HBRA MEMBER COMMUNICATION

HOME BUILDERS & REMODELERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2026

Advocacy. Progress. Opportunity.

See what your statewide HBRA membership is doing for you.

The HBRA of Connecticut is your voice at the Capitol — advancing policies, challenging harmful regulations, supporting workforce development and creating opportunities that strengthen Connecticut's housing industry.

VISIT HBRA OF CONNECTICUT

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Message to Our Members

Dear HBRA Members,

As summer winds down, I continue to be optimistic about the future of our industry and proud of the momentum we have built together. While market conditions continue to evolve, one thing remains constant—our association is strongest when our members are engaged, connected, and committed to raising the standard of residential construction throughout Connecticut.

This past year has been one of progress. Our local associations continue to provide exceptional education, networking, and advocacy opportunities. At the state level, we have strengthened our voice on legislative and regulatory issues, expanded workforce development initiatives, and continued building relationships that will benefit our industry for years to come.

As builders, remodelers, suppliers, and industry professionals, we all share a common responsibility. We are not only constructing homes, but we are also helping families build their futures and strengthening the communities in which we live and work. That responsibility makes our work both meaningful and rewarding.

As we look ahead, I encourage each of you to remain involved. Attend a local meeting, participate in one of our events, support our advocacy efforts, or introduce a fellow professional to the HBRA. Our association continues to grow because of members who are willing to invest their time, experience, and leadership.

The HOBI Awards remain one of the highlights of our year and an opportunity to celebrate the incredible talent that exists across our industry. I encourage everyone to participate and recognize the outstanding work being produced by our members. Submission deadline is on Friday, September 11th.

Thank you for your continued support of the HBRA and for the professionalism you bring to our industry every day. It has been an honor to serve as your Chairman, and I look forward to continuing the work of strengthening our association and creating opportunities for all our members.

Wishing you and your families a successful finish to the summer and a productive fall season.

Best regards,

Anthony B. DeRosa
President & Chairman

2026: YOUR HBRA OF CT AT WORK

Workforce Development

Over $110k raised for BUILD-PAC

Developers Forum

The 32nd Annual HOBI Awards

ONE STATEWIDE VOICE WORKING FOR CONNECTICUT'S HOUSING INDUSTRY.

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Advocacy That Delivers Results

HBRA OF CT CEO & Chief Lobbyist
Jim Perras

BUILDING MORE HOUSING STARTS WITH BETTER POLICY
HBRA OF CT CEO, JIM PERRAS

Looking Ahead to 2027: A Proactive Agenda for Housing
The 2027 legislative session may still be several months away, but HBRA of Connecticut is already working to shape an agenda focused on one fundamental question: **What will it take to make it easier to build more housing in Connecticut?**

Rather than waiting for the General Assembly to convene and reacting to proposals as they emerge, our Government Affairs leadership has begun identifying a focused set of solutions that address the obstacles our members encounter every day.

At the center of that effort will be a simple message: **Connecticut needs more housing, and public policy should make it easier—not more expensive, unpredictable or time-consuming—to produce it.**

Among the initiatives being explored for 2027 are:

- **Infrastructure and utility reform.** We are examining ways to reduce the enormous upfront costs builders and developers can face when extending water, sewer and other infrastructure that ultimately benefits properties and communities beyond the original development. We will also continue exploring greater consistency and accountability in dealing with utilities, including clearer timelines, processes and potentially an ombudsman or similar resource for the development community.

- **Expanding attainable homeownership.** HBRA intends to continue developing practical approaches that can produce more starter homes, townhomes and other attainable ownership opportunities for Connecticut families. That may include zoning tools, incentives and other approaches that encourage housing at price points the market desperately needs.

- **Building our construction workforce.** The shortage of skilled workers remains one of the industry's most persistent challenges. We expect to renew efforts to expand construction career training in Connecticut high schools and explore stronger incentives for employers who hire and train apprentices.

- **Restoring regulatory predictability.** Recent developments involving DPH's interpretation of subsurface sewage disposal permitting demonstrate why builders need clear rules and confidence that a permit actually provides certainty to proceed. We will continue advocating for reforms that make Connecticut's regulatory system more predictable, timely and accountable.

- **Protecting housing production and investment.** We will remain vigilant on proposals affecting building codes, labor mandates, landlord-tenant law, permitting and other issues that can add cost, delay projects or discourage investment in Connecticut housing.

Just as importantly, we want to do a better job of telling the industry's story.

