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On The Level - February 2012

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It is finally here!!! The 2012 Home & Garden Show scheduled for February 25th and 26th at the Bell County Expo Center. We have completely sold out our booth space for the event. If you are still interested in participating, please call the office at 254-773-0445 to get on the waiting list.

The committee, chaired by Andy Bass of Bass Electric, has been working very hard to bring a first class show to all of our central Texas residents and with only 2 booths remaining and the show over a week away, they have done a fantastic job of gettin' it done! We would be remiss if we didn't also give a heartfelt thank you to Blair Anderson for stepping into Cheryl's shoes to put the show together while she has been out with medical issues. Thank You Blair!!! You have done an awesome job!!

We encourage everyone to come out during the weekend to check out the show and see what TABA does for the building industry and the community of central Texas. The show takes up over 75,000 square feet of exhibit space boasting over 125 exhibitors showing anything from homebuilding to flooring to plants to pots and pans to mops and brooms. There is something for everybody. The show typically brings in around 4,500 people throughout the three days it is open which includes the private showing at the Friday night Preview Party.

TABA would like to thank our Show Partners. These are TABA companies who have stepped up to help defray the cost and got a bit of advertising in doing so. Without these very important members, TABA could not afford to put on such a first rate show. If you see anyone who works for Atmos Energy, Choice Rentals, Carothers Executive Homes, Extraco Banks, Topstone, and Fairway Mortgage please give them a hearty THANK YOU for supporting TABA and the Home & Garden Show. We also like to give a very special thank you to the Temple Daily Telegram who year after year have been our title sponsor. We treasure the relationship we have with the Telegram and truly appreciate their never ending support and commitment in all that we do here at TABA.

Again this year we have the Classic Car Show sponsored by Temple Iron & Metal. The car show is located in the Exposition building and will have approximately 75 classic cars to show off. And new this year we have Gabrielle's Dance Studio bringing in a 50 ft. air ramp for the children to experience. As well, Gabrielle is bringing in several of her dance and gymnastic troupes to show off what they can do. They will be located in the Assembly Hall and signs will point the way to all of our attractions.

We hope that you make plans to attend the 2012 Home & Garden Show. Cost to get in is \$6 per adult and children 12 and under are free. The show will run Saturday from 10am-5pm and Sunday from 12pm-5pm.

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**Director of  
 Government Affairs**

**Blair Anderson**

Happy February everyone.....after a short hiatus the newsletter is back. I want to start off my message by letting everyone know how happy I am that our beloved Executive Officer Cheryl has returned to the TABA offices. Its been a busy few weeks for everyone. I want to echo the sentiments you've already seen from Cheryl, how great our membership has been for the entire TABA family. You have all stepped up to help tremendously around the offices to make sure the wheels didn't fall off. Special thanks to Jerry Tyroch of Lott, Vernon & Co for the numerous hours he spent on our accounting, taxes, and finances.

**On the HOMEPAC Front**

The primary election dates continue to fluctuate as the Democrat and Republican parties try to reach an agreement. We are hearing that May 29th may be the earliest date for a Primary election, and potentially even June. We will keep you up to date as we know more.

As a reminder, the following candidates have been endorsed by TABA-HOMEPAC: **Ralph Sheffield for State Representative District 55, Paul Lepak for 27th District Court Judge, Jack Jones for 146th District Court Judge, Henry Garza for 27th District Attorney, Marty Janczak for County Commissioner District 3.** TABA-HOMEPAC has also contributed financially to the following candidates: **Bob Patterson for Bell County Sheriff, Eddy Lange for Bell County Sheriff.**

**Meet and Greet Fundraiser for Marty Janczak and Jack Jones**

Most of us know Marty and Jack from the significant amount of time they have committed to TABA over the last several years. Pat Patterson is hosting a fundraiser at our offices for them on Friday, February 17th. There will be light snacks and drinks. **The time will be from 4:30p-6pm.** It is casual attire, come and go as you please. We hope you'll take the opportunity to stop by and thank them for their commitment to TABA prior to starting your weekend.

**Downtown housing tax credit project**

The GAC Committee and TABA Executive Board recently voted to oppose attempts to place a subsidized housing project in downtown Temple. The City of Temple, Temple Downtown Alliance, and several groups have contributed thousands of dollars and man-hours focusing on the revitalization of downtown Temple. It became clear, with heavy community opposition, that the project proposed for downtown was out of character with the downtown corridor, as well as the future land use plans of our city. While the applicant has pulled their application for the project, GAC and the Executive Board will be drafting correspondence to officially oppose the project in the downtown core should it return. We continue to believe that there are more appropriate locations in the city for placing this project while utilizing the tax incentive program.

**Stakeholder Committee to meet with City of Temple**

The TABA Technical subcommittee will be holding a series of meetings/discussions with the City of Temple aimed at flushing out areas/issues which came up from our planning sessions with our members. Recently, we had the chance to bring David Blackburn in for a yearly preview of items that we would like to work on as well as items which the City will be focusing on this year. The City of Temple and their staff are top notch and we value our partnership. It is our hope that with these meetings, we are able to identify areas that can be improved to make life easier for both our membership as well as city staff. Our first meeting will take place this Friday, and I will keep you up to date as we move along.

