

The News of the Home Builders Association of West Florida

CORNERSTONE

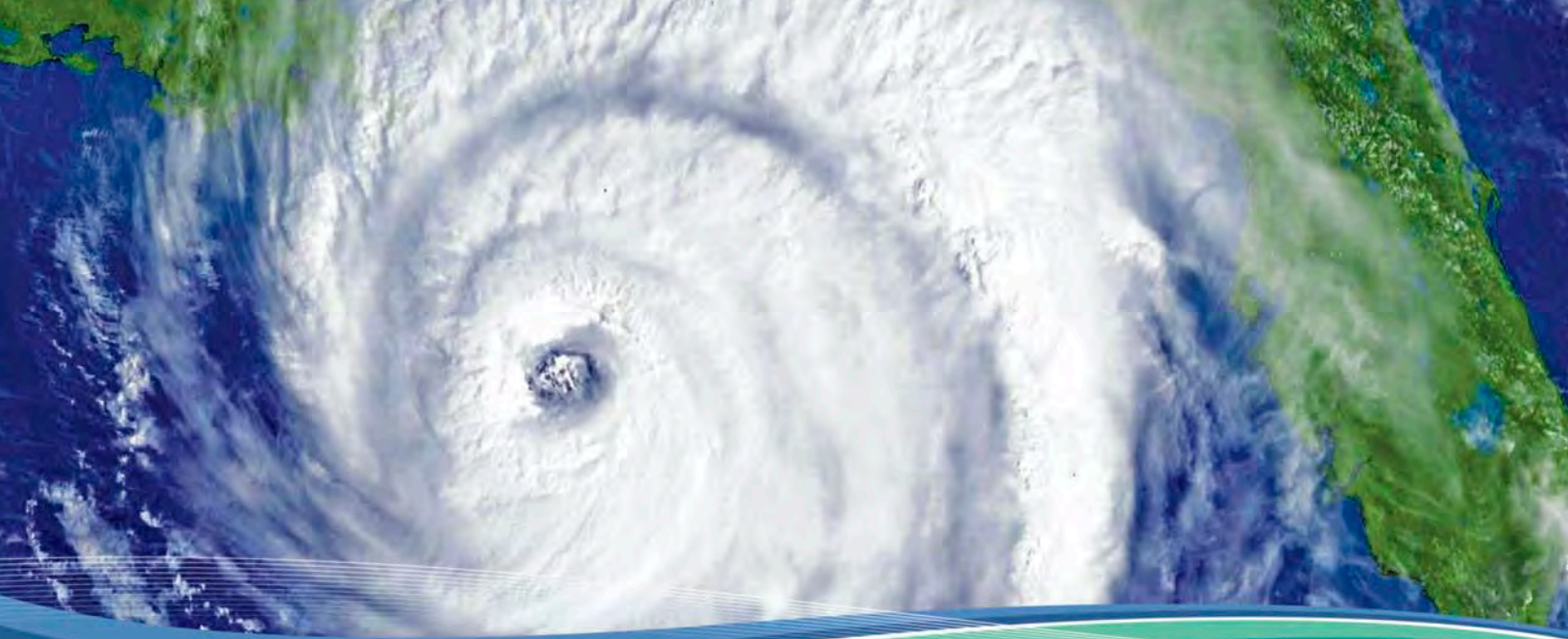
June 2014

A wooden gavel with a dark wood head and a lighter wood handle, resting on a stack of three books. The books have dark covers and white pages. The gavel is positioned diagonally across the top of the books.

Florida Home Builders Association Wins Legislative Victories

page 8

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Comfort when the power's out...Naturally.

Before the Storm:

Natural gas lines require you to take no special precautions. There is no need to turn off your gas meter.

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Natural Gas Power Generators:

In the event of power failure, the generator will return electricity to the structure within 30 seconds and continue providing electricity until the original power source has returned.

After the Storm:

When returning from evacuation, check natural gas appliances for possible damage or leaks. If you suspect a natural gas leak, leave immediately and call Pensacola Energy Emergency Services at 850-474-5300.

