

# LET'S LEVEL

*the Official Publication of the Wausau Area Builders Association*



*Celebrating 50 years*

**AUGUST 2017, VOLUME 36**

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Aug. 17 WABA Picnic  
at Marathon Park
- Aug. 18 Sporting Clay Shoot
- Sept. 16 Grand Celebration Banquet  
at The Hoffman House
- Oct. 19 Parade of Homes Kick-off  
& Table Top  
at the Great Dane
- Nov. 16 Election of Officers/Directors  
at Ferguson's

### OUR MISSION:

*The Wausau Area Builders Association chartered in 1967 and affiliated with the Wisconsin Builders Association and National Association of Home Builders, is a professional non-profit trade association. Serving the community, we represent the interests and concerns of the customer, building trades, industry suppliers, and all facets of the building industry.*



**SPORTING  
CLAYS  
SHOOT**

**FRI., AUG. 18**

*Details Inside*

# SUMMER

*Thursday, August  
17th at Marathon  
Park - Big Kitchen*

# PICNIC

*\*Tokens for the  
children for the train\**

### 5:30 p.m. - Mix-N-Mingle

Beer / Soda / Water

### 6:30 p.m. - Picnic

BBQ Chicken

1/4 # Hamburgers

Johnsonville Brats

Potato Salad

Baked Beans

Fresh Fruit Salad

Relishes

### 50th Anniversary Cake

Danee's Ice Cream

Truck

### Games / Raffle / Prizes

One WABA member and their immediate family per membership is complimentary.

Employees and guests (over 12 years are \$15) (under 12 years are \$10) (under 4 years are free).

Pre-registration is required for this event. We do not allow billings, credits, or refunds.



801 South 24th Ave.  
Wausau, WI 54401  
Phone (715) 842-9510  
[www.WausauAreaBuilders.com](http://www.WausauAreaBuilders.com)

#### OFFICERS

President ..... Cory Sillars  
Vice-President ..... Cindy Zuleger  
Secretary ..... Shelly Talley-Nelsen  
Treasurer ..... Julie Rajek  
Past President ..... Russ Utech  
Business Manager ..... Carolyn Wilde

#### WABA DIRECTORS

Through 2017: Gloria Fenhaus, Kyle VanOrder,  
Amber Gober; Through 2018: Roger Lang, Keith  
Koenig, Travis Hoffman; Through 2019: Alex Forer,  
Travis Hoerman & Sid Sorensen

#### WABA STATE REPRESENTATIVES

Matt Keeney, Alex Forer, Cory Sillars

#### NATIONAL DIRECTOR

Cory Sillars

#### WBA PAST PRESIDENT

Arden Emmerich

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Advertising ..... Lori Stevenson  
Anniversary ..... Dan Sillars  
Bylaws ..... Sid Sorensen  
Budget/Audit ..... Dan Sillars & Arden Emmerich  
Events ..... Gloria Fenhaus  
Finance ..... Julie Rajek  
Home Show ..... Russ Utech  
Legislative ..... Cory Sillars  
Marketing ..... Lana Mohs  
Membership ..... Alex Forer  
Nominations ..... Russ Utech  
Parade of Homes ..... Travis Hoerman/Sam McLellan  
Personnel ..... James Wanserski  
Scholarship ..... Cory Sillars  
Silent Auction ..... Amber Gober  
Golf Outing ..... Phil Pesanka  
Sporting Clay ..... Alex Forer & Larry Meyer  
Website ..... Warren Pope  
Facebook ..... Kyle VanOrder & Sara Gast



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy Wisconsin Summer Everyone,

Our Wood Chucks Baseball Night, on July 20th, was a great evening with about 90 attendees and a Wood Chucks win! Thank you to Gloria for putting together a wonderful WABA family event again.

