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RALLY DAY 2009

GOVERNOR RICK PERRY SPEAKS TO TAB RALLY GROUP ABOUT HOW WELL TEXAS IS DOING IN TODAY'S ECONOMIC PICTURE. HE QUOTED STATISTICS THAT PORTRAYED TEXAS AS LEADING THE COUNTRY OVERALL IN CREATING THE GREATEST PERCENTAGE OF AMERICA'S NEW JOBS IN 2008, AND STATED THAT TEXAS STILL LEADS THE COUNTRY IN NEW HOUSING STARTS.

TAB Directors on the panel are also in this photograph .

An enthusiastic group of members from DETAB were on hand to rally for Building Industry causes at the Capitol grounds on February 25. John Bryan, (JCB Builders) President of DETAB, Mike Hineman (Dream Homes and Drafting), Vice President, Jeb Stringer (RiteWay Insulation), Associate Vice President, Leon Stricklen (Stricklen Homes), Rick and Cindy Renfro (Christian Home Builders), Past Presidents, and Cathleen Milsap, Executive Officer, were on hand to be counted as constituents who want our voices heard for the benefit of the Building Industry. After Governor Perry spoke, we were able to meet with our congressmen, Senator Nichols' staff and Representative McReynolds, to present them with our stand on the legislative issues.

One of the issues discussed is strengthening the TRCC in shortening the time frame of the State-sponsored Inspection and Dispute Resolution Processes, and authority to crack down on "bad actors." We also discussed opposing Lemon Laws for houses legislation, covered Residential Building Code issues, Green Building, legislature to make Fire Sprinklers a choice for Homeowners by supporting the bill HB 1511, County Development Authority, Freedom of Contract, Business, Property and Appraisal Taxes, Property Rights and Eminent Domain, and finally, Immigration. For specific views and opinions on the previously listed issues, please contact the DETAB offices.

Some interesting notes on Texas in the national economic picture:

An average single family unit generated \$82,269 in taxes and other government revenue in the US economy

Texas has some of the largest, fastest-growing cities in the nation, to include four cities in the top sixteen

Texas led the country in 2008 in new jobs creation

Texas continues to lead the country in new construction



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Letter from the President

Dear DETAB Members,

This was the first year I attended TAB's Rally Day and I was pleased at the impression that such a large group of people in the Building Industry made on our government representatives. We were able to meet with Jim McReynolds, our State Representative, who was very interested in the issues we brought to him and enthusiastic to carry our message forward in legislature. We met with Senator Nichols' staff and presented our stand on the issues also. TAB notified us that nearly all of the representatives were approached by the attendees at the Rally, and a "grass roots" voice was heard loud and clear at the Capitol on February 25.

DETAB was also represented at the TAB Winter Board, where all of us were able to bring back benefits to our Association, from our Vote at the TAB Board Meeting to new ideas for the Associates Council.

Our Parade of Homes is gearing up now, so all Builders who will have entries in the Parade should contact Chairman Mike Hineman as soon as possible so that a list of houses and a date can be determined.

I am sending out a call for donations for the DETAB Giant Garage Sale items. Please send your lists to the DETAB office or Chairman Jeb Stringer. The Garage Sale will be held on April 18, so time is short.

A note about our General Membership Luncheons: The new opportunity for two Associates to give presentations to the Builders by a drawing went very well. Now, we are offering an incentive to the Builders at the next luncheon. Jeb Stringer of RiteWay Insulation will give a free "wrapped bathroom" to each Builder who attends the April luncheon. Any of you vendors who want to add to this incentive, please contact the DETAB office.

Yours in fellowship, *John C. Bryan*

Nacogdoches Area HBA

I am pleased to announce that a new HBA will be chartered in Nacogdoches in coming months. The Forest Country Home Builders Association seems to be off the ground as they have elected a full slate of officers including Jeff Hamilton as president. The new association, once chartered, will consist of Nacogdoches, Shelby and San Augustine counties. The decision by the Board of Directors of DETAB to release these jurisdictional counties is a true testament of their desire to make the Texas Association of Builders a stronger voice for our industry and each of us. It is always in our best interest when we are able to look beyond ourselves and see the bigger picture and respond accordingly. I am proud to be a member of DETAB.

