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BUILDER SHOW 2026**  
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YORK, PA, JUNE 10-11

**SUMMER 2026**  
Vol. 2, Issue 2

**SUPPLIER  
DIRECTORY:  
FASTENERS**



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DOOR**

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SAFETY  
BACK TO  
BASICS**

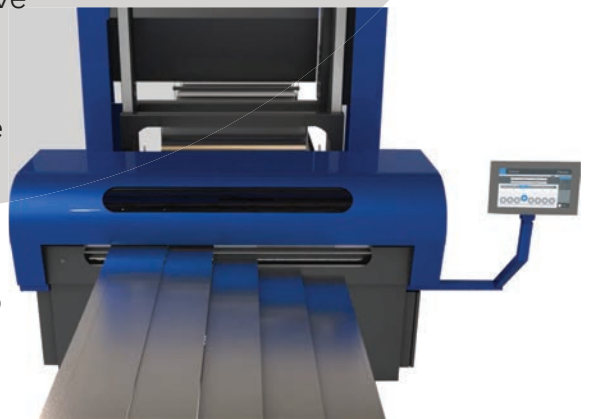
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| Dynamic Fastener | Screws       |
| East Coast       | SFS          |
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# Table of Contents



**12 What Do You Build**  
Building Projects From Your Peers

**18 Step By Step**  
Garage Door Installation

**24 Back To Basics**  
Safe Ladder Practices

**26 Post-Frame Builder Show**  
Helpful Info For June 10-11 Event

**28 Where To Stay In York**  
Hotel and Travel Information

**30 Supplier Directory**  
Fasteners

**34 Keep 'em Clear**  
Tips for Installing Gutter Guards

**36 Business Profile**  
Star-1 Products, McBain, Michigan

**40 Metal Roof Fasteners**  
Choosing The Right Fasteners

**51 Albert Barnwright**  
Using The Gifts Your Father Gave You



**ON THE COVER:**  
Shared by E-Impact Marketing, this two story, two-car garage with apartment was built in Virginia by Sheds Unlimited of Morgantown, Pennsylvania ([shedsunlimited.net](http://shedsunlimited.net)). PHOTO COURTESY OF SHEDS UNLIMITED



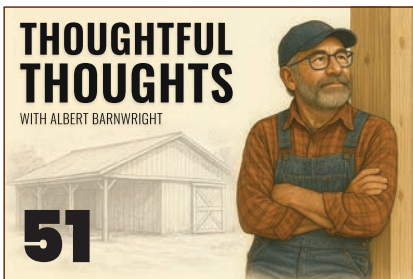
# Departments

- 3 Break Time
- 8 News
- 10 New Products
- 30 Supplier Directory
- 45 Coloring Page
- 46 Business Connections

## WHAT DO YOU BUILD IS PUBLISHED FOR FREE

To get a building project or product that you make featured in WHAT DO YOU BUILD, email or call editor Karen Knapstein at: [karen@shieldwallmedia.com](mailto:karen@shieldwallmedia.com) or 715-952-1633

## POST-FRAME ■ RURAL ■ PLAIN BUILDER SHOW 26



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## INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

Company	Page #
AB Martin.....	41
AceClamp.....	31
Acu-Form.....	35, 46
American Garage Door Factory.....	47
ASC Machine Tools Inc.....	8, 46
ASCO USA, Inc.....	IFC, 48
ASTA America by Janus International.....	19
Aztec Washer Company.....	44, 46
Coil Spot / Wildcat / SpeedLap.....	48
Cold Spring Enterprises.....	46
Creekside Manufacturing LLC.....	46
Daystar Systems LLC.....	47
Direct Metals, Inc.....	49
Dripstop™.....	9
Dutch Tech Inc.....	15
E-Impact Marketing LLC.....	44, 46
Express Barns.....	10
Flack Hill Machine.....	47
Formwright.....	11, 49
Golden Rule Fasteners.....	33, 48
Grandura Distribution LLC.....	47
Integro - Precise Builder.....	BC
Kevmar Manufacturing.....	23
Marion Manufacturing.....	48
Maze Nails.....	13
MWI Components.....	37
PA Wholesale Products.....	47
Pine Hill Trailers.....	3, 47
Planet Saver Industries / GreenPost.....	49
Postsaver Europe Ltd.....	46
Progressive Metals.....	17, 46
Red Dot Products, LLC.....	49
Rib Runner Tools.....	47
Stan Group dba: Liberty Seamless.....	43
SteelGrip SAMM, Inc.....	25, 49
Stoll Metal Works.....	43
Trac-Rite Door.....	21
United Steel Supply.....	6, 7, 47
W.E.H. Supply Inc.....	16

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**E-Impact Marketing Receives Recognition for Performance and Growth**

E-Impact Marketing, a full-service digital marketing agency based in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, has been recognized on the 2026 Financial Times Americas’ Fastest Growing Companies list and the Inc. Regionals: Northeast ranking. The company is listed at No. 88 on the Inc. Regionals list, which highlights the fastest-growing private companies across seven U.S. regions. Several of E-Impact’s clients—including Zook Cabins, Upper Dauphin Vinyl Products, New Holland Supply, and Troyer Post Buildings—were also named to the Financial Times list, with Zook Cabins and Upper Dauphin Vinyl Products additionally appearing on the Inc. Regionals ranking.

The Financial Times report evaluates independent companies based on three-year revenue growth, while the Inc. Regionals serves as an extension of the Inc. 5000. E-Impact Marketing was also included on the Inc. 5000 in 2025.

In addition, E-Impact Marketing was named a 2025 Google Premier Partner, a designation awarded to a small percentage of agencies in the United States based on factors such as campaign performance, client growth, and demonstrated proficiency in Google Ads. The company maintains certifications across multiple advertising disciplines, including Search, Display, Video, and Shopping.

E-Impact Marketing provides digital marketing services—including paid media, search engine optimization (SEO), and web development—to small and midsize businesses, particularly in construction-related and outdoor living industries.

The company has also undergone a recent ownership transition, with founder Chris Stoltzfus transferring ownership to James Charles, Joel Steele, and Eric Wenger.

Company leadership noted that continued growth has created opportunities to refine internal processes and adapt to changes in the digital marketing landscape, while maintaining a focus on supporting clients’ marketing and operational needs.

**DMI Direct Metals, LLC Acquires Lakeside Construction Fasteners**

DMI Direct Metals, LLC has acquired Lakeside Construction Fasteners (LCF), bringing together two companies in the metal construction and industrial fastener sectors as part of a broader growth strategy.

The transaction follows the recent restructuring of Direct Metals Inc. into DMI Direct Metals, LLC and marks what company leadership describes as the first step in an expansion effort supported by new investment partners. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

As part of the acquisition, leadership at Lakeside Construction Fasteners will remain in place. Eric Velliquette will continue as president and co-founder of LCF, working alongside DMI Direct Metals CEO Andrew Mullen. The companies indicated that maintaining continuity in leadership and operations is intended to support ongoing customer relationships and product development.

Lakeside Construction Fasteners has built its business around specialty fastening systems, including wood-to-metal and metal-to-metal applications, while DMI Direct Metals offers architectural metal products and low-slope fastening solutions. Combined, the companies plan to provide a broader range of products for building envelope applications.

According to company statements, the acquisition is expected to expand manufacturing capabilities, increase geographic reach through additional regional locations, and extend product offerings. Existing sales and support structures are expected to remain in place, with no immediate changes anticipated for customers’ ordering processes, pricing agreements, or delivery schedules.

Company leadership said the integration is intended to strengthen both organizations’ ability to serve customers in construction and related industries while continuing to develop new product solutions. **PB**

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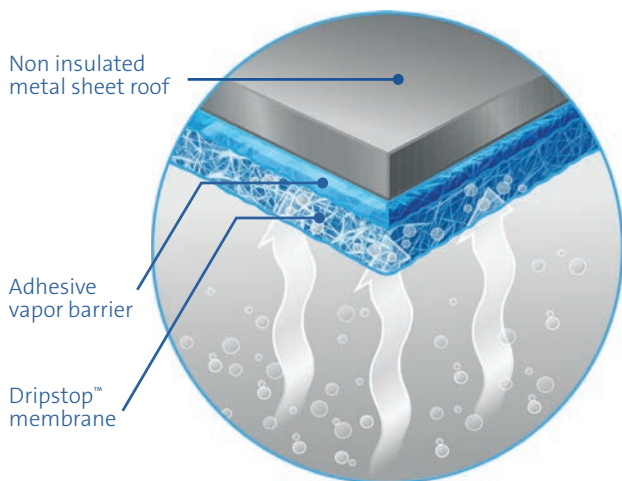
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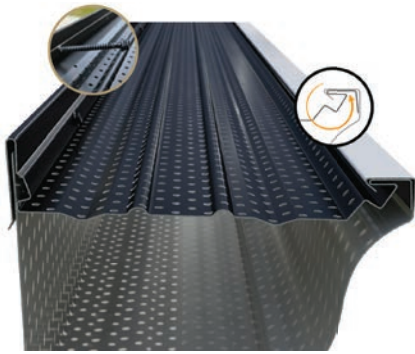
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### Sasquatch Gutter Guard from Midwest Enterprises

A new gutter protection product, Sasquatch, has been introduced by E-Z Gutter Guard and Midwest Enterprises, offering a different approach to traditional gutter guard systems.

