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- 2. Something from which a copy or a translation is made.
- 3. Keystone.

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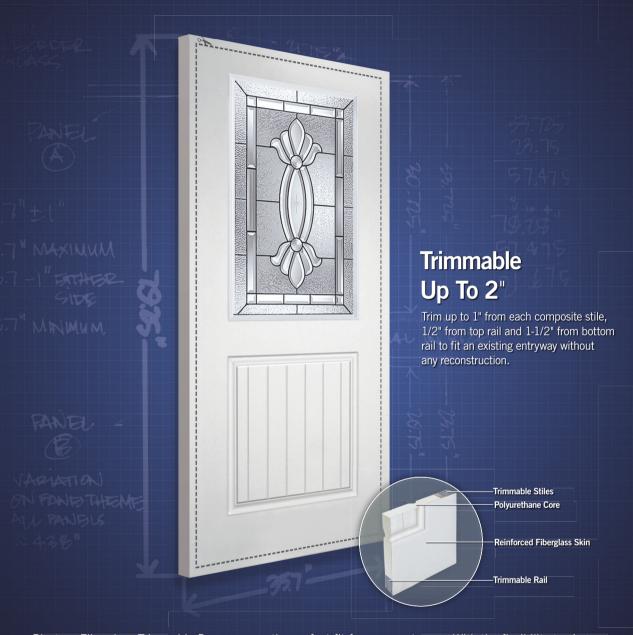


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perspective

Is This Real Change?



Let's be reasonable. Going back to the days of steady, sustainable development will be better for everyone. o you remember back to the serious days following the 9/II attacks? Across the nation, we speculated that these attacks had changed our country so significantly that we would no longer be the frivolous, Hollywood-obsessed, entertainment-saturated consumers we had been. Within months we were back to all Britney, all the time.

Do you remember back to when your parents or grandparents talked about the Great Depression, and how that event carved their understanding of America and how to live a life? The people who survived that event saved their pennies, spent discreetly, and ate all the leftovers. Today, we make sure to refrigerate the leftovers before we toss them. In contrast, my Depression-raised mother-in-law will clear a restaurant table and feed on it for a week.

My hope is that the seriousness of today's economic situation will create the kind of change we experienced in the '30s, not the formulaic, lip-serviced pabulum we voiced after 9/II. I would love to see lasting change, where the new watchword is "reduce." Reduce our consumption. Reduce our debt. Reduce our waistlines.

What does that mean for housing? The willingness to take on greater debt was a shot for home building. People who chose to tie up 35 percent of their annual income on housing were a boon to builders, but only in the short term. The result of that willingness was a massive bubble that undermined major financial institutions and our world economy.

Yes, home ownership has been the single best predictor of financial security. We learned, though, that lowering the borrowing requirements for home ownership only transferred the issues of financial insolvency to the housing industry. That was a big mistake, which we're paying for several times over.

I believe that as an industry and as a country, we're better off with steadier, more sustainable development. One side effect of a steadier and more sustainable development — whether imposed by government, lenders or cultural restraint — is that we'll have fewer

dilettantes in the home-building industry, and the work will be left to the true professionals.

saw tons of scrape-offs. The now-de-

My hope is that the seriousness of today's economic situation will create **the kind of change we experienced in the '30s.**In my own neighborhood, which has a large complement of aging, 2-bedroom bungalows on big lots, we

sirable location attracted speculators, who bought the property and erected 5,000-square-foot custom homes. Anyone with a couple of buddies and some free cash thought this was a good way to make an easy kill. When the bubble burst, the houses stood empty. Within a few blocks of my home, there are at least 10 homes standing vacant that are selling for upward of \$2 million. Beautiful homes, blanketed now with light, blowing snow and sporting dark, blank windows. What a waste.

Tanl D.//wbaugh

Paul Deffenbaugh, *Editorial Director* paul.deffenbaugh@reedbusiness.com

ProBuilder.com has more than you might think. **ProBuilder.co** Our site links you to today's home building news, expert blogs and more. Here's what you can find this month:

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CLARIFICATION

In the September 2008 issue of *Professional Builder*, we reported that East Teak Fine Hardwoods' ipe and teak tiles are Forest Stewardship Council-certified products. East Teak clarifies that these particular products are not FSC certified. The company does, however, offer lumber and other milled products that contain FSC-certified wood.

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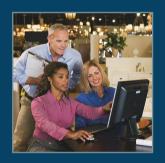
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[CUSTOMER SATISFACTION]

Design Meets Demand



Annual Avid Ratings Survey reveals what buyers really want in their homes.

By Paul Cardis, CEO, Avid Ratings

Ithough the age of extravagance has ended for many home buyers, that does not mean they have stopped demanding certain amenities and design features. In fact, the "Third

design elements that could make the difference between a home sold and one that depreciates while it sits.

To conduct this year's survey, Avid received in-depth feedback (75 questions per

survey) from more than 900 recent new home buyers about the importance of various design features if they were in the market again. All respondents had moved into their new homes within 3 years and represent potential buyers across the U.S.

Based on the results, Avid was able to assign one of the following four designations to each design feature:

- Must-Have an item that must be present for homeowners to buy.
- Desirable an item that homeowners really want.
- Tradable an item that homeowners are willing to forgo if it means getting something else they really want.
- Removable an item that homeowners do not care much about.

Shown are the Top 5 items

that this year's survey respondents rated. Also, we'll debut a detailed presentation of the findings 10:15 - 11:45 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 20, in room North 256 during the 2009 International Builders' Show at Las Vegas Convention Center. On hand will be executives from Avid Ratings; architect Carol Lavender, owner of Lavender Design Group in San Antonio, Texas; and Heather McCune, director of marketing for Bassenian/Lagoni Architects in Newport Beach, Calif.

Of course, home building is a local industry, and what's tradable in one part of the country may be a must-have in another. Consequently, home builders will have a much easier time emerging strong from the current recession if they understand what is important to their home buyers and are able to build homes that first deliver all the musts, many of the desires, swap out the tradable and remove the unimportant. For additional reports in your region, please visit www.avidratings.com. PB

Paul Cardis is CEO of Avid Ratings, a research and consulting firm specializing in customer satisfaction for the home building industry. You can reach him at paul.cardis@avidratings.com.

Must-Have

- Oversized shower with seating
- Energy-efficient appliances
- Sizable kitchen
- Ceiling fans/blinds
- Home office/study

Desirable

- Master suite soaker tub
- Butler's pantry
- Tankless water heater
- Green flooring
- Stone exterior

Tradable

- Whirlpool tub
- Upstairs laundry
- Finished rec room/basement
- Home theater/media room
- Brick exterior

Removable

- Au pair/mother-in-law suite
- Walk-out basement
- Wine cellar
- Pool
- 4-car garage

Annual Home Design Drivers Survey" conducted by Avid Ratings highlights numerous

Cardis' Tips

BE DATA DRIVEN

Now is not the time to make decisions based solely on gut feelings.

MAKE SMART CUTS

Eliminate what's not important to buyers and focus on must-have and desirable items.

DON'T TOUCH THE

kitchens with islands and energy-efficient appliances remain must-haves with most consumers.

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[TRADE PARTNERS]

Fair Trades

Want a better working relationship with your trades? Starting a trade partner council is a great first step.

By Felicia Oliver, Senior Editor

trade partner council can do a lot to foster a mutually beneficial relationship with your trades. For tips on how to run an effective council, we spoke to Chip Merlin, vice president of operations for K. Hovnanian in Chantilly, Va.; K. Hovnanian's trade partner council president at this location, David Scott, vice president of sales for Fireside Hearth and Homes, Manassas, Va.; and Bryan Binney, vice president of operations for Shea Homes San Diego. These National Housing Quality Award winners have great trade partner councils, and their examples are worth following.

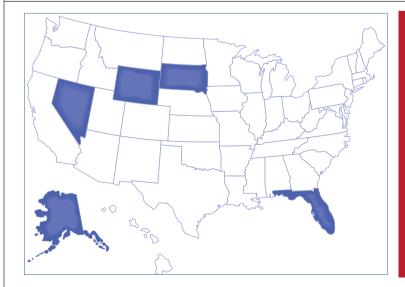
- Be open to partnering. "It's key to have a champion both on the builder side and the trade partner side," says Merlin.
 - **2.** Choose members wisely. Consider:
- Diversity Trades who represent all the major stages of construction
- Quality Trades who set a high bar for other trades who will eventually join

- Leadership They are professional and successful; can lead by example; and can be energetic and engaged in their participation.
- Uniqueness The best electrician is a member instead of three "OK" electricians.
- **3.** Develop a charter outlining the council's goals. This helps members understand the commitment. "This isn't a social organization," says Scott. "It's a heavy lifting group."
- **4.** Institute bylaws clarifying roles and responsibilities; membership rotation; how to censure or eject members; etc.
- **5** Have written agendas distributed before meetings. This will make them more focused and productive.
- **6** Ensure builder staff represent a fraction of membership. "The builder must be careful to not over-dominate meetings," says Binney. "It will stifle group interaction."

A Business World YouTube?

Admit it: You've probably watched kittens at some point on YouTube, which led to another video and more time wasted. Wouldn't it be great if an ad or presentation your business posted got the same response? A new site. eCorpTV.com, hopes to trigger just that for the business world when businesses visit the site to upload information about themselves in the form of video commercials, demonstrations, slideshows of photography and whatever else vou want other businesses to see. It's free, too. — Sara Zailskas, Assistant Managing Editor





Top 5 Business-Tax-Friendly States

Housing is a local business, but where is the most tax-friendly place to set up shop? The Tax Foundation in Washington, D.C., released its 2009 State Business Tax Climate Index, which rates all 50 state tax systems. The Top 5 states with the most business-tax-friendly systems:

- 1. Wyoming
- 2. South Dakota
- 3. Nevada
- 4. Alaska
- 5. Florida



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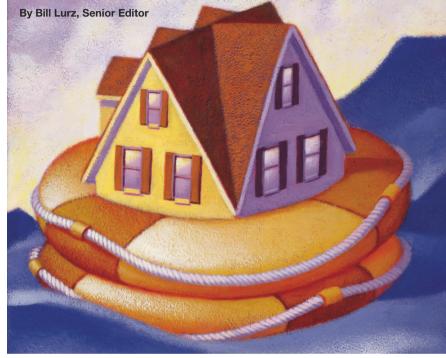


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Finance Solutions to the **Rescue**

Desperate times calls for creative measures when it comes to financing home building projects.



uilders desparate for new sources of capital are turning to new kinds of private investment sources. Pensco Trust Co., chartered in New Hampshire and headquartered in San Francisco, is one companay making this opportunity work for builders.

Pensco administers more than \$3.3 billion in retirement assets. "We can't directly promote any particular investment," says CEO Tom Anderson, "but we link to Web sites where builders can post information about projects. Two new portals have just launched within the last 60 days: www.nationalalt.com and www.iravestor.org."

"Our clients can invest in anything except life insurance, collectibles and the stock of subchapter S companies," Anderson says. "Everything else is free game, including real-estate. They can extend loans to builders or do joint ventures

to share in the profits from a project."

MetLife Joins Mortgage Lending

Early last fall, MetLife acquired First Horizon's mortgage business and converted it into MetLife Home Loans, now headquartered in Dallas. "We're part of MetLife Bank, which is out of Bridgewater, N.J.," says Senior Vice President Dan Schmidt, who runs the national builder division. That division is already creating new programs, such as rate buy-downs, to help builders sell houses.

"We just rolled out a new offering of jumbo loans," Schmidt says. "MetLife is in a great position because there's nothing in its portfolio that's toxic — no subprime mortgages or construction loans on failed projects." PB

Check out www.metlifehomeloans.com.



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Best Foot Forward

7 stepsto public hearingsuccess

By Bill Lurz, Senior Editor

ou've sweat blood to put this deal together. Your home building company's ability to stay in business hangs on this vote. The equity investors you spent six months recruiting are in that room, waiting to hear city council decide the fate of your proposed redevelopment of an optioned infill site. And they're not alone. More than 200 homeowners from the surrounding neighborhood are waiting in there as well. What will you see when you open the door — smiling faces, or picket signs?

Infill is the name of the game these days, but getting approval for it can involve arduous public hearings. No one wants to build subdivisions in exurbia anymore, especially in housing markets overflowing with unsold homes. Density is another piece of the puzzle, because the A+ infill sites have not dropped in price like cornfields at the edge of town. You need to build at higher densities than conventional single-family zoning allows to get your home prices low enough for the superior location to pull buyers into the market.

Photo: Getty Images



"What you want to accomplish is to reach the public hearing and discover there are no surprises at all."

— Scott Adams

That means a lot of builders are trying to rezone infill sites to allow construction of high-density detached and attached housing. The trouble is, any increase in density will often spur political opposition — not just from the hardcore not-in-my-backyarders, screaming about increased traffic, but sometimes from school boards and parents concerned about school funding, and even from people worrying about increased costs of fire and police protection.

This is not a new story. Entitling non-conforming land uses has never been easy, and it won't get easier just because market dynamics point to higher density infill development as the hot product of the next decade. Still, the pros who have been working in this market segment for years say there's plenty you can do in advance to make sure that when you walk into a public hearing that will decide the fate of your project, nobody hits you with a picket sign.



[1] Learn How to Pronounce the Names.

Victor Mirontschuk, principal partner of Houston-based EDI Architecture, chuckles when he says this: "You'd be surprised how many times people start a formal hearing by mis-

pronouncing the name of the city or a prominent street or a landmark, like a river or nearby mountain. It might seem silly, but if you do that, it labels you as an outsider and calls into question your level of professionalism and the thoroughness of your research." Not the way to start off on the right foot.



[2] Know the Rules.

Every local council, commission or board has its own set of rules for conducting public hearings. Debra Stein, president of a San Francisco-based

The Presentation: Planning for Graphics

By the time a builder gets to the public hearing where votes will be cast for or against a project, the presentation of the proposal should be well-rehearsed and include plenty of 'wow' graphic elements that clearly communicate exactly what will be built and how it will look from a variety of perspectives.

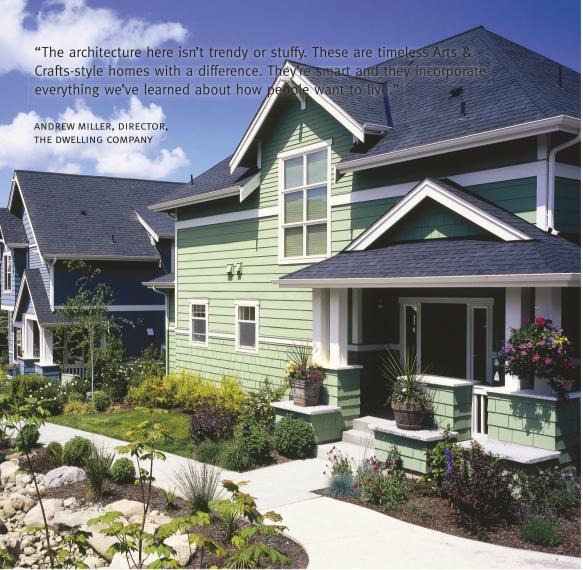
"We've used all kinds of graphics to present plans," says Dave Williams, principal partner of Boulder, Col.-based DTJ Design and who runs firm's land-planning operations. "What we use changes as we move from concept to the final proposal. There's a long series of meetings with neighbors and city planners

during the design process; we want those early presentations to be as informal as possible because we don't want people who see them to think the design is already complete since we're seeking their ideas on how to make it better. At that stage, we use a lot of perspective sketches and two-dimensional plans and drawings — very friendly graphics. I've even put alternative site plans up on a wall and invited people to pick up a marker and draw something themselves."