In August we will have the WABA Clay Shoot and our 50th Anniversary Family Picnic. If you enjoy the competition of shooting at clay pigeons and helping to raise money for The Honor Flight program, please get signed up for this event. Larry and Alex

have been doing a great job with organizing and improving this competition each year, so come out and see what they have new for you this time. The Family Picnic will be held at Marathon Park with a catered meal, goodie bags for the kids, anniversary cake, and a special surprise from the Anniversary Committee. Please see the Newsletter announcements for more details on each.

Looking ahead we will be having a special 50th Anniversary Banquet on Saturday, September 16th. We only get to the half century mark once as an Association, so please make plans to be a part of this celebration. We are inviting all of the past WABA Presidents, State and National Association representatives, a few of our very supportive State Legislators (if able), and Governor Walker has been asked to stop by (if able) as well.

October's meeting will be the Parade of Homes "kick off" Night. There will be about 25 table tops available again this year for Associate members to display their products and offers for the 2018 Parade. Talk to Travis or Sam to get your spot today!

With November's meeting we will elect next year's officers and directors. If you have any interest in becoming a part of the leadership team for the Association, please let me or Carolyn know so that we can add your name to the election ballot. We have opening for a few Committee Chairs as well, if you would like to volunteer to serve the Association in that way instead.

I hope that everyone has a safe and fun filled time in the remainder of our Wisconsin summer! I hope to talk with you at an upcoming WABA event.

*Cory Sillars, 2017 WABA President*



**ACRO Plumbing, Inc.**  
904 Sumner Street  
Wausau, WI 54403  
Telephone: 715.842.9425  
E-Mail: [acroplumbing@frontier.com](mailto:acroplumbing@frontier.com)

# JOKE OF THE MONTH

Why do cows wear bells?  
Because their horns don't work.

## MEMBER INFORMATION

### RENEWING MEMBERS

Acro Plumbing Inc.  
Advantage Plumbing Plus  
Courtside Furniture Inc.  
Cunico Electric LLC  
Denyon Homes Inc.  
Ingersol Construction  
Larry Meyer Construction Co. LLC  
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Royalty Custom Homes LLC  
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## IMPORTANT NOTICE MEMBERS:

I have reserved a block of rooms for your convenience at "The Quality Inn" connected to our venue, for our 50th anniversary celebration on September 16, 2017! The rooms are at a very discounted rate for \$84.99 reserved under the "Wausau Area Builders Association" and includes breakfast. The rooms all have double beds and accommodates up to four people at no extra charge. They will be on hold through August 18 only! To make your reservation please call 715-842-1616. Thank you! ~ Gloria J Fenhaus / Director and Chairman of Events

## IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT JOINING A COMMITTEE THIS FALL

Now is the time to participate in the activities of your Association. The key to making the most of your membership is not what the association gives to you, but what you invest in the Association through participation. Play an active role in making it happen! Don't burn out the people that are always there for the Association. They are volunteers because they believe in the Association and have experienced first-hand what the Local, State and National Associations can do with team work.

*Meet your fellow members - they're nice people*

Vice-President  
Treasurer  
Local Director

Scholarship  
Membership  
BLDR-PAC Trustee

Clay Shoot  
Advertising

Marketing  
Events

If you have any questions about a committee, please feel free to call the office at 715-842-9510. Not all committees have monthly meetings, rather meet when needed or when the chair schedules one. It's imperative to the growth of the Association that everyone does their part to help **their** industry grow.



# AUGUST

# 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b> POH Committee Meeting - 12:00 pm Home Show Committee Meeting - 4:00 pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Golf Committee Meeting at 11 am BY into B Committee Meeting at 4:30 pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> BOARD MEETING - 4 pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> PICNIC AT MARATHON PARK	<b>18</b> SPORTING CLAY SHOOT	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Membership Committee Meeting at 4:30 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>		

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# SEPTEMBER

# 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5 POH Committee Meeting - 12:00 pm Home Show Committee Meeting - 4:00 pm	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 GRAND CELEBRATION BANQUET
17	18	19 BOARD MEETING - 4 pm	20	21	22 ITEMS FOR NEWSLETTER DUE	23
24	25	26 Membership Committee Meeting at 4:30 pm	27	28	29	30

