

The Cutting Edge



Volume 16, Issue 4

April 2025

Inside this issue:

Membership Updates	2
WBA Advocacy	3
Kwik Trip Savings	4
Badger Craftsman Awards	5
Membership/Savings	6

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

- April 7 Badger Craftsman Award Application Deadline
- May 20 MSHBA BOD Meeting Optimist Chalet, NH
5:30 pm BOD Meeting
- May 20 Spring Bust-up Cookout & GMM Optimist Chalet, New Holstein

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Derek Fritsch, Green Hammer Construction LLC

Hello Everyone,

I'd like to invite you all to our Annual Spring Cookout! It's taking place at the Optimist Chalet in New Holstein on May 20. There will be burgers, brats, and refreshments, please bring a dish to pass. This will also be our last general membership meeting until fall. I encourage you all to attend and please bring a guest. We are always looking for new members and networking opportunities.

Thank you to everyone who attended out SHOP TALK, we lots of valuable interaction between our speakers, guests, and members. I think

everyone walked away that night with new information, valuable insights, and encouragement towards our future work force.

All builders considering entering a project into the Parade of Homes are encouraged to do so soon. The parade will be held October 10th through the 12th. Please reach out to claim your position!

MSHBA is offering an educational scholarship for \$500. Spread the word to any students interested, especially those who are interested to the trades. Applications are available in the area high school guidance departments;

the deadline is April 29. Chances are good for those who apply as we have only received one application so far.

Don't be a stranger! Every member is welcome and encouraged to contribute to the growth, community outreach, and networking of this association. New ideas and fresh faces are the future of this industry.

Looking forward to seeing you all,

Thank you,
Derek Fritsch
MSHBA President
Owner, Green Hammer Construction LLC

Mid-Shores Home Builders Association, Inc.

Invites you & a guest to Join us for our last GMM until Fall

Spring Bust-up Cookout

May 20 at the Optimist Chalet

2200 Mason Street, New Holstein

5:30 p.m. Board of Director's Meeting

6:00 p.m. Join us for Cocktails

6:30 p.m. Cookout & General Membership Meeting

Guest Speaker: Paul Lewandowski, FVTC. Paul will talk about the Residential Building Construction program.

Brats, hamburgers & refreshments are compliments of MSHBA

Please bring a dish to pass!



**2025 MSHBA OFFICERS**

President: Derek Fritsch
Green Hammer Construction LLC
920-905-3513

President-Elect: Kevin Schmitz
K & J Construction and Design LLC
920-849-8811

Treasurer: Julie Schmitz
K & J Construction and Design LLC
920-849-8811

Secretary: Open Position
Past-President: Matt Lefeber
Wrightway Home Improvements
920-923-0721

2025 DIRECTORS

Jerry Mallmann
Chilton Furniture
920-849-9023

Dave Amel
Premier Properties Realty, LLC
920-980-4477

Nick Zurn
Precision Floors & Decor
920-400-1123

Jennifer Schad
Kraus Construction Inc.
920-905-2853

WBA Director
Derek Fritsch

NAHB Delegate
Kevin Schmitz

NAHB Alternate Delegate
Open Position



PO Box 125
New Holstein, WI 53061
www.midshoreshomebuilders.com

Executive Officer Tena Hartwig
2104 Mary Ave.
New Holstein, WI 53061
Phone (920) 539-9014
hartwigs1@charter.net

MSHBA Membership



MEMBERSHIP... the Ultimate Building Resource

THANK YOU FOR RENEWING YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Alpine Insulation 1, LLC—Charter Member of 27 years!

Mid-Shores HBA offers a 3-Pay Dues Payment Program...

MSHBA offers an option to pay your dues in three consecutive monthly payments of \$150.00. Your membership will take into effect on your final payment. A 3-Pay Dues payment contract will be included with your renewal statement.

MAY BOD MEETING

May 20 at 5:30 pm

Optimist Chalet, New Holstein

Mid-Shores HBA Scholarship Opportunity

Mid-Shores Home Builders Association, Inc. (MSHBA) would like to invite graduating students to apply for our annual MSHBA scholarship award. We will again be offering a \$500 scholarship to area high school students in the Calumet area continuing their education in the trades. Contact Tena or your high school guidance department for an application.

The deadline to apply is April 29.

WBA Member Benefits...

- **Kwik Trip Rewards**
- **Contracts/Forms**
- **Member Hotline**
- **Insurance**
- **Rebate Form**
- **Continuing Education**
- **Coaching & Consulting**

Even More Benefits are available at
www.wisbuild.org/member-benefits



SHOP TALK 2025 WRAP-UP

Thank you to CESA6 Youth Apprenticeship Coordinator Kelly Endter, area Tech Ed teachers, building inspector Brian Witkowski from Witkowski Inspection Agency LLC, and Jason Vanderkin & Chris Reilly from Drexel Building Supply for taking the time to speak to our members at SHOP TALK 2025.

CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT BY Ted Bonde, Kiel High School

After the March 11 meeting with Contractors, Drexel, and Some Tech Ed teachers, we planned to have a common Assessment when kids apply for a construction job. This is open for any of us to add questions to and could be used for Employers to see the aptitude of their future hire prior to placing them on the jobsites.

