

# Monthly Bulletin

VANCE GRANVILLE HOME BUILDERS ASSOCIATION

— Serving Vance, Granville & Warren Counties —

March 2018

## Softwood Lumber Outlook for 2018 Shaped by Wildfires, Tariffs

Softwood lumber prices closed out the year at or near record highs in most areas of the country, making the average Random Lengths Composite Price for 2017 the highest in 20 years.

“Prices surged early in the year due to the arbitrary tariffs levied on softwood lumber imports from Canada, which impacted roughly one-third of U.S. supply,” said David Logan, NAHB’s tax policy analyst who continually monitors the price and availability of building materials prices.

“Then in mid- to late-2017, widespread wildfires in British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest, combined with the damaging hurricanes in the south, resulted in tighter supply and fueled further price increases,” he said.



According to Logan, the outlook for lumber prices in 2018 is more of the same. Lumber supply will increase as forests and mills in Canada and the Pacific Northwest recover from a devastating wildfire season. As production and supply improve, prices will moderate.

“We’ve already seen the effects of increased capacity in the OSB market, in which prices have fallen substantially from record levels in mid-2017 as new and idled mills have come online,” Logan said.

He notes that any price decline that would result from increased lumber supply will likely be offset by the duties on Canadian imports, which could have significant impacts on the housing industry and the broader U.S. economy.

### NAHB Chairman Randy Noel on New Steel and Aluminum Tariffs

Randy Noel, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) and a home builder and developer from LaPlace, La., issued the following statement regarding President Trump’s announcement to impose tariffs on steel and aluminum imports:

“It is unfortunate that President Trump has decided to impose tariffs of 25 percent on steel imports and 10 percent on aluminum imports. These tariffs will translate into higher costs for consumers and U.S. businesses that use these products, including home builders.

“Given that home builders are already grappling with 20 percent tariffs on Canadian softwood lumber and that the price of lumber and other key building materials are near record highs, this announcement by the president could not have come at a worse time.

“Tariffs hurt consumers and harm housing affordability. We hope the administration will work quickly to resolve these trade disputes regarding lumber and steel so that businesses and consumers have access to an adequate supply at a fair market price.”

### *Membership Meeting*

**MONDAY, MARCH 19**

**Location:**

**Mayflower Seafood Restaurant**

201 N. Cooper Drive  
Henderson, North Carolina

**Time:**

Social starts at **5:30 p.m.**

Dinner starts at **6:15 p.m.**

**RSVP to:**

Amy Williams at 919-603-5081,  
E-mail: [eo@vancegranvillehba.org](mailto:eo@vancegranvillehba.org)

## We Need Your Help!

# GC Licensing Online, Close to Being a Reality

The North Carolina Licensing Board for General Contractors is committed to providing the ultimate licensing experience for its current and future licensees. The Board has rolled out **Phase 1 of Licensing Online**, the Board's newly developed interactive web-based licensing platform.

**Licensing Online** provides the ability for the Licensing Board to communicate important updates and other current information to licensees through a unique password protected account, which the licensed contractor logs into the Board's website and create.

**Licensing Online** provides the means for the licensee to communicate directly with the Board, and in the future, submit paperwork or online forms that in the past have been mailed or faxed to the Board's office.

**Phase 1 of Licensing Online** was activated in November 2017, enabling a licensed general contractor to visit the Board's website at [www.nclbgc.org](http://www.nclbgc.org) and follow the prompts to create their **Licensing Online** account.

The following services are implemented:

- A licensee has access to request a duplicate 2018 License Renewal Application in the event the original is lost or damaged.

- The 2018 License Renewal Certificate is available to be printed by the licensee.
- The Board grants authorization to the licensee's profile contact information so the licensee can make revisions as necessary through the **Licensing Online** account.

**Licensing Online** WILL NOT allow submission of license renewal applications for the 2018 license year. *However*, it is anticipated that **Phase 2 of Licensing Online** will roll out in time for the license renewal process for the 2019 license year renewal to be accomplished online.

### Attention! All Licensed General Contractors ... We Need Your Help!

For **Licensing Online** to be an effective and efficient means of interaction between the Board and you, the Board needs for all licensed general contractors to log in and create their unique password protected **Licensing Online** account. It is very easy, and will take less than 5 minutes to complete the initial process to allow for the two way communication link between you and the Board to begin.

