Representing The Interests of the Home Building, Multifamily Construction and Remodeling Industry in the Greater Dallas Area

HOME BUILDER

Dallas Builders

www.DallasBuilders.com



VOLUME LXI

No. 3

Dallas BA's Industry Investors for 2014



BRIEFLY

Lee Lighting will host After Hours March 27 from 6 to 8 p.m. at their Frisco showroom. Enjoy complimentary food and beverages while networking in a casual atmosphere. The Builders Jackpot is \$600.

NAHB is offering information and a series of webinars to help members understand the laws. This information is relevant and timely as the individual compliance deadline to purchase health insurance is March 31, 2014, and the Employer Shared Responsibility provisions of the Affordable Care Act go into effect on Jan. 1, 2015. Go to www.nahb.org and log on to view the remaining webinars and learn about these important laws affecting them.

The next Speed Networking will be held April 15. Associates meet with 20 different builders and remodelers in 4-minute rotations during this networking event. The fee is \$250 for associates, which includes entry for two people from your company. Speed Networking is a great way for associates to meet with many different builders in a short period of time, and builders not only pick up valuable

April Green Building class could improve **builders' bottom lines**

Green Building for Building Professionals will be offered April 8-9 in partnership with StrucSure Home Warranty.

Instructor Barry Hensley, CGP, MCGP, GSP, with Hensley Premier Builders says, "If I had to sum up the benefits of this course I would have to say it made me a better builder. I learned not only how to apply the best practices of green building to residential construction, but I also learned to focus on the "whole house" approach, and not on specific systems or solutions. And I learned that green building is not about Low-E windows or radiant barrier or low-flow faucets; it is about constructing a higher quality, more sustainable structure."

This course teaches how to incorporate GreenBuilding practices such as site selection, design, building science, resource management, energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality, water efficiency and marketing into the processes of building and remodeling.

"By incorporating what I learned in this class, I get more referrals, and I can get better margins for my product," states Hensley. "When my customers know that the very best of residential construction is being incorporated into their home, they are willing to pay more,

Special pricing offered for Acquisition class

Learn how the land acquisition process works from market analysis through property acquisition in the Land Acquisition and Development Finance class. Presented March 27 in partnership with StrucSure Home Warranty, this course offers credit for the Graduate Master Builder

and they are happier with the end result. The marketing strategies taught me how to identify and target my customer's needs. I now use this skill in all aspects of my business. My customers view me as an expert in my field and they rarely question my recommendations."

Hensley says that using what he learned in Green Building for Building Professionals he found ways to differentiate himself from his competition in a very positive way. "That ultimately leads to more profit."

The course is recommended to anyone in residential construction or remodeling. "It will improve the way you build, the way you interact with customers, and your bottom line," Hensley stresses.

The fee is \$385 for members and \$485 for non-members and includes class booklet, the newly revised ICC 700-2012 National Green Building Standard® book, continental breakfast and lunch, compliments of Hotchkiss Insurance Agency and DOW Building Solutions.

Visit the calendar at DallasBuilders.com to register. Online registration ends on April 3. Late registration fee is an extra \$15. After April 3, call Stephanie Bosslet at 214-615-3881 for availability.





After Hours Pays Off for Jackpot Winner T.W. Bailey T.W. Bailey, left, of Bailey Family Builders was the winner of the \$600 Builders Jackpot at January's After Hours hosted by Starlight AV. Offering congratulations are Dallas BA President Jeff Dworkin and After Hours hosts Michael Wilkov, CANTONI, and Shane Bala, Starlight AV. The jackpot starts at \$500 and then increases by \$100 each month until it is claimed by a winning builder. At each After Hours the names of each and every builder, developer and remodeler member is placed in a hopper for a random drawing. The winner must be present. This month's After Hours will be held at Lee Lighting in Frisco, and the jackpot is back up to \$600. Visit the calendar at DallasBuilders.com to make reservations. See page 4 of this issue for more After Hours photos.



At 1,800 Credits, T.W. Bailey Is One of the Highest Ranking Spikes in the U.S.

Congratulations to T.W. Bailey of Bailey Family Builders who has achieved the 1,800-Spike level. Spike Club Chairman Geanie Vaughan presented T.W. with his ruby-studded lapel pin at the February Board of Directors meeting. T.W. has 1,842 Spike credits as of Jan. 31 and is the Dallas BA's highest ranking Spike Club member and the 10th in the nation out of almost 16,000 Spikes. He is recognized nationally in the highest Spike category, All-Time Big Spike. For information on the national Spike program contact Charli Henderson at 214-615-5004.



vendor information at this event, but also win prizes.