Sasquatch is a hangerless gutter protection system designed to be installed on the ground along with the gutter itself, rather than added afterward. The system locks into the front edge of the gutter and secures to the fascia, creating a continuous, reinforced structure intended to improve durability under heavy snow and ice loads.

Made from high-strength aluminum, Sasquatch is available in standard and heavier-duty versions for harsher climates. An optional add-on filter is also offered to help block fine debris such as pine needles and pollen.

The system is designed to streamline installation by combining gutter and guard placement into a single step, potentially reducing labor time while maintaining

water management performance. It also meets industry fire-resistance standards, with additional protection available when the debris filter is used.

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### Central States Storage Latch

Central States Inc. has introduced a new Sentry self-storage latch and combo latch, expanding its line of door hardware for self-storage applications.

The new latch system is designed to provide greater flexibility in how storage units are secured. Operators can use either padlocks or cylinder locks on the same latch, and can transition to a keyed bezel lock without replacing the hardware. The latch is also compatible with certain magnetic locking systems.

Central States is offering the product in both a traditional zinc finish and a stainless-steel option. According to the company, the stainless-steel version provides increased strength and improved resistance to corrosion, particularly in humid or coastal environments.

Additional design features include a 90-degree latch tongue intended to help resist forced entry. The hardware

is available across the company's Sentry door lineup, including roll-up, swing, and locker doors.

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## Backyard Escapes

### Home Office Shed

**Location:** Belle Haven, Virginia

**Building Size:** 10x16 • **Roof Pitch:** 3/12 Single Slope

**Foundation:** Concrete Foundation supplied by customer

**Trusses:** 2x6 Rafters

**Roof Panels/Shingles:** Wagler Steel Ribbed Metal Roof

**Wall Panels/Siding:** LP SmartSide

**Walk Doors:** Elite Style Doors

**Windows:** Dutchland Window Company

**Ventilation:** WEH Supply

**Other Features:** 32" eave wall overhang, 24"x24" square windows above 24"x36" windows, timber frame braces, transom window above door, and pine trim around the windows

#### Description:

This structure was designed to meet the need for a dedicated home office separate from the main house, helping reduce distractions while maintaining convenience. The design emphasizes natural light and an open interior feel, offering both height and usable space. A key goal was to enhance the property's curb appeal without overwhelming it, which led to the use of earth tones and natural wood accents to create a cohesive, understated look.

**410-713-8606**



## Outdoor Options

### Playhouse

**Building Manufacturer:** Yoder Portable Buildings

**Location:** Eatonton, Georgia

**Building Size:** 8x12 • **Roof Pitch:** 12/12

**Foundation:** 2x6 Floor with 3/4" Plywood

**Trusses:** 2x4" Wood Rafters

**Roof Panels/Shingles:** 29 ga. Steel 5 Rib in White

**Wall Panels/Siding:** Painted Smart Siding in Light Pink

**Walk Doors:** Shop Build Wood Door

**Posts:** 4x4 Treated Pine

**Windows:** 3 Windows with screens

**Ventilation:** Full-length ridge vent

**Other Features:** Front Porch – Door on right with railing, loft inside

#### Description:

This playhouse was built to be an addition to a child's backyard play area. The porch area provides covered shade for relaxing, and the inside features a 4' loft for a cozy area. The remaining interior space is 8x8, and was left blank for the family to add exactly what they needed.

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# Quality Storage Buildings

## Outdoor Leisure & Entertainment

**Building Location:** Mitchell, South Dakota

**Building Dimensions:** 12 x 20 • **Roof Pitch:** 6/12

**Foundation:** LP Outdoor Building Solutions / 3/4" LP ProStruct Floor with SmartFinish.

**Trusses:** Quality Storage Buildings / Trusses

**Roof Panels:** Dakota Steel & Trim Inc. / Black Textured Steel Roof; LP Outdoor Building Solutions / 7/16" LP ProStruct Roof Sheathing with Silvertch

**Wall Panels:** LP Outdoor Building Solutions / 3/8" Panel Board and Batten Siding

**Walk Doors:** French Full Glass Door

**Windows:** 4 x 3 Vending Window

**Miscellaneous Features:** Fully wired with lights and porch ceiling fan. Decking: Timbertech Azek / Dark Hickory Vintage Decking

### Description:

Created an outdoor entertainment space with a sports and leisure focus, with a TV, bar window, and counter space.

**605-933-0815**



# CMT Components

## Barndominium

**Building Location:** Ohio

**Building Dimensions:** 32x56

**Roof Pitch:** 4/12

**Walk Doors:** Plyco Corp.

**Fasteners:** SFS Intec

**Foundation:** Perma-Column

**Insulation:** Condenstop

**Posts:** Monarch Columns

**Roof Panels:** CLOC+

**Trusses:** CMT Components

**Ventilation:** Ventco

**Wall Panels:** CLOC+

**Windows:** Reliabuilt

### Description:

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# Pequea and Lancaster County Backyard

## Montford Vinyl Pavilion at Splashplex

**Building Type:** Montford Vinyl Pavilion

**Building Manufacturer:** Pequea and Lancaster County Backyard

**Location:** East Hanover, New Jersey

**Building Size:** 24' x 60'

**Roof:** Asphalt Shingles, Biscayne Blue

**Walls:** LP SmartSide, Siding Color: Dark Red

**Posts:** 8"×8" Square (Standard)

### Lancaster County Backyard Delivers a Shaded Space to a New Jersey Waterpark.

Lancaster County Backyard is a Pennsylvania-based shed, garage, gazebo, pergola, and pavilion builder known for its outdoor living structures and line of timber frame buildings. As the retail division of Pequea, a company founded in 1978 by experienced carpenter Abner King, Lancaster County Backyard was established in 2016 to help busy homeowners and businesses design and install high-quality outdoor structures.



With over 100,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor activity space, multi-story waterslides, a lazy river, and cabana seating, Splashplex (<https://thefunplex.com/east-hanover/splashplex-waterpark/>) is the perfect family retreat. Because it's so popular, it also has to manage large crowds, host events, and keep guests comfortable all summer long. That means pleasant, shaded areas where guests can step away from the sun, but not the fun, are essential to the guest experience at Splashplex.

That's why Splashplex reached out to Lancaster County Backyard to design and install a pavilion that could serve as a central gathering space for guests.

The goal was straightforward: create a structure that could provide reliable shade, accommodate high foot traffic, and elevate the look and layout of the park. The pavilion needed to provide a lot of covered seating for families and groups without hindering visitors' movements. It also needed to maintain a clean appearance that matches the park's reputation and brand.

Lancaster County Backyard worked closely with the Funplex team to bring their vision to life, ultimately delivering a custom 24'x60' Montford Vinyl Pavilion. The Montford pavilion was chosen for its classic look and commercial size, which allowed for significant space for guests to relax, gather, and recharge while maintaining an upscale look for the park overall.

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# How to Replace a Garage Door

## A Step-by-Step Guide for Builders

By Plain Builder Staff

**A** garage door is one of the hardest-working elements in any home — cycling thousands of times a year while taking the brunt of weather, wear, and daily use. When it's time for a replacement, the project can feel daunting. But with proper preparation and a methodical approach, it's well within the reach of a skilled builder.

We talked with industry professionals to walk through the full replacement process from start to finish.

### Before You Start: Planning and Safety

The number one mistake we see is people jumping into a tear-out before they've measured properly or confirmed the new door specs. Garage door openings are rarely perfectly square, and a door that doesn't fit the rough opening is an expensive problem.

Gather these items before you begin:

- Tape measure, level, and framing square
- Safety glasses and work gloves — always
- Step ladder and a helper (two-person job at minimum)
- Cordless drill, socket set, and adjustable wrenches
- New garage door kit (panels, hardware, and springs)
- New door opener (if replacing)
- Weatherstripping and threshold seal
- C-clamps or locking pliers to secure the door during work

Torsion springs store extremely high tension and can snap with great force, causing severe injury or even death if handled improperly. If you are not highly experienced working with torsion springs, do not attempt to adjust or remove them—hire a professional. Extension springs on older doors are less hazardous but can still be dangerous and must be approached with caution.

### STEP 1: Measure the Opening

Accurate measurements are the foundation of a successful replacement. Measure the width and height of the opening at multiple points — the opening can vary top to bottom and side to side. Record all of the following:

- Width: Measure across the top, middle, and bottom. Use the smallest measurement.
- Height: Measure from the floor to the top on both sides. Use



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whichever is smaller.

- Headroom: Distance from the top of the opening to the ceiling (minimum 10-12 inches for standard hardware; more for a high-lift or jackshaft opener).
- Side room: Minimum of 3.75 inches each side for track hardware.
- Depth: Garage depth for the horizontal track (minimum 18 inches beyond the door height).

Most standard residential doors come in widths of 8, 9, 10, 16, and 18 feet, and heights of 7 or 8 feet. Custom sizes are available, but add lead time and cost. If your opening is close to a standard size, it's usually worth shimming or trimming the rough opening to match a stock door.

### STEP 2: Choose the Right Door

Garage doors come in several materials, each with trade-offs in cost, durability, maintenance, and appearance:

- Steel: Most popular; affordable and durable with low upkeep. It resists dents well when using at least 24-gauge



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steel. Choose single-, double-, or triple-layer construction to increase insulation and quiet operation. Strong performance in most climates, but it can rust if the finish is damaged.

