

2019 Casino Night

There's still time for you to register for this year's fundraising event on March 22 for the Building Futures Foundation scholarship fund. [register](#)

Singer/songwriter Britnee Kellogg is performing from 5:00 - 6:00 pm at the event. Learn more on page 10.



Michael Shanaberger
2019 BIA President

Slowest industry to adopt change has reached the tipping point--must put technology first.

Builders Digital Experience (BDX) is a company owned by the building industry. Their job is to look at technology and figure out which technologies are going to affect our industry.

Tim Costello, CEO of BDX, returns for another dynamic presentation at the April dinner meeting on April 18. He's an expert on digital disruption and Tim will share how the industry that is the slowest change adopters ever studied (that's us, builders!) has to put technology first.

The risk of doing nothing when it comes to adopting new technology is greater than doing something. Come hear this truly talented thought leader share how the building industry can remake itself with technology leading the way.

Tim will tell you himself...don't wait to do something. Don't miss out on the chance to gain insight from this knowledgeable expert who can offer much perspective on the future of our business.

2019 builders at groundbreaking ceremony for NW Natural Parade of Homes located at Dawson's Ridge in Camas.



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EPA, Corps Publish Proposed WOTUS Rule

The Federal Register on Feb. 14 published a [new proposed rule](#) for “waters of the United States” (WOTUS) that will resolve years of uncertainty over where federal jurisdiction begins and ends. The Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will take comments on the proposal for the next 60 days.

The proposal would exclude from federal regulation short-lived ponds, streams and tributaries that only flow in response to a rain event. It would also exclude wetlands that are not directly connected to federally-regulated bodies of water.

ICC 2018 Codes Changes Mostly Positive

The results of the ICC Group A 2018 model codes vote have been finalized, and NAHB got many of the changes it fought for – and succeeded in blocking many undesired changes – thanks in large part to member mobilization.

Overall, NAHB saw favorable votes on 87% of the [codes proposals](#), including 92.5% of high-priority proposals.

NAHB produced a voting guide highlighting the proposals that would have the greatest impact on home builders. NAHB members who signed up for the [One & Done campaign](#) were encouraged to share the guide with at least one voting code official in their area.

NAHB Weighs In on Judicial Deference Case

NAHB has filed an amicus brief on a Supreme Court case that has widespread implications for how courts handle challenges to federal agency regulations.

The case, *Kisor v. Wilkie*, considers whether courts should defer to an agency’s interpretation of its own regulations, known also as *Auer* deference. NAHB has long been concerned that [judicial deference](#) can create incentives for agencies to avoid formal rulemaking processes or to create vague regulations that they can interpret as they see fit.

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GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Elections matter.

Recently BIA staff and members were able to stop a mandatory sprinkler ordinance in Ridgefield by a vote of 5-2. During this process some councilors voiced their opinion that no matter the price, developers would pay it, to build in Ridgefield. This was in reference to the additional \$5,000 per house cost of mandatory sprinklers, but could refer to any new fee, permit or regulation and, in fact, was also stated during the school impact fee increase hearings. When it was pointed out that these costs were in fact born by the homebuyer, they doubled down and said that they would pay it too.



Ryan Makinster
Govt. Affairs Director

We've seen this belief and position time and time again, whether it is park impact fees, stormwater regulations, permit fees or urban tree programs. There are multiple ways to address this and although we have been successful at the government affairs and testimony level, it is even more efficient to stop these things before they start. To do this we need to get those that support us, support our industry and support homebuyers elected. That is why the BIG PAC and BIA needs your support, in time, effort, action and money!

The Government Affairs Committee meets at the BIA office on the 2nd Monday of each month at 3:30 pm.

Please join us.

On the Backs of Homeowners

Ridgefield is a great place to live and it's desirable too! I think most of us can agree with this statement. But, one thing often overlooked is who pays for it.

At the Ridgefield state of the city address on March 5, we learned a lot about the quality of life in Ridgefield, from the open land and park space in housing developments to the new Ridgefield Administrative and Civic Center. And we learned how proud the mayor is of these things. We also learned that the new Ridgefield Outdoor Recreation Complex (RORC), a site to behold for sure, cost over \$20 million. We also learned that many of these things were paid for by new development and more specifically developers and their customers. In addition to touting the requirement for a 25% open land set aside in new developments, the mayor also made sure it was known that the full cost of the RORC was born by new development fees.

An advertisement for R.O.I.I. Select Return On Industrial Insurance. The background features a pair of brown work boots, a yellow hard hat, and a pair of safety glasses. The text is as follows:

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On the Backs of Homeowners (cont.)

During this speech Mayor Stose also stated that housing is affordable in Ridgefield. Currently the median home price in Ridgefield is \$399,000, a price which requires a household income of over \$96,000 to qualify. The median income in Clark County is just \$75,000.

This is not unique to Ridgefield and our industry needs to come together now to advocate for ourselves, our workers and our customers. In fact, affordable housing is a concern for all Clark County residents, and we are in a position to be one part of the solution.

