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Deep East Texas Association of Builders
 HOME PRODUCTS SHOW
At the Lufkin Pitser-Garrison Civic Center

601 N. Second St., Lufkin, TX

Phone: 936-875-3000

Fax: 936-875-3001

E-mail: cathleendetab@consolidated.net

January 23-25, 2009

Open to the Public:

Friday night 6 pm to 9 pm

Saturday 9 am to 7 pm

Sunday 12 am to 5 pm

Ticket Prices \$5.00, children under 12 Free

On the Lawn: Kid Zone with Bounce Room

Supervised by Diboll Boy Scout Troop # 128

CONTACT CATHLEEN AT DETAB

(936) 875-3000 or cathleendetab@consolidated.net

with any questions or for tickets



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Page 2-Letter from the President; HomePac	Page 4—Ads	Page 6—TAB News	Page 8—Happy New Year !

Letter from the President

Dear DETAB Members,

Our DETAB Christmas Party on Thursday, December 18 was a great get-together! We had 55 members and guests who all had fun dining, dancing, and catching up. There were Christmas present door prizes given, and everyone had a very merry Christmas celebration. Those of you who won DETAB gift certificates, contact the DETAB office to cash in on them! We hope all of you had a happy and safe Christmas.

This will be my last reminder to you of the Home Products Show January 23– 25. We will have a full roster of exhibitors, and tickets to the show will be available soon, so contact the office for batches if you want to get them out to your customers and contacts. We have had numerous leads in the past from our home shows, and this year will be as successful as ever.

2009 is upon us! A lot of hard work will go into the New Year to keep us on the business track, and DETAB is ramping up for it, too. Be on the lookout for new programs and activities from us this year to include a **calendar of events, formation of the upcoming year's committees, and productive Membership Meetings.**

Wishing all of you a happy and prosperous New Year,

John Bryan

DETAB Members Luncheon January 8, 2008
12:00 at Cuzco's Bar & Grill, 2900 Ted Trout Dr. (Hwy 94 West)
After January's Luncheon, all Member Meetings will be held
 on FIRST THURSDAYS at 12:00 unless otherwise notified.

YOUR HomePac Contributions at Work

Rally Day at the Capitol, Austin, Texas February 25, 2009

See next page

Lobby for the interests of the Building Industry

DETAB HomePAC Contributions		2008		
		2008 GOAL	2008 Given	% of Goal
		\$ 5,025.00	\$ 6,100.00	121%
AMOUNT	PAYEE	DATE	NOTES	
\$ 250.00	David Allen	3/1/08	Gold Key 1/4	
\$ 250.00	Rick Renfro	3/1/08	Gold Key 1/4	
\$ 1,000.00	Melvin Linton	6/6/08	Gold Key	
\$ 250.00	Rick Renfro	6/18/08	Gold Key 1/4	
\$ 250.00	Rick Renfro	9/5/08	Gold Key 1/4	
\$ 1,000.00	Mike Hineman	9/26/08	Gold Key	
\$ 400.00	Bottle Auction Donation	11/6/08	Bottle Auction	
\$ 1,000.00	Jack Greene	11/6/08	Gold Key	
\$ 950.00	Bottle Auction Donation	11/6/08	Bottle Auction	
\$ 500.00	Bottle Auction Donation	11/6/08	Bottle Auction	
\$ 250.00	Rick Renfro	12/2/08	Gold Key 1/4	

RALLY
'09
DAY

*“Where **Texas** Builders
Make **History**”*

- ★ *Build relationships with your Texas State Senators & Representatives*
- ★ *Take a stand on issues that affect your business and our state*
- ★ *Lobby important issues crucial to the housing industry*
- ★ *Show your support for the association that speaks on your behalf*