- **Wood:** Classic appeal, often used for carriage-house styles. Delivers a warm, authentic look but requires ongoing maintenance, such as painting or staining, to resist weathering. Heavier than steel, which means heavier-duty hardware is needed. Wood is prone to rot and warping, especially in wet climates.
- **Wood composite:** Mimics real wood but resists moisture and warping better than solid wood. It requires less maintenance than wood and is a practical compromise between authentic curb appeal and durability. Not as rugged as steel, but usually lighter than pure wood doors.
- **Aluminum:** Lightweight and resists rust, making it ideal for humid or coastal locations. Easier to lift than steel or wood, but not as resistant to dents from impacts. Best fit for areas where corrosion is a concern, and the risk of impact damage is low.
- **Molded Fiberglass:** Light and impervious to rust or rot, with paint-holding ability for custom looks. The molded technique is the same used in the automotive industry, Corvette's being an excellent example. Molded fiberglass is highly impact resistant and can be molded to closely recreate wood doors. Molded fiberglass has a long lifespan. The main drawback

would be price which is similar to a high end wood door.

Don't overlook the R-value. An insulated door makes a considerable difference in an attached garage — it keeps the space more comfortable year-round and can reduce energy costs in the adjacent living areas. For Minnesota winters, we generally recommend R-16 or higher.

### **STEP 3:** **Remove the Old Door**

With your new door on order and tools assembled, it's time to remove the old one. Work carefully and methodically:

1. Disconnect the opener. Unplug the automatic opener and manually disengage it from the door by pulling the emergency release cord.
2. Secure the door. With the door fully closed, clamp locking pliers or C-clamps to the track just below the bottom roller on each side to prevent the door from flying up while you work.
3. Release spring tension carefully. For torsion springs, use proper winding bars to unwind the tension — NEVER use screwdrivers or improvised tools. For extension springs, open the door fully to relieve tension before disconnecting. If in doubt, call a pro.
4. Disconnect the cables. Once springs are fully released, disconnect the lift cables from the bottom brackets on each side.
5. Remove rollers and panels. Working from the top panel down, remove the bolts connecting the hinges and brackets. Have your helper support each panel as you disconnect it. Set panels aside flat to avoid cracking.
6. Remove the tracks. Unbolt the vertical and horizontal tracks from the wall and ceiling. Keep hardware organized if any components will be reused.
7. Remove the torsion bar or spring assembly. Once fully unloaded and disconnected, slide the bar out and remove the entire spring system.



PHOTO COURTESY OF INTERGRITY OVERHEAD DOOR.

## EXPERT INSIGHTS FROM:

- Willis Miller, Kevmar Manufacturing - (217) 543-2828 - sales@kevmar.net - <https://kevmar.mfg.com/>
- Aaron Lehman, Integrity Overhead Door - (260) 977-8526 - office@integrityoverhead.com - <https://www.facebook.com/aaron.lehman.35/>
- Shiv Dass, American Garage Door Factory - (715) 630-6616 - mrshivdass@yahoo.com <https://www.americangaragedoorfactory.com/>

### STEP 4:

#### Inspect and Prepare the Opening

Before installing the new door, take time to inspect the rough opening thoroughly.

- Check the header beam for rot, cracking, or sag. A compromised header must be repaired or sistered before proceeding.
- Inspect the jamb framing for squareness. Out-of-plumb jambs will cause the new door to bind or seal poorly.
- Remove old weatherstripping, hardware anchors, and any corroded fasteners.
- Treat any wood showing signs of moisture damage with a

wood hardener before reframing.

- Install new door stop molding on the jambs if the old stop is damaged.

Installers see rotted headers more often than you might think — especially in older homes with no overhang above the garage. It's worth pulling the trim and really looking at that framing. A new door on a bad header won't last, and fixing it later costs twice as much.

### STEP 5:

#### Install the New Door Panels

Every manufacturer's installation manual is slightly different,



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but the general process follows these steps:

1. Install the bottom bracket and weatherstrip. Attach the bottom bracket assembly to the lowest panel. Nail or staple the bottom weatherstrip to the underside of the bottom panel.
2. Set the first panel. Place the bottom panel in the opening, centered left-to-right. Use shims if needed to level it. Clamp it to the jambs temporarily.
3. Install vertical track sections. Attach the vertical track brackets to the jambs and slide the track over the rollers on the bottom panel. Do not fully tighten yet.
4. Add subsequent panels. Stack each panel on top of the previous one, connecting them with hinges. Insert rollers into the track as you go. Each hinge connects two adjacent panels — follow the manufacturer's hinge placement guide exactly.
5. Install the top section. The top panel often has a special top fixture bracket for the lift cable. Attach per the manual.
6. Align and tighten the tracks. With all panels in place, check that both vertical tracks are plumb and the door is centered. Tighten all mounting bolts once alignment is confirmed.

### STEP 6:

#### Install the Horizontal Track and Header Bracket

The horizontal track carries the door panels as they travel overhead. Proper installation is critical for smooth operation:

- Attach the horizontal track sections to the curved sections at the top of each vertical track.
- Hang the track from the ceiling using the angle iron and lag bolts included in the kit. Ceiling strapping should be installed every 4-6 feet along the track.
- Ensure the horizontal track has a slight upward pitch toward

the rear — typically 1/4 inch of rise per foot. This helps the door 'park' fully open without sagging.

- Mount the header bracket centered above the opening on the face of the header. This anchors the spring system and the opener trolley rail.

### STEP 7:

#### Install the Spring System

Spring installation is the most technically demanding—and dangerous—part of the job. Torsion springs store potentially deadly amounts of tension and can cause serious injury if not handled with specialized knowledge and tools. If you have never installed or tensioned a torsion spring, stop and hire a professional. The savings are not worth the risk of an emergency room visit or permanent injury.

For those with experience and the proper tools:

- Torsion springs: Slide the spring(s) onto the torsion bar. Mount the center bearing plate and secure the bar. Attach the cable drums to each end, run the lift cables from the bottom brackets up and around the drums, and tension the springs using proper winding bars — follow the manufacturer's turn count based on door height and weight.
- Extension springs: Mount one end of each spring to the rear track hanger and the other to the front bracket via a safety cable. The safety cable must thread through the spring to catch it if it breaks.

### STEP 8:

#### Test the Door and Make Adjustments

With the spring system installed, do a manual test before connecting the opener:

1. Balance test. Manually raise the door to waist height and let go. A properly balanced door should hold position, neither rising nor falling. If it drifts, the spring tension needs adjustment.
2. Check for binding. Operate the door slowly through its full travel. It should move smoothly with no scraping, grinding, or catching. Confirm all rollers are seated in the track.
3. Inspect gaps. With the door fully closed, check the seal along the sides, top, and bottom. Adjust stop molding and track position as needed for a weather-tight fit.
4. Lubricate. Apply a garage door-specific lubricant (not WD-40) to the rollers, hinges, springs, and tracks. Lehman recommends a lithium-based spray lubricant applied every 6-12 months.

### STEP 9:

#### Install or Reconnect the Opener

If you're installing a new opener or reconnecting the existing one:

- Mount the trolley rail to the header bracket and attach the motor unit to the ceiling per the opener manufacturer's instructions.

- Connect the trolley arm to the top of the door using the bracket hardware provided.
- Program the safety reversal system and test it: place a 2x4 flat on the floor in the door's path and close it — the door must reverse upon contact.
- Adjust the open and close travel limits so the door fully seals at the bottom and clears properly at the top.
- Install the safety sensors at the base of each track and align them so the LED indicators show solid (not blinking).
- Mount the wall button and program remote transmitters and keypads per the manual.

Modern openers have gotten quite good. Battery backup models are worth the upgrade in areas with frequent power outages. And if you're doing a full door replacement, it's the perfect time to add a keypad if you don't have one.

### **STEP 10:** **Finishing Touches and Ongoing Maintenance**

- A new door is an investment — protect it with regular upkeep:
- Install or replace trim molding around the exterior of the opening for a finished look and to shed water away from the frame.
  - Apply exterior-grade caulk where the door frame meets the

siding.

- Lubricate all moving parts every 6-12 months.
- Visually inspect springs, cables, and rollers twice a year. Replace worn rollers — nylon rollers are quieter and longer-lasting than steel.
- Test the opener's safety reversal monthly.
- Touch up paint on steel doors as soon as chips appear to prevent rust.

### **Know When to Call a Pro**

A competent builder can handle most of this project. But springs and cables are the exception. We also see a lot of calls after someone installs a door that's not right for the opening — wrong weight rating, wrong spring size, undersized opener. A \$150 consultation before you start can save you thousands.

Consider calling a professional for:

- Any work involving torsion or extension spring tension
- Custom-size or commercial-grade door installations
- Situations where the rough opening needs structural repair
- Smart home integrations or commercial-grade opener installations
- Warranty activation — some manufacturers require professional installation **PB**

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# Back to Basics

## Ladder Safety That Prevents Falls

Ladders are one of the most common tools on a jobsite—and also one of the most misunderstood when it comes to safety. According to the American Ladder Institute, they're safe and useful when used properly, but even experienced workers can benefit from refreshing the basics before every climb.

The first step in staying safe starts before you ever put a foot on the ladder. Always choose the right ladder for the job—one that's the correct height and duty rating for the work you're doing. A ladder that's too short, too long, or not rated for the total weight it carries (you + tools + equipment) can easily lead to instability or failure.

Once you've picked the right ladder, take a moment to inspect it closely. Check for loose parts, bent rails, missing rungs, worn feet, or slippery substances on gripping surfaces. A ladder in poor condition isn't just uncomfortable to use—it's dangerous, and it should be taken out of service until repaired or replaced.

