

FEATURED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR AUGUST

Center Section

New legislation will benefit the industry

Three measures enacted by the General Assembly before its adjournment on June 30th will benefit the residential construction industry.

Page 2

RIBA Annual Meeting set for October 3

All members are urged to attend RIBA's 2017 Annual Meeting, to be held at the Quidnessett Country Club in North Kingstown, beginning at 6 pm. Contact Elizabeth Carpenter at (401) 438-7400 or ecarpenter@ribuilders.org.

RIBA Golf Classic is October 16

RIBA's 27th Annual Golf Classic is set for Wannamoisett Country Club, Rumford. Watch your mail for details. Be a sponsor! Contact Robin Barlow at (401) 438-7400 or rbarlow@ribuilders.org.

Page 6

Spotlight on CTE

A panel is removing roadblocks to sweeping career and technical education reform in Rhode Island.

Page 10

67th Annual RIBA Clambake: August 11 Get your low-priced tickets while they last!

A day of food and fun for only \$35 while sponsorships keep coming in.

Benefit by being a sponsor! Over 600 expected to attend!



WHEN: Friday, August 11th, noon to 8 p.m.

WHERE: Francis Farm, 27 Francis Farm Rd., Rehoboth, MA 02769

COST: \$35 for the first 300 people, \$86 per person after that. Add a lobster for \$15.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: August 1st.

FOR INFORMATION, FOR SPONSORSHIPS AND TO REGISTER:

Contact Elizabeth Carpenter at ecarpenter@ribuilders.org or call (401) 438-7400.

It's Clambake time and, as of this writing, thanks to our generous sponsors, low-priced tickets are still available for a full day of food, drink and fun at the Rhode Island Builders Association's 67th Annual Clambake!

Over 600 people are expected to attend, and tickets are only \$35, while these prices last. The price includes food, drink, contests and networking, for as long as the sponsorships keep coming.

Speaking of sponsorships, see the information on

the back cover. There are five sponsorship levels, with more perks the higher you go! The more sponsors who sign on this year, the more people will be able to enjoy a fabulous day of fun, contests, events, prizes, food and drink. Each ticket includes two free beers.

As always, great food will be featured throughout the day. Beginning at noon, there will be clam cakes and chowder, hot dogs, and little necks on the half shell. The traditional clambake at 5:30 will include steamers, barbecued chicken, brown bread, fish and all the fixings. Lobster will be available for an extra charge. Soda, beer and assorted drinks will be available all day. Soda and water are free, and the cash bar will offer \$4 drafts.

Enjoy volleyball, horseshoes, basketball, the football toss, the insulation toss, the RIBA-invented sport of plywood throwing, and more! At the end of the day, enjoy awards and many door prizes. Consider making this event, a RIBA tradition since 1950, your company's outing and, once again, please consider a sponsorship!

See sponsorship details on the back cover.



Three important industry bills pass before General Assembly adjourns

By Paul F. Eno Editor

Three bills of importance to the residential construction industry passed the General Assembly and have been signed into law by Gov. Gina Raimondo, reports RIBA lobbying team Government Strategies Inc., composed of Joseph W. Walsh, Gayle Wolf, and William Walsh.

The 'Timetable Bill'

Rhode Island's subdivision enabling law has been amended to shorten the time periods allowed for municipal decisions on major land developments and subdivisions, including certifications, decision-making and recording of decisions.

For example, applications for master and preliminary plans must now be certified as complete or incomplete, in



RIBA government affairs advocates include, from left, William Walsh, Gayle Wolf and Joseph Walsh.

writing, within 25 days, as opposed to the previous 60 days. In addition, decisions on these master and preliminary plans must now be made within 90 days, as opposed to the previous 120 days, unless the applicant agrees to a longer period.

"This bill was a major priority for the Rhode Island Builders Association, and we're very pleased that it has become law," said Joe Walsh.

"If you consider the numbers here, this can cut over 100 days off the planning process for major developments and subdivisions."

The Senate bill, S-481, was sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Michael McCaffrey (D-Warwick) and Sen. Stephen Archambault (D-Smithfield, North Providence, Johnston).

The House bill, H-5475, was sponsored by House Majority Leader K. Joseph Shekarchi (D-Warwick), along with Reps. Evan Shanley (D-Warwick), David Bennett (D-Warwick), Raymond Hull (D-Providence, North Providence), and Deputy Speaker Charlene Lima (D-Cranston, Providence).

The Impact Fee Reform Bill

This legislation requires municipalities, in order to collect impact fees, to conduct a needs assessment every five

years, and to justify them.

The law also specifies that impact fees can be collected only when a certificate of occupancy has been issued or when other final authorizing action has been taken.

In addition, the law reduces the time a municipality can retain unspent impact fees from 12 to 10 years, updates the procedures for refunding unspent fees to developers, and provides that unclaimed refunds be forwarded to the state treasurer's Unclaimed Property Fund, and not kept by the community.

"This is the first time in many years there has been progress on the impact fee situation," said Bill Walsh.

"A step in the right direction, this law restores fairness to the impact fee process."

The Senate bill, S-333, was sponsored by Sens. Elizabeth A. Crowley (D-Central Falls, Pawtucket), Harold M. Metts (D-Providence), Ana B. Quezada (D-Providence), and McCaffrey.

The House bill, H-5655, was sponsored by Reps. Jean Philipe Barros (D-Pawtucket), Shelby Maldonado (D-Central Falls), Christopher Blazejewski (D-Providence), J. Aaron Regunberg (D-Providence), and Gregg Amore (D-East Providence).

see **LEGISLATION**...page 28

The Rhode Island Builder

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since 1951

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LOOKING AHEAD!

 **August 9th: State-Mandated Continuing Education for Contractors - 5 Credit Hours - Topic is Deck Codes, Advanced Framing, Common Construction Regulations. Details on page 22.**

August 11th: 67th Annual RIBA Clambake - Noon to 8 p.m. at Francis Farm, Rehoboth, Mass. Watch for more information. To become a sponsor, contact Elizabeth Carpenter at (401) 438-7400 or ecarpenter@ribuilders.org. Premier Sponsors will have exhibit space at the Clambake. Details on page 1 and back cover.

August 17th: Professional Women in Building, Monthly Meeting and Tour - 6 to 8 p.m. at Home Healthsmith, 207 High Point Ave., Unit #2, Portsmouth. Contact Carol O'Donnell at CRMmodularhomes@aol.com.

 **August 22nd: State-Mandated Continuing Education for Contractors - 5 Credit Hours - Topic is OSHA Safety Review. Details on Page 22.**

September 5th: RIBA Monthly Board of Directors Meeting - 4 p.m. networking, 4:30 p.m. business meeting, RIBA headquarters, East Providence. 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.

September 21st and 22nd: 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 23.

