



# NDAB NEWS

Monthly News from the North Dakota Association of Builders October 2017



**Eric Brenden**

## Presidents Message

I, along with about 20 NDAB members and 500 other business and political leaders from across the state, had the opportunity to see President Trump in person at the refinery in Mandan on September 6. He was there to promote his tax reform agenda. Whatever your view of the current president, most of us don't have the opportunity to be that close to the President of the United States very often in our lives.

The President spoke of many of the top agenda items that we have heard in the news, such as lowering the corporate income tax rates, simplifying the tax code, eliminating the death tax, and encouraging businesses to bring back profits they have parked overseas. I think that most of us believe there is a need for tax reform. Of course, getting Congress to join together and compromise on some of the issues that they don't agree upon will not be easy.

A few months ago, I wrote about the tax advantages of owning a home. There are several policy justifications to keeping those advantages in place. The mortgage interest deduction, in particular is a critical tool for younger middle-class buyers looking to enter the housing market.

I believe a well thought out and constructed tax reform plan will benefit our economy and help provide additional investment from the businesses community. However, it is important that the tax advantages of home ownership remain in place. We must continue to reach out to our Congressional delegation. As I stated before, it is our job to promote these benefits to the public and the public officials so they see the value in keeping pro-housing policies in place. NAHB will do the same on our behalf to keep in place the tax advantages of home ownership on the national level.

Eric



**Kim Schneider  
CEO**

NDAB urges ND Delegation to preserve housing incentives in tax code reform

The North Dakota Association of Builders (NDAB) supports home ownership and rental housing incentives in the current tax code and specifically the deductions for mortgage interest and state and local property taxes as well as provisions that encourage development of affordable housing.

NDAB is proud to have welcomed President Trump to North Dakota while he pushes for tax reform. Over 20 NDAB members attended this historic event to learn more of his proposal for income tax reduction, a fair tax code and economic development. We urge the members of our North Dakota congressional delegation to work in a bipartisan fashion to make federal tax reform a reality.

NDAB is a staunch defender of the mortgage interest deduction, which has been a part of the tax code since its inception in 1913. This deduction is an essential tool for younger middle-class buyers looking to enter the housing market and move up as their families grow. The mortgage interest deduction amounts, set in 1987, have not been adjusted for inflation in 30 years. It is time to address the levels of the deduction in order to bring it into the modern times of costs, affordability and income levels to improve the buying power of the middle class.

Many tax reform proposals being discussed have suggested reducing or eliminating the mortgage interest deduction; the Low Income Housing Tax Credit; the capital gains exclusion for home sales, and the deduction of property taxes. These proposed tax increases would further depress home prices, put countless more home owners underwater, and trigger a new wave of foreclosures. Eliminating or scaling back these vital housing incentives would also shrink the local tax base of many communities, causing already cash-strapped state and local governments to further cut jobs and essential services. In addition, the building industry is just one of many industries comprised of multitudes of small businesses; to ensure that our future tax code is truly pro-growth, Congress must maintain a business interest deduction for small business.

NDAB leaders thank President Trump for his leadership and have confidence that the White House and Congress will do the right thing for home buyers and for America. We will continue to engage in this process, jointly with the National Association of Home Builders and our local home builders associations across the state of North Dakota.

Kim Schneider  
NDAB Chief Executive Officer

**Back your PAC ... your PAC backs you!** NDAB-PAC is the North Dakota Association of Builders' Political Action Committee. It is a non-partisan political action committee that provides support for candidates who are friends of the building industry. Contact NDAB at (800) 326-4746, (701) 222-2401 or [info@ndbuild.com](mailto:info@ndbuild.com) to contribute or learn more!

