even a quarterly newsletter that explains the program. For information, visit www.HBAREBATES.com/builder.html.

-Paul Eno

Steps to receive your Rebate Check

1. **Register:** To start receiving your rebate, please register (tells us where to mail the check). If already registered, skip to the next step.
2. **Calendar & Deadlines:** View the calendar to determine what you can claim for and when the deadline is to submit.
3. **Claim:** Every Quarter if you have a completed home, remodeling project, or multi-family unit that used any of our participating Manufacturers, complete and submit the current Rebate Claim Form.
[Tutorial Videos on How to Claim](#)
4. Once your Rebate Claim has been submitted, please view our [Claims Process](#) link for detail on when you will receive your Remittance Statement and your Rebate Check.

RIBA Christmas Party returns!

WHEN: Thursday, December 15th, 6:30 p.m. to whenever.

WHERE: Quidnessett Country Club, 950 North Quidnessett Rd., North Kingstown
COST: \$20 for the first 100 members, their employees and spouses, \$52 per person thereafter. Registration and pre-payment required.

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FOR INFORMATION & TO REGISTER: Contact Elizabeth Carpenter at (401) 438-7400 or ecarpenter@ribuilders.org.



Quidnessett Country Club in North Kingstown, scene of the 2016 RIBA Christmas Party.

It's back! Among the special social events the Rhode Island Builders Association is reviving within the next year is the Annual Christmas Party.

Enjoy an evening of dinner and dancing at the beautiful Quidnessett Country Club, overlooking Narragansett Bay.

Meeting with your RIBA colleagues at this or any other event is a prime opportunity for networking.

In addition, the RIBA Board of Directors will meet at 6 p.m. at Quidnessett, and members are invited to sit in on the public

portion of the meeting to find out about the top issues facing our industry and to get to know RIBA's leadership -- and maybe consider becoming a leader yourself. Members also are encouraged to join one of RIBA's committees, which monitor and act on all areas of interest and advocacy in the residential construction industry.

Please let Ms. Carpenter know if you plan to attend the board meeting so that adequate seating can be arranged.

After the meeting, move right over to the Christmas Party, which will run from 6:30 p.m. on into the evening!

Member Profile: Ron Caniglia of Stand Corp.

He started big and kept going

By Paul F. Eno Editor

"I'm a real Rhode Islander. I never moved more than 7.5 miles from where I grew up," quips Ron Caniglia with typical humility.

The West Warwick native, who "tries to keep a low profile," is, in fact, president of Stand Corp., the respected design-build firm, and a leader in supporting career and technical education (CTE) in Rhode Island.

"I got started in construction in 1964, with Stanley Engineering in East Providence," Ron recalls. "Then it was on to Robinson, Green, Beretta Corp."

In 1984, Ron founded Stand Corp., and he did it in a big way.

"My very first project was conversion of the old Lockwood High School in Warwick -- 80,000 square feet -- into 53 condos," says Ron.

Everyone told him he was biting off more than he could chew.

"It was a big project to be starting out with, but that's what I wanted: To make a great beginning," Ron states.

"I still remember that day, looking at 80,000 square feet! But I had a good reputation, and I brought in the right subs. The job started in November '84, and by January they were selling units from a model condo and we were starting on landscaping."

In 1985, Ron and Stand Corp. were already expanding, and he took on a partner, Craig Sutton. Craig had been with Ron in business ventures since 1978 and is currently the company's vice president.

"We were doing design-build before it was even in vogue," Ron declares.

Other Stand Corp. projects included work on hospitals and MRI facilities.

"The most creative thing we did had to be on Martha's Vineyard, where we put a whole new foundation under the Tabernacle at Oak Bluffs."



Ron Caniglia, left, and intern Mark Bianco, center, greet Jack Sheehan of Bluelinx Corp. at the Arnold Lumber Contractor Appreciation Night at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet on October 27th.

The historic Tabernacle, built in 1879, is the heart of a complex owned by the Martha's Vineyard Camp Meeting Association, which itself has roots as far back as 1819. Architecturally, the Tabernacle is a unique structure, with wrought iron arches and supports, two clerestories, and dozens of colored glass windows, along with an octagonal cupola.

