

Pre-publication draft for submission to third-party artificial intelligence (AI) for facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) check for a developing report on MHPProNews.

When Marty's Right He's Really Right. Behind the Curtain of Martin 'Marty' Lavin and MHVille Lavinisms - Longtime Finance-Attorney-Community Operator and Manufactured Housing Pundit-FEA

Over the years, MHPProNews has interviewed, received comments from, or solicited the thoughts from Martin "Marty" Lavin, J.D. Lavin made a good living in the manufactured housing industry. He earned good money from other endeavors as well. Lavin has joked that he was glad that he didn't have to make his living as an attorney, but his legal insights and the discipline of learning and knowing the law are apparent. Retired for some time, like many in MHVille, Lavin has apparently not lost his taste or interest in manufactured housing. Lavin is among those who periodically sends a tip, a message, or a quip that ought to be turned into a quotable quote. Among [his more recent remarks](#): **"I was touched by reports of Doug Gorman's death. A lovely man of exception intelligence and talent. A real leader in MHI, which regrettably is not blessed with the best talent. You did it well, Doug."** On a hot-button topic, Lavin said: "Private equity firms are snapping up mobile home parks – and driving out the residents who can least afford to lose them <https://share.google/wlv8mK9bRfEKNzrik>" **"I'm sure you have seen. Old news to us but not to most, except for the residents in the affected parks. Sad."** Lavin sent a different message (off the record) on a well-known firm not in the community sector, but with a similar tone. For years, Lavin published his own website/newsletter, which according to a well-placed source, would periodically attract the attention of one Warren Buffett. It should be noted that his wife "Pat" was long at his side in the days when they were involved in manufactured home lending. It is no secret that the Lavins winter near Miami on their 72' luxury Italian made cruiser. They summer in their 3-story home in a nice neighborhood Burlington, VT. Our family and his have broken bread several times over the years while discussing life, liberty, and manufactured housing in both locations.

1. It was Lavin who suggested the topic of the drama surrounding Li'l Abner Mobile Home Park. That it was Lavin's nudge doesn't imply that he necessarily embraced how *MHPProNews* reported on the subject. Lavin seems to grasp and respect the right of a publication and publisher to follow their First Amendment rights and editorial instincts. He appears to see the value of spotlighting a specific topic.

[caption id="attachment_208422" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



<https://www.manufacturedhomeprnews.com/manufactured-home-industrys-other-image-campaign-unpacking-tenants-continue-to-protest-as-demolition-begins-at-sweetwater-mobile-home-park-mhi-and-fmha-res/>

[caption id="attachment_209500" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



<https://www.manufacturedhomeprnews.com/illegal-unconscionable-class-action-case-hits-manufactured-housing-firm-lil-abner-mobile-home-park-residents-try-to-keep-rights-cant-sleep-omg/>




<https://www.manufacturedhomelivingnews.com/ongoing-tragedies-at-lil-abner-mobile-home-park-explored-most-comprehensive-reporting-by-manufactured-home-pro-news-mhpronews-com-unpacked-problematic-vs-ethical-companies/>[/caption]

2. For those too young to recall, Li'l Abner was a popular comic series some years ago.

[caption id="attachment_208415" align="center" width="650"]



Li'l Abner by Al Capp - large half-page color Sunday comic - April 6, 1975 | eBay  eBay

MHPProNews Note: depending on your browser or device, many images in this report can be clicked to expand. For example, in some browsers/devices you click the image and select 'open in a new window.' After clicking that selection, you click the image in the open window to expand the image to a larger size. To return to this page, use your back key, escape or follow the prompts. [/caption]

Some of the mainstream headlines that drew Marty's interest.

- **Even Mobile-Home Prices Keep Rising - The New York Times**
- **Soldotna mobile home evictions leave tenants with few options**
- **Vermont is desperate for new homes. Is it time to build them in factories? - VTDigger**
- **Housing crisis: Mobile home prices soar faster than single-family homes | Fortune**

- **Mobile home residents receive eviction letters despite damage from hurricane**
- **Concord Monitor - 'It's borderline criminal' – Manufactured housing was an affordable homeownership option. Now, investor-owned parks are pricing residents out**

Said Lavin about the item above: "Can't say I entirely disagree."