If no smell is present, operation of natural gas appliances should be safe. If a natural gas generator was in use for several days, the oil should be checked, and, if necessary, changed.

Storm Repair:

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CORNERSTONE

The official magazine of the
Home Builders Association of West Florida



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In This Issue

CORNERSTONE



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300-PLUS ATTEND A MEMORABLE PARADE OF HOMES KICKOFF EVENT

What a difference one month makes in terms of how things can change so quickly. One minute we are enjoying the great weather at the Nature Trail Lodge kicking of the 56 Annual Parade of Homes, and a few days later we are bailing out from 26 inches of rain in Northwest Florida.

I will first discuss the happier moment of the Parade of Homes. Over 300 people attended the kickoff party on April 25 to dine, drink and network with new and old friends. I would like to thank Thomas and Jennifer Westerheim, of Westerheim Properties, for their leadership and help with the American Dream Home. The house is beautiful and very functional too. So much work and coordination goes into building the Dream Home, and I am truly thankful for their efforts. The Dream Home Donors can't be thanked enough also. We listed the Donors in the last issue of Cornerstone, but I think it is important to list them again. Take a look at the impressive list of people who came together for the greater good of our industry. Every year they step up to the plate and give until it hurts! For that, the Board of Directors and the members should all be extremely appreciative of what they do on our behalf.

Pensacola Energy Marketing Manager Jill Grove and her team showed a lot of enthusiasm in showcasing the Comfort Plus features in the Dream Home. They were onsite throughout the Parade of Homes cooking with natural gas on its Coastal Cooking TV show, and handing out hundreds of cookies and sausages to attendees. They clearly enjoyed being involved in the Parade of Homes and it showed. Did someone say Crawfish and Shrimp? I want to thank Gary, Cindy, Kevin and Kyle Sluder, of Gene's Floor Covering, for their hard work in cooking crawfish and shrimp for the masses. It takes a lot of time to plan for an event of this magnitude and the Sluders' made it look easy. Every year donated their time to put on a feast and I truly thankful for their efforts.

In terms of support of the Home Builders Association, our members who sponsored the kickoff party are the best. We simply could not afford to put on a free event like this without their generosity. Please take a moment to read the following sponsors and make sure to tell them thanks when you see them. Presenting Sponsors: Westerheim Properties, Pensacola Energy, Hancock Bank. Gold: Bay Area Blue Print, Centennial Bank, Home Mortgage of America, Kay's Prestige Kitchen & Bath, Pen Air Federal Credit Union, Pensacola News Journal, Underwood Anderson & Associates, University Lending Group. Legislative Victories

more 300-PLUS ATTEND. page 6

President's Message



NEWMAN RODGERS

“Over 300 people attended the kickoff party on April 25 to dine, drink and network with new and old friends.”

Hundreds of people came out for the Home Builders Association 2014 Parade of Homes kickoff event at the Nature Trail Lodge featuring good food and company.





Home Builders Association President Newman Rodgers poses with Phillip Rittner while presenting Rittner, who was representing Celebrity Home Builders, Inc., with the award for best home in the \$265-\$300,000 category during the kickoff for the 2014 Parade of Homes.



Newman Rodgers, President of the West Florida Home Builders Association, presents Lacey Chatraw of D.R. Horton with the award Horton won for best home in the price class of \$200,000-\$215,000 dollars during the kickoff.

300-PLUS ATTEND A MEMORABLE PARADE OF HOMES KICKOFF EVENT FROM PAGE 5

Silver: Beach Community Mortgage, Bonded Builders Home Warranty, Classic Homes of Pensacola, Mobile Lumber, Mortgage Trust, Regions Mortgage, Supreme Lending. Bronze: Ferguson Enterprises, Fairway Independent Mortgage, Gulf Power Company, Nature Trail Realty, Mathes Lighting & Lamp and Southern Pipe & Supply.

