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On The Level - July 2008

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REVERSE RAFFLE - JULY 11TH GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY!!!

Sponsored By:  **Compass Bank**

Last year TABA stepped out on a limb in attempt to bring our members a new and entertaining event. Fortunately the gamble paid off, and due to our success we are continuing and growing the TABA Reverse Raffle. The 2008 Reverse Raffle is scheduled for Friday, July 11th and will again be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Temple, TX.

As last year was a learning experience, some things will continue, some will change. Once again, we will be fortunate to have County Commissioner Eddy Lange running the show for us. However, the prize packages have been bulked up and their values increased substantially. We have also made more tickets available to accommodate the overwhelming response we experienced.

This year we have increased the number of tickets by 50. This means 240 tickets have been sold or will be soon. Hopefully this will accommodate all those that tried to get tickets "last minute" last year--even still, we recommend you not wait until the end to get yours.

Tickets are \$100 each and you can buy as many as you like. Mulligans will be \$25 and are for sale the evening of the event only. These tickets cannot be billed on your TABA account. They must be paid for at the time of purchase and you must be present or send a representative to make decisions about your ticket.

Everyone had a fantastic time last year. If you missed last year's event you won't want to miss it again. Tickets are being sold through the Membership Meetings & Sponsors Committee and the TABA Board of Directors. Please call the office for more information. The event schedule as well as a list of prizes is listed below.

Event Summary

1. **Type:** Commonly referred to as a Reverse Drawing. Master of Ceremonies is Eddy Lange.
2. **When:** July 11, 2008, Check-in at 5:30pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm, Drawing starts at 7:00 pm. KC Hall Temple, Texas
3. **250 Tickets will be printed.**
 - o Tickets 001 through 240 will be sold to the public at \$100.00 each.
 - o Mulligans can be purchased for \$25 until the first ticket is drawn.
 - o Tickets 241 through 249 will be auctioned during the event, as follows:

241 @ 25 th drawing	244 @ 100 th drawing	247 @ 165 th drawing
242 @ 50 th drawing	245 @ 125 th drawing	248 @ 180 th drawing
243 @ 75 th drawing	246 @ 150 th drawing	249 @ 190 th drawing

*Ticket 250 will be raffled during the evening. "Ticket 250" raffle tickets will cost \$10.00, with the drawing after the regular 240th draw. Guaranteed top 10 ticket.

3. Everyone can bid on auctioned tickets and buy raffle chances. During the evening any ticket holder can auction their ticket before the next draw. TABA gets 25% of all sales between ticket holders. **All money due has to be paid that night or compensation made.**
4. **Closing:** After the events at drawing 240, the final ten ticket holders will be seated down front. Before each drawing of the last ten tickets, the finalists have the choice of auctioning their ticket. If a ticket holder sells, the buyer takes the seller's chair.
5. A silent auction will be held throughout the evening and will end after ticket #245 is drawn.
6. Ticket holder or a representative must be present to win and must register the ticket at the door. Ticket entitles owner to two (2) dinners. Additional dinner tickets may be purchased for \$10.00 each.

Prizes Include:

- 4X2 Gator
- Riding lawnmower and lawn care package
- \$1,000 Travel Voucher
- Benelli M2 12 gauge shotgun
- Plasma HDTV Television and audio package
- Stainless Steel Gas Grill and cooking package

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President's Message

Derrick Hunt

When July rolls around, there is no doubt that summer in Central Texas is in full swing. If you had the opportunity to attend the Barbeque Cook-off and Family Fun Day you know what I mean. Even though Mother Nature had the heat turned up, it didn't seem to affect the contestants, the results of their efforts, and it certainly didn't stop the kids from working over the slip and slide. It would have been a great evening to be a kid again. Congratulations to all the winners and many thanks to the Membership Meetings & Sponsors Committee for doing a great job. The food was terrific, and considering the heat, the event was well attended.

July also brings us to our last fund raising event, the Reverse Raffle. By now the word is out and many of you have probably been approached to purchase a ticket. If you have not had a chance to participate in an event of this type, you are missing an evening of great fun and fellowship. When you combine great friends, good food, cold adult beverages, and a one in two hundred and fifty chance to win a great prize, you have all the makings for an outstanding event. I've been told that the tickets are just about sold out, so get yours soon. Rumor has it that some members have sold as many as 50 tickets! Great job! I repeat, only 250 tickets will be sold so everyone has a great shot at winning something. I don't know where you can get better odds than that.

On another more serious note, if you tired of ever increasing fuel prices, I urge you to [click here](#) and sign the "Drill Here. Drill Now. Pay Less" petition. Please join me and one million and counting other Americans of all political parties who believe that drilling for our own resources is a key part of our future ability to be energy independent. Congress has sat on their hands long enough and it is time for them to act. The latest polls indicate that 60 percent of Americans believe that we should be drilling here, and drilling now. Rising fuel prices will wreck our economy. We all know first hand what it has done to the costs of our homes. It can also turn into a national security issue if we continue to send billions of dollars overseas to countries that hate us. Check out this website and let Congress know how you feel.