3. Each of these illustrate a point previously reported by MHProNews. Namely, [:the manufactured housing industry's other image campaign.](#)"

[caption id="attachment_117092" align="aligncenter" width="646"]



With his typical wit and biting insight, Marty Lavin, JD, has paradoxically called negative mainstream media news coverage, **“the manufactured housing industry’s other image campaign.”** Lavin has asked, why spend millions until core issues are addressed?

MHI logo shown under fair use guidelines. Text, collage credit, MHProNews.

<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/marty-lavin-lashes-the-manufactured-housing-institutes-mhi-latest-initiative/>[/caption]

4. Lavin was praised for some years about his thinking on manufactured home lending. In time, he was awarded with the Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI) lifetime achievement award, the Tataro Award. At some point after his remark below, Lavin's name was apparently removed from the MHI website.

Marty Lavin, J.D., Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI) Award Winner Becomes an "Unperson" – Perhaps for Remarks Like These.



"So the association [MHI] is not there for the "industry," unless the interests of the Big Boys join the industry's."

- Marty Lavin, J.D.
MHI Award Winner
High Volume Retailer, Community Owner, Finance Expert.



"Follow the Money."
-Marty Lavin, JD,
MHI Award Winner

"Pay more attention to what people do than what they say."
- Marty Lavin, finance, community, retail veteran.

Lavin's 72' yacht, Spy Sea, collage credits, Marty Lavin, MHI and MHPNews.



MEMBERS ABOUT MHI PROGRAMS CONSUMERS RESEARCH ADVOCACY & ISSUES

No Results Found

The page you requested could not be found. Try refining your search, or use the navigation above to locate the post

LAVIN 12:21 PM 11/17/2022

Lavin is an MHI award-winner. But after several critiques of MHI by Lavin, no mention of his name is found on the MHI website. Coincidence?



MHI award winner Marty Lavin's name can't be found on the MHI website on 6.26.2024. Lavin was apparently viewed as a stealthy critic of the trade group and became an "unperson" in Orwellian fashion.

Search Results Marty Lavin

Sorry, we couldn't find any posts. Please try a different search.

Marty Lavin



manufacturedhousing.org/?s=Marty+Lavin



About MHI



News Courses & Certifications Events Adv

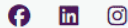
Search Results: Marty Lavin

Sorry, we couldn't find any posts. Please try a different search.

Marty Lavin

2:15 PM
4/23/2026

manufacturedhousing.org/?s=Martin+Lavin



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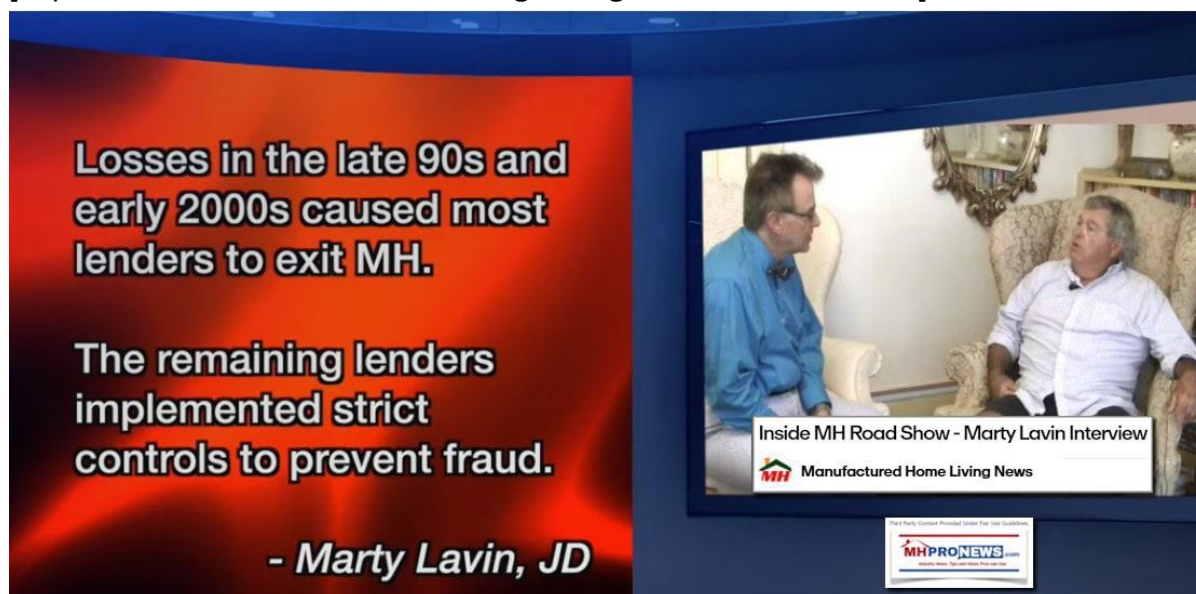
Search Results: Martin Lavin

Sorry, we couldn't find any posts. Please try a different search.