 **September 26th: State-Mandated Continuing Education for Contractors - 5 Credit Hours - Topic is OSHA Safety Review. Details on Page 22.**


October 3rd: RIBA Annual Meeting and Election of Officers - Quiddnessett Country Club, North Kingstown. 6 p.m. Contact Elizabeth Carpenter at (401) 438-7400 or ecarpenter@ribuilders.org. Information on page 1.

October 16th: 27th Annual RIBA Golf Classic - Wannamoisett Country Club, East Providence. Watch for more information. To become a sponsor, contact Robin Barlow at (401) 438-7400 or rbarlow@ribuilders.org. Supporting and Premier Sponsors will have exhibit space at the event. Information on page 6.

December 5th: RIBA Christmas Party - Squantum Association, East Providence. Details TBD.

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

A development tale from East Williamstown, Rhode Island An Allegory, Part 1

*This story is fictional.
The setting is an imaginary
municipality.*

Location: East Williamstown Town Hall.

"Hello, my name is John Publius, and I'd like to speak to the department in charge of development, about building a new headquarters and manufacturing facility for my company in East Williamstown."

"Certainly, sir. East Williamstown is a pro-business town, we are actively looking for businesses to relocate or expand in our municipality. I will get the director immediately."

"Thank you, I very much appreciate it."

"Hello, Mr. Publius, my name is Michael Arcanum, the director of development here in East Williamstown, a very pro-business municipality. How can we help you?"

"Our company, Amalgamated Widget and Bearings, is based in the Midwest, though we manufacture in Asia. We need a new

headquarters and specialty manufacturing facility in the Northeast for approximately 100 employees.

"While our original plan was to be in Massachusetts, we've had the opportunity to meet with many high-level elected officials here in Rhode Island, and we've been very impressed by them and the direction they're moving your state. We've studied your state, and find that you're a lower-cost alternative to Boston, but with all the advantages of Massachusetts. We'd like to build our new facility here in East Williamstown."

"That's excellent news, sir. We're actively looking for businesses to relocate here to East Williamstown, as we're a very pro-business municipality. Can you tell me more about your company and your plans for our town?"

"Amalgamated was founded by my grandfather in a rural town in the Midwest. We manufacture widgets and bearings, originally used for farm equipment, but our products are used throughout the world in manufacturing everything from coffee makers to jet engines.

see **PRESIDENT ...page 29**

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RIBA Golf Classic set for Oct. 16

All net proceeds to benefit RIBA's charity, Builders Helping Heroes

WHEN: Monday, October 16th, registration and lunch 11 a.m. to noon. Shotgun start will be at noon. Dinner will be a 6.

WHERE: Wannamoisett Country Club, Rumford Country Club, 96 Hoyt Ave., Rumford, RI 02916

COST AND DEADLINE TO REGISTER: TBD

FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER: Contact Robin Barlow at (401) 438-7400 or rbarlow@ribuilders.org.

It's the Rhode Island Builders Association's 27th Annual Golf Classic, to benefit the association's charity, Builders Helping Heroes!

Enjoy a day of great golf, fine food and valuable networking at one of the state's most beautiful courses, designed by Donald Ross. At the same time, support RIBA's non-profit work to help wounded veterans and their families.

Cart, greens fees, lunch, dinner and a raffle ticket are included

in the full registration fee. There will be prizes for first, second, third and last-place teams, along with awards for longest drive and closest-to-the-pin on numerous holes.

Be a sponsor!

Please consider a sponsorship! In doing so you will generate great exposure for your company with tee signs, and you will be mentioned in *The Rhode Island Builder*. Top sponsorships offer you complimentary registrations at the event.

In addition, you provide extra direct support for Builders Helping Heroes. Many veterans have returned home with life-altering injuries sustained while defending our country. These young men and women must now relearn skills we take for granted. Their homes are now filled with barriers that make it difficult to complete the simplest tasks. Builders Helping Heroes helps turn these heroes' homes back into places of comfort.

As a sponsor, your generosity enables RIBA to offer our Annual Golf Classic at a reasonable cost, and you help support our Builders Helping Heroes projects.



Golf Classic Sponsorships

PRESENTING

Includes two complimentary players, nine tee signs, dominant signage at lunch and dinner, hat giveaway and mention in *The Rhode Island Builder* **\$2,000**

PREMIER

Includes two complimentary players, six tee signs, signs at lunch and dinner and mention in *The Rhode Island Builder* **\$1,000**

SUPPORTING

Includes one complimentary player, two tee signs, signs at lunch and dinner and mention in *The Rhode Island Builder* **\$500**

PATRON

Includes two tee signs and mention in *The Rhode Island Builder* **\$300**

FRIEND

Includes one tee sign and mention in *The Rhode Island Builder* **\$75**

**Contact Robin Barlow
at (401) 438-7400 or rbarlow@ribuilders.org.**

FINISH CARPENTRY CLINICS

Monday, September 18th
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Schedule

Monday, September 18

7:30AM - 8:30AM

HOT BREAKFAST

Compliments of Coventry Lumber

8:30AM - 9:30AM

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- Moisture content and wood movement
- Wood trim and alternative trim products
- Flashing Materials: adhesives & more
- Durable exterior joinery

10:00AM - 11:00AM

WATERPROOF WINDOWS AND ARCHITECTURAL TRIM

- Sillpans and flashing: drainage vs. barriers
- Integrating exterior door flashing with WRB
- Pre-assembling window and door trim
- Production trim techniques

11:00AM - 12:00PM

Lunch

Compliments of Coventry Lumber

12:00PM - 1:00PM

PROBLEM-FREE PREFIT DOORS

- Preparing rough openings properly
- Solving cross-leg walls and jambs
- 1-2-3 plan for fastening hinge jambs
- Integrating exterior doors with the WRB

1:30PM - 2:30PM

INSTALLING CROWN AND BASEBOARD

- Making a cutlist
- Crown jigs and fixtures
- Swing the saw: cutting mating miters
- Pre-assembly and coping techniques



Gary Katz is the publisher of the online magazine, *THISisCarpentry.com*, devoted to craftsmen and craftsmanship. For two decades he has been a frequent contributor to *Fine Homebuilding*, *Journal of Light Construction*, *Fine Woodworking* and other leading trade magazines.

Gary's books include *The Doorhanger's Handbook*, *Finish Carpentry: Efficient Techniques for Custom Interiors*, and *Trim Made Simple*. His DVD series, *Mastering Finish Carpentry*, sets the standard for professional video instruction in the construction trades.

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Member News: Annual Networking Barbecue

Over 150 members and guests enjoyed the Rhode Island Builders Association's free Annual Networking Barbecue at RIBA headquarters in East Providence on June 15th. Some participants mixed business with pleasure, like Don Hamel of Andersen Corp. and Kimberly Homs of Great In Counters, who took the opportunity to plan out a residential kitchen remodel.



