

*The RIBA Renaissance continues...*

## Fiore team takes the reins



President Roland J. Fiore

Vice President David A. Caldwell Jr.

Treasurer Steven Gianlorenzo

Secretary Timothy A. Stasiunas

More photos on pages 6 and 7

By Paul F. Eno *Editor*

Growth and strength, realizing the full potential of programs and projects, and building on the achievements of the last few years were themes sounded by Roland J. Fiore as he became the Rhode Island Builders Association's 35<sup>th</sup> president on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

"With a deep sense duty and high resolve, I accept (the presidency) and am humbled that you have chosen me," said Mr. Fiore, owner of South County Sand & Gravel Co., Inc. *See Mr. Fiore's inaugural president's message on page 5.*

The election and installation ceremonies took place before over 140 members and guests at the 2014 RIBA Annual Meeting at Kirkbrae Country Club, Lincoln.

A number of special guests were present for the evening, including Ross and Florence Dagata. Mr. Dagata was RIBA's first full-

*see ANNUAL MEETING...page 28*

### PHOTOS FROM RIBA EVENTS

...from the Rhode Island Builders  
Association's Annual Meeting

*Page 6*

...from RIBA's 24th Annual Golf Outing

*Page 9-11*

### FEATURED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES FOR NOVEMBER

*Centerspread*

#### Spotlight on appraisals

Builders and appraisers meet to discuss how  
to value energy-efficient homes.

*Page 2*

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# Builders, appraisers meet on the value of 'green'

Some appraisers are still skeptical about what value lenders will accept and how long it will take them to accept it.

By Paul F. Eno *Editor*

It was a much-anticipated and long-awaited meeting between the region's appraisers and home builders on a contentious issue: How valuable is "green"?

Some 30 appraisers and several builders/developers gathered at Save the Bay headquarters in Providence on September 16<sup>th</sup> for the program: "The Value of 'Green' in Home Appraisals: Industry Perspectives," a panel discussion sponsored by the Appraisal Institute's (AI's) Massachusetts and Rhode Island Chapter. Panelists included the Rhode Island Builders Association's David A. Caldwell Jr. of Caldwell and Johnson Inc., an award-winning green builder and remodeler. Also on the panel were green-building expert Steven Baczek of Boston-based Steven Baczek Architect; Craig Foley of ReMax Leading Edge, also Boston-based, and Will Litvin of Wakefield-based Lighthouse Real Estate Group LLC.

## Appraisers unclear

"Appraisers aren't clear on what lenders expect when it comes to energy-efficient construction," commented appraiser and RIBA member Susan Kelly of Fēnix Real Estate, who moderated the panel. "We need a better understanding, and that's why we're here."

Mr. Baczek, who has been working with energy-efficient home design for 20 years, stressed that it's not always easy to sell home buyers on green features, let alone lenders.

"It can be hard to sell energy efficiency. Ironically, people often think the features are too costly," he pointed out, going on to explain some of the primary principles of



**The Rhode Island Builders Association's David A. Caldwell Jr. of Caldwell and Johnson Inc., an award-winning "green" builder in the state, explains the Home Energy Rating System (HERS) to appraisers at the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

energy-efficient design, both passive and active. "Most people don't appreciate the value until they see their first utility bills."

Ms. Kelly had an additional comment. "No matter how much we educate the public, we have to educate builders first. And how do we come up with a value?"

Mr. Caldwell opening his presentation with a question.

"If you see two identical cars on a dealer's lot and are told that, for an extra \$400, you could have the one that got twice the gas mileage, which one would you buy?"

He contended that green would be more saleable, and more easily valued for inclusion in appraisals, if that kind of information on energy information was readily available for houses. He also pointed out that "energy-efficiency mortgages are unknown in Rhode Island."

Mr. Caldwell stated that many buyers are

concerned about indoor air quality from a house that's "too tight," and some balk at the average extra cost of \$8,000 for the extras required for a typical green home. Yet the annual cost savings on such a house can be astounding, paying for the extras in only a few years.

"That's the problem," one attendee pointed out. "We (appraisers) don't see market data on those savings."

## Resale figures needed

Resale data, or "comps," for appraisers came through as a key issue for appraisers during the discussion. "Energy-efficient homes of the quality now being built haven't had enough resales yet for us to go to lenders and point out any additional value for appraisal purposes," one attendee stated.

see APPRAISALS...page 28

## DEADLINES FOR THE NEXT ISSUE

For the December issue, copy, ads and photos must be to us by

# Friday, October 31

Send material to The R.I. Builder Report, c/o RIBA,  
450 Veterans Memorial Pkwy., Suite 301, East Providence, RI 02914  
or e-mail to [builder@newriverpress.com](mailto:builder@newriverpress.com) Fax: (401) 356-0913

# Home Show to feature two new home showcases

**WHEN:** March 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>  
**WHERE:** Rhode Island Convention  
Center, Providence  
**FOR INFORMATION AND TO OBTAIN  
EXHIBIT SPACE:** Contact Mr.  
Marcantonio or Elizabeth Carpenter at  
RIBA, (401) 438-7400.

More big news about the 2015 Home Show: Designers, furniture dealers and landscapers will get together to create two

THE RHODE ISLAND  
**builder report**

**Official publication of the  
Rhode Island Builders Association  
since 1951**

*Officers of the Rhode Island Builders Association*  
President ..... Roland J. Fiore  
Vice President..... David A. Caldwell Jr.  
Treasurer..... Steven Gianlorenzo  
Secretary ..... Timothy A. Stasunas

*The Rhode Island Builder Report*  
Publishing Director..... John Marcantonio  
Editor ..... Paul F. Eno

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**A regular Home Show exhibitor for many years, RI Kitchen & Bath always has one of the busiest booths.**

new showcases of beautiful home settings, another new feature for the Rhode Island Builders Association's 65<sup>th</sup> annual residential showcase.

That's the word from Ronald J. Smith of Ron Smith Homes Inc., chairman of RIBA's Home Show Committee.

One showcase will highlight the "mini-home" concept and the trend toward smaller homes and making the most of smaller living spaces to reduce the "carbon footprint."

Another showcase will feature beautiful home "vignettes" of indoor and outdoor concepts.

Other new features at the 2015 Home Show will include a RIBA-sponsored contractor pavilion to help those who have never exhibited before "get their feet wet."

"First-time contractor exhibitors will have the option to rent space for a day rather than committing to the whole four-day show," explained RIBA Executive Director John Marcantonio.

There will also be a wider variety of exhibitors. The popular Energy Expo will return, as will landscape features by the Rhode Island Nursery and Landscape Association, demonstrations, seminars and special events.

"The Home Show is in March, a month earlier than last year. Now is the time to contact us about exhibiting, especially if you want to get in on the new RIBA Contractor Pavilion," Mr. Marcantonio said.

RIBA helps exhibitors with booth design and other guidance, and will assist new exhibitors through the entire process, he emphasized. Surveys say that Home Show visitors want to see more contractors and suppliers, so plan your exhibit now!