Now to the rain event that was just unbelievable in how much damage it inflicted on our community. When disasters happen, people first look to church ministries, the United Way, non-profit groups and the like to get needed assistance. They also look to the people in our industry who have the ability to start making people whole again. Licensed contractors were ready to assist and the Home Builders Association provided a great resource to many who called not knowing where to begin putting their lives back together. In addition, HBA 2nd Vice President Jill Grove, of Pensacola Energy, put a plan in action to collect donations for Manna Food Pantries at the Dream Home at Nature Trail. This effort raised \$500 over two days, and Gulf Winds Federal Credit Union matched the HBA's donation. I know many of you have been volunteering to help the flood victims in our community, and I thank you for caring enough to make a difference.



Susan Peaden looks on as John David Peaden says the invocation to start the 2014 Parade of Homes.



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Home Builders Association President Newman Rodgers, center, poses with Rick Faciane and Danny Speranzo, right, of the Classic Homes of Pensacola, LLC as he presents them with the award for best home in the \$361,000-\$391,000 category during the 2014 Parade of Homes kickoff.



Dream Home sponsors were among those honored with certificates of appreciation during the Home Builders Association 2014 Parade of Homes kickoff.

FLORIDA HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION WINS SADOWSKI VICTORY

With \$167 Million Allocation

In a huge victory for builders who provide affordable housing in their communities, the Florida Home Builders Association (FHBA) played a lead role in convincing the 2014 Florida Legislature to re-authorize the spending of \$167 million for the state's SHIP and SAIL programs as part of the Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Fund.

2014 FHBA Legislative Session Summary

Budget Issues: Passed/HB 5001 need to advocate signing into law by Governor

- Sadowski/SHIP: \$100 Million
Distributed to Local Governments
- Septic Tank Study: \$650,000
Development of cost effective system, key to spring shed issue
- Future Builders of America: \$250,000
Contract with DBPR with performance measures
- Unlicensed Activity: \$250,000
Focus on construction industry

Legislative Issues supported by FHBA

- Building Code: Passed HB 7147
Summary sheet of various provisions available from FHBA staff
- Subsurface Rights: Passed HB 489
After early problems the bill is now a notice requirement for severability of rights
- Growth Management: Did not pass various bills
Bills not taken up by the Legislature relating to exactions and takings
- Bulk Buyer: Passed SB 440
Extended until July 1, 2016
- Concrete Masonry Education: Passed SB 286
Governed by Council in the Department of Economic Opportunity
- Flood Insurance: Passed SB 542
Private sector response to Federal Flood Insurance
- Florida Home Builder License Plate: Did not pass HB 833 & SB 714
Six other plates also failed
- Wage Theft: Did not pass HB 957 & SB 926
After several years of consideration, not likely to be refiled

Legislative Issues opposed by FHBA

- Springs Shed Protection: bills failed HB 1313 & SB 1576
There was \$30 million appropriated for existing springs protection (FHBA supports)
- Homeowners' Associations: bill failed SB 1348
Bill proposed a full regulatory program

Potential 2015 Legislative Issues

- Lien Law: Desire on part of key legislator to repeal lien law for residential
Amendments were filed during 2014 session
- Springs Protection
House and Senate agree that 2015 will be the year of springs protection legislation
- Growth Management/Exactions
Numerous unaddressed issues from 2014 Session
- Homeowners' Associations
Legislator seems intent on additional regulations

FHBA took a hard line this legislative session on Sadowski funds, which had been "swept" into general revenue the last six years. Standing strong with the Sadowski Coalition, Florida Realtors®, and housing advocates, FHBA helped win \$100 million for SHIP (primarily for down payment assistance) and SAIL (used for financing multi-family projects). Both programs target low-to-moderate income families.

Along with Sadowski, FHBA achieved virtually all of its Legislative Priorities, including \$250,000 in funding for the Future Builders of America (FBA) program, a statewide initiative that works through high schools to train young people for careers in construction.

FHBA also garnered legislative support for \$650,000 to complete an important multi-year study on the safe and efficient use of septic tanks in Florida, and \$250,000 to fund "stings and sweeps" in the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation's fight against unlicensed activity in the state.

