



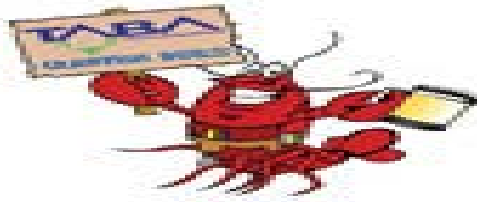
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On The Level - March 2007

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Are You Ready For Some Crawfish?



We hope you're ready because the *Membership Meetings and Sponsors Committee* has been working hard to get ready for the **2nd Annual Crawfish Boil** and they have some great things planned that should make the event even more entertaining than it was last year.

In addition to the terrific crawfish and ice cold drinks, there will again be bbq brisket for those that would rather race crawfish than eat them. Crawfish races are scheduled and *Jean Pierre and the Zydeco Angels* will be performing so be sure to brush up on your zydeco dancing.

This event is **FREE** to all members and elected officials! It begins at 5:30 p.m. and will be held at [Lamar Advertising](#) at 5110 N. General Bruce Dr. on the north side of Temple off IH 35.

Special thanks to [McCoy's Building Supply](#) for agreeing for the second year in a row to be the event sponsor. TABA also extends our thanks to [Compass Bank](#) for agreeing to be our entertainment sponsor.

We hope everyone makes plans to attend the **2nd Annual Crawfish Boil**. Don't forget **NOT** to wear your good clothes!

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President's Message

Mike Pilkington

What an exciting month February was. The *Home and Garden Show* was a super success. Many thanks to Cheryl Copeland, Tony Gallagher, and the committee for the many hours and energy they put into the show.

There is never much rest for the weary though. Many of these same people immediately got to work planning the last details of our Crawfish Boil. This will be an event that no one will want to miss. Thanks to [McCoy's Building Supply](#) for being the title sponsor and [Lamar Outdoor Advertising](#) for supplying the location free of charge.

This will be another free event to all of our members and the elected officials who serve our community so there is no excuse to miss it. It will be made even more fun thanks to [Compass Bank](#) footing the bill for bringing in a zydeco band for the festivities.

I am also happy to report that Troy Glasson; Jason Carothers and HOME PAC; Pat Patterson and the Government Affairs Committee; John Kiella, our Rally Day Captain; and many others did a great job of preparing for and guiding us through "Rally Day" at the state capitol.

Almost 25 TABA members joined about 1,200 other builder and associate members from around the state to represent our industry in Austin. A good time was had by all, but most importantly; we got the opportunity to meet with Senator Troy Fraser and Representative Dianne White Delisi.

Having so many members present in our meeting really helped to drive home our message of how important it is that Temple's local economic issues and our industry's legislative issues be at the top of our legislator's priority list.

On a related note, after having had the chance to visit with members from other associations around the state I now realize how fortunate we are to have local governments that work hard to get every point of view, including ours, and use that to grow better communities.

Thanks to all who went and helped with the Rally Day effort!!!

Now that we've gotten that behind us, much hard work will continue at the local level. We have a very full plate just dealing with local regulatory issues. Be assured that we have many members actively involved to make sure your interests are being considered and that we have good relationships with our staffs and representatives at every governmental level.

Thank you to all who spend much time and energy to insure that our views are heard.

Everyone have a great month and I will see you at the Crawfish Boil.

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Troy Glasson
Executive Officer

NEVER A DULL MOMENT!



(For more pictures, scroll to bottom of article and click to enlarge.)

I keep telling myself that one day things are going to slow down enough around here for me to catch up on the things that are piling up in my “in-box.” Included in this stack of minutiae are all the articles and reports that I receive on a weekly basis that I deem important enough to get back to at a later date, but not important enough to do any more than scan as they arrive at my desk.

Out of a sick sense of curiosity the other day I dared to dive to the bottom of that pile to see how far back into history these items go. To my amazement, the oldest article in the pile dates to August 2006. The first part of this article encompasses three quarters of the front page of the business section of the *Temple Daily Telegram* and the focus of it is the growth west of town.

Come to think of it, there were quite a few articles about growth throughout Bell County in the past six months or so. This is good news for the local building economy.

With the growth of course comes the need for expansion of City services and, you guessed it, more attention to regulations. These are two items that we keep a close eye on here at TABA and as I’ve already noted more times than I care to in the past few months, both of these topics are being addressed at high speed over at City Hall.

Likewise, issues that you've likely not heard much about, but that have just as much impact on your business are being hashed out at the State House in Austin.

In effort to address these issues, more than 20 representatives of TABA recently visited our legislators at the State Capitol to let them know that we are very interested in the job that they are doing for us and that we need them to work hard to assure that the legislation that they consider will allow our development efforts to remain on the fast track in coming years.