No new members were approved in October because of the Annual Meeting. Watch the December issue for more new members. For membership information, visit [www.RIBuilders.org](http://www.RIBuilders.org) or call (401) 438-7400



# LOOKING AHEAD!

♦ **November 5: Mold Awareness for Contractors** - RIBA headquarters, East Providence, 5 to 7 p.m. FREE for members, with a \$10 materials charge. \$45 for non-members, with a \$10 materials charge. To register, logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 18.*

♦ **November 6: How to Get Results with Social Media** - RIBA headquarters, East Providence, 5 to 7 p.m. FREE for members and non-members. To register, logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 19.*

♦ **November 13: 8 Hour Lead Safe Remodeler/Renovator Certification Course** - RIBA headquarters, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. FREE For Members with a \$25 materials fee. Non members \$110, with a \$25 materials fee. Must provide proof of employment with member company upon registration for class to be free. Fee payment is due upon registration. Lunch will be provided. To register, logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

♦ **November 18: Quickbooks™ for Contractors: Getting the Most Out of Reports** - RIBA headquarters, 5-7 p.m. FREE for members with a \$25 materials charge. Non-members \$50 with a \$25 materials charge. For more information and to register, logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on Page 18.*

♦ **November 25: Quickbooks™ for Contractors: Payroll and Using Time Sheets** - RIBA headquarters, 5-7 p.m. FREE for members with a \$25 materials charge. Non-members \$50 with a \$25 materials charge. For more information and to register, logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400. *Details on Page 18.*

♦ **November 26: Deadline for Advertising Purchase in the 2015 RIBA Directory to be Eligible for a Free Ad** - All who purchase their ads by this date will be entered in the annual drawing to win an additional, full-color, full-page ad free. *Details on page 8.*

♦ **December TBA: First Aid CPR/AED class** - 5-9 p.m., RIBA headquarters, East Providence. FREE for members, with a \$25 materials and certification charge. \$50 for non-members, with a \$25 materials and certification charge. To register, visit [www.RIBUILDERS.org](http://www.RIBUILDERS.org) or contact Sheila McCarthy at smccarthy@ribuilders.org or (401) 438-7400. *Details on page 19.*

♦ **December 8: Deadline for Advertising Purchase in the 2015 RIBA Directory** - Final deadline for all advertising for 2015. *Details on page 8.*

**January 20-22: International Builders Show** - Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nev. Registration opens September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Visit [www.BuildersShow.com](http://www.BuildersShow.com). *Details on page 22.*

♦ **March 5-8: 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Home Show** - Sponsored by RIBA at the Rhode Island Convention Center. *Details on page 3.*

***More information, registration and payment for most RIBA events is available at RIBUILDERS.org.***

♦ Indicates a RIBA-sponsored event.

# President's Message



Roland J. Fiore

## RIBA: Moving from strength to strength

It is with a deep sense of humility, duty and high resolve that I take up my work as president of the Rhode Island Builders Association. I believe this is the finest, most professional organization I have ever belonged to.

The shoulders of those who have gone before me will serve as my support and my guide. I thank all of them and, most specifically, my direct predecessor, Felix Carlone. Felix, his team and Board of Directors have guided our association from strength to strength over the last two years.

Our education program (now free for members and their employees), our legislative advocacy, the strong alliances we have built with other business organizations and government agencies, our monthly magazine, the Home Show, our Professional Women in Building Council, day-to-day member services, even our networking events and meetings, have all been accomplished with

energy and enthusiasm. Their passion is contagious, and I don't think I have ever seen so many members involved with such enthusiasm in so many endeavors on behalf of our industry, and all in the midst of one of the slowest housing markets in recent memory.

That strength, professionalism and passion will continue with me, my newly elected officers, and the committed members of the RIBA team as we strive toward excellence.

To our executive director, John Marcantonio: I thank you for your positive impact on this organization. Your personal commitment to excellence and your dedication to this association are obvious through all the great work you have done and continue to do. I look forward to working with you and thank you for your invaluable service!

*see PRESIDENT...page 29*



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Roland J. Fiore is sworn in as the Rhode Island Builders Association's 35<sup>th</sup> president after his election at the 2014 Annual Meeting. Ceremonies took place at Kirkbrae Country Club, Lincoln, on October 7<sup>th</sup>. Administering the oath is outgoing President Felix A. Carlone.



Taking the oath are Mr. Fiore's officers. From left are Vice President David A. Caldwell Jr., Secretary Timothy A. Stasiunas and Treasurer Steven Gianlorenzo.



A number of members were recognized for service to RIBA "above and beyond" in many areas. Among them (above) are, from left, standing: J. Robert Pesce, Raymond and Barbara Gallison, Carol O'Donnell, George Pesce, Steven Carlino, Cheryl Boyd, Timothy Stasiunas, Robert Baldwin, and Louis Cotoia. Kneeling, from left, are Kenneth Jones, William Hofius and John Bentz. At right are, from left, Stephen Fitzgerald, Eric Wishart, Thomas McNulty and Ronald Smith.



Mr. Carlone enjoys the unveiling of the caricature traditionally given to each outgoing president.



Tracey Boyajian, left, and Carol O'Donnell are about to be sworn in as president and vice-president, respectively, of the Professional Women in Building Council.



Executive Director John Marcantonio, at right, is surprised as his own work since 2011 is recognized.



# RIBA Happenings: The 2014 Annual Meeting



↑  
In from South County were Matt Davitt and Lorena Voyer of Davitt Design Build Inc.



↑  
Honored guests at the Annual Meeting were Ross and Florence Dagata, at center. Mr. Dagata was RIBA's first full-time executive director, serving from 1955 to 1997. With the Dagatas are Past President George Calcagni and Local Director Caroline Calcagni.



←  
Networking before the meeting are, from left, Carla and Guido Sarcione, with Zach Schartner and Caryl Jardon. The cocktail hour was generously sponsored by Consolidated Concrete Corp. and Douglas Lumber, Kitchens & Bath Center.



←  
Newly elected RIBA Local Director Jose Marciano, left, visits with Tomas Avila.



←  
John Nilan, left, and Kevin LeBlanc enjoy some after-dinner conversation.



↑  
Michael and Richard DiBenedetto.



Some 140 members and guests attended the Annual Meeting.



# Buy your 2015 RIBA Directory ad by Nov. 26 for a chance to win a free one

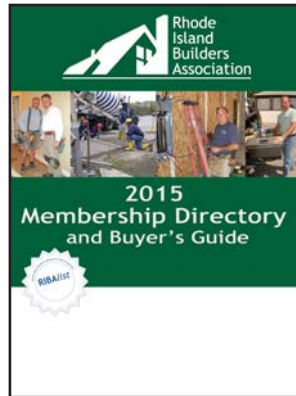
No matter how you look at it, your business is a winner with The Rhode Island Builders Association's *2015 Membership Directory and Buyer's Guide*!

Buy your advertisement by November 26<sup>th</sup> and you will be entered in a drawing to win an additional ad: free, full-page and full-color.

The final deadline for *Directory* advertising is December 8<sup>th</sup>. Advertising is available to members and non-members alike.

Your ad in the *RIBA Directory* works for you all year, showcasing the name of your business throughout 2015. What's more, it will be in the hands of thousands of potential customers before, during and after the 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Rhode Island Home Show in March.

So if you haven't done so already, start planning your advertising in this attractive, year-long venue. The *Membership Directory and Buyer's Guide* is the source in Rhode Island for homeowners



and businesses to find suppliers, subcontractors, lenders, real estate professionals and much more.

"There are plans to echo the *Directory* and *The Rhode Island Builder Report* advertising on the RIBA website and on RIBAlist.com in 2015," comments Paul F. Eno of New River Press, editor of *The Rhode Island Builder Report*. "This will add value for our advertisers and make their print ad even more effective. Still, people like to have something they can hold in their hands too."

The low advertising rates remain the same as last year.

The *Directory* will be printed, and distribution will begin, before the Home Show, and will be an excellent introduction to your business, especially if you are a Home Show exhibitor. The show will take place March 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> at the Rhode Island Convention Center, Providence. *Story on this page.* There, homeowners will seek out contractors and suppliers to begin their spring and summer construction and remodeling projects.

