



# **RIICA NEWS**

## **“UNDERGROUND & IN THE TRENCHES”**

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2008

### **ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP STEAK FRY SCORES BIG... MEMBERS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS JOIN IN SUPPORT**

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**Jamestown, RI**– Fort Getty’s Pavilion again played a gracious host to RIICA and the Annual Scholarship Fund Steak Fry as the weather couldn’t be better. Hot and humid for that matter. Over 120 RIICA members, their employees, family and friends joined together to celebrate and support RIICA’s Scholarship Fund. Since 1980, RIICA has distributed over \$ 50,000 in scholarship monies to help support educational expenses of high school seniors.

The RIICA Chefs provided another great meal consisting of clam chowder and clam cakes– a Rhode Island specialty, followed by a choice of steak or chicken complete with all the fixings. Oh and let’s not forget the children who were given the option of hot dogs and hamburgers as well! For those who never at-

tended this event not only missing out on the friendships made and the support for the scholarship fund, but one of the best meals served. A lot of hard work goes into putting this event on with many of the officers and members and their wives assisting in the preparation.

Also a tradition to the event is the raffle which generated some significant interest and money as well, as

the tables were filled with items like kids bikes, gas trimmer, tools of all kinds to pictures, gift cards and baskets filled with specialty goodies. Many thanks to the generous donations and support for the raffle. **(A list of donations and event and patron sponsors on Page 6).** The support for this event and all the other social events directly supports RIICA. Thanks again!



**The “RIICA Chefs” prepare the feast for the over 120 friends and members and their families that attended.**

### **NEIL F. SULLIVAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP TO BE ESTABLISHED**

**Middletown, RI**– RIICA is pleased to announce the establishment of the Neil F. Sullivan Scholarship. The scholarship is named after longtime RIICA member and supporter who passed away recently. “ RIICA is extremely honored to be establishing this scholarship for a man who gave so much to this organization, his friends and more importantly his family” Dave Burnham RIICA President said. Burnham also announced the 1st Annual Neil F. Sullivan

Scholarship Fundraiser which will be held on September 25, 2008 at the Atlantic Beach Club Restaurant in Middletown, RI. A separate invitation will be sent shortly. **(SEE PAGE 7)** He explained a committee was setup consisting of Burnham, John Silvia , Joe Palumbo, Peter Brennan, Miike MacLaughlin, Bob Mello and Margaret Carr, Neil’s daughter. “ My father shared many commonalities– we admire him for his

dedication to family and friends, his intellect, sense of humor, drive and loyalty,” Margaret said as part of her eulogy. “ This scholarship will forever memorialize a man who gave so much and never asked for anything in return,” she said. “We look forward to continuing to support his views on education and what he said to me so often “we’re giving you more tools for your tool box”. Carr said

## State Police to Issue Sakonnet Bridge Placards

**Portsmouth, RI**— RIICA recently learned that the Rhode Island State Police will now be issuing the “EMPTY” placards that were originally going to be up to each trucker to have prepared.

RIICA was very much involved with the compromise that came out of the House regarding the lowering of the bridge weights leaving it up to each organization to provide the placards. Unbeknownst to RIICA as well as other associations, RIICA was informed of the change three weeks ago. Bob Lafleur of RIICA has spoken

with Cpl. Dave Medeiros of the RI State Police, who informed him of the process and reasons behind the issuance. Medeiros indicated that the State Police will better control trucks especially those who do constant business within the region and creating hardships by keeping track of those companies.

Medeiros pointed out that there are some who will not be issued placards merely because they are looking for the easiest route. The new weight restriction of 18 tons will remain in effect as long as needed and will still restrict more

than 2 axle vehicles from using the bridge. However, Medeiros indicated that those who will be affected by the hardship can apply for the placards at the Portsmouth Barracks of the State Police. You will need to provide a certified weight slip and VIN# when applying. You can also call Cpl. Medeiros or Cpl. Dan Cusavano at 401-444-1066 who will be assisting in the issuance of the “EMPTY” placards for more information. There is no fee involved, Medeiros said.

“As RIICA moves forward into a new era, we look to the support of our members and potential new members to help chart that new course”

**Bob Lafleur**

**Executive Director**

## RIICA Charts New Course

**Warwick, RI**— By now you know that RIICA has taken a big step. The Officers and Board of Directors have charted a new course for the Association. “As RIICA moves forward into a new era, we look to the support of our members and potential new members to help chart that new course”. Bob Lafleur Executive Director said. Lafleur pointed

to new excitement within the organization as the association head to bigger and better times. The reinstatement of the RIICA PAC Fund to assist in legislation programs, the establishment of the Neil F. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship Fund that we know will be a self supporting fund in keeping Neil’s memory alive, the new association with W.D.