The contingent from Douglas Lumber, Kitchens & Home Center, generous sponsors of the event, were unmistakable in their neon shirts!

There was plenty of food - hamburgers, hot dogs and chicken with all the fixings. There's Steve Rendine from Douglas!



Darren Jodoin and Emily Hattub from Paradigm Media stopped by.



Bob Brierley of Calyx Homes came down from Lincoln, bringing his two daughters, Lauren, center, and Julie. Are they future home builders?

30 members and guests enjoy RIBA Baseball Outing



Ready to pitch in at the pre-game barbecue at McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket on June 19th are Elaine Eccleston and her colleagues from CENTURY 21 Access America.

It was an evening full of fun and surprises on June 19th as 30 members and guests descended on McCoy Stadium in Pawtucket for the Rhode Island Builders Association Annual Baseball Outing.

That night, the Pawtucket Red Sox took on the Lehigh Valley IronPigs from Pennsylvania. Sadly, the Pigs won.

That, and a few raindrops in the 7th inning, didn't stop the RIBA contingent from enjoying the famous McCoy Stadium barbecue (no iron or pork on the menu) and the game.

"We had a great time, caught three balls, and the guys were excited," commented Elaine M. Eccleston of CENTURY 21 Access America. "We stayed until we felt the rain drops at the beginning of the 7th inning!"

"Our people had a great time," said Annmarie Hanson from the office of Ed Wojcik Architect Ltd. "The weather did hold out, and Katherine from our office caught a ball!"

The Baseball Outing hasn't taken place since 2010, and it's one of a number of social and networking events that have returned as RIBA grows and expands with a new dynamism over the last few years. Watch *The Rhode Island Builder*, RIBuilders.org and your mail for information about more events coming your way. Members already should have received information about the 66th Annual Clambake on August 11th. See you there!



**For membership information
contact Elise Geddes at
(401) 438-7400 or egeddes@ribuilders.org**

'This Old House' in Rhode Island 2017-2018

'Idea House' does July debut



Ryan Sweenor of Sweenor Builders, general contractor for This Old House's 2017 New Idea House, is seen here in June as the Sweenor crew works to finish the Matunuck home for a late July open house. Filming by the hit PBS television show began in May at the 3,200 square-foot, three-story, shingle-style "Beach House at East Matunuck," located in the East Matunuck Farms subdivision at Snug Harbor. The home will be the third annual New Idea House for the show, now in its 38th season. The house will feature in several 2017-2018 broadcasts.



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Panel removing final roadblocks to CTE reform

In a first step, teachers provide input on the needs they see.

By **Paul F. Eno** *Editor*

It's time to remove whatever impediments remain when it comes to implementing reforms to career and technical education (CTE).

That was the message on June 19th as the CTE Subcommittee on Implementation Roadblocks (SIR) met at the New England Institute of Technology. The meeting was attended by Congressman James R. Langevin, co-chair of the Congressional Career & Technical Education Caucus; Rhode Island Commissioner of Education Kenneth Wagner, along with CTE administrators and instructors, school officials and industry leaders.

SIR Chairman Robert J. Baldwin, a third-generation home builder and past Rhode Island Builders Association president who has been involved CTE support for nearly 20 years, opened the meeting with some background.

"Some years ago, the Rhode Island Business Coalition decided that we couldn't find enough skilled employees, and that CTE students were not career-ready when they graduated," Mr. Baldwin said.

"We formed a subcommittee to come up with CTE reform, which some of us here served on, and that resulted in the 2014 CTE reform legislation, which was the foundation for the Board of Trustees on Career and Technical Education, and the 501c3 overseen by the Rhode Island Career and Technical Education Trust."

In turn, the Board of Trustees created 16 industry-sector subcommittees to draft the curriculum for each sector, including construction, so that CTE students would graduate entry-level career-ready. The state Dept. of Education approved the final five curricula in June.

"Now comes the devil in the details. How do we implement that?" Mr. Baldwin asked. "We deal with it step by step, working together to identify and find solutions to the roadblocks."

The first step, as taken at the June 19th meeting, was to hear from teachers. Input began with a conference call involving nearly 20 Rhode Island CTE instructors who were attending the 53rd annual SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. Combined with statements from those attending the meeting, among the needs to implement CTE reform as seen by teachers are:



Congressman James R. Langevin, center, makes a point during the June 19th meeting of the Career and Technical Education Subcommittee on Implementation Roadblocks, which took place at the New England Institute of Technology. RIBA's Robert J. Baldwin, to the congressman's right, chairs the committee.

- More time for hands-on projects
- More opportunities for 9th graders to participate in CTE programs
- Increased funding, especially for equipment and software, and regionalized buying
- State recognition of SkillsUSA Assessments as valid exit exams
- Clear and consistent access to courses necessary to become certified as a CTE instructor in Rhode Island.

Roadblocks cited at the previous SIR meeting, on May 31st, included the need for transportation so students can get to important CTE activities, insurance for jobsite activities, and fragmentation in the current CTE system in Rhode Island.

Congressman Langevin commented that improving CTE in Rhode Island is not an option.

"All the effort you are making here is much appreciated," Congressman Langevin said. "Improving CTE is something we need to do: Coordinate what's being taught with the needs of the business community."

Mr. Baldwin summed up the goal.