**Licensing Online** can be found at  
[www.nclbgc.org](http://www.nclbgc.org)

Log in and create your **Licensing Online** account today!



### 2018 Vance Granville Home Builders Leadership

Rick Edwards, *President*  
Rick Edwards Electric

Crawford Knott, *Secretary-Treasurer*  
Holden, Moss, Knott, Clark & Copley, PA

Amy Williams, *Executive Officer*  
919-603-5081

[eo@vancegranvillehba.org](mailto:eo@vancegranvillehba.org)

#### LOCAL DIRECTORS

David Adcock, Talbert Building Supply

Chris Bass, Mallard Homes

Mike Brummitt, Mike Brummitt Heating & Cooling

Rick Edwards, Rick Edwards Electric

Robert Lloyd, Robert Lloyd Plumbing

Wallace Peiffer, Coldwell Advantage

Kathy Smith, First Citizens Bank

Bonn Williams, D.B. Williams Construction

Jimmy Williams, J.L. Williams Construction

## The Value of HBA Membership

High industry standards and professionalism

Builders Mutual Insurance available to association members

Advance your business through networking

Vigorous legislative advocacy

Association events and publications keep members informed

Local, state, and national memberships and resources

Unique marketing opportunities

Educational programs

NCHBA is a statewide trade association and not-for-profit organization that serves 65 local associations and more than 15,000 member firms.

# Scary Truths About Jobsite Fatalities

Here's some news for those builders you may know of who think that fall protection on the jobsite is just not that important: Between 1982 and 2015, 42% of construction worker deaths were attributed to falls.

That means that 325 lives were lost — and an overwhelming 78% of these deaths happened because these workers did not have a personal fall arrest system (PFAS), or had one but didn't use it. Most of those who didn't have the body harnesses and attachments that make up these PFAS worked in the residential construction industry.



The Center for Construction Research and Training has crunched data from the NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation program to create a searchable database, the Construction FACE Database, with additional information about these accidents and where they occur.

**These accidents can be prevented with three easy to follow steps:** plan ahead to get the job done safely; provide the right fall protection equipment; and train workers to use the equipment safely.

NAHB supports the continuing education of fall protection safety practices in the residential construction industry to help keep workers safe on the job. And it has to be started right away: Fully 20% of those workers killed had been on the job two months or less.

NAHB's "Toolbox Talk" video series includes two on fall protection: one in English and one in Spanish. You'll find both in NAHB's expanded safety pages in the Toolbox Talks section of nahb.org.

This year, NAHB and Builders Mutual Insurance Co. are together promoting Safety 365, a public awareness campaign that reminds home builders and home buyers that staying safe at home and on the jobsite requires constant vigilance.



## Vance Granville Homebuilders 2018 Golf Tournament

**Thursday, May 17, 2018**

**Kerr Lake Country Club  
600 Hedrick Drive, Henderson, NC  
252-492-1895**

- 4 Person Teams
- Seniors (60+) play from Senior Tees
- Open to Men & Women

Entry Fee: \$300.00/Team

Or, \$75.00/Person

*(We will pair you up with a team!)*

Includes Lunch and Mulligan Package

**Hole Sponsorship - \$100.00**

**Lunch Sponsorship - \$500.00**

**Early Bird Reduced Rates (Pay by March 31st):**

**Golf Team of (4) and Hole Sponsorship: \$350.00**

**Golf Team of (4): \$275.00**

**Hole Sponsorship: \$75.00**

**\*\*\* Chance to Win a Car \*\*\***

**Sponsored by: Henderson Toyota**

Captain's Choice (Commonly Known as Superball)

All Ties will be Broken with Scorecard Playoff

**Lunch will be Served at 12:00 Noon**

**Golf Starts at 1:00**

Player # 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Player # 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Player # 3 \_\_\_\_\_

Player # 4 \_\_\_\_\_

**Please contact Amy Williams at 919-603-5081, or eo@vancegranvillehba.org for more information.**

**Form and payment may be mailed to:**

**PO Box 803**

**Oxford, NC 27565**

**or**

**Call Amy Williams for credit card payment.**

# Canadian Softwood Lumber

American home builders need reasonably priced lumber to build homes that average working families can afford.