Heading into 2027, HBRA is considering a broader **"Housing Facts / Housing Solutions"** campaign that clearly lays out the realities of Connecticut's housing market and a concise set of actions policymakers can take to improve it. The goal isn't to produce a hundred-page policy document. It is to identify a handful of meaningful reforms, back them up with facts and make sure legislators hear directly from the people who actually build, remodel, finance, manage and supply Connecticut's housing.

We Need Our Members in the Conversation

Our advocacy is strongest when legislators aren't hearing only from HBRA's lobbyists—they're hearing from **you**.

As our 2027 agenda takes shape, we'll be asking members to help us refine these proposals, share real-world examples of regulatory and development challenges, contact legislators and reinforce our message in their own communities.

You don't need to be an expert on legislation. You already know the most important part of the story because you live it every day.

HBRA will provide the facts, the solutions and the talking points. We need our members to help us deliver the message.

Stay tuned in the months ahead as we roll out our 2027 legislative priorities—and please get involved.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Building the Next Generation of Connecticut's Construction Workforce

Connecticut's shortage of skilled construction workers won't be solved by any one program or organization. It requires sustained partnerships among our industry, educators, workforce agencies, communities and employers. That is exactly what HBRA of Connecticut and the Connecticut Institute for Professional Builders & Remodelers (CIPBR) are working to build.

This summer, those efforts are gaining momentum in two regions of the state.

Waterbury: Building a Regional Training Hub

In Waterbury, CIPBR continues working with the City of Waterbury, Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board (NRWIB), Waterbury Public Schools and the Home Builders Institute (HBI) to establish a residential construction training program at the former Sacred Heart High School campus.

The vision is to create a shared-use workforce training center where high school students can receive construction education and hands-on training during the school day, while adults, dislocated workers and others can access training during evenings and other available hours.

The program would utilize HBI's nationally recognized Pre-Apprenticeship Certificate Training (PACT) curriculum and create pathways into residential construction careers.

Plans include hands-on instruction and opportunities in areas such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing and HVAC, with HBRA members ultimately playing an important role through mentoring, jobsite exposure, internships, apprenticeships and employment opportunities.

CIPBR and our partners are now working on the facility, governance, funding and program infrastructure necessary to turn that vision into a sustainable workforce pipeline for Greater Waterbury and the surrounding region.

Eastern Connecticut: Taking a Proven Model Across State Lines

At the same time, HBRA and CIPBR are pursuing another exciting opportunity in Eastern Connecticut.

Working with the Rhode Island Builders Association and the Residential Construction Workforce Partnership (RCWP), we are exploring the creation of **RCWP-CT**, modeled after the successful residential construction workforce program operating in Rhode Island.

The goal is to adapt that employer-driven model for Eastern Connecticut and combine industry-recognized HBI training with strong connections to local employers, schools and workforce partners. HBRA has begun discussions with the Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board, which has offered assistance with employer connections and referrals, and conversations are also being pursued with Ellis Tech and Norwich Tech.

We are currently working with our Rhode Island partners on a grant application to help launch the Connecticut program, while identifying potential training space and additional regional partners. Our objective is ambitious but achievable: **welcome the first RCWP-CT cohort in Eastern Connecticut in the fall of 2027.**

Building Careers. Building Communities.

These initiatives represent something larger than individual training programs. Our goal is to build sustainable pipelines connecting people who want rewarding careers with HBRA members who need the next generation of skilled construction professionals.

And our members will be critical to making that happen.
As these programs move closer to implementation, we will need builders, remodelers, subcontractors and suppliers willing to open their jobsites, mentor students, provide equipment or materials, participate in training and—most importantly—give graduates an opportunity to begin a career.

Building Connecticut's housing future starts with building the workforce that will make it possible.

BUILD PAC®
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HOME BUILDERS POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

$111,470 RAISED

Fiano Family Golf Classic

A Message from Connecticut BUILD-PAC Trustee Ken Boynton

As Connecticut's BUILD-PAC Trustee, I'd like to once again thank all of our sponsors, contributors, and everyone who joined us at the iconic TPC River Highlands in Cromwell for our **23rd Annual Fiano Family Golf Classic**, benefiting the National Association of Home Builders Political Action Committee (BUILD-PAC).

While the weather didn't exactly cooperate this year, the event was a tremendous success. **Together, we raised $111,470.**

This is a testament to the strong commitment our members continue to demonstrate in support of BUILD-PAC and our industry's advocacy efforts in Washington.

We were honored to welcome members of NAHB's national leadership to Connecticut for the event, including **Bill Owens, 2026 NAHB Chairman; Jim Tobin, NAHB President and CEO; and Shannon Burke, Vice President of BUILD-PAC**.