Today, Stand Corp., based in Warwick, is still going strong, with 25 employees -- 18 in the office and six in the field. Some 75 percent of the work is "program residential," such as affordable housing and assisted living facilities. A current project involves a 74-unit assisted living facility in Warwick.

"We used to travel all over New England, and clients included CVS, Walgreen's, Midas Muffler and Wendy's. Now we stick closer to home in Rhode Island," Ron explains.

"We've always maintained a low profile," Ron continues. "Our business model reflects working with our customer base and doing the best job for them."

Since 1974, Ron has been a huge CTE supporter. At the October 27th Arnold Lumber Contractor Appreciation Night at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet, Ron turned up with a current mentee at his side: Mark Bianco of East Providence, a student at the New England Institute of Technology.

"I've always tried to encourage good school-to-career transitions," Ron says. "We've had interns all along."

Ron points out the personal satisfaction based on his own experience. "I was an average student, and I've always looked for ways to help students who were like I was -- willing to work hard but not necessarily meant for a college path."

Ron's support for CTE extends to outreaches he participates in through the Rhode Island Builders Association, which itself has a wide-ranging program to support CTE, especially through the Residential Construction Workforce Partnership and the online Jobs Bank at RCWPJobs.com.

Stand Corp. joined RIBA in 1985.

"Out of many business groups in Rhode Island, I believe that RIBA is the most respected, and that goes all the way back to Ross Dagata (the first full-time executive director)," Ron states.

"When you need to advocate for our industry, people want to know who you're associated with. When I say RIBA, the reaction is always positive."

Find out more about Stand Corp. at www.standcorp.com.

Stand Corp.

President: Ronald J. Caniglia

RIBA member since: 1985

Focus: Program residential and commercial design build.

Serves: Rhode Island

Founded: 1984

Based: Warwick, Rhode Island

RIKB wins PRISM awards

Rhode Island Kitchen & Bath (RIKB) was recently honored with two Silver PRISM Awards in October for Best Bathroom and Best Kitchen Design.

Hosted by the Builders and Remodelers Association of Greater Boston (BRAGB), the PRISM Awards recognize stand-out projects and achievements of builders, developers, project owners, architects, land planners, marketing/advertising firms, interior designers, remodelers and other professionals in the residential construction industry.

At this year's PRISM Awards Gala, held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel on October 6th, honors were presented in nearly 80 different categories to honor the accomplishments of those who influence the building and design industry in Greater Boston. RIKB won in the category of "Rhode Island Kitchen & Bath" and was recognized as a trailblazer in the field.

"Each year the PRISM Awards honor the movers and shakers of the home building industry. The ceremony is an incredible opportunity for the building industry to come together and celebrate the accomplishments of their peers and show support for one another," said Lorraine DeVaux, chief executive officer of the BRAGB.

"We are very excited to accept these awards, as it confirms our commitment to providing our customers with top-notch creative kitchen and bath designs," stated RIKB Vice President Tanya Donahue.

BRAGB received almost 300 entries for the PRISM Awards this year, which is the highest number of entries in the program since at least 2007.

A distinguished panel representing various segments of the residential building industry from across the country performed the judging. For more information about the PRISM Awards, please visit www.prism-awards.com.

awards.com.

For more information on RIKB, visit the company website at www.RIKB.com or call 401-463-1550.

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Members are encouraged to send their company news to *The Rhode Island Builder*. Awards, hiring, your growth, staff promotions are all welcome for our Member News section. Send news to our editor at builder@newriverpress.com



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Stasiunas visits RIBA-sponsored Haiti orphan

A member of the Rhode Island Builders Association recently went to Haiti to check on an orphanage sponsored by the Richmond-based not-for-profit group Helping Haiti's Orphans (HHO).

The member was, in fact, RIBA's vice president, Timothy A. Stasiunas of The Stasiunas Companies.