As the final public hearing gets closer, Williams uses both conventional models and computer models to present plans. "We use Sketch-Up, a specialized computer software that allows three-dimensional modeling of plans. We can present different perspectives that allow us to take the audience on a virtual walk or even a virtual drive through the site," he says.

Debra Stein is president of San
Francisco-based public affairs firm GCA
Strategies, a specialist in entitling controversial land-use projects. She cautions against total darkness in the hearing room during such PowerPoint presentations.

"You want to be able to 'read' the reaction of the key decision-makers who will vote on acceptance or denial of the proposal," she says, "and you can't do that in a dark room."



Below (top): Ventral Park by Bennett Homes

Below (bottom): Magnolia Park by Steve Burnstead Construction





CREATING BETTER PLACES TO LIVE

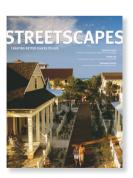
More than simply a financial investment, our homes are the stage upon which we live our lives. Which is why professionals charged with building communities – developers, builders, architects and city officials – are looking at ways to create not only houses but whole neighborhoods that put people first.

This return to traditional neighborhood planning is proving a magnet for homeshoppers who appreciate the attention given to elements such as:

- Walkability
- · A sense of place
- Sustainability
- Connectedness
- Interesting architecture

Due to extreme moisture caused by the high rainfall in the Pacific Northwest, successful developers in the state of Washington are embracing innovative building materials. Among those leading the way is Andrew Miller, director of The Dwelling Company.

"We wanted quaint, cute developments, with distinctive colors for the cottages and bungalows. James Hardie siding is a staple for us; it holds paint so well and stands up to all the moisture we get here."



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"Pay special attention to the rules governing the order in which speakers are allowed to testify." — Debra Stein

public affairs firm — GCA Strategies — that specializes in land-use entitlement work, cautions that you can't take advantage of the rules if you don't know them. "Pay special attention to the rules governing the order in which speakers are allowed to testify," she says. "If you can control it, you'll want to put the best speaker in your advocacy team first and space others out so they can counter any points raised by opponents."



[3] Do Your Homework.

Learn everything there is to know about the site, especially any past attempts to develop it. Control the site with an option contract, with closing contingent on entitlement of your development plan. Commission a thor-

ough research study of the housing market, both overall and the sub-market specific to the site. Most municipalities now allow mixed-use projects to be built under Planned Unit Development (PUD) regulations, and planners often push for mixed-use.

"Without a market study, you won't know whether a specific land use makes sense for your site," cautions Dave Williams, who leads infill land planning for Boulder, Col.-based DTJ Design. "If the planning staff says they want a retail component in the project, the research will allow you to decide if that's feasible."

Mirontschuk suggests driving around the surrounding neighborhoods to study the existing housing stock. "You ought to be able to cite examples of historic architectural periods by referring to specific homes by their street addresses. If you can find examples of historic houses built to similar densities and heights as those in your proposal, it helps."



[4] Meet the Neighbors.

The design professionals who tailor high-density development plans that garner support in official public hearings are virtually universal in recommending that builders — or their representatives — meet the neighbors

that surround a site long before presenting any development proposal in a public forum.

Land planners and architects who specialize in high-density housing for infill sites are a different breed, often more lobbyists than designers.

"Know thy enemy," says Denver-based land planner David Clinger. "I need to walk the site to understand the topography and physical constraints on design, but I also want to walk the surrounding neighborhoods and talk to people to gauge what concerns neighbors may have about development of the site."

Clinger says his first stop is to meet municipal planners to see what makes them tick, and those planners are often able to identify thought leaders among the site's neighbors. "I want to meet the leaders one-on-one or in small groups," he says, "to find out if their concerns are things we can address in the design process, or if they are just opposed to having anything built."

Scott Adams is a senior principal of Southern Californiabased Bassenian/Lagoni Architects, long known as an innovator in high-density housing, especially detached homes above 7 units per acre. "We're consensus builders," he says. "By meeting with the neighbors and identifying their concerns before we get deeply into design, we can defuse their opposition before it happens, with design solutions. We may even turn them into advocates of our proposal."

All the designers seem to make the same point: You can't find potential areas of common ground or opportunities to compromise until you open a dialogue with neighbors, and that needs to happen before (and during) design. "If the neighbors sense they are involved in a collaborative process, they will be much less likely to oppose the final design when it's presented in the public hearing," Adams says.



[5] Present Alternative Plans.

If what you're proposing is close to the prescribed land use for the site, it's much easier to get approved than a radical departure in density, uses or housing forms. A big change, even one the city wants, can polarize neighbors and lead to immediate opposi-

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"If the neighbors sense they are involved in a collaborative process, they will be much less likely to oppose the final design when it's presented in the public hearing." — Scott Adams

Ultimate Public Hearing Favors Simonini

Charlotte, N.C., builder Ray Killian, owner and CEO of past Professional Builder Builder of the Year Simonini Builders, swears he could fill 1,000 pages with accounts of the public hearings he went through to get approval of The Preserve at Robbins Park, and the strangest part of the story: the development is a conforming land use.

"It's 140 lots on about 60 acres — 41 80-footers and 99 63-footers — zoned R-3, which is typical residential zoning. There was no change required," Killian says. "What caused all the public hearings, at two municipalities and multiple government entities, is that this is a luxury home community located entirely inside a public park. And we had to do numerous land swaps to make it happen."

Killian put the original 75-acre site, in the upscale town of Cornelius (on Lake Norman, north of Charlotte), under contract in 2002. "There was a sewer moratorium that held us up for two years, so we closed on the site in 2004," he says. "In the meantime, Mecklenburg County acquired a 100-acre parcel adjacent to ours and leased it to the City of Cornelius for a park that will include a 50-acre forest preserve."

When Simonini's management team heard about that deal, they hatched the idea of combining a housing develop-



ment and a public park, one that includes hike and bike trails and a greenway along a creek — the ultimate New Age amenity. Four years later, it's actually going to happen. "We just closed the \$7 million development loan 60 days ago," Killian said late fall, "and the city just approved \$7.5 million to build the park over the next four years."

Simonini will develop lots this spring and start delivering houses in the first quarter of 2010. "Ultimately, the timing might be good because that's about when we expect the market to come back," Killian said. In the meantime, he's left to contemplate if the site is worth four years of one public hearing after another. "We spent three months discussing what the name of the residential community would be and how that would relate to the park."

There were so many impasses, Killian thought many times it would never happen. "But leadership in today's environment is about consensus building, with all these constituents in two local governments and two separate parks and recreation departments.

"But now we'll have something no one else has — a residential community inside a public park, exactly the kind of amenity people want today. I grew up next to a public park," Killian says. "It's an awesome thing."





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"If you listen to people and learn what they fear and why, you can usually address those fears directly." — Dave Williams

tion. "Honesty is the best policy," says Dave Williams, who suggests builders enliven meetings with neighbors by showing them several alternative proposals at the very first meeting, "as long as the builder can live with whatever comes out of this collaborative process."

What usually results is some hybrid form of project that often works better for everyone, Williams offers. "If you listen to people and learn what they fear and why, you can usually address those fears directly. And even if your final design is not exactly what they want, they'll embrace it because the emotion of their fear is defused."



[6] Recruit Neighbors to Testify.

If the collaborative approach with neighbors works, you may even find a raving fan or two among them who will be willing to testify at the public hearing in favor of your proposed development, often based on a belief that the project will have a positive impact

on property values in the neighborhood (which is probably the core of the builder's argument for the project). This is the jackpot. Only a builder with a golden tongue, a reputation for quality work, and a long record of standing behind promises made in public testimony can speak in a public hearing as effectively as a local resident who stands beside the builder.

"What you want to accomplish is to reach the public hearing and discover there are no surprises at all," says Scott Adams. "Converting neighbors into advocates who will stand up and speak in favor of the proposal is the best thing that can happen. The worst is walking into a hostile room unprepared for the opposition."



[7] Lead the Testimony ... Maybe.

One area where we found some disagreement among builder lobbyists is on the question of whether the builder should lead his own advocacy team in testimony at the public hearing. Some say yes, some no,

others say maybe. It seems to depend on whether the builder is good at it or not, and some advocates have had more experience with the former.

"Some do it well, others don't," says Mirontschuk. "It depends on the personality. I have one client who completely turned around virtually all of the 200 opponents who blindsided him two months earlier in a public hearing. These were people who showed up at the first hearing with their attorney and videotapes of the last developer who tried to develop the site in 1993. He got bushwhacked, but he turned them all around in two months. Now, they love him. He convinced them that he'll do what he promises."

Mirontschuk says he has other clients who never testify, for good reason. "Some builders are asses, and they know it. They stay away." PB

Read 'em Right, Stay Cool

Professionals in managing the public hearing process say there's one attribute every builder needs to succeed under pressure: the ability to think on your feet and read the decision-makers.

- "If you see they are ready to vote your way, don't irritate them with additional testimony," says Debra Stein. "Waive it and ask for a vote right away."
- If things are going against you, go the other way. "I don't hesitate to ask for a continuance," says David Clinger, "on grounds that we need an opportunity to amend our proposal to incorporate what we've learned in the hearing."



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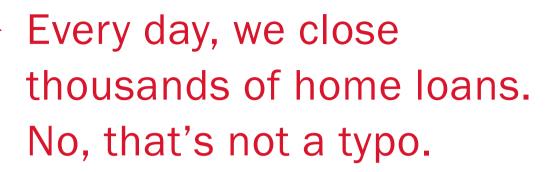
2006 - Shea Homes San Diego

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[SALES & MARKETING]

Conquer Customers' Fear



Tackle their fear by knowing and sharing with them the fundamentals.

By John Rymer, New Home Knowledge

n addition to low traffic levels, our industry is also experiencing one of the lowest traffic-to-sales conversion levels in its history. It's easy to look at sales conversion statistics and blame the sales professionals for poor performance.

"Customers don't go looking for new homes today because it' the cool thing to do. They're here to buy!" said one frustrated home builder to me recently when complaining about low conversion levels. It's true that agents are not seeing results. It's also true that today's sales agents are working harder than ever.

create value in the location? How about the benefits of the community? The builder? The floor plan? This is great sales advice in most market conditions. But it is fear rather than lack of value that is keeping today's customers away from the closing table.

So let's tackle fear with the fundamentals:

NO. 1. America is creating twice as many new households as new housing starts. This trend cannot and will not continue. Ultimately housing starts and new households will match up and today's housing slow-

Those who are **trapped by fear** and frozen from making a decision as important as a new home purchase **will just as likely miss out** on a great time to become a homeowner.

This disconnect illustrates that traditional sales presentation solutions fail to deal with the central issue of today's customer and therefore produce sub-par results.

In the past, low traffic to sales conversion typically indicated a sales team that failed to build sufficient value to justify the price. You've seen the sales drill: Did you down will reverse to normal levels. The current housing inventory "overhang" is being depleted each month, and the buyers' market will soon be a thing of the past.

NO. 2. Housing affordability is at record levels. Lower prices and record-low mortgage rates have combined to make homes more

affordable than in any time in recent history.

NO. 3. New-home prices as they are now are unsustainable. Prices must rise because replacement costs for home sites are far below today's prices, and home builder margins are below those acceptable to bankers and investors over the long term.

As you can see from the above, the mid and longterm outlook for housing is extremely positive. Homeowners who are planning to live and enjoy their homes over time will likely enjoy the added benefit of a great housing market. Those who are trapped by fear and frozen from making a decision as important as a new home purchase will just as likely miss out on a great time to become a homeowner. Don't let emotional fear keep your customers from making one of the soundest decisions of their lifetime. PB

John Rymer is the founder of New Home Knowledge, which offers sales training for new home builders and real-estate professionals. You can reach him at john@newhomeknowledge.com.

Tell Your Buyers:

THE MATH DOESN'T ADD UP

America is creating twice as many new households as new housing starts, a trend that will not continue.

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY IS AT ITS BEST

Low prices and record-low mortgage rates equal great affordability for buyers.

CURRENT NEW HOME PRICES ARE UNSUSTAINABLE

Current prices are below replacement costs for builders.

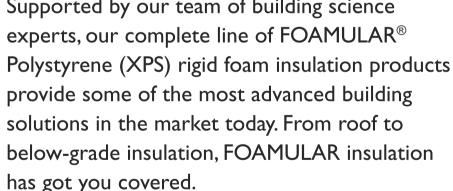
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[GENERATIONAL MARKETING]

Dos and **Don'ts** of Marketing to the Generations

By Sara Zailskas, Assistant Managing Editor

ach generation has its quirks. Generational expert and author Neil Howe broke down the generations and how to market to them in his keynote presentation at the fall *Professional Builder* Benchmark and Avid Leadership Conference.

Who Are Thou?

Here's a snapshot of what he said. His presentation is worth downloading; he describes each group's preferences in habits in detail. Check it out by going to www.probuilder.com/benchmark and clicking on "View Presentations."

DON'T

DO

	Who Are They?	DO	DON'T
G.I. Generation	This group, age 85 or older, survived the Great Depression and World War II. It has a strong sense of community and civic pride.	Emphasize age- own groups and discounts — they love discounts.	Forget to talk about peer- togetherness. This is the generation that loves age- specific activities.
Silent Generation	Ages 67-84, this group values security, trading up and the idea of an active-adult community.	Balance security, expertise and community with openness, diversity and options	Do anything to imply they're senior citizens.
Baby Boomers	This year, boomers will be 49-66. They have less civic trust and value individuality.	Sell technology. Stress informality, tradition and the "story."	Sell on price or anything "developed." And don't expect to deal with traditional retired people either.
Generation X	This generation of 28-48-year-olds is practical, economical and self-directed.	Use high-tech, cutting-edge marketing tools and talk about location, efficiencies and ROIs.	Go with conventional tactics or assume anything about them.
Millenials Sportsman OF THE Sportsman OF THE Michael	This group, ages 27 and younger, is team-oriented, sheltered, conventional and high-achieving. They're "special."	Treat them as VIPs and recruit their parents to your cause. Make them feel part of a team and take interest in their success.	Package anything as a McJob. And please don't forget the technology.

Do Your Floor Plan Names Mean Something?

Terry Jones, founder of Travelocity, has a good tip up his sleeve because so many home buyers — he cites 80 percent

 search online. Look at your Web site the way a visitor would. Think of your models and floor plans and consider what they're named. If they fall in the Lavender-Sunset View-Monticelo category, change how you're naming them. The names are meaningless, Jones says, because they don't tell the visitor anything about the model. Instead, label the plans according to square footage, the architectural style, starting price or the type of home it is. This way when a potential home buyer comes to look at your floor plans online, they know what they're looking at quickly, and the name becomes a keyword that's likely more popular than the original name. He offered his tip at the Professional Builder Benchmark and Avid Leadership Conference.

