

## Industry UPDATE

### *A for Automation*

From heating, air conditioning and security systems to customizable lighting that helps reduce energy consumption, The New American Home 2012 at the recent National Association of Homebuilders International Builders' Show showcased the best new home-technology products. Home systems controlling security, energy management, whole-home media, lighting and more all were featured; each system is advanced yet cost-effective and can be accessed and activated through smart phones and tablets.

### *Looking Up*

Builder confidence in the market for newly built, single-family homes continued to climb for a fourth consecutive month in January, rising four points on the NAHB/Wells Fargo Housing Market Index (HMI). This is the highest level the index has attained since June of 2007. "The latest uptick [was] represented across every region," noted Bob Nielsen, chairman of the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB).

### *Keystone Award*

The American Architectural Foundation (AAF) will present the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) with its 2012 Keystone Award at the 23rd annual Accent on Architecture Gala in Washington, DC, on March 9. The Keystone Award goes to an individual or organization from outside the architectural discipline for design leadership that improves lives. The USGBC is committed to creating a prosperous future through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings.



Historically inspired brownstones, on view at Symphony Park at Strathmore.

## WHO'S BUILDING WHAT

### In Symphony

Michael Harris Homes recently opened two fully decorated brownstone models at Symphony Park at Strathmore, a new community adjoining the grounds of The Music Center at Strathmore in North Bethesda that offers elegant architecture in a unique and culturally rich location. Designed after stylish brownstones of old, these new brownstones enjoy a campus-like setting with a cobblestone community entry, elegant brick sidewalks, and carefully crafted European-style gardens and mews. Symphony Park residents will enjoy three free years of benefits at Strathmore, including priority ticket purchase opportunities and ticket and retail discounts. Priced from the upper \$900s to \$1.7 million, these homes are already 30 percent sold. Call 301-493-0010 or visit michaelharrishomes.com.

home has approximately 11,800 square feet of living space, a three-car garage, an oversized front porch with stone foundation and Hardi Shake siding. There are five bedrooms on the second floor and there's room on the lower level for another two. The walkout lower level offers a media room, wine cellar, full bar with adjoining gathering room, and ample natural light thanks to two sets of French doors leading outside. Call 301-315-8038 or visit chadsworthhomes.com.

### Chadsworth in McLean

Custom builder Chadsworth Homes is currently offering its Wemberly model as well as several other designs at select locations in McLean, VA. The Wemberly integrates old-fashioned design standards with 21st-century green technology, including high-efficiency systems throughout. The



The Wemberly model from Chadsworth Homes.



A house in Waterford Creek by Carr Homes.

### Semi-Custom Enclave

Waterford Creek is an enclave of new, custom-quality, single-family homes on three-acre sites, just north of Leesburg in Hamilton, Virginia. These new Loudoun County estate homes back to mature woodlands and enjoy panoramic views of the nearby foothills and majestic Catoctin Mountain Ridge beyond. With up to 6,600 square feet of space, and two- or three-car garages, these semi-custom residences feature 10- and 11-foot ceilings in kitchen and family room, first-floor libraries, and many luxury touches throughout, including coffered ceilings, crown moldings, gas fireplaces, and walk-in closets. Call 703-926-7469 or visit carrhomes.com.