



ONE FAMILY | ONE LIFETIME | ONE HOME

# Welcome Home



## Inaugural Edition

IN THIS ISSUE

## Inauguration

by David Putnam

### Welcome

Welcome to the inaugural issue of "Welcome Home," our Stone Aspen newsletter. This newsletter is an opportunity for us to stay in contact with those of you who have made our company the success it is today. It also gives us a venue to discuss two of our passions: designing a home using "The Not-So-Big-House" concepts and one in which you can also age-in-place.

### The Not So Big House

"The Not So Big House" concept developed by Sarah Susanka does not necessarily mean "small." Instead, it's meant to designate a type of home in which almost every square-foot is utilized regularly. Each room is the proper size for the activities therein and each is filled with special details designed for how you live. Rather than having a room for every activity, many of the rooms are multi-purpose, thereby decreasing the number of rooms required as well as the overall square-footage.

### Aging-in-Place

Aging-in-place is defined as **"the ability to continue to live in one's home safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level."**

It means the pleasure of living in a familiar environment throughout your maturing years, and the ability to enjoy the common daily rituals and the special events that enrich your life. It means the reassurance of being able to call a house a "home" for a lifetime.

### Thank You

We have taken the liberty of including you on the subscription list to this newsletter. While it will only be sent out at most once every month, if you would prefer not to receive further issues, please accept our apologies and let us know. As always, we respect your privacy and will never use your e-mail address for any other purpose or share it with a third party. And, we'll do our best to make sure important information is always included on our website ([www.stoneaspen.com](http://www.stoneaspen.com)) and on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/stoneaspen](http://www.facebook.com/stoneaspen))

We look forward to this easy way for us to stay connected with you and keep you up to date on the latest news and ideas at Stone Aspen, "Building Homes for the Ages."

Thank you!



### What's Up, Doc?

Find out about the opportunities behind forty beautiful new duplex homes coming up at The Retreat in Perry Park.

Page 2



### Taking Care of Fido

What happens to Fido when the kids are no longer home to wreak havoc?

Page 3

# What's Up, Doc?

by David Putnam

One of Douglas County's best-kept secrets is the hidden environmental masterpiece known as Perry Park. Perry Park is a boutique residential community featuring a golf course and country club, as well as many other recreational amenities.

This beautiful property has an excellent Colorado feel that is difficult to replicate. I am amazed how few people (including many who have lived in the Denver area their entire lives) are unaware that this natural jewel exists.

Whether your passion is golf, hiking, cycling, or just enjoying the Colorado Wonderland, and you want to live in a quiet getaway apart from the busier pace of Denver and the surrounding suburbs, then Perry Park is for you. The wonderful families who live here share the land with the abundant wildlife including deer and foxes. The red rock outcroppings are incredible. PSST! Just don't tell anyone else about it!

Stone Aspen has the privilege of building forty duplex homes at the Retreat in Perry

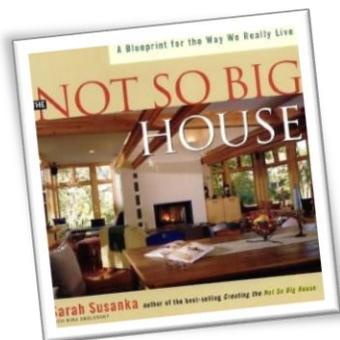


Park, less than a mile from the [golf course](#). Just hop in your golf cart and drive on Echo Valley Road to the course. The site is a great opportunity for homeowners who want to take advantage of two pristine golf courses in the area, enjoy all of the amenities that Perry Park has to offer, and simply lock up their home, leave, enjoy the outdoors, and let others take care of the maintenance.

## THE RETREAT IN PERRY PARK

To learn more about this amazing development and pre-construction pricing please contact our Sales and Marketing Director, Pete Gonzalez.

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*"The Not So Big House: A Blueprint for the Way We Really Live" by Sarah Susanka espouses the idea that quality should always come before quantity, a movement that has redefined the American home.*

# The "Not So Big House" Concept

by David Putnam

We recently completed a 6,800 square-foot home on three levels for a growing family of six. Many would not include this home in a discussion of "The Not So Big House." However, that concept does not necessarily mean a small house. What it does mean is a home designed to accommodate the lifestyles of the family. It's a home where virtually every square-foot is utilized almost daily. Each room is the proper size for the activities therein instead of having grandiose unused space.

Rather than have a room for every different activity, many of these rooms serve multiple purposes, thereby requiring fewer rooms and less overall square-footage.

Why not spend your hard-earned dollars on details you will treasure forever than on unused square-footage?



DESIGN TIPS



**Taking Care of Fido**

We are currently building a custom home in a forested area with lots of wildlife, including some predators. Once the children leave home, many of us rely on Man's Best Friend to help fill the void left when the kids are no longer there to wreak havoc. Here is how one of our homeowners handled the likelihood of a critter carrying off one of their beloved pets.



**Your Home and Lot as One**

Your home and lot should be as one. Your goal is to capitalize on what the lot has to offer. If views are a strength, place the windows and size them accordingly to take advantage of what Nature has to offer. This home was designed and positioned so that Wauconda Lake can be seen from the front deck and the Perry Park Golf Course from the rear patio.

<http://www.perryparkcc.com>

FUN FACTS

75%

The percent of land area in the United States over 10,000 feet in altitude is located in Colorado.