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# *Picnic* at the Woodchucks

*A great game and a fun night!*





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# HOMEOWNERSHIP

*Reprinted from NAHB website*

## GUIDE TO BUYING A HOME

If you are thinking of buying a new home, you must pay close attention to many details to ensure that you find one that will suit your needs and preferences. Before you start shopping, you should sit down with the members of your household to discuss your preferences and the many options available to you. Here are some things you should consider:

### Step 1: Financing Your Home

The first step in the home buying process is determining how much you can afford. To ensure that the financing process goes smoothly, buyers should consider pre-qualifying for a mortgage and having a financing commitment in place before shopping for a new home.

### Step 2: Prioritizing Most-Wanted Features

Before you start shopping, you should sit down with the members of your household to discuss your preferences and the many options available to you.

An easy way to organize your thoughts is to write each separate feature that you want on a 3X5 card, and arrange the cards in order of their importance to you. For instance, if you like to cook, you may want a home with a large, well-equipped kitchen. Or you may settle for a small kitchen, so that you can have extra space for a library, office or playroom.

Some home buyers seek large, open interior spaces, while others prefer traditional rooms that afford more privacy.

While looking for a home, consider whether your needs are likely to change over time. If you plan to add rooms, find out if there is enough space on your site for such expansion and whether such additions are permitted by your local jurisdiction.

### Step 3: Selecting the Type of Home

Options include single-family homes and condominiums. Some home buyers prefer homes with large yards. Others opt for condominiums where they can avoid yard maintenance entirely.

With a single-family home in a development, you'll be responsible for your own yard and home, but may be restricted to certain design elements or other regulations if there is a home owners association.

A condominium is a home in a multi-unit complex, such as an apartment building or a townhouse cluster. You own the home, and you and your neighbors jointly own the common elements, such as the land around the complex, the parking areas, building exteriors, hallways, utility pipes and recreational facilities. A condominium owners association is responsible for maintaining the jointly owned elements. The day-to-day business of the complex is generally handled by a managing agency.

If building a new home; learn about all of your construction options. Understand the difference between custom and production homes, discover the rustic charm of log homes and the benefits of modular homes.

### Step 4: Starting Your House Hunt

Now that you know the type of home and features you are looking for, and how much home you can afford, you're ready to begin searching for your perfect home. Whether you use a realtor to find an existing home or work with a builder to buy a new home, you'll be more focused with your search.





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## What's in a name?



In our case, quite a bit.

A name like "Pella Windows & Doors of Wisconsin" comes with expectations. Not only do building professionals expect Pella's high-quality materials, colors, and styles, they want local insight and a work ethic worthy of Wisconsinites. Our strong values and integrity complement a true consultative approach, so your next project is worry-free, rewarding, and a good value.



Andy Bauer    [ABauer@pellawi.com](mailto:ABauer@pellawi.com)    Office: 800.242.1008    Cell: 920.461.0372

# IBS 2018

## ALL HOMES START HERE

Registration opens August 1!



f t i #IBSORLANDO

### TOP 3 REASONS YOU SHOULD BE AT THE BUILDERS' SHOW



#### Learn

The hottest industry trends  
and techniques your  
business needs



#### See

Construction demos,  
new products and  
technology



#### Benefit

Great Value! NAHB member  
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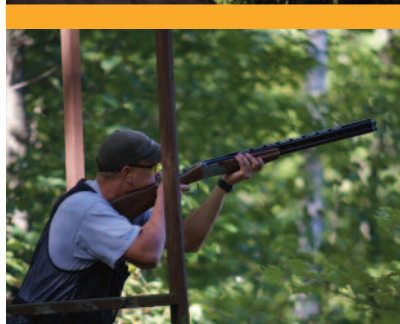
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AD1218