"The founding members and the directors (of HHO) have had a ministry in Haiti since before the 2010 earthquake. The mission on this trip was to follow up on the recent hurricane that devastated the island nation," Mr. Stasiunas said.

"Fortunately, the orphanage was far enough away from the western part of Haiti, where the bulk of the damage occurred," he added.

RIBA sponsors a child, Savanica, at the Centre of Loving Hands Orphanage in Port au Prince, the capital of Haiti, the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere.



Timothy A. Stasiunas with Savanica

Sponsor a child

"That's why we encourage RIBA members to sponsor a child at the orphanage. Through the helpinghaitisorphans.org website, you can make a difference in their lives."

HHO has opened a new transitional home for young adults, who leave the orphanage at 18 years of age.

"The home is run by Dave & Deb Kreysegg, who sold their home in Rhode Island and moved to Haiti to dedicate their lives to helping the people of that country," said Mr. Stasiunas.

"This example is a true testament of their faith. Please join us in this effort! All proceeds go to directly helping these children."

For more information on helping a Haitian orphan, visit www.HELPING-HAITISORPHANS.org.



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RIBA Online courses begin in December

After many months of preparation, the Rhode Island Builders Association will make available appropriate online courses that will benefit members and non-members alike. As with RIBA's regular education programs, the online classes will be free for members and their employees.

Throughout the fall, the courses have been in the final stages of composition and testing. Courses will be available via RIBA's education website www.RIBAEducat.es.com.

Some will fulfill the state-mandated requirement for contractors to have earned five education credits before registration renewal. Credits must be earned within 24 months of your registration renewal date. Subject areas will include: workplace safety, confined spaces, fall protection, and ladder and scaffold safety.

For information, visit www.RIBAEducat.es.com or contact Cheryl Boyd at (401) 438-7400 or cboyd@ribuilders.org.



RIBA reserves the right to limit the number of attendees from a single company at courses taught on-site. For all courses, employees must provide proof of employment with a member company upon registration for class to be free of tuition charges.

OSHA-10 Course

December 8th-9th, January 24th-25th

WHEN: December 8th and 9th, January 24th and 25th, 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. each day.

WHERE: Rhode Island Builders Association headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pky #301, East Providence 02914

COST: FREE for members and their employees with a \$40 materials/registration fee, \$125 for non-members with a \$40 materials/registration fee.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: One week before class

FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER: Contact Sheila McCarthy at smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

This course is for safety directors, foremen and employees. It highlights the areas of major safety concerns. Each person completing the course will receive a copy of the OSHA Standard 29 CFR Part 1926 and an OSHA-10 certification card. Everyone working on a municipal or state construction project worth \$100,000 or more must have this card, including anyone involved by contract to provide goods or services on the jobsite, not including people delivering materials and supplies/products to a construction site. Fines can range from \$250 to \$950 per offense.

Lunch is included.





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Four-hour lead certification refresher course *January 10th*

WHEN: January 10th, 7:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

WHERE: Rhode Island Builders Association headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pky #301, East Providence 02914

COST: FREE for members and their employees, with a \$40 materials/registration fee. A \$75 charge for non-members and a \$40 materials/registration fee.


DEADLINE TO REGISTER: One week before class.

FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER: Contact Sheila McCarthy at smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

This is a four-hour Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Rule refresher class with Scott Asprey of Risk & Safety Management, for contractors who have their lead renovator/remodeler certification and whose certificate is up for renewal.

The class will review lead-hazard controls and update attendees on any changes to state or federal regulations. You must pre-register for this class. In addition, a photo is required for your certificate. Please send a head shot only, similar to a passport photo.

E-mail the photo smccarthy@ribuilders.org at least five days before class to allow for processing. There will be no admittance to the class without pre-registration, this pre-registration photo and payment.

Participants must provide proof of employment with member company upon registration for class to be free. 



