

## Editor is featured speaker for first NARI lunch meeting

Did you ever notice that some contractors' names seem to keep popping up in print with fair regularity? Did you ever wonder how they manage to get this attention? You may come away from the January meeting of Miami Valley NARI with some clues.

It's a fact that some contractors - including several MVNARI members - seem to have the knack of getting favorable publicity in Miami Valley newspapers and magazines. Chances are there's more than luck involved. Contractors who have a record of positive media exposure

have learned or somehow know intuitively how to attract the attention of writers and editors.

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### Remember! As of this month MVNARI meetings start at 11:00 a.m.

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Karla Hollencamp, who has edited the local upscale home design magazine *Housetrends* for several years and is now editor of the national dreambook *Best Kitchens and*

*Baths*, will be the featured speaker at the January luncheon meeting. She will discuss how to get published from a local viewpoint. Joining her on the program is the publisher of *Best Magazines*, who will offer a national perspective.

The meeting will start at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, January 23, at the Dayton Marriott. The educational program will begin at 11:00 a.m., with lunch served at noon. The cost of the lunch is \$20 for NARI members and \$25 for nonmembers. Call the NARI office at 937-222-NARI to make reservations.

## Coming Attractions

### January Meeting

#### Date & Time

11:00 a.m., Wednesday, Jan. 23

#### Location

Dayton Marriott

#### Program

Karla Hollencamp

Editor, *Best Kitchens & Baths*  
*How to Get Your Story Published*

#### Cost

\$20 NARI members

\$25 nonmembers

Please call the Miami Valley NARI office at 937-222-NARI to make reservations for this meeting.

### Homeworld 2002

January 31 - February 3

#### Location

Exposition Center at  
Dayton International Airport

#### Exhibit Space

A few booth spaces are available.  
Call 937-222-NARI for details.

## New building code is in effect as of January 1

With great excitement and an equal amount of trepidation building officials throughout the Miami Valley are preparing to enforce the 2002 Ohio Building Code for all state-regulated commercial and multi-family construction.

The Ohio Board of Building Standards has adopted this new code, which is based upon the 2000 International Building Code, effective January 1, 2002. To allow time to get code books in the hands of, and training in the heads of designers, contractors, and code officials, they have also just agreed to allow a six month grace period for complying with the new code. Until June 30 applicants can use either the 1998 Ohio Basic Building Code or the 2002 OBC for commercial and multi-family construction.

Applicants must clearly identify which code the design/construction meets for submittals made between January 1 and June 30, 2002. Many

local building departments, including the Montgomery County Building Regulations Division, have revised application forms to provide a check-off box for applicants to indicate their intentions.

Once an application for a building permit is made under one code, any changes to that declaration will subject the applicant to additional fees to cover additional plan review costs. If the design must be changed significantly to comply with a different code, the application may be rejected entirely, and a new application and application fee may be required. This decision will be at the sole discretion of the Chief Building Official.

The date of submittal of the first permit for construction locks in code compliance with a specific edition of the code. For instance, a Footing/Foundation Permit applied for by December 31, 2001, will lock in all

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## **NARI will focus on membership**

**by Mike Kline**

*Nation's First Mortgage Banc, Inc.*

I am both pleased and excited to address all of you for the first time as your chapter president. Thanks for your trust and support over the years. I look forward to helping our organization grow and improve in 2002.

The purpose of this message is to relate what I feel are Miami Valley NARI's primary challenges this year, and to communicate to you what steps our organization is taking to meet the challenges and achieve our objectives. The two areas of improvement that we will focus on are getting more members actively in-

involved in the work of the chapter from and increasing our number of members.

The thing we are starting to increase involvement in meetings is moving from a dinner to a lunch meeting for our monthly get-together. This provides an opportunity for a more accessible time frame so as many of you as possible have the chance to attend without the meeting interfering with family time or other evening functions.

The format will continue to be informative and educational with ample opportunity for networking with industry colleagues. We'll start the educational part of the program at 11 a.m., serve lunch at noon, conduct NARI business during dessert and coffee, and have everyone on the way back to the office or the job site by 1 p.m.