Information about the *Directory* was mailed to members in September, and premium advertising positions are going quickly, as they always do. RIBA once again offers advertising "package deals" with the *Directory* and *The Rhode Island Builder Report*. Advertisers who opt for both publications will earn a 5 percent discount on their total advertising cost.

Current and potential advertisers are being contacted about advertising by Paul or Jonathan Eno from New River Press. With an improving market, it's even more important to keep the name of your business in the public eye.

Use the advertising information package you received from RIBA. Advertising information also is online at [www.NewRiverPress.com/ribaads](http://www.NewRiverPress.com/ribaads), or call Paul or Jonathan at (401) 250-5760, ext. 1.



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### AD RATES: 2015 DIRECTORY

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INSIDE COVER, BACK, FULL COLOR	\$1,925
BACK COVER, FULL COLOR	\$2,200 <b>SOLD</b>
FULL PAGE, GLOSSY, FULL COLOR	\$1,650
FULL PAGE, GLOSSY, BLACK + ONE COLOR	\$825
FULL PAGE BLACK & WHITE	\$550
HALF PAGE BLACK & WHITE	\$385
ONE-THIRD PAGE BLACK & WHITE	\$330



## Holland Electric team nabs top spot on the links to benefit RIBA charity

More photos on pages 10 and 11

By Paul F. Eno Editor

Three Hollands and a Haynes walked away with top honors on September 29<sup>th</sup> as members and guests gathered at the beautiful and extensive Quidnessett Country Club, North Kingstown, for the Rhode Island Builders Association's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic, to benefit Builders Helping Heroes (BHH). Some 100 golfers participated, with several thousand dollars raised for the RIBA not-for-profit subsidiary.

With a team score of 66, Rick, Bill and Steve Holland, along with Bill Haynes, of W.H. Holland Electric Inc. took home the top prize: \$75 gift certificates to the Quidnessett Pro Shop. In second place by only four strokes was one of two teams from TradeSource Inc.: George Grayson, Brian Flynn, John Staffier and Kevin Leamy. Coming in third was none other than the other TradeSource team: Jim Ferry, Gordon Sigman and Kevin Donovan.

The weather was a bit muggy, but the rain held off and temperatures were mild on this early fall day on a course with gorgeous views of Narragansett Bay. Golfers arrived shortly before noon to a hearty lunch buffet in Quidnessett's huge ballroom. Play began at 1 p.m., with water hazards that included real salt marshes.

Out on the course, Bill Hofius of Riverhead Building Supply provided free cigars and candy bars to grateful golfers. Also stationed out on the course were hard-working RIBA staffers Elizabeth Carpenter, Elise Geddes, Sheila McCarthy and Tara DeMelo, who answered questions and sold raffle tickets to benefit BHH.

A sumptuous prime rib dinner in the clubhouse awaited players on their return from the links, along with a slideshow of scenes from the day's play, some rather funny.

Awards and door prizes followed the dinner, with winning tickets drawn by young



**Rick Holland, Bill Holland, Steve Holland and Bill Haynes were the top tee-ers at RIBA's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic on September 29<sup>th</sup>.**

### The Winners Circle - 24th Annual RIBA Golf Classic

First Place Team

Holland Electric: Rick, Bill & Steve Holland, Bill Haynes

Second Place Team

TradeSource: George Grayson, Brian Flynn, John Staffier, Kevin Leamy

Third Place Team

TradeSource: Jim Ferry, Gordon Sigman, Kevin Donovan

Longest Drive

Archie Drobiak, Insurance Reconstruction Services

Closest to the Pin #2

Kevin Leamy, TradeSource

Closest to the Pin #16

Bill Ray, Anchor Insulation

Preston Marcantonio. Much credit for the event's success goes to the generous sponsors and prize donors, especially Presenting Sponsor Pawtucket Credit Union, and Premier Sponsors Douglas Lumber, Kitchens and Home Center; National Build-

ing Products, and the Picerne Real Estate Group. *See the complete list of sponsors on page 23.*

Watch for news of the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual RIBA Golf Classic in 2015, and mark your calendar!

**Find out about the great benefits you can get  
as a member of the  
Rhode Island Builders Association.  
It could be the best investment you make in  
your business this year!**

**[www.RIBuilders.org](http://www.RIBuilders.org)  
or (401) 438-7400**



## On the links

The Rhode Island Builders Association's 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic took place at Quiddnessett Country Club, North Kingstown, on September 29<sup>th</sup>. Here's a selection of scenes from a fun day....





## RIBA Happenings: The 24th Annual Golf Classic



← Riverhead Building Supply kept a table, staffed by Sales Manager Bill Hofius, on the course, distributing free cigars and candy bars to golfers.



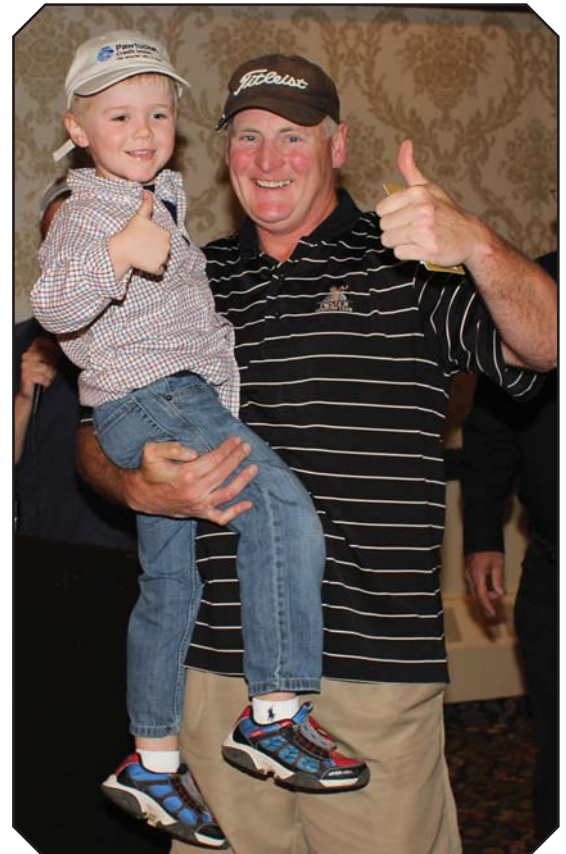
← The Cullion Family of Cullion Concrete Corp. was well represented.

↑ Everyone looked forward to the awards and door prizes after dinner. Here, Jason Daponte takes away a DeWalt cordless drill.



↑ RIBA Treasurer Steve Gianlorenzo, right, draws the next winning door-prize ticket as Executive Director John Marcantonio calls the play and Preston Marcantonio supervises.

→ Longest drive winner Archie Drobiak of the Byrnes Agency, who played with the team from Insurance Reconstruction Services, shares his victory with Preston Marcantonio, who drew many of the winning tickets.



### Member Profile: Randy Schreiber GutterBrush®

# Accidents can be very lucky!

By Paul F. Eno Editor

The microwave oven, the Slinky®, the potato chip and even the cardiac pacemaker were all invented by accident. As the 20<sup>th</sup> century turned into the 21<sup>st</sup>, a future member of the Rhode Island Builders Association added another discovery to that happy, and profitable, list of chance creations.

"I grew up in Ohio, and my dad and I used to do a lot of hunting and fishing, recalls Randy Schreiber. "At our cabin, my job was to get up on the ladder and clean out the gutters. As I got older, I went to school and my dad inherited the job."

One season not long afterward, Bob Schreiber (dad) came across an old chimney brush and thought it might be handy for scrubbing the debris out of the gutters. As luck would have it, Bob came down the ladder one day and inadvertently left a piece of the brush in the gutter, right over a downspout.