We also had the opportunity to recognize four HBRA members whose extraordinary, long-term commitment to BUILD-PAC has resulted in **more than $100,000 in personal contributions from each of them over the years: Greg Ugalde, Chris Nelson, Larry Fiano, and Steve Temkin.** Their continued support has helped strengthen our industry's voice at the federal level and set an incredible example for our membership.

Thank you again to everyone who sponsored, contributed, participated, and helped make this year's Fiano Family Golf Classic our most successful yet.

If you're interested in learning more about BUILD-PAC and NAHB's advocacy efforts, visit **www.nahb.org/BUILD**PAC.

Larry & Babe Fiano and Fiano Family

L-R Ken Boynton, Tim Bobroske, Larry Fiano, Jim Tobin

L-R Jim Tobin, Anthony DeRosa, Jim Perras, Greg Ugalde

HBRA OF CONNECTICUT | DEVELOPERS FORUM

CONNECT • COLLABORATE • EDUCATE

HBRA DEVELOPERS FORUM

A New Season. A Renewed Mission.

CONNECT • COLLABORATE • EDUCATE

The Developers Forum connects developers, builders, policymakers and industry leaders to advance practical solutions that increase housing opportunities, strengthen Connecticut's economy and promote responsible land development.

PARTICIPATE IN THE SOLUTIONS IMPACTING YOUR BUSINESS!

To Become a Member of the Developers Forum contact the HBRA of CT office today!

860-500-7796

admin@hbact.org

NEXT DEVELOPERS FORUM

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 | 6:00–9:00 PM

Casa Mia at the Hawthorne — Berlin, Connecticut

Wage Theft/Liability: What Builders & Developers Need to Know

Networking • Dinner • Industry Discussion

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE DEVELOPERS FORUM

32nd ANNUAL HOBI AWARDS

HOBI AWARDS
HOME BUILDING INDUSTRY AWARDS
HBRA OF CONNECTICUT

Connecticut's Most Prestigious Housing Awards

Thursday, November 12, 2026 | Aqua Turf Club — Plantsville

ENTER	SPONSOR	ATTEND
Entry deadline: September 11	Put your company in front of Connecticut's housing industry.	Tickets available in early October.

ENTER THE HOBI AWARDS!

A message from HOBI Producer, Joanne Carroll

Don't miss the opportunity to enter, sponsor and attend the 32nd Annual HOBI Awards!
The largest and BEST builder awards event in the country, the HOBI's offers every HBRA
builder, remodeler and supplier a chance to be recognized by their peers; promote their reputation as an industry leader; and create pride of accomplishment in their work.

Where else can you network with over 800 industry professionals; raise awareness of your brand; see and hear about the top homes and communities in the state; and enjoy an evening with your team and industry friends.

This year, we are paying special tribute to the ***staying power* of seven HOBI winning builders**, whose companies have been in business for **over 50 years**, and **six Connecticut based building products suppliers**, who have been in operation **for over 100 years**!

Sponsoring the HOBI Awards Dinner is a fabulous way to spread the word about your brand. Check out the **HOBI Sponsor flyer** for info on Sponsor Packages!

VISIT HOBI AWARDS

HOBI AWARDS

Be a part of Connecticut's most prestigious housing awards!
Celebrating excellence. Connecting industry leaders. Building opportunity.

2026 HOBI AWARDS | NOVEMBER 12, 2026 | AQUA TURF CLUB – PLANTSVILLE, CT

HOBI Awards Sponsorship Opportunities

ELITE SPONSOR — $5,000 MOST POPULAR

Benefits
- A professionally produced, creative video highlighting your company, to be featured during the HOBI Awards program.
- Your company mentioned in the HOBI presentation of winning builders who used your product/service
- Logo included in all marketing assets
- Full-page ad in HOBI Awards Program with QR code
- Social media promotion featuring your company
- Logo with link on HOBIAwards.com and HBACT.org
- Logo placement on video screens during the event
- Photo opportunity published in *Connecticut Builder Magazine*
- Tabletop display space (with electricity)
- Six (6) complimentary tickets

PLATINUM SPONSOR — $3,500

A high-visibility sponsorship providing strong brand exposure across marketing and event recognition.
- Logo in marketing assets
- Social media promotion
- Half-page in HOBI Awards Program with QR code
- Logo with link on HOBIAwards.com and HBACT.org
- Logo placement on video screens
- Photo opportunity published in *Connecticut Builder Magazine*
- Tabletop display space (with electricity)
- Four (4) complimentary tickets