To increase our number of member companies, I will be in close communication with the membership committee to develop some strategies to help us jump start new enrollment. If any of you would like to get involved with the membership committee, please call me at 609-0115 anytime. I would love to hear from you.

These are the things we will be working on this year. I am looking forward to being a part of helping our association grow and prosper. If you have any feedback or suggestion for me please feel free to call anytime.

I wish you and your business a healthy and prosperous year in 2002.

## **New building code**

*(Continued from page 1)*

code enforcement for that project to the 1998 OBBC, and all reference standards in effect at that time, such as the 1999 National Electric Code. The point is, once an initial application is made, all work associated with that project must conform with all codes in effect at the time of the initial application, even if sub-trades such as electrical permits are applied for after the first of the year. Permits such as Demolition or Temporary Pole permits will not be considered first permits for construction.

Contractors with questions about significant changes in the 2002 Ohio Building Code or Montgomery County enforcement policies can contact Maurice D. Wyckoff, CBO, at 937-225-4586, or by e-mail at wyckoffm@mcoho.org.

### **Miami Valley REMODELER**

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#### *The mission of MVNARI is:*

*1 To establish and maintain the association's firm commitment to developing and sustaining programs that expand and unite the remodeling industry, as well as ensure the industry's growth and security.*

*2 To encourage ethical conduct, sound business practices, and professionalism in the remodeling industry.*

*3 To present NARI as the recognized authority in the remodeling industry.*

#### *This mission is carried out by:*

*1 Promoting the common business interests of those engaged in the industry.*

*2 Sponsoring educational programs and activities for members.*

*3 Enlightening consumers to the needs and advantages of home remodeling and maintenance, thereby improving the nation's housing inventory.*

*4 Recommending legislative and regulatory action which safeguards and preserves the remodeling industry and stimulates the marketplace.*

# Code organizations combine Internet training sites

The International Code Campus, [www.icccampus.org](http://www.icccampus.org), the International Code Council's on-line training initiative, is a professional development opportunity for code enforcement and fire officials, architects, engineers, builders and others in the construction industry, which will debut this month.

International Code Campus is a cooperative effort of BOCA (Building Officials and Code Administrators), ICBO (International Conference of Building Officials) and SBCCI (Southern Building Code Congress International). It will replace the on-line training programs offered by the model code organizations-BOCA Campus On-Line, ICBO Online Training and SBCCI Online Institute.

"As the three model code organizations move toward the goal of being one organization under the ICC umbrella, we will continue to consolidate efforts to ensure that our members and customers will continue to receive quality services and products," said ICC Chief Executive Officer Bill Tangye.

ICC's virtual campus allows anyone in the construction industry to take training courses anytime, anywhere there is access to the Internet. The campus will offer over 70 courses over a diverse range of topics including technology, codes, enforcement, management issues, office operations, accounting and finance, computer operations and personal development. Successful completers of courses earn continu-

ing education units either through the model code organizations, AIA programs or several state licensing programs.

"International Code Campus is user-friendly and provides built environment professionals on-demand training based on the International Codes and administrative skills," Tangye said. "On-line training from ICC utilizes the best practices of each of the MCOs existing on-line campuses to create the premier Internet learning environment."

For a free, interactive demonstration of the International Code Campus, point your browser to [www.icccampus.org](http://www.icccampus.org). To receive a brochure and more information, call 1-800-214-4321, ext. 355, or email [loosenfe@bocai.org](mailto:loosenfe@bocai.org).

# Employers need to know of changes in 2001 W-2 forms

It is time to turn your attention to the task of preparing employees' W-2's. The W-2 form has changed this year. To help employers who do their payroll and government reporting internally the Dayton accounting firm Brady, Ware & Schoenfeld, Inc., offers the following information about specific changes in the form and some of the common problems relating to year-end payroll.

- Verify employee names and social security numbers. A penalty of up to \$50 for each omission may be imposed by IRS for missing or incorrect social security numbers.