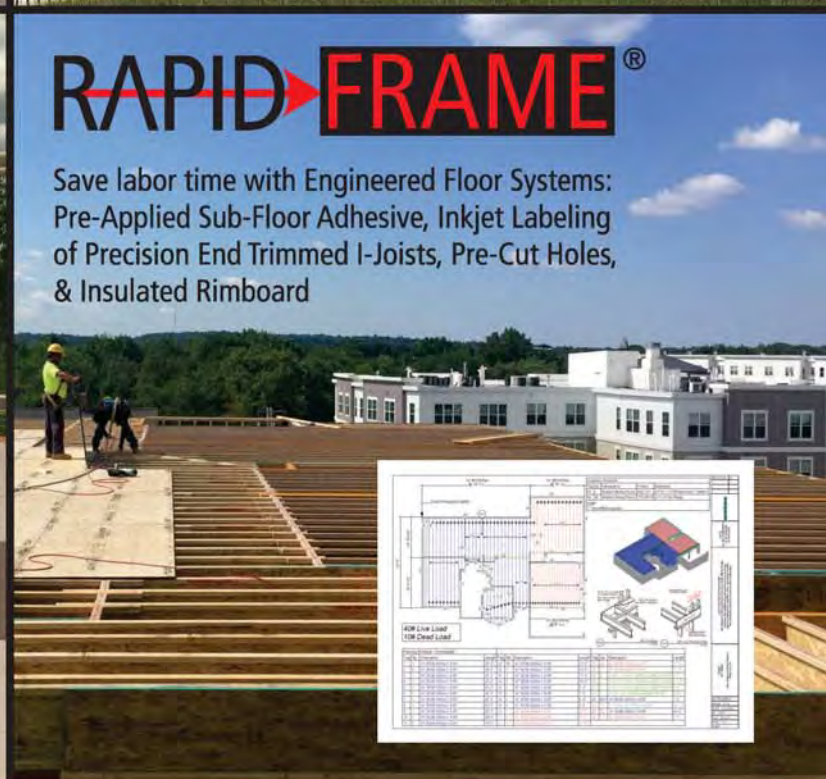
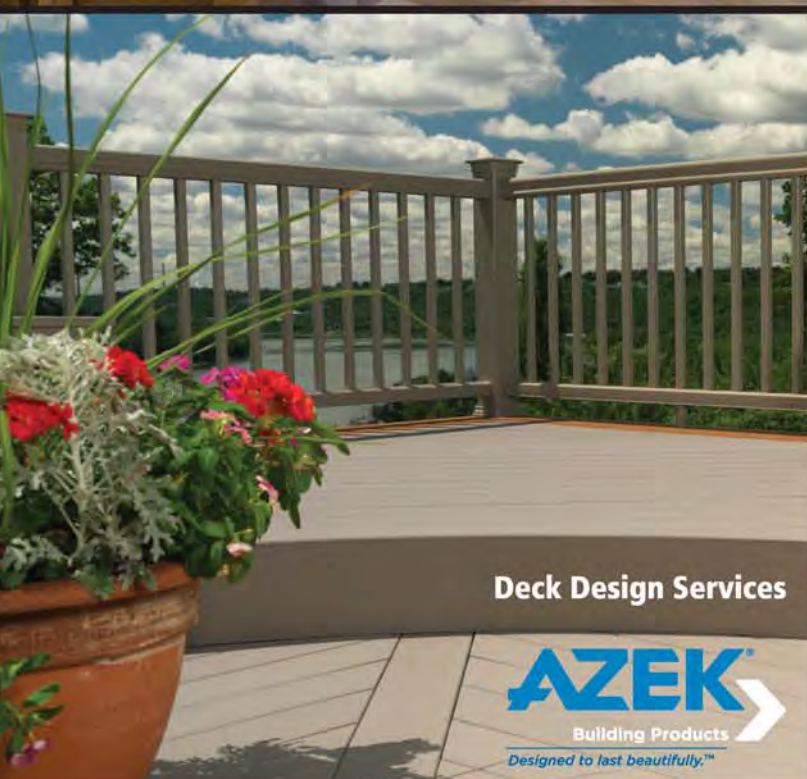
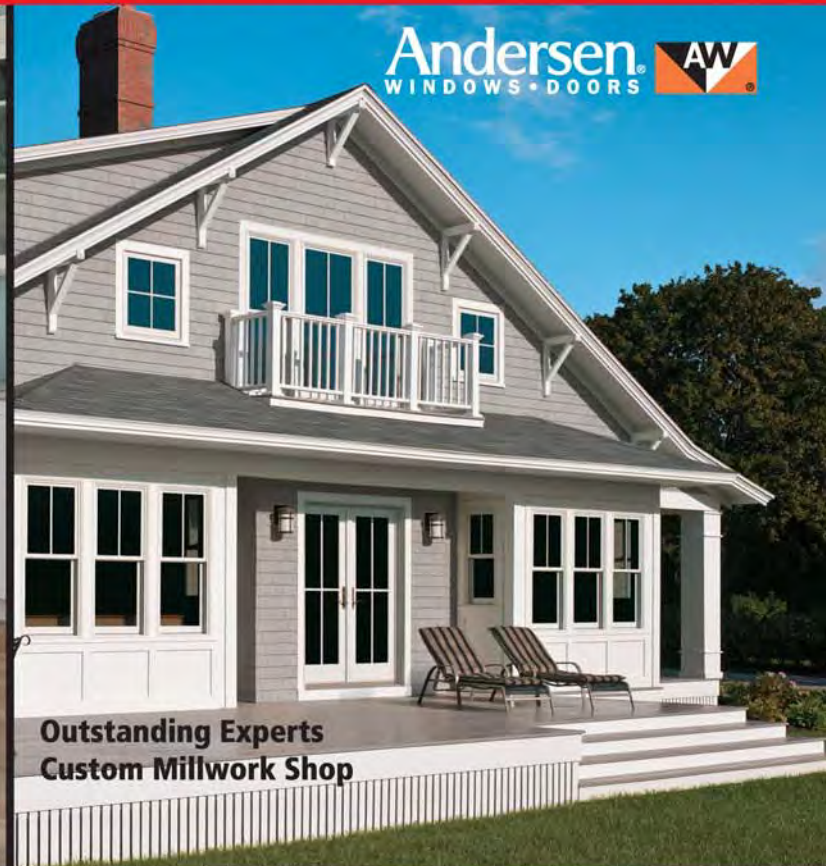
"If we continue our hard work with our coalition of employers, educators and government, Rhode Island will have a unified, statewide, K-to-14 CTE system, second to none in the world, on a par with, or better than, programs in Germany, South Korea or any U.S. state," he said.

"That's an ambitious goal, but we intend to achieve it."

Watch *The Rhode Island Builder* for more information as this issue develops.

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Headquarters in Mansfield, MA

Member Profile: Ed Beauchemin of Energy Geeks® , Inc.

From lumber to energy-efficient design!

By Paul F. Eno Editor

Nobody can accuse Ed Beauchemin of having modest ambitions.

“My goal is to build houses that produce all the energy they consume. Eventually, I want to build whole neighborhoods that do that,” says the energetic lumber-dealer-turned-energy-efficient home designer.

“I like the idea of energy conservation. It was something my father instilled in us when we were young,” adds Ed, a Woonsocket native.

The “we” are Ed and his siblings (and fellow members of the Rhode Island Builders Association) Anne and Steve. Their dad, Richard, took over the family business, Beauchemin Lumber, in Woonsocket in 1969. An institution in Rhode Island’s northernmost city, the company was founded by Ed’s grandfather, Alcee H. Beauchemin, as A.H. Beauchemin & Sons in 1949.

“It was truly a family company,” Ed says. “My brother, sister and I took over in the late 1990s.”

Ed handled sales for the company, but he had other plans growing in his mind.

“I did sales there, but I also did estimating, material take-offs from blueprints brought in by contractors. I got very good at reading plans. I also got into weatherization work, insulation and air sealing for lower-income people.”

This led Ed into some rewarding projects with Rhode Island Housing and a number of community action groups. Eventually, Ed started designing houses himself. Soon, he left Beauchemin Lumber in the able hands of his brother and sister, and he founded his own company: Beauchemin Designs.

“I liked the idea of the energy conservation. I’ve designed hundreds of houses and additions for clients, and I’ve been providing



Ed Beauchemin

already has a construction supervisor license in Massachusetts.

