

THE HOME BUILDER

DallasBuilders
ASSOCIATION

www.DallasBuilders.org



VOLUME LXXII

No. 1

January 2025

Industry Investors



Housing industry icon Harold Peek inducted into Housing Hall of Honor

Harold Peek, a pioneering figure in Dallas's construction industry and former mayor of University Park, has been inducted into the Texas Housing Hall of Honor. The Texas Association of Builders (TAB) honored Mr. Peek at its Excellence in Leadership Dinner Nov. 20, at the Hyatt Lost Pines in Bastrop, TX.

Harold Peek joined Randy Birdwell of Central Texas and the late Larry Johnson of Houston as inductees into the 2024 Texas Housing Hall of Honor.



The Dallas delegation joins Housing Hall of Honor inductee Harold Peek on stage at the Nov. 20 TAB Excellence in Leadership Dinner.

"It has been my privilege to have served this great home building industry for so many years," he stated during acceptance of the award. "I have worked with many dedicated people through the years, and, together, we have made a positive impact."

Mr. Peek served as the Dallas Builders Association's president in 1971 at the age of 31. He remains the youngest person to have served in this capacity in the Association's 80-year history.

Harold Peek joined his father at Peek Properties in 1961 and completed 1,700 homes before his presidency of the Dallas BA. The firm was the first volume builder in the Richardson area, having started construction there in 1954.

Under his guidance, the Association flourished, making great strides in dealing with the Department of Labor and successfully transforming the Association's bylaws to develop a Registered Profes-

sional Building Program, elevating industry standards while avoiding stringent state licensing.

Peek's influence extended nationally, as he testified before Congress in 1979 to support increased mortgage limits. His commitment to public service culminated in

his role as mayor of University Park from 1998 to 2004..

As mayor of University Park, he made a commitment to upgrading aging infrastructure accomplished through the "mile per year" utility replacement program and the overall program outlined in the master plan. He governed

conservative financial management in the city to keep taxes at a minimum. Mr. Peek is active in the Salesmanship Club of Dallas and the SMU Mustang Club.

Peek Properties has been a continuous member of the Dallas Builders Association for more than six decades

BRIEFLY

The Metro East Division will present a "Meet the Mayors Luncheon" Jan. 16. Gain insights into several mayors' visions for the future, hear about ongoing initiatives and learn about upcoming projects designed to enhance the Metro East area. [RSVP.](#)

Don't miss the Texas Reception Feb. 25 at the International Builders' Show in Las Vegas. Prices go up Jan. 24 for this event hosted by TAB and brought to you by StrucSure Home Warranty. [Details.](#)

Members can expect to receive a print copy of the 2025 Membership Directory in their mailboxes later this month.



U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Samasoni Lelea and his family participate in ribbon-cutting ceremonies welcoming them to their new, mortgage-free home. This is the Dallas BA's ninth Operation Finally Home project. [Read the full story inside.](#)



The HomeFront

Government Affairs News and Info

David Lehde
Director of
Government
Affairs



The Value of Association Advocacy

“The liberties of a people never were, nor ever will be, secure, when the transactions of their rulers may be concealed from them.” – Patrick Henry, 9 June 1788 – The Debates in the Convention of The Commonwealth of Virginia, On the Adoption of the Federal Constitution

The Dallas Builders Association’s mission is to support all segments of the residential building industry by enhancing our members’ ability to provide quality, affordable and sustainable housing.

One of the avenues the Association uses for this is advocacy, with a vision to be the most trusted and respected source for housing. With a service area comprising 10 counties and many cities, there are plenty of policy areas for the Dallas BA to engage.

For Dallas BA members, there is a value to advocacy. Pre-pandemic to post-pandemic, it adds up to thousands saved in regulatory cost and permit process corrections and that means the ability to get homes to market. One such regulatory cost is fees.

Here are just some of the highlights of Dallas BA fighting for our members.

Fees, especially in the State of Texas, have two overarching themes of protection, for those on which the fees are being assessed, that must be met.

A) They are proportional to the purported demand being put on city services per development and building.