- If any of your employees have

company cars or trucks remember to include the value of personal use of company vehicles in wages. There

are various methods used in computing this value. The most common method is based upon the vehicle's auto lease value. The auto lease value tables remain the same as last year. The lease value of a vehicle reported in

Box I must be reported in Box 14 or in a separate statement to your employee.

- Voluntary employee contributions made to a qualified retirement plan, such as a 401(k) plan, are not treated as federal, state or county taxable wages and should not be in Box 1, 16 and 18 on the W-2. However, these amounts are treated as

social security wages and should be included in Box 3 and 5 on the W-2. These amounts are also taxable in some Ohio cities (please call the taxing authority or consult your accountant or tax advisor when in doubt). Remember to include the proper code and amount in Box 12.

- Premium payments on employee group-term life insurance coverage exceeding \$50,000 must be included in taxable wages. IRS allows tax free treatment of group-term life insurance premiums paid on an employee's behalf if the coverage does not exceed \$50,000. When coverage exceeds \$50,000, the employer must treat part of the premium payments for the excess coverage as taxable wages. The IRS has issued charts that may be used in valuing the excess benefit. Remember to include the proper code and amount in

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## Tax form changes

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Box 12.

■ Designate whether the employee is/was an active participant in the company's qualified retirement plan for any part of the current year by checking the box in Item 13 on the W-2. If an employee is/was an active participant in the company's qualified retirement plan and received a current year plan contribution, or was allocated a forfeiture, employers should check the retirement plan box.

■ Include all payments for services. Prizes, awards and bonuses must be included in employees' wages.

■ Include health insurance premiums paid on behalf of a greater than 2% shareholder of an S corporation in taxable wages. These amounts are also taxable in some Ohio cities. Please check with the taxing authority when in doubt. These benefits are normally exempt from Social Security and Medicare taxes.

At this time, the rules for the federal unemployment tax (FUTA) have not changed for 2002; the net federal tax remains at 0.8% and the maximum taxable wage base remains at \$7,000. Ohio employers' unemployment wage base remains at \$9,000 per employee for 2002.

The social security wage base for 2002 is \$84,900. Remember that the Revenue Reconciliation Act of 1993 removed the Medicare wage cap, so all wages are subject to Medicare taxes.

Please remember the requirement to report new employees to the state within twenty business days of a new employee's hire date.

If you have questions about state or federal tax matters, contact your accountant or tax advisor.

## NIBS developing Internet-based building design information site

The National Institute of Building Sciences recently announced the development of an innovative new Internet-based web portal. Called the Whole Building Design Guide (WBDG), it will integrate government criteria, nongovernment standards and criteria, vendor data and expert knowledge into a "whole building" performance perspective.

The WBDG will be designed to link to the NIBS Construction Criteria Base (CCB) with more than 10,000 searchable and retrievable construction industry documents, including guide specifications and referenced standards, from more than 120 industry organizations. The site will also be the source for the Department of Defense's publicized Unified Facility Criteria and Guide Specifications. Those choosing to subscribe will have access to a complete range of commercial standards and nongovernment publications.

The WBDG will broaden the range of CCB information sources including added expert commentary and direction. The single integrated system for distributing federal facility criteria will create the only highly

accessible access point for military, federal and private-sector building criteria. The site will also invite user comments to the editor to ensure thoroughness of content and ease of use. For more information, log on to [www.wbdg.org](http://www.wbdg.org)

## MVNARI members win regional CotYs

Miami Valley NARI members have won four regional Contractor of the Year Awards.

Remodeling Designs was recognized with regional CotY awards in the Residential Specialty and the Residential Bath over \$25,000 categories.

Urbieta Construction received the regional CotY in the Residential Addition Under \$100,000 Category.

Hurst Total Home won regional CotY honors in the Residential Kitchen Under \$30,000 category.

Regional CotYs were distributed among four Ohio chapters with five awards going to Central Ohio NARI members, four to Miami Valley Members, three to members of the Greater Cleveland Chapter, and two to Tri-County NARI members.

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