U.S. domestic production is not sufficient to meet demand. NAHB is working with the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to clear the regulatory hurdles that constrain domestic lumber production.

In 2016, the U.S. consumed 47.1 billion board feet of softwood lumber while producing 32.8 billion board feet. That's a shortfall of 14.3 billion board feet. More than one-third of the lumber consumed in the U.S. last year was imported, and more than 95% of the imports came from Canada. Annual domestic production has not met demand even once during the last 50 years.

## Why It Matters

The lumber supply problem is made worse by the Commerce Department decision to impose duties averaging 26.75% on Canadian lumber shipments into the U.S. The tariffs are acting as a tax on American home builders and home buyers, making housing less affordable for American families and forcing builders to look overseas to Germany and Russia in order to meet demand.

The fact that America cannot meet the nation's demand for lumber is all the more reason to move forward on an equitable U.S.-Canada trade agreement that will provide a reliable and affordable supply of lumber and meet the housing needs of American consumers.

## Solutions

America cannot meet the nation's demand for softwood lumber, which will only continue to grow as the housing recovery picks up steam.

Therefore, NAHB believes the following steps should be taken:

- Rescind the lumber duties, which will be finalized on Nov. 18, and negotiate a settlement to address American home builder concerns regarding price and availability of lumber. NAHB is meeting with representatives of the Trump administration and Congress, as well as Canadian federal and provincial officials, to achieve this goal.
- Boost domestic production by seeking higher targets for timber sales from publicly owned lands and opening up additional federal forest lands for logging in an environmentally sustainable manner.
- Reduce U.S. lumber exports. Domestic producers are selling abroad to China and other international clients in order to increase profits. Exporting timber should be discouraged when there is a gaping need at home.
- Seek out new markets to reduce our nation's reliance on Canadian lumber imports and make up for our domestic shortfall. NAHB last year held productive talks with Chilean government, trade and industry officials that focused on increasing exports of softwood lumber to America. Other potential markets include Sweden and Brazil.

## NCHBA Regional Leadership Meeting

NCHBA Region IV Meeting

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 • 10:00 am - 12:00 noon

Location: Greensboro Builders Association, 1155 Westgate Drive, Greensboro, NC

### Agenda:

- Introductions of attendees, brief overview of NCHBA services, short BMIC presentation. (30 minutes)
- Governmental affairs presentation (hot legislative topics and regulatory issues, BUILD-PAC explanation and solicitation). (30 minutes)
- Member of the General Assembly to speak at each meeting, to be arranged by NCHBA staff, e.g., Senator Tom McInnis with Q & A to follow. (30 minutes)
- Member roundtable to discuss top 2 or 3 items of interest to regional attendees to be determined by Regional Vice President prior to meeting and communicated to leadership team and staff beforehand. (30 minutes)

# Home Builders Seek Cooperation with OSHA to Improve Worker Safety

The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) called on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to expand its small business compliance assistance to help home builders and other small business owners to improve the safety of their operations.

Testifying on behalf of NAHB at a House subcommittee hearing on “a more effective and collaborative OSHA,” J. Gary Hill, a custom home builder from Greensboro, N.C., and 2018 chairman of the NAHB Construction Safety and Health Committee, told lawmakers that reforming and improving how OSHA operates is a top priority of the housing industry.

“In recent years, OSHA has unleashed a regulatory tsunami on the construction industry,” said Hill. “The growth in the number and scope of regulations, along with the associated costs of these regulations, has raised concerns from NAHB members about OSHA’s heavy handed enforcement practices and procedures.”

According to the Small Business Administration, federal regulations cost small businesses 60 percent more per employee than it costs large businesses. Compliance with these regulations can average as much as \$7,000 per employee.

“In our industry, a sizeable share of these regulations comes from OSHA, and the costs imposed by OSHA regulations are financially onerous to every aspect of the home building industry,” he said.

Though facing prohibitive regulatory costs, Hill underscored that a top priority for small home building firms is to create a safe workplace environment for their employees. It also makes good business sense.