B) They are assessed relative to the cost of the service that the state allows the entity to assess them for. It is an effort to show that the claimed demand is assumed correctly and with transparency. Go too far, and a city

finds itself with an ordinance that can be argued to be an illegal “occupations” tax or an improper taking.

Examples of Dallas BA keeping impact fees from becoming excessive would be Denton and Fate.

In Denton, 2024 saw the conclusion of a multi-year discussion on roadway impact fees. Dallas BA Successfully advocated keeping Denton Roadway Impact fees at 20% of the maximum allowed. This amounts to a discount of more than 30% of what was originally proposed, equating to an average savings from additional fees of more than \$2,900 per multifamily and \$6,000 per single-family home. When the roadway impact fees were initially implemented in Denton in 2016, Dallas BA was successful in getting them cut by a third of what was proposed to be assessed per home.

Dallas BA members benefited from our advocacy on roadway impact fees in Fate in 2023 as well. Ast the Association’s urging, the Fate City Council Fate agreed to amend the proposed roadway impact fees to around \$2,000 less than what was originally proposed for 2024, and phase in milder increases through 2025. Dallas BA has seen similar success in other municipalities in Denton and Collin counties.

In Dallas, the Association was very engaged as the City Council discussed amending their permit and service fees for the first time in nearly a decade. Dallas BA staff and members questioned the assumptions of a third-party fee study that was egregiously high. In an advocacy effort with our allied stakeholders, we were successful in amending many of the proposed new fees down in the final ordinance.

Dallas BA has also taken our

advocacy on the issue of building and development permit fees to the state legislature, originating two bills that were signed into law by the Governor.

In 2019, during the 86th Texas Legislature, Dallas BA proposed legislation to correct the issue of cities and counties not basing the amount of building permit or inspection fees on the cost to perform these inspections.

Instead, fees were often calculated based on the cost or estimated value of the home itself. In coordination with the Texas Association of Builders, the Association successfully advocated for HB 852/SB 855 prohibits municipalities from using the valuation or construction cost of a residential dwelling to determine the amount of permit or inspection fees charged.

In 2023, similar concerns arose on the development side. Again, Dallas BA supported legislation, H.B. 3492, that prohibits municipalities and counties from considering the cost of constructing or improving public infrastructure in determining the amount of the inspection fees.

With both of the bills having been signed into law by the Governor, the correction was to base the regulatory fees on the cost of providing the service.

There can be countless regulatory threats that creep up across the state. We are fortunate to have the government relations team at Texas Association of Builders to coordinate the effort to protect our members statewide. As was the case when one Texas city was considering the idea of linkage fees.

Imagine an ordinance that would require paying as much as \$30 per square foot for a home, only to be used to fund a subsidy that would increase the cost of residential construction and just price out more families. This is what TAB protected Association members from via an important legislative victory in 2017. Dallas BA government relations staff testified in support of the legislation.

When you consider the regulatory cost of fees, it does not take long to add up the value of Dallas BA advocacy. We will cover more of this next month.

Registration Is Open for Rally Day 2025!

The Dallas Builders Association’s Rally Day will be Feb. 11 in Austin.

Rally Day is the advocacy grassroots event for the Dallas BA, held at the Texas State Capitol.

In February, Dallas BA members will have the opportunity to join us and meet with our service area’s state senators and representatives in the Texas Legislature.

The event gives Dallas BA members the opportunity to participate as we advocate for issues important to homebuilding and the state’s economy. Rally Day also provides an opportunity to network with other members.

This is a FREE event for Association members only and includes bus transportation to and from Austin, lunch and dinner for attendees.

Event registration is mandatory and must be made prior to Jan. 28 to attend.

Partnerships are available on several levels. Click on the link below for more information and event registration.



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

THE HOME BUILDER

Dallas Builders Association

www.DallasBuilders.org



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

[Rally Day 2025 Registration and Information>>](#)

McSAM Awards makes call for entries

The Dallas Builders Association has made its official call for entries for its annual McSAM Awards recognizing excellence in sales and marketing.

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 the previous year.

This year's McSAM Awards presented by LP Building Solutions will be held on Saturday, April 26, at the Statler Hotel in Dallas.