Working with coalition partners, FHBA successfully supported a building code bill that contained many provisions significant for builders and their associated professionals, including expanding the allowable training options for funds from the Building Code Compliance & Mitigation/Building a Safer Florida Program to include training for consumer protection issues and contractors' licensing requirements such as Florida Fire Prevention Code, lien law, laws and rules, and contracts.

Other bills among FHBA's Legislative Priorities that won Senate and House approval dealt favorably with subsur-

face (mineral) rights, the condo bulk-buyer law, training funds for the Florida masonry industry, and the potential privatization of flood insurance.

Many important issues that will carry over to the 2015 session include springshed/water quality, growth management measures related to developer exactions, the Florida lien law, and additional regulations of homeowners associations.

“I’m very proud of our Governmental Affairs volunteer leadership (Chairman Jeff Spear) and staff (Director Doug Buck) as well as all the members and Executive Officers who made contacts with their legislators on our issues,” said FHBA President Ron Lieberman. “It was definitely a team effort and it paid off with a very productive legislative session.”



Key Construction Issues Included in the Construction/Building Code Bill

Began as HB 593 (Eagle) & SB 1106 (Simpson)

Passed as HB 7147 (Diaz) & SB 1044 (Simpson)

- ★ Allowing local governments the option of sending notices return receipt requested for violations sent via certified mail rather than mandating return receipt.
- ★ Expanding the allowable training options for funds from the Building Code Compliance & Mitigation Program/Building a Safer Florida Program to include training for consumer protection issues and contractors’ licensing requirements such as Florida Fire Prevention Code, lien law, laws and rules, contracts, etc.
- ★ Granting the Florida Building Commission the authority to interpret the Florida Accessibility Code for building construction consistent with the Commission’s ability to interpret all of the other code sections.
- ★ Clarifying the definition for building energy efficiency rating system providers to include specific criteria, rather than enumerating entities in statute.
- ★ Requiring application to the Department of Health (DOH) for an operating permit for a public swimming pool before an application may be filed for a building permit, and provides additional requirements for obtaining an operating permit;. DOH supports the language and their analysis indicates no fiscal impact to the state.
- ★ Clarifying the third-party inspections process for modular homes.
- ★ Fixing an inconsistency in the Florida Building Code and Existing Building Code that keeps homeowners from having to hard-wire smoke alarms when renovating or remodeling their homes by instead installing a 10-year battery smoke alarm, a more cost-effective measure. (Note: 10-year battery smoke alarms cost \$16 compared to 1-2-year battery alarms which cost \$12).
- ★ Exempting tents of a certain size from the Florida Fire Prevention Code.
- ★ Specifying that for single family dwellings the Florida Building Code shall only require makeup air when the dwelling has a range hood exhaust system capable of exhausting in excess of 400, but not more than 800 cubic feet per minute (cfm).” This will save consumers approximately \$980, depending on the size of the kitchen exhaust fan.
- ★ Allowing the Dept. of Health to grant hardship variances from the swimming pool provisions of the Florida Building Code.
- ★ Allows electronic submittal of workers compensation verification in conjunction with electronic submittal of an application for a building permit.
- ★ Clarifying requirements for mechanical equipment placed on a rooftop.

MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Swift Supply put on a very nice Membership Meeting with the help of Jerry's Cajun Catering. David Swift, Sr., Rick Lewis Rich Hoffer, David Swift, Jr. and many other Swift Supply team professionals treated everyone with great hospitality. Swift Supply is a leader in south Alabama and the Florida Panhandle for providing quality building materials to the professional builder, business, industry, and individual. Swift Supply focus is on the latest innovations in building products and services in the industry.



