

The News of the Home Builders Association of West Florida

CORNERSTONE

June 2015

Celebrating the 2015 Parade of Homes

page 6

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CORNERSTONE

*The official magazine of the
Home Builders Association of West Florida*



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Home Builders Association of West Florida

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Next Issue:
July
2015

Edit: June 2, 2015
Space: June 17, 2015
Materials: June 24, 2015

*Magazine Design & Layout by
warren wight creative services
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PHOTO CREDITS

Parade of Homes: Bruce Graner of the Pensacola News Journal ©2015
Golf Tournament: Emerald Coast Real Estate Photography ©2015

Cornerstone, the monthly publication of the Home Builders Association of West Florida serving Escambia and Santa Rosa Counties, is published monthly, twelve (12x) per year. Send address changes to HBA of West Florida, 4400 Bayou Boulevard, Suite 45, Pensacola, Florida 32503-1910. Cornerstone, is published in the interests of all segments of the home building industry and is distributed to its members and others associated with the HBA of West Florida. HBA of West Florida and Richard K. Nicholson Pub., Inc. does not accept responsibility for, or endorse any statement or claims made by advertisers or authors of any articles. Every effort has been made to assure accuracy of information, but authenticity cannot be guaranteed. No part of this publication may be reproduced without the written consent of Home Builders Association of West Florida, Copyright ©, 4400 Bayou Boulevard, Suite 45, Pensacola, Florida 32503-1910, 850.476.0318. Advertisers and advertorials in Cornerstone do not constitute an offer for sale in states where prohibited by law.

YOUR HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION SHINES DURING THE PARADE OF HOMES

I am so proud of my Home Builders Association and the members who make it possible for me to serve. I was so impressed by the attendance of the Parade of Homes Kick Off Event that was held at the beautiful Sanders Beach Corrine Jones Community Center on Pensacola Bay. The venue was a lot different from what we've been used to over the years in terms of having the event at the subdivision. I can tell you that it was a hit with the attendees. Being inside and outside of the venue was the perfect setting to celebrate our industry's Parade of Homes. It was also an exciting time for our members to enjoy the friendships that make our industry so very special.

I would like to thank Danny Speranzo and Rick Faciane, of Classic Homes of Pensacola, for their leadership and help with the American Dream Home. The house is beautiful, spacious and very functional too. So much work and coordination goes into building the Dream Home, and I am truly thankful for their efforts. The time they put into this home cannot be understated and they did it for the greater good of our association. Without the profits from the sale of the Dream Home, our association would suffer greatly. They have certainly given back to the industry that has given to them.

The house couldn't make a profit if it weren't for the Dream Home Donors. They can't be thanked enough also. We listed the Donors in the last issue of Cornerstone, but I think it is important to list them again. Take a look at the impressive list of people who came together for our members and HBA. Every year they step up to the plate and give until it hurts! For that, the Board of Directors and the members should all be extremely appreciative of what they do on our behalf.

Pensacola Energy Marketing Manager Jill Grove and her team showed a lot of enthusiasm in showcasing the Comfort Plus features in the Dream Home. They were onsite throughout the Parade of Homes cooking with natural gas, and handing out hundreds of cookies and sausages to attendees. They clearly enjoyed being involved in the Parade of Homes and it showed.

Did someone say Crawfish and Shrimp? Gary, Cindy, Kevin and Kyle Sluder of Gene's Floor Covering, cooked up a feast that over 300 people in attendance thoroughly enjoyed. They made the Kick Off Event a memorable event that many are still talking about. Every year they help with this event, and not only are they one of the most genuine families that you'll ever meet, but they truly love our industry, and it shows.

Special thanks the home builders who have entered homes into the Parade including Acorn Fine Homes, Adams Homes, Arista Builders, Arthur Rutenberg Homes, Avant-Price Builders Group, Bill Walther Construction, Classic Homes of Pensacola, DC Homes of Pensacola, DR Horton, Flynn Built, Henry Company Homes, Heseman Builders Group, Holiday Builders, KW Homes, Landmark Construction Enterprises, Mitchell Homes, Mooney Construction, Paragon Custom Home Group, Ricky Wiggins Builders, Russell Home Builders, Sessions Contractors Group, Timberland. The Parade of Homes enables our industry to shine, and we thank you for your participation.



SHELBY JOHNSON



“Special thanks the home builders who have entered homes into the Parade...”