Save \$50 per McSAM Awards entry by submitting materials with payment by Jan. 31. Entry fee for all categories except People's Choice is \$175 before this Early Bird deadline. After this date, the fee goes up to \$225 per entry.

The final deadline is March 1 for People's Choice entries and March 3 for all other categories. All entries must be submitted through the online portal at McSAMAwards.com.

The 2025 awards show will in-

clude 84 categories and two People's Choice Awards: Community of the Year and Builder of the Year.

Again this year, several categories previously exclusive to the former ARC Awards, are included in the McSAM lineup.

These include categories for custom builders: Best Interior Design; Best Kitchen; Best Architectural Design - Modern, Traditional and Transitional; and Custom Builder of the Year.

Four remodeling categories are also included: Best Addition; Best Kitchen Remodel; Best Bathroom Remodel; and Best Whole House Remodel.

Other awards categories will be in the areas of Professional Achievement; Marketing, Advertising, Signage, Online; Interior Merchandising; Design, Home / Builder / Developer and Community of the Year.

Sales Achievement Awards, which are non-judged volume-based recognitions, will be made in four dollar volume categories ranging from \$5 million to over \$35 million.

A variety of partnership opportunities are available ranging from \$1,000 to \$6,000. Contact Dallas BA Director of Meetings and Events Jasmine Streete, 214-615-5012, if you are interested in partnering.

Tickets to the awards gala are

now on sale. Prices are \$150 per ticket through Jan. 31 and \$175 from Feb. 1 through April 12.

Rooms at The Statler are available through the [Dallas BA's McSAM Awards Room Block](#) through the end of the day Feb. 26.

Celebration of Life set for Steve Puckett

A Celebration of Life will be held Jan. 25 for Treasurer Stephen Puckett, CGA, who passed away unexpectedly in his home Dec. 20. Services will be held at 2 p.m. at Redeemer Bible Church, 721 Easton Rd. in Dallas. A reception in the church's Fellowship Hall will follow.

Puckett was a mortgage loan officer with Prosperity Bank in the Park Cities. Raised in Dallas, he earned a B.S. degree in economics from Texas A&M University. He began his career as a production builder in 1984, moving soon thereafter into banking, where he had been for the past 35 years.

Steve's career included secondary marketing and REO management, with the past 25+ years as a mortgage loan officer providing lending services to builders and their clients for construction financing.

He had been a member of the Dallas BA since 1994, having served on numerous committees including the Finance Committee, the Executive Committee and several Parade of Homes™ Committees. More recently, Steve had served as secretary/treasurer of the Dallas Division since 2009.

In October he was installed as treasurer of the Association, an office he has held three times before, serving continuously from 2016 to 2021. Steve earned his Certified Graduate Associate designation earlier this year.

In October he was installed as treasurer of the Association, an office he has held twice before. Steve earned his Certified Graduate Associate designation earlier this year.

He was a contributor to several of the Association's Operation Finally Home projects, providing new, mortgage-free homes to wounded U.S. military veterans. Steve was a regular contributor to HOME PAC, the Dallas BA's political action committee. And he had more than 20 Spike credits for recruiting new members to the Association.

In 2020 he was honored with the Dallas BA's Clyde J. Anderson Associate of the Year Award. This award is bestowed annually to the associate member who provides exemplary service to the Association, its members and to the industry as a whole.

His diligence as treasurer helped the Association through many challenges that year. When the COVID-19 crisis descended, many of the Association's efforts were invested in keeping the industry open, essential and informed. However, at the same time, it was important that the Dallas BA secure necessary financial assistance to keep operations at full strength. Puckett helped secured assistance for the Dallas BA through the Paycheck Protection Program at a time when very few associations were able to do so.

Steve is survived by his wife Drue; daughter Amanda Cargill and her husband Kenneth; son Scott Puckett and his wife Daniella; and two grandchildren, Emily and George Cargill.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to either Steve's beloved high school, Jesuit College Preparatory School of Dallas (click [HERE](#) to make a gift); or to Operation Finally Home (click [HERE](#) to donate in Steve's name).