Periodicals Postage Paid at Plano, TX, and Additional

(GMB) professional designation.

This course will show you how developers assess markets, acquire land and devise site plans that are most likely to attract financing on optimal terms. Graduates will be able to:

• Explain the major tasks of land development

· Navigate the land acquisition process from market analysis through property acquisition

 Recognize various types of development financing and understand the guidelines for obtaining the necessary funds.

"If you've ever been curious about how those lots you buy from a land developer got there, or, maybe thought, 'I can do that,' then this is the class for you," said instructor Ed Harrison, CGB, GMB, of Harrison Homes. "We will learn the basics of getting started in the residential land

Special Pricing for Members!

In recognition of NAHB's National Designation Recognition Month, a special price for Dallas BA members for this class is \$175, a \$35 savings!

"An NAHB Designation says a lot about you," stresses Director of Education Stephanie Bosslet. "Professional designations offer excellent opportunities to improve your skills, advance your career, and be recognized for your commitment to professional growth."

The fee includes class booklet, continental breakfast and lunch. Lunch Partners are Hotchkiss Insurance Agency and Dow Building Solutions.

To register, visit the online calendar at DallasBuilders.com by March 24. Late registration fee is an extra \$15. After that date, call Bosslet at 214-615-3881 for availability.

APRIL 10TH, 2014 6PM - 9PM RCHe PI

Don't miss the 35th annual McSAM Awards, presented by PIRCH. Come and witness the who's who of the Dallas building industry. We will recognize the industry professionals who have made the DFW home building market one of the best in the nation for the past 35 years.

WHERE: Hotel InterContinental Malachite Ballroom WHEN: April 10, 2014 6:30 - 7:30 Cocktails 7:30 - 8:00 Dinner 8:00 - 9:00 Awards Presentation TICKETS: \$100 each / \$1,000 Table of 10 Purchase at DallasBuilders.com

ST RLIGHT **Starlight AV presents 2014 ARC Awards August 16**

Planning is well underway for the 2014 ARC Awards, presented by Starlight AV, and it promises to be an exciting event! This year's theme is "Our Associates Make It Happen!" in recognition of their efforts in helping the custom builders and remodelers complete their projects and earn ARC Awards. In fact, those associates who builder entrants list

as key contributors will be invited



Todd, Elite Remodeling

on stage to assist in accepting awards. Additionally, Starlight will also host a Finalist Party at Dallas BA offices July 17. The entry website is expected to go live in late April, with early bird deadline in early June and final entry deadline in July. Watch for details in the months to come or contact Misty Varsalone at 214-615-5012 for information. If you are interested in becoming a partner, now is the time to speak up—we

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have already had a tremendous response from member companies who want to participate in this stand-out event.

Dallas BA's Student Chapter at UNT wins award from NAHB as nation's 3rd best

The Dallas BA's Student Chapter at the University of North Texas was the third place recipient of this year's Outstanding Student Chapter Award presented at the International Builders' Show in Las Vegas. The chapter's president, Mahsa Mahdavian and vice president Lee Pelton were guests at the Dallas BA's Board of Directors meeting Feb. 27, where they were presented a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

Mahdavian explained that the student chapter was honored for increasing their membership by 357% over the past year; attaining 32% female and 52% minority membership; campus and community involvement; holding monthly meetings; having active social media presence; and developing connections and relationships within the university and the community.

Dr. Diane DeSimone, who served as an officer of the Dallas Builders Association before leaving to teach full time, is the advisor of the chapter at UNT and coached the students through the competition.

While at IBS, the group also participated in the NAHB Student Chapters **Residential Construction Management** Competition (RCMC). The competition gives students the opportunity to apply



Dallas BA President Jeff Dworkin presents a certificate of recognition to Lee Pelton and Mahsa Mahdavian of UNT.

skills learned in the classroom to a real construction company by completing a management project/proposal. Proposals are submitted to a group of construction company executives who act as judges. During the convention, students defend their proposals to the judges in front of an audience.

The NAHB Student Chapters program is dedicated to enriching the educational experience of students by offering them first-hand exposure to the real world of the building industry through NAHB membership, educational programming and networking opportunities.

