HOME BUILDER

Dallas Builders

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VOLUME LXXII

Industry **Investors**



WPL















BRIEFLY

NAHB Membership Drive Continues Through June

The National Association of Home Builders Membership Drive has begun and continues until June 30. This is a great opportunity to help grow the Dallas BA community while earning rewards. For every new member you recruit during this period, you will receive up to triple bonus Spike credits. Your efforts can make a big difference! **Contact Membership** Coordinator Alyssa Morales for details.



McSAM Awards winners announced

The Dallas Builders Association has announced winners of its 46th Annual McSAM Awards, presented April 26 in partnership with LP Building Solutions. The McSAM Awards have been held each year since 1979 to recognize "maximum creativity in sales and marketing."

More than 500 entries were received this year, and winners were named in more than 80 categories.

The prestigious McSAM Award is given to builders, remodelers, developers and associates who have made a significant and creative contribution in residential marketing through specific achievements in a given year..

Media personality Amy Vanderoef was the mistress of ceremonies for the awards gala held at the Statler Hotel in Dallas.

The industry-judged awards included David Weeklev Homes – McSAM Builder of the Year; Hillwood Communities – Developer of the Year; Homes by J. Anthony - Custom Builder of the Year; RJA Construction - Remodeler of the Year; and Solterra Texas by Huffines Communities - Master Planned Community of the Year.

Industry experts from around the country including architects, interior designers and new home marketing professionals judged the awards.

David Weekley Homes won the prestigious People's Choice Builder of the Year honors

The People's Choice competition rewards builders



David Weekley Homes was named People's Choice Builder of the Year at the 2025 McSAM Awards presented by LP Building Solutions. The event was held April 26 at The Statler Hotel in Dallas.



Hillwood Communities took 2025 McSAM Awards Developer of the Year honors. See more photos inside.

based on consumer voting.

Other winners in the industry-judged categories were.

- Home of the Year -Mustang Lakes 100s - The Amalfi by Highland Homes;
- Active Adult Home of the Year - Ridge Crossing

70's at The Birchwood by Highland Homes;

- · Custom Home of the Year - Kee Ranch by Tim Jackson Custom Homes, designed by John Lively & Associates and interiors by Notting Hill Interiors;
 - · Builder Project Manag-

er of the Year - Felipe Mascarenhas with Grand Homes; and

· Marketing Professional of the Year - Taylor Humphrey with Pacesetter Homes.

A complete list of winners and a photo gallery can be found at McSAMAwards.com.



The HomeFront

Government Affairs News and Info

David Lehde Director of Government **Affairs**



A Spring of Influence for Dallas BA Advocacy

Local Update:

Builders in Dallas now have an addition to the list of housing stock diversity after the City Council approved Dallas BA supported amendments to their residential building code on April 23. The ordinance adds a consolidated dwelling that allows between three to eight residential units to be built under the city's version of the International Residential Code. The code provisions for one- and two-family dwellings remain unchanged.

Currently, any structure with more than two dwelling units must comply with the International Building Code, which can add complexity and costs to smaller-scale residential developments. The intent is to provide more options to address the city's housing needs.

Consolidated dwellings are limited to buildings dedicated to residential use only and contain three to eight dwelling units. The building is limited to 7,500 square feet or less in non-sprinklered areas and four dwelling units or less per story served by a single exit. The construction must contain certain fire rated assemblies for walls and floor assemblies, and there are restrictions on common travel of egress and a requirement for distance between buildings.

Builders retain the option to build three or more dwelling units per the IBC should they find going up in code to be beneficial for a project.

The building and development community will also have a new experience when applying via the Dallas Planning and Development Department's online system. The new DallasNow platform streamlines the process for applications, permits and inspections. DallasNow offers one platform for permitting, platting, planning, inspections, engineering and zoning.

The platform is billed as being more user friendly and intuitive, with better communication, tracking and real-time notifications for approvals, fees and inspections.

Due to the significant migration that must occur between the old system and new, Dallas PDD had to suspend certain services between April 25 and May 4, to have the system ready for its May 5th start. During this time, Dallas PDD services have been limited to inspections for existing permits, emergency releases and consultations with staff. To facilitate those limited services, the department has provided a link to a form and QR code.

The city sent notice of the suspended services and alternative inspection process to their list of those in the industry and Dallas BA shared the information as well.

Dallas BA hosted PDD for an information and demonstration session on April 30.

Dallas BA will continue to monitor feedback from our members and share as needed with Dallas PDD.

Spring has also provided opportunities for the Association to continue to build relationships with our local government partners. A team of members and staff have been busy evaluating city council candidates in key area races. The process provides an opportunity for the Association to voice the needs and benefits of our industry.

HOMEPAC of Greater Dallas has released a voter guide of specific city council races from across the Association's service area. Members can view the guide in Punch List.

State Advocacy:

In Austin, Texas Association of Builders, along with support from locals like Dallas BA members and staff, have been working overtime to monitor an amazing amount of proposed legislation that could impact home building. This includes legislation that addresses our industry's priorities.