CLICK THIS LINK TO USE AND CREATE CONSTRUCTION ASSESSMENT: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mZnby_8hwuzV8pGzQsxMxLXmrra1vSUTRJbo3mQXQVw/edit?usp=sharing

MSHBA 2025 Parade of Homes – Builder Entry

Mid-Shores HBA will be holding its **2025 Parade of Homes October 10-12**. To make our Parade viable and to satisfy the broad interests of our customers, our parade includes not only new home construction but also large remodeling projects and accessory buildings. It is our hope that this parade will provide a direct and immediate benefit to area builders, sub-contractors, and suppliers as it provides the opportunity to showcase the incredible talent and workmanship our area contractors can provide. Each parade entry is also featured on Mid-Shores HBA's website. **At this time, please start to secure your parade entry for an October Parade of Homes.** More information will follow at a later date.

Area Chamber Membership

MSHBA is a member of New Holstein, Chilton and the Kiel Area Chamber of Commerce. Please feel free to represent MSHBA and attend any of their meetings or events.

- [New Holstein Area Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Kiel Area Chamber of Commerce](#)
- [Chilton Chamber of Commerce](#)



Advocacy Digest | March 19, 2025

Brad Boycks, Executive Director



Governor Tony Evers introduced his proposed 2025-2027 state budget on February 18, outlining a spending plan totaling \$118.9 billion. The proposal also calls for adding 881 full-time state government positions. For comparison, the last two-year state budget came in at \$97.4 billion and reduced the number of full-time state employees by 176.

Tax Provisions and Local Government Aid

One of the key highlights in Evers' proposal is a \$2 billion tax reduction plan, along with \$1.1 billion in aid to local governments and direct property tax credits aimed at holding the line on property taxes. However, the budget also introduces a new top income tax bracket of 9.8% for individuals and married joint filers earning over \$1 million. Other notable tax-related provisions include:

- Eliminating sales tax on residential electricity and gas from May to October.
 - Providing \$226 million for a new county and municipal property tax freeze incentive program.
 - Allowing counties (excluding Milwaukee County) to impose an additional 0.5% sales tax if approved by local referendum.
- Allowing municipalities with populations over 30,000 (excluding Milwaukee) to

impose a 0.5% sales tax via referendum.

Agency-Specific Highlights

Several key agencies would see notable changes under the proposed budget:

- **Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS):** Would receive 10 additional positions for credential processing, 14 positions for occupational licensing assistance, and four new legal support staff positions.
- **Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA):** Increases state housing tax credits from \$42 million to \$100 million and modifies recently passed workforce housing loan programs.
- **Department of Administration (DOA):** Includes \$20 million for a local zoning incentive pilot program designed to encourage zoning changes that facilitate affordable housing development. An additional \$1 million would be allocated to local programs focused on building or remodeling affordable housing.
- **Disaster Preparedness:** A new program under the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance would allow for the creation of tax-free "catastrophe savings accounts" to help homeowners cover repairs following major disasters.
- **Consumer Protection:** The Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection would gain new authority

to prevent price gouging by residential contractors, tree trimmers, and mitigation service providers operating in storm-affected areas.

Department of Natural Resources

(DNR): Would require additional safety measures for retention ponds located in areas with a population density of at least 1,000 people per square mile.

What's Next?

The Legislative Fiscal Bureau is expected to release plain-English summaries of the budget by mid-March. After that, the Joint Committee on Finance will begin agency briefings, during which state officials will answer questions about the proposal.

The next step will likely involve public hearings, followed by the finance committee crafting its own version of the budget. Given Republican control of the committee, it is widely expected that they will start from a base budget and remove many, if not all, of Governor Evers' proposals. Some non-policy provisions could be reintroduced during the budget negotiation process. Historically, both the legislature and the governor have aimed to pass and sign the state budget into law before the July 1 deadline. We'll continue to monitor the process closely and keep you updated on key developments.



**Kwik
TRIP**

Hey, WBA!


**WISCONSIN
BUILDERS
ASSOCIATION**

**Save 6¢ per gallon of fuel as a member of
the Wisconsin Builders Association!**

Benefits include:

- Save 6¢ on every gallon of fuel purchased at Kwik Trip, Kwik Star & Stop-N-Go locations.
- 10% off in-store purchases & car wash discounts up to 50%.
- Choose from three different fuel programs to find the best fit.
- No annual or monthly fees.



Subject to credit approval. Some in-store exclusions apply. Kwik Trip Business Plus MasterCard is issued by Regions Bank, pursuant to a license by MasterCard Int'l Inc. MasterCard is a registered trademark of MasterCard Int'l Inc.



Questions? Contact Brayton Duin
608-793-4708 or bduin@kwiktrip.com

BADGER CRAFTSMAN AWARDS

Now Accepting
Applications!
Due by April 7!

Over
20
Categories

Associates



General Building
Projects



New Builds



Developments



Remodels



VISIT
WWW.WISBUILD.ORG/BADGERCRAFTSMAN
TO APPLY

Building a house is a labor of love.
But frankly, your insurance shouldn't make more work for you.

Members of the Wisconsin Builders Association (WBA) are eligible to save money on their insurance needs with discounts available through Frankenmuth Insurance.

Ready to have a frank conversation about your insurance? Let's talk today.

Visit us at **www.fmins.com** to find an independent agent near you.




NAHB
National Association
of Home Builders

Exclusive discounts that benefit you,
your business and your family
nahb.org/Savings

NAHB Member
SAVINGS
Put your membership to work.

LOWE'S PRO

T-MOBILE
FOR BUSINESS



DELL Technologies

Active & Fit
DIRECT

AVIS



Budget

FARMERS
INSURANCE

GOODYEAR

Heartland

Hertz

Holman
Driving What's Right

HotelPlanner

indeed

MemberDeals
EXCLUSIVE MEMBER ONLY OFFERS

odp
BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

RingCentral

SiriusXM

TForce
Freight

sam's club

TrueCar



VOYAGER