Sign-a-Stud Event Raises \$1,300 for Operation Finally Home Project

Dozens of people turned out last week to help Tim Jackson Custom Homes finish the home he is building for wounded veteran Sgt. Stephen Jackel and his family. By donating \$5 for the opportunity to sign a stud in the home, participants' messages will be sealed within the walls and will bless the Jackel home forever. This Operation Finally Home project is being built at 1816 Shoebill Dr. in Little Elm. View photos of the event and find out how you can be a sponsor at https://www.facebook.com/ TeamJackel.





Partner StrucSure Home Warranty presents: High Performance Building I, the second class in the Building a Better House series.

Energy Efficiency starts with the Building Envelope. Don't let energy efficiency slip through the cracks! A tight building envelope is the most cost effective way for builders to reach their energy efficiency goals. This is because the building envelope is the only shield between a comfortable indoor environment and the harsh Texas climate.

This class will provide the latest information on the most effective inDallas area derived from a 12-home development study. Attendees will see these techniques first hand and learn about a new flashing and air sealing product now available in the Dallas market.

Special guest speaker will be Gary Parsons with DOW Building Solutions.

The class will include networking and lunch, compliments of Series Lunch Partners, BMC, Prosperity Bank and DOW and Class Partner, Kidd Roofing.

The fee is just \$40 for members and \$50 for non-members Last day to register is March 18.

Late registration fee is extra \$5. After that contact Stephanie Bosslet at 214-615-3881 for class availability.



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HOMEPAC of Greater Dallas would like to recognize our 2014 members. Your participation is the key to our success.

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HOMEPAC of Greater Dallas, the Dallas Builders Association's political action committee, is an essential part of the Dallas BA's advocacy program. As a General Purpose PAC dedicated to a view and not a political party, HOMEPAC provides contributions in support of pro-housing candidates for both statewide office and in local races. As state and local laws and regulations become an ever-increasing presence in your day-to-day business, HOMEPAC works to ensure that the voice of the home building and development industry is heard.

Earl Williams

Contributions of gifts to HOMEPAC of Greater Dallas are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. pol. adv. paid for by HOMEPAC of Greater Dallas



The HomeFront

-Gov't Affairs News and Info

When Is Enough, Enough?

In a regulatory sense, the cycle is as rapid and it is costly. With stringently updated requirements being published at a three-year rate, the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) has evolved to a mandate that not only impacts residential builders, it also poses what is becoming an unreasonable challenge to those wishing to attain the American dream of purchasing a new home. The resulting environment is one that is becoming less tolerable to cost effective solutions that could help more Americans reach the goal of energy efficiency.

The evolution of the IECC, and its adoption in Texas, is a subject of concern for so many. Beginning with federal government's "offer" of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA), states received a level of funding from the Department of Energy with the condition that they adopt the 2009 IECC or achieve an equivalent of its energy savings for residential construction. With the acceptance of ARRA funds, the Texas Comptroller's State Office of Energy Conservation (SECO) adopted the state's current standard, the 2009 IECC. However, due to the IECC's overseeing organization, the International Code Council (ICC), finding itself in the business of publishing updated codes every three years, Texas builders, as well as home buyers unaware of the process, face further hurdles. That being municipalities adopting a troublesome 2012 IECC, or even looking to possibly adopt the 2015 IECC as it comes to publication. This is in addition everyone keeping an eye on Texas' SECO and any consideration it may give to updated codes.

When looking at the state statute that currently authorizes SECO to handle adoption of the energy codes, it directs the office on an adoption process, but does not seem to give a guidance for an amendment process at the state level. Amendments are allowed at the municipal level, but those amendments may not result in less stringent energy efficiency requirements than those editions adopted by SECO. As written, the 2012 IECC is the least adopted codes manual ICC has produced. Other states that have adopted them used an amendment process. In Texas, municipalities that have adopted them have, for the most part, amended them, which is allowed because they did not make them less stringent than the 2009 IECC.

At the heart of concern for those amending the 2012 edition is the need to make it more applicable and, at least, somewhat cost effective for their area. Here in North Texas, the Dallas Builders Association participates on the North Central Texas Council of Governments Regional Codes Coordinating Committee. This work has resulted in collaboration with building officials to produce what is often referred to as COG or local amendments to the 2012 IECC. However, should SECO move to adopt the 2012 or 2015 editions without an amending process at the state level, the hard work done by the local committee will be for naught. Mainly because of the aforementioned statute's restrictions.

