



SPA-INSPIRED *Master Suite*

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SECURING THE FUTURE OF HOUSING



I love my job. I thoroughly enjoy watching people's dreams come true. I am very lucky to be able to provide for my family doing something I enjoy. Our industry can be so fulfilling—changing the lives of our clients in positive ways. At Vision Design Build Remodel we want all our employees and trade contractors to also be able to feel this way. These are a few reasons why I am involved locally, nationally, and on the state level with the Home Builder's Association. Giving back to our industry is very important for securing the future of housing for generations to come.

As Vice President of Region 9 of the North Carolina Home Builders Association (NCHBA), I got to spend time with our elected officials in the NC Legislative Building in Raleigh discussing issues important to housing. It was an honor and privilege to represent our region to some of the key decision makers within North Carolina. We held a dinner at the NC Museum of History where we got to speak with our local representatives and senators. The following day was jam-packed with appointments with all of our leaders to discuss how important housing is to our economy and several bills we need to have signed into law. The new Sales Tax on Repair, Maintenance, and Installation is one of the issues that was

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SPA-INSPIRED *Master Suite*

Whenever homeowners envision the master suite of their dreams, it is almost always a spa-like hide-away where they can escape the stresses of daily life. The master suite of The New American Home 2017 is a prime example of this kind of retreat.

The master suite is located in a secluded section of the home's layout, distanced from the more public living spaces yet connected directly to the outdoor lanai and pool area. A restful ambience permeates the master suite, originating in the simple modern lines and clean white surfaces throughout.

In the master bedroom, a full-height cushioned headboard adds texture and muffles sound to ensure a quiet, relaxing environment. A horizontal fire feature creates an inviting atmosphere, while also providing warmth on chilly evenings. Floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors allow the bedroom to open completely to the outside, making the beautiful natural surroundings a visual part of the interior. The doors also open to a protected outdoor sitting area



Photo: Courtesy of Jeff Davis Photography

with a fireplace, which in turn leads to a glass enclosed fitness room. An adjoining steam room refreshes the body after workouts and removes toxins.

The master bath is a spacious open wet room with no curtains or glass partitions for the shower. A multitude of shower heads and programmable body sprays make showering a refreshing experience. The body sprays are connected to the internet, so changing the selection of spray patterns is effortless. The absence of curbs and the comfortable bench of Brazilian wood provide the shower area with universal design benefits. A freestanding oval soaking tub rests serenely in the corner next to the floor-to-ceiling windows. Natural light streams through the windows made of frosted glass for privacy. A separate water closet accommodates a smart toilet offering many advanced spa features, including a foot warmer, a deodorizer, built-in speakers for playing your choice of music, and a bidet with personal water temperature settings.



Photo: Courtesy of Jeff Davis Photography



Photo: Courtesy of Jeff Davis Photography

The master suite is also outfitted with a private laundry room and two spacious walk-in closets—one that doubles as a safe room for shelter if needed during storms. In every case, products used in this master suite were carefully selected to meet the most rigorous environmental standards for water savings and energy efficiency.

Smart Connections

When it comes to smart technology for the home, homeowners have already benefited from the availability of Wi-Fi enabled security cameras that keep watch over their home's premises, smart home thermostats that help them save on home energy costs, and motion sensors that turn lights on and off throughout their homes as needed. However, what has been lacking so far is useful technology for their kitchens and baths, which are typically the most active areas in the home.

In the U.S. more than 500 adults, divided equally between male and female, recently participated in a survey conducted by Field Agent, a mobile research firm. The findings indicated that only 30 percent of those surveyed currently own smart tech for the home, but 81 percent are excited about the idea of updating their kitchens and bathrooms with Wi-Fi enabled appliances or electronics in the future. They primarily look forward to the convenience and safety this technology can bring to their life style. The 2017 Builders' Show introduced several new possibilities that may have met the mark. Here are three examples:



Photos: Courtesy of Kohler (kohler.com)



FLOATING VANITIES

Beautiful bathrooms by today's standards are those that are simple and serene. But when your life is super hectic, is it even possible to maintain that calm, uncluttered atmosphere in your beautiful bathroom? Yes, provided your cabinetry is designed for organization and ease of maintenance.