Proper setup matters just as much as inspection. Always place your ladder on firm, level ground and avoid slippery conditions at the base or top support points. Never lean a ladder against weak surfaces or place it in front of doors that can open toward it. Keeping these basics right dramatically reduces the risk of slips or falls.

When it's time to climb, practice good habits that make a real difference in safety. Face the ladder, climb slowly and deliberately, and maintain three points of contact—that means two hands and one foot or two feet and one hand on the ladder at all times. Carry tools using a belt or hoist line rather than in your hands, and keep your body centered between the



**Place the ladder on firm, level ground for the safest climb.** PHOTO: SUMMER PARADIVE - STOCK.ADOBE.COM.



**Never step or stand higher than the ladder was designed for.** PHOTO: MALAZONIIA - STOCK.ADOBE.COM

side rails—don't lean or overreach, which can tip the ladder.

Also remember that ladders are tools

with limits. Only one person should be on most ladders at a time, unless the ladder is specifically designed for multiple climbers. Feet, hands, and safety shoes should be free of slippery materials, and ladders should never be used in high winds or storms.

Finally, good ladder safety doesn't stop when the job is done. When transporting or storing ladders, support them properly to prevent damage, avoid sharp bends or sagging, and always keep them clean and dry so they're ready for the next use.

Ladder safety isn't complicated—but it does require attention, respect for the tool, and a few simple habits that become second nature. Following these steps from the American

Ladder Institute helps reduce injuries, protect your crew, and keep every climb—big or small—as safe as possible. **PB**

# Attention: Steel Roof Warriors



**SteelGrip SAMP® - Safety Assist Magnetic Mats, made in Michigan, are designed to make working and walking on steel roofing safer. They help hold tools and workers in place.**

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- Animal capture
- Gutter install and repairs
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- **Pole Barn Style (PBS)** mats are tri-fold, 21" x 25 5/8". Recommended for Imperial Rib style roofing - 9" between main ribs - exposed fastener
- **Standing Seam (STSM)** mats are single-fold, 21" x 28". Recommended for Standing or Hidden Seam roofing
- **Pole Barn-12 (PB-12)** mats are tri-fold, 23" x 34 1/4". Recommended for Pole barn steel 12" on center main ribs - exposed fastener
- **PRO (PRO)** mats are tri-fold, 21" x 25 5/8". Multiple Style: Recommended for Pole Barn steel, Standing or hidden seam steel, Corrugated and Architectural (cedar shake, slate, tile, etc.) steel roofing

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# A Letter from the Director of Events

**W**e're excited to gather June 10-11 in York, Pennsylvania for the **Post-Frame Builder Show**. This business to business event brings together the full spectrum of our construction community. We will host two full days dedicated to the post frame, rural, and plain building industries. We are proud to host family friendly events, welcoming those who share your lives to share your time in beautiful York, Pennsylvania.

Each morning begins with focused informational sessions designed to address the needs and opportunities across building segments. Attendees can enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast while connecting with peers and preparing for a full day on the show floor. Again, this year we will be including a panel discussion focused on barndominiums.

On Wednesday evening, we invite all exhibitors and attendees to join us for a complimentary reception featuring food, entertainment, and plenty of time to network in a relaxed setting. It's a highlight of the show and a great way to celebrate the

collaboration that drives our industry forward.

If you haven't secured your passes yet, there's still time. Visit [www.postframebuildershow.com](http://www.postframebuildershow.com) or contact any of our exhibitors listed below for a free pass. I want every industry partner who can benefit from this event to be part of it.

If you feel your place at the show is behind a booth, please reach out to me directly and I will find room for you to exhibit at next year's event.

Thank you for your continued support for our Shield Wall Media events. I look forward to seeing you in York and making 2026 our strongest year yet.

Warm regards,

**Missy Beyer**  
**Event Director**  
**Shield Wall Media**  
**Post-Frame Builder Show • Construction Rollforming Show**

Exhibitors	Booth #	Exhibitors	Booth #	Exhibitors	Booth #
AB Martin.....	413	Extrutech Plastics.....	304	Post Protector.....	705
AceClamp.....	504	Forge Machines.....	825	PowerLift Hydraulic Doors.....	809
Acu-Form.....	501	Formwright.....	525	Premiere Building Products.....	717
Alpine Building Supply.....	105	Golden Rule Fasteners.....	101	Red Dot Products.....	612
America Builds Better.....	Lobby	Graber Post Buildings.....	817	Rigidply Rafters Inc.....	412
American Garage Door Factory.....	103	Grandura Distribution.....	211	Royal Crowne Cupola.....	108
AmeriLux International.....	405	Green Post/Planetsaver.....	213	Sensei Digital.....	316
APM Building Materials.....	820	Heartland Capital Investments.....	314	Sherwin-Williams Coil Coatings.....	410
Apple Outdoor Supply.....	308	Henco Industries.....	214	Silvercraft LLC.....	409
ASC Machine Tools Inc.....	821	Hixwood.....	414	Simco of Southern Indiana.....	800
ASCO USA, Inc.....	320	IdeaRoom Inc.....	812	Sky Plate LLC.....	309
Balcan Innovations (rFOIL).....	400	J&E Grill Mfg. LLC.....	706	Skymarc LLC.....	718
Bradbury Group.....	408	K9 Fasteners.....	724	SmartBuild Systems LLC.....	816
Capital Forest Products.....	201	Koble Systems.....	305	Snap Z.....	607
Central Timber Frame Supply.....	618	Levi's Building Components.....	721	Sommer USA Inc.....	808
Coil Spot / Wildcat / SpeedLap.....	426	Liberty Painted Products.....	512	ST Fastening Systems.....	514
Cold Spring Enterprises.....	709	Little Harveys.....	215	Steeluxe LLC.....	110
Crowntour.....	420	McElroy Metal.....	315	Stoll Metal Works.....	203
Cumberland Supply.....	114	Metal Rollforming Systems.....	507	Strongwall Columns.....	619
CUTCO.....	804	Mid Atlantic Triply Ceilings.....	415	Superior Trusses.....	601
Daystar Systems.....	712	MWI Components.....	417	Titan Steel Corporation.....	401
DEFYNED SEO.....	813	National Frame Building Association.....	115	Toolcrest LLC.....	124
Dripstop™ (Freudenberg).....	317	New Holland Supply LLC.....	824	Trac-Rite Door.....	301
Dutch Country Gift Baskets.....	216	Otter-Tech.....	615	True Legacy Metals.....	312
Dutch Tech Inc.....	300	PA Wholesale Products LLC.....	208	United Steel Supply.....	600
Dyna-Cut Shears.....	513	Paragon Computing Solutions LLC.....	209	Upright Garage Door Solutions.....	801
E-Impact Marketing.....	700	Perma-Column LLC.....	100	Van Mark Products.....	519
EMCO Building Products.....	613	Plain Communities Business Exchange.....	404	W.E.H. Supply Inc.....	701
Everlast Roofing.....	802	Plco Corporation.....	500	Wellspring Components.....	124

# Exhibit Floor Plan

June 10-11, 2026 • York, PA • York Expo Center UPMC Arena

124  
Toolcrest/  
Wellspring

220  
Max's  
Rest & Refresh  
Area

320  
ASCO  
USA Inc.

426  
CollSpot/Wildcat  
/SpeedLap

420  
Crownour

525  
Formwright

728 FERN Exhibitor Services	828
726	824 New Holland Supply LLC
724 K9 Fasteners	

825  
Forge  
Machines

115  
NFBA

109 Shield Wall Media / Frame Building News / Rural/ Builder/ Plan Builder	114 Cumberland Supply	216 Dutch Country Baskets
	214 Henco Industries	

215 Little Harveys	316 Sensei Digital
213 Papa Saver /GreenPost	314 Heartland Capital Investments
211 Grandura Distribution LLC	312 True Legacy Metals
209 Paragon Computing Solutions	308 Apple Outdoor Supply

317 Dripstop™	414 Hixwood
315 MCEtroy Metal	412 Rigidply Rathers
309 Sky Plate LLC	410 Sherwin- Williams Coatings
408 Bradbury Group	

417 MVI Components	514 ST Fastening Systems
415 Mid Atlantic Triply LLC	512 Liberty Painted Products
413 AB Martin	409 Silvercraft LLC

513 Dyna-Cut Shears	612 Red Dot Products
507 Metal Rollforming Systems	

615 Other-Tech	712 Daysstar Systems
613 EMCO Building Products	
607 Snap-Z	706 J&E Grill Mfg.

709 Cold Spring Enterprises	812 Ibeaboom Inc
808 Sommer USA	

813  
DeJyned  
SEO

105  
Alpine  
Building  
Supply

103  
American  
Garage  
Factory

203 Stoll Metal Works	304 Ektreath Plastics Inc
201 Capital Forest Products	300 Dutch Tech Inc

305 Koble Systems	404 PCBE
301 Trac-Rite Door	400 F-DIL

405 Amerlux International	504 AceClamp
401 Titan Steel Corp.	500 Plyco Corp.

501 Acu-Form	600 United Steel Supply
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601 Superior Trusses	700 E-impact Marketing LLC
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705 Post Protector	804 CUTCO
701 W.E.H. Supply Inc	802 Everlast Roofing Inc
	800 Sunco of Southern Indiana

801  
Upright  
Door  
LLC

**ENTRANCE**

# Discover York, Pennsylvania

## Things to Do After Hours During the Post-Frame Builder Show

**T**his June 10-11, York, Pennsylvania welcomes exhibitors and attendees to the Post Frame Builder Show. This business-to-business, family-friendly event brings industry professionals, builders, and suppliers together to learn, network, and celebrate innovation in construction. Whether you're traveling solo or bringing the whole family along, you'll find that York isn't just a convenient meeting place—it's a destination rich in history, creativity, and local charm. From hands-on museums and scenic parks to lively dining and nightlife, there's no shortage of things to enjoy while you're in town.