No industry remains in business, no market survives long term, without considering the cost effectiveness of measures taken. When adding products or practices to the cost of construction as the intent of being a benefit, a return on the investment or a "payback" must be seen in a reasonable time to be considered effective. Historically, the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) considers increases in energy efficiency provisions to be cost effective when the initial cost and annual savings to home buyers meet the following criteria. The provision(s) should be analyzed from the perspective of first-time home buyers, a community typically having modest incomes and limited funds for down payments. They should also be based on the final cost to the person buying the home. And those provisions must take into account the simple payback not to exceed 10 years. And then there is the reality of the market place. NAHB reports surveys which found

David Lehde Director of Government Affairs



that buyers want a simple payback of the additional costs within a seven-year period. Meaning the purchase decision comes with an expectancy of getting more of a payback than just breaking even.

Due to overly prescriptive provisions, the 2012 IECC is not seen as cost effective. Missing from that edition is the allowance of credits towards code compliance for energy saved from high-efficiency heating, cooling and water heating equipment. When this allowance was removed, it made the residential section of the IECC the only model code or energy-efficiency program that did not credit high-efficiency mechanical equipment for compliance. Other provisions in the 2012 edition, when analyzed for payback duration, paint an even clearer picture. It changed the minimum ceiling R-Values in EPA climate zones 2, 3, 4, and 5. NAHB found that it increased construction costs an average of over \$1,342 per home, yet only saves \$14 per year in energy costs. Resulting in a payback of over 90 years. The 2012 edition also changes the minimum wall assembly R-Values/U-factors in climate zone 3, increasing upfront construction costs an average of \$1,199 per home and saved only \$50, an average payback of over 20 years. The more appropriate values for both, as found in the 2009 IECC, were not reinstated in the 2015, nor were the credits for high-efficiency equipment.

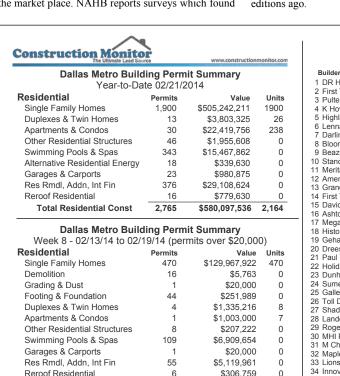
Analysis performed by NAHB comparing the code results of the 2009 IECC and the 2012 IECC showed the incremental cost to construction was over \$7,000 per home in zone 3, with a simple payback of 15.3 years, well beyond the home buyers' desired 7 years. North Texas is in climate zone 3, where home buyers will be paying the bill should SECO adopt one of the updated IECC editions without amendment.

Thanks to the proactive involvement of the Dallas BA in the COG process, the 2012 IECC was amended regionally to no longer include the costly R-value increase on wall assemblies. The building envelope tightness restrictions were also relaxed to a level that is more obtainable for area builders, yet still is an increase from 2009 levels.

The negative impact of the newer IECC editions not taking into account all of the cost effective solutions for energy efficiency, such as those used by builders on the ground, comes at a cost to our economy and society as well. By driving up the costs of new homes, a demand naturally rises on existing homes. According to a study by the Texas A&M Real Estate Center on Homeownership Costs and Housing Affordability Sensitivity, when considering homes priced between \$50,000 and \$225,000, an average of over 25,000 Texas families would find themselves priced out of the same home for every \$1,000 dollars of price increase. The negative impact hits the goal of energy efficiency as well. When less people can afford new homes, they stay in older homes that are less energy efficient.

The 2013 NAHB paper Consumer Savings from Cost-Optimized Energy Codes offers the conclusion that cost savings for energy-efficient design has peaked, or even gone beyond what the prospective home buyer would consider a reasonable payback. It also addresses that problem of codes being overly prescriptive, "To add insult to injury, the way the energy codes have been crafted, the home buyer is forced to pay for less efficient energy improvements than are available."

Everyone wants energy efficiency, but it cannot come at an unreasonable cost that makes the goal unattainable. Prescriptive paths that choose market place winners and losers miss the original intent. When is enough, enough? When does the time come for a more flexible solution? Many would argue that was two editions ago.