He’s always attending trainings and learning new things.

“National Grid is a big player in energy conservation, and they always offer trainings on how to save money on more efficient heating systems, air conditioning, insulation, thermal envelopes, air sealing and all the rest.”

What’s next for Ed and Energy Geeks?

“We’re taking the solar path!” he says.

Energy Geeks has partnered with Pawtucket-based Sunwatt Solar on a project-in-planning that would put solar on 37 commercial buildings in greater Woonsocket. Beyond that is another potential commercial solar project, along with a possible solar farm in Woonsocket and Blackstone, Massachusetts.

“As old resources and methods become impractical and new technologies emerge, people will naturally turn to greater efficiency and renewable energy,” Ed states.

One wonders how Ed finds time for his favorite hobby: sculpture.

Ed joined RIBA in 1996 but didn’t stay involved because “life got in the way.” But seeing a new vibrancy in the association in recent years, he rejoined in 2016.

“I like the idea of the Builders Insurance Group (see page 11), and I’m working with them on an insurance package that’s a better fit for my company,” he said.

“I also take advantage of the networking, the social events, and the tuition-free education. I’m always looking for new ways to learn!”

Find out more about Ed and Energy Geeks at Energygeeksincl.com.

Energy Geeks® Inc.

President: Edward B. Beauchemin

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Members receive discounted exhibit space

Start planning for the Home Show!

Summer is already winding down, and fall is just around the corner, so it's not too early to start planning your participation in the Rhode Island Builders Association's premier marketing event of the year: The Rhode Island Home Show in the spring!



Since 1948, RIBA has presented this landmark regional event, which today takes place every Spring at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence.

The Home Show is attended by thousands of your potential customers from all over southern New England, all interested in building or buying a new home, or in remodeling or deco-

rating their existing homes.

Hundreds of companies have exhibited their products and services, and have met thousands of new clients, at the Home Show. RIBA members who exhibit receive a 5 percent discount on booth rates!

Garden & Flower Show Now Included

As of 2017, the Home Show now incorporates the Rhode Island


Garden and Flower Show. That, along with many other new and exciting attractions, has drawn more and more visitors, many of whom need your products or services.

Attractions in recent years have included The Home Technology Experience; the 12-room Designers Show House, Landscape Solution Centers, a solar-powered greenhouse, a Kitchen and Bath Showcase, and the Energy Expo. There are myriad demonstrations and seminars, from cooking to art and furniture, to interest visitors.

There are new attractions every year.

RIBA offers help with exhibit design, and there's a special section for members who would like to just "get their feet wet" and exhibit for a day or two rather than for all four days.

As an added bonus, you can meet and greet your future employees. Under the eyes of their instructors and trade professionals, hundreds of career and technical education (CTE) students of all trades (*see page 10*) engage with the show. They not only build many of the primary attractions, but they also serve as guides during the event.

It's not too soon to start planning your exhibit at the 68th Annual Home Show in 2018. Visit RIBAhomeshow.com for information, or call Under Home Show – the last sentence should be changed to...for more information, call Bob Yoffe at 800-963-3395. 

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UBS golf event raises \$42,000 for YMCA program

By Paul F. Eno Editor

It was a gorgeous day to raise \$42,000 for the Toni's Kids Integration Initiative at the Ocean Community YMCA.


The event was the Rose and Harold Slosberg Memorial 2017 YMCA Invitational, sponsored on June 21st by Westerly-based United Builders Supply (UBS). So many golfers participated (144) that they had to be split between the Winnapaug Country Club and the Weekapaug Golf Club. Afterward, some 160 people turned out at Winnapaug for dinner and awards.

A hole-in-one!

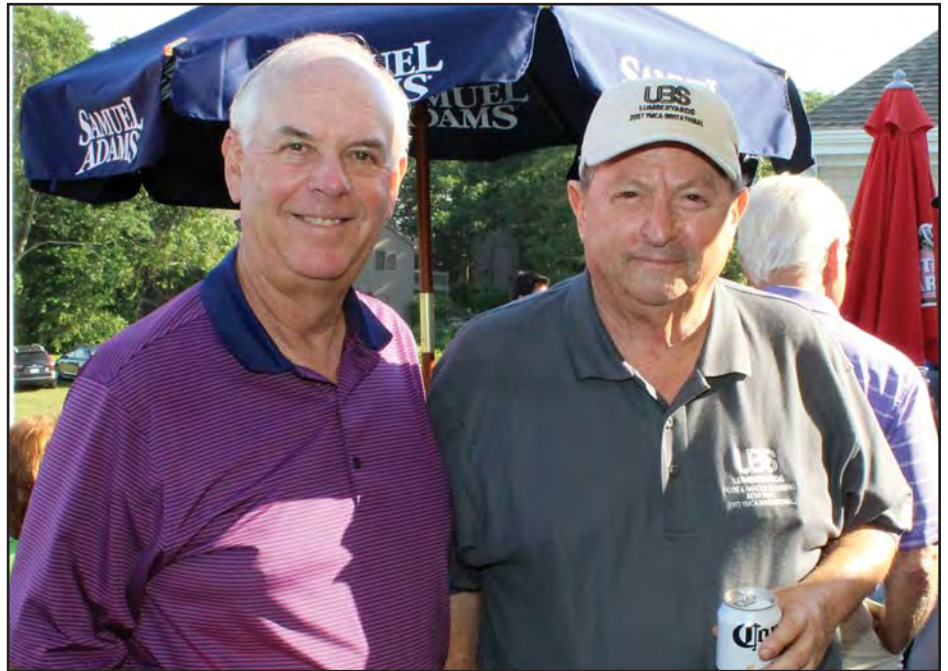
Top scorers for the day were the four-some that included none other than Rhode Island Builders Association Past President Fred Schick, along with Jim Mahoney, Mal Makin and Maureen Fitzgerald. Topping even that was the feat that made the day and had everyone wowing: A hole-in-one by Maureen, CEO of the Ocean Community YMCA, on the prize-winning Hole #3.

This was the 32nd year for the event to benefit the Ocean Community YMCA, with which UBS and the Slosberg Family have always had a close relationship. All proceeds benefited the Y's Toni's Kids Integration Initiative, which helps children with developmental disabilities thrive at Camp Watchaug.

Many RIBA members were among the event sponsors, including Diamond Sponsor Andersen Corp. RIBA itself was a gold sponsor.

For more information about the Rose and Harold Slosberg Memorial YMCA Invitational, contact Crystal Wilcox at UBS cwilcox@unitedbuilderssupply.com. 

**For membership information
contact Elise Geddes
(401) 438-7400 or
egeddes@ribuilders.org**



Frederick D. Schick, left, president of the Rhode Island Builders Association 1992-1993, is with United Builders Supply President A. Michael Slosberg at the Rose and Harold Slosberg Memorial 2017 YMCA Invitational on June 21st.