Martin Lavin

5. For better and for worse, there are times MHPProNews has asked Lavin to weigh in on this or that topic and Lavin has taken a pass. As an attorney who has had the pragmatic experience of dealing with retailers, finance companies, and operating his own land-lease communities, Lavin's takes which span essentially the lifespan of HUD Code manufactured housing ought to be of interest.

[caption id="attachment_209720" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



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6.

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Carly Berlin - VTDigger

Marty Lavin, JD

Frank Rolfe

MARTY LAVIN, J.D., AND FRANK ROLFE'S DISTINCTIVE TAKES ON

Carly Berlin's VTDigger Mobile and Manufactured Home Community Flood Story - Remarks & Analysis

<https://www.manufacturedhomelivingnews.com/marty-lavin-j-d-and-frank-rolfes-distinctive-takes-on-carly-berlins-vtdigger-mobile-and-manufactured-home-community-flood-story-remarks-analysis/>[/caption]

[caption id="attachment_183944" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



Bruce Savage, VP MHI

UNLEASHING POTENTIAL SALES,
PERCEPTION IS REALITY
"SAVAGE REPORT"
GOOD & BAD FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING INSTITUTE,
MHI'S ROPER REPORT,
AARP, MARTY LAVIN STRIKE AGAIN -
plus Manufactured Housing Stock Updates

<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/manufactured-housing-institute-mhis-roper-report-aarp-marty-lavin-strike-again-plus-manufactured-housing-stock-updates/>[/caption]

[caption id="attachment_175318" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



“MOBILE HOME PARK” MANAGER

Accused of Multiple Counts of Fraud, Marty Lavin, J.D., Provides Legal Opinion on Community Owner's and Seller's Risk – Video.

FACTS, ANALYSIS; PLUS, MANUFACTURED HOME STOCK UPDATES



<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/mobile-home-park-manager-accused-of-multiple-counts-of-fraud-marty-lavin-j-d-gives-legal-opinion-on-community-owners-and-sellers-risk-video-facts-an/> [caption id="attachment_175523" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



“I did an expert witness assignment in Indiana and was less than impressed with the treatment of manufactured home community residents there.”

~ Marty Lavin, J.D.

“Yes, it costs money to be poor.”

~ Marty Lavin, J.D.

Marty Lavin, JD,



<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/industryvoices/marty-lavin-j-d-weighs-in-on-resident-complaints-of-predatory-behavior-by-manufactured-home-community-consolidators/> [caption id="attachment_173366" align="aligncenter"]

width="600"]



"CATASTROPHIC" "EXPENSIVE DOG FOOD" **"LEAST LIKED INDUSTRY ...EVER STUDIED"** **JOANNE STEVENS, BERKSHIRE, MARTY LAVIN, ROPER REPORT -** **YEARS OF COSTLY MANUFACTURED HOUSING INSTITUTE "FAILURES" - FACTS & ANALYSIS**

<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/catastrophic-expensive-dog-food-least-liked-industryever-studied-joanne-stevens-warren-buffett-marty-lavin-roper-report-years-of-cos/> [caption id="attachment_166777" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



"WE NEED TO REMOVE THE SHACKLES ON OUR INDUSTRY" - **MHI CEO'S HISTORIC CALL ON CFPB, FEDS TO UNLEASH MANUFACTURED HOME INDUSTRY GROWTH -** **MARTY LAVIN INSIGHTS -** *plus, Manufactured Home Industry Investing, Stock Updates*

<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/we-need-to-remove-the-shackles-on-our-industry-mhi-ceos-historic-call-for-cfpb-feds-to-unleash-manufactured-home-industry-growth-via-more-lending-marty-lavin-in/> [caption id="attachment_161180" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