**TABA HOME AND GARDEN SHOW**

Ok, so I must give a shameless plug for the Home and Garden Show. As you all know, our major fundraiser of the year is coming up in just 1 week. I was hired at TABA just before the show last year, and with Cheryl out, I was thrown from the frying pan into the fire. The Home and Garden Committee really stepped up to the plate, and we are expecting one of the busiest and most profitable shows in history. Special thanks to the ENTIRE Home and Garden Show Committee and the work they have done to coordinate the many parts of the show, including exhibitors and sponsors. Special thanks also to our Executive Officer who had so many of the details and booth registrations completed prior to me joining the committee. Please email me at [blair@tahb.org](mailto:blair@tahb.org) or call 254-773-0445 if you would like tickets to the Preview Party next Friday.

**WRAP UP**

That's all I have for now everyone. I am very excited to have things return to normal around here with Cheryl's return. They say you never know how much someone is worth until you try to do their job. Well, TABA family, Cheryl is priceless.

See you all at the Preview Party!

Blair

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## PREVIEW PARTY

### FEBRUARY 24, 2012 AT THE BELL COUNTY EXPO CENTER

### TICKETS \$15 PER PERSON

*Food Provided by: CHICK-FIL-A, WINGS-PIZZA-N-THINGS, AND SCHLOTZSKY'S*

It's here! The first event of 2012- [THE HOME & GARDEN SHOW PREVIEW PARTY](#). We hope everyone will make plans to come to the Bell County Expo Center on Friday, February 24th. Doors open at 6:30pm and food service is from 6:30 till 7:45pm. The beer is FREE and there will be a cash bar available.

The party is being catered by three well known establishments around town - Chick-Fil-A, Wings-Pizza-N-Things and Schlotzsky Sandwich Shop and tickets prices will remain at \$15 each this year.

Tickets are available so call the TABA office or email to [blair@tahb.org](mailto:blair@tahb.org) to order yours today. Tickets are required to enter this party and will NOT be sold at the door.

We'd like to thank our Preview Party Sponsors:



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## UPCOMING TABA EVENTS:

**April 13-15, 20-22 will bring our Annual Parade of Homes. Entries are due by February 15th so builders don't delay if you want to showcase your talent and product. A Parade Kick-Off Party is being planned as well. Details will be published as soon as the committee has it set.**

**May 10th will be our Annual TABA Golf Tournament AND our Reverse Raffle. It's going to be one long down out at the Wildflower Country Club but it should be a fun day filled with golf and prizes. Reverse Raffle tickets will sell for \$100 each and dinner tickets will be \$10. Golfers - entry into the golf tournament will be \$100 and will include dinner and opportunities to win a Reverse Raffle ticket will be abundant during golf play.**

**Details on both events will be published in upcoming newsletters so keep an eye out!**

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### *EO's Comments*

Cheryl Hunka  
Executive Officer

Hello again!!! It's really nice to be back in the TABA office even though it will be on a part time basis for a while. As many of you know I suffered an acute heart attack on December 28th and yes it totally took me by surprise too. My husband and I woke up to start our day and get ready for work and by the time he got out of the shower about 7am, I was sitting on the bed clinching my chest. He rushed me to the ER where I must say Scott & White did an amazing job at getting me right in and fixing me up. Once there they told me I was having an acute heart attack and they rushed me into surgery where an absolutely amazing cardiothoracic surgery team performed a triple bypass surgery on me. My heart was working at 10% capacity when I arrived and now part of my heart - the part that was damaged is working at about 30% however there is good reason to hope that will improve over time.

So this was quite a surprise to me and my entire family, who by the way have been amazing! In the end the final diagnosis for the reason of my heart attack is that two of my arteries were dissected and clogged by blood clots from medication I had been taking. The reason I am telling you this story is because so many of you have been so kind and generous and concerned that I figured I would just publish the details. My family and I want to thank all of you who sent cards, flowers and money in concern for me. It truly made me feel so loved that words cannot even express how I felt. I just really appreciate everything so many of the TABA members have done for me but especially for all of the prayers that have been and continue to be sent my way. I know God was and does look out for me and I believe I will come out on the other side of this even stronger then I was before I went in on December 28th. THANK YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART!!!

So with all that finally said (because I have been wanting to say that for a while), I am back in the office part time with rehab to do and strength to regain. I want to thank Blair and the Home & Garden Show Committee for really stepping up to bring the 2012 show to fruition. I also want to thank Jerry Tyroch, Jr. for maintaining the financial operations in my absence. It surely was an inopportune time for me to have a medical emergency but they have really come through for me and our organization.

Anyway....guess that's it from my desk. Thanks to everyone again for all of your thoughts and prayers and everything else and I hope to visit with many of you at the upcoming Home & Garden Show.

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