Jennifer Powell,
 Staff Writer



[HOME BUYER PREFERENCES]

Don't Say They Didn't Tell Ya'

By Sara Zailskas, Assistant Managing Editor

AHB's 2007-2008 "Consumer Preferences Survey" sheds a lot of light on what people want in new homes. Here's a look at how you can make the data work for you:

THE FACTS: Of the 2,318 respondents, 65 percent were willing only to pay \$5,000 in upfront costs to save \$1,000 a year in utility costs. However, they said they were willing to pay the price for their favorite amenities.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT: Do the math for them. Compare potential utility savings against the price of more luxurious items.

THE FACTS: Outdoor recreational space such as walking trails and parks have pull. Such features would strongly influence buyers to move to a community, said nearly half the respondents.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT: Talk about the features within your community or nearby and put it into user-friendly terms: "It's easy to get a 5-mile run in on our trails."

THE FACTS: People prefer to keep square footage and leave it unfurnished rather than downsize to save money, according to more than 44 percent of consumers who took the survey.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT: Remind home buyers how much they could save by leaving a basement unfinished.

THE FACTS: Wood woos: 63 percent of respondents said they wanted a wood exterior door over steel and fiberglass.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT: Show prospective buyers the doors you offer — real or fake wood — that would appeal to fans of wood.

THE FACTS: 70 percent of respondents said they did or would repaint walls within a new home; 30 percent of those people did so to improve paint quality.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT: If you're using quality paint, brag about it. It adds to the low-maintenance appeal. **PB**



Other Survey Takeaways

60%More than 60 percent said they'd like an energy management system.



92% listed the laundry room as "essential" when it came to specialty rooms.



A smaller house with high-quality products instead of a bigger house with fewer amenities appealed to 58 percent of respondents.







[BUSINESS BOOKS]

Reading and Waiting

Experts say the downturn is the best time to take stock of your marketing programs, your media choices and even your mission statement. Three soon-to-be-released books address how to build an organization that will make a difference in the marketplace.

By Jan Mitchell, Contributing Cditor

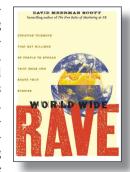
"WORLD WIDE RAVE: CREATING TRIGGERS THAT GET MILLIONS OF PEOPLE TO SPREAD YOUR IDEAS AND SHARE YOUR STORIES"

by David Meerman Scott

The author of "A World Wide Rave" asserts a somewhat startling declaration: After the thoughtfully crafted press releases, ads and sales office displays touting your wonderful products, nobody really cares. Instead, you must concentrate on what your consumers care about: their own problems and how they can be solved.

David Meerman Scott, former vice president of marketing at NewsEdge Corp., an online news portal with \$70 million in revenue, believes you can achieve the biggest marketing impact by creating online content relevant to your targeted customers. "When it's obvious that you understand your buyers and their problems, it jars your visitors into paying attention," he

says. He advocates spreading ideas, not generating leads, through social media tools such as blogs, YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. Creating a world-wide



rave is virtually cost free and goes beyond traditional viral marketing, he says This book explains how to do it. Available March 3 **"POW!** RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES! PROFITING FROM THE POWER OF SURPRISE" by Andy Nulman

When Oprah Winfrey announced "Everybody gets a car!" to an amazed studio audience, that was surprise marketing. And when Steve Jobs unveils Apple's latest innovation



at MacWorld Expo, it's the surprise element that captures attention. Such is the secret to marketing success, suggests author Andy Nulman, a popular public speaker who has created two companies. The book is full of engaging cartoons and anecdotes that breathe life into his theories, and forewords are presented not by marketing gurus but by Craig Ferguson and John Cleese. (Surprise!)

Available Feb. 23

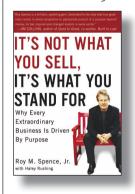
"IT'S NOT WHAT YOU SELL, IT'S WHAT YOU STAND FOR:

WHY EVERY EXTRAORDINARY BUSINESS IS DRIVEN BY PURPOSE"

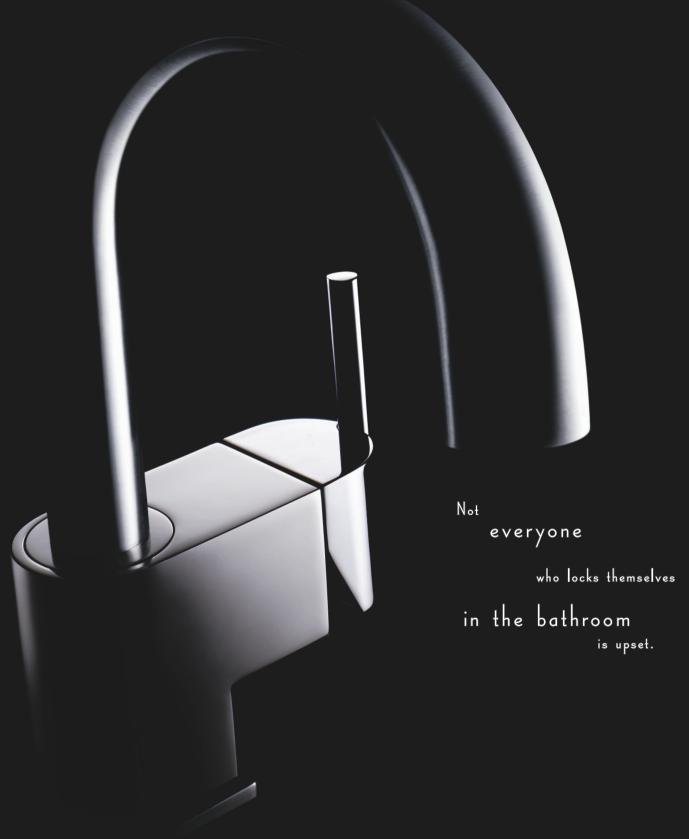
by Roy M. Spence Jr. and Haley Rushing

It's no stretch to say that the concept of corporate greed is a little off-putting in today's environment. In this contemplative book, the authors articulate a goal beyond making money: finding your corporate purpose and passion. They nail it down to three basic steps — find the thrill, have the will and ignite the passion — citing Southwest Airlines, Walt Disney Co., BMW and Google as companies that have clearly articulated their purpose and are enjoying success as a result. **PB**

Available Feb. 9







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Create

There's no better time for you to draw attention and enthusiasm to your home building business, but you likely need alternatives to direct advertising, which gets pricey. We've culled some useful tips and examples from successful marketers on how to get the media and the community talking about you in the marketplace so when home buyers are ready to buy a house, your company is top of mind.

By Felicia Oliver, Senior Editor

Photo courtesy The Pinehills



WHAT WORKED:

Show the Media What You've Got

Windemere — a 2,300-acre, 5,200-home master-planned community in San Ramon, Calif. — has been open for about five years and had about 400 homes left to sell when its marketing firm, Danville, Calif.-based EMC Creative, rented a helicopter and took some Bay Area reporters up for a bird's eye view of the community.

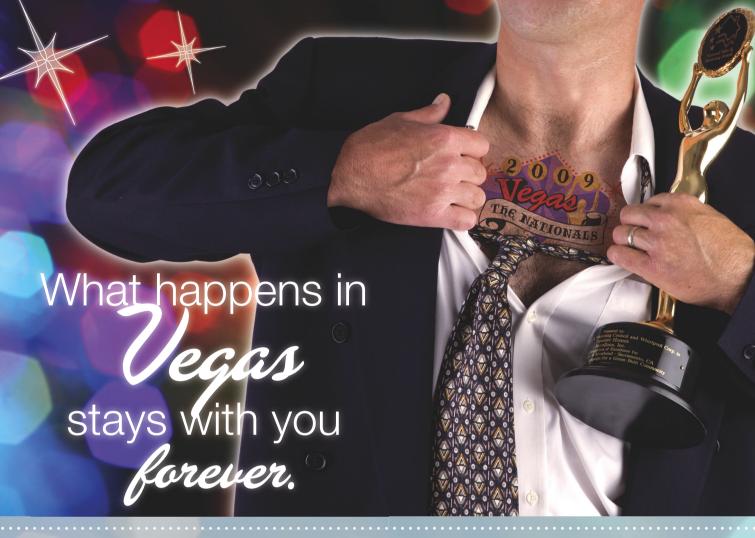
No doubt the reporters were a buzz at the prospect of taking a breathtaking afternoon excursion, but it wasn't all spectacle. "This was the best perspective at which to view this community, for journalists to understand the scope and scale of the project," says Scott Tiernan, senior director of marketing communications at EMC.

The timing was right, because during this final phase of build out, most amenities — including a \$150 million dollar high school, four other schools, hundreds of acres of open space and more than 20 parks — were complete and primed for viewing.

Not only was a vivid picture planted in reporters' minds, it was reinforced by photography taken by a professional aerial photographer and provided to the media afterward to be published or broadcast at their respective outlets.

"This has generated some very positive news coverage, with more to follow," says Tiernan. "Windemere's sales pace is impressive, especially in a market impacted by foreclosures, mortgage meltdowns and credit crunches."





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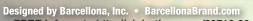
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WHAT WORKED:

Taking The Market to Market

Because of the scarcity of grocery stores in the region, the developers of The Pinehills, a master-planned community just off Route 3 in Plymouth, Mass., figured that opening one at the community was sure to generate traffic and buzz.

"Once we embarked on a decision that we would do it on our own, we set up a group of meetings that were more like conversations than focus groups," says Pinehills Marketing Director Donna Tefft. "We invited residents and solicited interest from the surrounding areas and communities. We asked them what they liked about shopping and what they didn't like about shopping, and if they could create their ideal store, what would it he like?"

Based on the responses, they came up with something Sandra Kulli of Kulli Marketing in Folsom, Calif., who facilitated the focus groups, calls a cross between Whole Foods and Trader Joe's — a shop with a great selection of food, unique items as well as staples,

sold at competitive prices. They hired former bakery owners, local seafood purveyors and the like to provide expertise and personalized customer service. The Market doesn't just sell groceries; it creates an experience.

"We have had thousands of people come into the community during the month of September and October due to the market opening," says Tefft. "We are out reaching all the people who said, 'Gosh, when you get a grocery store here, that is going to be the decision for us.'"

As of this publication date, no one has claimed to purchase a home at The Pinehills for that reason, per se. But word-of-mouth is definitely spreading.

"We've had write-ups in the Boston Globe South region edition" adds Tefft. "We've had coverage in the local newspaper. We had mentions in some of the community newspaper groups that publish local newspapers in the region as well. We've done quite well with coverage."





YOU ARE MORE LIKELY TO GET news coverage if the story lends itself to great photography. A big block of text in print or a talking head on screen isn't that compelling without something interesting to see. You want to "see" the story; even the best radio coverage has to paint a picture with words. Think about what images can come from your story or event that will look good and make a statement. "We might have a really neat person giving a lecture, but what is our picture going to be? A whole lot of backs of heads looking up at a podium?" says Janis Ehlers, principal and partner of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-based The Ehlers Group, a strategic marketing, sales and communications company. "You come back to, 'Is there really a picture here and is it really worth getting the media out?""



THE GRAND OPENING of The Market drew interested and curious crowds, coverage in the local press, and additional traffic to The Pinehills.



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WHAT WORKED:

Mining Metaphors for Your Marketing

Gerald and Lindsay Zaltman wrote a book called, "Marketing Metaphoria." Their premise is that people unconsciously subscribe to deep metaphors, and if a

brand or product represents a positive fulfillment of that metaphor, they will want to buy it.

"Marketers are always looking to carve out the differences," says Sandra Kulli of Kulli Marketing. "But if you can embrace the deep metaphors of why people do things and you can use a disciplined imagination to market to them, you'll have phenomenal results."

She says this process was at work in the success a Standard Pacific promotion for its Playa Vista loft community. An e-mail invitation was sent to a prospect

list regarding a loft design seminar to be held at the community — a great promotion in and of itself. To measure traffic generated from the e-mail, they offered a \$5 gift certificate for either The Coffee Bean or Pinkberry — two popular shops in Concert Park where Playa Vista is located. Kulli says there's a tie-in to dream

> fulfillment: "'Oh, I could make this place mine, and I can walk over from my loft and get a Pinkberry,' which is the coolest hippest yogurt shop in L.A.," says Kulli.

She says The Market at Pinehills (see page 50, "Taking the Market to Market") does much the same thing.

"Most things have two deep metaphors," she says.
"Shopping is, 'Oh, I hate shopping. It's so horrible,' and on the other hand, 'Oh, I could cook something really amazing for dinner and run into my friends and get the best strawberries that just came off the farm.'

"So you look for lifestyle connections to other things, where you can tap into something that is fundamentally happy and have it spill over into sales.

BUZZ TIP:

Stick to the Basics

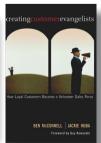
WHILE IT'S TEMPTING to think you have to stage some new event or publicity stunt to create buzz, Janis Ehler, principal and partner of Fort Lauderdale, Fla.-based The Ehlers Group, says builders can create buzz by extracting newsworthy activity from what they are already doing. "I was with a small builder in Michigan," explains Ehlers. "He was having a fall festival of homes. He also does a food drive where he gets his employees and homeowners to give cans of food. Well, you can tie these things together. You can have this open house for models with great refreshments, and you can invite people to bring their cans for a charity food drive. You are getting your existing homeowners involved. They can tell their friends, 'Come and see the models; they're having refreshments.' It starts mushrooming. He has something for his newsletter and his Web site. He has taken what he was already going to do, but he can now come up with a more creative name for his festival, make it more relevant. and in his small town he will probably generate press coverage."

BUZZ TIP:Be Ethical

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MARKETING AND CREATING **BUZZ** is about creating a positive perception of your company or brand. But it matters how this perception is created. Strategically planting customers who are coached and possibly paid to say good things about your company is not only ethically questionable, but if found out could create a public relations nightmare. The bad buzz may spread exponentially.





Books about **Buzz**

"The Secrets of Word-of-Mouth Marketing: How to Trigger Exponential Sales Through Runaway Word of Mouth," by George Silverman

"Word of Mouth Marketing: How Smart Companies Get People Talking," by Andy Semovitz

"Creating Customer Evangelists: How Loyal Customers Become a Volunteer Sales Force," by Ben McConnell

"Buzzmarketing: Get People to Talk About Your Stuff," by Mark Hughes, Portfolio

"Marketing Metaphoria: What Deep Metaphors Reveal About the Minds of Consumers" by Gerald Zaltman and Lindsay H. Zaltman, Harvard Business School Press







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Should I Contact the Professionals?

One instance where builders too readily embrace DIY is the decision to do your own marketing. And the truth is, this has worked for many companies, particularly those with experienced marketing folks on staff. We spoke to Rochelle Barcellona, president and creative director of Barcellona Inc. — an integrated marketing communications firm specializing in real-estate, green and social marketing — about her perspective on the role a professional marketing services firm can play in creating a successful word-of-mouth campaign.

Q. Does a builder need a publicity campaign if it's already providing great customer service and builds great homes? Shouldn't the fact that a company is doing great work motivate people to say good things about it?

A. I look at providing good costumer service and a great product as the cost of doing business. That's why when so many home builders say, "We stand for quality," I say, "Well, I'd hope so." Everyone should be providing quality.