“WITCH’S BREW” OF PREDATORY PRACTICES –

**LONGTIME MHI MEMBER/ATTORNEY
MARTY LAVIN RIPS
MANUFACTURED HOUSING
INSTITUTE, EXPOSES DUTY
TO SERVE FINANCING STONEWALL**



It

is not only MHProNews, but past and present MHI members that have accused the trade group of treacherous behavior that favors the few instead of the interests of consumers and the many. <https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/witchs-brew-of-predatory-practices-longtime-mhi-member-attorney-marty-lavin-rips-manufactured-housing-institute-exposes-duty-to-serve-financing-stonewall/>[/caption][caption id="attachment_129116" align="aligncenter" width="630"]



“You get more of what you encourage, and less of what you discourage.”

- Marty Lavin, J.D.

MHI Award-winner

MH Finance, MH Communities, & MH Retail Veteran

"You get more of what you encourage, and less of what you discourage." - Marty Lavin, J.D.[/caption][caption id="attachment_136418" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



"The HUD Code [for manufactured homes] is a discrimination code."

- Marty Lavin, JD, MHI award winner, MH retail finance expert, former MH communities owner.
- Photo by *MHProNews* aboard the Spy Sea, Lavin's 72' 3 level custom Italian yacht.



This is arguably a nuanced remark, with Marty Lavin observing that HUD Code manufactured housing often being discriminated against by local jurisdictions.
[caption][caption id="attachment_136237" align="aligncenter" width="500"]

"Now as an industry we have been on a "home hunger" for 15 years. Hunger usually drives one to make changes to relieve or abate the hunger.

Are we baking a larger industry pie to eat better, or cutting the one we have into ever smaller pieces?"

**- - Marty Lavin, JD
Award Winning
MH Industry Veteran**



For insights on manufactured housing industry [consolidation](#), see the consolidated graphic linked here.
[caption][caption id="attachment_153959" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/marty-lavin-modular-builders-and-manufactured-housing-institute-on-covid19-coronavirus-disaster-impacts-and-plans/>[/caption]

Because nature abhors a vacuum, it should be no surprise that in areas where developing and construction costs are more moderated, site builders have made the effort to compete with modular and HUD Code manufactured homes. In an area near this office, where zoning/development is not anti-manufactured housing, MHProNews observed 6 site-built houses produced or under construction to 3 manufactured homes, even though the conventional houses are significantly higher in price per square foot. That's a warning to the industry that doesn't seem to cause MHI leadership to do anything other than look in another direction or attempt to distract from the production details.

[caption id="attachment_205945" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/site-builders-lennar-dr-horton-go-for-hud-code-market-price-point-new-conventional-single-family-houses-100k-200k-mimic-single-section-manufactured-homes-and-tiny-houses-facts-video-analysis/>

[caption id="attachment_224894" align="aligncenter" width="648"]