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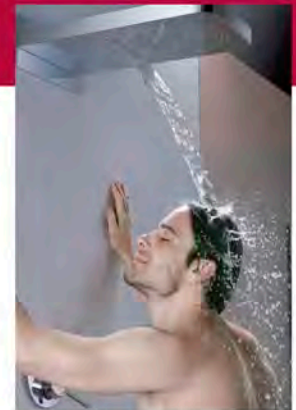


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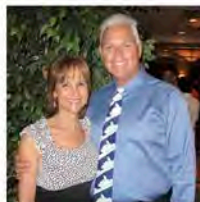
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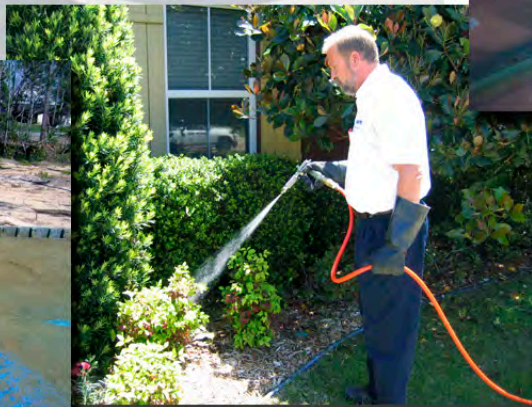
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The Home Builders Association of West Florida and Thomas Westerheim, of Westerheim Properties, would like to thank the business who contributed to the overall success of the Dream Home. If you see something you like, just find the item on the below list and contact the donating company. Tell them you saw their product or service at the Dream Home... and you want the same for your home.

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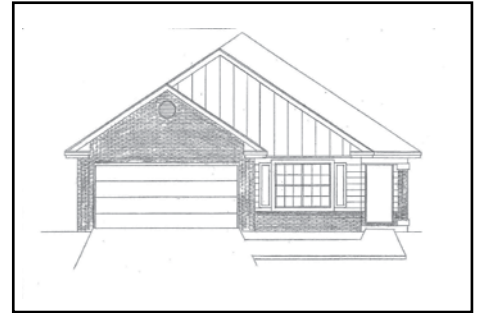
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HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF WEST FLORIDA HOSTS SKILLSUSA WORLD OF CONSTRUCTION



The Home Builders Association of West Florida participated in the SkillsUSA event at the Pensacola Bay Center in late April. SkillsUSA is a partnership of students, teachers and industry working together to ensure America has a skilled workforce. SkillsUSA is a national non-profit organization serving teachers and high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade, technical and skilled service occupations, including health occupations. It was formerly known as VICA (Vocational Industrial Clubs of America).

HBA Board members Doug Herrick of Coastal ICF and John Hattaway of Hattaway Home Design teach students about the benefits of ICF construction.



Ken Odom teaches a young man how to operate a backhoe at the SkillsUSA World of Construction event. The backhoe was a big hit during the event.

HBA Board member Taylor Longworth of East Hill Building & Design spearheaded this event for the HBA. Pictured here, Taylor challenged hundreds of kids to the nail driving contest.



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AUXILIARY COUNCILS FUNDS \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP AT UWF

Under the leadership of Chair Wilma Shortall, the Auxiliary Council continues to wear the "White Hat" for the Home Builders Association as it gives back to the community through charitable giving. Case in point, the Auxiliary Council recently awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to Justine Hanson who is a Building Construction student at the University of West Florida. Justine, who is Treasurer of the US Green Building Council Student Chapter, says she appreciates the financial assistance from the Auxiliary Council.



Scholarship recipient Justine Hanson with UWF Instructor Glenda Mayo.



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The Auxiliary Council hosted its May meeting at the HBA. Planning continued for the Lakeview Kids Spring Party and other upcoming events. From the Left: Sheila Billingham of Underwood Anderson; Connie Bryars of Habitat ReStore; Kim Chaney of Mathes Electric; Lauren Gentry of Mathes Lighting and Lamp; Laura Gilmore of Fairway Mortgage; Angie Cooper of Gulf Power; Wilma Shortall of Primary Residential Mortgage; Chasity Brooks of Eddie Zarahn Insurance Agency; Vicki Pelletier of HBA; and Towana Henry of Keller Williams Realty.