You need to toot your own horn so that people can get to know who you are. These days people are making buying decision based not just on want and need but on corporate values. You'll find that especially with the millennial generation. They check [companies] out to see if people are giving back to the community: Are their values in line with what they say? Are they ethical? When you consider that these kids make food choices just based upon that, for something as important as a home, they are going to make that choice as well.

Q. How do you come up with a strategy for a publicity campaign that will create buzz?

A. We always look for some really specific goals in terms of how many homes they need to move per month. Then you take a look at all the tactics within that [goal]. There might be graphic design tactics (logos and branding), advertising tactics and PR tactics. And within PR it's broken down even further. There's a whole social marketing component of it, the more traditional PR in terms of print and broadcast coverage, and then event-type PR. And you want to take a look at target audience. Just within the Internet itself, the technology today really lets you geo target, even down to specific zip codes.



Rochelle Barcelona

Q. What are some key things a builder ought to address before launching a buzz marketing campaign?

Know what type of reputation you have. Is there some deficit you need to overcome? Have you had terrible homeowner surveys because of your warranty follow-up? Get that in shape beforehand, because you don't want to go out there saying you're the best, and all of a sudden you've got some loud mouth, grumpy homeowner saying they are going to picket you.

Q. Can you give some examples of ways to shape public opinion through the social networking tactic?

A. I think by having blogs from the builder's point of view ... a blog about the real-estate industry, green and sustainability, or whatever is important or passionate to that builder — just being an informational, thought-provoking source. The blog posts can be simple: "Oh, I read this article, and it said this. Isn't it interesting?" And you link to it. People start to look to this blog as a reliable source of information. It's also having Facebook pages and MySpace pages.

I recommend that every couple of weeks you Google yourself as a builder and see what comes up. You may find on a blog that someone has said something nasty. ... You can contact that person and say, "I had no idea that you were having this issue. How can we make this up to you?" You can diffuse the situation.

Q. I would imagine getting a builder to host a blog or set up a Facebook page might be a hard sell.

This is where having a good marketing partner comes in handy. They can be the ones doing that dirty work, so to speak. Anything that's posted would have to run through the client to be approved. Or if the client says, "Hey, I really want to say something on this and these are my ideas," it can be crafted into language that would be appropriate for a blog.

Lennar has a contest going on here where they want people to videotape what they feel is representative of their life in their Lennar home, become a fan on their Facebook page and post the video. It's simple. It costs absolutely zero to set up a Facebook page or post things on You Tube. **PB**



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Photo: John Sterling Ruth Photography

Guide to this year's Show Village [page 62]

A very green Best Address [page 82]

10 REASONS WHY BORA-CARE IS THE GREEN CHOICE FOR TERMITE PRETREATMENTS

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- Bora-Care treated wood provides protection from subterranean, Formosan and drywood termites as well as wood boring beetles, carpenter ants and wood decay fungi. It also provides general pest protection by making the treated wood areas uninhabitable by pests such as cockroaches.
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- Green Builder® magazine selected Bora-Care for its inaugural Overall Grand Prize, Best of Show award at the 2006 National Green Building Conference.



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What's

[COLOR FORECAST]

Color It **Purple** for 2009

By Mark Jarasek, Senior Editor, Electronic Media

urple is 2009's must-have color, according to the Color Marketing Group, an international non-profit association of color design professionals that has been predicting color trends for more than 45 years.

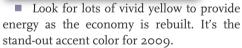
Other colors dubbed hot: blue, brown, gray, yellow and the return of mauve.

"We're finding comfort in colors that are familiar, and at the same time we're embracing colors that make us happy," says CMG Executive Director Jamie Stephens. "Also, the demand for colors and products that reflect an environmentally 'greener' world goes way beyond trend. It's now a given," she says.

When home builders are planning interiors for their model homes, these colors from the CMG hot color trend list can serve to keep things in proper vogue.

- Purple is not just a fad, it's an entrenched trend, strongly influenced by the election. Look for a grayed-out violet that works equally well as an accent or a neutral.
- Blue is the new green. This year, the green environmental message is delivered by the color blue.
- Cooled-down browns and grays provide complex neutrals that satisfy our urge toward classic colors in an economically challenged time.





■ Mauve has returned. It's an old color that looks new again. In dusty violet shades, mauve works as an accent but also now serves as a neutral.

Building Numbers Behind The White House

The White House is an icon in the U.S. What do we know about it? Many changes and additions have occurred over the years, but the status symbol we know today has six levels with 132 rooms and 35 bathrooms. There are 412 doors, 147 windows, 28 fireplaces, eight staircases and three elevators. Also, the first family gets to use a tennis court, jogging track, swimming pool, movie theater and a bowling lane. (Now who was the poor person who had to count this?) — Jennifer Powell, Staff Writer

Muave





[INFILL DESIGN]

High-Density Detached Homes Deliver Charm, Affordability By Susan Bady, Senior Editor, Design

FRONT PORCHES on BSB's Pocket Towns pull the entry back from the sidewalk and become transitional spaces between private and public areas.

unicipal planning boards know that smaller lots and more homes mean greater profits, but they're concerned that higher density equates to lower quality. BSB Design has a solution: Pocket Towns, which are not townhomes as the name implies, but stylish, high-density detached homes that can be priced affordably for a wide range of buyers.

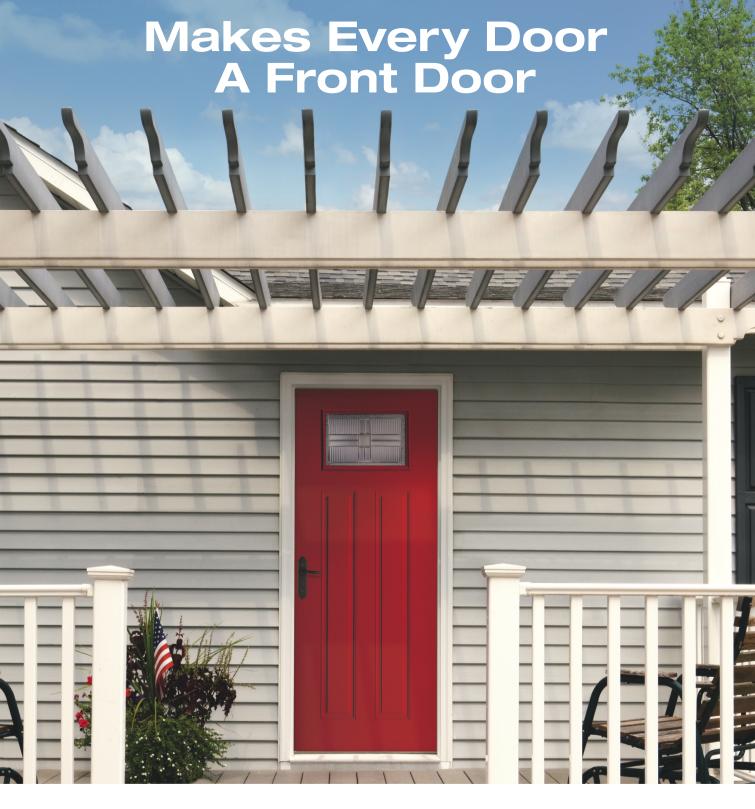
Pocket Towns fit on 42-foot by 68-foot lots. They achieve a density of 8 to 10 dwelling units per acre, with 5-foot side yards that satisfy most zoning requirements. Garages are alley-loaded to enhance street appeal, and there are front and rear outdoor living spaces to keep neighbors connected. Pedestrian greenways and pocket parks are integrated within the design.

Bob Boyd and Jerry Messman, partners in BSB Design of Tampa, Fla., created the Pocket Towns based on a similar design developed by BSB in California. "We needed a master-down product for empty nester buyers in our market, so we started playing with the concept," says Boyd.

The architects increased density by reducing the amount of street frontage in favor of greenways that tie in with small parks. Alleys are short to comply with fire regulations.

Messman says the 5-foot setbacks are standard in many new-home subdivisions. "But on the sides of the houses, you also have to deal with privacy issues. Often we'll use high glass on the side of a house that faces another home with lots of windows."

The one- and two-story plans, which range from 950 to 2,400 square feet, have a bungalow/cottage look that can be modified according to regional variations. Messman cautions against placing a large two-story house too far forward on the lot: "That gets too dominating. And I would suggest at least a small porch to soften the front elevation." **PB**



Introducing the new Smooth-Star® Craftsman fiberglass door from Therma-Tru® – a classic style at an exceptional value for versatile use as a front entrance, as well as a back or side entryway. Available with a variety of distinctive glass designs, there's also a solid panel door option that makes a great choice for the garage-to-house entry. It's the Smooth transition to new sales opportunities.







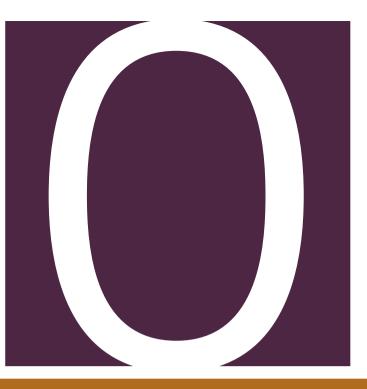
Show Village 2009 If you read this magazine and have attended

A Hands-On Display of Home Building Innovation

By Mark Jarasek, Senior Editor, Electronic Media

the International Builders' Show once in the past seven years, you've likely seen *Professional Builder's* Show Village and all its splendor. Show Village has offered a close-up look at a wide variety of products – both new and tried-and-true. Show Village has also become a place where home builders, remodelers, contractors, architects, interior designers and others in the industry can learn about the products and see them performing in their intended setting. Visitors have marveled at how the modular homes are seamlessly put together on site in a matter of weeks on the surface of a parking lot.

This year's Show Village is our best yet. Welcome to our guide to Show Village 2009.





Learning Center for Training and Education

Although home builders who attend Show Village will see the latest products within the Show Village homes, there's another important component that adds a whole new dimension to the experience: education.

The Learning Center at Show Village will feature complimentary hour-long mini-courses on topics including project planning efficiencies and how to build high-energy-performance homes. Demonstration sessions will run the gamut from how to apply spray foam insulation to how to properly install doors.

Marquee home building industry experts, including ASHRAE Fellow Joseph Lstiburek, Building Science Consultant John Tooley and green building experts Ron Jones and Carl Seville will be on hand to share their expertise. (See page 70 for a full list of educational sessions).

Theme Homes

In keeping with the Show Village tradition, three distinct homes will be showcased for 2009: Green, Media-Enhanced and Quiet Living. Each is designed with cutaways and reveals so builders can see certain products at work in their environment. Most products included in the homes will have

manufacturer representatives on site. Before you visit 2009 Show Village, familiarize yourself with the homes' products, their features and their benefits by visiting the Show village Web site, www. pbshowvillage.com.

Green Home

As the green home building movement matures, it's important for those in the industry to stay informed on the latest resources, innovations and products in the supply chain. That's where the Green Home at Show Village 2009 enters the picture.

The Green Home provides a platform for exhibiting energy and water efficiency, indoor environmental quality and structural durability. Products featured in this home work in tandem to provide comfort, reduce energy use and produce healthy living conditions. (See page 64 for a full overview of the Green Home).

Media-Enhanced Home

Technology for the home has come a long way from the "smart home" proof of concept prototypes that took center stage in the 1980s. Similar to today's green building trend, smart home technology back then was touted as the next home buyer's Siren song.

Although ultra-high-tech homes still haven't quite made it into the mass pro-

duction mainstream, innovative electronic and technological advances have pushed builders to include much more than the basic garage door opener and plain, old telephone and electrical wiring into practically all of the homes they build today.

The Media-Enhanced Home demonstrates how builders can incorporate new and innovative technologies to meet the expectations of the next generation of buyer that has grown up in a digitally-enhanced world. (See page 66 for a full overview of the Media-Enhanced Home).

Quiet Living Home

We're besieged by noise. A host of factors from an endless range of sources come into play: street traffic, air traffic, neighbors' yard maintenance, the blare of kids playing Guitar Hero. Dishwashers, washing machines, dryers, televisions, fans, blowers, pumps, and HVAC equipment contribute to the racket. All homeowners want is a little peace and quiet so they can concentrate on work or get beyond the first sentence of the novel they've been trying to read. Quiet sleep is hard to come by, too. The Quiet Living Home incorporates products that work to contribute to the sounds of silence. (See page 68 for a full overview of the Quite Living Home).



Show Village has incorporated green features before, but this year, the Green Home will be what's known as an Environments For Living Certified Green Home.

The Environments For Living program was developed by the Masco Corporation, one of the world's largest manufacturers of brand-name consumer products of new construction and home improvement markets. The program is designed to assist builders in constructing energy-efficient homes that, according to Masco, are more comfortable and durable than homes built using traditional methods.

Behind the Environments For Living program is a rigorous set of requirements that treats a home as a "system of systems" that work together on comfort and heating and cooling energy use. And the Environments For Living Certified Green program affords even more benefits in areas such as indoor environmental quality, interior water conservation and appliance efficiency.

So this Environments For Living program is just a clever way to get home builders to use Masco Products in the homes they build, right? Not exactly. Any product can be used. The Environments For Living program is prescriptive and performance-based and does not require builders to use a particular manufacturer's product. But when you visit the Green Home at Show Village, you will see a vast array of products from Masco-owned companies.



GREEN-HOME PRODUCTS

- The Verve Lighting Systems whole-house lighting control
- Bathtubs from Aqua Glass Corp.
- Water supplies and gas plumbing products from Brass Craft
- Products from LP: SmartSide trim and siding; SolidStart LVL; TechShield Radiant Barrier Sheathing; TopNotch self-draining sub-flooring
- High-efficiency, dual-flush toilets from Caroma
- Entry door systems from Codel Entry Systems
- A portable spa from Watkins/Hot Springs Spas
- A central vacuum system from H-P products
- Icynene soft foam insulation
- Hand-made artisan sinks from Linkasink
- Millwork and building components from Huttig Building Products
- **HVAC** system from Lennox Industries
- Lighting fixtures from Progress Lighting
- Hardwood and carpet flooring from Shaw Floors
- Structural connectors from Simpson Strong-Tie
- Energy-efficient garage doors and openers from Wayne-Dalton
- Sinks by Franke

- Ginger plumbing fixtures and hardware
- Windows by Milgard Windows & Doors
- **Orepac Millwork Products**
- GE appliances, water heater, light bulbs and dashboard
- Hardware from Emtek
- Countertops from DuPont Surfaces
- Behr exterior and interior paint
- Tile from Crossville
- Cambria countertops
- Hansgrohe plumbing fixtures and hardware
- Merillat cabinets
- Interior doors by Traba International Door
- Shades and blinds from Vertilux Living Systems
- Vetrazzo counter tops
- KraftMaid cabinets
- Lumicor decorative panels
- Custom carpet and mats from Matworks
- House wrap, stone, ducts and insulation from Owens Corning





Certainly it sports the smart design and attractive details that you might expect, but it's what's inside the Media-Enhanced Home that provides the focal point for the theme of this 2009 Show Village home. Although the products in this home intensify its attractiveness, the spotlight is on the Media-Enhanced Home's technology, which enriches the day-to-day living experience.