This will require sufficient compliments to a key economic engine of our area and assurance that quality development is allowed to occur without the burden of additional regulation that is sometimes created when policy wonks put their minds to it.

To this end, we asked our legislators to support the initiatives of our state association—the [Texas Association of Builders](#). They have several pressing issues that they are working to get taken care of this session and we asked both [Representative Dianne Delisi](#) and [Senator Troy Fraser](#), who are very good friends of our industry, to make sure they listen when our friends from TAB come calling to ask for their support.

As importantly, we also asked them to be in support of Scott & White and our local medical community. It is paramount that our legislators give their all to assure the continued growth and viability of our friends over on the hill.

If our medical and bioscience communities grow, Temple grows and our industry keeps working to make sure that everyone has an affordable and high quality home to go to when they leave work at the end of the day.

MANY TO THANK!!!

Like many good parents, athletes, actors, preachers, and teachers have taught me, it is always important to thank the Good Lord, and especially when an event like Rally Day works out. There are many things that come up or can go wrong during an event like this and it wasn't without God's grace that we were able to pull this event off. Those that were there know good and well what I'm talking about.

Thanks again to those who joined me for Rally Day 2007 in Austin!!! This long and distinguished list of folks includes our Legislative Captain, John Kiella; Jared Bryan; Jason Peavy; Pat Patterson; John Paysse; Cheryl Copeland; Mike Pilkington; Derrick Hunt; Ben Pamplin; Bruce Walker; Chris Alexander; Jason Carothers; Tony Gallagher; Mat Naegele; Jim Howe; Brad Turner; Jamey Secrest; Buck Prewitt; Thomas Baird; Kelly Hosch; and Wendell Williams.

I would be remiss if I failed to once again thank our sponsors for footing the a big part of the bill for the day. Bruce Walker, John Kiella, Jason Carothers, and Brad Turner were kind enough to take care of the group's food and drinks on the day of the event.

Last and very importantly, I'd like to thank the legislators and their staffs for making every effort to make sure our time in Austin was a complete success. Alicia Winegar, District Director for Representative Delisi; Terri Mathis, Scheduler for Senator Fraser; and Janice McCoy, Chief of Staff for Senator Fraser all worked very hard to make sure that TABA got to meet personally with each of our legislators.

A big thanks goes out to each of these folks and to Representative Delisi and Senator Fraser for making sure that our meetings worked out!

A great time was had by all and everyone that attended contributed to the success of the day.

Be sure to thank these guys for giving their time to go and lobby for you and your industry in order to assure that our voices were heard loud and clear by the 80th Texas Legislature. I assure you that your message was delivered!



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Temple Storm Water Program Surges Forward

The City of Temple Public Works Department hosted the second of a three-part series of meetings on Wednesday, February 21st. Recall from the [first meeting](#) that the City of Temple invited TABA and our members to become stakeholders in reviewing **Best Management Practices** (BMPs) for the City's program to reduce storm water pollutants that enter streams through storm drain systems. Common pollutants include oil and grease from roadways, pesticides from lawns, sediment from construction sites, and carelessly discarded trash.

The first meeting, which was held in November of last year, was designed to introduce the stakeholders to the process in which the City would develop its storm water management plan and review common best management practices used for everything from educating the public on potential pollutants carried by storm water to managing construction and post-construction storm water run-off.

At the most recent meeting, **stakeholders**—which included a good representation of builders and developers—got an opportunity to discuss and vote on the best management practices that they believed could most effectively be implemented in Temple.

Each BMP that is included in the City's program will have a measurable goal and management procedures tied to it, so it is important that we choose the BMPs that are most practical.

As far as the **Construction BMPs**, it is anticipated that the City's program will not require anything further of builders than is already required under the TCEQ's Construction General Permit for this portion of their **Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program**.

Of the 29 BMPs listed in our information packet, the group voted to recommend 5 items as examples to the City of what is currently common under SWP3 in our area. Among these items were preserving natural vegetation, stabilizing construction entrances, vegetation establishment, riprap soil erosion techniques, and silt fencing. These items could be mentioned as items of guidance when the City completes the ordinance on this issue.

The most significant recommendation in reference to Construction BMPs was that the City hold a series of "**Developer's Stakeholders Meetings**" over the next several years to further determine which construction BMPs work well in our area. These meetings will provide opportunities for our builders and developers to be thoroughly educated on each BMP of interest so they can plan to implement these uses further at their jobsites.

Very different from construction BMPs are **Post-Construction BMPs**. **Most of the requirements here will be new, beyond the City's current detention requirements in Section 8 of their Drainage Criteria and Design Manual.**

For this portion, the City is required to "develop, implement, and enforce a program to address storm water runoff from new development and redevelopment projects that disturb one acre of land or more, including projects less than one acre that are part of a larger common plan of development."