“It is no secret that safety saves lives, and money,” he said. “We have learned that the money saved through reduced workers’ compensation costs, lost time due to worker injuries and less time spent on accident claims and reports can be converted into improvements in the way employers operate their businesses. Moreover, a safe jobsite is also the key to retaining good employees and hiring new ones.”

Hill outlined three steps that OSHA can take to improve operating procedures that would make regulatory compliance more cost effective and make the agency more user friendly for small businesses. At the same time, he noted that the following actions by OSHA would boost housing affordability and continue to improve the safety of workers in the home building industry:

1. Focus agency efforts on providing employers with compliance assistance and training for existing regulations and standards so that OSHA is not needlessly piling on regulatory burdens that small businesses cannot effectively meet. By pursuing a collaborative relationship with trade associations and their members, OSHA will better be able to inform and educate employers of the responsibilities specified in the agency’s standards and regulations.

2. Develop new and innovative ways to partner with employers to achieve compliance. Small employers need help understanding the complex OSHA regulatory regime and want assistance in identifying hazards that pose the greatest risk of a worker being injured.

3. Modernize methods to disseminate compliance assistance information to include video based education segments and checklists viewable from computers, tablets and smartphones.

“By pursuing achievable reforms and leveraging the expertise of industry groups such as NAHB, Congress and the administration can succeed in making OSHA more user friendly for small businesses while also improving worker safety,” said Hill.



Vance Granville Home Builders Association

**2018 BuildPac Goal:  
\$820.00**

**Current Amount: \$274.00**

*Thank You for Your Participation in the BuildPac Fund*

Contact Amy Williams at 919-603-5081,  
E-mail: [eo@vancegranvillehba.org](mailto:eo@vancegranvillehba.org)

**Applications for 2018-2019 Now Being Accepted**

# North Carolina Home Builders Educational Foundation Scholarships



The North Carolina Home Builders Educational & Charitable Foundation, Inc. accepts applications for its college scholarships each year between January and April.

The foundation awards scholarships based on a combination of need and merit to four-year college students entering their junior or senior year, and technical school students entering their second year who have declared their major in a construction related field.

***To be eligible a student must meet the following criteria:***

1. Applicants must be nominated by a NCHBA member firm.
2. Nominees shall be immediate family members of NCHBA member firms, related by blood, (i.e. children, step-children or grandchildren).
3. Students related by marriage, (ie. son-in-law, daughter-in-law, etc.) shall not be eligible.

4. Immediate family members of any current trustee of the NCHB Educational & Charitable Foundation, Inc. shall not be eligible.
5. Awards are for one year, but scholarship winners may submit a renewal application and be considered for renewal if they make satisfactory progress in their studies.
6. Only full-time students will be considered. NCHBA defines a full-time student as one taking a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester.

***Apply by April 30th.***

***For more information:***

**Contact Amy Williams at  
919-603-5081**

**[eo@vancegranvillehba.org](mailto:eo@vancegranvillehba.org)**



## **BUILDERS**

Blackley Developers	Robert Blackley	919-418-0312
Built Right Homes, LLC	Jason Hayes	919-423-7616
	Mark Anderson	
Builder Tony Hirst, LLC	Tony Hirst	252-430-7722
Cornerstone General Contracting, Inc.	Brian Paynter	252-432-5872
Carolina Custom Sub	Kimberly Wedge	919-638-0510
Cimarron Capital Inc.	Craig Morrison	919-382-2888
D.B. Williams Construction	Bonn Williams	919-693-9164
Environmental Builders, LLC	Keith Tunstall	252-213-1266
Guin Construction	Danny Guin	252-430-4260