Dallas BA's Frank Murphy and David Lehde on April 3 joined a team of other local HBA members (and TAB staff) to testify in support of House Bill 2225, by Representative Brad Buckley. The companion bill for SB 1883 (Bettencourt) relates to the approval of land use assumptions, capital improvement plans and impact fees. HB 2225 is a transparency bill in government bill, in that it addresses public notice and disclosure times, creates a higher threshold for the adoption of fee increases and provides a reasonable passage of time before further increases may occur.

The legislation's provision requiring that the capital improvements plan and land uses assessment be published to the public 60 days before notice of public hearing provides some opportunity for review for any errors that may impact fee calculations. The bill also maps out the use of a capital improvements advisory committee that is to be made up of a more reasonable percentage of those from the housing industry who would have a better understanding of the impact of these types of fees. The thresholds prescribed by the bill also help ensure reasonable consideration is given to the impact on construction costs.

Impact fees have become a significant factor in the challenge to housing affordability and they drive up housing costs, so it stands to reason that there should be a sound attempt at checks and balances in the process of deciding whether to adopt or increase those fees.

During testimony, David Lehde cited that it is important to remember that it is the homebuyer who ultimately pays for impact fees and that those fees grow significantly when considering the cost to finance the difference of the fee during construction, along with the interest assessed over the life of the mortgage.

Federal Affairs:

The work for housing attainability at the national level has no shortage of challenges. Tariffs, the exemption of products from tariffs, and the temporary suspension of other product related tariffs have been a big topic. For a time, the word from Washington regarding what faced reciprocal tariffs and what didn't seemed to change by the day, if not hour. Obviously, Canadian softwood lumber plays a big role in our industry's supply and there has been concern. For now, at least, that product has been exempt from reciprocal tariffs.

However, it is not spared from



Past President Frank Murphy testified April 3 before the State House Committee on Land & Resource Management.

the annual review that is done by the Commerce Department regarding current countervailing and anti-dumping duties. The most recent review of these rates has resulted in the department releasing a preliminary determination to more than double the levy on softwood lumber to 34.5%. This was an issue that NAHB has been monitoring and weighing in on with the federal government. A final review is to be published in August or September, and if unchanged, the higher rates will take effect then. NAHB has signaled that the Association will continue to urge the White House to roll back tariffs on lumber and other building materials.

Dallas BA believes the recent preliminary determination is an example of why it is imperative that the U.S. and Canada get together and negotiate a new softwood lumber agreement. We have raised our concerns about tariffs to members of Congress in the past, even very recently.

It is just one of the policy areas Dallas BA members and staff will discuss with our service area's members of Congress in early June during our National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C.

Members are reminded that if you have an interest in participating in the "LegCon," please contact the Director of Government Affairs. Space is limited and we recognize and appreciate the sacrifice of time and cost members make when heading to the nation's capital to advocate for housing.

> "The greatest ability in business is to get along with others and to influence their actions." - John Hancock



The Home Builder is published monthly by the Dallas Builders Association at 5816 W. Plano Pkwy., Plano, Texas 75093. Telephone 972-931-4840.

BARCIE VILCHES, Editor

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McSAM Awards winners announced















<u>View McSAM Awards Photo Gallery</u> <u>and Winners Book>></u>











Upcoming Classes

Presented by



Wood and Vinyl Flooring Best Practices: Tips From an Industry Professional – Building a Better House Series - May 6

This class will offer best practices for flooring prep and installation for:

- Luxury Vnyl Plank and Tile;
- Solid Wood Flooring; and
- Engineered Wood Flooring.

Each module will cover such topics as jobsite readiness, jobsite inspection, moisture testing, acclimation requirements, substrate recommendations, installation recommendations, expansion space needed and common problems seen during an inspection.

Instructor for the class will be Timothy McCool, National Wood Flooring Certified Wood Flooring inspector.

McCool is also a certified inspector through the Institute for Floor Covering Inspectors International and the North American Laminate Flooring Association.

Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cost: \$35 member /\$45 non-member

Format: In-person only

Register for the Wood and Vinyl Flooring Class.

Fall Prevention in Residential Construction Training - May 8

The 4-hour seminar focuses on identifying fall hazards in residential construction, as well as, providing attendees an understanding of the OSHA fall protection regulations and safe work practices to prevent fall-related accidents.

Every year, approximately 300 construction workers die from fall-related accidents. These accidents are preventable with safety planning and training.

In partnership with the Job-Site Safety Institute (JSI) and National Housing Endowment (NHE), the National Association of Home Builders and Dallas BA are conducting this training seminar for builders, trade contractors, supervisors and workers.

Safety training expert Matt Murphy, president of SEE, Inc., will be the instructor.

Time: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cost: \$20 member /\$25 non-member-

Format: In-person only

Register for the Fall Prevention Class.

