

 AIA Header

Friday Facts

July 25, 2008

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AIA Florida News

See You Next Week

The location was secured last year. Intense planning began January of this year. Numerous promotions advertising the best speakers, events and continuing education opportunities have gone out. It's been on everyone's mind for the last couple of months, and now-it's finally here!

Next week, the Florida Association of the American Institute of Architects (AIA Florida) will kick off the 2008 Annual Convention happening in Palm Beach at the historic Breakers Hotel. If you have not registered yet, onsite registration will be available starting Wednesday, July 30 and will remain open throughout the Convention. Onsite registrations are \$325 for AIA members and \$425 for non-members.

So pack your bags, your sunscreen and the family and join your colleagues for a good time in sunny South Florida. See you there!

Amendment 5 Updates *Tax Swap Debates Get Started*

On Tuesday, July 22, Senator Mike Haridopolos and the Coalition to Protect Florida's Future hosted the first of 10 debates focused on Amendment 5. The amendment seeks to repeal the Required Local Effort (RLE) for school funding, creating a \$9-\$11 billion school funding budgetary hole. To restore those lost funds, a one cent sales tax increase would be implemented and some of the state's 246 sales tax exemptions could be eliminated. The only way to recoup the rest of this money (approximately \$4 to \$6 billion) is to tax currently untaxed services, which will directly impact the architectural and design

walls. PGT has recently partnered with ASI Limited, a curtain wall industry leader, to provide quality unitized curtain wall solutions to meet any design challenge. Rely on us for engineering, pricing, project management, manufacturing and installation on curtain wall projects. You can save money, keep more control and gain versatility when you choose PGT.

PGT will be exhibiting at the AIA Florida 2008 Convention at the Breakers Hotel in Palm Beach. Please visit our booth to view and inquire about various PGT products.

Each Architectural Systems product order is handled by a PGT expert who acts as your single point of contact, before, during and after the sale. Count on them to configure and price products for your unique job requirements.

PGT Architectural Systems is an investment in lasting quality, backed by a solid warranty of up to 20 years. Each product is custom-built to exact specifications and offers a wide variety of options, allowing flexibility in new construction, remodeling or replacement projects, as well as historical restorations.

Quick Links

- [AIA Florida Website](#)
- [Contract Documents](#)
- [Classified Ads](#)
- [Check Your CE Transcript](#)

Did You Know...

Next week, AIA Florida will host its largest tradeshow in history at the 2008 Annual Convention in Palm Beach. This year's theme is the

industry.

Debate locations extend across the state from Panama City to Miami with the first one held at Broward Community College in Pembroke Pines.

Sen. Haridopolos has invited former Sen. John McKay (a key proponent of Amendment 5) to participate in the public discussions about the effects of the amendment. The debates will be moderated and possibly covered by the media. Attendees can submit questions about Amendment 5 during the debate for the moderator to ask Haridopolos and/or McKay.

If you plan to attend these debates and you are approached by the press, or would like to comment on why your organization is opposed to Amendment 5, please focus on the following key points: (1) Amendment 5 will have a negative impact on Florida's educational system; (2) the amendment will create economic instability and uncertainty; (3) there is potential for the creation of a tax on typically untaxed services, including architectural services, to fill the \$9 to \$11 billion revenue hole created by the amendment; (4) and voters should be informed that Amendment 5 is not property tax relief-it's simply swapping one tax for another.

[CLICK HERE](#) for details that include all of the debate dates, times and exact locations.

If you are able to attend, please email aiaflnews@aiafla.org.

Opponents of Amendment Ready for Court

In a recent edition of Friday Facts, AIA Florida provided information that the Coalition to Protect Florida's Future would be part of a lawsuit against Amendment 5. Led by prominent Tallahassee attorney Barry Richard, the case is now scheduled to be heard before Judge John C. Cooper on Aug. 13 at 1:30 p.m.

Assistant Attorney General Lou Hubener will defend the state in the case. Both sides must provide a memoranda of law in support of their positions and their proposed final judgments on, or before, Aug. 7 at 5:00 p.m.

AIA Florida will continue to monitor the progress of this issue and bring you updates.

"A-HA! Awards: Allies Helping Architects." There will be 83 booths and 14 tabletops full of new companies and organizations that have previously attended. [CLICK HERE](#) to view a complete exhibitor listing.

AIA Working For You

Mentoring is one of the three main goals of the Young Architects Forum; so much so that they created mentoring guidelines. [CLICK HERE](#) to view the guidelines.

Quote of the Week

"Architecture, of all the arts, is the one which acts the most slowly, but the most surely, on the soul."