Jobs Bank marches on


Need skilled workers? Use the online Jobs Bank at RCWPJobs.com!

The numbers of job candidates and the employers hoping to hire them continue to trend upward at the Jobs Bank, and there were signs in June that the amount of job seekers' resumes and the jobs available were evening out.

As of June 30th, 559 employers were registered at RCWPJobs.com, up from 554 in early June, 548 in May, 545 in April and 537 in March. There were 267 job candidates registered (up from 265 in early June, 249 in May, 235 in April and 217 in March). There were 56 jobs posted (compared with 54 in early June, 55 in May, 59 in April and 58 in March), indicating that some job candidates who are available are being hired. There were 67 job seekers' resumes posted on the site, one more than in early June.

The Jobs Bank is a tool created by the Residential Construction Workforce Partnership (RCWP), with the Rhode Island Builders Association as its hub.

"Members interested in hiring career and technical education (CTE) graduates or other qualified workers don't want to miss out and should quickly register for their free accounts at RCWPJobs.com," said RIBA Marketing Director Cheryl Boyd.

"RIBA and RCWP will continue to concentrate on job training, career and technical education, and to attracting young people to choose our industry in Rhode Island for building a career," she added. For more information, contact Ms. Boyd at (401) 438-7400 or cboyd@ribuilders.org. 

Continuing Education for Contractors

Courses headlined in **RED** on the Education Pages qualify for state-mandated continuing education requirements for contractors. All contractors in Rhode Island must take five credit hours of continuing education within 24 months of their next renewal date.

Five Credit Hours: Deck Codes, Shingle Design, Construction Regulations

August 9th

WHEN: Wednesday, August 9th, 8 a.m.-1:30 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 \$15 materials/registration fee. \$150 for non-members, with a \$15 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 will cover:

- Deck Construction Codes: Sorting out codes and solutions.
- Creative Shingle Design.
- Common Construction Regulations and the Regulatory Agencies.

You must pre-register for this course. There will be no admittance without pre-registration. Payment is due upon registration. Participants must provide proof of employment with a member company for the class to be free. Lunch is included.



Five Credit Hours: OSHA

Safety Review

August 22nd, September 26th

WHEN: Tuesday, August 22nd, and Tuesday, September 26th, 8 a.m. to 1:30 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 \$15 materials/registration fee. A \$150 charge for non-members and a \$15 materials/registration fee.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER: One week before class. No admittance without pre-registration and payment.

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

Join instructor Scott Asprey for an "OSHA Safety Review" to improve your knowledge and compliance, and avoid accidents and costly fines.

Subjects will include a review of jobsite safety rules, fall protection, ladders and scaffolding, and confined spaces. You must pre-register for this course. There will be no admittance without pre-registration. Payment is due upon registration. Participants must provide proof of employment with a member company for the class to be free. Lunch is included.






Award-Winning Monthly Magazine of The Rhode Island Builders Association

June 2016

Governor addresses RIBA board



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Supreme Court strikes down E.G. impact fees

Rhode Island's high court has reversed a Superior Court ruling that upheld the impact fees charged by the Town of East Greenwich

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OSHA-10 Course

September 21st-22nd

WHEN: Thursday and Friday, September 21st and 22nd, 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 intended for safety directors, foremen and employees. It highlights the areas of major safety concerns for anyone on a jobsite.

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.

You must pre-register for this course. There will be no admittance without pre-registration. Payment is due upon registration. Participants must provide proof of employment with a member company for the class to be free.

Lunch is included.



NOTICE TO MEMBERS ON RIBA CLASSES AND SEMINARS

***The Rhode Island
Builders Association reserves the
right to limit the number of attendees
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for class to be free of tuition charges.***

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New legislation will help reduce the cost of construction in R.I.



Steven Carlino

Cutting the high costs of home construction in our state is a primary goal of the Rhode Island Builders Association, and three new laws will help us toward that goal. *Related story on page 2.*

When it costs less to build a home, the people who need housing most will be more able to afford it. And with higher home ownership comes more stable communities and better local and state economies.

The "Timetable Bill" is an important step toward "killing two birds with one stone" because it cuts permitting times, which in itself will reduce housing costs.

The Impact Fee Reform Bill is another important move toward fairness and reducing housing prices. RIBA has always believed that development impact fees are unnecessary, needlessly raising costs. This newly enacted legislation will compel municipalities that have impact fees to justify them every five years, and to return

the money if not spent as legally specified.

When it comes to the State Building Code Standards Committee legislation, two extra seats, specifically for RIBA members, have a very practical purpose. They will help ensure that qualified members of the residential construction industry are present on the board that determines the codes that industry will follow.

One bill we supported, and that was still pending when the legislature adjourned, would establish an infrastructure grant program with an eye toward upgrading and expanding drinking water and sewer infrastructure, which is very important for residential growth.

We will continue to work on that bill as it relates to the 2018 General Assembly session. In the meantime, we thank our government affairs advocates, and all members who worked with them, for another good legislative year.



Roland J. Fiore

RIBA's Legislative Committee

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CRLB joins national crackdown on illegal contractors

The Rhode Island Contractors' Registration and Licensing Board (CRLB) participated in a national "enhanced enforcement operation," in conjunction with seven other state members of the National Association of State Contractors Licensing Agencies (NASCLA) between June 5th and 16th.

CRLB staff, including enforcement officer Steven Gianlorenzo, a past president of the Rhode Island Builders Association, altogether visited some 30 construction sites across Rhode Island as part of the effort.

In checking and verifying contractor's registrations for both residential and commercial structures, 17 violations were issued. Most of those issued were non-registered contractor violations, and three violations were issued for hiring subcontractors who were not registered.

Contractors have a right to an administrative hearing with the possibility of a reduction in fines. Contractors can incur up to \$5,000 in fines for these violations.

"We were able to conduct a highly effective, enhanced-enforcement operation, and I want to thank NASCLA and its members for their collaboration and for an opportunity to promote consumer protection and ensure a level playing field for registered and licensed contractors," said CRLB Executive Director George Whalen.

RIBA has always supported efforts such as this to get outlaw contractors off the streets.

The seven other states participating in the sweep were Arizona, California, Florida, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington.

Nationally, 675 violations were issued.

For more information on CRLB, visit CRB.ri.gov




Photo courtesy WPRI 12

Steven Gianlorenzo, a Contractors Registration and Licensing Board enforcement officer and a past president of the Rhode Island Builders Association, talks with Susan Campbell of Channel 12 during the sweep.

ATTENTION RIBA MEMBERS

The Rhode Island Contractors Registration and Licensing Board (CRLB) is in the process of reviewing and updating its construction standards as well as its rules and regulations.