B.I.G. PAC Needs Your Support!

As many of you know, in addition to an active Government Affairs Committee and Government Affairs department at the BIA, the Building Industry Group (B.I.G. PAC) is also working from the other side of the coin. The B.I.G. PAC is the political voice for the construction industry, and we work to create a business-friendly environment by supporting candidates for office that are advocates for our industry and by getting behind initiatives that support housing.

In order for our industry to throw our combined weight behind impactful leaders, we need to collectively contribute to the annual fundraising effort—aptly named the Auction for Political Action.

We are asking you to donate an item to or consider a sponsorship of the [PAC Auction for Political Action](#) that will be held on Thursday, May 16. With your support we will continue to be impact players in Clark County!

Please contact Ryan Makinster, 360.694.0933 or info@bigcc.org for more information or to discuss support opportunities



Want to be more involved with elections, endorsements and political action? The B.I.G. PAC is always looking for active trustees and those willing to serve on the board. Contact Ryan Makinster for info.

360.694.0933

ryan@biaofclarkcounty.org

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MEMBERSHIP

BIA logos (including the new 50th anniversary version!) are available [here](#) to post on your website.

360.694.0933
khall@BIAofClarkCounty.org



Karen Hall
Membership Director

What is Retro?

Retro is a safety incentive program with a simple goal: eliminate injuries through improvements in workplace safety and preventive strategies. If an employee is injured, help them get better quicker with a successful return to work experience. Companies that do this, earn a refund.

WHAT'S INCLUDED? YOU WON'T FIND ANY OTHER RETRO PROGRAM THAT OFFERS ALL THE SERVICES AT NO ADDITIONAL COST.

 OUTCOME BASED CLAIMS ASSISTANCE	 SAFETY SERVICES
 RISK MANAGEMENT SERVICES	 RETURN TO WORK

It pays to learn about R.O.I.I.

As the oldest and largest construction retro group in the state, Building Industry Association of Washington's R.O.I.I.® SELECT program has returned over \$500 million in refunds to participating companies since 1982. [learn more](#)



Long-time BIA member and Past President, Rocky Smith of Performance Building Products, picks up his refund check last June.

203 members businesses in Clark County received reimbursement checks for a total of \$2.03 million dollars.

Over the past three years BIA members who are enrolled in the statewide Return on Industrial Insurance program (R.O.I.I.® Select) have enjoyed an average return of 38%.

WELCOME New Members

- Armored Restoration / Homemasters
- Berkshire Hathaway/Tracy Burgess
- Carpet USA
- Homemasters
- Service First HTG & CLG
- ValleyScape
- Walton Masonry LLC

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

40 Years

Performance Building Products, Inc.

30 Years

First American Title Company

25 Years

Kingsmen Contracting Inc.

23 Years

Electronic Essentials Inc.
NW Industrial Mechanics Inc.

22 Years

Lisac's Fireplaces & Stoves
Dan Jones Inc. dba Conveyor Trucks
Gaither Homes LLC
Warner Roofing & Construction Inc.

21 Years

Selby Bridge Company Inc.

EVENTS

Applications now being accepted for the New Homes Tour and its kick-off event--Chef, Hop & Vine presented by NW Natural.

[Apply Now](#)

360.694.0933
danielle@BIAofClarkCounty.org



Danielle Kilian
Events Director

Market on the Greens

The BIA Membership Golf Tourney is full, but we have sponsorship options for you! If you want to market your business to this crowd of BIA members call Danielle at 360.694.0933.

BIA Dinner Meeting Sponsorship

Speaking of sponsorship, there are several opportunities available to sponsor a BIA dinner meeting. Check out the topics [here](#). Danielle can guide you through all the BIA events and find a match for your target audience.



SAVE the DATE!

Set aside the night of May 30 to eat, drink and be merry! **Chef, Hop & Vine presented by NW Natural** returns to delight all your senses.

Tour beautiful new homes on the market while enjoying delicious fare from local restaurants, wineries & breweries.

APRIL BIA DINNER MEETING

Featuring **Tim Costello**
CEO of Builders Digital Experience

Technologies & innovations that transform new homes.

Thursday, April 18

5p Social Hour with BDX Virtual Lounge
sponsored by Current Home Technologies

6p Dinner & Program

THANK YOU RENEWING MEMBERS

15-19 Years

Global Security & Communications Inc.
Rivory City Enterprises Inc.
Morcrete Construction
Painting Specialists
Tapio Construction Inc.

10 - 14 Years

You & I Construction Inc.
Brothers Concrete
Alliance Industrial Group Inc.
Vision Concrete Inc.

5 - 9 Years

J&M Gas Piping & Venting Services
Highway Specialties LLC (dba KT Contracting)
Lakewood Contractors Inc.
Advantage Heating & Cooling Inc.
Precision Truss & Lumber Inc.
Avalanche Concrete Construction
Stewart Plumbing
Image 360
Urban NW Homes / Troy Johns

1 - 4 Years

ReNew Creations LLC
B & K Construction
RG Construction Services
IBEX Roof
Sorensen Construction
Jahson Construction
Double Eagle Construction
Bridge City Contracting
B & B Tile & Masonry

HUD's Carson Looks to Work With Builders on Affordability

Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) [Dr. Benjamin Carson](#) discussed how the government and home builders can work together to tackle the nation's affordability crisis in an address to the NAHB Board of Directors during its meeting in Las Vegas.