Dallas Builders ASSOCIATION

Rally Day 2025

February 11
6:00am - 9:00pm
Texas State Capitol

Every two years Dallas BA members travel en masse to Austin to join fellow builders and associate members from across the state in order to advocate the industry's stance on housing related issues before the Legislature. This is a FREE event for Dallas BA members only and includes bus transportation to and from Austin, lunch, and dinner for attendees. Event registration is mandatory and must be made prior to January 28 to attend.

REGISTER OR PARTNER

Dallas Builders Association Year in Review

As we look back on 2024, it's clear that the Dallas Builders Association has had a year filled with remarkable achievements and milestones. From hosting impactful events to honoring the exceptional accomplishments of our members, this year has been one of growth, unity and celebration.

■ The big highlight of the year was undoubtedly our 80th anniversary. This milestone is a testament to the enduring strength and relevance of the Dallas BA. As part of this celebration, we held a reunion for our past presidents, celebrating their contributions and leadership. Past President Jeff Dworkin was presented with the prestigious Hugh Prather Trophy during the gathering. This event was a wonderful opportunity to honor those who have shaped our Association over the years.

■ Another notable highlight was the induction of Harold Peek into the Texas Housing Hall of Honor, recognizing his significant contributions to the home building industry.

■ This year, our Association made substantial charitable contributions, supporting various organizations totaling over \$100,000. The most notable of these was the annual Lone Star CASA contribution by our Metro East Division from their Annual Cars for CASA event in Rockwall.

■ We mourned the passing of Past President George Lewis, a respected member for over 50 years, and Steve Puckett, who had in October been installed for his third term as treasurer of the Association, and remembered them both for their legacy and contributions to the Dallas BA.

■ We completed our 9th Operation Finally Home project, providing a mortgage free home for U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Samasoni Lelea and his family. This project highlights our dedication to making a positive impact beyond the home building industry.

■ Throughout the year, we hosted eight After Hours events, which averaged an impressive attendance of 120 members. These gatherings provided invaluable opportunities for networking and building relationships for our members.

■ We also welcomed new members with six New Member Welcome Breakfasts. These breakfasts are essential for integrating new members into our organization and providing them with the tools and connections they need to succeed.

■ Our special events attracted over 1,800 overall attendees, showcasing the strong engagement and interest within our industry. The McSAM Awards, one of our largest annual fundraisers, had over 450 attendees and received approximately 500 entries, with winners named in more than 80 categories. This event continues to be a prestigious highlight of our annual calendar.

■ Over 200 attendees gathered to install President Kelly Hoodwin of Altura Homes at the Frontiers of Flight Museum. Burgess Construction Consultants was honored as the Clyde Anderson Associate of the Year, and Chris Clay of 2-10 Home Buyers Warranty received the Shorty Howard Award for membership recruitment.

■ Our Education Committee had another successful year. We offered a variety of series, including Building a Better House, NAHB courses, hands-on classes with the Ask the Builder series, and the yearlong leadership program. We held 37 diverse sessions throughout the year, offering 131 hours of relevant education to over 550 industry professionals. We also worked to recruit new instructors and pertinent topics by offering members the exclusive Train the Trainer course.

■ The Young Professionals Council has seen continual growth throughout the year, increasing attendance at their monthly meetings and annual Bowling Tournament. This growth reflects the rising interest and engagement of young professionals in our industry.

■ The Multifamily Council had another successful year with their Golf Tournament and Christmas Party. The Golf Tournament sold out once again, and the Christmas Party brought in nearly \$4,000 in gift card donations for the Samaritan Inn.

■ Professional Women in Building added a new Halloween-themed event, Boos and Booze, which served as a fundraiser for Collin College. The PWB made another \$10,000 donation to Collin College to aid and encourage more women in construction.

■ The Dallas Division's Top Shot event was a complete sellout, prompting considerations to expand the event in 2025 to accommodate more participants.

■ This year, we celebrated 129 members who reached significant membership milestones. Among them, 44 members celebrated 20+ years

of membership. Special recognition goes to three members who celebrated 50-year milestones: Wilson Plywood & Door, Vent Craft, Inc. and Quivira Luxury Homes. We also honored Acme Brick Company for their incredible achievement of reaching a 60-year membership milestone.