# SPORTING CLAYS SHOOT

## FRIDAY AUG. 18, 2017

**WAUSAU SKEET & TRAP CLUB, BROKAW**  
Registration 8:00 am

Shotgun Start 9:00 am (Rain or Shine)

\$75 per shooter - \$350/5 person - \$425/6 person

Single entries accepted - teams will be assembled

All veterans who participate  
will receive a special token  
of appreciation

Ladies we would  
be delighted to  
have you join us

**REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES:**  
16 Sporting Clay Shooting Stations • Lunch and Refreshments

*Raffles will be available for an additional cost.*

Five or Six Shooters per Team / 100 Rounds per Shooter

Side Events Available: Fur & Feather, Flurry - \$5 each

Bring your own shells – 5 or 6 boxes of shot size 7-1/2, 8 or 9 only

Personal Four-wheeler transportation is allowed.

**EYE AND EAR PROTECTION REQUIRED - NO EXCEPTIONS!**

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #1 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #2 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #3 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #4 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #5 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Shooter #6 \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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**For Online Registration Go To [www.wausauareabuilders.com](http://www.wausauareabuilders.com)**

# ADVOCACY DIGEST



## **Walker back to even in latest Marquette University Law School Poll**

Recently the latest Marquette University Law School Poll (<https://law.marquette.edu/poll/>) was released and showed a continued improvement in the approval rating for Governor Scott Walker. Walker is back to

even in Wisconsin, where 48% of those surveyed approved of the job he was doing and 48% disapproving. This was the first time since October 2014, right before his last reelection, that Walker did not have a higher negative than positive approval rating.

During 2015, which featured a bid for the GOP nomination for President that was aborted in September, Walker's number suffered among his core supporter group: those identifying as republicans in addition to the support of independents. It has been a long road back to even, but my guess is the Walker campaign feels much better now than it did a year ago at this time.

With a 17 year-low statewide unemployment number of 3.2%, and with the likely passage of a state budget that will again reduce property taxes and likely increase aid to public schools, it will be interesting to see if polls this fall have Walker slightly above 50% in approval rating.

48% likely doesn't sound super impressive, but in today's atmosphere of highly partisan politics in the nation and in Wisconsin—coupled with the fact that Walker will likely be able to raise huge sums of money for his reelection—this is good news if you are supportive of a 3rd term for Governor Walker.

## **Etrheim appointed to Uniform Dwelling Code Council**

Recently, WBA Past President Mark Etrheim of La Crosse was named by Governor Walker as the newest member of the Uniform Dwelling Code Council (UDC Council). The UDC Council is charged with advising the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) on revisions to the one and two-family building code.

Etrheim replaces Peter Krabbe who decided against a reappointment to the council to focus more time on his business.

WBA thanks Mr. Krabbe for his time on the UDC Council and also extends congratulations to Mr. Etrheim on this

recent appointment to the council to serve a term ending in 2019.

## **NAHB and House Panel Reach Agreement on Flood Insurance Bill**

NAHB today reached an agreement with leaders of the House Financial Services Committee to craft a viable, long-term flood insurance reauthorization bill that will keep the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) fiscally sound and enable home builders to provide safe and affordable housing to consumers.

"NAHB commends House Financial Services Chairman Jeb Hensarling and Housing Subcommittee Chair Sean Duffy for their leadership in working with us to produce a bill that will preserve rate affordability, shore up the NFIP and address the concerns of the housing community," said NAHB Chairman Granger MacDonald. "With the NFIP set to expire on Sept. 30, we urge the House to pass this bill quickly."

NAHB and the committee leadership have worked together to provide a five-year reauthorization of the NFIP that:

- Eliminates a provision that would have ended NFIP coverage of new homes constructed in the 100-year floodplain;
- Ensures that "grandfathering" will remain available for all policyholders if their risk changes, which will enable home owners to have continued access to affordable flood insurance; and
- Sustains affordability by raising the annual premium floor for rate hikes from its current 5% level to 6.5% instead of the proposed rate of 8%.