When he came back to the cabin a few months later, the gutters were full of debris as usual, but the place where the brush was hadn't clogged, and the downspout was flowing nicely. The "light bulb" went on, and thus was born the GutterBrush™.

"It sure seemed to beat gutter screens and covers. We'd never been happy with them," says Randy.

Bob and Randy made some prototype cylindrical brushes, tried them for a few seasons, and passed some samples on to friends and contractors they knew. The feedback was great. The brushes placed in the gutters made a simple filter system that kept the rainwater flowing and eliminated most of the cleaning.

They officially founded GutterBrush Guys Ltd. in 2004, and started marketing in the Midwest.

"Word spread, and we got great national exposure from some TV and radio home-improvement guys who heard about it," Randy says.

That exposure included a spot on NBC's *Today Show* on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

"Ten years in, we now sell nationally, directly to homeowners and to contractors, with some retail."



Bob, left, and Randy Schreiber

So how did GutterBrush end up in Rhode Island?

"I moved to Rhode Island myself in 1995, when I was working for Nestlé a few years after graduating from Michigan State," Randy explains. "We were looking for summer rental properties in Newport. We ended up investing in a multi-family fixer-upper and fell in love with this state."

The company followed because Rhode Island is central to the GutterBrush operation: Manufacturing is done in New York, with fulfillment by a third-party company in Fall River, Massachusetts. The company itself only has four regular employees, so it's still a small business.

GutterBrush is a relatively new RIBA member, having joined in 2013.

"We try to educate contractors that this is good for business, especially in the fall, our peak season. RIBA's networking and social events have been great exposure for us," says Randy.

With such an unusual product, Randy has heard it all from customers.

"We heard from the wife of a blind man whose husband wanted to be useful, so he'd climb up the ladder and clean their gutters. She couldn't stop him. Then she discovered GutterBrush, he installed them easily, and now he doesn't have to climb up and clean the gutters anymore. One less worry for her."

Randy tells of another customer who had an inventive brain-storm of his own.

"He said he was an avid fisherman, and he got the idea to sink a cinderblock with some of our brushes sticking out of it. This created an artificial reef, and he's got plenty of fish!"

Amazing what you can do with a brush. Find out more at [www.GutterBrush.com](http://www.GutterBrush.com).

### ***GutterBrush Guys Ltd.***

***President: Randy Schreiber***

***RIBA member since: 2013***

***Focus: Unique gutter maintenance system***

***Serves: International***

***Founded: 2004***

***Based: Middletown, Rhode Island***



## A Rhode Island Builder Report Special Section



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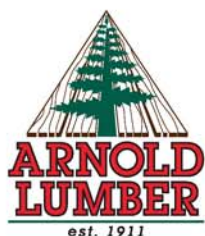
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## Murray joins sales staff at Boston Cedar



Judy Murray

Judy Murray has joined the Inside Sales Team at Boston Cedar, the company has announced.

"Judy brings with her over 30 years of demonstrated leadership, product knowledge and outstanding customer service skills," Boston Cedar President Robert F. Ankner said. "Her background includes tenure at the manufacturing, distribution and retail levels in the capacity of customer service and sales functions. So she's a great addition to our growing company."

In addition, Ms. Murray is active in The Rhode Island Lumber and Building Materials Dealers Association (*See page 18*) and has been recognized for her volunteer efforts outside the industry.

She may be reached at (508) 851-3300 or [jmurray@bostoncedar.com](mailto:jmurray@bostoncedar.com).

## O'Donnell recognized for service to 'Rosie's Girls'

"The generation that remembers posters of Rosie the Riveter from World War II may be fading from our midst, but Rosie lives on in a program designed to encourage women to do things they don't traditionally do."

Thus begins a September 17<sup>th</sup> article in *The Johnston Sunrise* that features Carol O'Donnell of CRM Modular Homes, a longtime member of the Rhode Island Builders Association and vice president of the Professional Women in Building Council, and her involvement in a group known as "Rosie's Girls," named for the mythical folk heroine.

Ms. O'Donnell has smashed traditional gender barriers to build her own business in an especially non-traditional industry for women: residential construction, the article points out.

"I started in real estate. But I looked around for ways to make a lot of money, and I saw that buying lots and building on them was a way to do that," Ms. O'Donnell is quoted as saying.

Part of her progress in the industry has been by being active in RIBA, where she serves on the Board of Directors and is a key member of the Home Show Committee. And thanks to her, the popular Model Home has returned to the last three RIBA Home Shows.

The article also points out her involvement with "Rosie's Girls." The group is part of YWCA Rhode Island and encourages girls to reach for careers, including the non-traditional. See the entire article at [www.JohnstonSunrise.net](http://www.JohnstonSunrise.net).



Carol O'Donnell

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\*Gallery with tile

## Quickbooks Reports

November 18

**WHEN:** Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 p.m.  
**WHERE:** RIBA headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pkwy. #301, East Providence 02914  
**COST:** FREE for members with a \$25 materials charge. \$50 for non-members with a \$25 materials charge.  
**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:** November 13<sup>th</sup>  
**FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:** Logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

Join instructor Jeanne George to learn how to "Get the Most out of Reports" in this "QuickBooks™ for Contractors" class. Participants are encouraged to bring their laptops.

Class size is limited, so please register now.

Light refreshments will be served at 4:30 p.m., with the class beginning promptly at 5.

Members' employees must provide proof of employment with a member company upon registration for the class to be free. Payment is due upon registration.



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## Quickbooks Payroll

November 25

**WHEN:** Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 p.m.  
**WHERE:** RIBA headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pkwy. #301, East Providence 02914  
**COST:** FREE for members with a \$25 materials charge. \$50 for non-members with a \$25 materials charge.  
**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:** November 20<sup>th</sup>  
**FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:** Logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

Want to include payroll in your job costs but are afraid it's too difficult? Instructor Jeanne George will show you how easy processing payroll and submitting tax payments can be in QuickBooks™. And since you're recording the time in-house, you can apply hours worked to jobs.

Don't do payroll in-house but still want hours worked included in job costs? You'll also see how to use the timesheets within QuickBooks to create your job-costing entry.

Participants are encouraged to bring their laptops. Class size is limited, so please register now. Light refreshments will be served at 4:30 p.m. Members' employees must provide proof of employment with a member company upon registration for class to be free. Payment is due upon registration.

## Mold awareness

November 5

**WHEN:** Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 p.m.  
**WHERE:** RIBA headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pkwy. #301, East Providence 02914  
**COST:** FREE for members with a \$10 materials charge. \$45 for non-members with a \$10 materials charge.  
**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:** October 31<sup>st</sup>  
**FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:** Logon to RIBUILDERS.org, and click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy, smccarthy@ribuilders.org, or call (401) 438-7400.

In this Mold Awareness Workshop with Eric Anderson of Insurance Reconstruction Services, get the latest on this important and highly litigious topic. Topics include: Introduction to mold and indoor air quality, basic health hazards associated with mold, potential locations of mold within buildings, monitoring and sampling of mold within buildings and HVAC systems, protecting yourself and others when working with mold, and good work practices when dealing with small-scale mold growth.



## How to get results with social media

November 6

**WHEN:** Thursday, November 6<sup>th</sup>, 5-7 p.m.

**WHERE:** Rhode Island Builders Association headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pkwy., East Providence 02914

**COST:** Open to everyone in the industry. FREE for members and non-members.

**DEADLINE TO REGISTER:** Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>

**FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:** Logon to [www.RIBUILDERS.org](http://www.RIBUILDERS.org), click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy at [smccarthy@ribuilders.org](mailto:smccarthy@ribuilders.org), or call (401) 438-7400.