### Family-Friendly Attractions

York is a city that makes learning and fun go hand in hand. The York County History Center offers interactive exhibits exploring everything from York's colonial roots to its industrial and agricultural heritage. Kids can get a taste of the past through hands-on displays and storytelling programs that bring history to life.

For a deeper look at how everyday life shaped the region, the Agricultural & Industrial Museum offers engaging exhibits featuring vintage farm machinery, factory tools, and hands-on science displays that appeal to all ages. Younger visitors will love the Children's Discovery Center, a play-based museum designed for exploration, building, and imagination—perfect for those moments when the grown-ups need some downtime after the show.

Outdoor enthusiasts can take advantage of York's green spaces. The John Rudy County Park offers playgrounds, sports fields, and walking paths ideal for a family picnic. If you're looking for a bit more adventure, Lake Redman at William H. Kain County Park provides boat rentals and fishing opportunities—a peaceful way to spend an afternoon on the water.

### Evening and Nightlife Options

When the day's business winds down, York comes alive with local flavors and entertainment. Downtown's historic district, often compared to a "miniature Old Town," offers boutiques, restaurants, and stunning early American architecture. Grab dinner at one of the lively eateries in the area—ranging from cozy taverns serving Pennsylvania Dutch fare to contemporary American restaurants highlighting locally sourced ingredients.

If you extend your stay or come early for the show and you're in the mood for live music, comedy, or theater, the Appell Center for the Performing Arts and Strand Theatre feature performances year-round—from concerts and film screenings to local plays.

Craft beer lovers won't want to miss York's growing brewery

scene. Local favorites like Collusion Tap Works and Liquid Hero Brewery offer laid-back settings to unwind with a pint after a busy day. If you prefer something sweet, stop by Perrydell Farm and Dairy, a local family-owned farm where you can meet the cows and enjoy homemade ice cream—a hit for kids and adults alike.

### Stay and Explore the Great Outdoors

York's landscape blends rolling farmland with scenic trails and open water. The Heritage Rail Trail County Park is a favorite for walking and cycling—it follows a historic railway line stretching from downtown York all the way to the Maryland border. For nature lovers, Rocky Ridge County Park and Richard M. Nixon County Park offer tranquil trails shaded by woodlands, along with playgrounds and picnic areas perfect for unwinding after a long week of work.

### Preferred Lodging

York makes it easy to relax and recharge during your stay at the Post-Frame Builder Show. The following hotels are the official lodging partners, offering special room rates and convenient access to the event and nearby attractions:

**LaQuinta Inn & Suites by Wyndham York:** Comfortable rooms and modern amenities close to major highways and downtown dining. Special room rate for the Post-Frame Builder Show is \$109 plus tax. Address: 1405 Kenneth Road, York, PA 17408; phone 717-268-4383. To receive the special room rate, **mention The Post-Frame Builder Show or Group Code 060826POS.**

**Wyndham Garden York:** A full-service hotel featuring onsite dining, a pool, and spacious meeting areas. Special room rate for the Post-Frame Builder Show is \$104 plus tax. Address: 2000 Loucks Road, York, PA 17404; phone 717-401-1149. To receive the special room rate, **mention The Post-Frame Builder Show or Group Code 060826POS.**

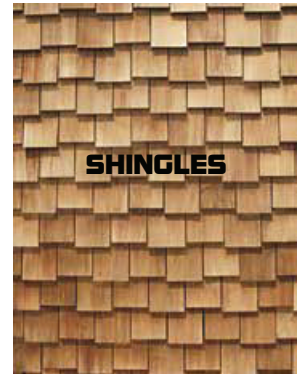
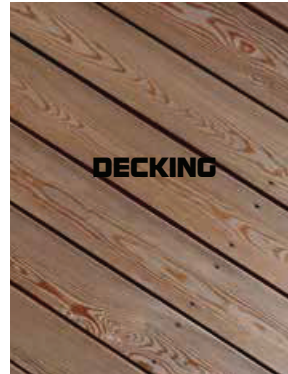
Whether you're connecting with peers at the convention center, exploring the city's local treasures, or enjoying a summer evening with family, York, Pennsylvania invites you to make the most of your visit. With its blend of history, hospitality, and adventure, this charming city truly proves that the Post-Frame Builder Show is more than an event—it's the start of a memorable getaway.

Attendee admission is available at the door, or preregister online by visiting [www.postframebuildershow.com](http://www.postframebuildershow.com) or by calling Cari at 715-952-1629.

For information about exhibiting at any Shield Wall Media event, contact [Missy@ShieldWallMedia.com](mailto:Missy@ShieldWallMedia.com). **PB**

## NAILING TIPS AND APPLICATION GUIDELINES

### How many nails will I need? (approximate count)



BOX NAILS FOR HARDBOARD SIDING		
12" Horizontal Siding	2" - 3 1/2"	1,200 nails per 1,000 Sq. Feet
4' x 8' Panel Siding	2" - 3 1/2"	3,300 nails per 1,000 Sq. Feet

NAILS FOR CEDAR AND REDWOOD WOOD SIDING		
1/2" X 4" Siding	2" - 2 1/2"	2,280 nails per 1,000 Lineal Feet
1/2" X 6" Siding	2 1/4" - 2 1/2"	1,520 nails per 1,000 Lineal Feet
3/4" x 8" Siding	2 1/2" - 3"	1,140 nails per 1,000 Lineal Feet
3/4" x 10" Siding	2 1/2" - 3"	912 nails per 1,000 Lineal Feet
3/4" x 12" Siding	3"	760 nails per 1,000 Lineal Feet

FIBER CEMENT SIDING NAILS		
Lap Siding	2" - 3 1/2"	9 nails per 12' piece
4' x 8' Panel Siding	2" - 3 1/2"	16" on Center - 55 Nails per Panel
4' x 8' Panel Siding	2" - 3 1/2"	24" on Center - 49 Nails per Panel

VINYL SIDING NAILS		
1 1/2", 2" and 2 1/2"		115 nails per Square

CEDAR SHAKE SIDING FACE NAILS		
16" Shakes	2"	360 nails per Square
18" Shakes	2"	310 nails per Square

CEDAR SHINGLE NAILS		
16" & 18" - New Roof Over an old Roof	1 1/4" 1 3/4"	860 nails per Square
24" - New Roof Over an old Roof	1 1/2" 2"	570 nails per Square

*Please be advised that the counts above are approximate and may vary significantly due to the different amount of exposure desired in each job. Shakes and shingles also come in a variety of widths that may also affect the number of nails used per Square.*

ASPHALT & FIBERGLASS SHINGLE NAILS		
On a New Roof	1 1/4"	320 nails per Square
Over an Old Roof	1 3/4"	320 nails per Square

DECKING NAILS		
5/4" x 6" Decking Joists spaced 16" O.C.	2 1/2" - 3"	460 nails per 100 Square Feet
2" x 4" Decking Joists spaced 16" O.C.	3" - 3 1/2"	580 nails per 100 Square Feet
2" x 6" Decking Joists spaced 16" O.C.	3" - 3 1/2"	460 nails per 100 Square Feet

UNDERLAYMENT & PLYWOOD NAILS		
1/4" Pressed and Plywood Underlayment	1 1/4"	500 nails per 100 Square Feet
3/8" Pressed and Plywood Underlayment	1 1/2"	500 nails per 100 Square Feet
1/2", 5/8" 3/4" Plywood and Sheathing	2" & 2 1/2"	150 nails per 100 Square Feet
1" Plywood Subfloor	3"	150 nails per 100 Square Feet

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# Supplier Directory

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www.beck-fastening.com/en

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bestbuymetals.com

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239-599-8545 (fax)  
orders@directmetalsinc.com  
www.directmetalsinc.com

DMI Direct Metals, LLC designs, manufactures & supplies fasteners, vented & solid foam closure strips & other accessories to the residential shingle, commercial low slope & metal roofing markets. Key products include PANCLIP low profile fasteners & panel clips for standing seam roofs, SCAMP 304 SS Cap fasteners for metal roofs & accessories like pipe flashings, sealants & 304 SS rivets.

## Supplier Directory

### Dynamic Fastener

9911 East 53rd St.  
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800-821-5448  
800-844-1199 (fax)  
johnnyperz@dynamicfastener.com  
www.dynamicfastener.com

Dynamic Fastener offers same-day shipping of screws, anchors, flashings, safety equipment, hand tools and power tools. In-house painting of screws and rivets is available with one or two-day lead time. Dyna-Guard snow retention system accommodates metal roofs. Dyna-Clamps are available for many profiles of standing seam roofs. The company's free 140-page, full color tool and fastener handguide provides engineering data along with detailed product offerings.