Dallas BA Leadership Program - May 21 through Dec. 10

The Leadership Program provides a framework for participants to develop and enhance their leadership skills. The yearlong program includes sessions and mentoring opportunities that are needed for those who want to become involved in the organization. Participants will learn organizational management, how to improve communication skills, how to best motivate employees, and how to be a better leader.

Time: 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. monthly ses-

sions

Cost: \$795 member /\$995 non-mem-

her

Format: In-person only

Facilitator: Tim Lansford, Blast Seminars and Luxury Homes of Texas

Leadership Program Information

Synthetic Grass: Building a Better House Series - June 25

Instructor Chad Harris of Synthetic Grass DFW will provide an overview of the value of artificial grass in modern home design.

Participlants will be able to recognize different tpes of turf and their ideal applications and the installation process and integration into building timelines.

Time: 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Cost: \$35 member /\$45 non-member

Format: In-person only

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Today, we express our sincere gratitude to all those who have placed their trust in us—the builders within the Dallas Builders Association.

As we embark on the next quarter century, we raise a toast to the future. With FraserCon by your side, you can rely on our expertise and unwavering commitment to excellence. Together, let's build a stronger, more concrete future.

Jason Fraser Founder

Register for the Synthetic Grass Class

Members enjoy Crawfish Boil April 10















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Denton County builders reignite division efforts



Past President Donny Mack of Mack Professionals, Inc., left, and Membership Chair Chris Clay of 2-10 Home Buyers Warranty thank spearkers Rina Maloney, Economic Development Program Manager for Denton County, and Brittany Sotelo, Economic Development Director for the City of Denton. Thank you to partners LP Building Solutions, 84 Lumber and 2-10 Home Buyers Warranty.

> By Gena Godinez Executive Officer

Last month marked an exciting step forward as the Denton County Builders held their first meeting in an effort to reestablish this group as a standing division of the Dallas Builders Association. After a long pause, we are thrilled to begin the process of rebuilding a strong presence in Denton County.

During the meeting, members discussed the potential structure of the division, including whether future meetings will be held quarterly or every other month. While the logistics are still being finalized, the enthusiasm and commitment from attendees made it clear that there is strong support for a Denton Countyfocused division.

We were also pleased to welcome two fantastic guest speakers for our luncheon program: Rina Maloney, Economic Development Program Manager for Denton County, and Brittany Sotelo, Economic Development Director for the City of Denton. Both provided valuable insights into current and future economic development efforts, helping attendees better understand the growth and opportunities within the region.

Our goal is to build a division that not only serves the unique needs of members in Denton County, but also supports and engages with the broader community. We look forward to growing this group and fostering stronger connections throughout the county.

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New Members Win Prizes

Sam Reed with Alphagraphics #114 presents door prizes April 8 to winners Robert Cheung, WellTech USA; Patrick Sweeney, The Brothers That Just Do Gutters North Dallas; Dagmawi Geremew P.E., TRC Engineers; Julie Watson, WFG National Title; and Crysta Marquez, The Realty Venture. In addition to Yearlong Membership Partner StrucSure Home Warranty, the New Member Welcome Breakfast was presented by Alphagraphics and Tom Sadler & Associates. This event is held every other month on the second Tuesday and is open to guests and members (new and old!).



Multifamily Builders Council Hosts Developers

Multifamily Builders Council Chair Adam Sumrow, center, served as moderator for the group's program on developer insights on April 1. Panelists included Blake Taylor, JPI: Anish Joseph. JPI; Tom Holland, Billingsley; and Sumner Billingsley, Billingsley.

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Dallas Division Presents Candidate Forum

The Dallas Division presented a Dallas City Council District 11 Candidate Forum at its lunch meeting April 3. From left are candidate Bill Roth, William Roth Company; Division President Jeff Dworkin, JLD Custom Homes; candidate Kendal Richarson: candidate Jeff Kitner, North Dallas Chamber of Commerce: and program moderator Betheny Erickson, D Magazine.

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GM Capital Gary Jackson 214-663-0735 BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

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Keeter Custom Homes Kyle Clark 214-535-3561 BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

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ASSOCIATES

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Rosehill Electric Inc Ellis Chiu 469-468-1804 ELECTRICAL

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PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Vicwest Randy Trussell 945-349-5849 ROOFING

Western Pacific Cole Baker 469-630-7900 DOORS Spike: Michael Turner, Classic Urban Homes

AFFILIATES/ADDITIONALS

Pinnacle Foundation Repair Jacob Ehrlish 972-206-7767 FOUNDATION

Pinnacle Foundation Repair Wendy Vaughn 682-450-8073 FOUNDATION Rooster General Contractors John Ratley 949-887-8149 BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

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Milestone Anniversaries

Congratulations to these companies and individuals being recognized for continuous membership in the Dallas Builders Association.



Twin Oaks Custom Homes 25 years Sam Bradley and Tom Lin

30 Years

Nina Hayes Cleaning Services, Inc.

20 Years

Lone Star Framing & Construction, LLC Nowak & Stauch, PLLC

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