



August 9, 2010

### **Last Minute Golfers – Now is the Time**

You can still play in the Aug. 16 annual golf outing. Go to [www.njbmda.org](http://www.njbmda.org) to download the registration form or call the Association office at 908-359-1184.

### **Governor Rejects Homebuyer Credit**

Gov. Chris Christie has vetoed A1678 (Greenwald/Prieto/ Sarlo/ Van Drew), which would have established a \$15,000 Homebuyer Tax Credit.

While NJBMDA acknowledges the many positive steps taken by the Governor to revitalize the economy at large and the homebuilding industry in particular, we remain very disappointed by his decision. Despite his best efforts and those of our Legislature, we all know far too well that the housing industry shows few signs of rebounding. We believe the Homebuyer Tax Credit would have been the right course of treatment, and remain hopeful that the Governor will revisit his position in the future.

### **OSHA Adopts NLBMDA Changes in Final Crane Rule Today**

OSHA has incorporated the vast majority of our association's suggested changes into its final rule on Cranes and Derricks in Construction. As a result, the final rule, to be published August 9, will exempt articulating/knuckle-boom truck cranes from the extensive requirements of the rule.

The exemption will occur when building material dealers are delivering materials to jobsites and placing them on the ground or hoisting them onto a construction platform when equipped with a properly functioning automatic overload prevention device.

Without this exemption, articulating/knuckle-boom trucks would have been subject to the same requirements as tower cranes and other large equipment, including crane operator certification, training, site assessment and inspections, fall protection and an additional signal person on site, among others. The rule has been under development since 2003.

### **Keith Coleman Strikes Again**

Check out the July/August issue of *Lumber Co-Operator*. Our own Keith Coleman has an essay on page 16 outlining the issues related to the EPA's dreaded "Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule."

### **Is NJ Running Out of Space?**

For the first time, New Jersey's landscape is covered more by housing and shopping malls rather than forests, the real consequence of the "two most sprawling decades" ever, a report between Rowan and Rutgers universities concludes. The study estimates the state could run out of open space around 2050 if the pace of development that took place in the sprawl years continued.

### **On the Lighter Side...**

Towns in New Jersey have started using a device to give people advanced warning of lightning. It's called "thunder."

-- Jimmy Fallon