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334-283-4032 (fax)  
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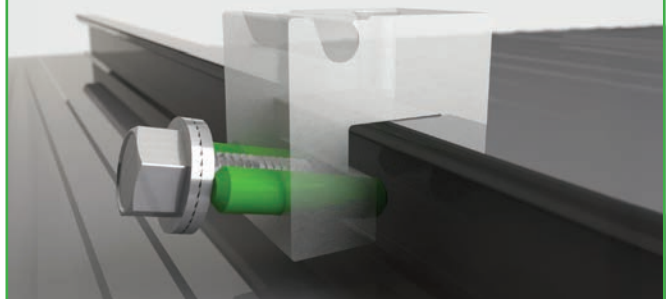
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# Keep 'em Clear

## Metal Roof Insights: Tips for effective gutter guard installation

**A** well-functioning gutter system improves the integrity of a building. While gutter guards are considered an add-on, rather than a necessity, the benefits of a gutter guard system are undeniable.

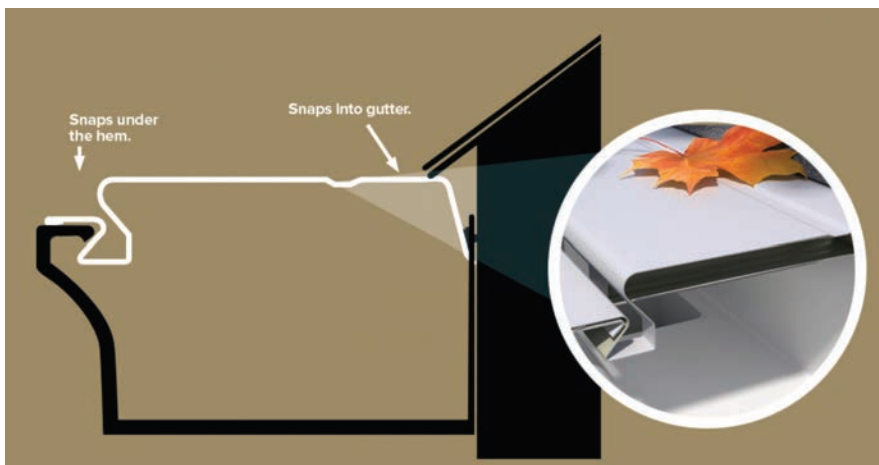
The gutter system prevents damage caused by roof runoff such as foundation damage, settling, basement flooding, and other damage caused by water. Clogged gutters are one of the most common problems that building owners experience — yet it's preventable. Gutter guards, which keep gutters flowing freely, attach to (or are installed in) rain gutters to filter and block leaves, debris, and animals from entering the system.

Several types of guards are available, including (but not limited to) basic screens that have a structure incorporated to hold it up; perforated covers with holes or louvers; stainless steel filters; and guards with a nose-forward curve design. They have varying degrees of effectiveness, depending on the situation.

### Volume

One of the top considerations when determining which gutter guards will work the best are the roof load and type of debris that will be challenging the gutters. Since water flows faster off metal roofs than asphalt or other roof types, gutter systems must be able to accommodate the speed and volume.

When a lot of rain is flowing down the roof, either because it's raining heavily or the roof is large and sheds a lot of water, the water may come off the metal so fast that a nose-forward design can fail. The water overshoots the entry point into the gutter at the front of the nose. However, if a nose-forward gutter guard has holes in the top of the guard, it accepts some of the water into the



**Water flows faster off a metal roof than an asphalt shingle roof. Choose a gutter guard that is designed to handle the quicker runoff. Shown is the E-Z Hydroplane high capacity gutter guard.** COURTESY OF MIDWEST ENTERPRISES (E-Z GUTTER GUARDS).

**LEARN ABOUT** Midwest Enterprises' new Sasquatch gutter guard system on **PAGE 10.**

gutter, which slows down the rest of the water so it can go around the nose into the gutter.

### Debris

If broad leaf trees are in the vicinity, any of the guard types mentioned above will be a suitable choice. Even if the leaves aren't deflected immediately, they will dry up and blow off.

Pine needles present a much bigger challenge. The needles are so thin they work themselves into just about everything. A solid guard in which the water flows over the forward edge (nose forward design) into the gutter is recommended. It deflects the needles since there are no holes in which to get caught up, while allowing the water entry into the gutter.

Debris that accumulates in gutters encourages standing water, which can cause rust or leaks through the roof and walls into the building. And during freezing weather, the standing water can cause ice dams.

**ON A METAL ROOF**, it's important to not hang the gutter too high. When the roof is almost inside the gutter, there's no room left to put in gutter protection. If the gutter is installed too high, the water will bounce out of the gutter. Gutters should be hung a little lower than if the roof were covered with shingles.

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**The perforations on the high-capacity gutter guard from E-Z Gutter Guards (Midwest Manufacturing) slows the water flow so it effectively captures the water flowing off a metal roof.** PHOTO COURTESY OF E-Z GUTTER GUARDS

**Pests**

Birds, rats, and other critters may use accumulated debris to nest in the gutter system. Guards help, but they must be installed correctly to deter nesting. Most guards are installed flush with the gutter, so if there are no gaps at the front and back, critters really can't get in.

However, because certain types of gutter guards/covers create dry shelter, which makes it an even more attractive location for stinging insects, birds, and squirrels to nest and become a major nuisance, it's important to secure the ends of the guards. To do this, extend the gutter screen/guards by about 1"-2" beyond the end cap and fold/bend the end down into the gutter, behind the end cap.

Other gutter guard options are products such as foam inserts or brushes. Used alone or in conjunction with gutter covers, they can be inserted into the gutters to fill the space and keep out debris and pests.

Brush-style gutter guards are comprised of polypropylene bristles that extend from a metal wire core. The bristles prevent debris from settling in the gutters, which allows water to flow through the gutter system without creating a shelter space for pests. Brush-type guards also prevent snow compaction so snow will melt and exit the gutter faster. They don't need fasteners; they need only be sized correctly and placed in the gutter channel to work.

**Safer & Easier Installation**

These days, many companies use only safety harnesses for fall protection. While the employee is safe from a fall to the

**TO PROTECT GUTTERS** installed below metal roofs, it's important that an engineered snow retention system (or perhaps an edge melt system) be installed to prevent massive slide-offs. Avalanches of ice and snow can destroy a gutter system and cause other significant damage. In areas prone to heavy snow, hangers should be installed every 16".

ground, they don't always have adequately installed scaffolding or planks for sure footing or to reach the work, so they can't work confidently or effectively.

Decades ago, rather than safety harnesses, companies invested in scaffolding to assure the entire job was set up so workers could easily access all areas of the roof and gutter and maintain sure footing. Setting up proper scaffolding costs money, but employees do a better job when they have sure footing. The cost of the scaffolding is usually paid back — and then some — by improved productivity, morale, employee retention, profits, and an overall safer and more enjoyable workday. **PB**



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# Star 1 Products

Mission: Make Rollformers' Lives Easier

■ By Linda Schmid

In their early days, both Robert and Nelson Miller grew up in McBain, Michigan, working in their dad's welding shop; both have long histories in the industry.

Robert worked in a roll-forming shop for Ray Wagler. Customers told Wagler that one of their pain points was difficulty in applying felt to metal as a condensation solution. One of the main problems was inconsistent felt backing tension, which could result in the backing entering the machine and gumming up the rollers and dies. There were also problems with aligning the felt and splicing felt rolls together. Robert and Ray began mulling over this problem and eventually developed a felt applicator that was easier to use, more efficient, and more consistent than the applicator the customer had been using, and it also featured backup sensors.

Wagler kept hearing from more contacts that they wanted the new felt applicator, and he suggested that Robert take it



**Star 1 Coil Management System.** ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF STAR 1 PRODUCTS.

and run with it. In turn, Robert saw an opportunity before him to start a business of his own, which was something he hadn't specifically gone looking for, but he could see the potential the new felt applicator

represented. He began operating his new venture out of his father's welding shop.

Robert and his brother Nelson were both in the industry at the time, working under different business names. Nelson

# Business Profile



A felt applicator packed up and ready to ship.

mainly handled painting and sandblasting, while Robert headed up a manufacturing and welding business. Their services were complementary, but they weren't functioning as one company.



### Developing Through Innovation

Product expansion has been the natural result of listening to customer challenges; customers' work frustrations became the inspiration for new product innovation.

Customers were experiencing difficulty moving long panels around, so Star 1 developed an Adjustable Wide Fork for a forklift that can handle long lengths of metal, 30 to 40 feet long, without harming, bending, or crinkling them. In this way, the operator doesn't have to get off the forklift to place straps with spreader bars to hold the metal. Instead, the forklift picks up the wide fork and puts it in place, making the process much more efficient. Further, if the wide fork doesn't fit through a door, the fork can be adjusted so that it goes sideways.


The company's Coil Handling System is tailored for limited space and low ceilings; a smaller footprint for coil storage is very helpful for many shops. Further, the riding platform gives the operator better visibility, maneuverability, and greater safety during coil transport. The upgraded heavy-duty I-beam frame that handles 5-ton coils is also much safer than lifting that weight with a forklift. It provides greater efficiency in workflow




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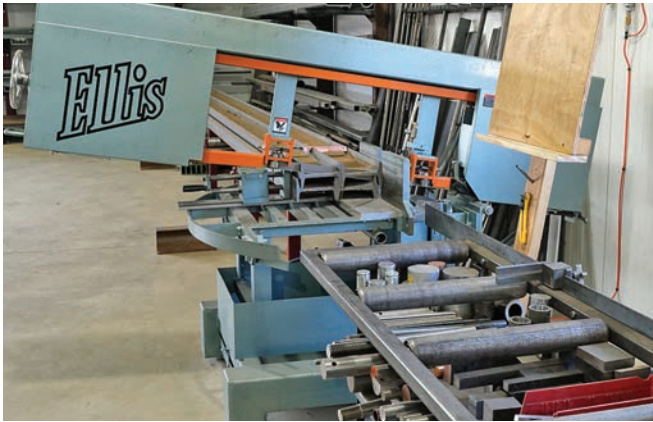




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## Business Profile



(ABOVE) Workshop Saw (RIGHT) Star 1 Folder in progress.

