



RHODE ISLAND INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS & ASSOCIATES

ESTABLISHED 1980

CAPABILITY • PRIDE • INTEGRITY

RIICA NEWS

“UNDERGROUND

&

IN THE TRENCHES”

JULY, 2008

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE...

Providence, RI- the 2008 Legislative session certainly had it's up and downs during the year. RIICA was successful on bringing the size, weight and load limits into practical weights and widths. RIICA's Legislative Committee has been pursuing these changes for some time. **Jim Taglione's** persistence finally paid off with the law now in place with weights not to exceed 130,000 lbs and a 12'4" width in one permit application. One exception is that you can not travel during the rush hour times in the morning and evening. KUDOS to Jim and Terry Martiesian and the rest of the **RIICA** Legislative Committee. And special thanks to **UCARI** for their continued cooperation and support!. Also passing into law is a parking ban of more than 2 hours in the City of East Providence on all state roads in that city. However, **UCARI** was able to get the exemption of all construction equipment. This was a significant and practical change in the law.

Utility Underground Contractors License Bill Passes Senate Committee..... But Doesn't Get to Floor

Providence, RI- Just when you thought this RIICA initiative was going to finally pass into law, the bill stops dead in the halls of the State House. On Friday, June 20th, Terry Martiesian and RIICA/UCARI Executive Director Bob Lafleur were supposed to be meeting with some opponents of the bill that had some issues with the bill. What was supposed to be a meeting turned out to be a complete let down in legislative support from the Chairman of the Senate Committee. Even though, they were advised that the UUC bill will be put to the floor for a vote next year but only after those issues raised by some at the 11th hour halting what was no doubt successful passage will have to be addressed. These issues will be addressed at meetings to be held at the State House with RIICA, UCARI and CIRRI officials moderated by the Senate Policy advisor. While RIICA and UCARI represent over 500 employers and 5000 employees, the UUC bill was squashed at the eleventh hour by those with political weight. However, while RIICA and UCARI presented their cases during open hearings of the committee, the bill apparently met its fate without the opportunity to address the "issues" in question and without going through the proper hearing process. RIICA and UCARI will continue their fight to bring uniformity to an antiquated employment licensing classification.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR.....

RIICA ANNUAL STEAK FRY *To benefit RIICA's Scholarship Fund*

July 20, 2008 at Fort Getty's Pavilion, Jamestown, RI
Starts at 12 noon....Tickets are \$ 26.00 !!

Join us for great food, great people and great times!...

Tickets available from Board Members or by calling the RIICA Office at 401-785-1830
See the enclosed Raffle & Sponsor Form for your donations!

HELP US OUT WITH YOUR SPONSORSHIP !

RIICA ANNUAL STEAK FRY... **We Need Sponsors !!**

SPONSORS TO DATE: Atlantic Solutions, Ocean State Oil, Perry Excavating Corp., Executive Director Bob Lafleur

GET YOUR STEAK FRY TICKETS TODAY !!!



RIICA PAC FUNDRAISER- A HUGE SUCCESS!!!!

Coventry, RI- Over 50 RIICA members and supporters enjoyed RIICA's first fundraiser to support our **PAC Fund**. Dining on a super spread of steak, baked fish and all the fixings, the supporters joined together in some old fashion cigar smoking out on the patios at Nino's on Lake Tiogue in Coventry, RI. The event co-chairs **Dave Skurka** and **Steve Gianlorenzo** delivered on what they promised. ...a first class event with plenty of food, friends, and cigars, of course!. The event raised over **\$ 1700.00!**

THANKS TO ALL and GREAT JOB DAVE & STEVE !!!

RIICA NEWSLETTER Advertisement Form is enclosed for your use. The RIICA Newsletter will come quarterly showcasing one of our member company's profile along with safety news, DOT news, federal and state news as well as tidbits hoping to make you smile or maybe laugh to help take the hussle and bussle out of your every day business goings. We'll also keep some space available for members to use as a benefit to their company....

Support RIICA, and RIICA will support YOU!

WANT ADS and FOR SALES...

This is a **FREE service** to all our members. Please feel free to fax your request before the 20th of each month for including in the monthly news. Space limited.....

FOR SALE:

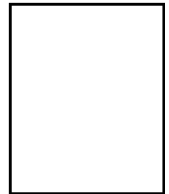
CAT 916 Loader w/pusher
2 yd. bucket.....\$ 22,500.00

CAT D3-B Dozer
6 way blade– new bottom....\$ 18,500.00

Laser Plane Laser Level
w/stand and rod\$ 300.00

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Rhode Island Independent Contractors & Associates
P.O. Box 7254
Warwick, RI 02887



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SAFETY NEWS.....Heat Exhaustion and Heatstroke

Working in blazing sun or during hot weather without taking a break in a cool spot can lead to heat exhaustion or sunstroke. Over exposure to high temperatures and humidity can quickly lead to heat exhaustion. Heat exhaustion is caused by the loss of body fluids and, in some cases, salt depletion. Heat exhaustion can lead to heatstroke, which is a medical emergency because the body is not able to keep itself cool.

SYMPTOMS

Heat Exhaustion– headache, thirst, nausea, dizziness, lightheadedness, profuse sweating, and pale and cool skin. The person is usually conscious but could faint.

Heatstroke (Sunstroke)- Many of the same as heat exhaustion however, sweating will stop, the skin will be hot and dry, and the face turns red. The individual will experience a severe headache, walking difficulty, disorientation, and sometimes unconsciousness.

PREVENTING HEAT EXHAUSTION/HEATSTROKE:

- Don't eat a lot of high-fat or high-protein foods before going out into the heat. Eat something light and easy to digest;
- Drink plenty of water. Sport drinks are also good because they help replace the minerals you lose when you sweat and the diluted fruit juice in the drink conveys some vitamin C to protect cells and muscles from damage. Avoid alcoholic beverages, caffeinated drinks, and soft drinks;
- Wear loose and light clothing. Your hard hat will also help shade your head from the sun;
- Protect your skin from the sun with sunblock because sunburn slows down the body's ability to dissipate heat.

Heat exhaustion is not fatal, but heatstroke can be. Stay cool, drink plenty of water, and take a break if you are not feeling well!