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8 Hour Lead-Safe Remodeler Course *February 1st*

WHEN: Wednesday, November 18th, 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WHERE: Rhode Island Builders Association headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pky #301, East Providence 02914


COST: FREE for members and their employees, with \$40 materials/registration fee. \$110 for non-members, with \$40 materials/registration fee. Lunch is included.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: One week before class

FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER: Contact Sheila McCarthy at smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

This course is required to obtain or renew a Lead Safe Remodelers/Renovator license, necessary for work in all pre-1978 buildings. This course covers the EPA's Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) requirements in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

A written exam is given at the end of the course. A passing grade allows attendees to apply for licensing through the Rhode Island Dept. of Health and the EPA. Pre-registration and a photo are required for your certificate. This must be a head shot only. E-mail it to smccarthy@ribuilders.org at least five days before the class.

No admittance without pre-registration and the photo. Payment is due upon registration. Participants must provide proof of employment with a member company for the class to be free. 



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The 2017 legislative session is about to begin



Steven Carlino

The 2017 session of the Rhode Island General Assembly is about to begin, and our Legislative Committee is working hard to represent the interests of the residential construction industry in Rhode Island and to communicate its economic importance to our lawmakers.

That's especially true when it comes to the unnecessarily high cost of construction in our state.

And with a shortage of labor being created by a skills gap in our workforce, housing only becomes more expensive and harder to find for both buyers and renters.

We will continue to suggest legislative and regulatory solutions to these problems, which affect all of us. We realize the need for regulations. But they should be logical, balanced and fair, clear, predictable and reliable.

At the same time, the Rhode Island Builders Association hopes to welcome new statewide standards for freshwater wetlands regulations and a statewide formula for municipal permit fees in 2017.

As the 2017 session begins, however, you have to be an important partner if the legislative successes of the past few years are to continue.

You know what you need to help your business prosper, and you know what regulatory and economic challenges you face every day.

What is hindering your progress? Whether it be unreasonable regulations, long wait times for permits or approvals, or anything else that hinders your progress, we need to know! Contact RIBA now, before the 2016 legislative session begins. Call RIBA Executive Director John Marcantonio at (401) 438-7400.



Roland J. Fiore

RIBA's Legislative Committee

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Douglas Lumber, Kitchens & Home Center

Roland J. Fiore, Co-Chairman
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Permitting Think Tank wants to hear member experiences

By Paul F. Eno *Editor*

Do you have stories – good or bad – about your experiences with permitting in Rhode Island? The Permitting Think Tank needs to know so that the overall permitting process can be streamlined and generally improved statewide.

All feedback will be kept anonymous, and builders, remodelers, inspectors, building officials and others are urged to contribute their experiences at www.RIBUILDERS.org/permitting-think-tank.

Only general information is asked for. Share your own stories about how things might have gone better in particular cases.

The Think Tank was organized by Louis Cotoia of P.S.I. Property Maintenance/Arnold Lumber Co., secretary of the Rhode Island Builders Association; Rhode Island Building Officials Association President Wayne Pimental, and International Code Council representative William Nash.

It brings together state and local code and building officials, builders, remodelers and suppliers who are working together to solve permitting and inspection issues. This information is passed on to the RIBA membership through this magazine and in other ways. The Think Tank meets quarterly.

"Discussion topics will include any issue related to permitting and regulation," Mr. Cotoia said. "The key words are 'communication' and 'working together.' And to do that, we need members of the industry to contribute their stories."

For more information, contact Cheryl Boyd at RIBA, (401) 438-7400 or cboyd@ribuilders.org.



National honors for DEM director

Janet L. Coit, director of the Rhode Island Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM), was inducted into the American College of Environmental Lawyers (ACOEL) at the group's 2016 annual meeting in New Orleans in November.

The ACOEL is prestigious group and a sort of "hall of fame" for environmental lawyers in the United States.

Ms. Coit has worked in the environmental field for more than 20 years. As director of DEM since 2011, she is highly regarded by members of the Rhode Island Builders Association because of the open relationship she has maintained with the construction industry.

Before coming to DEM, Ms. Coit worked for 10 years as the state director for The Nature Conservancy..

"I am very proud to be part of the American College of Environmental Lawyers," she told *The Rhode Island Builder*.