-Ernest Dimnet
Have a favorite quote?
Send them to
mmcdonald@aiafla.org.

aiaflanews@aiafla.org
www.aiafla.org

:: 850-222-7590

State Tax Organization Releases Economic Analysis on Tax Swap

This week, the Florida TaxWatch released an economic analysis on Amendment 5 titled "Uncertainty Makes Amendment 5 a Bad Bed for Florida." The report indicates that the amendment will likely be a tax increase for Florida. The report is the first in a series of briefings on Amendment 5. Future reports will provide more specific analyses of the amendment's impact, if passed.

AIA Florida Member Voices Concern

Over the last few weeks, AIA Florida has provided information about the Manus House, which is the only remaining house in Palm Beach County designed by Alfred Browning Parker, FAIA. Despite constant support and letters to the mayor, the Palm Beach Town Council recently voted 3 to 2 to demolish the house.

After reading an article in *Friday Facts* about the house, and concerned with the decline of architectural preservation, AIA Florida member, Larry More, AIA wrote a letter to the editor of the *Palm Beach Post*. The letter, titled "Demolishing historic home like a death to architect," was published on Tuesday, July 22.

In the letter, More stated that "As an architect, I struggle to understand why our heritage of buildings that represent what are perceived as treasured examples of a period of design style, as well as that of a body of work of an architect that clearly had an impact on the region, are not better protected from the wrath of a privately motivated decision. More than that, however, is my failure to comprehend how, regardless of financial, social, or civic standing - and knowing of its intrinsic value and place in the world of architecture at the time they purchased it - a family seemingly grows weary of the significance of their home."

To read the letter in its entirety, please [CLICK HERE](#).

AIA Florida Firm Provides Pro Bono Work to Autism Center

Recently, C.T. Hsu + Associates provided pro bono architectural

 AIA Advocacy Banner

services and \$25,000 in funding to create Florida's first medical and dental primary care clinic for the developmentally disabled. The Threshold Center for Autism's \$1.2 million facility is scheduled to open this month and will serve an estimated 4,000 patients annually.

C.T. Hsu + Associates, the AIA Florida 2006 Firm of the Year, designed the new clinic to address the challenges that occur when treating autistic patients and others with physical and behavioral disabilities. Traditionally, these patients are underserved by conventional doctor and dentist practices. The new facility features two wings: one with medical exam rooms particularly designed for special needs patients and the other featuring more traditional exam rooms.

These are the great projects that contribute to the 1% Program. The goal for AIA Florida is to reach 40,000 hours pledged. We are on our way with nearly 13 percent of our goal met. Visit www.aiafla.org to sign up and to watch our progress.

Orlando a Contender for AIA National Convention

Last week, Orlando hosted the 2019 AIA National Convention site committee as a contender to be the 2019 host city.

Orlando and Dallas are both being considered to host the National Convention, an event that typically draws approximately 24,000 registrants each year.

The site committee will make a recommendation for a host city at the fall AIA National meeting. Let's keep our fingers crossed!



Continuing Education

Hot Topics on the Horizon

Coming this fall will be AIA Florida's wildly popular Hot Topics. This year's Hot Topics will focus on the Florida Building Code as the new code



goes into effect Dec. 31. Two advanced FBC courses will also be available.

The seminars will be held Sept. 24, 25 and 26 in Ft. Lauderdale, Orlando and Pensacola, respectively. Members can earn continuing education credits by attending these smoking hot seminars.

More information and registration will be available soon. Stay tuned!

Component Happenings

AIA Miami

M.E.P. Seminar "How to prepare for the A.R.E. Exam"

Aug. 7 - 10

University of Miami School of Architecture

For information, visit www.aiamiami.com,

email aiamia@bellsouth.net, or call 305-448-7488.

AIA Jacksonville

Fire Sprinkler Options in the IBC and Life Safety Code

Wednesday, Aug. 20. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. The program is from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Earn 6 HSW continuing education credits.

The fee is \$50 for AIA members and \$65 for non-members.

To RSVP and to pay online, visit

www.aiajacksonville.org. Contact Lane Manis at lane.manis@aiajacksonville.org for more information.

Have your component's event listed here.

Email them to Monica McDonald at

mmcdonald@aiafla.org.

[For more events, visit our calendar.](#)

Welcome New Members!

Judith I. Bell, Assoc. AIA (AIA Miami)

Marc P. Bell, Assoc. AIA (AIA Miami)

Peter E. Christensen, AIA (AIA Miami)

Fleta Collins, AIA (AIA Orlando)

Scott B. Tiffany, Assoc. AIA (AIA Tampa Bay)

Francisco J. Waltersdorfer, Assoc. AIA (AIA Miami)



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