Cabinet manufacturers are now offering many organizational solutions in bathroom vanities that help make your morning

routine go much smoother. There are drawer dividers that assist you in arranging your toiletries and makeup so everything is easy to find and put away again. Pull-out drawers may be designed specifically for storing small appliances, like hair dryers and curling irons. Some pull-out drawers feature built-in electrical outlets so you can keep your electric toothbrushes and razors charged and ready for use.

A stylish wall-hung vanity—often called a floating vanity—provides that clean and open look that enhances your sense of tranquility. If your bathroom is small, a floating vanity can make it feel more spacious. A floating vanity can be installed at your preferred height that gives you the most comfortable ergonomic experience as you bend over the sink. In addition, the absence of a cabinet base or furniture legs makes for easier cleaning under a wall-hung vanity.



Photo: Courtesy of GE Appliances (geappliances.com)



Photo: Courtesy of Brinks Home Security (mybrinkshome.com)



Photo: Courtesy of Moen (moen.com)

Kitchen

• GE Appliances demonstrated their new suite of kitchen appliances that collaborates with Amazon's Alexa and Echo to enable hands-free convenience through voice control. The suite includes refrigerators, dishwashers, wall ovens and ranges, plus laundry and more. You can preheat your oven, find out when your dishwasher cycle will be finished, or make any number of other requests—all with the sound of your voice.

Entry Door

• Brinks Home Security Array deadbolt is a cloud- and app-based smart lock that uses the home Wi-Fi connection. With the array, homeowners can unlock their doors, provide and manage access

remotely, and view user and battery data four different ways—smartphone, smartwatch, keypad and key. The Array won the Best Indoor Living Product award at the Builders' Show.

Bath

• Moen presented their U by Moen shower technology, a Wi-Fi/cloud-based digital shower that offers mobile connectivity. It allows you to control your shower preferences through a smartphone app. You can customize everything from time to temperature. If you need to get a little more shut-eye in the morning, you can get the shower going from your bed and it will notify you when it's ready to go.

Securing the Future of Housing

Our Design Studio Is Coming!

Spa-Inspired Master Suite

Smart Connections



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discussed in order to be clarified. It confuses lots of homeowners and contractors alike. Have you been paying sales tax on repairs?

Our Caldwell County representative in the NC House of Representatives, Destin Hall, also gave our group a grand tour of the buildings, including the Chambers. He explained how day-to-day operations serve our lawmaking procedures. I encourage anyone to make a trip to Raleigh and visit your legislators. They value hearing what is going on locally.

Housing is the engine that drives our economy! While our industry continues to rebound from the Great Recession, we are only halfway to where we were in 2007. Building Permits fell between 2007 and 2009—from 100,000 to 33,000—and just recovered to 50,000 permits last year. Our state's complete economic recovery depends on a full recovery for the housing industry. Simply put, "Housing Equals Jobs." For every new home built, 3 jobs are created and the majority of the money spent stays in the local economy. This equation also applies to remodeling and renovations.

I hope to have a long future in the housing industry for many years to come. I look forward to serving you and your family as you seek to improve your home. It allows all people associated with Vision Design Build Remodel to reach their goals and dreams as well.

Design Studio Coming to Lenoir!



Have you heard the news? Vision Design Build Remodel is expanding into a Design Studio! In Lenoir, across from the County offices, we are currently remodeling our new Design Studio.

This commercial space was once a home in the 1930s. It was riddled with improper construction techniques from past tenants. We have fully gutted the interior all the way down to the original dirt crawlspace. It has been a lot of work so far, but we are really looking forward to the end result.

Our goal is to have a beautiful, inviting space where we can bring our clients to work with them on designing their projects. We will have a functional kitchen display, a tile shower showroom, countertop and cabinet samples, and much more. Be on the look out for our projected opening day!



We would love to work with you to create the beautiful kitchen and bath that you envision for your home.
Contact us at visiondesignbuildremodel.com or 828.292.0615