■ The Association's websites collectively are on track to surpass 137,000 visitors in 2024. Additionally, our social media followers increased to almost 20,500 by year's end, showcasing our growing online presence and engagement.

■ The Association's official publication, *The Home Builder*, has been distributed to members without interruption since 1947. Now in digital format, it garnered more than 6,500 views last year. Furthermore, the *Dallas Morning News* Home of the Week feature celebrated its 65th anniversary of promoting Dallas BA's builders (single- and multifamily) and land developers by featuring their properties in both its print and online publications.

■ For Dallas BA advocacy, 2024 brought a wide array of policy issues to address, which resulted in a year of victories for our members.

■ The Association fought to achieve a change to Dallas' fire hydrant requirement that protected builders from an unproportional mandate that could have cost some builders more than \$25,000.

■ Dallas BA staff worked to keep Denton's roadway impact fee rate at 20% of the maximum—more than 30% less than what was originally proposed, protecting builders from thousands of dollars in additional increases per single- and multifamily home.

■ We successfully advocated for Celina to continue to provide inspections five days a week and fought for efficiency in the permitting process in multiple cities.

■ The Association advocated for regional recommendations for energy code amendments to protect builders

Gena Godinez
Executive
Officer



from unwarranted and costly requirements that would have offered very little benefit.

■ Dallas BA members and staff met with our members of Congress in June to discuss the need to fund Job Corps, address supply chain issues and warn of energy code mandates that harm housing affordability.

■ Director of Government Affairs David Lehde spoke at U.S. Congressman Michael Burgess' Energy Efficiency Summit on the importance of rolling back a reckless energy code mandate from HUD and USDA.

■ As a voting member of the Regional Codes Coordinating Committee, Dallas BA helped provide recommendations for energy code amendments, protecting builders from unwarranted requirements.

As we look forward to the coming year, we remain committed to supporting our members, advocating for the home building industry and fostering a strong sense of community within the Dallas BA. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and look forward to another year of success.

Thank you to all our members, partners, and supporters for making this year truly remarkable. Last year 146 companies partnered events, meetings and classes, and StrucSure Home Warranty stepped up as the Yearlong Partner of both the Membership and Education programs. A huge thank you is owed to them as well as 2024 Industry Investors Hotchkiss Insurance Agency, StrucSure Home Warranty, BGE, FoxEnergy Specialists, DuPont, FACETS Appliances, Kitchens & Baths and Atmos Energy. Here's to an even brighter future for the Dallas Builders Association!





Gregory Loudon, Alexandra Lang, Sergio Montes, Noel Clark, Instructor Tim Lansford, Vickie Wattanapongwat, Erica McLain, Phil Smith

Celebrating the 2024 graduates of the DBA LEADERS Program

The Dallas Builders Association is proud to celebrate the exceptional professionals who have successfully completed the 2024 DBA LEADERS program. This year's graduates are individuals committed to personal growth, professional excellence, and the continued success of our industry.

Over the past year, these participants have embarked on an intensive journey, honing their leadership skills

and deepening their understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the residential construction sector. The program provided a unique blend of classroom education, hands-on experiences and mentorship preparing graduates to take on pivotal roles in their companies, communities and the Dallas Builders Association itself.

The 2024 cohort tackled a curriculum designed to foster growth in key areas such as communication, decision-making and strategic planning, while also addressing the dynamic nature of the homebuilding industry. Through workshops, networking events and collaborative projects, they developed not only as professionals but also as individuals deeply connected to the Association's mission and values.

As graduates of the DBA LEADERS program, these individuals join a distinguished alumni network that continues to shape the future of the association and the North Texas homebuilding community. Their dedication, hard work and vision are an inspiration to us all, and we are confident they will continue to make a positive impact wherever their careers take them.