"How to Get Results with Social Media" will be the subject with marketing expert Betty Galligan of Newberry Public Relations & Marketing Inc. If you have a Facebook page, a LinkedIn profile, a Twitter account, or use Google+ but don't know if it's all helping or harming your business, then this seminar is for you!

Learn how to get maximum results with a minimum of time using the right social-media channels to reach your customers and prospects.



## CRP/First Aid course at RIBA

December TBA

**WHEN:** TBA

**WHERE:** RIBA headquarters, 450 Veterans Memorial Pkwy., East Providence

**COST:** FREE for members, with a \$25 materials and certification charge. \$50 for non-members, with a \$25 materials and certification charge.

**FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:** Logon to [www.RIBUILDERS.org](http://www.RIBUILDERS.org), click on this event under the "Events Calendar," or contact Sheila McCarthy at [smccarthy@ribuilders.org](mailto:smccarthy@ribuilders.org), or call (401) 438-7400.

This basic first aid course could save a life on your jobsite or in your home. It includes instruction in CPR/AED (cardiopulmonary resuscitation/automated external defibrillation) on adults, children and infants. The class also will help participants deal with choking in adults, children and infants. It will cover everything from protecting yourself and children to medical and trauma treatment and recognition.

Space is limited, so register now.



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# Working for better infrastructure



**Steven Carlino**

As the Rhode Island Builders Association advances its legislative advocacy from year to year, and with great success in recent years, it's obvious that many of our industry's issues revolve around the environment.

These issues include septic-system setbacks and wetlands rules, along with overall concerns about water quality. One of our prime tasks in 2015 will be something that can be an answer to all those concerns: an expanded water and sewer infrastructure for our state.

Not only would expanded and improved municipal water and sewer service be a solution to water-quality degradation, but they would lower the costs of residential construction by eliminating the need for the design, permitting and construction of onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), not to mention wells.

Many communities are already considering expanding their water and sewer infrastructure. The main problem, of course, is funding.

The Legislative Committee is working hard with RIBA's business coalition partners to find solutions that will allow this infrastructure improvement to take place. Success will be a critical step toward improving the housing market and boosting Rhode Island's economy.

In the meantime, the 2015 session of the General Assembly is around the corner. As in past years, all RIBA members will be called upon to pitch in for our advocacy program. For now, please get to know your local senator and representative, especially if they are newly elected.

For more information on what you can do, please contact Executive Director John Marcantonio at (401) 438-7400.



**Robert J. Baldwin**

## RIBA's Legislative Committee

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*Douglas Lumber, Kitchens & Home Center*

**Robert J. Baldwin, Co-Chairman**  
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*Government Strategies Inc.*



# DEM targets RIPDES sites for inspections, offers help with compliance

If any of your construction projects are currently authorized to discharge under the Rhode Island Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (RIPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Construction Activity (CGP), DEM has a message for you: Don't be surprised if Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM) inspectors visit your construction sites.

"DEM is conducting random site inspections of construction sites throughout the state to ensure compliance with the requirements of the RIPDES CGP," said a recent statement from the agency.

The statement outlined in permit holders' responsibilities.

"Proper management of construction activities to prevent the discharge of stormwater impacted by uncontrolled construction activity to local stormwater systems or to state surface waters is a critical component of the DEM's efforts to maintain the quality of state surface waters. In order to prevent any harmful impacts associated with construction activity, it is your responsibility to comply with the RIPDES CGP during the course of your site-disturbance activities."

## The 'keys to success'

The statement outlines the "keys to success" as:

- Ensuring that an updated copy of your Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (SESC Plan), including site plans; amendments to the SESC Plan; records of inspections, maintenance and corrective actions; and a copy of the pertinent DEM permits, are kept on-site and implemented at all times during the extent of coverage under your permit.

The site operator must maintain a copy of the SESC Plan at a central location on-site. If such a site location isn't available to store the SESC Plan and associated records when no personnel are present, notice of the SESC Plan's location must be posted near the main entrance of the construction site.

- Ensuring that all required erosion, runoff, sediment and pollution-prevention control measures are installed, inspected and maintained.

- Being aware that even if measures are correctly installed on a site according to the approved SESC Plan, the site is only in compliance with the RIPDES CGP when erosion, runoff, sedimentation, and pollution sources are effectively controlled throughout the site.

"Each year, DEM conducts inspections and, unfortunately, every year our inspections have resulted in formal and informal enforcement actions for failure to comply with the RIPDES CGP," the statement continued.

## Compliance assistance is available

To help clarify the RIPDES CGP requirements, DEM has "The

Construction Site Stormwater Compliance Assistance Program." Participation is voluntary, and more information is available online at [www.DEM.ri.gov/programs/benviron/assist/ms4/index.htm](http://www.DEM.ri.gov/programs/benviron/assist/ms4/index.htm).

The website includes a fact sheet explaining the benefits of participation, and the *Construction Site Stormwater Compliance Workbook*, which will help you participate in the voluntary self-certification process.

## Completing your project and permit termination

Owners of authorized construction sites must notify DEM in writing upon completion of land-disturbing activities. The CGP requires site owners to certify that all disturbed soils at the construction site are stabilized, that temporary erosion and sediment-control measures have been removed, and that all stormwater discharges associated with construction activity have been eliminated.

see RIPDES...page 29

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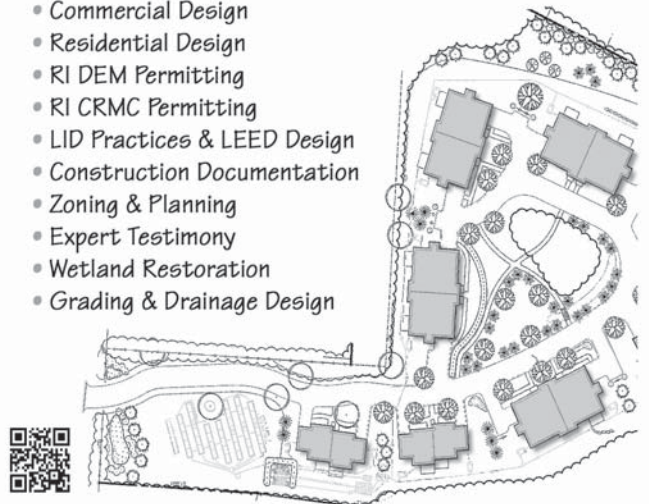
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# Don't miss the greatest show (for builders) on Earth

**WHEN:** Tuesday-Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup>

**WHERE:** Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nev.

**COST:** Varies

**FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER:** Visit [www.BuilderShow.com](http://www.BuilderShow.com)


Online registration is ongoing for the 2015 International Builders' Show® (IBS) and National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) Convention. IBS is the largest annual light construction trade show in the world and certainly the "greatest show on Earth" for home builders. The 2015 show is part of the second annual Design & Construction Week™, a co-location with the Kitchen and Bath Industry Show (KBIS), hosted by the National Kitchen and Bath Association (NKBA), and the International Window Coverings Expo (IWCE).

New this year, two other shows will join the event, including The International Surface Event (TISE) and the Las Vegas Market. While the shows will remain separate and distinct, all reg-



istrants will have access to the exhibits of all five shows held during Design & Construction Week.

The IBS show floor will feature more than 1,000 of the industry's top manufacturers and suppliers, showcasing the latest and most innovative products. Attendees will be able to learn new techniques and explore emerging trends in the more than 100 educational sessions offered throughout the show. Additional special events, speakers, awards competitions and networking opportunities are among the other major highlights.