Janet Coit



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Grover Fugate has held his current position for over 30 years. He oversees development of all policies and programs for the state's coastal program, and manages the Coastal Resources Management Council's (CRMC's) Shoreline Change Special Area Management Plan (SAMP), anticipating the impact of climate change for Rhode Island's shoreline. He also is co-lead to the Ocean Planning initiative for the Northeast Regional Ocean Council and state co-lead for the Regional Planning Body established under President Obama's executive order on the National Ocean Policy. He has authored various academic journal articles on coastal and natural resources management issues, and is adjunct faculty at the University of Rhode Island and a guest lecturer at Roger Williams University Law School on Coastal and Marine Law. From 1977-1986, Mr. Fugate was director of Shore Zone Management for the Canadian Province of Newfoundland and Labrador.



**Grover Fugate addresses
the RIBA Board of Directors on November 1st.**

THE BUILDER: How will the new expedited permitting for Fortified Homes® work?

FUGATE: Those revisions to the Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) regulations have passed and are now registered with the secretary of state's office.

Now, an applicant can pre-identify to us that a new home will be a silver or gold unit under the Fortified Homes® standard. When CRMC gets ready to process the application, the applicant also has to provide proof that they have bonding in place to protect us, in essence, if they don't go for the Fortified Homes standard once the permit has been expedited.

Then we push it through in the guaranteed time frame, as long as they're not asking for variances or other relief.

THE BUILDER: Can you explain further what the bonding is for?

FUGATE: Well, someone might say they're going for the Fortified standard, we crank out the expedited permit, then they change their mind and say: "I'm not going for the standard."

Then CRMC could be on the hook (with the homeowner or other interested parties). One thing we discussed with (Rhode

Island Builders Association then-Vice President David A. Caldwell), who participated in the regulatory revision process, was having this bond in place.

If the completed dwelling receives Fortified status within a certain time, there will be no collapse on the bond. But if they don't, CRMC could collapse on the bond, and it essentially becomes an enforcement scenario.

THE BUILDER: And there can be no addition layers – no variances in the application for an expedited permit?

FUGATE: Right.

THE BUILDER: What's the background to why this was done? Where did the idea come from?

FUGATE: We have identified the Fortified Homes program as one of the most desirable in the state, especially in coastal areas, because they have the greatest exposure to "environmental forcing": in other words, winds, storm surges and, in the long term, sea-level rise.

It's obvious to us, at least, that we want to have structures in place in a post-storm environment. We want structures to be resistant enough that they stand a chance of surviving these storm forces.

So today we're willing to work with the building community to put incentives in place to ensure that this gets done. Obviously, the Fortified standard involves steps above and beyond the normal permitting process, certainly from the code perspective, but they make a great deal of sense to us. And I think they make sense to the builders who are working in our environments.

THE BUILDER: You mentioned that RIBA had input into these regulatory changes. Can you explain further?

FUGATE: We drafted the original version and we sent it to Dave Caldwell, who reviewed it and made some suggestions. We went back and changed it on the basis of his input, then had him review it again. He seemed to be in agreement, and we sent the revisions to the policy and planning process.

Dave actually came to our Policy and Planning Committee and explained why the builders favored the changes. We authorized the regulations to go out to public notice and go forward. We received

see *INTERVIEW...next page*

INTERVIEW...from previous page

no comments, and CRMC passed it.

THE BUILDER: How expedited will the process actually be? Is there coordination with other agencies, towns, DEM etc. to expedite?

FUGATE: From our perspective, it's a significant jump in the process because it cuts our permitting time by one half to one third. Because of staffing shortages and other issues, permitting times are climbing, particularly with new structures and greenfield sites. Review times can sometimes be several months at least.

With these regulatory changes, we have to crank the application within a certain time and it puts the burden back on us. We were willing to do that as a trade-off to get this code-plus process in place.

THE BUILDER: Are there applications yet?

FUGATE: The revisions have just been put in place, so we have none yet. We have had applications for Fortified Homes go through the system previously.

THE BUILDER: Do you anticipate any glitches?