Congratulations to the 2024 DBA LEADERS graduates! They are:

- Alexandra Buckley, CB JENI / Normandy / Southgate Homes
- David Cervantes, Elyse Design & Build LLC
- Noel Clark, Eagle Point Solutions
- Johnny Gutierrez, HT Lumber
- Meredith Joyce, Michael Joyce Properties
- Hanna Koebel, CB JENI / Normandy / Southgate Homes
- Alexandra Lang, CB JENI / Normandy / Southgate Homes
- Jared Leidner, Harold Leidner Landscape Associates
- Gregory Loudon, GOLOUDON
- Erica McLain, McLain by Design Interiors
- Sergio Montes, Elyse build
- Micah Plumlee, Moore Supply
- CaSandra Romero, Bloomfield Homes
- Phil Smith, FACETS Appliances, Kitchens & Baths
- Vickie Wattanapongwat, Preserve Custom Homes

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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

Lelea family gets new, mortgage-free home Dallas BA completes 9th Operation Finally Home project

Due to the ongoing support from members of the Dallas Builders Association, the City of Irving, Garvey Homes, NEC Corporation of America and Operation Finally Home, another deserving veteran realized the dream of home ownership last month. Dedication ceremonies were held Nov. 9 for U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Samasoni Lelea and his family.

This is the ninth home the Dallas BA has been a part of and the third house being constructed in Irving. By council vote, the City of Irving has donated four lots to Operation Finally Home for first responders and U.S. military veterans. Thank you to all the vendors, suppliers and trades who liberally donated their materials, time and talent.

Lelea, an American Samoa native from the far eastern village of Onenoa, is a two-time Purple Heart recipient who served his country for 22-plus years. Throughout his career, he was deployed to Iraq three times and sustained severe injuries, including traumatic brain injury, post-traumatic stress disorder and other physical wounds following two separate attacks on his vehicle. Despite these injuries, Lelea remained on active duty until his medical retirement in February 2020.

During the dedication ceremony, representatives from participating organizations highlighted the importance of community and neighborly support, noting that the Lelea family's new home symbolizes the spirit of unity and appreciation for military service.



Photo courtesy of Misty Varsalone, Classic Urban Homes

Lelea, an American Samoa na-

[View the photo gallery.](#)



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Orchestrating a brighter world



Tim Jackson is J. B. Sandlin Builder of the Year

The Texas Association of Builders has awarded its prestigious J.B. Sandlin Builder of the Year Award to Dallas BA Past President Tim Jackson of Tim Jackson Custom Homes.

The presentation was made during TAB's 2024 Excellence in Leadership Dinner Nov. 20 at the Hyatt Lost Pines in Bastrop, TX. The "Of the Year" awards are given annually to recognize exemplary service and leadership contributions to the homebuilding industry by its members.

Jackson served as president of the Dallas BA in 2009 and was awarded the Hugh Prather Trophy for outstanding contributions to the community and the North Texas housing industry in 2014.

Two years later he became the president of TAB. Following his term there, he continued to serve as a trustee for the Texas Builders Foundation and in 2021, was elected chair. Jackson works tirelessly to fulfill the foundation's dual mission of providing scholarships to students in construction trades and assisting communities in disaster recovery.

He played a pivotal role in establishing the 1st Annual Texas Builders Foundation Open golf tournament, now known as the Chip Dence Memorial Golf Tournament. Because of his efforts, hundreds of students have received assistance, and new curriculums are being formed across the state,

expanding opportunities for students interested in the construction industry.

In 2024 alone, the Texas Builders Foundation has distributed tens of thousands of dollars to the North Carolina and Florida hurricane disaster relief programs. Jackson embodies the Foundation's motto of "Open Doors to Fulfilling the American Dream."

PHILANTHROPIST OF THE YEAR: Don Klein

In other awards presented at the 2024 Excellence in Leadership Dinner Don Klein, president of Chesmar Homes was named Philanthropist of the Year. Chesmar Homes is based in Houston, but has been a member of the Dallas BA since 2013.

For a record breaking eighth time, Chesmar Homes has participated in the Greater Houston Builders Association's Benefit Home's program. Both HomeAid Houston and Operation Finally Home each received a \$140,000 donation. Both charities uplift their communities by providing and improving homes and shelters for U.S. veterans and the homeless population. Klein has also been instrumental in increasing support to record levels for the GHBA's scholarship program. This has allowed more students than ever to access the training and education necessary to pursue and succeed with their careers in the residential construction industry.



