

# The Blueprint

*Your guide for success.*

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A publication of The Greater Morgan County Builders Association.

## 4TH ANNUAL JANUARY JAM HAS BEEN RESCHEDULED

### Let it Snow, Let Snow, Let it Snow!!!

This is what happened during the week of the January Jam. It caused us to have to postpone our festivities until warmer weather (we hope!). You won't have to wait long though, the 4th Annual January Jam has been moved to Friday April 1, 2011 from 6:30 to 9:30p.m.

The Sly Groove Band will be playing and the food and cash bar will still be there. The location will still be Sykes Place on Bank (726 Bank Street). If you have all ready purchased your Draw Down tickets, that is great! They still will be honored. If you haven't, we invite you to come by our office (1501 4th Ave.). We have plenty left!! We also still have sponsorship slots available.

**If you have any questions, please contact our office at (256)350-4594.**

## NAIL DOWN THESE DATES Calendar Available [www.gmcba.org](http://www.gmcba.org)

- ◆ **Board Meeting**  
 Thursday, February 10, from 4:30-5:30 pm, at the GMCBA office.
- ◆ **Membership Meeting**  
 Tuesday, February 15th, from 12:00-1:00 pm, at the GMCBA office.
- ◆ **4th Annual January Jam (New Date)**  
 Friday, April 1, from 6:30-9:30 pm, at Sykes Place on Bank.

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# JANUARY MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

**Builders:** Rick Hall Construction, HTI General Contracting, Basden Construction.

**Associates:** ERA-Ben Porter Real Estate, North Alabama Glass, Goss Electric, Decatur Utilities, Alliance Sand, Brewer Insulation, Re/Max Platinum.

**Affiliates:** Daniel Wilburn

## SPRAY POLYURETHANE FOAM INSULATION EXPOSURE

By NAHB

Builders should be aware of some of the safety issues presented by the installation of spray polyurethane foam (SPF), spray-applied insulating foam plastic that is installed as a liquid and then expands to many times its original size.

SPF is widely used and highly-effective insulator and sealant. However, exposure to its key ingredient, *isocyanates*, along with other chemicals in SPF products, can cause the following health effects:

- \*Asthma
- \*Lung damage
- \*Respiratory problems and other breathing difficulties
- \*Skin and eye irritation
- \*Other potential adverse health effects

It is important to review the manufacturer's recommendations for handling the chemicals that make up SPF. A few safety best practices to avoid injury or illness when handling SPF include:

- \*Review product ingredients and use the MSDS (material safety data sheets).
- \*Vacate building of occupants and workers
- \*Isolate the work site
- \*Wear chemical resistant gloves, clothing, and respirator
- \*Ventilate the area and clean area before reentry of workers and occupants.

Finally, always follow manufacturer's guidelines for proper foam curing time.

## WELCOME GMCBA'S NEWEST MEMBER



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## OSHA CHANGES RESIDENTIAL FALL PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS

By NAHB

OSHA withdrew the plain Language Revision of OSHA Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction. First issued in 1995, the directive was a source of confusion among home builders over what fall protection methods and systems would be used to comply with OSHA's fall protection standards.

To understand what they need to do to protect workers, builders have to read OSHA's fall protection regulation, then read the interim fall protection guidelines and then find the 25 or more letters of interpretation of what is required. Because falls continue to be the leading cause of costly accidents, injuries and even fatalities in the home building industry, NAHB is actively engaged in seeking solutions to address this very real and serious problem.

This important enforcement policy change will require employers to take additional steps to ensure worker safety when working six feet or more above a lower level. The new *Compliance Guidance for Residential Construction* will go into effect on June 16, 2011.

Among the significant changes resulting from the withdrawal of OSHA STD 03-00-001:

- \*Roofing contractors must use guardrails, personal fall arrest systems or safety nets on all roofs with slopes exceeding 4-in-12 when working six feet or more above a lower level.**
- \*All other trade contractors must use guardrails or personal fall arrest systems or safety nets when the height from one elevation to another is greater than six feet. However, employers who can demonstrate that these fall protection systems are not feasible or create a greater hazard can use a plan outlining alternative measures that must be followed.**
- \*The fall protection plan must be in writing and site-specific. However, a written plan developed for repeated use for a particular model or style of home will be considered site-specific.**
- \*The use of fall protection plans is limited to "residential construction" in which the structure will be used as a home and constructed with traditional wood frame materials and methods (although the limited use of structural steel in a predominantly wood-framed home -such as a steel I-beam to help support wood framing -does not disqualify a structure from being considered residential construction.**

NAHB expects the OSHA policy change to ultimately make it easier for home builders to comply and reduce accidents.

### NEWS FLASH FOR FEBRUARY 2011

We still have Draw Down tickets available and sponsorship slots! Please let us know if you would like a list of sponsorship levels or to purchase Draw Down tickets.

Contact us at the GMCHBA office by calling (256) 350-4594 or by emailing us at [www.gmchba@yahoo.com](mailto:www.gmchba@yahoo.com).



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### Contact Information

1501 4th Ave. SE~P.O. Box 2623~Decatur, AL. 35602

Phone: (256) 350-4594 Fax: (256) 350-4880 Email: [gmchba@yahoo.com](mailto:gmchba@yahoo.com)

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