

ADVANCED BUILDING CONCEPTS

A tradition of quality and craftsmanship

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We're on the web !!

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ABC MISSION STATEMENT

Relationships Built On Ethics, Integrity And Trust

Advanced Building Concepts is a full service family of quality-committed employees, contractors and suppliers dedicated to providing the finest construction services to a select group of residential, industrial and commercial clients in our service area. We are committed to providing and maintaining our personalized style of hands-on management on every construction project to produce satisfaction and profit for all. As a result of our determination to pursue continuing education, we create a safe working environment for our loyal family of employees to benefit from. We prove our excellence one repeat customer at a time and our reputation is maintained one project at a time.

John Brooks, President

FUTURE PROJECTS BY JOHN BROOKS

FUTURE PROJECTS

The news about the economy sounds very bad and all will struggle to some degree to make it through the next couple of years.

Somewhat due to the economy, a few of our projects have been delayed. Interstate Electric is waiting until spring to start, the Portsmouth Abbey Boys Dormitory has been postponed, and Compass School has been held up.

However, on the other hand, the projects coming through the office are better than ever. We are looking at two church renovations, the installation of a 120' hub height wind turbine at NE Tech, a custom home on the Ocean Drive, and we are negotiating the construction of the largest and most prestigious project ever for ABC, right in downtown Newport.



PORTSMOUTH ABBEY SCHOOL—ST. GREGORY THE GREAT CHURCH—LEFT: One of the logs, prior to being turned into 2 X 12's, that is being used at the clerestory of the Church. **RIGHT:** Working on the spire at St. Gregory's. The spire has been removed.

All of the teak on the spire was removed and refurbished. The metal on the spire has been hot dip galvanized, then the metal was refinished with an epoxy coating. The



cross was refinished and a clear epoxy coating applied that carries a lifetime warranty. The roof of the lantern will be replaced and the trim at the lantern has been replaced. The spire is scheduled to be re-installed during the first week in November.

WORK IN PROGRESS BY JAY EDWARDS

WORK IN PROGRESS

Work continued through October at the Church of St. Gregory at Portsmouth Abbey School. The stained glass re-installation has started at the first two bays over the alter area and the interior portion of the exterior framing has been installed in all but two of the clerestory bays. The steeple was removed earlier in the month and is due to be re-set in early November. The trim work and roof of the lantern that supports the steeple

are also being replaced.

At the Newport Heights project, ABC work crews completed the exterior high trim and continued on the exterior window/door casings and porch trim. The last of the Rental units are ready for roofs which will make all of the buildings weather tight in time for late fall cold. The site work contractor has started the granite curbing installation and is finishing the utility work in preparation of placing the binder coat of paving at a portion of the roads. Inte-

rior finishes are underway on the Ownership side as ABC prepares to start turning over some of these buildings in November.

The Bradley School Kitchen Renovation work has been wrapped up. The FRP walls have been installed, the clean-room ceiling grid & tile are in place and the new exhaust hood is installed. The fire protection system & the new range are all that remain to be completed on this quick project.

THIS MONTH IN SAFETY BY ANDREW BROOKS

SAFETY PROGRAM UPDATE

Over the last few months the company has been very busy advancing its safety program. There are a few things that we are going to be changing; we are going to start having weekly safety meetings on each jobsite, in order to get everyone more active in our safety program. We will be reviewing one toolbox talk per week and, we will still have the monthly meeting for more important topics with more hands on training.

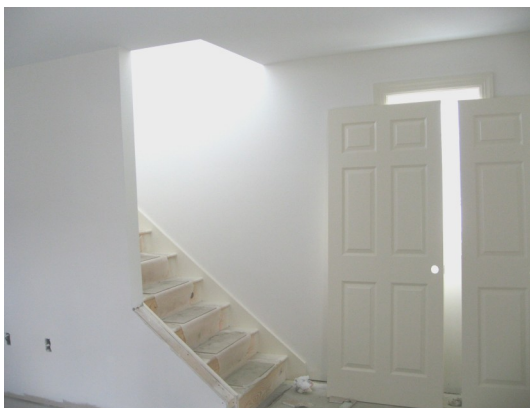
Accident investigation is another thing that we are going to start to evaluate more in depth; this is going to be a long process that will require the help of everyone in the company. All employees will have to start reporting any accidents, incidents and, near misses to their jobsite supervisor. This means that every time you get injured or almost injured, tripped over a pile of rubbish but did not fall, you will have to report to your supervisor so he/she can fill out an accident/near miss investigation form.

Over the last few months I have been taking part in a safety committee called Building SAFER in Rhode Island. This safety committee was developed in conjunction with OSHA to help and work with construction companies in RI. The information from this committee will help everyone receive more valuable information on safety.

Everyone has been doing a great job staying safe. Keep up the good work and stay warm!



ABOVE: Newport Heights—Progress on Building #18,—this is the first building that will be completed—by Midd November, 2008. BELOW: Interior work on Building 18 is progressing.



... TO YOUR BENEFIT BY RAY DAUPLAISE

UNCERTAIN ECONOMIC TIMES

Everyone is aware that we are in a period of economic turmoil; we're facing a banking crisis and the capital markets are on a roller coaster ride, with market averages swinging wildly on a daily basis. I read last week that over \$52 billion was removed from investments in mutual funds in one week. Not only is this an astronomical number it is unfortunate that so many people are panicking needlessly. Remember that retirement investments are a long-term proposition and will always be subjected to rising and falling prices, in the short term. Once the crisis has passed, prices will once again return to reasonable levels and temporary "paper" losses should be recovered.

The people who withdrew their money turned their unrealized, temporary losses into real, permanent losses and the people who bought the shares that were sold will reap the profits when the prices return to a normal level. I sometimes hear people say that they don't want to withdraw their funds, but want to discontinue their contributions until all this uncertainty goes away.

That is like saying, "I don't want to buy any gas for my car right now because the price is down; I'll wait until it goes back up to fill up." In my opinion, and a lot of other people's opinion, this is in fact a good time to INCREASE your 401(k) deferrals and buy while stuff is on sale! You can get more shares today for the same amount of money as compared to a year ago. Then, as your older shares are recouping their temporary losses, your new shares are already making money!

If you would like to chat about this, drop in to see me anytime. If you want advice from a professional, you can call our pension consultant, Hector Rodriguez at 848-4579 X12, to make an appointment.

Disclaimer: The opinions expressed above are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the opinions of Advanced Building Concepts. Under no circumstances does this article constitute advice. Please seek competent professional advice before making any decisions about your 401(k) account.

BELOW ON LEFT: Newport Heights—Building 18 and Building 19. ON RIGHT: Interior work on Building 18 continues.



ABC HAPPENINGS BY PAMELA DOUGLAS

November is upon us along with the promise of colder, more seasonable weather. As November's newsletter goes to print, daylight savings time is officially over on Sunday, November 2, 2008, and for the next 45 days or so we'll go through a period of shorter days, coming to work and going home in the dark. I'm sure that most would agree that this and our sometimes icy winters are the most depressing parts of the upcoming season.

The Activities Committee is still working on holiday plans. We have just recently held our first Friday Lunch "cook-in" with the coming of the cooler weather. Everyone seemed to enjoy the soup and chowder and warm drinks.

The 2009 United Way Campaign is underway. Please consider pledging this year if you have not pledged in the past. Just a dollar a week through payroll deduction will help someone in need.

Birthday wishes for November go out to Jonathan Magnus, Kyle Raposo (away at school), Mike Williams, Mike Oliveira, Mark Butler and Tony Freitas. Also, welcome to ABC, Brenda.