& Associates in providing competitive health, disability, and life insurance coverage and other new and exciting programs being discussed all point to the positive changes that the Officers and Board believe is created. “RIICA has the ability to be a moving force for all members and more importantly all Rhode Islanders,” Lafleur said.

## RIDOT Posts New Bridge Weights



**Providence, RI**— The Rhode Island Department of Transportation has issued a new list of bridge load restrictions on Rhode Island bridges. The new list as of July, 2008 offers the posted weights of bridges with load restrictions. The list is subject to change and,

therefore will be revised periodically said David W. Fish, P.E., Managing Engineer of Bridge Engineering Division. For any bridge that does not appear on this list but has a sign posting a weight restriction, the posted weight limit will continue to be recognized. The

most current list of posted bridges-by town is available on the Internet at the web site, [www.dot.state.ri.us/traffic](http://www.dot.state.ri.us/traffic), under the link “Rhode Island Posted Bridges”. The list is also available by mail or fax from the RIICA Office by calling 401-785-1830.

# New Alliance formed with W.D. & Associates, Colonial Life

## Offering Competitive Health, Disability, Life Insurance Programs

Warwick, RI- The RIICA Officers and Board of Directors are extremely pleased to announce the association with WD & Associates and Colonial Life in providing competitive health insurance coverage from Blue Cross, United Health and coming soon, Tufts Health Plan. In addition, they will be offering a variety of other coverage's including disability, accident and life insurance programs. We are extremely excited about this opportunity at a time where small businesses need to reduce their costs but at the same time provide great health, dis-

ability, accident and life insurance at a savings. In addition, WD & Associates, will provide you with day to day customer service in helping you during your busy work day. They act as YOUR very own Human Resources Department in resolving claims disputes, enrollment changes and educate new employees at any shift and more importantly, they are a phone call away. They not only provide individual small businesses with critical information, they will provide RIICA with news from the ever changing world of health care which we will in turn keep all our mem-

bers well informed. We believe that WD & Associates will provide each and every member with quality customer service that will give you more time to concentrate on your business. As with any business, customer service must be job one!. WD & Associates is the company that will put you first. There is no cost and no obligation to obtain a competitive quote on any of the services you need. Give them a call today! Call Bill Delmage at 401-435-4239 or Jim King at 401-921-4460, Ext. 15 for more information. *You'll be glad you did!*

## EXCAVATIONS NOT ON OSHA'S 2007 TOP TEN LIST HOWEVER...

**OSHA is still frequently issuing excavation related citations, with the failure to use sloping, shoring or trench boxes-the most frequently cited. Standard 1926...**

	VIOLATIONS
1. 652(a)(1) Employee protection in excavations-Protective system use	828
2. 651 ( c )(2) Egress from trench excavations	440
3. 651 (k)(1) Inspections by competent person	384
4. 651 (j)(2) Protection from falling/rolling materials/equipment	332
5. 651(k)(2) Competent person inspection-Employees removed from hazard	88

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## **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

- **Aquidneck Construction, Inc.**  
Portsmouth RI
- **Right Choice Paving Inc.,**  
dba Louis & Ted's Blacktop  
Portsmouth, RI
- **C & J Engineering c/o John Mello**  
Warren, RI
- **Stephen's Masonry, Inc., c/o Steve Feole II**  
Cranston, RI
- **Jean Martin Insurance, Inc. c/o Bart Axlerod**  
Cranston, RI

**Help Us Build RIICA....Bring a new member on board to help our industry!**

**REMEMBER...**  
**There is power in numbers!**

## **CLIP & SAVE CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**September 25, 2008...**

**1st Annual Neil Sullivan Memorial  
Scholarship Fundraiser**

**October 23, 2008...**

**General Membership Meeting  
Location: TBA  
Topic: TBA**

**January, 2009....**

**Annual Membership Dinner Dance  
West Valley Inn, West Warwick, RI**

***All of the above events will have separate notices sent prior to each event.***

**Should you have any questions, please call the RIICA Office at 401-785-1830.**



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Drill & Dowell Concrete Road Base

**B**

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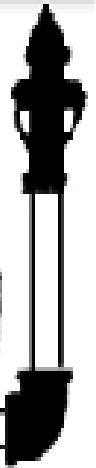
**F**

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**JOIN THE RIICA PAC TODAY!!!**