715

\$145,147,488

485

Total Residential Const

Dallas Metro Single Family Builders Year-to-Date 02/21/2014 Value Homes DR Hortor 277 113 \$51.336.924 \$29,575,052 \$23,749,419 First Texas Homes 3 Pulte Homes 108 4 K Hovnanian Homes 56 \$21,729,160 5 Highland Homes 60 \$18 424 133 \$16,719,070 \$14,661,472 6 Lennar Homes7 Darling Homes of8 Bloomfield Homes 65 49 \$13,371,601 \$12,471,387 63 43 9 Beazer Homes \$10,964,376 10 Standard Pacific 33 11 Meritage Homes 12 American Legend 13 Grand Homes \$9,808,108 \$9,205,710 \$8,964,066 31 32 24 14 First Texas Custo 28 \$8.640.348 15 David Weekley 24 \$8,376,133 33 30 39 16 Ashton Woods Home \$8,078,765 \$7,303,369 17 Megatel Homes Inc 18 History Maker Homes \$6,436,196 \$6,188,396 19 Gehan Homes 24 \$5,797,839 20 Drees Custom Homes 21 17 21 Paul Taylor Home \$5,434,209 22 Holiday Builders 23 Dunhill Homes 24 Sumeer Homes 23 19 \$5,361,349 \$5,264,321 \$4,975,365 \$4,682,569 17 10 25 Gallery Custom 9 12 14 26 Toll Dallas Tx Llo \$4.583.305 27 Shaddock Home \$4,481,504 28 Landon Homes 29 Rogers Ford 30 MHI Partnership \$4,055,884 \$4,000,000 24 \$3,589,716 31 M Christopher \$3,488,925 \$3,409,754 \$3,048,014 \$2,987,557 32 Maple Leaf Homes 33 Lionsgate Homes 34 Innovation Builders 35 Premier Renovations 15 10 \$2,697,080 5 11 36 Horizon Homes \$2.612.764



Chamberlain, Dworkin Earn Spike Recognition

Two members were recognized for Spike achievements at the February Board of Directors meeting. Kay Chamberlain accepts the Life Spike Award (25 Spike credits earned) for her son, Chip Chamberlain of Caprock Custom Construction, and Dallas BA President Jeff Dworkin of JLD Custom Homes is honored for achieving the Green Spike level (50 credits). Members earn one credit for each new member they sponsor. Thereafter, when that member renews, the sponsoring member automatically gets renewal credit.

Starlight AV hosts Dallas BA's January After Hours



Tom Greico, Greico Modern Homes, wins a gift package of five rooms of Klipsch In-Ceiling Speakers, presented by After Hours host Shane Bala of Starlight AV.



CANTONI's Michael Wilkov, right, presents the associate award, a \$250 gift card, to winner Phil Smith of The Bath and Kitchen Showplace.

Deal Achieves 50-Spike Level Spike Club Chairman Geanie

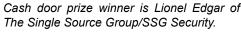
Vaughan of Lee Lighting presents Bill Deal of Bonded Builders Warranty with his Green Spike recognition for having sponsored 50 new members. The national Spike Club recognizes and rewards members who recruit new members to their local association. Those who participate are called Spikes and they are among the most valued members of the national federation of home builders.





Kelly Rinke, City Publications, wins a \$50 gift card to Capital Grille. Dallas BA President Jeff Dworkin makes the presentation.







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FINANCING

Interim & Mechanical Lien Financing Pavillion Bank Hershel Pierce - President of HBA 1989-1990 Cell 214-726-9000 hhpierce@airmail.net

After 40 years as a home builder, Hershel retired in 2005. Upon retirement, Steve Storey CEO of Pavillion, ask Hershel to take on a full time responsibility of originating loans for the bank.

As one of the original founders of Pavillion in 1982 and a director for the past 31 years, Hershel decided this was a good opportunity to "stay in touch with his home builder friends."

Contact Hershel to visit about the "good old days" and discuss any construction financing needs you may have.

Plano New Home Show

The Dallas BA will partner with E&M Consulting this spring for the New Home & Remodeling Show at the Plano Centre. This consumer show will be held March 22 & 23.

The Show features the latest in new home construction trends

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Once again, there will be a show stage with professional demonstrations and consumer classes. The show will feature a Green Zone, Market Bazaar, the Home Depot Kids Workshop, the Habitat for Humanity Re-Store and more.

More than 200,000 tickets will be distributed to local businesses in Plano and surrounding communities. In addition, the show will be promoted in a special 8-page tabloid in area newspapers.

Dallas BA members receive a discount to exhibit: \$995 for an 8x10 booth or \$495 for a 6-foot draped table.

Visit PlanoHomeShow.com for information.



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