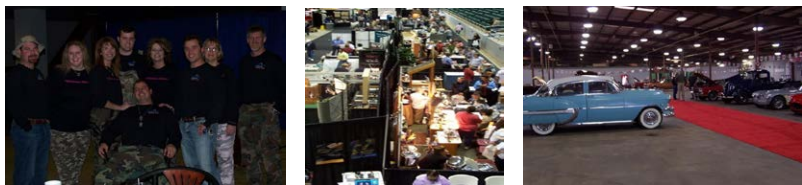
Of the 19 post-construction BMPs that we reviewed—eliminating curb and gutter (but not ribbon curbs), developing vegetated channels (interceptor swales), narrowing residential streets, providing alternative turnarounds, and urban forestry seemed like areas that the stakeholders might recommend. Again, the future series of "Developer Stakeholder Meetings" will provide opportunities for thorough review and discussion of each of these BMPs. Our **guiding principle** was that man-made controls are often most expensive and difficult to maintain.

If you would like to review the ballot that the stakeholders voted on in our recent meeting, we'll have one at the TABA office that you are welcome to come in and take a look at.

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5,000 Attended the Event & the Preview Party was a Big Hit!



The *TABA Home & Garden Show* is the largest event that TABA produces in its calendar year. It is also the largest revenue generator for the Association so it is imperative that everything goes as planned and that goals are met.

The *Show* was once again extremely successful and all credit should go to the many people that came together to make it so. From the *Home & Garden Show Committee*, to the show sponsors, to the vendors--the success of this show rests with each and every one of these very important people.

Those interested in home and garden products weren't the only ones to turn out. Once again the car buffs were out in full force and there was much for them to see thanks to the work of John Paysse, Don Psencik, and Susan Miller. Thanks goes out to these dedicated car enthusiasts for all of the hard work and time they contributed to the success of the *2007 Classic Car Show*.

TABA extends a "heartly" thank you to Tony Gallagher of [Heart of Texas Landscape & Irrigation](#) for chairing the *H&G Committee*. Tony had lots of help. Joining him on the committee were Jared Bryan, Kim Swindall, Teresa Smith, Kelly Hosch, Timm White, Mike Pilkington, Debbie Swift, Kim Tyler, Kathy Sodek, Brandon Tarnow and Brandin Langford. The committee spent countless hours at the Expo Center prior to and throughout the show making sure all the details were taken care of.

TABA also gives special thanks to our show sponsors. Our title sponsor was the *Temple Daily Telegram*--an invaluable partner that

did a fantastic job in promoting the show to the public.

Also sponsoring was [Texas Premier Brick](#), [Central National Bank](#), [Tri-Supply](#), [Amos Electric](#), [Las Casas Restaurante](#), and [Extraco Banks](#). Many of these member companies have put countless dollars towards the success of our organization and we appreciate their continued support.

Of course the *Show* would not be the draw it is without the vendors that bring in their marvelous exhibits. It is because of quality vendors with ever changing products that we are able to attract so many people year after year and we appreciate their continued support.

If you missed the Preview Party, you missed **THE** party of the year! There were over 1,000 people in attendance and it looked like everyone had a great time, ate some great food, were inspired by the *Show*, and had opportunity to visit with other great members and area elected officials.

If you missed this year, don't miss 2008--the committee is going to work even harder to make next year's *Show* even better!!

See our picture gallery for photos of the 2007 Home & Garden Show and Preview Party



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2007
**PARADE
OF HOMES**
TEMPLE AREA BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

Presented By



20 Beautiful Homes on Tour: With the *Home & Garden Show* now behind us, we look ahead to our final "big" event of the season--the *2007 Parade of Homes*. We have 20 beautiful homes on tour this year which stretch from Moffat, through the Temple/Belton area, and into Salado. We have homes of every size imaginable. We have partnered this year with [Central National Bank](#) to bring a quality parade to Central Texas.

The parade magazine will be distributed through the Friday, April 20th edition of the *Temple Daily Telegram* and will be available at every home on tour. Admission is \$8 for adults and \$2 for children 12 and under. Tickets will be sold on site

at the *Parade* homes. A tour map will be available on our website by April 1st.

The following is a list of homes entered in the parade this year:

