



# FCCIP NEWS

Franklin County Cooperative Inspection Program Volume No. 1 Issue No 17 March, 2011  
A program of the Franklin Regional Council of Governments



## Judy Bresciano Retires

Join us Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at the Greenfield Country Club from 4-8 to celebrate Judy's retirement! Hors d'oeuvres will be provided and there will be a cash bar. Please rsvp to Chris Brothers at [chris@frcog.org](mailto:chris@frcog.org) or 772-2026, ext. 122.

Judy has been with the inspection program almost from its inception. Recognized by many as the glue that kept the program together, she has guided 14 building inspectors through the nuisances of a cooperative inspection program.

Judy spent many an unpaid, late-night hour in the early years at her typewriter and scaling the steps of the courthouse. If you were one of the tens of thousands of callers that have spoken to Judy, you couldn't help but be impressed with her friendliness and her willingness to go the extra mile to help answer a question. Her knowledge, attention to detail, and insistence that everyone be treated fairly are just a few of the qualities that describe her 32 years of dedicated service. Come, and help us say Thank You!!

## Continuing Education Update

The Board of Building Regulations and Standards (BBRS) is now accepting applications for **Course Coordinators** and **Course** approvals for contractor continuing education. . July 1, 2011 is the line of demarcation for licensees to comply with education requirements as established below.

If a contractor's license is obtained or renewed on or after July 1, 2011, the license holder will be expected to obtain the required continuing education credits before the following renewal date.

Unrestricted Construction Supervisors License 12 Hours  
Restricted Construction Supervisors License 10 Hours  
Specialty Construction Supervisors License 6 Hours

### **FCCIP STAFF**

Phone: 772-2026 Fax: 773-0896  
James Hawkins, Building Commissioner, Ext. 123  
James Cerone, Local Building Inspector, Ext. 124  
Tom McDonald, Electrical Inspector, Ext. 126  
Andy French, Plumbing Inspector, Ext. 125  
Judy Bresciano, Administrative Assistant, Ext. 121  
Chris Brothers, Clerk, Ext. 122

Web Site: [www.fccip.org](http://www.fccip.org)

## 8<sup>th</sup> Edition 1-2 Family

The 8<sup>th</sup> edition residential code (for one and two family dwellings and townhouses three stories and less) became effective February 4, 2011. The 7<sup>th</sup> edition residential code will remain in effect concurrently with the new 8<sup>th</sup> edition until August 4, 2011. During the concurrency period a project can be designed using either edition. The deadline for filing a permit application for projects designed using the 7<sup>th</sup> edition is August 3, 2011.

The 8th edition residential code is comprised of the International Residential Code 2009 (IRC) and a separate package with Massachusetts amendments. The IRC is sold by the International Code Council [www.iccsafe.org](http://www.iccsafe.org) and the Massachusetts amendments package will be available at the [State House Bookstore](#) (617-727-2834).

Some of the changes:

- Accessory structures that do not exceed 200 sq. ft. no longer require a building permit. (Zoning permit still required.)
- Free standing decks under 30 inches high that do not exceed 200 sq. ft. no longer require a building permit. (Zoning permit still required.)
- Designs for attaching gypsum board to ceilings that rely on adhesives only are prohibited (mechanical fasteners required).
- Rating requirement for exterior walls with <5' fire separation distance.
- Two family dwelling separation not required in attic when ceiling has 5/8 type x sheet rock and draftstopping supplied.
- 1/2" gypsum board minimum separation of garage and attic above and detached garage <3' from dwelling.
- New spacing requirements for bathroom fixtures

- Certain exceptions to tempered glass requirement in stairways.
- Headroom requirement on stairs changed from 6'6" to 6'8".
- Wood/plastic composites used in exterior deck boards must be labeled and comply to provisions of ASTM D 7032.
- Prescriptive provisions for monolithic slabs
- 4' frost protection not required for free standing structures 600 sq.ft. or less with an eave height 10' or less.
- New reinforcement requirements for concrete walls with unbalanced fill > 6ft.
- Specific requirements for deck ledger placement of lag screws or bolts.
- Simplified tables for braced wall panels and prescriptive drawings for reduced panels for garage door openings.
- Prescriptive requirements for unvented attic assemblies.

## New Sheet Metal License Requirement

As of February 19, 2011, any sheet metal work, including the installation of residential ductwork, metal chimneys, and yes(believe it or not) bathroom and kitchen exhaust systems must be done by a licensed sheet metal mechanic. There are many questions to be answered surrounding this requirement. Look to our web site for updates in the near future.

## Contractor Database

This will be the last mailed newsletter. From here on out newsletters will be e-mailed to contractors and can be viewed on our web site. If you would like to receive future newsletters, please e-mail [chris@frcog.org](mailto:chris@frcog.org) so your name will be placed in our database.

It will also be important to make sure we have current addresses and phone numbers, CSL and HIC numbers in our database in anticipation of on-line permitting which we hope to have running by April of this year

FCCIP

425 Main St., Ste 25

Greenfield, MA 01301-3393