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Troy Glasson
Executive Officer

A Few Notes on the Temple Comprehensive Plan

The Plan has passed the first reading by the City Council. For this particular item there will be several readings and public hearings prior to final adoption.

The highlights of the meeting included plenty of questions and clarifications related to the document. City Manager David Blackburn conveyed that the Plan is not a “resource allocation item” such as a budget, it is not set in stone, and it is not perfect. Councilman Marty Janczak followed up that sentiment up by generating discussion about why the Plan should be adopted as ordinance. He essentially stated his belief (based on his years of serving on the P&Z) that the eventual and unavoidable changes to the document over time take away from the credibility of adopting it as an ordinance. In response, City Attorney Jonathan Graham cited related state law and emphasized that the nature of the Plan lends itself to change over time. There was also a great deal of discussion and testimony surrounding what used to be known as “Arterial A,” a planned corridor in south Temple that would link a couple of roadways and open up some land for development in that area of our community.

In summary, the major items that came out of the hearing were that final adoption is planned in late August after ample discussion has taken place; current plats will proceed under the old Plan (therefore there is no “moratorium on current development as a result in the plan change); though the Council agreed to move forward, they did so in effort to keep the “ball rolling,” and with added emphasis of the intention of leaving plenty of opportunity for comment in a variety of public and private venues prior to final adoption.

In that vein several meetings have been planned for early July. For dates and times, please [click here](#).

Bell County Seeking Our Assistance

County Engineer Richard Macchi sent me a letter of concern about the recent proliferation of ROW signage. Apparently the County is having trouble with bandit signage damaging their mowers and they wanted to make this issue known to our membership in hopes that we can spread the word to help alleviate this problem. If you know of anyone contributing to this problem, please ask them to stop. Thank you.

Texas State Soil & Water Conservation Board Seeking New Home in Temple

The [Texas Soil & Water Conservation Board](#) has been housed on 5th street in Temple for years now. Though they are currently looking for a new home, they want to stay in Temple. In fact, among the key requirements for their new home is that it be in Temple, Texas. Originally the deadline for submission of proposals for this project was July 10, 2008. At the request of the TSWCB, the Texas Facilities Commission recently added two weeks to the deadline. Hopefully this will enable some of our local guys to have more time to consider the project. For detailed info on the project [click here](#). If you have any questions, please give TABA a call and we’ll try to help. Thanks.

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TABA BBQ COOK-OFF WINNERS 2008!!!

The day was hot and the BBQ was hotter. Thank goodness for the cold beverages and the shade that helped keep us cool. The Annual TABA BBQ Cook-Off drew 8 teams from the TABA membership.

The teams participated in their choice of 5 categories. Teams could enter one or all - it was their choice and the food was terrific. The winners were announced and the 1st place teams received not only their first place trophies, but 1st place aprons and bragging rights for an entire year. The results were:

BRISKET

- 1st place - Lengefeld Lumber Company
- 2nd place - Aspen Air
- 3rd place - Volney Building Company

RIBS

- 1st place - Volney Building Company
- 2nd place - Tri-Supply
- 3rd place - Kiella Homebuilders

CHICKEN

- 1st place - Lamar Advertising
- 2nd place - Volney Building Company
- 3rd place - Aspen Air

WILD GAME

- 1st place - Tri-Supply
- 2nd place - Volney Building Company
- 3rd place - Lengefeld Lumber Company

Salsa

- 1st place only winner - Kiella Homebuilders



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NEW HOME STARTS

	June '08	June '07	'08 YTD	'07 YTD
Temple	36	45	248	263
Belton	5	10	50	53
Morgan's Point	4	3	7	12
Totals	45	58	305	328

ALL HOME CLOSINGS

June '08	170	'08 YTD	1,084
June '07	257	'07 YTD	1,215

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EO's Comments

Cheryl Hunka
Executive Officer

Reverse Raffle

The 2nd Annual Reverse Raffle is scheduled for Friday, July 11th at the KC Hall in Temple. Tickets have been on sale for over a month now and very few are left. If you are interested in buying a ticket, don't delay call me **TODAY!!!** We are selling only 240 tickets. This creates great odds for a ticket holder to win one of the 6 fantastic prizes we have. Every prize is great! Regardless of what you win, whether it be the grand prize or any of the others, you will not be disappointed. Call today for tickets!!!

2008-2009 Membership Directory

I've had great response from the directory mailer. Many members have faxed or mailed in their information and the book is anticipated to be published in August. If you would like to advertise in this very useful and handy book, please call me today. Advertising in the directory is very affordable with a 1/4 page ad costing only \$75. You can't go wrong with an ad that will last all year long. If you did not receive a mailer to update your information, please contact me so that we can have as accurate of information as possible.

Thank you to all those that have opted for an ad. Your support allows us to publish this great member benefit.