February 25, 2009— Texas Capitol Grounds

MEMBERS LIST

BUILDERS

AmeriTex (Alamo Homes)-
**12/31/2008

A-Plus Restoration & Construction-
03/31/2009

Abel Flores General Contractor—
5/31/2009

Baskin Builders-02/28/2009

BC Custom Homes-12/31/2009

Billy Horton Builders—05/31/2009

Burton Homes-05/31/2009

C Square Development—
05/31/2009

Carl Bolton Construction-
01/31/2009

Christian Home Builders-
02/28/2009

Custom Construction-05/31/2009

DB Builders-08/30/2009

DB Construction-03/31/2009

Diboll Williams Construction-
05/31/2009

Dixon Construction –05/31/2009

Dream Homes & Drafting-
02/28/2009

Frank Burrows Construction-
02/28/2009

Goodwyn Construction-
04/30/2009

Hamel Tile Construction-
03/31/2009

Handmade Enterprises-
05/31/2009

Homes By Hershel-02/28/2009

Hunter's Remodel & Construction-
03/31/2009

JCB Builders-05/31/2009

Jeff Hamilton Construction—
04/30/2009

Jim Ross Warren Construction-
05/31/2009

Kerry Powell Construction—
05/17/2009

McCleskey Enterprises-
05/31/2009

McNeil Construction-05/31/2009

Melvin Linton Homes-02/28/2009

Montes Homes-05/31/2009

Nu Trend Homes—05/31/2009

Leon Morris Construction-
05/31/2009

Palacio's Remodeling & Contrac-
tor-05/31/2009

Parker Homes & Repair-
10/31/2009

Pat Foley Construction—
05/31/2009

Skillern Construction-02/28/2009

Stewart Construction-05/31/2009

Stricklen Homes-07/31/2009

The Card-Miles Group-07/31/2009

Tony Ware Construction—
5/31/2009

Western Builders-02/28/2009

ASSOCIATES

A-1 Johnny Portable Toilets-
05/31/2009

A-1 Rent All-09/30/2009

Acme Brick Company-05/31/2009

Alligator Annie's—05/31/2009

American Real Estate-05/31/2009

Angelina Bath & Marble-
05/31/2009

Angelina Glass-05/31/2009

Angelina Savings Bank-
05/31/2009

Angelina Title-05/31/2009

Bancorp South—07/31/2009

Barrett Appliance-05/31/2009

Better Business Bureau-07/31/2009

Big Tin Barn-05/31/2009

Boral Bricks-09/30/2009

Burton Homes--09/30/2009

Carpets by Curiosity-07/31/2009

CB Donovan Real Estate-
05/31/2009

Center Point Energy-09/30/2009

Century AC Supply -09/30/2009

City of Lufkin Inspections-
05/31/2009

Coburn's Supply-05/31/2009

Commercial Bank-05/31/2009

Community Title-05/31/2009

Consolidated Communications-
02/28/2009

Contractors Supply-05/31/2009

Countertops By Cannon-
02/28/2009

Crown Pest Control-05/31/2009

Durett Ready Mix-07/31/2009

East Texas Asphalt Company-
02/28/2009

East Texas Brick-10/31/2009

East Texas Inspections—
08/31/2009

Eastex Glass & Mirror-07/31/2009

Elliott Electric-05/31/2009

Enviro-Tech Insulation-05/31/2009

Everett Griffith & Associates-
02/28/2009

Express Personnel Services-
05/31/2009

F & F Electric—05/31/2009

Ferrara's Heating & AC-
10/31/2009

First Bank & Trust-05/31/2009

First Community Bank of the
Woodlands-05/31/2009

Floors-N-More-07/31/2009

Gulf Coast of East Texas-
05/31/2009

Habitat for Humanity of Angelina-
10/31/2009

Habitat for Humanity of Angelina
County —10/31/2009

Habitat for Humanity of Nacogdo-
ches-09/30/2009

Harry's Building Material-
02/28/2009

Hartmann Building Associates-
03/31/2009

Hunt Stone & Fireplace-
02/28/2009

Huntington State Bank-05/31/2009

Integra Group-03/31/2009

John Dyess Painting-03/31/2009

Johnson Appliance—05/31/2009

Johnson Excavating-05/31/2009

King's Plumbing-05/31/2009

Kwik Kerb-01/31/2009

L & S Floor Works-05/31/2009

Leal Landscaping & Lawn Care-
05/31/2009

Lisa Wise Drafting-03/31/2009

Lufkin Daily News-03/31/2009

Lufkin Granite-11/30/2008**

Lynn Williams Construction-
09/30/2009

Maddux Building Materials-
05/31/2009

Mathews Fine Cabinetry-
05/31/2009

McCoy's Lumber-02/28/2009

Morrison Supply-05/31/2009

Mueller Inc-02/28/2009

Nacogdoches Sheet Metal-
05/31/2009

Overhead Door Company-
05/31/2009

Pella Windows & Doors-
12/31/2008

Polk Oil Company-05/31/2009

Pro Foam Insulators-07/31/2009

R & D Marble-05/31/2009

Rite-Way Insulation -05/31/2009

Rod's Drywall—10/31/2009

Ron's Pool Place-04/30/2009

Ritter Lumber-05/31/2009

Ross Motor Sports-05/31/2009

Safeco Security-05/31/2009

Seamans Construction Company-
09/30/2009

Sears Commercial- **08/31/2008

Security & Guarantee-05/31/2009

Sherwin Williams-05/31/2009

Signs by Debbie-07/31/2008**

Socia Septic Systems-05/31/2009

Southern Tile-02/28/2009

Stolz Engineering-05/31/2009

Stone Woodworks-05/31/2009

Temple Inland Forest Products-
05/31/2009

Texas Custom Cabinets-
12/31/2009

Texas State Bank-02/28/2009

The Attic Lift-05/31/2009

The Tradesman-05/31/2009

TNT Electric Company-05/31/2009

Tom Brown AC & Electric-
05/31/2009

Transit Mix Concrete-05/31/2009