FUGATE: We might have some internal administrative things we have to work through, but on the builders' end, no.

THE BUILDER: What else is happening with CRMC that the home builders should know about?

FUGATE: We've been developing a lot of information to look at our long-term risk in coastal areas. That involves things like sea-level rise and various acceleration scenarios. It looks at coastal storm events, too.

We have the most advanced and highest-resolution modeling, to look at storm surge and wave conditions and how they impact structures anywhere in the nation. We're at the point where we can evaluate the scenario structure by structure, and we've been working with two communities (Warwick and Charlestown) on a trial basis to actually do full community evaluations.

We found that, primarily because of our old building stock, over 90 percent of our coastal structures will suffer some damage in a 100-year event. That means to us in Rhode Island that we need to reevaluate and try to reduce the risk.

That's why Fortified appealed to us: Because it was originally designed as a retrofit program. Take buildings already in place, and improve their condition to withstand these forces. So we see a natural and logical fit with RIBA in trying to get the word out about this, and trying to improve the survivability of these structures.

THE BUILDER: Beyond encouraging Fortified Homes in the flood zones, do you anticipate that Fortified might be a code requirement in the future, or might there be other code changes to further strengthen structures against these adverse conditions?

FUGATE: I think part of the code could be strengthened fairly easily to get to the bronze level of the Fortified program. Beyond that, the current Rhode Island building code is pretty good. The one

big area where it differs from Fortified is the window treatment. In many coastal areas, we're dealing with homes where this would not be a significant cost.

Performing retrofits on some structures in the interior might be more difficult. But I think there are ways we can work through this. There will be a great deal of information coming out in terms of our exposure, and trying to get people to deal with that. That means a lot of business for RIBA members as we go forward.

THE BUILDER: Why not just outlaw any further building in these high-risk areas?

FUGATE: There are a number of reasons why that would be problematic! The issue is that, in many of these areas, there are still buildable sites that are very close to the coast, and structures could be built to withstand these forces, and adaptation measures could be taken to deal with some of these issues.

The communities are very interested in these sites because these are significant income-producing sites in terms of property taxes. A town manager in South County once told me that "that first row of houses along the coast is 20 percent of our tax base."

We recognize that, so we're trying to be realistic about how we deal with these issues as we go forward. We want to encourage people to build, not according to today's standard, but to a standard that will encompass changing conditions for the future so that, by the time we arrive there, that structure is still good to go, and financeable.

Here's an example, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predicts that, within the next 20 years, we could see another foot of sea-level rise. To put that in perspective, we've had 10 inches of rise over the last 90 years, and we're about to have 12 over the next 20.

For a homeowner, that means that if you build your house to today's standard, with that base flood elevation (BFE) and one foot of freeboard, required by code, by the time you get to the end of your 30-year mortgage, you could be below BFE. That means that we have an unsustainable flood-insurance program that will likely, in the future, have to go to a full actuarial rate.

So if you have a home found to be below the BFE, and those rates kick in, that's a significant deterrent to buying those homes. We're trying to get the information out so people can build to a standard that avoids all that, so their home is still marketable at the end of that mortgage.

Find out more about expedited permitting for Fortified Homes at www.CRMC.ri.gov. See the regulatory changes link.



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HUD proposes more rules for construction in floodplains

National Association of Home Builders

The U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has proposed new floodplain development rules that threaten access to FHA financing for single- and multifamily builders. And they rely on floodplain maps that haven't been drawn yet.

For nearly 40 years, federal floodplain requirements have been tied to the 100-year floodplain. A 2015 executive order greatly expanded the Federal Flood Risk Management Standard, offering three new options to meet it:

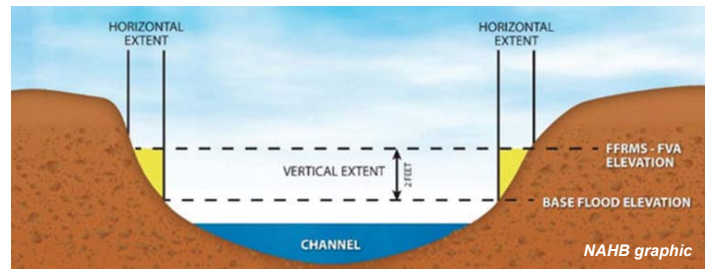
- The best available climate-informed science
- The freeboard value approach (adding elevation above the 100-year floodplain)
- The 500-year floodplain

HUD has proposed to expand the definition of the 2015 executive order, which applies to federally funded projects, by imposing

costly requirements on the FHA multifamily and single-family mortgage insurance programs.