Associate Appreciation Fish Fry

The Associate Appreciation Fish Fry is just around the corner. It is scheduled for Tuesday, August 19th at the Overlook Pavilion on Lake Belton. Paul Cox of Mortgage Acceptance Corp. will provide the music and Al's BBQ will provide the fish. This event is **FREE** for all members. TABA Builder members sponsor this event as a way of saying **THANK YOU** to the associate members who work tirelessly all year long and support the Association. We certainly appreciate **YOU!!!** Be looking for a reminder postcard in the mail.

Board Change

TABA staff would like to welcome Jason Carothers of [Carothers Executive Homes](#) onto the Board of Directors. Jason is taking over the Secretary's position due to a vacancy made this month after Justin Scott came off. We appreciate Jason's continued service and commitment to TABA.

That's it from my desk. Hope to see many of you at the Reverse Raffle. If you missed last year's raffle, you won't want to miss this year's.

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The date for the 2009 Parade of Homes has been set for April 18-19, 25-26, 2009. A committee will form to discuss any possible changes that might be made to next year's parade however, completion rules will still apply.

Builders, start preparing **NOW** for Parade of Homes 2009!!!



The date for the 2009 Home & Garden Show has been set with the Bell County Expo Center. Dates for next year's show are February 21-22, 2009 with the Preview Party scheduled for Friday, February 20th. Information regarding next year's show will be mailed to all 2008 exhibitors next month. If you participated in last year's show please be watching the mailbox in August to reserve your booth for 2009 Home & Garden Show. Past exhibitors will have until September 15th to reserve the same booth space they had this year. After this date expires, booths go on the selling block.

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(AUSTIN, TX – August 1, 2008) – Professionals in the home building industry looking to stay at the top of today’s challenging construction environment are making plans to attend the eighth annual Sunbelt Builders Show™ and Education Conference, November 6 – 8, 2008 at the Gaylord Texan, Grapevine, TX/DFW.

Attendees will see the hottest market trends and techniques, learn industry “best practices,” and helpful lessons on how to be a front runner in one of the most competitive and demanding housing markets in the United States. This unique event features the latest industry products, materials and services from more than 375 exhibit booths and dozens of education sessions with nationally renowned speakers presenting topics such as:

- **“Green Building Legal and Liability Issues”**

Presenters: David N. Crump Jr., NAHB’s Director of Legal Research

David S. Jaffe, NAHB’s Staff Vice President for Construction

Liability & Legal Research

- **“Legitimizing Trash and Gentrifying Icky: Building Recycled Houses”**

Presented by Dan Phillips, The Phoenix Commotion

- **“Marketing Without Money”**

Presented by Jeff Crilley, named “The Best TV Reporter in the State” by the Texas Associated Press

- **“Loyalty is Love: How to Hold Clients Close for Life”**

Presenters: Beverly Koehn, President, Beverly Koehn & Associates Inc.

Mike Humphrey, VP of Operations, David Weekley Homes

Scott Sedam, President, TrueNorth Development

Attendees can earn TRCC mandated continuing education credit hours with sessions by Ed Beasley, Susan Durso and Steve Easley. Attendees can also take advantage of designation courses from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) University of Housing, networking events and opportunities for one-on-one meetings with speakers and vendors.

The Show’s Opening Session features keynote speaker Emmitt Smith. Former NFL athlete Smith helped lead the Dallas Cowboys to three Super Bowl Championships, lead the NFL in rushing four times and made eight Pro Bowl appearances. In his presentation “A Championship Vision,” Smith will outline what it takes to be a winner in business and life.

The Sunbelt Builders Show™ also provides an exceptional value to attendees and their businesses. Purchase a Pay One Price Registration for only \$395 and have access to all exhibits, education, networking parties, gala dinners and Sunbelt luncheon. One-Day and Exhibits Only Passes are also available.

For a complete list of events and activities, and to secure media credentials go to www.SunbeltBuildersShow.com.

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Lengefeld Wall Bracing Seminar

With the help of our sponsor, Lengefeld Lumber Company, TABA was able to provide a wall bracing seminar for our builder members last month. The turnout (more than 50) was excellent and we trust that the information that Ed Underwood of APA provided was useful. We’ve heard from a number of our members that they got a lot out of it. Most of those in attendance received continuing education credit from the Texas Residential Construction Commission for their participation.

It occurs to us at TABA that since the majority of inspectors from the City of Temple were in attendance that it might be a good idea to have a follow-up meeting to review items that stood out to them. This would be especially important if anything came out of the meeting that they believe might encourage them to start looking at wall-bracing from a different perspective.

[If they inform us that they believe inspections in the field could change based on anything we heard last month, we'll be sure to make our members aware in order to provide a head's up and sufficient time to prepare.](#)



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© 2016 Temple Area Builders Association
254-773-0445 257-774-7273 Fax
12 N. 5th Street P.O. Box 2002
Temple, TX 76501 Temple, TX 76503