Notable features include remote control units that centralize functions for regulating HVAC, security and lighting throughout the home. Entertainment systems allow homeowners to access music and movies from any room.

Here's an overview of the futuristic products that comprise the Media-Enhanced Home:

- The Wayne-Dalton Home Control Z-Wave unit, which gives homeowners the ability to set lighting; regulate heating and cooling settings; control security systems; and open and close electronic window shades with the touch of a button even from remote locations.
- The new Schlage Link locks that allow homeowners to remotely monitor entry to their homes via any Web-enabled mobile phone or computer. Using secure wireless technology,

Schlage Link sends a text or e-mail when someone enters a home. It also gives homeowners the ability to remotely lock and unlock their doors.

• Sony's HomeShare multi-room entertainment and intercom solution that can deliver high-definition video to any room. It also allows homeowners to access their iPod playlist from any room, too. The system ntegrates intercom communication throughout the home and can be linked to any camera monitor, which may be set up outside or inside.

You'll also want to see the Media-Enhanced Home's exterior products, as well as a host of interior products — some that can even be found behind the walls.

See the inner workings

Show Village theme homes are designed with cutaways and reveals so that builders can see certain products at work in their environment, including insulation from BaySystems North America and Honeywell; structural insulated sheathing from Dow Building Solutions; and roof underlayment from Owens Corning.



Explore the exterior

The Media-Enhanced Home's exterior will feature stone veneer from Owens Corning Cultured Stone; siding and windows from Deceuninck North America; and doors by Therma-Tru. Both interior and exterior paint will be provided by Behr, and Maze Nails holds things together with its versatile line of construction nails. Latitudes will feature composite decking, with deck railing by Deck Images.

Investigate the interior

Don't miss the products featured in the kitchen and bathroom. In the Media-Enhanced Home's kitchen, GE will display its latest line of refrigerator and range appliances, and LG Solid Source presents countertops. Bathrooms will have faucets and toilets from Danze and bathtubs from Lasco Bathware. Tile and stone finishes will be provided by Interceramic.

A fully functioning elevator from ThyssenKrupp Access will travel between the first and second floors of the home. Rinnai will feature its award-winning, continuous-flow tankless water heater on display, as well as its gas fireplaces.

- Faucets by Brizo
- Toilets by Danze
- Siding and windows from Deceuninck North America
- Exterior deck railings by Deck Images
- Structural insulated sheathing by Dow Building Solutions
- Appliances from GE Appliances
- Enovate foam blowing agent by Honeywell
- Tile and stone from Interceramic Tile and Stone
- Bathtubs from Lasco Bathware
- Composite decking and railing by Latitudes
- Kitchen and bath surfaces from LG Surfaces
- Hot-dipped galvanized and stainless steel nails from Maze Nails
- Roof underlayment, shingles and HVAC from Owens Corning
- Fireplaces and tankless water heater from Rinnai
- Door hardware from Schlage
- TVs and home theater system by Sony
- Sprint wireless communication solultions
- Exterior doors from Therma-Tru Doors
- Residential elevators from ThyssenKrupp Access
- Wireless home control and garage door systems by Wayne-Dalton
- Contech Construction Products bridge solutions
- **Delta faucets**
- Manufactured stone veneer by Owens Corning Cultured Stone



Simple and elegant in its single-story design, the Show Village 2009 Quite Living Home serves as a showcase for products that help reduce noise. One of the fringe benefits of products that make a home quieter is that they also typically serve to make a home more energy efficient.

Home builders who come to visit Show Village 2009 can see a multitude of products that contribute to the silence and energy efficiency of the Quite Living Home. Don't miss these inspiring products:

- Panasonic's Whisper Series of advanced ventilation fans that operate exceptionally quietly and also work to provide a cleaner, healthier home while conserving energy.
- Fiberglass doors from Plastpro, which offer an innovative alternative to the entry door market and feature triple-pane decorative glass for excellent thermal and sound insulation. In addition, insulation within the door provides high R-value for maximum thermal protection and also can serve as a barrier to unwanted outdoor sounds.
- Icynene soft foam insulation that goes into walls, ceilings, attics and floors. The insulation creates an effective air-

seal that minimizes air leaks to control moisture, improved air quality, bring energy savings and act as a sound barrier.

• Beam Central Vacuum Systems and Beam HEPA Air Filtration Systems that run quietly and also improve indoor air quality by reducing air pollutants.

Two Ply Gem brands will be used in the Quiet Living Home: Mastic Home Exteriors and MIRA Premium Series windows. Mastic Home Exteriors boasts durable construction and attractive panels that hold their color season after season. Beneath the exterior panels, but still visible via a cutaway view, you'll find Dow's Styrofoam SIS Brand Structural Insulated Sheathing, a three-in-one product that delivers insulation, structural shear bracing and a water-resistive barrier.

Koma Trim Products will provide the exterior trim for the Quiet Living Home. Both interior and exterior paint will be provided by Behr, and Maze Nails holds things together with its versatile line of construction nails.

The decking used for this home comes from TimberTech. Its durable composite decking gives the look of real wood but doesn't require the maintenance of hardwood. In addition,



hidden fasteners work to give the look of an indoor floor.

Inside, the home's kitchen will feature the latest line of refrigerator and range appliances from GE Appliances, and LG Solid Source will showcase their countertops. The bathroom will feature bathtubs from Lasco Bathware.

Other interesting and innovative products at the Quiet Living Home include:

- An automatic standby generator from Generac Power Systems. This generator, which automatically turns on to supply continuous power during an outage, is a hands-free backup electrical system that constantly monitors the home's utility power and is fueled by the home's existing natural gas or LP fuel.
- Bora-Care, a borate-based EPA-registered termiticide. Using Bora-Care as a primary termite pretreatment on new-construction homes can earn builders points in green building programs such as LEED for Homes, NPMA Green Home Building and many others.
- Rinnai will have its award-winning, continuous-flow, tankless water heater on display, as well as gas fireplaces.

- Behr interior and exterior paint
- Structural insulated sheathing from Dow Building Solutions
- Appliances from GE Appliances
- Home generator by Generac Power Systems
- Icynene insulation
- Exterior trim from Koma Trim Products
- Luxury bathtubs by Lasco Bathware
- Kitchen and bath surfaces from LG Solid Source
- Hot-dipped galvanized and stainless steel nails from Maze Nails
- Termite pretreatment and mold treatment by Nisus Corp.
- Ventilation fans and televisions by Panasonic
- Composite building material from Plastpro
- Siding and windows from Ply Gem
- Fireplaces and tankless water heater by Rinnai
- Sprint wireless communications systems
- Kitchen and bathroom furnishings from Danze
- Interceramic tile and stone
- Roofing shingles and HVAC by Owens Corning
- Manufactured stone veneer by Owens Corning Cultured Stone
- Construction products bridge solutions by Contech





COME TO A SERIES of hour-long educational sessions Tuesday through Thursday between 8 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. Building science and home building industry experts will address a range of topics and do live demonstrations on installation methods. Here's a synopsis of the sessions at the Learning Center:

An Energy Star-Rated Green Solution Homeowners Will Love

During this session, we will compare tank, tankless and solar water heating solutions. Also, learn how Energy Star, residential green rating programs and consumer preferences all affect your bottom line.

Speaker: Garry Porter, Southeast Area Manager, Rinnai

Wednesday, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.; Thursday, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., 2 – 3 p.m.

Best Practices in Mobility Solutions

Learn how top companies keep to the planned schedule. Discussion topics will also include subcontractor management and collaboration; administrative and paperwork processing; warranty process; and customer satisfaction.

Speaker: Christopher Pitts, Director Industry Business Solutions, Sprint Nextel

Tuesday - Wednesday, 1 - 2 p.m.

Building Creative Decks with Ecolife

Learn creative and valuable deck building information from one of the industry's leading spokespeople.

Speaker: Bob Heidenreich, owner, Deck Store, and author, "Selling the Deck Project"
Tuesday and Thursday, 3 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.

Can Modular/Systems-Built Construction Improve Your Business?

You will see first-hand the various solutions this building methodology provides in single-family, multiffamily and commercial applications.

Speaker: Allen Mckemie, President, PHN Commercial Structures

Tuesday - Thursday, 10 - 11 a.m.

Comfort Foam: Spray Polyurethane Foam Insulation

Live Demonstration

This live demo provides a general overview of residential insulation materials and air barrier properties. Indoor air quality will be discussed, as well as a look at why FEMA classifies closed-cell SPF as a flood-resistant insulation.

Tuesday - Thursday, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Cost-Effective Methods for Sealing the Building Envelope to Reduce Thermal Bypasses and Meet the Energy Star Home Checklist Requirements

Attendees will learn why tighter buildings actually perform better, last longer and are safer to live in than the typical "accidentally ventilated" home. Practical, cost-effective solutions are the focus of this class.

Speaker: Steve Easley, Principal, Steve Easley and Associates

Wednesday, 2 - 3 p.m.

Differentiate with New Builder Solutions: Wayne-Dalton Home Controls

Wayne-Dalton's Z-Wave compatible home control products — including a remotely programmable thermostat, the Teleport audio-visual remote control and automated home lighting — allow builders to offer highly desired home technology at an affordable price.

Speaker: Yan Rodriguez, Director, Wayne-Dalton Home Controls

Wednesday, 12 - 1 p.m.

Durability

We'll explain the primary physical forces that adversely affect the durability of building materials — air, heat and moisture — and how a home's air barrier, thermal barrier and moisture barrier work together as a system to manage these forces. Speaker: Joseph Lstiburek, Principal, Building Science Corp.

Tuesday - Thursday, 1 -2 p.m.

Energy Efficiency

Nationally recognized building science expert John Tooley will provide an overview of energy-efficient construction techniques and how the home performs as a system.

Speaker: John Tooley, Senior Consultant, Advanced Energy

Tuesday - Thursday, 11 a.m. - 12 p.m.



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Energy Efficiency At Virtually No Cost Increase

Builders will be able to see first-hand a breakthrough structural solution in exterior insulation: Styrofoam SIS Brand Structural Insulated Sheathing. It's an "industry first" in residential energy efficiency featuring structural shear bracing, water-resistive protective barrier properties and insulation.

Speaker: Dean DeWildt, Dow Chemical Tuesday – Thursday, 3 – 3:45 p.m.

Everything is Going Green — What does it Mean?

Based on his home buyer market research, Gord Cooke has pioneered a new program designed to assist builders in marketing and selling their high performing, energy-efficient homes.

Speaker: Gorde Cooke, Building Science Trainer and Consultant, Building Knowledge Wednesday – Thursday, 3 –3:45 p.m.

Get the Project Done!

Your have your permit. Your building is ready to ship to the job site. Now what? Learn first-hand how to manage this important process. Learn a process path that addresses everything from site preparation to finish out.

Speaker: James "Skeeter" Seekford, Vice President, PHN Commercial Structures
Tuesday – Thursday, 3 – 3:45 p.m.

How to Get the Thermal Envelope Right for All the Green Reasons

Builders will understand how to build thermal envelopes that help homes perform 50 percent better than energy code and qualify for the Energy Tax Credit.

Speaker: Doug Bibee, Residential Application Technology Leader Tuesday – Thursday, 10 – 11 a.m.

Hydroshield Technology Revolution Home of the Future, Engineered

Find out how Plastpro's fiberglass entry doors and PF Frames — with exclusive Hydroshield Technology — create a moisture barrier for the entire entryway and provide complete protection against the elements.

Speaker: Marcel Chehade, Sales Manager, Plastpro Tuesday – Thursday, 12 – 1 p.m.

Indoor Environmental Quality

Ron Jones, an industry pioneer, conducts a session that includes an overview on controlling pollutants at the source; the relationship between a tight building envelope and control of ventilation and space conditioning; and installing effective mechanical systems.

Speaker: Ron Jones, Builder and Founding Partner, Green Builder Media

Tuesday - Thursday, 2 - 3 p.m.

Look Below Grade to Upgrade

Learn from experts how to incorporate insulated foundations into building plans and how to leverage this upgrade as a key differentiator in your selling process.

Speaker: Jeff Van Sloun, Owens Corning Tuesday, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Proper Exterior Door Installation Saves Money and Reduces Callbacks

This Level 1 training, performed by Bill Reiter and Bill Rouleau, will educate builders about best practices that enable professionals to improve their installation techniques.

Speakers: Bill Reiter and Bill Rouleau Tuesday, 2 – 3 p.m.; Wednesday, 10 – 11 a.m., 2 – 3 p.m.; Thursday, 10 – 11 a.m., 2 – 3 p.m.

Redefining Curb Appeal in a Down Market

Even in a challenging market, there are many exterior embellishments that can give builders an extra edge in marketing their homes.

Speaker: TBD, Owens Corning Tuesday, 10 – 11 a.m.

Severe Weather and Closed-Cell Spray Foam: A Better Building Technology

Learn about closed-cell spray foam, what it is and where to use it. This session highlights the effectiveness of closed-cell spray foam in resisting flood and wind forces as well as structural damage.

Speaker: Mary Bogdan, Senior Principal Scientist for Honeywell

Tuesday, 2 - 3 p.m.

The Differences in Today's Treated Lumber Products

There's good news for builders who prefer build-

ing with real wood: advanced formulations have produced new treated wood products that substantially improve the long-term performance and beauty of wood. Hear about the newest technologies in wood treatments and preservation. Speaker: Dr. Alan Preston, Vice President of R & D for Viance

Wednesday, 3 - 3:45 p.m.

Water Efficiency

Learn how to include appealing water-saving features in your homes from Gary Klein, formerly with the California Energy Commission and current instructor for GreenPlumbers USA, a national training and accreditation organization.

Speaker: Gary Klein, Instructor, GreenPlumbers

Tuesday -Thursday, 12 - 1 p.m.

What Every Builder Needs To Know About High-Performance Plumbing

This seminar will introduce builders to effective design and installation of high-performance plumbing systems. Builders need to understand the basics of these systems to properly manage their trade contractors' performance.

Speaker: Carl Seville, Seville Consulting

Tuesday, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m., 2 – 3 p.m.; Wednesday, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

What's Green About Ventilation?

The seminar will cover ASHRAE 62.2, which is the ventilation platform designated by LEED, Energy Star Homes – Indoor Air Package, California Title 24 and other green building standards.

Speakers: Vic Flynn and Don Stevens
Tuesday, 12 – 1 p.m., 1 – 2 p.m.; Wednesday, 12 – 1 p.m., 1 – 2 p.m.

Why Closed-Cell Spray Foam ... Why Now... The Answer to Energy Performance

Learn about closed-cell spray foam, what it is and where to use it. This session highlights the effectiveness of closed-cell spray foam in resisting flood and wind forces as well as structural damage.

Speaker: Mary Bogdan, Senior Principal Scientist for Honeywell

Thursday, 12 - 1 p.m.

For complete, up-to-date seminar descriptions, go to www.pbshowvillage.com.