Homes by Thadd	Thadd Roberts	919-844-1988
Innovative Green Builders	Dennis Tharrington	252-436-9126
J.L. Williams Construction	Jim Williams	252-492-6970
Jed Pittard Builders	Jed Pittard	919-693-2374
Just Us Builders	Kenny Hill	919-291-0957
Knight Home Builders, LLC	Jon Zbonack	919-528-6655
Mallard Homes	Chris Bass	919-528-1488
Mark Hicks Builder	Mark Hicks	919-693-1866
Northstar Carolinas	Bruce Whitten	919-390-4240
Olde Dominion Builders of Raleigh	Steven King	919-369-3482
P&G Construction	Bennie Goodwin	919-730-9037
Qualified Custom Builders	Victor Tucker	252-456-4665
R. Dan Brummitt General Contractor	Dan Brummitt	252-432-4774
Rogers & Franklin	Mike Franklin	252-492-9385
Son & Hill Construction	Rob Hill	919-690-1151
Tarheel Woodcrafters	Dennis Edwards	252-432-3035
TCM Construction	Tony Murray	919-693-8149
TJ Construction of Henderson	John Thompson	252-438-8211
Trabar Homes	David Haskins	919-691-3714
Traditions Builder, LLC	Steven Hayes	919-554-6911
Vance Construction	Robert Kemp	252-492-0028
Wynn Construction	Edward Averett	919-528-1347

**ACCOUNTANT**  
 Holden, Moss, Knott, Clark & Copley, PA Crawford Knott 919-693-5960

**BANKERS**  
 Tidewater Mortgage Services John Reeder 252-767-8591  
 BB&T Bank (BB&T) Kendall Buckner 919-693-4141  
 Benchmark Community Bank Candace Lenderman 252-646-2440  
 Citizens Community Bank (CCB) Robin Ligon 252-598-0234  
 First Citizens Bank Kathy Smith 252-492-4145  
 Union Bank & Trust 919-603-5030

**BOAT DOCK MANUFACTURER**  
 Robco Manufacturing, Inc. Tommy Roberson 252-438-7399

**BORING CONTRACTOR**  
 Carl Currin Construction Carl Currin 919-691-5810

**BRICK**  
 Triangle Brick Steve Pendergraft 800-672-8547

**BUILDING SUPPLIERS**  
 Builders Discount 252-430-8500  
 Certainteed Roofing Rich Bechtold 919-607-0181  
 DuPont Tyvek/Parksite Charlene Allen 919-268-0312  
 Lowe's Home Improvement Bobby Gibson 252-436-0050  
 Professional Builders Supply Mike Brown 919-380-4800  
 Stock Building Supply Mike Hunsaker 919-562-6601  
 Talbert Building Supply Jeff Norman 336-599-1135

**CERAMIC TILE & MARBLE**  
 Leonard's Custom Ceramic Tile & Cultured Marble William Leonard 252-586-0622

**DRYWALL**  
 T&J Drywall Mark Shimminger 919-625-4208

**ELECTRICIANS / HVAC**  
 Andrews Electrical Service Joey Andrews 252-257-5290  
 Dales Heating, Cooling & Refrigeration Rick Poythress 252-438-5526  
 Hobgood Air William Hobgood 919-603-1055  
 Mid South Electric Mike Hicks 252-492-2076  
 Mike Brummitt Heating & Cooling Mike Brummitt 919-693-5536

Rick Edwards Electric Rick Edwards 252-438-4856  
 Robertson Electric Rick Robertson 252-586-4373  
 Sanford Electric LLC Dennis Sanford 252-432-1661  
 Stephen Wayne King Stephen King 919-398-1400  
 Carolina Cooling & Heating, Inc. Tim Bridges 252-438-4125  
 T&G Electrical & Plumbing Gene Pulley 252-492-9060

**FOUNDATION CONTRACTOR**  
 Applied Science USA Inc. Timothy Hunt 252-972-4104

**FRAMING**  
 Cash Construction Joey Cash 919-693-5491  
 Fine Line Construction Buck Smith 919-422-9652  
 Jon Currin Construction Jon Currin 919-691-0787

**FIREPLACES / GAS LOGS / GAS**  
 AAA Gas & Appliance Mac Hudgins 252-492-1138  
 PSNC Energy Mark Ellis 252-431-3407

**FLOORING**  
 AB Hair Carpets Ed Evans 252-456-3307  
 CTV Flooring Mike & Suzanne Smith 919-528-1112  
 Designer Floor Fashions Mark Mangum 919-363-0975  
 Luis Ernesto Luis Ernesto Leon Moya 919-333-2319  
 Wilson's Carpet Walter Wilson 919-693-2592