Another major draw is The New American Home® (TNAH) 2015, a one-of-a-kind "green" show home being built in a nearby neighborhood. It will be open to attendees for tours during the IBS. The state-of-the-art home incorporates builders' best practices in energy efficiency, indoor-air quality, safety, convenience and aesthetics. The IBS is not open to the general public. 



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# NAHB pledges local support for home builders associations

As we initially reported in our October issue, the National Association of Home Builders Board of Directors has approved a new field representative program to support local and state home builders associations (HBAs). Under the program, a field representative will live and travel in each of the five NAHB regions in 2015. Within three years, the program will expand, with a field representative living and working in each of the 15 NAHB geographical areas.

Incoming Rhode Island Builders Association President Roland J. Fiore has stated that RIBA will be fully involved.

The key objectives of this program:

- Provide general association management support and consultation.
- Help HBAs and members access NAHB benefits, service and staff.
- Enhance HBA recruitment and retention programs and services.
- Conduct on-site local or statewide NAHB orientations for executive officers and members.

“By boosting local and state associations, field representatives will strengthen the entire national association. Moreover, the program will connect NAHB to the grassroots, raise awareness and enhance value for each member, and increase participa-

tion and engagement,” a statement from national association said.

## *Move to 2 board meetings*

The NAHB Board also reduced the number of required board meetings from three to two a year, though all three planned meetings will still take place in 2015.

To attract younger members and to save money for attendees, local and state associations and NAHB, the board voted to amend NAHB bylaws to require only the two board meetings per year – an International Builders’ Show and mid-year meeting. The mid-year meetings will alternate between Washington, D.C., and other cities across the country. The Washington meetings will coincide with planned Capi-

tol Hill visits.

“By making it easier to participate in meetings and to fulfill board duties, and encouraging more Web-based and conference-call meetings, this modification is expected to engage younger members, who represent the future of NAHB, by helping them to balance competing, professional, personal and volunteer demands,” NAHB stated.

Additionally, the two standing board meetings are anticipated to be more engaging, offering members more networking and education opportunities.

This change is expected to save NAHB about \$700,000 a year, in addition to the savings realized by HBAs and individual members.

## State jobs for contractors are available for bidding

The State of Rhode Island has several jobs out for bid as of this writing. For full information and bidding instructions, visit [www.Purchasing.ri.gov](http://www.Purchasing.ri.gov).

### **The Dept. of Transportation (DOT)**

1. DOT seeks a contractor for concrete beam repairs for the railroad bridge at Kingston Station. Bid # 7549024.
2. A contractor is also being sought for statewide fence replacement. Bid # 7549014.

### **The University of Rhode Island (URI)**

1. URI seeks a contractor for roof repair and maintenance at all campuses. Bid # 7549007.
2. URI also seeks a contractor to do painting and minor repairs at URI apartments and dormitories at all university sites.

### **The Dept. of Education (DOE)**

1. DOE seeks a contractor for electrical upgrades to the Cosmetology Shop area at Davies Career and Technical High School in Lincoln. Bid # 7549014.

### **Dept. of Environmental Management (DEM)**

1. DEM seeks a contractor for timber pavilion and parking area construction. Bid # 7549012.

### **Multi-Agency**

1. Several agencies are lining up plowing and sanding services for winter. Bid # 7548947.



**As our new president, Roland J. Fiore, pledges, RIBA will take full advantage of all opportunities for support from the National Association of Home Builders. NAHB has already assisted with our advocacy program. Any member who would like to contribute by attending NAHB or Region 1 meetings should contact me at (401) 438-7400.**

**-Executive Director  
John Marcantonio**



# Dr. Marion Gold

## Commissioner, R.I. Office of Energy Resources

*Marion Gold has served in her current post at the Office of Energy Resources (OER) since August 2012. Previously, Dr. Gold was director of the Outreach Center at the University of Rhode Island, where she established the URI Partnership for Energy and directed extension programs for communities and the public in energy, environmental horticulture, and urban agriculture. She has served on the URI President's Council for Sustainability and on the Rhode Island Energy Efficiency and Resource Management Council. Early in her career, she worked at the Dept. of Environmental Management and the Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corp., where she was instrumental in launching the first statewide recycling program in the country. Dr. Gold holds a BS with honors in Natural Resource Science and Policy from the University of Michigan, an MS in Environmental Economics from Michigan State University, and a Ph.D. in Environmental Sciences from the University of Rhode Island.*



**GOLD:** Yes, we've been working very hard to update the state energy plan, which was last done in 2002. We're nearing completion and hope to go to public hearing before the end of the year, perhaps December.

### THE BUILDER: What does it look like?

**GOLD:** We did extensive modeling of what our energy system is today and what it could look like in the future. The really good news is that we have the potential to reduce our carbon emissions 45 percent by 2035 and 80 percent by 2050 while increasing net economic benefits to the state and developing a more diverse energy system.

We believe we have the potential for an energy system that's more affordable, and also cleaner and more secure. Of course, "the devil is in the details," but we think it's good news, and we've formulated some policies and programs to help us get there.

### THE BUILDER: Can you tell us about the energy legislation passed in the General Assembly this year, especially the new solar-installation legislation?

**GOLD:** This has been a really great year for energy legislation, and there were two key measures passed and signed by the governor. Those were the Renewable Energy Licensing Act and the Renewable Energy Growth Program.

Both passed with overwhelming support, thanks to the collaborative work between the Rhode Island Builders Association, OER, the Dept. of Labor and Training, and Local 99 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), the utility companies, the New England Clean Energy Council and environmental organizations. So we had a great group of folks working on this.

The licensing legislation reduced regulatory barriers for companies interested in installing renewable energy components. It makes it easier for them to establish offices in Rhode Island, and to advertise their services. It did that by defining the roles of general contractor and licensed electrician. Having RIBA there to help sort through the issues was really valuable.

The Renewable Energy Growth Program expanded a very successful pilot program from 40 to 160 megawatts. That will provide incentives for many renewable energy projects in Rhode Island.

### THE BUILDER: Is there any progress on the statewide energy plan?

### THE BUILDER: What percentage of Rhode Island's energy, both residential and commercial, is being provided by alternative sources now?

**GOLD:** Now we have about 8.5 percent, not too much but we're ramping up. But we're on track to acquire 16 percent of our electricity from renewable sources by 2019, and we're confident that we'll meet that goal. The recently passed legislation will help us do that.

We're also working on lowering the cost of renewable energy so it can become part of an integrated energy-management system that's not only clean but affordable. That's where we're seeing some real advances with the hardware. Particularly the solar side has become much less expensive in recent years.

We've also benefited because some other New England states have pushed ahead of us by expanding their solar programs through fairly heavy state subsidies. That has helped drive the cost down regionally. We're also looking at ways to install renewable energy so we can reduce the overall cost of the electricity system. For example, are there places we can put renewable energy that will allow National Grid to defer upgrading some of the older hardware required to move electricity around?

### THE BUILDER: What does all this mean for the residential construction industry?

**GOLD:** It's good news. It hasn't been the best time for residential construction in recent years, but we believe the future will

...continued next page

*...from previous page*

bring many opportunities for both residential renewable energy and also energy efficiency. That offers something builders can sell to people who are either building or retrofitting a home. Everyone wants a comfortable home, but they also want to save money, and builders can offer energy opportunities.

When we buy a car, we look for one that gets the best gas mileage. And when people buy homes, they'll look for one that will cost the least to maintain over time, energy-wise.

**THE BUILDER: As this energy scenario develops, what opportunities are there for individual contractors?**

**GOLD:** There are a number of opportunities. They're eligible to participate with renewable-energy businesses in both the expansion of renewable energy through the growth program we mentioned.

