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On The Level - TABA June 2012 Newsletter

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Elections

It's been a long few months for the candidates in hotly contested races. HOME-PAC participated in many races this year, and we are happy to see that several HOME-PAC endorsed candidates won on May 29th. We do have 3 races that we are tracking which are headed to a run-off which will take place **July 31**.

Bob Patterson will be facing off against Eddy Lange for the position of Bell County Sheriff. HOME-PAC financially supported both candidates, and wish them both the best of luck on the 31st. Additionally, HOME-PAC endorsed Jack Jones will be facing off against Mary Black Pearson for the position of District Court Judge. HOME-PAC endorsed Marty Janczak will be facing off against Bill Schumann for the position of County Commissioner-Precinct 3.

We encourage all TABA members to get out and support these fine candidates. Early voting will take place July 22-27th. Please watch for emails outlining the places and times for voting as they will be different than the last election.

SKEET SHOOT sponsored by Lengefeld Lumber

We are presently taking reservations for both Skeet Shoot participants and sponsors. The date of our event will be Tuesday, October 2nd. Mark your calendars. We are limited to 128 slots this year, and we plan to sell out--so get me your reservations early. Sponsorships range from \$100-\$500, and team sponsorships will run \$500 again this year. We will also accept individual shooters, to be placed on a team by the committee. Please email me if you would like more information at blair@tahb.org

ELECTED OFFICIALS NIGHT

We will be hosting Elected Officials Night on Tuesday, October 16th. Please mark your calendars and plan to come out to Cathedral Oaks for some fine BBQ and mingling with our elected officials and candidates.

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Director of Government Affairs

Blair Anderson

It's been a busy few months with what seems like an endless number of fundraisers and events for candidates who were on the May ballot. As noted in the HOME PAC update, we have several candidates who are headed to a run-off on July 31st, so we will continue to see the signs out and get invites for their events. Please make sure you get out and support both **Marty Janczak** (County Commissioner) and **Jack Jones** (District Judge) in their July 31st run off. Both of these fine individuals have been tremendously helpful with both the Government Affairs Committee and HOME PAC, and have been invaluable to me as members. You will certainly get further updates from me noting where and when to go vote, and I encourage each and every one to do so.

City of Temple Drainage Fees

The City of Temple is currently in their budgeting process, and the Government Affairs Committee has outlined increasing the monthly drainage fee as one of their top priorities. The City is currently on a 70+ year capital improvement plan for approximately 102 drainage projects, and we would like to see that number drastically reduced. There are some very important projects on the list, and we are encouraging the city to look at increasing the monthly residential/commercial stormwater fee (currently a minimum of \$3) to help pay for these improvements. The council has been given several scenarios, including keeping the fee the same, or raising it to a base level of \$4/5/6, Raising the fee now and planning and completing these projects in a timely fashion dramatically reduces the overall cost to taxpayers. As an example, there is nearly a \$100M overall cost savings over the life of the 102 projects if the base fee is raised to \$6. As always, we take these issues seriously because they impact both our membership and overall housing affordability. However, these increases are both reasonable and responsible for our city moving forward.

City of Temple Technology Fee

One thing that the GAC technical committee is considering is supporting a (per permit) technology fee to help fund a software system and continual upgrades to the City of Temple technology system, specifically with respect to public works and planning. We are specifically interested in insuring that our members are able to apply for permits, submit applications/documentation online from the routine to the complex. We would also like to see a system where these applications could be processed for payment online. One specific item we have been pushing is the ability for inspectors to move to an instant notification system, whereby our members would know almost instantaneously when inspections were approved or denied, as well as the reasons if denied. This could take place via a handheld/wireless device. While there are no serious issues (the City of Temple is working great), we are working with the City to both brainstorm and implement items which may be both cost and time effective for both of us. These issues were also outlined as priorities in the 2011 planning session. Stay tuned for more as we move further into the budget session.