**GLASS / MIRRORS**  
 A. R. Perry Glass Richard Davis 252-492-6181

**GRADING / CLEARING / PAVING**  
 Ellington & Son Grading & Landscaping Mark Ellington 919-693-1230

Faulkner Grading & Landscaping Alan Faulkner 252-492-7703

**GRAVEL / CONCRETE / STONE**  
 Carolina Sunrock Greg Johnson 919-625-2780  
 New Ground Construction Brad Thomas 252-432-0032  
 Thomas Pace 252-432-7744

**INSPECTION/PLANNING DEPARTMENT**  
 Vance County Planning & Development Jordan McMillen 252-738-2080

**INSULATION**  
 Hughes Insulation Tony Hughes 252-492-6918  
 Sanford Insulation, Inc. Malcolm Sanford 252-432-2968  
 USI Smith Insulation Timmy Smith 919-496-3512

**INSURANCE AGENCIES**  
 Frazco Insurance Company Opie Frazier 252-430-1111  
 Gary Frazier  
 Pinnell Insurance John Cook 252-438-7129  
 The Pegram Agency Ray Pegram, Jr. 919-693-8888  
 Wester Realty & Insurance John Wester 252-438-8165

**LANDSCAPING**  
 Carolina Greenscapes Stoney Bradsher 252-492-6966  
 Joseph Wilson Thompson Joey Thompson 252-438-2458  
 Thompson Landscaping Matt Thompson 252-438-4882

**LIGHTING & INTERIOR PRODUCTS**  
 Lights Unlimited John Osburn 919-868-7659

**MULCH**  
 Pacific Mulch Chris Novemberbernard 252-492-4451

**PAINTING**  
 Matthew Paint Company John Curtis Matthews 252-204-9722  
 Perez Professional Painting Mario Perez 252-762-8409

**PARKING LOT**  
 Professional Striping & Seal Coating Faye Shope 919-575-6018

**PEST CONTROL**  
 A&S Pest Control, Inc. John Alston 252-456-2362

**PLUMBING**  
 Elmer Deal & Sons Jim Deal 252-438-6308  
 Lloyd Plumbing Paul Loyd 919-693-2000  
 Robert B. Lloyd Plumbing Bob Lloyd 252-492-2834  
 Watkins Piping & Plumbing Ray Watkins 919-690-6647

**REALTORS**  
 Coldwell Advantage Wallace Peiffer 919-528-4888  
 Fonville Morisey Realty Dave Harnery 919-229-2033  
 Sam Pyrtle 919-229-2011  
 Frazco Realty Harold Frazier 252-492-4121  
 Julie Wright Realty Group Julie Wright 919-847-7140

**ROOFING**  
 AA Arias Roofing, Inc. Andres Arias 252-425-3299  
 ABJ Roofing Bulmaro Rodriguez 919-422-0355  
 Harris & Son Home Repair David Harris 252-492-1252  
 Osiel Roofing Osiel Paniagua 252-213-3585

**SECURITY**  
 Ahner Security David Arner 252-438-7181

**SIDING**  
 Tulio Caceres Tulio Caceres 252-425-0763  
 iExteriors, LLC Joseph Wilson 252-226-3133

**STONE/MASONRY**  
 12 Stone LLC Steven Rice 919-810-7294

**TRIM**  
 Carolina Woodworks & Trim Bill Atkinson 252-425-1776  
 Tarheel Woodcrafters Dennis Edwards 252-432-3035  
 Total Trim, Inc. Karl Blackwell 919-441-8067

**UTILITY CONTRACTOR**  
 Allen Construction Juliet Allen 252-492-4946  
 JDWC, LLC Sabrina Johnson 252-433-5026

**AFFILIATE MEMBER**  
 Gayla Strickland – Coldwell Banker Advantage 252-430-9046

An infographic from the industry experts at Builders Mutual

## March is Ladder Safety Month

In the construction industry, many new employees are relatively undertrained. It is extremely important to provide safety education to all employees on their first day of work, before they step onto your jobsite. As industry experts at Builders Mutual, we are dedicated to setting you and your employees up for success.

That's why Builders Mutual is providing a quick reference tool that you can use when training new employees.

According to OSHA, falls are the leading cause of death in the construction industry, and in 2016, one-third of these falls were falls from ladders. More than 150 construction workers died as a result of ladder misuse. Ladder accidents also caused more than

20,000 workplace injuries in 2016, according to the Bureau of Labor. Fortunately, falls can be prevented through proper training.