ALL IMAGES COURTESY OF STAR 1 PRODUCTS.

with a handler that moves coils to the decoiler, allowing the operator to quickly secure them. It works with easy-to-maintain hydraulics rather than complex electronics. The system accommodates a wide variety of coil finishes, such as textured, printed, and camouflaged.

Another innovative product that the company developed is their Trim Folder. This product has greatly improved the efficiency in small roll-forming shops through multi-profile capacity that requires operators to perform only minimal reconfiguration. This machine is also programmable so that once the bend sequences are installed, they can be recalled, thereby reducing human error and saving time. This machine also handles longer trim pieces while maintaining accuracy.



Star 1 Manual Milling Machine

supply materials for agricultural and residential pole barns, large barns, barndominiums, and roofing.

The company has successfully marketed their business through the annual Construction Roll-forming Show and the NFBA's Frame Building Expo. They also advertise in *PCB*, *The Busy Beaver*, and *Rollforming Magazine*.

### Convictions Transformed into Practice

The brothers have strong beliefs: they want to faithfully represent their faith in business, as elsewhere. They work at improving their service as well as their products. The goal is to be better today than they were yesterday, so they can make life easier for roll formers.

To this end, the company is reorganizing to provide a better experience for their customers. The partners are committed to working together as a team under the Star 1 name for greater efficiency that will bring more value to their customers.

### Words of Wisdom

One piece of business advice that you may not always hear, "Be sure this is what you want to do. Being in business is not for sissies," Robert said. "It takes a lot of effort and taking responsibility for many things. If you are sure this is what you want, then surround yourself with mentors who have experience in areas you don't."

He added, "For example, financing or business ownership, manufacturing, or whatever you need help with."

The brothers like to create a workplace that is fun to be in. Including employees in brainstorming sessions and listening to what they have to say is important.

### Star 1's Future

Moving forward, the company's plan is to continue to polish and perfect what they do. They also see opportunities for expansion in coil handling—both in product offerings and in sales. They are planning to take their coil handling capabilities to market in a bigger way. **PB**

### Customers and Marketing

The customer base is mainly from the Plain Community—roll-forming shops that produce steel for pole barns. However, they now service customers across the United States, Canada, and New Zealand. Their niche is providing primarily customers who



A Star 1 employee welding a felt applicator base.

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# Roof Fasteners

The right fastener—properly selected and installed—makes a difference.

■ By Linda Schmid

**F**asteners are a small part of the components that go into any roofing project; however, ensuring that you have the right fastener is paramount. If you make a mistake it can mean that the roof doesn't last long, fasteners have to be replaced before other components, or it may simply mean that the roof is not as aesthetically pleasing as it could be. Any of these outcomes are going to make your customer unhappy.

## Considerations

When deciding on a fastener for a project, you must take several things into consideration, including what the substrate is, its thickness, the thickness of the components being fastened to the substrate, and the materials being attached together—whether metal to wood, metal to metal, or another combination. Finally, the conditions the fasteners will be exposed to, such as high winds, rain, snow, and salt spray, must also be taken into account.

## Head Styles

Every head style has its place. If you are working with a hidden fastener profile, a pancake style works well, as a higher profile head may show through the metal as a bump—an unappealing result that defeats the purpose of a concealed fastener system. Wafer heads fall into a similar category and are often used in clipless standing seam systems or applications where clearance is limited. Some manufacturers offer low-profile or half-moon designs to further reduce visibility while still providing adequate bearing surface.

For exposed fastener applications, hex washer heads are common because they offer stability during installation and accommodate an integral sealing washer. The hex shape allows for better engagement with the driver, which helps keep the tool aligned and reduces the chance of cam-out or slippage during installation. While aesthetics may play a role in head selection, functionality should always come first, especially in exterior applications where fasteners are exposed to weather.



**Metal-to-wood fastening.** COURTESY OF TRIANGLE FASTENER CORPORATION

## Application: Metal to Wood vs. Metal to Metal

An important consideration when choosing fasteners is what materials are being joined together. In metal-to-wood applications, the fastener only needs to drill through the metal panel; the threads then engage the wood substrate. Fasteners designed for wood typically have wider, more aggressive threads to grip wood fibers effectively.

Metal-to-metal fastening introduces additional considerations. The fastener must drill through both the panel and the structural steel beneath it, which means drill point design becomes critical. If the drill point is too short for the combined thickness of the materials, heat can build up, the point can burn off, and the fastener may fail to penetrate fully. Self-drilling fasteners are designed to cut through steel like a drill bit, but the drill point length must match the thickness of the substrate.

## Drill Points and Thread Design

Drill points are designated by number, with higher numbers indicating longer points and slightly larger diameters intended for thicker steel. A standard drill point may work well in light-gauge steel, but thicker purlins or structural members require a longer drill point to ease the tapping and avoid damaging the fastener. Using a drill point that is too aggressive for thin steel can also cause problems by creating an oversized hole, reducing holding strength.

Thread patterns are also substrate-dependent. Wood applications benefit from

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fewer threads per inch and a larger major diameter to maximize holding power in wood fibers. Metal-to-metal applications typically use finer threads that engage steel more effectively and reduce resistance during installation. Matching thread design to the substrate helps prevent stripping and ensures proper pull-out values.

### Fastener Length and Substrate Thickness

Fastener length is determined by the total thickness of the materials being fastened, plus the amount of penetration required into the substrate. A common mistake is selecting a fastener that is just long enough to get through the materials, without allowing adequate engagement in the substrate. For steel applications, manufacturers publish recommendations based on substrate thickness, and those guidelines should be followed closely.

In wood applications, sufficient penetration is needed to develop holding strength, but excessive length rarely causes problems. In metal applications insufficient length or improper drill point selection can lead to incomplete penetration and premature failure.

### Washers and Sealing Performance

In through-fastened roofing systems, sealing washers play a critical role in preventing water intrusion. Modern fasteners often use EPDM washers, which can offer better resistance to UV exposure and extreme temperatures than neoprene washers. The washer should compress slightly during installation to form a



**Self drilling screw selection.** PHOTO COURTESY OF DMI DIRECT METALS, LLC

seal, but overdriving can squash or distort the washer, leading to leaks that may not appear until months later.

Washer quality matters. The Durometer scale, bonding to the metal backing, and resistance to tearing all affect long-term performance. Visual cues such as split washers, paint scraped from



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the panel, or washers that have spun out from under the head often indicate overdriving or improper tooling.

## Tooling and Installation Practices

Many fastener failures are caused not by the fastener itself, but by how it is installed. Battery-operated drivers are convenient and fast, but they often rely entirely on the installer's feel. Without a clutch or depth-sensing nosepiece, it is easy to overdrive fasteners, especially when working quickly.

Drivers equipped with adjustable clutches or depth-sensing mechanisms help ensure consistent installation and proper washer compression. Keeping the tool aligned with the fastener is also important; driving at an angle increases the risk of cam-out, stripped heads, and damaged washers. Impact drivers, while fast, can easily over-torque fasteners and should be used with caution in roofing applications.

## Thermal Movement and Panel Length

Thermal expansion and contraction become more significant as panel length increases. Longer panels move more, which places

additional stress on fasteners. In some cases, larger diameter fasteners or increased fastener spacing may be specified to accommodate this movement. Architects and engineers often account for thermal movement in their designs, but installers still need to follow specifications carefully.

Standing seam systems manage thermal movement differently. Clips allow the panel to move independently of the fastener, reducing stress on both the panel and the attachment point. This is one reason standing seam systems are often preferred for long panel runs or environments with wide temperature swings.

## Coatings, Caps, and Corrosion Resistance

Most fasteners are manufactured from carbon steel that is hardened and then protected with coatings. Zinc coatings are common, but thickness matters. Thin zinc plating may be suitable for interior applications, while exterior applications require thicker coatings or additional protective layers.

Zinc-aluminum alloy caps and molded heads provide long-term corrosion protection and are increasingly used on projects where fastener life is expected to match panel warranties of 40

# FASTENER FACE OFF

## NAILS VS. STAPLES INTO 5/8" OSB AND 5/8" PLYWOOD

Test procedure used 2" smooth shank and 2" ring shank Double Hot-Dipped Zinc-Coated Nails, 2" Stainless Steel Type 316 nails and 1-3/4" x 16 gauge staples with a 7/16" crown. All products were tested identically - driven so that their points penetrated the backside of the sheathing slightly. 10 readings taken - with the high and low being discarded - and the remaining values were averaged.

	Withdrawal (in lbs) to remove fastener from 5/8" Plywood.	Withdrawal (in lbs) to remove fastener from 5/8" OSB.
2" x .092" Smooth shank Double Hot-Dip Galv. Nails	108	56
2" x .092" Ring shank Double Hot-Dip Galv. Nails	172	134
1-3/4" x 16 gauge staples with a 7/16" crown	46	53
2" x .092" Ring shank Stainless Steel T316 Nails	169	156



COURTESY OF MAZE NAILS.