# Around the State

## Bismarck Mandan Homebuilders Assoc.

Dot Frank, Executive Officer  
701-222-2400 [bmhba.com](http://bmhba.com)

- The Fall Parade of Homes showcased 33 homes by 25 builders, a number that rivals the year prior.
- The Fall Awards Mixer is scheduled for Oct. 24 at the Ramada. Guest cans expect a throwback to 90s rock.
- Conversations continue with the City of Bismarck and stakeholders regarding the direction of special assessments in the city's future.
- The BMHBA is hosting building officials for a roundtable to review the summer construction season and discuss the 2018 building year.

## Dickinson Area Builders Assoc.

Tiffany Dolechek, Executive Officer  
701-483-0044  
[dickinsonareabuilders.com](http://dickinsonareabuilders.com)

- The DABA 2nd Annual Parade of Home was September 9th & 10th. This year we had five homes built by Venture Homes, Seacrest Homes, Kirschenheiter Construction, and John Schneider Construction.
- Our next General Membership meeting is September 10th where we will have guests from NDAB and NAHB speaking to our board and members about new updates, and member benefits.
- Bismarck and Dickinson executive officers Dot & Tiffany traveled to Grand Forks for EO Betty's retirement party and to welcome the new EO Cassie to her new position!

## Home Builders Assoc. of Fargo-Moorhead

Bryce Johnson, Chief Executive Officer  
701-232-5846 [hbafm.com](http://hbafm.com)

- The HBA of F-M Awards Gala & Annual Meeting is Oct. 26. Members look forward to hearing from NDSU

- Men's Basketball Head Coach David Richman and seeing who wins the Association's top awards.
- Home Builders Care of F-M Foundation, HBA of F-M's charity, took part in a Key Ceremony for Army Master Sergeant Eric Marts Aug. 19 to welcome him into his new home. Thanks to the generosity of HBA members, along with the hard work of HBA member and build coordinator Dan Parrow, ISR Homes, the home's cost was \$150,000 less than the average Homes for our Troops project.
- The HBA of F-M had another sold-out golf outing in August. Over \$3,000 was raised for NDAB-PAC over the summer's two golf outings, thanks to the support of HBA members.
- The Fall Parade of Homes was a success with 54 newly constructed homes and five remodel projects.



## Forx Builders Association

Cassie Thompson Executive Officer  
701-746-4536 [forxbuilders.com](http://forxbuilders.com)

- The FBA hosted the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing on September 7<sup>th</sup>. We hosted a total of 144 golfers at King's Walk Golf Course. A big thank you is extended to our Event Sponsor, Marvin Windows; Brat Lunch Sponsor, First State Banks; and all of our hole and door prize sponsors.

- Also, thank you to the golf committee for planning a fun day!
- The FBA hosted a Picnic in the Park to celebrate Betty McDonald's retirement. The weather cooperated and everyone was able to enjoy the time and food together! Thank you to all who came out to help us celebrate Betty and her 19 years of service to the FBA..
- The 3rd Annual Chili-Cook off tournament was scheduled for October 14th. The FBA will also be hosting its 1st Annual Bean Bag Toss Tournament along with it. We are very excited about this event and hope to see many faces there! Please call the office if you are interested in having a Chili or Bean Bag team

## Minot Association of Builders

Elysha Head, Executive Officer  
701-852-0496 [minotab.com](http://minotab.com)

- The 2017 Parade of Homes was a hit! With higher attendance than last year, MAB is excited to bring back the Parade year after year and establish it as a community event.
- MAB hosted its first Breakfast with the Builders on September 21st. NAHB rep Alex Martindale visited with MAB members and filled them in on what NAHB does for members on a daily basis.
- October brings Hard Hat Happy Hour at Army's 2.0 Lounge and Bottle Shop. MAB is looking forward to meeting some new members and good drinks!
- Preparations have started for the 2018 Home and Garden Show! Stay tuned for more details!

## Williston Area Builders Association

Jamie Montgomery Executive Officer  
701-572-5744 [willistonbuilders.com](http://willistonbuilders.com)

- Parade of Homes was held in late September.