The ladder safety infographic below, presented in English and in Spanish, explains important steps to remember that will help ensure on-the-job safety for your employees.

*Other ladder safety tips to remember include:*

- Wearing flat, non-slip shoes
- Avoiding placing a ladder near a doorway unless the door is locked
- Extending ladders fully before climbing them
- Avoiding carrying items while climbing



# LADDER SAFETY

## Seguridad en Escaleras



**Choose the right ladder for the job.**  
*Escoja la escalera adecuada para cada trabajo.*



**Don't place the ladder on unlevel footing.**  
*No apoye la escalera en un suelo desnivelado.*

**How to properly set a ladder:**

**1) Set your ladder at the correct 4 to 1 angle.**  
**2) Put your toes against the ladder's feet. Stand straight up and extend your arms. The palms of your hands should just reach the ladder's rung.**

*Cómo ubicar correctamente la escalera:*

1) Ubique la escalera en el ángulo correcto con una proporción de 4 a 1.  
2) Ubique sus dedos de los pies contra las patas de la escalera. Póngase derecho y extienda sus brazos de manera que las palmas de sus manos alcancen los peldaños de las escaleras.



**Do not overreach.**  
*Si la escalera no alcanza, reemplácela por una más larga. No intente estirar su cuerpo.*



**Always face the ladder.**  
*Siempre manténgase de frente a la escalera, nunca a su espalda.*



**Do not stand on the top or top 2 rungs of step ladder.**  
*Nunca se ubique en el penúltimo y/o último peldaño de la escalera.*



**Extension ladders or straight ladders should extend 3' above the point of support and tie off to prevent movement.**  
*Toda escalera debería extender 3 pies por encima del punto de apoyo y estar amarrada para prevenir su movimiento.*

## Millennials Lead the Homeownership Resurgence

Momentum continues to build for the housing industry, as evidenced by recent news from the Census Bureau regarding homeownership.

“Contrary to some analysts’ predictions that the rate would fall to 61% or lower in the coming years, the new Census Bureau estimates indicate it increased to 64.2% in 2017,” said NAHB Chief Economist Robert Dietz. “The data also showed six consecutive quarters of gains in the count of home owners, with notable growth among those under the age of 35.”

The homeownership rate of millennials (36%) registered the largest gains among all age groups, as noted by a NAHB economist in a recent Eye On Housing blog post. That growth suggests millennials are increasingly recognizing the long term benefits and value of investing in a home.

After bottoming out to a cycle low of 62.9% in the second quarter 2016, homeownership has

been on an upswing largely due to an increase in household formations.

Meanwhile, the number of renter households has gone down.

In addition to the rise in household formations, ongoing economic growth is expected to continue boosting housing demand throughout 2018, even despite the recently enacted tax reform legislation that is likely to hold back the growth of home prices.

“While it will boost economic activity, the new tax law is expected to contribute to price softness in some high cost, high tax markets now that deductions for income and property taxes are capped at \$10,000 per year,” Dietz said.

As the nation’s largest demographic group, totaling more than 90 million, millennials are poised to dominate the home buying market in the months and years ahead.

## Apartment and Condominium Market Ends Fourth Quarter on a Positive Note

The Multifamily Production Index (MPI), released by the National Association of Home Builders, posted a gain of seven points to 53 in the fourth quarter of 2017.

The MPI measures builder and developer sentiment about current conditions in the apartment and condominium market on a scale of 0 to 100. The index and all of its components are scaled so that a number above 50 indicates that more respondents report conditions are improving than report conditions are getting worse.

The MPI provides a composite measure of three elements of the multifamily housing market: construction of low rent units, market rate rental units and “for sale” units, or condominiums. All three components increased in the fourth quarter: low rent units rose two points to 56, market rate rental units climbed 11 points to 54, and for sale units increased nine points to 49.

The Multifamily Vacancy Index (MVI), which measures the multifamily housing industry’s perception of vacancies, remained even at 41, with lower numbers indicating fewer vacancies. The MVI has been fairly stable since 2013, after peaking at 70 in the second quarter of 2009.