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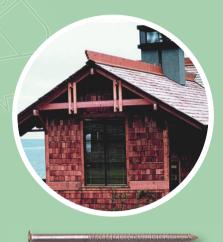
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Gettin' Lucky:

13 Reasons to Visit Show Village

Here are a handful of reasons — lucky 13! — why you should stop by Show Village this year:

- 1 It's a party! Block parties with music, drinks and tours of our modular show homes are held from 4 6 p.m. every night of the show.
- If you're from the Midwest, like us, then it's the dead of winter back home. Trust us, it will feel great to go outside and get a little desert air.
- It's convenient! The homes and therefore the party are located in the outdoor exhibits in the blue lot, which just happens to be right next to the main entrance of the Las Vegas Convention Center.
- Two words: complimentary beverages. Need we say more?
- You get a chance to meet the people behind *Professional Builder*, *Professional Remodeler*, *Custom Builder* and *Housing Giants* magazines. For more on whom to meet, check out "Spotted at Show Village" on the next page.
- The return of blues guitarist (and custom home builder!) Albert Cummings. Albert and his band have played at Show Village since 2001, so if you've missed them for the last six years, you have another chance!
- The Learning Center of attention! In addition to the three houses we build every year, we've added a fourth: the Learning Center. Believe us, you do not want to miss these informative educational sessions.
- It's a unique networking opportunity. What's a better environment to meet new people and expand your business than by relaxing outdoors?
- Products, products and more products. Icynene, Panasonic, Rinnai and others will be at work in our theme houses and he Learning Center. We don't even have the space to list all the demonstrations and launches you can expect.
- 10 You can participate in the live version of the Rinnai-sponsored game, "Are You Smarter than a Green Builder?" and maybe win a prize (play the online version at HousingZone.com).
- You can tour the homes and attend live educational seminars daily. Do you really want to miss them?
- 12 Try your luck at the "Pop a Shot" contest that will be held at the "playground" of the Learning Center.
- 13 You have the opportunity to talk to Palm Harbor Homes representatives about purchasing one of these stunningly beautiful homes. After the show, they'll be taken apart and put back together on some builder's lucky lot.

BUT WAIT ... THERE'S MORE!

THIS IN-DEPTH OVERVIEW OF SHOW
VILLAGE 2009 doesn't cover everything.
Check out the Show Village Web site both
before and after the show for even more
information and images on all of the
homes and the products. There are also
convenient links to product information
and manufacturer Web sites. Log on and
point your browser to www.pbshowvillage.
com to experience it for yourself.

Propane. Enough green to get you halfway to gold.

	POINTS Earned with Propane	POINTS Required For Gold		
Energy efficiency: propane heating, cooling, hearth and water heating systems are extremely efficient	134	100		
Indoor environmental quality: propane furnaces, water heaters and direct-vent appliances earn points	20	72		
Water efficiency: propane tankless and tank water heaters can meet or exceed requirements	12	19		
Resource efficiency: propane tanks contain over 70% recycled steel and brass; copper gas line scraps are recyclable	9	77		
Lot preparation and development: underground and above-ground propane tanks provide installation flexibility and don't require much soil turnover	7	12		
Operation, maintenance, and homeowner: propane safety and operation materials readily available	18	9		
Global impact	-	6		
Additional points from selections of your choice	-	100		
TOTALS	199	395		

Build with propane and earn up to 199 NAHB Green Builder points.

These days, homebuyers are looking for ways to help save energy and protect the environment. When you build with propane, you'll provide your customers with an efficient, reliable, clean-burning energy that's available right now. The proof is in the NAHB Green Building Guidelines. With propane you can earn up to 199 points — putting you halfway to gold just for making a smart energy choice. For more on all the green benefits of propane, and a chance to win propane appliances that can help you achieve 199 points, visit our booth or buildwithpropane.com.







Spotted at Show Village

They're out of the office and in your face. Keep your eye out for these editors!



PAUL DEFFENBAUGH – Our fearless leader, Paul is the editorial director of the Residential Construction Group. He oversees all the editorial content and endeavors of *Professional Builder*, *Professional Remodeler*, *Custom Builder* and *Housing Giants* magazines and also writes the editorial for

Professional Builder every issue. When he's not making sure the magazines are the best they can be, he updates his blog, House Beat, on HousingZone. com. Paul is a seasoned housing industry expert, so be sure to seek him out and have a chat. He shouldn't be hard to spot — at 6 feet, 4 inches, he'll be one of the folks towering over the crowd.



FELICIA OLIVER – One of our senior editors, Felicia churns out amazing features month after month for *Professional Builder, Custom Builder* and *Housing Giants*. One of her specialties (besides her banana pudding pie) is green building; not only does she constantly update the Green Hot

Topics section of our group's Web site, HousingZone.com, she also handles *Professional Builder's* Green Building Research survey that's featured every September. Felicia's also the writer behind the National Sales and Marketing Awards coverage. If you're a builder with projects in the Northeast, then look no further than Felicia — she covers projects from this region for PB's Best Address features.



SUE BADY – The go-to-person for *Custom Builder*, Sue is a senior editor who specializes in design and has an architecture crush on Frank Lloyd Wright. In addition to providing in-depth coverage of our Best in American Living Award for all our magazines, penning *Custom Builder's* editorials

every issue and delivering detailed articles month after month, Sue also updates her HousingZone.com blog, My Two Cents, regularly. When she covers a project, she takes her pick from out West. So if you're building something awesome between the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean (or even if you aren't!), you had better search for Sue.



BILL LURZ – Our seasoned industry vet, Bill is all about business. A senior editor who specializes in our business articles, Bill also writes the editorial blog for our twicemonthly, all-digital magazine *Housing Giants*. Bill's biggest project year after year is providing the in-depth industry

analysis for *Professional Builder's* Annual Giant 400 Report. When he's not writing hard-hitting features on impact fees or contingencies, Bill's updating his HousingZone.com blog, Ear to the Ground, with his one-of-a-kind insight into the housing industry. He's even made it to film! Bill's based in Florida and covers news and projects in the South. So seek him out and hear what he has to say on the industry.



MARK JARASEK – Mark is a senior editor and our e-media guru. He is the go-to-person on our staff for updating our Web site, HousingZone.com, with blogs, articles, videos, and all the other vital information you find on our sites.

Mark also organizes our newsletters filled with useful links

and articles. That Web machine is a big deal, and he handles it well! On top of that, Mark writes for all of the magazines and specifically focuses on projects from the Midwest. He's also a killer keyboard player, so be sure to mention that when you see him.



SARA ZAILSKAS – What you're reading now wouldn't be here if it weren't for Sara. As assistant managing editor, she makes sure our magazines get written, edited, designed, edited some more and then sent off to the printer in a timely and orderly fashion. She is also our copy editor,

making sure the commas and dashes are in the right places and our content is as complete as possible. But wait! That's not all she does! She contributes features and quick-hit articles to the magazines, too. She wants to talk to YOU, so be sure to find her among the masses at Show Village.

NICK BAJZEK - As his HousingZone.com blog is so aptly named, Nick is defi-



nitely our Product Guy. As the products editor, he provides product coverage and features for *Professional Builder*, *Custom Builder* and *Professional Remodeler* magazines, in addition to being the main guy behind the 100 Best New Products supplement and the IBS pre-show issue. He

feeds the world daily with a Product of the Day for HousingZone.com to boot. P.S. Nick is also a musician, playing bass guitar in a working Midwest-based band.

MIKE MORRIS – Mike is the editor-in-chief for *Professional Remodeler* maga-



zine. He drives the editorial content for the magazine, guiding the important and interesting topics that staff writers and other contributors put together for the readers. Mike's a great resource for builders breaking into the remodeling industry. He loves to get input and find out what's important

to those involved in the industry.

JONATHAN SWEET - Jay has covered the construction industry for the last



decade, first as a business and homes reporter at a daily newspaper and then for several construction-related trade publications. Now Jay's a senior editor with *Professional Remodeler*, and his talents shine through not only in the feature articles he writes, but also in his uber-popular blog,

The Sweet Spot. This is a must-read for builders, too; check out his posts at www.proremodeler.com. If you spot Jay, pull him over, say hello and give him some ideas for blog posts or articles you'd like to see.

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Show Village Builder: Palm Harbor Homes

Who is Palm Harbor Homes?



You have to admit the idea of constructing four homes on a parking lot in Las Vegas sounds pretty extreme. Think of the logistics: can you imagine the "wide load" flat-bed trucks with huge portions of a modular house driving down the Strip? Even in Las Vegas that spectacle would certainly cause even the most jaded of Vegas visitor to take notice.

Yet that's what Palm Harbor Homes does for Show Village 2009. The team is certainly experienced, having participated in the construction of Show Village homes since 2005.

Based in Dallas, Palm Harbor Homes has been a leading provider of factory-built housing and financial services, including full-service chattel mortgages, conventional real-estate loans and insurance products since 1977. Palm Harbor's dedication to customer satisfaction has resulted in a 61 percent referral business. Its vertically integrated operational structure makes it unique in the marketplace.

MANUFACTURED? MODULAR? WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

MANUFACTURED HOME CONSTRUCTION

THE TERM "MANUFACTURED HOME" specifically refers to a home built entirely in a protected environment under a federal code set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Manufactured homes are not mobile homes. The term "mobile home" describes factory-built homes produced prior to the 1976 HUD Code enactment.

The HUD code requires each manufactured home to meet the following requirements:

- Built as one, two or three sections in a protected building center, transported to the home site on a frame and installed
- Meets the strict HUD code restrictions for design and construction; durability and strength; fire resistance; transportability; energy efficiency; and quality
 - Built on steel beams with wheels under each section
- Meets the high standards for heating; plumbing; air conditioning; and thermal and electrical systems performance
 - Passes stringent third-party inspection

MODULAR HOME CONSTRUCTION

A MODULAR HOME is simply a home built to local building codes in a controlled, environmentally protected building center using precise and efficient construction technology. A modular home is built to the same codes as a site-built home. Because they must be transported to the home site, modular homes are typically much stronger than site built homes.



Designer fixtures. Granite countertops. Luxury appliances. Are they really worth cutting corners on plumbing?

As a builder, you can invest in the right plumbing system. Or pay for the wrong one. Installing anything less than the best plumbing puts the value of your homes—and your bottom line—at risk. Uponor Plumbing Systems install efficiently, distribute water effectively and perform reliably. Call 800-321-4739 or visit www.uponor-usa.com/plumbing to get your free copy of "Proven Performance," your guide to how Uponor plumbing systems can help you add value to your homes and eliminate callback concerns.





About 90 percent of the 8,500 homes Palm Harbor builds each year are customized with tile work, cabinetry, engineering changes or other features. Skilled company craftsman build each home to 80 percent completion in one of 18 building centers, and company-trained associates finish the last 20 percent of construction on-site and oversee the construction of amenities such as carports, garages, sunrooms or patios. Palm Harbor builds in environmentally protected building centers featuring strict quality controls, minimal material waste and efficiency.

The company has garnered recognition from organizations such as the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Energy Star; has earned the National Housing Quality Gold Award; and has been included in *Professional Builder's* "101 Best Companies to Work For in the Residential Construction Industry" report. **PB**

5 REASONS BUILDERS AND DEVELOPERS USE MANUFACTURED AND MODULAR HOUSING

HERE'S A LIST OF REASONS the Manufactured Housing Institute says builders and developers turn to manufactured and modular housing product:

- Provides a high-quality product at a lower cost than site-built housing
- Can serve to meet a pent-up consumer demand for entry-level, single-family detached housing
- Can help builders and developers expand in their current market
- Can produce housing using significantly less on-site labor
- Enables builders and developers to utilize property that might otherwise be financially or technically difficult to build

WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SHOW VILLAGE HOMES AFTER THE SHOW?

FROM A PARKING LOT AT THE LAS VEGAS CONVENTION CENTER to where? Each year the homes are eagerly snapped up by some enterprising home builder. The homes are carefully pulled apart, loaded back up on the flat bed trucks that parade through Las Vegas and then taken to their permanent site.

More than likely, this year's homes will catch the attention and imagination of a builder or developer who does business in the general Las Vegas vicinity. If you are interested in buying a home, be sure to ask one of the Palm Harbor representatives about it. There will be plenty of them on hand during the exhibit.

Last year when IBS was held in Orlando, Fla., one of the homes went to Panama City, Fla., with Stalwart Built Homes; New Era Homes took another, and it ended up in a housing community in Springfield, La. The third home was sold to an undisclosed builder and moved about 40 miles northwest of Orlando.

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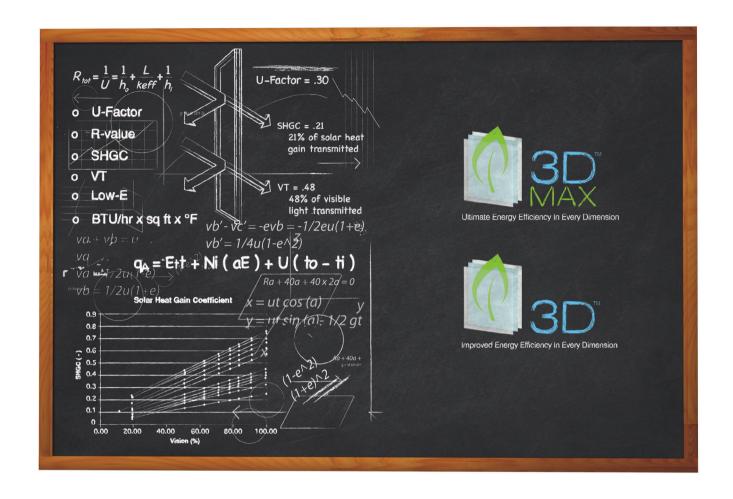
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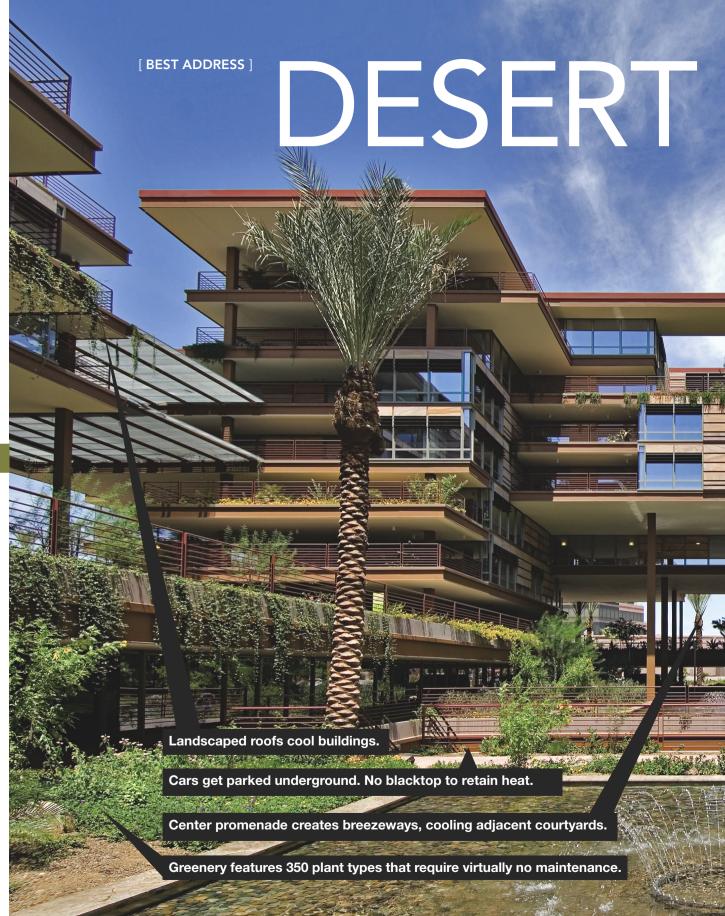
Milgard has two new energy packages that are easy to understand and easy to sell. Our standard window is ENERGY STAR® qualified. You can also offer our $3D^{\text{\tiny IM}}$ upgrade that is at least 10% more efficient and our 3D MAX $^{\text{\tiny IM}}$ upgrade that is up to 26% more efficient. With Milgard, you don't have to explain components or technical features. Our program simply quantifies the benefits. It's an easy up-sell, and

it appeals to buyers who want to optimize the energy efficiency of their home. These packages are available on Milgard fiberglass and vinyl product lines, including the vinyl Montecito™ Series for New Construction. Visit milgard.com or call 1.800.MILGARD.