OVERVIEW

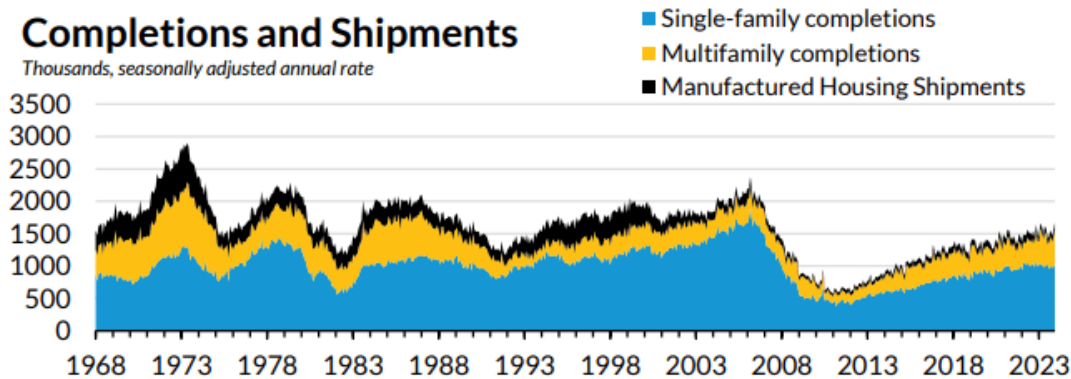
New Residential Production



New residential production, including single-family and multifamily completions as well as manufactured housing shipments, reached a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.67 million units in December 2023, 13 percent higher than its level in December 2022, 1.48 million units. Since reaching a low of 565 thousand units in January 2011, new production has risen by 196 percent. However, current production is still 23 percent lower than the peak March 2006 level of 2.38 million units. In December 2023, single-family completions are 45 percent lower than the March 2006 peak of 1.91 million units. Multifamily completions are 37 percent greater than their level in March 2006. Only 4.5 percent of multifamily units completed in 2023 Q3 were built-for-sale, down significantly from its 2007 Q2 peak of 43.9 percent. Amid higher interest rates, 69.2 percent of single-family completions were built for-sale in 2023 Q3, 7.0 percentage points lower than the share built for sale in 2022 Q3. The owner-occupied share of mobile homes fell from 2006 to 2014, but partially recovered in the ensuing years.

Completions and Shipments

Thousands, seasonally adjusted annual rate



Source: Moody's Analytics, U.S. Census Bureau (BOC) and Urban Institute Calculations

December 2023

<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/manufactured-housing-production-and-shipment-data-for-all-50-states-plus-washington-d-c-facts-key-performance-indicators-kpis-more-facts-road-act-backers-must-consider-others-missed-fea/>[/caption]

7. Lavin has reportedly from time to time done expert witness work for litigants. If Lavin were trying to 'market himself' in that realm, he would weigh in publicly more often. But Lavin seems quite content to observe, periodically share, and from time-to-time share a lament or shrug that manufactured housing industry 'leaders' are allowing the industry to stagnate at such a relatively low production level. One might muse that ethics are lacking in some segments of the industry and that lack of concern, which Lavin and Chris Stinebert both alluded to and/or spoke to was allowed to take center stage in MHVille. Perhaps it is no surprise that both Stinebert and Lavin have been dropped into the MHI "memory hole," apparently for suggesting that ethics or organic growth should matter?

[caption id="attachment_194269" align="aligncenter" width="654"]

The screenshot shows the MHI website's search interface. At the top, there are social media icons (Facebook, LinkedIn, Instagram), navigation links (About MHI, Log In, Become a Member), and a search bar containing the text "Chris Stinebert". Below the search bar, a red callout box contains the text: "On 11.9.2023 - a former 21st century MHI president's can't be found on the MHI website!?! Is it due to his prior remarks?". Below this, the search results section displays "Search Results: Chris Stinebert" in large bold text. Underneath, a message reads: "Sorry, we couldn't find any posts. Please try a different search." with "Chris Stinebert" entered in the search input field. A yellow callout box on the right contains the text: "In what might be described as an Orwellian 'memory hole' move, MHI has scrubbed the public side of their website of some information that was once public and which other trade groups would not normally 'hide.' Which begs the question: Why?".

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The graphic is split into two panels. The left panel is an illustration showing a road with several RVs driving away from a viewer. In the foreground, there are several manufactured homes (MH) on a lot. A sign on the ground says "ZONING". A man in a suit and hat stands on a hill in the background, holding a magnifying glass. The right panel has a purple and white background with bold text: "2 FORMER MANUFACTURED HOUSING INSTITUTE PRESIDENTS-CEOS CLAIMS UNDERMINE ARLINGTON-VA BASED MANUFACTURED HOME ASSOC NARRATIVE. WHAT CHRIS STINEBERT-RICHARD 'DICK' JENNISON SAID. RV VS MH. FEA." Below the text is the MHPRONEWS.com logo.

<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/2-former-manufactured-housing-institute-presidents-ceos-claims-undermine-arlington-va-based-manufactured-home-assoc-narrative-what-chris-stinebert-richard-dick-jennison-said-rv-vs/>[/caption]

This remark paraphrased below *should not* be attributed to Lavin, but it reflects that at least some who are or where in the MHI orbit don't like what they are seeing out of the Arlington, VA based trade group in recent years.

[caption id="attachment_178322" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



<https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/since-loss-of-stinebert-at-manufactured-housing-institute-mhi-empowered-f-cking-greedy-selfish-leaders-of-companies-to-make-mhi-a-tool-for-themselves-plus-mhville-markets-update/>[/caption]

Lavin said he didn't expect much to occur from the CrossMods program. He hasn't been wrong.

8.