Specifically, HUD seeks to expand its oversight using the freeboard value approach, corresponding both vertically and horizontally with an additional two feet of elevation above the

see *FLOODPLAIN ...page 29*



The "freeboard value approach."

Where do your impact fees really go?

National Association of Home Builders

Just because impact fees have been around since the 1970s doesn't mean they should be any municipality's go-to solution for financing public projects.

This is especially true in the growing number of places where impact fees are being miscalculated and misused.

A prime example involves an ongoing dispute between the city of Bozeman, Mont., and the Southwest Montana Building Industry Association (SWMBIA), which brought to light—for the second time in the last 15 years—significant misappropriation of funds from impact fees.

"We started noticing that among the city's projects using impact fee revenues, several were projects involving preexisting deficiencies in infrastructure, not new infrastructure. To us, that just didn't make sense," said Eugen Graf, an active SWMBIA member and owner of E.G Construction.

Frustration grew among Mr. Graf and his fellow members of the SWMBIA, to the point that this past January they decided to commission an audit of the city.

The Development Planning and Finance

Group Inc. (DPFG) closely examined use of impact fees for the previous five years.

The recently completed audit discovered an estimated misappropriation of \$7.2 million. The largest components of the total amount included \$4.1 million to fund a water treatment plant instead of the construction of a water distribution system, and \$2.2 million to fund a water reclamation facility instead of the construction of sewer collection lines.

Despite the rapid growth in the Bozeman market, affordability remains a key issue for many builders and area residents. Current city impact fees for a 2,400-square-foot home on a quarter-acre lot tack on an extra \$10,000.

Taking it national

In response to similar concerns across the industry regarding the accuracy, efficiency and use of impact fees, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) recently worked with DPFG Inc. to prepare a comprehensive update to the *Impact Fee Handbook*.

This free resource guide includes new examples of common mistakes municipal-

ties frequently make while calculating and imposing impact fees.

Other notable additions include:

- NAHB's most recent economic benefits model for estimating the financial impacts of construction and showing whether impact fees are even merited

- Updated state statutes from Arizona, Montana and Texas highlighting how municipalities can be held more accountable for how they use impact fees

- References to NAHB's extensive resources members can use to educate local officials about alternatives that are more efficient and equitable funding strategies than impact fees

- Recent case studies detailing other instances of misused impact fees and how local associations effectively found solutions

The updated *Impact Fee Handbook* is available in the "Infrastructure Finance and Development Fees" section of NAHB's Land Use 101 resource library.

Visit www.NAHB.org.

Every member of the Rhode Island Builders Association automatically belongs to NAHB as well. Learn about and use your valuable member benefits! Visit www.RIBUILDERS.org.

BOARD...from page 6

statewide formula for permit fees from the Office of Regulatory Reform (ORR). RIBA will evaluate these. Also, statewide standards for freshwater wetlands protection are in the hands of ORR. More information will be forthcoming.

Sewer and water infrastructure

RIBA has been working with Grow Smart Rhode Island on a proposal for a statewide grant program to expand drinking water and sewer infrastructure, Mr. Marcantonio stated.

"Students from Brown University are working on data to support this investment by the state," he said.

Mr. Marcantonio also reviewed several bills that RIBA will support during the 2017 session of the General Assembly, which convenes in January.