Rick Renfro TAB Area 7 VP

Membership Drive

DETAB is planning a membership drive on Tuesday, May 19th, to coincide with the annual NAHB membership drive. We need to start planning for this event today if we want it to be successful. We want to offer a one-time new member sign-up gift package similar to the one we offered in 2007. We need every member to help assimilate this gift package. Some items that were a part of the 2007 package were; \$50 McCoy's gift card, \$200 free printing, an oil change, \$250 in attorney's fees plus many more. Several members went to business associates and asked for incentives and the total gift package had a value of over \$800. Some items, like a complete window package, were used in a drawing that included all new builders that joined. This is a great time for Associate members to show the association just how important DETAB is to you and your company. Builder members, this your time to talk to all your sub-contractor and suppliers and ask them to step up to the plate and help us with this effort and don't forget to talk to non-member business partners too. Remember that DETAB always supports members doing business with members. Please call me at 936-594-7335 or e-mail me at rc@christianhomebuilders.com with your membership drive incentive today. I hope that we will be able to add 50 new members during this one-day event.

Thank you in advance for your support because it won't happen without you.

Rick Renfro

Membership Drive Committee

MEMBERS LIST

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!

LakeWood Properties-02/28/2010

Caldwell & Loper Custom Homes -03/31/2010

BUILDERS

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

Abel Flores General Contractor—5/31/2009

BC Custom Homes-12/31/2009

Billy Horton Builders—05/31/2009

Burton Homes-05/31/2009

C Square Development—05/31/2009

Christian Home Builders-03/31/2010

Custom Construction-05/31/2009

DB Builders-08/30/2009

Daniel Barrera Construction-4/30/2010

Diboll Williams Construction-05/31/2009

Dixon Construction -05/31/2009

Dream Homes & Drafting-03/31/2010

Frank Burrows Construction-03/31/2010

Goodwyn Construction-04/30/2009

Handmade Enterprises-05/31/2009

JCB Builders-05/31/2009

Jeff Hamilton Construction—04/30/2009

Jim Ross Warren Construction-05/31/2009

Kerry Powell Construction—05/1/2009

McCleskey Enterprises-05/31/2009

McNeil Construction-05/31/2009

Melvin Linton Homes-03/31/2010

Montes Homes-05/31/2009

Nu Trend Homes—05/31/2009

Leon Morris Construction-05/31/2009

Palacio's Remodeling & Contractor-05/31/2009

Parker Homes & Repair-10/31/2009

Pat Foley Construction—05/31/2009

Stewart Construction-05/31/2009

Stricklen Homes-07/31/2009

The Card-Miles Group-07/31/2009

Tony Ware Construction-5/31/2009

ASSOCIATES

A 1 Party Party Rentals of Lufkin—9/30/2009

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

A-1 Rent All-09/30/2009

Accurate Assessment-05/31/2009

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

Bonded Builders Warranty Group-09/30/2009

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

Contractors Supply-05/31/2009

Countertops By Cannon-03/31/2010

Crown Pest Control-05/31/2009

Durrett Ready Mix-07/31/2009

East Texas Brick-10/31/2009

East Texas Inspections—08/31/2009

Eastex Glass & Mirror-07/31/2009

Efficient Climate Control-12/31/09

Elliott Electric-05/31/2009

Enviro-Tech Insulation-05/31/2009

Everett Griffith & Associates-03/01/2010

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 Nacogdoches-09/30/2009

Hunt Stone & Fireplace-03/31/2010

Huntington Insurance -03/31/2010

Huntington State Bank-05/31/2009

Johnson Appliance—05/31/2009

Johnson Excavating-05/31/2009

King's Plumbing-05/31/2009

L & S Floor Works-05/31/2009

Leal Landscaping & Sprinklers-05/31/2009

Lufkin Daily News-03/31/2009

Lynn Williams Construction-09/30/2009

Maddux Building Materials-05/31/2009

Mathews Fine Cabinetry-05/31/2009

McCoy's Lumber-03/31/2010

Morrison Supply-05/31/2009

Nacogdoches Sheet Metal-05/31/2009

Overhead Door Company-05/31/2009

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

Security & Guarantee-05/31/2009

Sherwin Williams-05/31/2009

Signs by Debbie-03/31/2010

Socia Septic Systems-05/31/2009

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-03/31/2010

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

Weatherman Roofing-03/31/2009

Wright Renovations-05/31/2009

CANCELLED:

Southern Tile

Western Builders

SpecialTees

James Taylor Homes

Please take note of your expiration date. We will send you a reminder letter one month before your membership is due. For those of you on the Membership Due or Past Due list on the next page, please contact the DETAB office as soon as possible to renew your membership. We need all our good members in these times of economic uncertainty.