TAB President Don Allen and Past TAB President Eddie Martin present the 2024 J. B. Sandlin Builder of the Year Award to Tim Jackson.

Justin Webb installed as TAB vp/secretary

Dallas BA Past President Justin Webb of Altura Homes was installed as vice president/secretary of the Texas Association of Builders in ceremonies held during the Nov. 20 Excellence in Leadership Dinner at the Hyatt Lost Pines Resort in Bastrop.

Other senior officers installed were TAB's 78th president, Brett Martin of Tilson Custom Home Builders in Houston; First Vice President Chris Lyons, HOME by Lyons in Amarillo; and Treasurer Justin MacDonald,

MacDonald Companies Inc. in Ker-ville.

Justin Webb is a highly experienced leader with over 25 years in the construction and real estate development industry. As founder of Altura Homes, he has developed thousands of homes, generating over \$1 billion in sales. His expertise includes land acquisition, homebuilding, commercial real estate, and finance.

Webb holds key leadership roles in several industry organizations. He is currently serving as the HOMEPAC chair for the Texas Association of Builders and has previously held positions as membership chair, Area 1 vice president and on TAB's executive board.

He served as president of the Dallas BA in 2020. He is also active in charitable causes, including building a mortgage-free home for a veteran through Operation Finally Home. Altura Homes was also heavily involved in building a facility through Patriot PAWS to house veterans while they are training with their new service dogs.

At the National Association of Home Builders, he has served on the board of directors/leadership council since 2016 and is a member of the NAHB Builder 20 Club.



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Republic Elite presents Multifamily Builders Council Christmas party Dec. 12 at Vouu



MFBC Chairman Adam Sumrow presents a check for \$5,000 to Lauren Perkins and Kellie Maynard of Samaritan Inn. Party attendees also donated almost \$4,000 in gift cards for Samaritan Inn residents.



(Above) Members of the MFBC Board of Directors are recognized at the council's December holiday party. (Left) Manny Sanchez with Trinsic Residential Builders, LLC, is honored with the 2024 John Turner Memorial Superintendent of the Year Award. Making the presentation are Adam Sumrow, Vance Turner and J.W. Turner.



KJ Custom Screens & Outdoor Living presents Casino Christmas Dec. 5



Association Executive Officer Gena Godinez congratulates Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest winner Mattie Fairchild of LandDesign.



Greg Paschall of Richardson Ready Electric is the winner of the Texas Hold 'Em tournament.



NEW MEMBERS

BUILDERS

Eddy Estates LLC
Rajesh Byldugula
661-202-4123
BUILDERS - LAND DEVELOPER

Gravitas Construction
Sean Maguire
214-522-3300
BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

HRP Signature Handcrafted Homes
Josh Rutledge
214-536-6253
BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

IGA Home Builders LLC
Indira Garcia
214-680-1689
BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

Skyline Signature
850-759-5469
BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL

TAAS Investments LLC
Tony Lopez
469-888-3020
BUILDERS - RESIDENTIAL
Spike: Tiffany Acree, Struc-Sure Home Warranty

SUSTAINING ASSOCIATES

Koper Outdoor
Glen Kuopus
972-839-3538
OUTDOOR LIVING
Spike: Andra Maldovan, Keaton Interiors, Inc

Mainstay Insurance Agency
Anna Hudson
972-268-8222
INSURANCE/WARRANTY

OKNOPLAST
Heidi Burmeister
908-499-5194
WINDOWS
Spike: Allyson Humphries, CP Build Enterprises

PJ Zaji
PJ Zaji
806-451-3354
REAL ESTATE

Scissortail Building Supply
David Gattis
888-020-8245
WINDOWS
Spike: Danielle Cross, Estorr Construction

ASSOCIATES

Crown Roof Tiles
Tim Lastovica
214-206-7042
ROOFING
Spike: Tim Jackson, Tim Jackson Custom Homes LP

Dallas Cool Pools, LLC
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Milestone Anniversaries

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KELLY RENTZEL

General Counsel
Landsea Homes Corporation



Kick the year off with a fresh mindset! Join the Professional Women in Building Council for a mental health-focused program featuring guest speaker Kelly Rentzel.