There also are opportunities through the Renewable Energy Fund, managed by Commerce RI (formerly the Rhode Island Economic Development Corp.). Through this fund, residents may be eligible for grants and rebates if they want to install solar energy at their homes. Builders can work with renewable energy developers to market that.

**THE BUILDER: Are there other good contacts for new-home builders when it comes to solar, wind or other renewable energy sources?**

**GOLD:** National Grid manages the energy-efficiency program for the state, and they have a whole suite of rebates and incentives for residential customers. If I were a builder, I'd make sure I was on top of all of those cost-saving opportunities I could pass on to my clients. There's some great information on that through National Grid's Rhode Island Residential New Construction Program ([www.nationalgridus.com](http://www.nationalgridus.com)).

**THE BUILDER: Are there specific opportunities for remodelers doing home retrofits?**

**GOLD:** Yes. As everyone has noticed, we've had some fairly significant rate increases, and we will see some energy price spikes this winter. So this is a particularly good time for homeowners to ask, "What can I do to reduce my costs?"

This involves everything from improving home insulation and sealing cracks to obtaining the most efficient heating system possible. There are lots of incentives for homeowners and lots of opportunities for remodelers.

Incidentally, everyone in RIBA has a great model with your incoming vice president, Dave Caldwell. He's a real leader in this area, and has several national awards for outstanding leadership in environmentally sustainable building.

These are all things you can offer to your customers.

**THE BUILDER: There has been some criticism lately that renewable energy sources, at least at their current level of technology, are inefficient and unreliable. What say you?**

**GOLD:** Renewable energy sources are very reliable. The concern has been their intermittent nature. With solar, for example,

the sun doesn't shine all the time. So how do we integrate those intermittent sources into the standard energy system while keeping it all reliable? There's great progress on that front. There's some really good research in battery technology, for example, much of it stemming from progress with hybrid or electric vehicles to help lower costs overall.

Sometimes that can involve providing energy at periods of peak demand, when energy is most expensive. So if we can use batteries, solar or even wind power to provide energy when you most need it, you can lower overall costs.

Those are some of the challenges, but in Rhode Island we're working collaboratively with the construction industry and utilities to overcome these.

**THE BUILDER: What about recent claims that solar actually damages the environment by doing things like frying passing birds, and siphoning off funds that could be used to improve the standard power infrastructure.**

**GOLD:** I'd say that, at least in Rhode Island and on the East Coast, we won't have the scale of solar programs that will potentially fry birds. But, as we've said, integrating renewable energy sources into the grid is what we're working on with engineers at the utility companies.

We're all looking at Germany, where they ramped up their renewable energy very quickly. There, they weren't sure how to integrate renewable energy so overall it would be a more reliable and cleaner system. So we're learning from the experience of other countries as well as other states.

**THE BUILDER: So individual homeowners can start small with renewable energy, then build on that as technological progress is made in the field?**

**GOLD:** Exactly. And this is a good time for the residential renewable-energy customer in New England because we have learned a lot from the experience of people in other places, and the costs are starting to come down. We do have a cadre of builders and renewable-energy companies who know what they're doing.

**THE BUILDER: Decades ago, nuclear power was touted as the answer to sustainable energy. Then there were a few accidents. Does nuclear have any future as a cheap energy source?**

**GOLD:** It's very challenging to even think about nuclear in the United States anymore. It still plays a significant role in our regional energy system as a low-cost, low-carbon base load source for electricity. But will we see any new nuclear plants in New England anytime soon? No. The regulatory hurdles are just too challenging. There is one new nuclear plant being built in Georgia, but it's very, very expensive.

**THE BUILDER: So is there anything you'd like to add?**

**GOLD:** I can't say enough about how terrific it's been to work with RIBA. Such good people, and I look forward to working with you in 2015.







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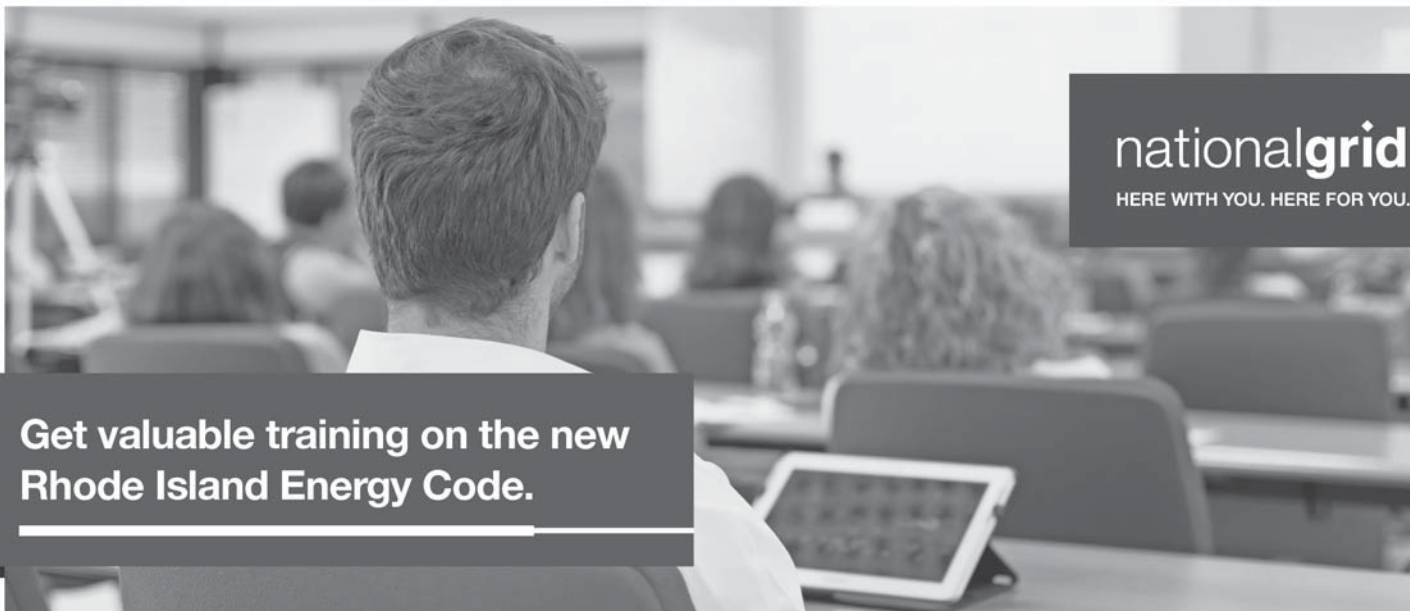
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## APPRAISALS...from page 2

Mr. Caldwell reviewed several green home-building projects his company has completed, especially one in Exeter, ex-

plaining points of value in each.

Mr. Foley outlined causes for hope when it comes to energy valuation, along with a certain amount of urgency. "The per-

centage of certified energy-efficient new homes went from 2 percent in 2002 to 23 percent in 2013. Government policy is supporting this trend, more and more buyers want them, and lenders will have to get on the bandwagon," he said.

Mr. Litvin described himself as "in the trenches" with these very issues. "I'm selling high-performance homes. They're in demand, especially with 35-45 year-old buyers, but I'm struggling with the appraisal issues. And more buyers are asking to see the utility bills for existing homes."

While key issues may remain unresolved, further dialogue will make progress for appraisers and builders on those issues, and hopefully involve lenders as well, Ms. Kelly concluded at the discussion's end.

AI's Brad Hevenor commented that "we'd like more input and communication on this topic across real estate industries. Panels like this should provide an excellent interdisciplinary opportunity to bring various stakeholders together to share knowledge and insight, and ultimately better understand the role of the real estate appraisal and the appraisal profession in the marketplace for energy-efficient residential construction."