The HBA Membership Committee, led by Lindsay Durre of Pen Air Federal Credit Union, reviewed the current membership status of the HBA. The HBA currently has an 83 percent retention rate, and the committee is working to make sure the HBA keeps growing. From left, HBA Director of Marketing & Communication Vicki Pelletier, Tonya Underwood of Emerald Coast Granite Tile and Glass, Michelle Brunke of the Pensacola News Journal and Lindsay Durre.





In construction, a spike is a steel object that is essential to making a building strong. As in construction, the HBA of West Florida sees a Spike as someone that works to keep our association strong. Spikes work on the recruitment and retention of members in addition to keeping members active with the association. Anyone is eligible for Spike status. On Spike credit is awarded for each new member recruited and an additional credit is awarded for that new member's renewal on or before their anniversary date. If you help to retain a member, you are eligible to receive a half point for each member.

Spike Club Levels

Spike Candidate	1-5 credits
Blue Spike	6-24
Life Spike	25-49
Green Spike	50-99
Red Spike	100-149
Royal Spike	150-249
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Spike Club Members and their credits as of 01/01/2014

Statesman Spike	500 Credits
Harold Logan	506

Super Spike	250 Credits
Rod Hurston	406.5
Jack McCombs	280.5

Royal Spike	150 Credits
Ron Anderson	200
Edwin Henry	196
Rick Sprague	194
Bob Boccanfuso	160.5

Red Spike	100 Credits
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Collier Merrill	129
Lee Magaha	126.5
Don Suarez	117
Oliver Gore	111.5

Green Spike	50 Credits
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Ricky Wiggins	93
Ron Tuttle	88.5
Doug Sprague	83
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Wayne Underwood	58.5
Millie Carpenter	56.5
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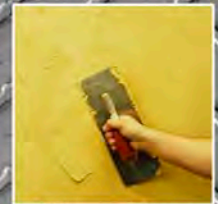
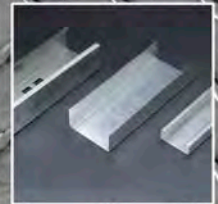
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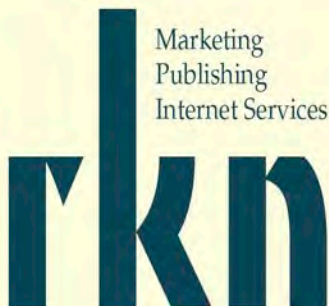
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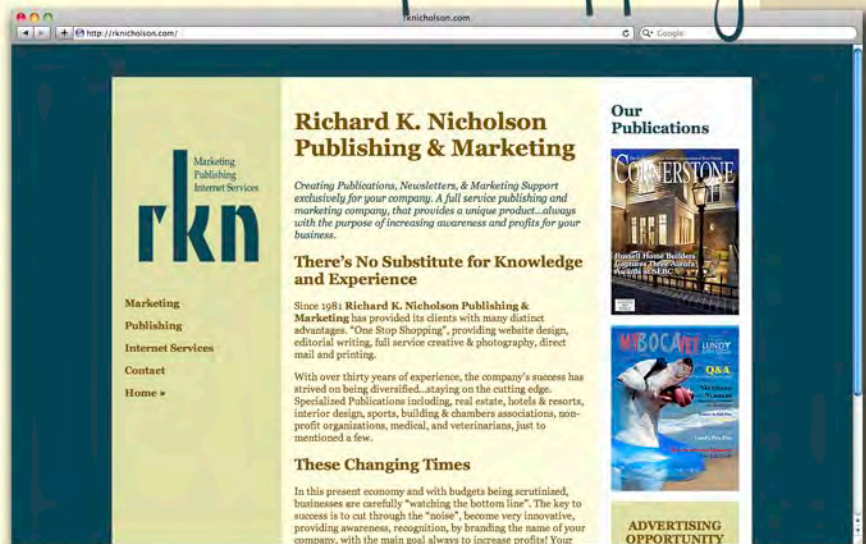
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