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designi

In the hot Arizona climate, Camelview Village showcases how Optima combined new technology, prefabrication and thoughtful desig

In the hot Arizona climate, prefabrication and thoughtful design to create exemplary green low-rise condominiums.

By Safa Zailskas, Assistant Managing Editor

Design and landscaping lower Camelview Village's temperature 10-12 degrees.

A horizontal plane gives the site a human scale compared to a high-rise with as many units.

Cantilevered balconies offer shade and privacy.

Photovoltaic rooftop solar panels contribute to electricity for buildings' common areas.

The story of Optima's eco-friendly complex begins and ends on the outside. A walk through the development — on its way to becoming 700 units — isn't overwhelming nor busy, as you might imagine it to be. Instead, it's serene and calm. The sound of bubbling water from the scattered fountains and water features fills the air. The six- and seven-story cantilevered buildings don't tower over courtyards but instead envelope them. The reddish-brown exteriors even mimic an Arizona canyon, a reminder of their Scottsdale location. And there are lush green plants everywhere — on the terraces above, on the ground, in the distance. This is Camelview Village, a desert oasis that tips its hat to Mother Nature in both design and function.

Builder, developer and architect David Hovey and his team set out to create "the best building we could possibly think of." Hovey's philosophy is to rely on unique architecture to solve a site's challenges. For Scottsdale, that meant the project needed







Save 10-15% Now

High quality materials, swank swimming pools, Sub-Zero appliances and green features come with a cost. How do you include all that and keep the price low enough that a buyer will bite? David Hovey turned to what he knows best: prefabrication. As much of the building production as possible is done in a factory because fixed labor costs are key, Hovey says.

For the Camelview Village units, the team uses standard structured bays of 30 feet by 30 feet and 5 feet by 5 feet. "The job site had a very systematic, repeatable way that proved to be economical," Hovey says. "Doing this allowed us the additional amenities and things like green roofs that are normally cost prohibitive."

To keep track of building plans, Optima uses Tekla Structures software.

LOOK, MA': NO BLACKTOP - THE STORY BEHIND THE GREENERY

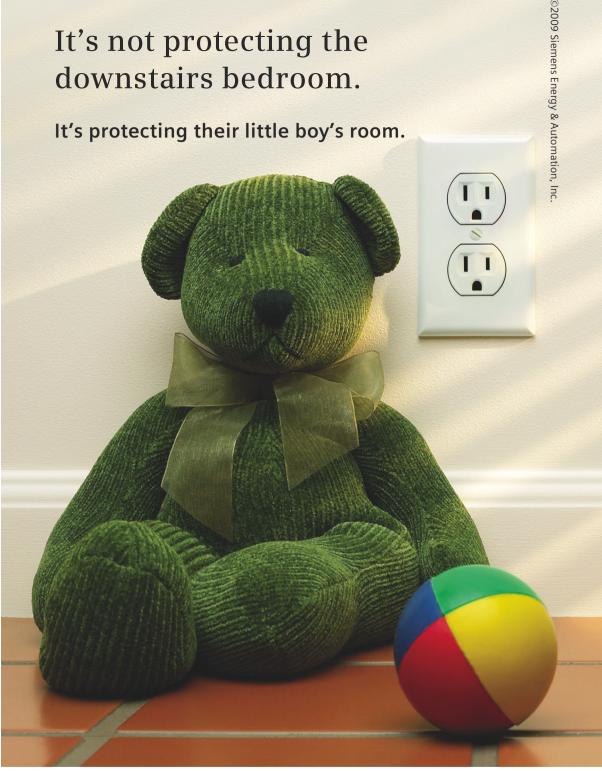
FOURTEEN ACRES, with 21 acres of landscaping and a dog park to boot. The Optima team wanted to keep hard surfaces — which retain heat and boost the community's temperature (thus requiring more air conditioning) — to a minimum at Camelview Village, so it positioned the parking underground and landscaped the roofs, courtyards and terraces.

But you can't just use any type of plants to be truly green. The landscaping needed to be hardy and require as little maintenance and water as possible. Plants that required chemicals or lots of community-provided water would defeat the purpose of going green.

To find the right types of foliage to use, Optima turned to a professor at Arizona State University. After two years of year-round trials, they settled on 350 plant types. "[The professor] was really helpful because he believed in our idea, and he believed it could work," David Hovey says.



It's protecting their little boy's room.



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SIEMENS



PROJECT PROFILE

Community: Camelview Village Location: Scottsdale, Ariz. Project Type: Low-rise infill multifamily

Buyer Profile: First-time, moveup, downsizing

Square Footage: 800 to 3,200, or customizable

Builder/Developer: Optima,

Price Range: \$400,000s to \$2.5 million

PRODUCTS USED

Appliances: Sub-Zero, Miele Bathroom Fixtures: Kohler, Bain

Ultra, Dombracht Cabinetry: Bulthaup Closet Systems: California Closets

Flooring: Travertine and Mohawk

Carpeting

Windows: Harmon Glass

INDOOR **SANCTUARY**

Camelview Village condominiums feel just as luxurious and serene on the inside.

David Hovey and his team specifically chose monochromatic colors for the interiors so homeowners' identities come through in their furnishings - not in the finishes the builder chose. Travertine and bird's eye maple cabinets, for example, offer soft, creamy colors that compliment many palettes.

One color buyers have to appreciate is green, because you can see it outside through every floor-to-ceiling window. Hovey relies on the windows to incorporate the outdoors into the indoor living space. A scarcity of walls - most are non-load-bearing - and the plethora of windows make the units feel luxurious and

Mundane (in comparison) but important: Each unit controls its own HVAC system, and finishes are maintenance-free.

larger than they actually are.

Sign us up.

What Wowed Us

It's rare that so many editors of Professional Builder's staff get to experience a project in person at the same time. When we toured Camelview Village in October, we all agreed: we wanted an identical Camelback Village project (including the warm weather) in our Chicago back yards.

What had us crooning? Our editors explain:

"The thought behind sight lines that allowed residents to maintain privacy yet still have tons of fenestration."

Paul Deffenbaugh, Editorial Director

"The green roofs and reflecting pools make this project feel like an oasis in the desert. I also love the way the architecture evokes prairie style with its wide roof overhangs. Frank Lloyd Wright would approve!"

Susan Bady, Senior Editor, Design

"The first thing that grabbed me walking in was the very distinctive, modern architecture. I liked the glass walls that let in lots of natural light and the idea of having green terraces for each unit."

Felicia Oliver, Senior Editor

"Their ability to sell those things in the market the way it is now and the amount of luxury it offered. The contemporary architecture of it was very cool, there's no question."

Bill Lurz, Senior Editor, Business

"I was particularly impressed by the lush greenery that cascaded from every ledge, which turned their central walkways and courtyard area into a private, calming oasis while the outside bustled with neighborhood traffic and noise you couldn't see or hear."

Mark Jarasek, Senior Editor, Electronic Media

What made us go hmmm?

Although there was a lot to love, we did wonder about all those windows. Although the building design, landscaping and Low-E glazing on the windows make it hard to see in, it might take a while to get accustomed to feeling private if you can see all that lovely green all the time. And the amenities sure are nice — but we wouldn't want the assessments. PB

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-Bob Heidenreich, Owner The Deck Store, Apple Valley, MN



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- Todd Stam, Aspen Homes | Coeur d'Alene, ID



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- Jay Robinette, Robinette Builders | Charlotte, NC

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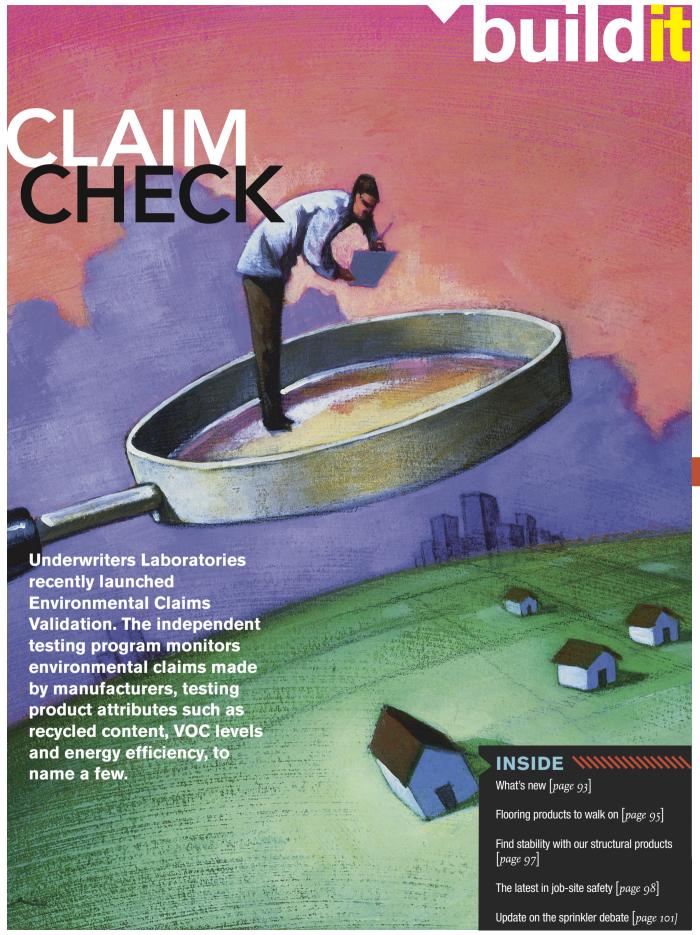
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[NEW PRODUCTS]

Read All About It!

I'm a Big Fan

Meyda now offers customizable pendant/fan fixtures for residential and commercial applications, and it's a good bet you haven't seen anything like these. The Tall Pines at Dusk (107646), for example, features a Silver Mica shade transformed into a decorative but functional casement for a 29-inch fan. The Tall Pines filigree design circles the outside, with reverse repeats of the design on the interior. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-251



What's Your - Angle?

Detailed jobs call for detail-orientated tools. Milwaukee packed durability into the new 41/2-inch Small Angle Grinders; all have an advanced airflow system, including debris baffles and a multiport exhaust. Debris baffles are engineered L-shape intake vents that protect the motor and other components by deflecting particles out of the airflow before entering the grinder. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-252





Sonic Boom

Remember those Maxell commercials? Yeah, it's kind of like that. The L150i combines Wisdom Audio's state-of-the-art transducer elements in a way that takes full advantage of its inherent performance benefits. The L150i is ideal for large rooms or those with unique architectural features such as cathedral ceilings because the speakers effectively eliminate floor and ceiling reflections. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-253

---- Fired Up

You can accomplish just about anything fireplace-related with Spark Modern Fires' new Linear Burner system. The Burner allows you to create a custom fireplace in any length from two feet up to eight feet in one-foot increments. Variable multiple views are available, such as one-sided, two-sided, three-sided or completely open with an overhead vent. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-254

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[FLOORING]

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Want an aged, wire-brushed or oiled look? Karelia has them all in the Full Plank products. The one-strip products join the new Spice line, which includes the walnut-colored Oak Full Plank Black Pepper, the medium gray Rock Salt Matt and darker Oregano. Throw in some basil, and you'll have yourself a spice rack. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-255



It isn't often you see a one-time sanding warranty. You'll have it with Bruce Hardwood Floors' Westchester Plank, a ¾-inch engineered flooring product that boasts a variety of colors and finishes. The 4½-inch Country Natural, for example, provides great dimensional stability, even over subfloors with wide joist spacings. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-256



- Feeling Wired

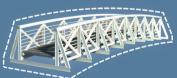
The new Wirescraped finish by Preverco is offered on the company's Original Series and Engenius Series of engineered hardwood. The textured flooring is surprisingly resilient and has a unique look and feel. Colors range from gray and silver tones to brown and green. The Kilamanjaro finish, shown, features a bold, contrasting color scheme. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-257

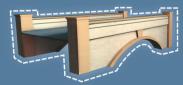
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[STRUCTURAL]

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You can't put a price on strength! Stronger than site-built or factory-built shearwalls, Simpson Strong-Tie's Moment Frames allow larger openings while offering the high load values that structural designers and builders need. This should help your guys in the field because moment frames always have been time- and labor-intensive to install. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-259



Brace Yourself

Originally made in 12-inch and 18-inch widths in heights ranging from 7 to 12 feet, the 24-inch-wide Shear Brace by iLevel by Weyerhaeuser accommodates greater design loads than existing widths, so your homes will be able to take quite a beating. The braces install easily using mounting brackets that allow builders to make front-to-back adjustments for ready alignment with foundation anchor bolts. The 18- and 24-inch Shear Braces can be used for the second story in stacked applications.

For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-261

Say No to Mold

Mold is such a pain in our butts. USG will help stop mold growth with the new Securock glass-mat sheathing panels. A non-combustible, moisture-and mold-resistant gypsum core helps the panels achieve an ATSM 10 rating, the highest possible rating for mold resistance. Panels are encased in a double-sided, green fiberglass facer and are easy to score and snap — no saws or special tools required. For FREE information, visit http://pb.hotims.com/23718-262



[JOB-SITE SAFETY]

Photo: Getty Images

Gear Up **Safely**

Despite all the rules and regulations, the construction industry remains one of the most dangerous jobs on the planet — mine clearing and bear taming barely have it beat. Here's the scoop on common job-site safety hazards and new solutions.

By Nick Bajzek, Products Editor

Deadly Falls



Problem: Falls are the leading cause of fatal injuries in the construction industry and were responsible for 442 deaths nationwide in 2007, according

to the federal U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. "There is no way to understate the danger of fall hazards, which are the No. I killer in construction work," says Diana Cortez, an OSHA area director. "Whenever employees work without adequate and effective fall protection, they are just one misstep away from death or disabling injury."

Solution: Enter DBI-SALA's 15-foot Sealed Block Self-Retracting Lifeline (SRL). The company's marketing manager, Charley Bryant, says the sealed design keeps critical working components such as the brake, power spring and energy absorber free of debris. The anti-ratcheting brake stops falls within inches and limits arresting forces to 900 pounds for added safety. The lifeline system maintains a two-foot reserve for shock absorption when the entire lifeline is extended.

Head Injuries



Problem: You'd think this one was a no-brainer (pun intended), but proper head protection is

not always enforced — after all, it's hotter than blazes sometimes and the last thing a worker wants on his or her noggin is a plastic hothouse. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, many supervisors noted that most workers who suffered impact injuries to the head were not wearing head protection. The majority of workers were injured while performing their normal jobs at their regular work sites. Half of the injuries occurred when the worker



wasn't paying attention, but 3/10 of the time the worker was staring straight ahead!