- 📅 January 15, 2025
- 🕒 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM
- 📍 5816 W. Plano Pkwy. Plano, TX

Since going public about her mental illness in August 2017, Kelly has spoken to audiences across the country about living successfully with bipolar disorder. She has received several awards for her advocacy, most notably a Distinguished Alumni Award from SMU. Her story has been featured in several publications, including The Dallas Morning News. And her TEDx talk, "Bipolar Book Club," has been viewed more than 65,000 times.

2025 PWB Partners



PWB Members \$25 (with promo code)
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Dallas Division Holds Successful Coat Drive

The Association's Dallas Division has been organizing a coat drive for many years. Last year they asked members to bring coats, socks, scarves and winter hats to their December lunch meeting featuring Bryan Glasshagel of Zonda. Dozens of warm articles of clothing were collected and donated to North Dallas Shared Ministries. In the photo above, Joe Mazza brings the collected winter apparel to the ministries' warehouse. North Dallas Shared Ministries is a faith-based service agency focused on improving the quality of life for people in need. A part of Catholic Charities, this group is a first responder to the community's most vulnerable, helping those in crisis move toward a better life.



Dallas Division President Jeff Dworkin, right, welcomes guest speaker Bryan Glasshagel of Zonda to the group's Dec. 12 lunch meeting. Glasshagel leads the Texas advisory/consulting practice for Zonda. He has over 23 years of experience in the real estate and banking industries.



After Hours

January 23
6pm - 8pm

Hosted By:



The Builder Jackpot
will be \$500!

6025 Owens Street
Dallas, TX 75235

Enjoy delicious food and a drink from the whiskey bar while networking with fellow industry professionals. This event will also have live music and a millwork tour. This event is free to attend, but advance reservations are requested.

DallasBuilders.org/calendar

Don't forget your business cards!

Yearlong Membership Partner:



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Court vacates overtime rule in major NAHB win

In a major win for NAHB members on Friday, the Eastern District of Texas issued a nationwide injunction in a coalition lawsuit NAHB filed challenging the Department of Labor's 2024 Overtime Rule. As a result of the ruling, the salary level for determining overtime pay eligibility for salaried employees — categorized as executive, administrative or professional workers — has been lowered to the pre-2024 level of \$35,568.

"This is a huge win for NAHB, home builders and remodelers, and associated subcontractors," said NAHB Chairman Carl Harris. "The ruling means that bureaucrats in Washington cannot arbitrarily mandate salary levels when regulating how employees are paid and must abide by established labor laws."

In late 2023, the DOL proposed a rule that would increase the current salary level for determining overtime pay requirements for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales and computer employees from \$684 a week (\$35,568 annualized) to \$1,059 a week (\$55,068 annualized) — a nearly 55% increase.

The court noted that the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), which allows DOL to define and delimit which employees are exempt from overtime pay requirements, focused on the duties an employee performs

rather than their wages to determine whether they should be exempt from overtime pay. Although the court acknowledged that DOL has authority to include a salary threshold component in determining whether an employee is exempt, the court held that the salary threshold must be a reasonable proxy for the duties test.

The court held that "because the 2024 Rule's changes make salary predominate over duties for millions of employees, the changes exceed [DOL's] authority to define and delimit the relevant terms." The court further noted: "When a third of otherwise exempt employees who the [DOL] acknowledges meet the duties test are nonetheless rendered nonexempt because of an atextual proxy characteristic — the increased salary level — something has gone seriously awry."

The court also held that the FLSA requires DOL to define and delimit the exemption through the formal notice-and-comment rulemaking process, which means that the 2024 Rule's automatic updating feature is unlawful and exceeds DOL's statutory authority.

NAHB remained active throughout the rulemaking process and submitted comments when DOL issued the proposed rule, citing the negative impact such a significant increase would have on housing affordability, among other concerns.

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