Home, Garden and Flower Show

The Home Show has expanded to become the Rhode Island Home, Garden and Flower Show, Mr. Marcantonio reported, and a new logo has been adopted. The show will add many new features in 2017. *Story on page 11.*

CTE and workforce development

Radio advertising to promote career and technical education (CTE) and the Jobs Bank at RCWPjobs.com began in late October, Mr. Marcantonio told directors. *Story on page 10.*

"The ads direct to that website young men and women, along with experienced candidates, interested in careers in our industry," he said.

He also reported on the treehouse rebuild project, in which the Ultimate Solar Treehouse featured at the 2016 Home Show was donated to, and reassembled at, the Boys and Girls Club of Providence in October. *Story on page 7.*

In each board member's information packet for the evening was a card they could use to submit their own workforce situation, intern needs and hiring plans.

"This will give us information on workforce needs that we can take to the schools," explained board member Louis Cotoia.

Mr. Cotoia also reported on the Permitting Think Tank and its plans to meet in November. *Story on page 23.*

"We really need members to submit their own experiences with the permitting process, either locally or at the state level. This information will be kept anonymous. We need stories good, bad and neutral so we can all work to improve the permitting process."

The site to contribute reports is at <http://RIBUILDERS.org/permitting-think-tank>.

CRM wins

Also taking place at the November 1st meeting was a drawing for a free full-color, full-page advertisement in the 2017 *RIBA Membership Directory and Buyer's Guide*. CRM Modular Homes was the winner.



Members encouraged to attend board meetings, join committees

Members of the Rhode Island Builders Association are encouraged to attend meetings of the RIBA Board of Directors, which take place monthly, except July and August. They are also encouraged to join one or more of RIBA's more than 10 working committees, which deal with all areas of concern to the industry. Learn about the inner workings of your trade association, contribute your knowledge and experience on issues facing our industry, meet RIBA's leaders, and consider becoming a leader. See the calendar on page 4 of *The Rhode Island Builder* for meeting dates, and contact Elizabeth Carpenter with your attendance plans: (401) 438-7400 or ecarpenter@ribuilders.org.

NEW MEMBERS...from page 3

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EXPEDITED...from page 1

procedures for residential projects that voluntarily include the Fortified Homes program standards and techniques.

Using Fortified Home methods and standards would not be mandatory, "rather it is an elective process developed collaboratively between the CRMC and RIBA to promote coastal hazard-resilient construction."

"The Fortified Home Program is a certification sponsored by the insurance industry to help homeowners build houses to better withstand the catastrophic weather events that are becoming more frequent," explained Jeffrey T. Rhodin of Sustainable Energy Analytics.

Changes in 2018

There are gold, silver and bronze Fortified Home certifications. Under the CRMC rule changes, Fortified bronze-level applications are eligible for expedited review until Dec. 31, 2017.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2018, only Fortified silver or gold designation projects will be eligible for CRMC's expedited permit incentive.

FLOODPLAIN...from page 22

100-year base flood elevation (BFE) for new and "substantially improved" single-family homes and multifamily properties financed using FHA-insured mortgages.

Single-family homes using FHA financing would trigger the elevation requirements only when they are built within the 100-year floodplain.

Multifamily builders would face the added burden of HUD's elevation requirements (or floodproofing, in the case of "substantially improved" structures) both within the 100-year floodplain and in the expanded horizontal floodplain.

HUD's new flood risk measures would also apply to projects that use federal grants, such as the HOME and Community Development Block Grant programs.

To find out more about the rule changes, visit www.CRMC.ri.gov. To learn more about the Fortified Homes Program, visit <http://DISASTERSAFETY.org>.



opment Block Grant programs.

"HUD's proposal will severely disrupt the housing market and harm affordability for millions of Americans living in areas designated under the expanded floodplain definition, where in many cases the odds of facing a flood event are extremely remote," said NAHB Chairman Ed Brady.

In addition to the project design and structural elevation costs that will result if the proposal is implemented, HUD acknowledges that maps of the expanded floodplain don't exist. This uncertainty will only add to project delays and costs.

HUD's proposed rule is open for public comment until December 27th.

For more details, contact Owen McDonough at 800-386-5242 x8662 or Michelle Kitchen at 800-386-5242 x8352.



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