Arnold Builders	6012 Fawn Meadows	Deerfield	Temple
Carothers Executive Homes	4916 Sarah's Way	Stonegate	Temple
Cedarstone Construction Co.	5235 Denman's Loop	Denman Twin Mtns.	Belton
D.R. Horton	9802 Riverland Court	Windmill Farms	Temple
Drews/Hunt Builder	178 Songbird Circle	Songbird Estates	Belton
EDC Homes	1009 Canyon Ridge	Canyon Ridge	Temple
Holland Homes	1407 Fletcher Court	Millcreek	Salado
Holmes Homes	1011 Paseo del Plata	Canyon Ridge	Temple
KB Homes	9206 Vista Valley Dr.	Village of Sage Meadow	Temple
Kiella Homebuilders	7827 Honeysuckle	Westfield, Phase II	Temple
Larry Lilly Builders	14049 Indian Bluff Rd.		Moffat
M&B Homes	2211 Ridgeway Dr.	Carriage House Village	Temple
M&B Homes	2116 Carriage House Dr.	Carriage House Village	Temple
Maedgen Construction	916 Ridgeview	Canyon Ridge	Temple
Omega Builders	3607 Valley Mist Ct.	Valley Ranch	Temple
Patco Construction	1017 Canyon Ridge	Canyon Ridge	Temple
Pilkington Homes, Inc.	8713 Laurel Ridge	Carriage House Village	Temple
Steve Wright Residential Designs	2205 Deerfield Dr.	Deerfield	Temple
Stillwater Custom Homes	2302 Highview Dr.	River Place Estates	Belton
Stillwater Custom Homes	353 Capstone	Highcrest	Belton

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EO's Comments

Cheryl Hunka
Executive Officer

Before I begin writing, I must first take a deep breath as I reflect on a fast Febraury. What a month it was!!! The *Home & Garden*

Show was a complete success. It was a quality show that was well attended by the public.

There are always several people to thank when organizing an event like this; it's just impossible for one person to do everything. I must start by thanking Tony Gallagher, the show chairman.

One effort in particular exemplifies the sacrifice that Tony made for this event. Tony met me at the TABA office at 5:45am one Thursday morning to drive to Eddy to appear on *Texas Today* and give a live interview promoting the *Home & Garden Show*. I look forward to doing that again next year Tony!

Several people worked very hard to make Tony look good, of course I am speaking of his committee members. Included among them were Jared Bryan, Teresa Smith, Debbie Swift, Kim Swindall, Brandon Tarnow, Timm White and Brandin Langford.

These people were the grease that kept the show wheel moving forward and TABA is grateful for their service and time spent to assure that Home & Garden Show 2007 was a great success.

Of course I'd be remiss to not thank the show sponsors: the Temple Daily Telegram, Texas Premier Brick, Central National Bank, Tri-Supply, Las Casas and Extraco Banks. These companies afford us the opportunity to do things that we would not otherwise be able to do and I thank them.

CRAWFISH BOIL

Who's ready to eat that spicy cajun delicacy - crawfish? Last year was my first time to ever try crawfish and I'll admit it wasn't half bad. I'm not one to eat really spicy foods so I had some from the first batch because I am told those last batches will set your mouth on fire.

The *Membership Meetings and Sponsors Committee* which is headed up this year by Jared Bryan is very excited to bring the *2nd Annual Crawfish Boil* to TABA members. It was a huge success last year and this year they have added to the event by bringing in a zydeco band.

The stage will be set and the food will be waiting on you, so come join us at the *2nd Annual Crawfish Boil* which will be held at Lamar Advertising and again sponsored by McCoy's Building Supply. Entertainment is sponsored by Compass Bank.

The event is **FREE** and begins at 5:30, Tuesday, March 20th.

BUILDING EXPANSION UPDATE

During the *Home & Garden Show*, I lost the TABA camera which had pictures of our expansion progress. This saddens me greatly because the pictures of the progress are very exciting.

The exterior finishes are complete and look **FANTASTIC!** A huge thank you to Texas Premier Brick for all of the work and contribution to this portion of the project. There are so many people to thank for the success of this project.

Look for a new page in the website honoring these people and the contributions they have made, as well as pictures in our April newsletter.

A special thank you this month to **Bruce Walker and Lengefeld Lumber Company** for their most generous donation of framing materials and any additional supplies that we have needed to get this project to where it is.

They are devoted members of TABA, as are so many of the members that we have here which have really stepped up to help us get this project complete with very little debt.

I can't wait to celebrate to opening with you all!!!

PARADE OF HOMES JUST AROUND THE CORNER

As you have probably read, the *2007 Parade of Homes* is just around the corner and we have 20 beautiful homes on tour this year. We will have something for everyone to see and are planning a huge party to kick it off.

Mark your calendars for April 20th and join us at Seaton Star Hall and listen to the sounds of *Wild Horses* performing on stage to help us celebrate.

Well that's it from my desk. We keep rocking right along around here. Hope you all can keep up! See you at the Crawfish Boil!

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NEW HOME STARTS

	Feb'07	Feb'06	'07 YTD	'06 YTD
Temple	22	40	44	58
Belton	17	13	24	28
Morgan's Point	2	9	4	10
Totals	41	62	72	96

ALL HOME CLOSINGS

Feb'07	184	'07 YTD	320
Feb'06	158	'06 YTD	331

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254-773-0445 257-774-7273 Fax
12 N. 5th Street P.O. Box 2002
Temple, TX 76501 Temple, TX 76503