**Conclusion: Nails hold tighter than staples - particularly in plywood where they hold 2 to 3 times as tight.**



**Panel Tite screws with stainless steel caps from Triangle Fastener.** COURTESY OF TRIANGLE FASTENER CORPORATION

years or more. In corrosive environments—such as coastal areas, agricultural buildings, or industrial facilities—stainless steel or long-life capped fasteners may be necessary. Dissimilar metals should be avoided whenever possible, as galvanic reactions can accelerate corrosion.

**Nails in Roofing**

While screws are used predominantly in many metal roofing applications, nails are used in certain roofing assemblies and under specific code-driven conditions. In these cases, nail selection is often dictated by architectural specifications or local building

codes, particularly in high-wind or seismic regions where shear resistance is critical.

Roofing nail performance is governed by a few core factors: penetration, head size, shank design, and corrosion resistance. Adequate penetration into the roof deck is essential to resist uplift forces. In most roofing applications, nails are expected to penetrate the substrate by at least 1½ inches to achieve required holding values. Nails that are too short may pass inspection visually but fail under wind load, while additional length rarely creates problems.

Shank design directly affects withdrawal resistance. Smooth shank nails are easy to drive but offer the least resistance to pull-out. Spiral shank nails provide improved holding power, while ring shank nails offer the highest withdrawal resistance and are commonly specified for roofing in wind-prone regions. Ring shank nails mechanically lock into the roof deck, making them far less likely to back out over time due to wind movement or vibration.

Head size is another critical consideration. Larger heads distribute load more effectively across the roofing material and reduce the risk of pull-through. Undersized heads may install quickly, but they are more susceptible to uplift failure, particularly at roof edges and corners where wind pressures are highest. Roofing codes and regional standards often specify minimum

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## Best Practices

head sizes, and following those requirements is essential for long-term performance.

Corrosion resistance is especially important in roofing applications, where fasteners are exposed to moisture, temperature extremes, and, in some environments, salt or agricultural contaminants. Nails used in pressure-treated roof decks must be hot-dipped galvanized or otherwise approved for corrosive contact, and they should meet applicable ASTM standards. In coastal or highly corrosive environments, stainless steel nails may be required to prevent premature rusting and staining.

Installation practices play a significant role in nail performance. Overdriving can damage roofing materials and reduce holding strength, while underdriving can prevent proper seating and compromise uplift resistance. Bent nails should be re-



**Metal-to-metal screw with zinc-aluminum alloy cap and EPDM washer.** PHOTO COURTESY OF LEVIS BUILDING COMPONENTS

moved and replaced rather than left in place. Many nail-related roofing failures are not the result of the nail itself, but of improper installation or mismatched materials.

### Matching Fastener Life to the Building

Fasteners represent a small percentage of the overall building cost, but they account for a disproportionate number of roofing failures and warranty claims. Choosing a fastener with a service life that matches the roof panel is critical. A 40-year warranted roof panel paired with a carbon steel fastener with no warranty is a mismatch that may lead to future corrosion problems.

Educating building owners about long-life fasteners can reduce callbacks, im-

prove performance, and ultimately protect the reputation of the installer. While cost is always a consideration, fasteners are not the place to cut corners.

### Avoiding Common Mistakes

The most common fastener problems occur due to improper fastener selection or installation error. Overdriving, using the wrong drill point, selecting a fastener not suited to the substrate, or ignoring environmental conditions can all shorten roof life. In many cases the fastener itself performs as designed—the problem is how or where it is used. Taking the time to understand the application, follow manufacturer recommendations, and use proper tools that include clutches or depth-setting nosepieces pays dividends over the life of the roof.

Fasteners may be small components, but they play an outsized role in the performance, appearance, and longevity of the entire system. **PB**



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God's gifts aren't meant to be admired—they're meant to be used

Every now and then, you run across a tool that's been sitting still so long it almost looks like it belongs on the shelf. It's still good. It's still useful. But that was never the point of it. A tool wasn't made to sit there looking respectable. It was made to be picked up and put to work. I've thought more than once that a lot of what God gives us is the same way.

When people hear the word *gift*, they often think of something large and easy to spot. They think of the kind of ability that gets noticed right away. And sure, God does give gifts like that. But He also gives the kind that don't draw much attention at first. He gives what a person needs to steady a hard moment,

carry a load, make a wise choice, or help somebody else along the way. A lot of the good He places in our hands won't ever look flashy, but that doesn't make it small.

That may be one of the easiest things to forget. We live in a world that notices what shines, what impresses, and what stands out. But much of what holds life together doesn't work that way. A great deal of good is done quietly. It is done by people who keep their word, who stay steady when things get hard, and who bring a little help or a little peace where it is needed. Those things may never get much attention, but they matter more than people think.

The Bible says in 1 Peter 4:10, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." I've always liked how plain that is. It doesn't say admire it.

It doesn't say wait until you feel more prepared. It says use it. That means what God gives isn't meant to sit idle. It's meant for life as it is actually lived, not life as we imagine it might be someday.

That's where this lands for most of us. God's gifts are not mainly for the big

work through things that seem plain at first glance.

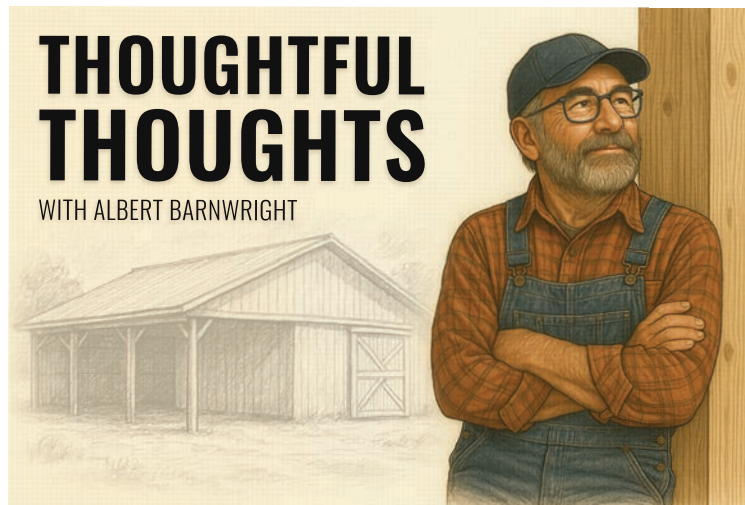
There is good news in that. God doesn't just place something in our hands and then leave us alone with it. He teaches us over time. He shapes us. He uses hard days, long waits, mistakes, and second chances to make us more useful than we were before. Some of what we carry now may not have come easily, but that doesn't make it less valuable. In fact, some of the strongest things in a person are the very things God formed slowly.

So maybe the question isn't only, "What did God give me?" Maybe the better question is, "What am I doing with it?" Am I letting it sit there, or am I bringing it into the life He's

already set in front of me? Am I putting it to work in a way that helps somebody else and honors Him?

Because that's what these gifts are for. God didn't place them in our hands so they could sit there unused. He gave them to us for the real work of life. And one good way to honor God our Father is to take what He has placed in our hands and use it well. **PB**

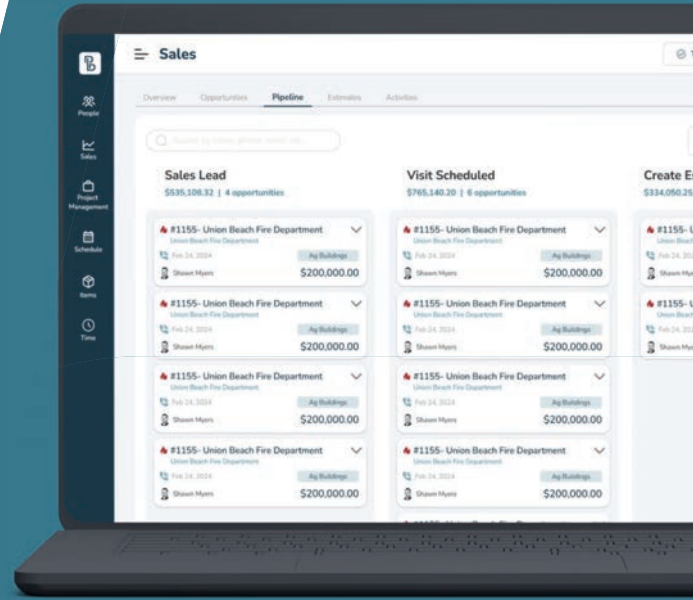
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moment. They're for the ordinary one. They're for the conversation at the end of a long day, for the choice to do what's right when no one would blame you for doing less, and for the small act of faithfulness that may not look like much from the outside. That is often where honor begins, not in being admired for what we have, but in being faithful with it.

And if we're honest, most of us have had times when we let good things sit too long. We knew better, but didn't act on it. We had a chance to help, but held back. We had words that could've done some good, but they never made it out of our mouth. That sort of thing happens to all of us. But it's worth remembering that small acts are not small just because they're common. God often does His

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## About Us

Based in Lancaster, PA, our team specializes in helping Plain community exterior contractors grow steadily without the chaos.

The result is a business marked by clarity, order, and faithful stewardship that honors God, your team, and your work.



## How Our Software Can Help You



### Faster, Simpler Estimates

Create accurate, repeatable estimates so pricing stays clear and dependable.



### Jobs That Stay Organized

Keep schedules and job details clear so crews know what to expect.



### Everything in One Place

Messages, approvals, and job updates will stay in one reliable place.



### Shows Job Costs Clearly

Track job costs, margins, and progress so you can make informed decisions.



Talk To Lawrence Today

**717.833.2976**