Parade of Homes Kick Off Party







2015 PARADE OF HOME AWARD WINNERS



CATEGORY 1 - \$117,290 - \$150,000
Timberland Contractors
5604 Rosedown Court
Plantation Woods



CATEGORY 2 - \$150,100 - \$167,900
Mitchell Homes
10542 Millbrook Dr.
Betmark Circle



CATEGORY 3 - \$170,556 - \$190,350
Adams Homes
3464 Wasatch Range Loop Rd.
Logan Place



CATEGORY 4 - \$195,300 - \$216,350
Adams Homes
1993 Larkspur Circle
Summerfield



CATEGORY 5 - \$219,900 - \$238,290
Timberland Contractors
5760 Heatherton Rd.
Cottonwood



CATEGORY 6 - \$242,071 - \$265,900
Paragon Custom Home Group
6116 Stonechase Blvd.
Stonechase



CATEGORY 7 - \$272,900 - \$275,000
Paragon Custom Home Group
5149 Wheeler Way
Woodlyn Meadows



CATEGORY 8 - \$284,900 - \$299,500
Timberland Contractors
6082 Brighton Lane
Cottonwood



CATEGORY 9 - \$321,500 - \$350,000
D R Horton
2581 Tulip Hill Rd.
Ashley Plantation

The Parade of Homes was a tremendous success and the HBA would like to thank all the members who made it possible. ***Congratulations to the Outstanding Home Award Winners.***



CATEGORY 10 - \$368,806 - \$399,900
Classic Homes of Pensacola
6021 Huntington Creek Blvd.
Huntington Creek



CATEGORY 11 - \$414,990 - \$449,999
Holiday Builders
8935 Foxtail Loop
Nature Trail



CATEGORY 12 - \$479,999 - \$530,000
Avant-Price Builders Group
7175 Australian St.
Holly by the Sea



CATEGORY 13 - \$549,000 - \$594,720
K.W. Homes
8083 Foxtail Loop
Nature Trail



CATEGORY 14 - \$645,000 - \$696,000
Arthur Rutenberg Homes
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JULY 2015

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The HBA's Spring Golf Tournament, chaired by David Redmond of Supreme Lending, was a fantastic day filled with blue skies after being postponed on two occasions. Special thanks to our sponsors for making this a fun-filled event.

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FHBA President's Message



**JERRY LINDER, PRESIDENT
FLORIDA HOME BUILDERS
ASSOCIATION**

Dear Valued Member:

What matters to you matters to us. The core of the Florida Home Builders Association's (FHBA) mission is to create a better business environment for Florida's building industry. To accomplish this, we must establish a sophisticated presence and positive relationships within the Capitol.

Since the beginning of my term as FHBA President, I have worked alongside members and staff to unequivocally institute political relevance as our number one priority. And, at the close of the 2015 Legislative Session, I am pleased to declare we were successful.

Several of our priorities were adopted by both the House and Senate and await gubernatorial action. These include:

- HB 383: Property Rights "Koontz" Implementation (Prohibiting exactions at time of permit that are not related or proportional)
- SB 1216: Growth Management
- HB 87: Construction Defects (Requiring more specificity in notice to contractors)
- HB 791: Residential Properties (Bulk Buyer Liability)
- HB 1151: Residential Master Building Permit (Allows for a single Master Permit for Track Housing)
- SB 778: Local Government Construction Preferences Prohibited (If the state funds at for 50% of project)

In addition to what did pass, we were also extremely successful in stopping harmful legislation, including proposals to reduce the percentage of homes sold that would trigger developer turnover to a Homeowner's Association and major changes to the lien law.

Outside of our control and beyond our efforts, two priority issues died as a direct result of the House of Representatives closing early.

Many of you may know the 5th edition of the Florida Building Code will go into effect on June 30, 2015. FHBA member-volunteers, staff, and myself worked exceptionally hard to resolve concerns within the building code to cut red tape for the construction industry and delay pending regulation. Specifically, we sought to pass bills (SB 1232/HB 915) that would implement a nine-month delay for the mandatory

blower-door testing and mechanical air ventilation. Unfortunately, these bills did not pass. As builders, we now must be prepared to construct homes in full compliance of this new code (including blower-door testing and mechanical ventilation beginning July 1, 2015). The FHBA, in conjunction with your local HBAs, offer courses on both the building and energy code compliance. Click to access these opportunities.

We also worked to pass the estoppel fee cap bill (SB 736/HB 611), which would have reduced delivery time from fifteen to ten days and limited basic fees to no more than \$100. Unfortunately, while the bill was two stops from being considered for final passage, the House Speaker unexpectedly gaveled down and announced the end of the 2015 Session three days early.

You will notice a key component missing from this brief recap—the budget. The legislature is now forced to meet in special session and our team is already working on posturing our budget priorities. The date for special session is forthcoming.