Truss Plumbing -05/31/2009

Walker & Byrd Building Materials-
05/31/2009

Weatherization Partners-
03/31/2009

Weatherman Roofing-03/31/2009

Wright Renovations-05/31/2009

WELCOME NEW MEMBER !

Efficient Climate Control—
12/31/2009

Cancellations:

James Taylor Construction

Specialtees

Lowerance Wholesale Blinds

** Denotes members who are soon to have membership expire or who are in the grace period. Contact the DETAB office for renewal in order to keep your membership active. (936) 875-3000

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Just like you, your employees need flexibility in their health care coverage. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas offers health insurance coverage designed to be flexible and meet the needs of TAB members.

Sound good? More information about the TAB Health Insurance Program is available when you logon to aycockandfowlerins.com. Request a no obligation quote for your greatest asset – your employees by contacting Abby Schrader at (866) 426-4990 toll-free or by e-mail at aschrader@aandfins.com.



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Registered Home Builder

We are still looking for articles to submit for the clickable house! See Cathleen at the DETAB office to submit.



TAB NEWS

Dear TAB member,

On Tuesday night, at the end of an almost 12 hour hearing where the Sunset Commission discussed everything from TxDOT to Texas Parks and Wildlife to the Texas Youth Commission, the members adopted their recommendations on the TRCC. These recommendations will now be drafted into a bill by the Sunset Commission staff. This bill must go through the legislative process like any other piece of legislation.

In summary, the Sunset Commission rejected the recommendations of their Sunset staff and recommended continuing the TRCC for another 4 years. Additionally, they made a number of other recommendations that are included in the attached documents. All of these recommendations were adopted unanimously. Of particular importance is that the State-Sponsored Inspection and Dispute Resolution Process (the "SIRP") remains mandatory prior to filing a lawsuit against a builder over a construction defect. This was a significant victory as there was considerable effort and support among several of the commissioners to make the SIRP voluntary. Senator Hegar led the effort to reach the compromise that was adopted (see attached). His adopted recommendation would shorten the timeframes of the SIRP to 105 days and then allow suits to be filed after that time has elapsed (whether the SIRP was concluded or not). This will obviously put the burden on the agency to complete their work in a more expeditious manner. While not perfect, this recommendation is a much better starting point for legislative discussion than the simple recommendation that did not pass to make the SIRP voluntary.

Other recommendations of note include:

- expanding the make-up of the TRCC Board by two commissioners (one of these would be a public member and the other would be an architect);
- establishing a "purpose clause" that clearly defines the agency's mission and scope in statute;
- creation of a "recovery fund" (There was much discussion and confusion over how this would be funded. Rep. McClendon is the most ardent supporter of this recommendation and attached you will find her initial recommendation over the method of funding. Other Sunset Commissioners disagreed with this funding approach. This will obviously be a major point of discussion as this legislation moves through the process. We remain adamant that the fund, if created, must not be funded by additional fees on builders. Fines on bad actors are a possible source of funding that may be more acceptable to all.) ;
- - 3 hours of continuing education every 2 years;
- codifying the TRCC's ombudsman program;
- removing the requirements of "repeated" violations for disciplinary actions;
- removing the 30 day homeowner notice requirement prior to SIRP;
- authorizing 3rd party inspectors to include additional defects that violate the codes and standards and that fall within the warranty timeframes to be included in the inspectors report; and
- directing the TRCC to study the feasibility of adopting building codes for unincorporated areas.

Overall the hearing went very well for our industry. Tuesday was another very important step in the process. We will now go into the legislative session with a recommendation that is a workable starting point towards a bill that improves the agency without unduly harming the Texas residential construction industry.