City of Temple Technical Amendments to the UDC

A whole host of technical amendments are set to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission and/or City Council in the next few months. Most of them have minimal impact on our membership, and some of them are very good for our membership. During our technical committee meetings with the city, we identified some areas which didn't quite mesh when the Unified Development Code and Subdivision standards were combined--specifically sidewalk cost sharing and sewer/water main sizing. There were some slight discrepancies, and some of these amendments are meant to correct those inconsistencies. If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

City of Temple Perimeter Street Fees

We are very happy to announce that in our technical committee meetings with the city, it appears that there is support for moving to a system that requires property owners to simply dedicate/reserve right-of-way instead of paying a perimeter street fee. The amount

being collected from the fee has been miniscule and it is certainly not an adequate funding source for getting roads built. Look for this item on future city council agendas. I will likely be asking you to come out and support the changes to the ordinance later this month.

TXU/ONCOR Roundtable update

Thank you to everyone who attended the TXU/ONCOR/City of Temple roundtable. It was great to meet our local representatives from TXU/ONCOR and have the chance to ask questions of them. Our members had many questions, among them were improving front-end communication to applicants when projects are held up/denied. It appears that many times projects are held-up (for simple or complex reasons), the wait time for members to find anything out is rather long. As with the City of Temple, we would like to see ONCOR move to an instant notification system whereby when inspectors are out on the job, they can immediately let applicants know at the front-end if there are minor problems that need to be taken care of. We had the opportunity to meet our local ONCOR representative, Lesa West, who is more than willing to help answer any questions you may have or issues that arise on your jobs. Her contact information is lesa.west@oncor.com or 254-640-2936.

Wrap UP

I will be out of the office from June 14th-19th for my annual trip back to Washington to enjoy the Strawberry Festival. Cheryl will be in the office, and should you have any immediate questions please contact her. I am also always be available by cell/email. I hope you all have a great month.

Blair

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ANNUAL TABA GOLF TOURNAMENT

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Jared Bryan of Carothers Executive Homes and the rest of the TABA Golf Committee and Staff would like

to thank the sponsors listed above as well as all of the tee box and hole sponsors that supported our annual golf tournament. We would also like to thank the 41 teams that participated in our 3-Man Scramble. It was a long day but the weather was nice and so was the company. Everyone had a great time and we hope to see everyone again next year.

The winners of the 2012 TABA Golf Tournament are as follows:

1st Place - Justin Green, Aaron Green and Dennis Green

2nd Place - Brad Turner, Ronnie Schoepf and Cory Morrow

3rd Place - Frank Ramirez, Frankie Ramirez and Anthony Ramirez

DAL - Jeremy Langley, Josh Langley and Collins Gregory

Straightest Drive was won by Joel Ralston and Closest to the Pin were won by Coleman Medina and Justin Green who also had a hole in one!

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NEW HOME STARTS

	May '12	May '11	'12 YTD	'11 YTD
Temple	63	41	140	171
Belton	7	17	46	42
Morgan's Point	1	1	1	5
Totals	71	59	187	218

Note: this data represents a compilation of the statistics that are reported by the Temple Daily Telegram every Sunday. January and February 2012 numbers are missing.

ALL HOME CLOSINGS

May '12	181	'12 YTD	747
May '11	158	'11 YTD	508

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EO's Comments

Cheryl Hunka
Executive Officer

TABA has just completed its three major projects of the year and I would like to thank Jared Bryan and his committee for a very successful Golf Tournament. We had 123 players and it seemed that all had a great time.

Now that the "majors" are over, we will begin to plan for the 2013 projects. If you have an interest in getting involved with any of those projects please give me a call. The TABA Board is contemplating doing one more small project so be watching your On the Level Newsletter for details. So far we have no projects planned through the summer months and our next TABA event will be the Hamburger Cook-Out on September 11th at the Overlook Pavilion and then it is Home-PAC season with the Skeet Shoot and Elected Officials both occurring in October.

I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer.

Cheryl

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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