Our Governmental Affairs Committee met every week via conference call to discuss the legislature's actions and provide policy guidance to our lobbying team. Senior Officers, Area Vice Presidents, and local Executive Officers were afforded the opportunity to participate in these calls. My thanks to this group for the many hours each of you spent not only on the calls, but reading and being prepared to discuss the issues.

Again, I'd like to thank those of you who traveled to Tallahassee to testify or lobby on specific FHBA issues. So many members actively support other legislative groups, and I extend a general thanks to you as well. Your participation makes FHBA a stronger, distinguished advocacy organization.

To the staff, thanks for the hours upon hours you spent at the Capitol monitoring committees, reading amendments, lobbying on our behalf and communicating our efforts to members. I am also grateful for the staff's production of an enhanced lobbying infrastructure: Spring Conference leave behind materials, issues sheets, and grassroots activation.

Your livelihood matters to the Florida Home Builders Association. Through your membership, we hear your concerns that affect the building industry and we actively work to make Florida a better business environment. The 2015 Legislative Session was a success – thanks to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jerry Linder".

Jerry Linder, President
Florida Home Builders Association

2015 AMERICAN DREAM HOME

Appreciates Its Donors

The Home Builders Association of West Florida and Classic Homes of Pensacola, LLC, would like to thank the business who contributed to the overall success of the Dream Home.

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A FLOOD OF CONFUSION

Confusion is still swirling about regarding the potential impact of the recent presidential order on Federal Flood Risk Management Standards (FFRMS) – and NAHB has been testifying at hearings, making our members' voices heard at listening sessions, talking up federal officials, and most recently, submitting official comments.

The Administration has consistently said it wants to ensure that federally funded construction projects — highways and water treatment plants, for example — are sited, designed and constructed to

withstand the potential future effects climate change including more frequent and severe storms and flooding events: a logical goal.

However, as NAHB's comment letter explains, the President chose to amend a nearly 40-year-old Executive Order to now make sure that federal permitting programs such as wetlands and storm-water permits, federal assistance in the form of grants, loans, and even housing assistance programs like FHA mortgages comply with floodplain management requirements.

As NAHB's comments explain in detail, home builders are concerned that this change means that NAHB members and other landowners could find their own private land development projects affected by this new

floodplain definition and be subject to corresponding permitting and regulatory obligations.

Now, an interagency task-force called the Mitigation Framework Leadership Group (MitFLG), is charged with finalizing the FFRMS guidelines. Once the MitFLG is finished, all federal agencies will begin the process of reviewing their permitting and other programs to ensure compliance.

NAHB staff will continue to monitor HUD, the Corps of Engineers and other key federal agencies to see how they'll implement the FFRMS guidelines and how their federal permitting and housing programs might be affected. For more information, contact Owen McDonough, Program Manager for Environmental Policy at 800-368-5242 x8662.

Courtesy of NAHB Now

Remodeling News Help for Remodelers, Consumers from House Lead Paint Bill

Responding to ongoing concerns from the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and affiliated trade groups, bipartisan legislation to make much-needed improvements to the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Lead: Renovation, Repair and Painting (LRRP) rule was reintroduced in the U.S. House of Representatives yesterday. Rep. Kevin Cramer (R-N.D.), introduced the bipartisan bill, along with eight original co-sponsors.

The Lead Exposure Reduction Amendments Act of 2015 (H.R. 2328) is identical to legislation introduced in the last Congress. The bill would reinstate the opt-out provision to allow home owners without small children or

pregnant women residing in the home to decide whether to require LRRP compliance, allow remodelers to correct paperwork errors without facing full penalties and provide an exemption for emergency renovations.

It would also eliminate the requirement that recertification training be "hands on," so that certified remodelers would no longer have to travel to training facilities out of their region for refresher training. NAHB has been an active supporter of a recent EPA proposal to do the same.

"On the heels of EPA's final rule extending the recertification deadline for thousands of remodelers, H.R. 2328 will make more common-sense improvements for home owners and remodelers who must comply with the lead paint regulation's costly require-

ments," said NAHB Remodelers Chairman Robert Criner, GMR, GMB, CAPS, a remodeler from Newport News, Va. "I commend the bill's co-sponsors for their commitment to improve this complicated regulation."

The LRRP rule applies to homes built before 1978 and requires renovator training and certification, adherence to lead-safe work practices and record keeping.

By removing the opt-out provision in July 2010, the EPA more than doubled the number of homes subject to the LRRP rule, adding an estimated \$336 million per year in compliance costs to the remodeling community — without making young children any safer.

For more information about remodeling, visit www.nahb.org/remodel.

Courtesy of NAHB Now

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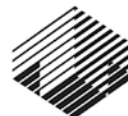
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