“Multifamily developers continue to see solid demand in many parts of the country,” said

Steven Lawson, president of Lawson Companies in Virginia Beach, Va., and chairman of NAHB’s Multifamily Council. “Developers need to be careful to manage costs as prices of land, labor and some building materials continue to rise.”

“The positive MPI reading is consistent with builder sentiment readings in other segments of the housing industry,” said NAHB Chief Economist Robert Dietz. “Continued job growth and increasing household formation are key drivers for the multifamily market moving forward.”

### Noel on Senate Banking Bill

Randy Noel, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders issued the following statement on the **Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act**, banking reform legislation now pending in the Senate, S. 2155:

*“NAHB commends the Senate for working in a bipartisan manner to advance S. 2155, legislation that contains critical reform elements that would help ease tight credit conditions that are keeping more home buyers on the sidelines even as the housing recovery picks up steam. S.2155 shows that lawmakers from both sides of the political aisle can work together on meaningful legislation that would alleviate harsh regulatory constraints on Main Street banks that have unnecessarily impeded a more robust housing and economic recovery. We urge the Senate to pass this bill soon.”*

## NCHBA Defends Housing Affordability

The Myrtle Beach Sun News reports that Horry County, SC officials may begin drafting impact fee legislation in an effort to make developers pay for the cost of growth. Read the full story here.

North Carolina builders and developers know that these ill-conceived impact fees only serve to negatively impact housing affordability by increasing the cost of a new home for buyers (by as much as \$10,000 in some cases).

“Fortunately, your *NCHBA fought and won this battle for all citizens of NC* several years ago,” said NCHBA President Alan Banks. “Through a well planned legislative lobbying effort, coupled with a landmark NC Supreme Court decision, impact fees in North Carolina are now illegal except in the narrowest of circumstances. No longer can a town council or county commission arbitrarily decide to fill the coffers by charging new home buyers a fee.”

“This is not going to happen in North Carolina,” said Banks. “NCHBA is on the wall of housing affordability watching out and stopping bad ideas before they become law. Be sure to spread the word about this good news.”

## New Home Sales Drop 7.8% in January

Sales of newly built, single family homes fell 7.8 percent in January to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 593,000 units after an upwardly revised December reading.

“New home sales have taken a pause this month, but our builders are reporting confidence in the overall market and future sales conditions,” said NAHB Chairman Randy Noel. “With strong consumer demand for housing, we expect the sales numbers to move forward in the months ahead.”

“The moderation in new home sales may be attributable to the interest rate environment, which could be causing short term market volatility,” said NAHB’s Michael Neal. “However, economic fundamentals for housing demand remain strong and we expect more prospective home buyers to enter the market.”

The inventory of new home sales for sale was 301,000 in January, which is a 6.1 month supply at the current sales pace. The median sales price of new houses sold was \$323,000.

Regionally, new home sales rose 15.4 percent in the Midwest and 1.0 percent in the West. Sales decreased 14.2 percent in the South and 33.3 percent in the Northeast.

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MARCH 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 Monthly Meeting	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

APRIL 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1 Easter	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Monthly Meeting	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

MAY 2018						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Monthly Meeting	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 Memorial Day	29	30	31		

## Mark your Calendar now for these Upcoming Events!

- March 19 — **Monthly Membership Meeting**  
*Location:* Mayflower Seafood Restaurant, 201 N. Cooper Drive, Henderson  
*Time:* Social 5:30 p.m., Dinner 6:15 p.m.  
*RSVP:* Amy Williams at 919-603-5081; *E-mail:* eo@vancegranvillehba.org
- March 21 — **NCHBA Region 4 Meeting**, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Greensboro Builders Association, 1155 Westgate Drive, Greensboro, NC
- March 20-22 — **Spring Session, North Carolina Builder Institute**, McKimmon Center, NC State Campus
- April 19 — **Monthly Membership Meeting**
- April 30 — **Application Deadline for the NCHBA's Educational Foundation Scholarships**
- May 17 — **Vance Granville Homebuilders 2018 Golf Tournament**, Kerr Lake Country Club, 600 Hedrick Drive, Henderson, NC
- May 21 — **Monthly Membership Meeting**

### Vance Granville Home Builders Association

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Serving Vance, Granville and Warren Counties

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