MEMBERSHIPS DUE

Hamel Tile Construction-03/31/2009
Hunter's Remodel & Construction-03/31/2009
Hartmann Building Associates-03/31/2009
John Dyess Painting-03/31/2009
Lisa Wise Drafting-03/31/2009
Weatherization Partners-03/31/2009

PAST DUE

AmeriTex-12/31/2008
Baskin Builders-02/28/2009
Carl Bolton Const-01/31/2009
Consolidated Communications-02/28/2009
Homes By Hershel-02/28/2009
Skillern Construction-02/28/2009
Harry's Building Material-02/28/2009

PAST DUE

Kwik Kerb-01/31/2009
Pella Windows & Doors-12/31/2008
Mueller Inc-02/28/2009
East Texas Asphalt 02/28/2009
Lufkin Granite-11/30/2008
Sears Commercial-08/31/2008

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- Lighting
- Plumbing
- Realty/Mortgage
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We are still taking articles to submit for the clickable house!

See Cathleen at the DETAB office to submit.

For information regarding advertising call
DETAB 936/875-3000 or email cathleendetab@consolidated.net



T E X A S
ASSOCIATION
OF
BUILDERS

TAB NEWS

Texas Association of Builders Legislative Issues 2009*

Support Sunset Legislation Strengthening TRCC:...TAB supports the recommendations adopted by the [Sunset] Commission that will shorten the time frame of the State-sponsored Inspections and Dispute Resolution Process and make it more responsive to consumers. We also applaud recommendations that give the TRCC more authority to crack down on bad actors...As always, TAB stands ready to work with the Legislature to improve the business and regulatory environment in which our members and their companies operate...Texas home builders are proud of their record of accomplishment and stand by the message it sends about the quality of residential construction in Texas. Our association is committed to continuing this legacy of accomplishment and recognizes that the TRCC is part of the equation for the continued vitality and success of our industry as our members help provide the American Dream of homeownership.

TAB opposes Lemon Laws for Houses:...There are many builders who will invariably go out of business should such a short-sighted law be put into effect. The proponents of a "lemon law" also assume that a homeowner wants to sell and move out of their homes. It is more logical, however, to think a homeowner wants their home repaired...construction defects hardly even begin to approach the cost of a home...it is a matter of contract between the parties. A home lemon law would put into place a whole new cause of action which contravenes recent legislative history and intent.

Residential Building Code Issues:...Energy efficiency is viewed as a path to improve air quality...Issues include clarifying the application of county seat amendments to the unincorporated areas of the county to create greater code uniformity across the state...it is important to note the success of mandated building codes across the state, as evidenced by the lack of damage to homes built to the newer windstorm codes during past hurricanes...

Fire Sprinkler Choice for Homeowners Support HB 1511:...There has never been a strong market demand for these devices...home buyers generally do not elect to have a residential fire sprinkler installed...local jurisdictions have taken away a homeowner's right to choose...the number of people who have died in their homes as a result of fire has plummeted...due to the mandated use of smoke alarms, technological advancement...and fire safety education....The best approach is to continue to give consumers a choice in the matter.

Additional issues will be included in the next publication of the DETAB News. For a complete copy of the Rally Day 2009 publication, contact the DETAB office.

*Excerpted from publication from Rally Day 2009 published by Texas Association of Builders



NAHB NEWS

First-Time Homebuyer Tax Credit Improvements

The newly expanded first-time home buyer tax credit, passed as part of the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* (ARRA), offers builders an additional sales incentive for most of 2009. While the expansion of the program was not as broad as we would like, ARRA makes significant improvements that should encourage many prospective home buyer to buy a home in 2009. These improvements include:

- Increasing the maximum tax credit amount to \$8,000
- Eliminating the repayment requirement for 2009 buyers, provided the buyer remains in the home for at least three years
- Extending the sunset date of the program to December 1, 2009
- Extending the option to claim 2009 home purchases on taxpayers' 2008 income tax returns
- Eliminating the prohibition against buyers financing their home with the proceeds of tax-exempt bonds and claiming the tax credit
 - NOTE: This facilitates state and local housing finance agencies (HFAs) use of bonds to advance the tax credit as a short-term loan that can be used at the closing table

There are some important additional details on this last point.

Under the current housing finance policies of FHA, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, state and local HFAs are granted an exception from the general prohibition on loaning funds for a borrower's downpayment. The Missouri Housing Development Commission (MHDC) took advantage of this exception to establish a tax credit advance loan program in conjunction with the original \$7,500 tax credit program. However, prior to passage of ARRA, tax-exempt bond funds could not be used by HFAs to finance mortgages for tax credit purchases or monetize the credit via downpayment loans, so Missouri had to rely on the proceeds of taxable bonds to operate its program.

Due to NAHB's urging, the ARRA legislation strikes this prohibition. Thus, homebuyers can participate in all mortgage revenue bond programs run by state and local housing finance agencies and claim the improved \$8,000 tax credit. Additionally, the capacity of state and local HFAs to monetize the tax credit through short-term loans is improved since the ARRA change also expands the pool of potential resources that can be dedicated to short-term credit advancement loans.