Accordingly, CRLB is requesting input from members of the construction industry. If you have any comments or suggestions, you may submit them electronically to the CRLB via their website (CRB.ri.gov) or e-mail them to RIBA Membership Relations Coordinator Elise Geddes (egeddes@ribuilders.org) and she will forward your recommendations to the CRLB.



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Robert P. Matuga

Asst. Vice President, Labor, Safety and Health Services
National Association of Home Builders

Rob Matuga has held his current post at the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) for nearly 17 years. His responsibilities include developing strategies to address regulatory and policy matters that affect the residential construction industry. Previously, he was a senior consultant at Booz Allen Hamilton, a Virginia-based strategy and technology consulting firm.

He holds a master's degree in safety and environmental management from West Virginia University, and he is active in the American Society of Safety Engineers.



THE BUILDER: How is the new administration affecting OSHA's policies and mission?

MATUGA: It's difficult to predict what will happen, but it's an excellent question. The Trump Administration has only been in place for about six months, but the president has made pretty clear that regulatory reform is high on his list of priorities. He's been rolling back regulations that don't make a lot of sense, that are onerous, and that just don't create any benefit.

We're seeing that in a short period of time.

There's still no head of OSHA (as of this writing), though there is Secretary of Labor R. Alexander Acosta, who is responsible for OSHA. Still, without an assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health, running OSHA, setting priorities, policies and mission, it's hard to tell which way they're going.

I can tell you that regulatory reform and rollback have been talked about and are taking place. One thing they've rolled back is the "union walkaround rule," which allowed employees at non-union workplaces to choose a union-affiliated representative for "walkaround" inspections.

Now, if the inspector wants to bring in a non-employee for a walkaround, they actually have to have some value, someone with some very specific expertise. They would have to be a certified industrial hygienist, a certified safety professional or someone of that caliber.

What the last administration did, in its letter of interpretation on this rule, was open the door to any non-employee to walk the jobsite during an OSHA inspection, usually a union representative. It was a way of getting them in the door.

We're also seeing some movement on several other rules of concern to us. OSHA has announced that they're delaying enforce-

ment of the Silica Rule until September 23rd rather than June 23rd, when it was originally supposed to begin. Businesses now have an extra 90 days to prepare.

OSHA also announced that they are extending the deadline for filing electronic records, which was supposed to begin on July 1st. There's a proposal to extend it to December 1st.

Also, the Obama Administration OSHA Beryllium Rule has been suspended. Beryllium is a natural substance that occurs in soils and in coal ash, which is used in some building products, primarily concrete.

A new rule has been issued containing a short-exposure limit for construction. And they are considering eliminating other ancillary provisions of the rule.

So even without a permanent OSHA chief, they're extending deadlines and looking at changing rules, all in a short

amount of time.

THE BUILDER: What have you noticed in OSHA's overall enforcement emphases for 2017 when it comes to residential construction?

MATUGA: My sense is that enforcement is part of what OSHA does, and there will continue to be an enforcement emphasis.

One thing that might change: The previous administration issued a lot of press releases about employers, construction or otherwise, who were cited for violations with large fines attached. And these were just citations, not final adjudications. They made a big deal about using the press releases to shame violators.

Under the new administration, we haven't seen a lot of press releases. If you look at the recent releases, there isn't a lot about companies being cited. OSHA is still out there enforcing and writing citations. We're just not seeing the publicity about them.

THE BUILDER: You've mentioned that enforcement of the Silica Rule has been delayed until September 23rd. Is that rule as expensive as it looks for contractors?

MATUGA: I wish I could comment extensively on that, but NAHB has ongoing litigation. We do believe that the rule is both technologically and economically infeasible, meaning that the engineering and work-practice controls to mitigate silica dust are beyond our current technology.

see *INTERVIEW...next page*

INTERVIEW...from previous page

Also, we believe that OSHA's economic data drastically underestimates the cost to the construction industry. OSHA has this as \$900 million annually for the entire industry. Our own estimates are five times larger than that.

THE BUILDER: Can you talk about the revised record-keeping rule, anti-retaliation and post-incident drug testing, etc.?

MATUGA: Once again, we do have active and ongoing litigation on this rule, including the electronic record-keeping part. As I said, OSHA has proposed to extend that from July to December.

They're also looking at revising this rule, to perhaps rework or remove other provisions.

THE BUILDER: What other new or revised rules can be expected over the next year?

MATUGA: My sense is that everyone is trying to figure out how OSHA is looking at the regulatory reform the administration has initiated. President Trump recently issued two executive orders on how to deal with these rules and regulations.

One of these was issued on January 30th and other on February 24th. Executive Order 13771, "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs," requires federal agencies to eliminate two old regulations for each new one promulgated, and to do it in such a way that the total cost of regulation doesn't increase.

So in terms of what's coming, I think the agencies are looking at what regulations they can roll back, where they can streamline. Maybe there are paperwork requirements or similar areas where they can cut.

The second step, after they've reduced the regulatory burden, is to see that the new regulation they want to put in place doesn't increase the cost burden.

The second executive order, 13777, "Enforcing the Regulatory Reform Agenda," establishes regulatory watchdogs inside all the federal agencies. They are looking at where reform can take place that's consistent with the president's priorities. I think he's been pretty clear that over-regulation has a definite impact on businesses, especially small businesses.

As we know, the vast majority of members of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and the Rhode Island Builders Association are small businesses.

In terms of looking into the crystal ball, it's still hard to tell what the rest of the year will bring in terms of new OSHA regulations. I think they're trying to figure that out in light of these two executive orders.

THE BUILDER: Given what you've said so far, what's your advice for small contractors in preparing for a jobsite inspection?

MATUGA: Small contractors need to be aware of the rules and regulations that are still in place, and that impact what they themselves do.

If you're a roofer, what are the requirements for fall protection? What are the other personal protective-gear requirements,

like hard hats and safety glasses? Are the ladders and scaffolding properly placed?

The top 10 violations cited by OSHA (*see next page*) is an excellent place for contractors to start.

These are the things OSHA has always concentrated on for construction. Certainly for our industry, fall protection has been the number-one cited violation: walking/working surfaces for framers and roofers; not providing guard rails, personal fall-arrest systems, floor-hole covers. Those are the types of things contractors need to pay attention to.

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f t in

The top 10 OSHA violations

National Association of Home Builders

Every October, OSHA releases a preliminary list of the 10 most frequently-cited safety and health violations for the fiscal year, compiled from nearly 32,000 inspections of workplaces. The list rarely changes.

Year after year, OSHA inspectors see thousands of the same on-the-job hazards, any one of which could result in a fatality or severe injury. More than 4,500 workers are killed on the job every year, and approximately 3 million are injured, despite the fact that, by law, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces.

"If all employers simply corrected the top 10 hazards, we are confident the number of deaths, amputations and hospitalizations would drastically decline," an OSHA spokesman said.