Solution: Give 'em something they'll want to wear. Klein Tools recently launched a new line of hard hats and caps, including the V-Gard cap and hat; Skullgard

cap and hat; and, for all you construction cowboys, the Western Outlaw Hat. Yeehaw! The V-Gard, in particular, has a polyethylene shell with the company's four-point Fas-Trac ratcheting suspension. The standard size fits head sizes 6-8, and it carries third-party certification from the Safety Equipment Institute.

Cold Feet



Once your subcontractors' feet

Problem:

get cold, they're done. According

to the "National Athletic Trainers' Association Position Statement: Environmental Cold Injuries," by Dr. Thomas A. Cappaert, "Many cases of cold-related injuries are preventable and can be successfully treated if such conditions are properly recognized and appropriate care is provided in a timely manner."

Solution: SAY NO TO There isn't a

SHORTCUTS

most accidents happen

choose to do the wrong

thing. Taking shortcuts

might save a little time,

cally increase the risk of

the task. That's why you

can't just hand workers

a guidebook on the first

day and never mention

safety again.

but they can dramati-

in safe environments

because workers

According to OSHA,

perfect solution to this. but Grabber is one of several companies getting closer to keeping feet warm from heel to pinky toe. The company's Toe Warmers inserts are unique in that they're thin and have a rounded toe and adhesive

backing, so they won't get in the way or bunch up during the day. The new warmers are designed to function in the low oxygen environment of boots and shoes and maintain a temperature of 100–107 degrees to keep blood circulating for up to six hours.

Language **Problems**



Problem: You're asking for trouble in both dollars and manpower — if your sub-

contractors can't understand their supervisors. Foreignborn workers, many who are no doubt unaccustomed to the English language, accounted for 29 percent of the fatalities in the residential construction industry. according to "Residential Construction Industry Fatalities 2003-2006," a recently released study commissioned by NAHB. "Residential construction sites can be very dangerous for any

worker, regardless of their language skills or assigned task," said Buck Roberts, president of A.B. Roberts Construction Co. in Anderson, S.C., and chairman of NAHB's Construction Safety and Health Committee.

Solution: Handbooks the typical solution — are great, but they're often not nearly enough. Consider suggesting that new employees get some classroom time. For example, in the Milwaukee, Wis., area, your Spanish-speaking subcontractors can take a 12-hour, three-week basic language learning course to get up to speed with English phrases. The course is a direct result

among La Casa de Esperanza, the Metropolitan Builders Association and Waukesha County Technical College to teach construction industry workers to communicate with Spanishonly or Englishonly speaking

of a partnership

co-workers. "Latinos are sweeping the nation in construction jobs," said Hortensia Washington, director of operations at La Casa de Esperanza and instructor for the new language course. "This is about us respecting everyone no matter how limited their English is and cutting out the middle person."

Hampered Vision During Welding



Problem: Welders know all too well the importance of protecting their eyes;

auto-darkening helmets has been a Godsend for many acetylene jockeys. Some models, however, often confuse sunlight with the welding arc and automatically darken the visor when no welding arc is present. This can be a nuisance and downright dangerous when welders are preparing to ignite the arc and suddenly lose sight of what they're doing.

Wrong Step

Don't use unsafe A-frame ladders of any kind on your construction sites. Instruct crews to use scissor lifts. Bakers Scaffolds and podium-style ladders.

Solution: The X-Mode technology found in Miller Electric's Digital Elite Auto-Darkening helmet series — specifically the Digital Elite design, which features four independent arc sensors that respond in 1/20,000 of a second. It

electromagnetically senses the arc and protects when the traditional arc sensors are blocked, a common occurrence in out-of-position repairs; pipe welding; or in obstructed or hidden-cavity welds. The helmets are lightweight (18 ounces), durable and surprisingly comfortable. PB

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[SPRINKLER UPDATE]

Sprinkler **Setback**

NAHB efforts to stop a vote that could make single-family home fire sprinklers part of the next International Residential Code have failed — at least in part.

By Matt Power, Contributing Editor

he NAHB and the fire safety industry
— represented by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) — have long
been at odds about whether sprinklers make
sense in single-family homes. Past votes on the
issue have decided against the mandatory sprinklers due to design and maintenance issues.

At a Dec. II meeting of ICC officials, however, the prospect of home sprinklers again moved closer to becoming mandatory. The NAHB had written a letter of appeal, asking for a recommendation to be made that the ICC board "set aside" a vote on mandating residential sprin-

klers. They made the appeal based not on technical arguments against sprinklers — of which they have many — but on procedural basis. In laymen's terms, they tried to throw a wrench in the gears.

That wrench didn't derail the vote, as hoped, but it did make an impression. ICC officials declined NAHB's request, but they did agree to bring up the association's procedural concerns with the ICC board.

What types of concerns?

"It had to do with the fact that a number of

U.S. House Fire Fatalities, 2005

396,000 residential fires

3,055 civilian fire deaths

13,825 civilian fire injuries

\$6.9 billion in property damage

Fire Detection and Design Without Sprinklers



IN A TYPICAL YEAR, as many as 65 percent of deaths from house fires occur in homes with no working smoke detectors. The Residential Fire Safety Institute asserts, "If you have the recommended number of smoke alarms, you increase your chances of surviving a fire by 47 percent." It notes, however, that sprinklers put survivability at more than 97 percent, stating, "The reason for this is that a sprinkler will act before a fire can grow large enough to spread smoke and toxic products."

When I wrote about this issue back in 1999 ("Under Fire," Builder magazine, October 1999), firefighters cited "flashover" as a major reason they wanted sprinklers in new homes, which tend to have wide open floor plans. Synthetic furniture coverings burn very hot, they said, and fire rapidly reaches upstairs living areas. Adjusting floor plans in single-family and two-family homes to "contain" potential flashover fires would add credibility to builder arguments against single-family sprinkler systems.

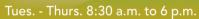
Matt Power

Source: U.S. Fire

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For more information visit:



SPRINKLER UPDATE]

the people who voted in an earlier vote were not building officials," said Calli Schmidt, NAHB's director of Environmental Communications, the day after the Dec. II meeting. "Also, there are issues related to funding that allowed certain ICC members to attend, plus concerns with the vetting of governmental members."

NAHB's angle

The NAHB and Habitat for Humanity International both oppose making sprinklers mandatory for single and two-family housing. Sprinklers are already part of multifamily codes, they note, and optional for single-family and townhouses.

Prescribing them for cash-strapped builders and buyers, they argue, doesn't make sense. It's an economic burden that ignores other, lower-hanging solutions to house fires.

The NAHB and Habitat point to smoke detectors, estimating that 890 house fire fatalities nationally (nearly a third) could be prevented each year simply by making sure every house has even one working fire alarm.

In addition, they've conducted research showing that the cost of installing home sprinklers is far higher than fire officials estimate — once you include permitting, tap and inspection fees. Their estimate of actual costs is double the \$1 per square foot price tag fire officials have suggested.

The association has also debunked the idea that lower insurance premiums will effectively pay for the sprinklers over a short time. They note that "even under the lowest cost estimates (\$2,465), the annual mortgage payment would increase by \$193, roughly double the upper bound on the average insurance savings."

Decision point

No matter how compelling the facts, however, the NAHB anti-sprinkler campaign has been a tough one. Fire safety can be an emotional issue and has to be challenged in a nuanced way so as not to appear insensitive. Also, as one NAHB staffer pointed out, ICC meetings "tend to be packed with all these fire officials and only a few of us from the building community."

By the time you read this article, it's likely that the ICC board will have made a final vote on whether to add home sprinklers to your future projects. At this writing, the meeting is scheduled for the end of December. Check in at www.housingzone.com for an update.

PR



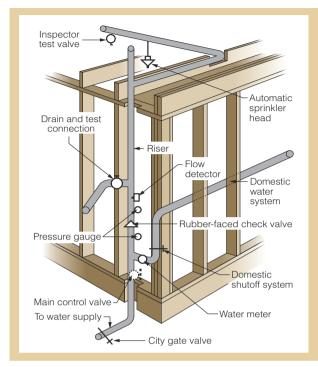
While the Simpson Strong-Tie® mudsill anchor has always been a time-saving alternative to anchor bolts, it's now been redesigned to be a direct replacement. The new MASA offers performance that meets or exceeds that of 1/2" and %" anchor bolts in most mudsill applications. Concrete contractors will like it because it installs easily on forms and stays out of the way until it is bent over the mudsill, making finishing easier and faster. Framers will save time because it eliminates plate drilling and extra washers while offering added installation flexibility. The anchor bolt has finally met its match.

For more information, visit www.strongtie.com or call (800) 999-5099.





[SPRINKLER UPDATE]



HARD COSTS

In 2007, the NAHB Research Center conducted a national survey to assess sprinkler installation costs. The results showed that sprinklers typically added as much as \$5,573 increase in construction costs, raising the buyer's additional cost to \$6,677.

Median Home Size: 2,271 square feet

Median Sprinkler Cost: \$5,573

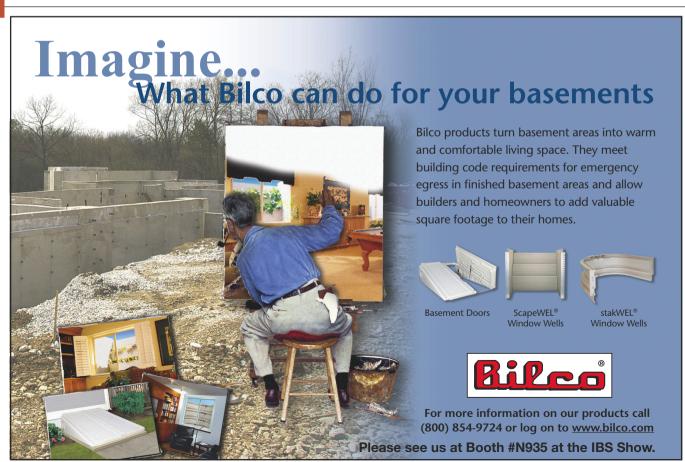
Median Added Cost Per Sq. Ft.: \$6,677

Source: "Fire Sprinklers and Homeowner Insurance," Lanlan Xu, Sept. 14, 2007,

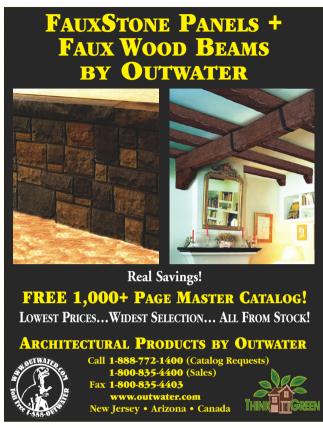
Web Resources

National Fire Protection Association www.nfpa.org

NAHB's Sprinkler Research www.nahb.org



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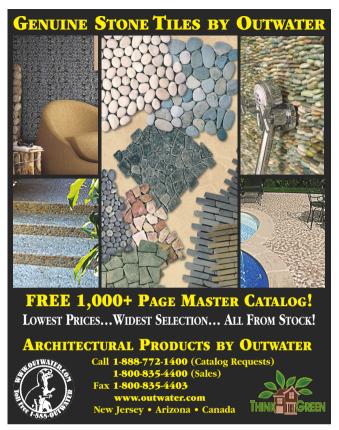




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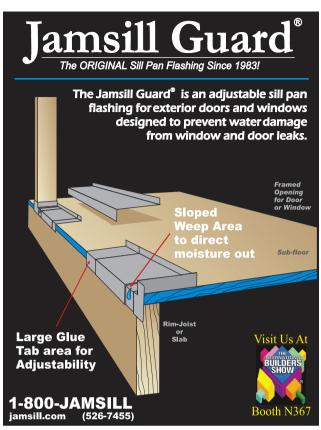
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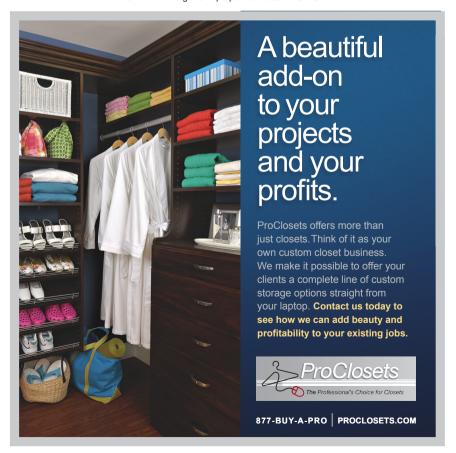
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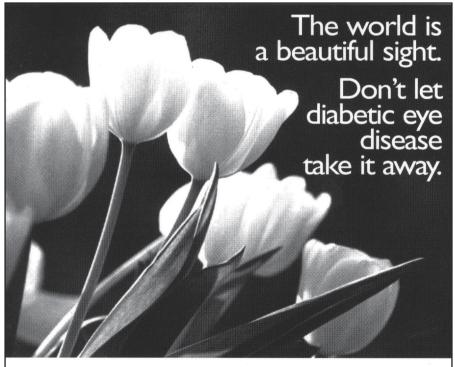
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Forbes.com has a list of 10 affordable places to hide out in this economy. No. 1 on the list is Madison County, Ala. No. 10 is Johnson County, Kan. Nothing like affordability to keep people happy.

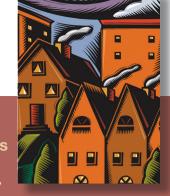
\$40 billion

Demand for windows and doors in the U.S. is estimated to rise 2.8 percent annually to \$40 billion in 2012. Demand for windows is projected to rise 3.7 percent per year through 2012, and demand for doors will grow 2.4 percent annually through 2012. That's based on forecasts by industry research firm The Freedonia Group.

\$2.1 million

When President George W. Bush leaves the White House with the first lady, they will move to an affluent neighborhood in Dallas called Preston Hollow, reports The Associated Press. The home cost \$2.1 million, and estimated taxes on the property are \$43,984. Their new neighbors? T. Boone Pickens and retired Exxon Mobil CEO Lee R. Raymond.

4% According to the AIA, buildings are the leading source of greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. In a new poll conducted by Harris Interactive and commissioned by Autodesk, only 4 percent of U.S. adults were aware of this.



365% Staging model homes using home technology upgrades creates consumer excitement that sells homes more quickly than non-staged homes, according to a survey by HomeGain. An example of a feature would be lighting upgrades, which, the survey says, can lead to a 365 percent return on investment.



\$1 Chicago Business News reports that AIG is limiting how much it pays its executives, including granting a salary of \$1 — or the equivalent of a small fry at McDonald's — to its CEO, Edward M. Liddy.

44.9 The consumer confidence index for November rose to 44.9 points, up from 38.8 in October. Lets sell those houses and hope people believe in the economy — and that December's numbers show a trend.





\$500 billion President-elect Obama is planning to hit the ground running in January. The president-elect and congressional Democrats are laying the groundwork of a huge, two-year economic rescue package that will total \$500 billion, according to the Associated Press.

2.5 million According to CNN, President-Elect Obama's job creation plan will create **2.5 million more jobs by 2011.** In October, 540,000 new unemployment claims were filed.



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