GOLD SPONSOR — $2,000

A sponsorship opportunity offering meaningful brand visibility through marketing and event recognition.
- Logo in marketing assets
- Social media recognition
- Email promotion
- Quarter-page program ad
- Logo on event screens
- Three (3) complimentary tickets

SILVER SPONSOR — $1,000

An entry-level sponsorship providing brand recognition through marketing and event promotion
- Logo included in marketing assets
- Company name listed on video screens
- Company name included in social media campaign
- Company name included in email blasts
- One (1) complimentary attendee ticket

Why sponsor the HOBI Awards?
- Connect with HBRA'S top builders, remodelers, and industry professionals
- Align your brand with Connecticut's most respected construction leaders
- Maximize visibility in front of 800+ engaged attendees
- Strengthen relationships and generate new business opportunities

ALL SPONSORSHIPS & ADVERTISING MUST BE RECEIVED BY OCTOBER 20, 2026

Program book ads:
Full Page — $1200
1/2 Page — $850
1/4 Page — $700

Become a sponsor or reserve your ad space TODAY!
Call the HBRA OF CT at **860-500-7796** or email Michele at **mquadrato@hbact.org** about your sponsorship package

For more information scan here >>

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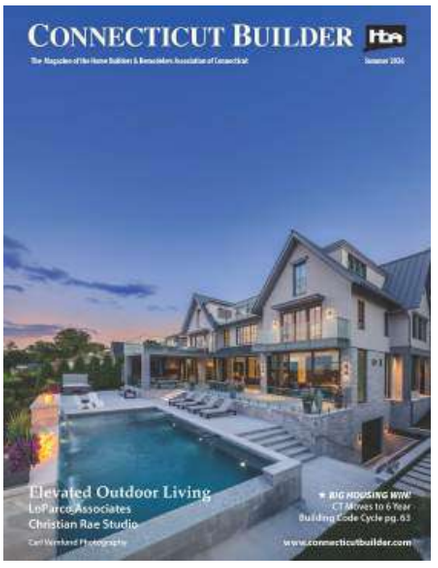

The Summer Issue Is Here!

Special Note: Don't miss columns from gubernatorial candidates **Ned Lamont and Ryan Fazio**, offering timely insights on housing policy and the issues shaping the upcoming election.

READ THE SUMMER ISSUE

ADVERTISE IN THE FALL / HOBI ISSUE of Connecticut Builder

Advertising Deadline: September 12 | Distribution: November 12

GROW YOUR REACH!!

Advertising in Connecticut Builder is a sure way to promote your company/ products to a targeted audience of builders, remodelers, architects and interior designers. As ***the*** trade magazine for home building in Connecticut, it is considered a valuable resource.

The Fall issue of Connecticut Builder will be on every dinner table at the HOBI Awards Dinner, and print issues are distributed to lumber yards and showrooms throughout Connecticut. It offers Advertisers **RESULTS YOU CAN MEASURE!**

QR codes on print ads track ad response, and advertiser feedback has revealed outstanding results in generating new business.

Connecticut Builder is also published online, with a link from every ad to the advertiser's website or social media page. A monthly google analytics report demonstrates consistent growth in page views and clicks.

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Acadia Insurance

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Help protect your company with the Risk Management Center, a unique web-based software suite of safety and risk management tools designed to empower your organization's risk prevention efforts.

The Risk Management Center allows you to reduce risk and improve workplace safety by creating effective risk mitigation programs. For no additional cost, the Risk Management Center provides a safety center for your entire organization that is easy to access and use.

The Risk Management Center is right for any organization that wants to proactively manage risk exposures to reduce claims, losses, and associated costs.

Risk Management Solutions for Your Business

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- Manage certificates of insurance to limit liability
- Comply with OSHA hazard communication standards
- Automate safety audits, field inspections, and corrective action reporting
- Build a behavior-based safety program

ACADIA INSURANCE

HBRA
RETIREMENT PROGRAM

Do you have a retirement plan?

All businesses without a retirement plan and with **5 or more employees** must enroll in Connecticut's mandatory retirement plan, MyCTSavings or **face penalties**.

Or check out the HBRA 401(k) for more flexibility and to see if you are eligible for the following tax credits:

New Plan Start Up Cost Credit
Employer Contribution Credit
Automatic Enrollment Credit

Questions about your retirement plan options or the tax credits available? Please reach out today!

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Complimentary Consultation for HBRA Members

Have questions about your company's 401(k) plan? Contact Jessica today for a complimentary consultation and mention the HBRACT Summer Newsletter.

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