Consider this list a starting point for workplace safety:

Fall protection, hazard communication, scaffolds, respiratory protection, lockout/tagout, powered industrial trucks, ladders, machine guarding, electrical wiring, and electrical (general requirements).

"It's no coincidence that falls are among the leading causes of worker deaths, particularly in construction, and our top 10 list features lack of fall protection as well as ladder and scaffold safety issues," OSHA said.

"We know how to protect workers from falls, and have an ongoing campaign to inform employers and workers about these measures. Employers must take these issues seriously."

OSHA also stressed that too many workers are killed or injured when machinery starts up suddenly while being repaired, or hands and fingers are exposed to moving parts on power tools.

"Installing guards to keep hands, feet and other appendages away from moving machinery prevents amputations and worse."

Respiratory protection is essential for preventing long term and, sometimes, fatal health problems associated with breathing in asbestos, silica or a host of other toxic substances, according to OSHA.

Rounding out the top 10 list are violations related to electrical safety, an area where the dangers are well-known on construction jobsites.

"We urge employers to go beyond the minimal requirements to create a culture of safety at work, which has been shown to reduce costs, raise productivity and improve morale."

OSHA has released new recommendations for creating a safety and health program at workplaces.

"We have many additional resources, including a wealth of information on our website, along with our free and confidential On-site Consultation Program. But tackling the most common hazards is a good place to start saving workers' lives and limbs," OSHA said. Visit OSHA.gov for more information.

LEGISLATION...from page 2

Expansion of State Building Code Standards Committee

Legislation was also enacted into law providing RIBA direct representation on the State Building Code Standards Committee. The bills expanded the Committee from 23 seats to 25, the additional two specifically being from RIBA.

The Senate bill, S-479, was sponsored by Sens. Frank Lombardi (D-Cranston), Erin Lynch Prata (D-Warwick, Cranston), McCaffrey, Archambault and Paul V. Jabour (D-Providence).

The House bill, H-5659, was sponsored by Rep. Robert Craven (D-North Kingstown).

RIBA's advocacy a formidable task

"Every year a couple thousand bills are introduced in the legislature, and we review every one. Any bill of concern to the residential construction industry is submitted to RIBA's Legislative Committee, where we analyze and prioritize RIBA positions," said Ms. Wolf.

"We cover the legislature every day – testifying on bills, talking with lawmakers, and engaging stakeholders about RIBA priorities. Engagement from RIBA members is also key to this process, as your first-hand perspectives add practical perspectives to the issues being considered, which helps promote and safeguard the industry."

RIBA Executive Director John Marcantonio echoed this.

"Every year, RIBA works with policy makers and with feedback from our industry to help ease the high costs of home construction in Rhode Island," Mr. Marcantonio said. "This is the goal of our legislative advocacy. When we succeed, our members succeed, and so do people who need affordable housing, and our state's economy along with them."

For more information about these new laws, contact Mr. Marcantonio at (401) 438-7400 or jmarcantonio@ribuilders.org.



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PRESIDENT...from page 5

While our commodity products are manufactured overseas, the growth of our company is in specialization, additive manufacturing and 3D printing. We work closely with our customers, and are able to be flexible and rapidly responsive to specialized requests.”

“This is fascinating, Mr. Publius. Why have you chosen East Williamstown, a pro-business municipality?”

“Mr. Arcanum, though we will continue a presence in our historical home, we are no longer able to attract and retain the designers, engineers and technical-manufacturing specialists we need to grow.

“We need direct access to universities, trade colleges, and young people interested in well-paid, specialty-manufacturing jobs. We also need direct access to an airport. But most importantly for our employees, we’re looking for a suburban community that offers a high quality of life for our employees and their families. We pay good salaries, wages and benefits that facilitate a strong, middle-class lifestyle. East Williamstown has a lot of potential.”

“Thank you, Mr. Publius. We’re very proud that East Williamstown is a special and unique place. It’s our duty here in the Development Department to preserve and protect the special and unique character of our town. What did you have in mind?”

“We’ve identified two large, adjacent parcels on Main Road, one an abandoned car dealership, and the other a run-down strip mall. This encompasses about eight acres. We require about 80,000 square feet of new building, the majority for additive manufacturing, but with about 20,000 square feet of office space. And, of course, we will need adequate parking for about 100 employees.”

“Very interesting. What attracted you to Main Road? It’s a very special and unique road.”

“By outward appearances, Main Road looks somewhat distressed. There are a lot of abandoned properties. But the overall location is excellent, on the bus line, with housing and retail within easy walking distance. Our employees have professed a desire for such amenities, and these can’t usually be found in an industrial-park setting.”

“Just out of curiosity, have you considered a more urban location?”

“Yes, we looked at Providence, a wonderful city with so much to offer. Proximity to Providence is a very large draw in our relocation. I expect a number of our employees to live in the city, and I may do so myself. But as far as a location for our company, the fit just isn’t quite there for what we do. The majority of our employees profess a desire to live in more suburban communities, like East Williamstown, where they can buy a house and drive to work.”

“I see. What’s your timeline?”

“We have the plans for the facility engineered, and we could reasonably expect to build the facility in about nine months, with an additional month to fit and finish. So, if we assume a month or two to get all our permits in order, I would expect that we should be up and running by this time next year. What do we need to do to make that happen?”

To be continued next month.

NAHB questions proposed tariff on Canadian lumber

The proposed tariff on Canadian lumber imports amounts to another tax on home builders.

That’s the word from Granger MacDonald, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

“This latest action by the Commerce Dept. to impose anti-dumping duties of up to more than 7 percent on Canadian lumber shipments into the U.S. is basically another tax on American home builders and home buyers that will jeopardize affordable housing in America,” Mr. MacDonald, a Texas home builder, said on June 27th.

“Adding this new tariff to the proposed 20 percent countervailing lumber duty that the Trump Administration slapped on imports of lumber this spring means that total tariffs would be a whopping 27 percent. Given that lumber is a major component in new home construction, the combined duties will harm housing affordability and price countless American households out of the housing market,” he added.

Mr. MacDonald emphasized that a robust housing market is essential to stimulate jobs and economic growth.

“With the U.S. housing sector regaining its footing, imposing arbitrary protectionist restrictions to subsidize domestic lumber producers will blunt this forward momentum and make homeownership more expensive for hard-working families. Clearly, this is not the way to resolve the U.S.-Canada lumber trade dispute or to boost the American economy.”

Roughly a third of U.S. lumber comes from Canada, largely because of limited U.S. sources.

“Policymakers need to take steps to significantly reduce red tape that prevents the U.S. Forest Service from better managing its timber lands and increase the delivery of domestic timber products into the market,” Mr. MacDonald said.





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**Contact Elizabeth Carpenter at the RIBA office,
ecarpenter@ribuilders.org or at (401) 438-7400.**