"As a builder who knows firsthand how flood insurance rate increases can hurt home owners, businesses and communities, I am pleased that the House Financial Services Committee has made such important progress on reauthorizing the NFIP," said Randy Noel, a home builder from LaPlace, La. and NAHB first vice chairman.

"This bill is critical to allow more borrowers to be covered by flood insurance and ensure that we can continue to provide safe and affordable housing in Louisiana and across the nation."

For more information, contact Jessica Hall at 800-368-5242 x8253.

## **From DSPS: New Plumbing Alternate Approval Issued**

The Department of Safety and Professional Services has issued a Department Alternate to SPS 382.20(1)(a) and (b). See: <http://dsps.wi.gov/sb/docs/sb-ppalopp/20170175.pdf>



This approval permits, in lieu of requirements specified in SPS 382.20(1), a building owner to request, and the Department or its authorized representative to grant permission to start the installation plumbing upon submission of construction documents under SPS 382.20(4) and application where a scheduled plan review date is greater than ten (10) business days.

The installations covered under this alternate approval are:

1. Water services, private water mains;
2. Sanitary sewer, private sanitary interceptor sewer;
3. Storm sewer, private interceptor storm sewer;
4. Interior underfloor sanitary, clearwater, and storm building drain and associated vents;
5. Interior water service and distribution.

Interior installations may terminate a maximum of 18 inches above the unexcavated floor.

There are specific requirements that need to be met to take advantage of this new alternate.

1. The owner has to sign the request Permission to Start section on the recently revised plumbing application.
2. The Department or authorized agent must have "in-hand" the application and a complete set of plans and calculations for the project;
3. The specific request is for the plumbing listed above; and
4. The scheduled review date is greater than ten (10) business days.

Permission to Start will not be granted for healthcare facilities [as defined in s. SPS 381.01(116)], for stormwater detention or stormwater infiltration.

After submission and a cursory review of the plans for the required documents, a Communication letter will be issued by the Department or authorized agent permitting the Permission to Start.

If you have questions on this or any other matter please email: [DSPSSBPIbgTech@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DSPSSBPIbgTech@wisconsin.gov)

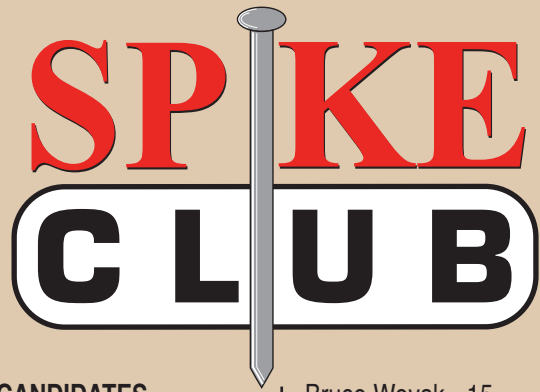
Or call the Plumbing Techline: 608-267-9421.

Brad Boycks

WBA Director of Government and Political Affairs

[WisconsinBuildersAssociation@bboycks@wisbuild.org](mailto:WisconsinBuildersAssociation@bboycks@wisbuild.org)  
(608) 242-5151 ext.16

Visit our web site: [www.wisbuild.org](http://www.wisbuild.org)



#### CANDIDATES

Tim Brown - 4.5  
Stan Budleski - 3  
Don Budnik - 1  
James Coleman - 2.5  
Brennan Duke - 1  
Gloria Fenhaus - 4  
Robery Gaffney - 1  
John Henning - 2  
Matt Keeney - 3.5  
Brent Kriewaldt - 2  
Robert Kulp - 5  
Wayne Lodholz - 2  
Sam McLellan - 2  
Philip Pesanka - 1  
Tony Pfefferman - 2  
Sarah Ruffi - 1  
Gary Rusch - 3  
Jerry Schepp - 2  
Lori Stevenson - 4  
Shelly Talley-Nelsen - 1  
Russ Utech - 6.5  
Craig Wilhelm - 5.5  
Tim Witzeling - 4  
Roger Zell - 5