We should note that there is no provision in ARRA that requires or directs HFAs to create such programs. ARRA simply eliminated a tax law roadblock that constrained the amount of resources that could be dedicated by the agencies to make such loans. Thus, the new tax law permits state and local agencies to dedicate any of their resources from whatever source for this purpose.

NAHB recommends that state and local HBA staff contact their state and local HFAs and urge them to quickly establish a program similar to the MHDC tax credit advance loan program. Doing so offers the best opportunity to monetize the credit under existing tax law and mortgage lending policies.

2009 Calendar of Events:

Garage Sale, April 18, Saturday, 7 AM to 1 PM, at
Hunt Stone & Fireplace, 901 Ellen Trout Drive, Lufkin, TX 75901
Jeb Stringer of RiteWay Insulation, Chairman

Fishing Tournament, Date and Place to be Announced
David Barringer of DB Builders, Chairman

Membership Drive, May 19
Leon Stricklen of Stricklen Homes, Chairman

Trap Shoot, Date and Place to be Announced
Hal Hunt of Hunt Stone & Fireplace, Chairman

TRCC BIG 5 Compliance Course, June 25
Lufkin Pitser Garrison Civic Center, 10 AM to 3 PM

Parade of Homes, August 8-9 & 15-16 (date subject to change)
Mike Hineman of Dream Homes & Drafting, Chairman

Golf Tournament, Date and Place to be Announced

Home Products Show, March 11-15, 2010
Lufkin Pitser Garrison Civic Center
Celia Alvarez of BC Custom Homes, Chairwoman

Please contact the DETAB office at (936) 875-3000 or
cathleen@detab.org

with questions on these events. We will need committees to help arrange these
events. Your contribution will be greatly appreciated and will guarantee the
continued success of the Deep East Texas
Association of Builders.

Deep East Texas Association of Builders



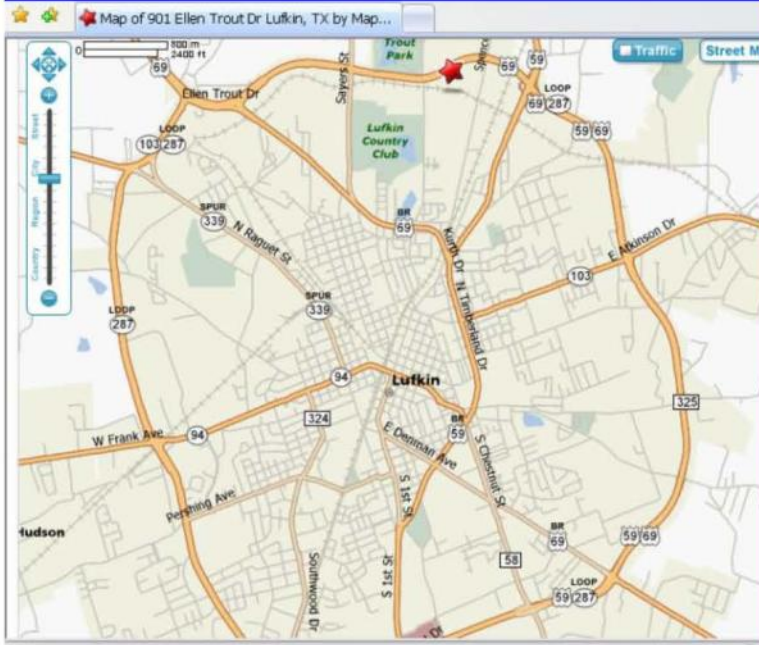
DETAB GIANT GARAGE SALE
HUNT'S STONE & FIREPLACE,
901 Ellen Trout Dr., Lufkin, TX

saturday
APRIL 18, 2009
7am - 1pm

Donations:

Barrett Appliance—5-6 Light fixtures, 2-3 Fans, Microwave, Dishwasher, etc.

Melvin Linton Homes—3-door units, window, etc.



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Lufkin, Texas 75915

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Fax: 936-875-3000
E-mail:
cathleendetab@consolidated.net

DETAB MEMBERS !

Now is the time for all good members to donate “spring cleaning items” in a DETAB Fundraiser. Call, fax, or e-mail Cathleen with your donation items. Have your name in the public eye and help support DETAB with your overstock items in one fell swoop! Give your stockroom some elbow room by donating your outdated, scratch-n-dent, out-of-fashion items for sale to the public.

This is a double opportunity to get *free advertising* and to help DETAB with operations costs.

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TEXAS STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
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DETAB NEWS

DETAB NEWS



Day!

Happy St. Patrick's