AI plans additional seminars on the valuation of sustainable buildings. Watch for more information in *The Rhode Island Builder Report*.

## ANNUAL MEETING...from page 1

time executive director, serving from 1955 to 1997. Mrs. Dagata was the association's first insurance administrator. Also present was Sen. Juan M. Pichardo (D-Providence), who has worked with RIBA on a number of legislative issues and represents the association's campaign to recruit more Latino contractors.

Also elected at the Annual Meeting were Vice President David A. Caldwell Jr. of Caldwell & Johnson Inc., and Secretary Timothy A. Stasiunas of The Stasiunas Companies. Steven Gianlorenzo of Gianlorenzo and Sons Construction Corp. was re-elected as treasurer.

In addition, local directors were elected: Carolyn Medina of Women's Development Corp.; Ronald J. Caniglia of Stand Corp.; Jason DaPonte of Sansiveri, Kimball & Co., LLP; Michael L. DeCesare of DeCesare Building Co., Inc.; Kenneth Jones of Ken Jones Construction; Jose Marciano of JM Painting LLC; and Eric Wishart of Civil CADD Services, Inc.

Those elected were sworn in by Immediate Past President Felix A. Carlone. Approval of the slate was unanimous. Members also approved the slate of RIBA's national directors and representatives, who will be officially elected and installed at the International Builders Show and National Association of Home Builders Convention, January 20-22<sup>nd</sup> in Las Vegas, Nev. *Story on page 22.*

Nominated as national directors are: John Bentz of The Property Advisory Group; David A. Caldwell Jr. of Caldwell and Johnson Inc.; Louis Cotoia of Arnold Lumber Co.; Thomas E. D'Angelo of Progressive Realty Group; Roland J. Fiore of South County Sand & Gravel Co., Inc.; and Scott Grace of Overhead Door/Garage Headquarters.

Nominated as alternate national directors (with terms expiring in 2015) are: Michael C. Artesani Jr. of W. Artesani & Sons Inc., Kenneth Coury of Riverhead Building Supply, Matthew O. Davitt of Davitt Design Build Inc., James G. Deslandes of Deslandes Construction Inc., Vincent J. Marcantonio of Marcantonio Design Build and J. Robert Pesce of Lehigh Realty LLC.

Robert J. Baldwin of R.B. Homes Inc. was nominated for election as RIBA's National Association of Home Builders representative, with Thomas E. McNulty of E.A. McNulty Real Estate as alternate representative.

Nominated as state director is Stephen Fitzgerald of Fitzgerald Building and Remodeling, with James P. Tavares of James P. Tavares Construction Inc. as alternate state director.

## Members recognized for service

After the election and Mr. Fiore's inaugural remarks, Executive Director John Marcantonio stepped to the podium to thank many members and RIBA staffers who have given extra time and effort on RIBA programs and projects over the previous year, and all received gifts.

In a surprise for Mr. Marcantonio, he himself was honored with a plaque as the driving force behind the RIBA Renaissance since 2011.

RIBA thanks the generous sponsors of the Annual Meeting, especially Premier Sponsors Arnold Lumber Co.; Consolidated Concrete Corp.; Douglas Lumber, Kitchens & Home Center; National Building Products, and Riverhead Building Supply. Consolidated Concrete and Douglas Lumber generously sponsored the cocktail hour. *See the full list of sponsors on page 23.*

For information on RIBA membership, serving on a committee or in a leadership position, call (401) 438-7400 or visit [www.RIBUILDERS.org](http://www.RIBUILDERS.org).

**For more information  
on scheduled  
RIBA classes, see pages  
18-19  
and the calendar on  
page 4.**

**If there is a class  
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## **PRESIDENT...***from page 5*

To the other members of our dedicated RIBA staff: Elizabeth Carpenter, Elise Geddes, Shelia McCarthy, Robin Barlow, Tara Demelo, and to Joyce Therrien and her team at the Builders Insurance Group, I thank all of you for outstanding contributions, attention to detail, and willingness to go above and beyond, and it's my pleasure to be working with each of you.

To the existing members of the board and the new members: I look forward to working with you as we collectively strive to ensure growth, endurance and excellence.

I especially look forward to working with the other newly-elected officers on our team: Vice President Dave Caldwell, Treasurer Steve Gianlorenzo and Secretary Tim Stasiunas.

Coming together to form one dynamic team is the beginning, keeping together is progress, and working together will be our success.

We have many great things lined up for the near future. For one, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) has started a special program to help local and state associations grow and improve. An NAHB field representative will live and travel in each of the five regions in 2015, and this will include New England - Region One.

Within three years, the program will expand, with one field representative living and working in each of NAHB's 15 geographic areas. RIBA intends to take full advantage of this support, and all the new officers look forward to meeting with our NAHB and Region One partners, and actively working with them.

Over the next few years, I, with your help, will seek to ensure continuous growth in the strength of our organization, realization of the full potential of our programs and projects, legislative successes, membership development, and the outreach of our communications media. Nurturing the passion of our members will ultimately be our driving force for a stronger RIBA and stronger Rhode Island.

I thank you for your confidence.



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## **RIPDES...***from page 21*

nated before requesting termination.

"Once these requirements have been met and all annual fees have been paid, a formal termination request may be submitted to DEM," the agency said.

The minimum information required to terminate permit coverage can be found in Part I.E of the RIPDES CGP. In addition, a formal Notice of Termination form can be found at [www.DEM.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/water/ripdesca.pdf](http://www.DEM.ri.gov/pubs/regs/regs/water/ripdesca.pdf).

Completed and signed Notice of Termination forms must be submitted to the following address:

RI DEM, Office of Water Resources, RIPDES Program Permitting Section, 235 Promenade Street, Providence, RI 02908

For more information, contact Brian Lafaille PE at (401) 222-4700, Ext. 7731.



# What NAHB does for you



Rick Judson

**By Rick Judson**

*NAHB Immediate Past Chairman*

Along with other senior officers of the National Association of Home Builders, I'm often asked to define the value that our national association brings to the table for our state and local home builders associations (HBAs).

I could focus on the hundreds of top-notch educational programs and professional designation opportunities, and accessibility to them, that NAHB provides. I could talk about NAHB's local economic forecasting, which we offer to HBAs at a steep discount, along with the analysis of top economists. Or I could discuss the significant support NAHB provides for local membership-recruiting efforts to ensure that every HBA represents the widest possible network of housing professionals.

For now, though, I'll zero-in on two crucial areas of NAHB support in the advocacy arena that probably deserve greater recognition at the local level.

First there's the local building-code adoption process, which dictates the rules by which every builder must construct homes. Keeping building codes flexible, cost-effective and product-neutral is a top NAHB priority, which is why every year, NAHB analyzes thousands of proposed codes and prevents requirements that could add tens of thousands of dollars to the cost of building a new home without any appreciable benefit to buyers.

Undoubtedly, the complex and time-consuming work that our volunteer members and staff put into reviewing the multitude of proposed code changes and attending International Code Council (ICC) hearings as part of each development cycle is something that tremendously benefits our members.

When individual jurisdictions update their building codes through adoption of all or part of the latest ICC codes, NAHB's code experts provide our HBAs with detailed toolkits full of resources for amending codes as they are adopted.

A second area in which NAHB provides direct assistance to HBAs is via our legal-support programs. Our HBAs often battle unwelcome local land-use ordinances that cost our members time, money and the ability to build. NAHB helps by offering free reviews of local ordinances and state legislation. Specifically, our legal experts examine these ordinances' legal sufficiency, including constitutional and statutory requirements, to help HBAs frame an appropriate response.

To find out more about what NAHB does and can do for you, [www.NAHB.org](http://www.NAHB.org).



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