The HUD secretary stressed the importance of reducing regulatory costs, stating that he often cites NAHB research that shows nearly 25 percent of the cost of a single-family home stems from federal, state and local regulations and that the cost is even higher for multifamily development.

"We are looking into ways that would incentivize local officials to cut back on archaic state and local regulatory barriers, such as outmoded zoning and land use restrictions," said Carson. "The free market may be guided by an 'invisible hand,' but unnecessary government and regulatory barriers act like 'invisible handcuffs.' It's time to untie the hands of our nation's home builders by putting the 'free' back into the free market."

Before addressing NAHB's board members, Carson participated in the 75th anniversary of the International Builders' Show by touring the latest building products and innovations on the exhibit floor.

Home Buyers' Green Preferences

When home buyers think green, they think of features that will save energy and improve indoor air quality, according to [survey results](#) released by NAHB at the recent International Builders' Show in Las Vegas.

NAHB surveyed nearly 4,000 recent and prospective home buyers on the types of features they prefer to have in their home, including eco-friendly components and designs.

To achieve energy efficiency goals, buyers would most prefer ENERGY STAR rated windows and appliances, efficient lighting (using less energy than traditional bulbs), and insulation higher than required by code.

More than half of home buyers also want indoor air quality features such as a home dehumidification system, an electronic air cleaner & low volatile organic compound materials.

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CHAMPIONS OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Problem Solvers Seek Bipartisan Solutions

U.S. Reps. Tom Reed (R-N.Y.) and Josh Gottheimer (D-N.J.) expressed support for working together on a bipartisan basis to advance housing issues in a roundtable discussion moderated by 2019 Chairman Greg Ugalde during NAHB's Board of Directors meeting at the International Builders' Show in Las Vegas.



NAHB's 2019 Chairman Greg Ugalde (left) moderates a discussion with U.S. Reps. Tom Reed (R-N.Y.) and Josh Gottheimer (D-N.J.).

Reed and Gottheimer are the co-chairs of the influential [Problem Solvers Caucus](#), a group of 24 Republican and 24 Democratic lawmakers dedicated to finding common ground and breaking the partisan gridlock in Congress.

"We're the only bipartisan group in Washington, D.C. that is organized," said Gottheimer. "We will vote as a block when we get to a consensus position and we are making a difference."

When asked by Ugalde what issues the Problem Solvers Caucus would be willing to tackle, Reed responded: "Housing affordability is a very important issue." He called for removing red tape on zoning and working to create economic opportunities for builders on the ground.

"Housing is a great issue that we will certainly look at to see what can be done there," added Gottheimer. "We can be a great testing ground for this issue."

The lawmakers are open to growing the ranks of their caucus, but want to make sure they find the right representatives who are willing to work across the political aisle to get things done.

HUD Shortens Inspection Notices

Public housing authorities and private owners of HUD-subsidized apartment developments will have only 14 days advance notice of [scheduled inspections](#) under a newly announced HUD policy.

This is a drastic reduction from the current notice period, which can frequently extend up to four months.

The shorter advance notice of 14 days on scheduled inspections will become effective in late March.

H-2B Visa Program Reaches Cap for 2019

Home builders seeking to access the H-2B temporary worker program to ease labor shortages will find that all available visas have been allocated for the current fiscal year. No new applications will be accepted for employment start dates before Oct. 1, 2019.

The [H-2B program](#) allows employers to hire temporary foreign workers for seasonal, non-agricultural jobs.

NAHB continues to press Congress and the Department of Homeland Security to expand the program.

Britnee Kellogg Opening Casino Night

Thanks to underwriting by iQ Credit Union, local singer/songwriter Britnee Kellogg is performing from 5:00 - 6:00 pm on March 22 at Casino Night presented by Riverview Community Bank.

A graduate of Prairie High School, Britnee appeared on American Idol in 2013 and opened for Blake Shelton last summer at the Pendleton Whiskey Music Festival in Pendleton, Ore.

Get to Casino Night early to enjoy Britnee's performance. She'll share tracks off her first album, releasing this April, and some favorite covers, as well! [Preview songs](#)

BIA Member Releases New Book

Longtime BIA member, Bert Sarkkinen of Arrow Timber Framing, has released a new book called "The Art of Hybrid Timber Framing." It is available on Amazon. You can find it in the [BIA's Amazon store](#).

Post & Beam Timber Framing Uncovered!

This is not a technical handbook on joinery and construction, rather a guide to capturing the right look and feel with timber framing. The *Art of Hybrid Timber Framing* is a must read for owners, architects, and builders who want to influence the look and feel of their projects using exposed beam construction.