#### MEMBERS

Joan Belke - 9  
Jason Blenker - 14  
Ray Bodenheimer - 24  
Michael Bolen - 8.5  
Alex Forer - 8.5  
Gary Guernndt - 11  
Travis Hoerman - 6  
Leroy Kazmierczak - 15.5  
David Kempf - 6  
Don Marquardt - 7  
John Ohrmundt - 7  
Mike Polencheck - 7  
Andy Radant - 10.5  
Matthew Waldvogel - 13

Bruce Woyak - 15

#### LIFE MEMBERS

Ken Bauer - 226  
Jason Brettingen - 27.5  
Shane Brzezinski - 27  
Dwight Dorpat - 83  
Gerard Draxler - 120  
Arden Emmerich - 51  
Dave Framke - 239  
Jerry Jarosz - 96.5  
William Keener - 87  
Arnold King - 70  
Doug Knight - 164  
James Koebe - 64  
Bob Kolbeck - 26.5  
James Kraimer - 157  
Rick Kuharske - 106  
Brian Luedtke - 31.5  
Don Manlick - 152.5  
Larry Meyer - 112.5  
Robert Mork - 28  
Daniel Muleski - 40  
Kolby Muscha - 36  
Ted Peotter - 32  
David Rademan - 79.5  
Guy Reedy - 194  
Robert Schulz - 27.5  
Cory Sillars - 82  
Dan Sillars - 531.5  
Sid Sorensen - 195  
Bob Sundell - 40  
James Sydow - 43.5  
Jeremy Voigt - 67  
Jim Voigt - 143.5  
Larry Voigt - 181  
James Wanserski - 27  
Ken Wanta Jr. - 26.5  
Richard Wanta - 373.5  
Rod Werner - 225  
Jim Woller - 208  
Bernie Wood - 42

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# HOUSING AWARDS

Reprinted from NAHB website

## AWARDS THAT GIVE REMODELERS NATIONAL PRESTIGE

The most successful companies are typically known for innovative strategies, delivering superior products and consistently providing high-quality service.

A kitchen remodel project by 2016 Homes for Life Single Space winner Barbara Mueller of Designs Anew Houston.

But rather than simply saying your work is exemplary, validate it.

NAHB Remodelers' annual awards program is the perfect platform for remodelers to showcase how their work measures up against their peers. And those who have been honored previously for their outstanding work will attest to the benefits of being recognized.

"Winning the Remodeler of the Year award was one of the highlights of my career, especially because my fellow remodelers were the ones who did the judging," said Michael Menn, principal of Michael Menn Ltd., who received the award in 2016.

"The positive response from my clients and peers was mind blowing. And the added recognition it brought to my company has been a tremendous benefit."

Those interested in applying for an award or nominating a peer can do so in any of several categories:

- **Council Awards for Demonstrating Remodeling Excellence (CADREs)** are the highest national awards for work by local remodelers councils and individuals, recognizing professional excellence in leadership, community service, government affairs, membership, education and public relations.
- **Homes for Life** awards recognize active Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist (CAPS) designees for excellence in design and/or home modifications in a remodeled home.
- **NAHB Remodeler of the Year** award recognizes exemplary NAHB involvement, superior business management and outstanding contributions to the remodeling industry.
- **National Remodeling Hall of Fame** honors individuals who have made a significant, lasting impact on the remodeling industry.
- **NAHB Remodelers One to Watch** — new for 2017 — honors an NAHB Remodelers member under the age of 40 for outstanding career, community and remodeling industry accomplishments.

Winners will be honored during the annual NAHB All-Stars Celebration, held during the International Builders' Show at the New American Remodel 2018 on Jan. 10.

The deadline to apply is Sept. 8. Go to [nahb.org/remodelerawards](http://nahb.org/remodelerawards) for more information.



*A kitchen remodel project by 2016 Homes for Life Single Space winner Barbara Mueller of Designs Anew Houston.*



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