

The Home Front

September 2019



> Onward & Upward <

September is Associate Member Appreciation Month

On behalf of our Board of Directors, Exec. Officer and Builder Members, we say a

HUGE Thank You

to all of our Associate Members who support the High Country HBA , support our Builder Members and support this community!!!!!!

It is not TOO LATE to get a Team together to play in the HCHBA Annual Golf Tournament September 21st!

Love To Have You Join Us.

Tournament to be held at Sugar Mountain Golf Course. The committee is hard at work on making this a great event for all.

Office phone: 828-297-6566 or email: hchba.office@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP

Meet Your 2019 Board of Directors & HCHBA Staff

Brandon Austin
President

Jesse Miller
Board Member

John Kidda
Board Member

Jordan Mattar
Board Member

Jeff Pell
Board Member

Lisa Kaczmarczyk
Board Member

Randy Blake - Ex-Officio
Past President

Patricia Pembridge
Executive Office

Professional Women In Building (PWB)

**Meetings will normally be the 2nd Wednesday of each Month starting at
5:15pm**

Held at: HCHBA Banquet Hall 755 Hwy 105 By-Pass

UNLESS otherwise noted (see below under Important News)

IMPORTANT NEWS:

***September 18th Meeting will be held at High Country Insurance Office**

Located at Carriage Square Plaza, 324 Highway 105 Extension, Unit #10,

Start Time: 5:15pm

Professional Women in Building Recognition Week: September 16th - 20th

This time is to celebrate women as visible component of the construction industry and provide opportunities for members across the NAHB federation to collectively raise awareness of their contributions to the industry. Watch for more details on events taking place.

COMMUNITY PROJECTS UPDATE:

- 1. We are partnering with The Children's Council to do a Play Area Clean Up for them! Tentative date will be: Wednesday, Oct 9th starting at 5pm at their location. Watch for more details or call the office at 828-297-6566 if interested in helping out.**
- 2. We are doing a collection of Electric Throws (Blankets) to give out to those in need of a little extra warmth this winter. Donations can be dropped at our office starting now through Christmas. We are grateful for your generosity!**

If you are interested in learning more about the PWB or want to join, please contact Dawn at 773-7965 or email: stxdawn@yahoo.com

PWB's Social Media contact is: Sara Russell sarakrussell@gmail.com

We WELCOME Everyone Interested in Helping with our Community Projects - You don't have to be a PWB Member

Members Bulletin Board

***Are you Prepared for the New Continuing Education Requirement for Licensed General Contractors that was signed into law on July 1, 2019 and becomes Effective January 2020?**

MAKE SURE to attend our September 30th meeting to hear the latest details and information!

****The Board of Directors is happy to announce that members can now use our banquet hall space for company meetings, lunches, trainings, etc... during normal working hours. A sponsorship/donation will be required and the facility must be cleaned and put back in the way it was found after use. For more information contact our office: 828-297-6566**

*****Calling All Members to donate time and/or materials in making our building look better for all!! Things needed: clean-up outside around the building, paint for inside and outside, new faucet fixtures, old signs removed and landscaping to name a few.**

If you feel it in your heart to help out, please contact our office 297-6566.

Please feel free to send us things going on in the community or with your company so that we post it here on the bulletin board

****NAHB MEMBER SAVINGS PROGRAM****

As a benefit of being a member, you have access to discounts and savings opportunities offered by many top companies. All programs, rates and prices are subject to change without notice.

Make sure to check out the website: nahb.org/savings

For questions contact:

Samantha Powell

800-368-5242 +8430

spowell@nahb.org

Resources to Promote Careers in Construction

October is Careers in Construction Month. If you are looking for ideas on how to highlight the value of a construction career, consider:

Request a proclamation from your mayor or governor, to help NAHB make [Careers in Construction Month](#) officially recognized in every state. Anyone can file a proclamation for his or her governor or mayor to sign.

Display posters to promote opportunities in residential construction and highlight specific

careers. Promotional materials provided by NAHB can be downloaded and taken to a professional printer to make brochures, posters, flyers and pull up banners.

Share information targeted for students by linking materials to nahb.org/trades which includes information such as salaries and job summaries for the most popular trades. Construction management career path information is also available.

2019 Fall Membership Drive - Builder Member Competition

A special competition is being held for Builder Members of local home builder associations and chapters to recruit new members during the 2019 Fall membership drive period, which began September 1, 2019 and end October 31, 2019.

Exciting Valuable prizes are at stake for the Builder Member who brings in the MOST new members.

You should have received information about the details of this competition already BUT if you need any information please reach out to our Exec. Officer, Patricia Pembridge at 828-297-6566

Home Building Slows in Heartland

In a possible sign of economic softening in the industrial heartland, home construction in the nation's major manufacturing areas registered declines on a year-over-year basis in the second quarter of 2019, according to NAHB's [Home Building Geography Index \(HBGI\)](#).

When the manufacturing sector was exhibiting stronger growth in 2017, the rate of home construction in counties with more local manufacturing employment outpaced the rest of the nation.

The second quarterly release of the HBGI focuses on the housing markets in the top manufacturing counties, which represent 10% of the nation's single-family production output and 7% of multifamily construction.

Home building in these areas posted a decline in the first half of 2019, and second quarter data reveal that single- and multi-family construction decreased by 3.8% and 4.1%, respectively, on a year-over-year basis.

ESA Final Rule Will Streamline Permitting

In a victory for NAHB, the Trump administration recently released final rules updating the Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 7 Consultation requirements and new regulations governing the designation of critical habitat that will improve the overall efficiency of the [ESA's permitting process](#). The final rule will make compliance less onerous for home builders and developers.

While home builders support efforts to protect endangered species, they also believe that ESA regulations should be reasonable and structured in a way that delivers on the stated purpose of the rule.

DHS Raises EB-5 Investment Requirements

DHS has put out new rules for the EB-5 Immigrant Investor program that increases the level of investment required for foreign-born investors seeking to participate. Immigrants seeking to use the [EB-5 program](#) to gain permanent residency status must invest at least \$900,000 (up from \$500,000) in areas designated by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services as high unemployment or rural areas. They will need to invest at least \$1.8 million (up from \$1 million) for economic projects in all other areas.

Georgia Judge Dismantles WOTUS Rule

The U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Georgia on Aug. 21 filed a decision that dismantles the Obama-era 2015 waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule. This is the first court to find that the substance of the 2015 rule violates the Clean Water Act.

The court decision remands the [2015 WOTUS rule](#) back to the Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fix it. But the court did not vacate the rule. As a result, the Obama-era WOTUS rule remains in effect in 22 states, and the previous regulations issued in 1986 are in effect in the remaining 28 states.

Don't Miss the 2020 Builders' Show

Want to build better homes and enjoy bigger profits? Then come to the [2020 Builders' Show](#), Jan. 21-23 in Las Vegas. The show features more than 1,400 exhibitors from around the globe in 600,000 net square feet of exhibit space, showcasing the latest and most in-demand products and services.

IBS 2020 offers the most up-to-date education the industry has to offer. It features sessions in seven tracks, taught by renowned building industry experts.

OSHA Seeks Input On Silica Rule

OSHA is asking for comment on Table 1 of the agency's Respirable Crystalline Silica Standard for Construction. OSHA seeks information by Oct. 15, 2019 on additional engineering and work practice control methods to effectively limit [exposure to silica](#) for items listed on Table 1 of the silica rule.

For more information, contact Rob Matuga at 800-368-5242 x8507.