**YOU CAN JOIN FOR AS LITTLE AS \$ 25.00 !**

**YOUR CONTRIBUTION DIRECTLY HELPS OUR LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVES....**

**PLEASE HELP US HELP YOU!**

**SEND YOUR CHECK TODAY MADE OUT TO: RIICA PAC FUND**

**MAIL YOUR CHECK TODAY TO THE RIICA OFFICE**

**As Bizarre as it sounds, did you know that....**

- In Nevada, it's still "legal" to hang someone for shooting your dog on your property;
- In Massachusetts, snoring is prohibited unless all bedroom windows are closed and securely locked;
- In Glendale, Arizona, cars may not be driven in reverse;
- During fishing season, it is illegal for men on the Island of Jersey– located in the British Channel– to knit;
- In Michigan, a woman isn't allowed to cut her own hair without her husband's permission;
- The first black man drafted by an NBA team was Chuck Cooper of the Boston Celtics;
- Curley Lambeau bought the Green Bay Packers for \$ 50.00;
- Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig were once struck out in an exhibition game by a teenager– a 17 year old girl named Jackie Mitchell;
- A ticket to Super Bowl I cost \$ 10.00....IMAGINE!;
- Cesar Geronimo was the 3000th strikeout victim of both Nolan Ryan and Bob Gibson.

## Fun and support for RIICA's Scholarship Steak Fry



Left, Jim Taglione shows off RIICA's "newest member"; below, RIICA's "Clam cake Crew" works the fryers.



Above, guests enjoy the weather and await the "feast" being prepared; below, Bob Lafleur and Dave Burnham chat about the event's success.

Below, Henry DiLibero and family and his guests await the arrival of .....Stevie G.??? Where is he?



## Annual Scholarship Steak Fry Sponsors and Contributors.....

Thanks for your support and donations of time, food, and raffle prizes...

### Event Sponsors

Atlantic Solutions      Boyle & Fogarty Construction

Ocean State Oil

Perry Excavating Corp.

Executive Director Bob Lafleur

### Patron Sponsors

D & D Construction Co., Inc.

Richard Olson Hydraulic Backhoe

### Raffle Items

RIICA Board of Directors, Mike and Mary Ann MacLaughlin, Jim and Lisa Taglione and family, Henry and Valerie DiLibero, John and Martha Lussier, Scott Antonson-Milton CAT, Ronnie and Lorraine Pierce, Burnham Excavating, David and Barbara Ruggieri, Hopedale Trucking, Studley Brothers Inc., Atlantic Solutions, Matt and Richard Olson, Genie and David Benn, Gianlorenzo & Sons, Fenner Poor Farm, Mike and Sandy Stanzione, A. Correira & Sons...

We apologize to those we missed, but THANK YOU!

### Special Thanks

Bob Cicerone of Superior Bakery for the rolls & hot dog and hamburger buns;

S.A.T Inc. for the chowder and clam cake mix

The RIICA Chefs and friends who helped make the event a great success!!!

# Rhode Island Independent Contractors & Associates

invites you to the first annual evening of celebration  
for The Neil F. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship Fund

*"Education is a tool for your tool box"*

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres  
Thursday, September 25, 2008  
7 to 9 p.m.  
The Atlantic Beach Club Restaurant  
55 Purgatory Road  
Middletown, Rhode Island

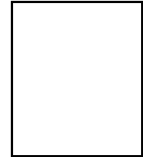
*Tickets: \$60/individual; \$100/couple  
~ Cash bar ~*

*For tickets, contact Lisa at Mello Construction*

*(401) 848-9273*

*The Neil F. Sullivan Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established to honor our long-time RIICA Board Member and to provide funding for RIICA family students in need of financial assistance for continued education.*





**RHODE ISLAND INDEPENDENT  
CONTRACTORS & ASSOCIATES**

**P. O. BOX 7254  
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## **SAFETY NEWS...Refueling Construction Equipment**

Taking heavy equipment to a service station or central location for refueling is not always practical, sometimes the fuel must be brought to the equipment. Refueling machinery and equipment can lead to an explosion if the fuel is not stored and handled properly. When refueling equipment or machinery follow proper procedures:

- Store flammable or combustible liquids in approved containers, tanks underground or in above-ground portable containers. All fuel storage tanks must be grounded.
- Transport in approved containers or tank trucks designed for this purpose. Never use plastic containers, glass bottles or other makeshift containers.
- Always turn off the motor before refueling. Do not smoke or use open flames within 50 feet of areas where fuel is stored or where equipment is refueled.
- Connect or bond equipment to the dispensing container or truck to prevent static electricity by using bonding wires between the equipment and dispensing container. Equipment should be allowed to cool if the fuel fill opening is located within near the engine and/or ignition source.
- Store a fire extinguisher within 75 feet of the refueling station and know how to use it.
- Always clean up spills before starting engine, wash off gasoline from your hands or skin with soap and water.
- Change your clothes immediately if you get gasoline on them, shut off fuel pumps and close all containers when finished.

**FOLLOW THE PROPER PROCEDURES AND DON'T TAKE CHANCES WHEN REFUELING !!!**