The grassroots contacts from the membership along with the extensive work done by our excellent lobby team are to be commended. All twelve of the Sunset Commissioners are to be thanked for their commitment to working with our industry to improve the ability of the TRCC to fulfill its mission. If you have any questions on the Sunset recommendations or would like to discuss what happens next, please do not hesitate to call Ned, Paul, Ashlei or me at TAB.

I hope you and yours have a great holiday season.

M. Scott Norman, Jr.

Executive Director

Texas Association of Builders

For detailed documents on the topics mentioned in this letter, please see Cathleen at the DETAB office for copies or web links.



NAHB[®]
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
OF HOME BUILDERS

NAHB NEWS

December 10, 2008 - The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) is spearheading *Fix Housing First*, one of the largest coalitions of housing advocates ever assembled in the United States, to push for a housing recovery plan that will revive the economy. **“If we are going to successfully pull our nation out of recession, we must address housing first,”** said NAHB President and CEO Jerry Howard. *Fix Housing First*, which consists of more than 600 organizations, home building companies and manufacturers continues to add new members on a daily basis, is pressing for a major stimulus package to stem the decline in home values, stabilize financial markets and reignite consumer demand. To get the economy moving again, the coalition is urging Congress to support enhancements to the home buyer tax credit and provide below-market 30-year fixed-rate mortgages for home purchases. **“If Congress enacts a meaningful tax credit, coupled with an aggressive interest rate buy-down program, we are confident that these measures will help to stabilize home prices, prevent future foreclosures, restore consumer confidence and start creating jobs,”** said Howard. The coalition cites a similar plan that worked in 1975, when the nation was also in the midst of a recession. Congress then passed a short-term \$2,000 tax credit for all new homes (\$12,000 adjusted for today's median home prices) along with subsidized mortgage rates. The stimulus jump started the depressed economy and the effects continued long after the measure expired. “Entering this holiday season, we saw a sobering loss of more than half a million jobs in November, and major job cutbacks among the nation's top employers are being announced daily,” said Howard. “We need to put a stop to this **dangerous erosion on Main Street before it grows out of control.**” Enzo Peretto, a third-generation home builder from Cleveland, has gone from constructing 20-to-30 homes annually to just one this year as a **result of the economic downturn. The situation is critical and getting worse, he said. “Home building generates American jobs. You can't outsource the construction of a home. But these jobs won't return until the credit freeze ends and our government addresses the housing crisis.”** “We are leaving no stone unturned in conveying to our government and the public the message that a housing stimulus is urgently needed, and that restoring demand for housing is the fastest and most effective way of reviving the economy,” Howard said. The housing stimulus proponents are calling for significant enhancements to the current \$7,500 tax credit for first-time home buyers. Among the improvements: - All primary home purchases between April 9, 2008 and Dec. 31, 2009 would be eligible. - The credit amount would be increased to 10 percent of the price of the home, capped at 3.5 percent of FHA loan limits, bringing the credit to a range of roughly between \$10,000 and \$22,000. - The current recapture provision would be eliminated. Repayment would only be required if the home were sold within three years. - The credit would be available at the time of closing, making it easier to be used as a downpayment.

The second component of the stimulus plan would provide qualified home buyers with 30-year fixed-rate mortgages at 2.99 percent on contracts closed until June 30, 2009 and 3.99 percent on closings between June 30 and Dec. 31, 2009. The coalition has also announced its support for continuing foreclosure prevention measures to keep people in their homes. To help buyers in California and other high-cost markets, NAHB is also calling on Congress to permanently keep the FHA/Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac conforming loan limits at \$729,750. Under current law, the loan limits for high-cost areas will be reduced to \$625,500 on Jan. 1, 2009. *Fix Housing First* points out that 3 million home building-related jobs have been lost as a result of the slowdown in housing production, which represents \$145 billion in lost wages and \$4.9 billion in lost purchases. Deterioration in these jobs has now spilled over into virtually all sectors of the U.S. job market. “Over the past two years, the new home construction market has experienced an unprecedented decline. This has led to major layoffs, lost business and production cutbacks by thousands of building product manufacturers and suppliers nationwide. Clearly, innovative and decisive **government action is urgently needed to stem the decline and create positive traction in the housing market,**” said Frank Cicero, Executive Vice President of Store Operations for 84 Lumber Company. To learn more about *Fix Housing First*, go to www.fixhousingfirst.com

Deep East Texas Association of Builders
PO Box 153337
Lurkin, TX 75915

DETAB NEWS



HAPPY NEW
YEAR