54%

More than half of the adult children (54%) think their parents will need their help but less than three in ten (27%) older parents agree.



*The toilet doesn't have to be an intimidating household fixture. Having the toilet set to a comfortable height can save quite a bit of wear and tear on the knees. It's amazing the difference that just a few inches can make to your comfort in the most important room of the house!*

**Aging in Place**

by David Putnam

I replaced my mother-in-law's toilet some time ago. I think she was about 85 at the time. Inexplicably, she felt she was too old to change them out herself.

**The Iron Lady and her Porcelain Throne**

Whenever I would visit "The Iron Lady" I would ask, "How are those toilets holding up?" I didn't want her to forget that it was her only out-of-state son-in-law who cared enough to replace them. I was in constant competition with the other two sons-in-law who lived in state.

I should have kept my mouth shut. "They are both leaking," she said on my last visit. "A toilet shouldn't leak in the first ten years if it was installed correctly. I guess I should have hired a real plumber if I wanted the job done right."

Reeling from her sharp wit, I decided to make myself a hero. I am a custom home builder and a construction consultant, after all. I can fix this.

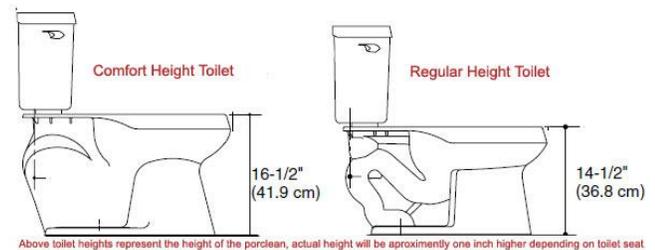
Gay, my mother-in-law, was on oxygen, and had a problem getting up and down. I figured I would get the most points by installing comfort height toilets. These are taller than ordinary toilets which makes them a favorite for us "60 and Better Crowd," taller individuals, or folks with physical limitations.

**Comfort Height Toilets**

The comfort height toilet is about 17" to 18" tall, the same height as a dining room chair. The standard toilet, by comparison, is just 14" to 15". Raising the toilet bowl this additional three inches makes it easier for someone to sit down, and then get up again.

The comfort height toilets come with elongated or round bowls, and in a variety of colors, just like standard toilets. The internal workings are also the same. These comfort toilets do cost a little more, but aren't your knees worth it? For us older folks, this is money well spent.

Besides, unless your bath is in a remote



location the rest of the family is tired of listening to you grunt as you try and get up.

And for those of you wondering...yes, she pottied happily ever after.

# Fun Thoughts

by David Putnam

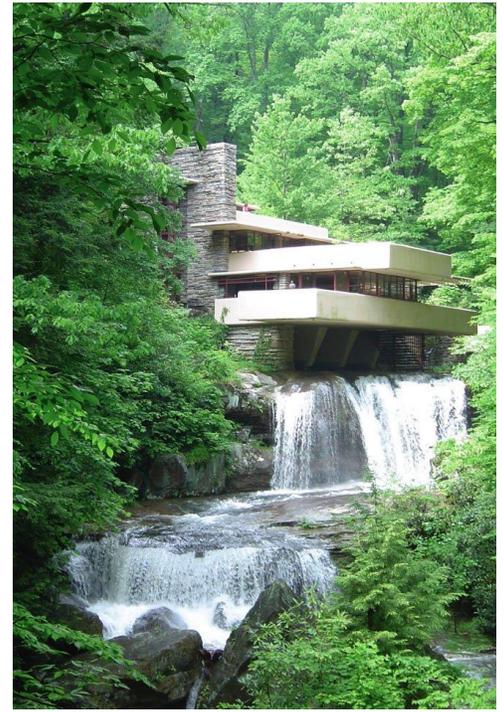
I recently met with a homeowner who is a painter (artist, not houses). It struck me how many similarities there were between her painting a portrait and my designing a home. She is striving to paint the next Mona Lisa while I endeavor to design the next Falling Water, Frank Lloyd Wright's masterpiece.

An artist begins with a blank canvas. She is limited only by the size of the canvas, her imagination, and her talent. She can be a Surrealist, an Impressionist, and Abstractionist, or even a Cubist. Nothing is beyond the realm of possibility.

I can design a Craftsman, Tudor, Modern, or French Country home. I am only limited by the building lot and my client's vision and budget.

You know what?...Never mind. Forget the analogy. I just realized that the painter does not have to deal with the Building Department, Home Owner Association, Design Review Committee, and Utility Department approvals, comments, and suggestions. She can be her own person.

I guess if I want to bring out my inner artist, I'll have to see if my granddaughter will finger paint with me.



## LOT 4 SALE – 2111 RAMBLEWOOD CT.

When a future homeowner decided he was not going to relocate from California, we refused to accept any payment for our work to that point. Instead, we recommended a Realtor to help him sell the lot in Escavera in Castle Rock. If you have interest in a private lot in a forested area with trees, views, and wildlife, then please contact us.

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### FREE CONSULTATION

*If you are considering building a custom home, I would appreciate the opportunity to talk about the process and specifically how Stone Aspen operates and what we have to offer. There is no obligation (you will find us very laid back). Our goal is to help educate and answer any questions you may have. As a thank you for your time, we would like to give you a free copy of Sarah Susanka's book, The Not So Big House. Please contact David at (303) 918-0440 or by e-mail at [david@stoneaspen.com](mailto:david@stoneaspen.com)*



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