

## Builders Given Awards At Showcase Of Homes

BY PETER MILLER

Awards given out by the Saratoga Builders Association at the reception for its annual Showcase of Homes covered a broad spectrum this year, with Belmonte Builders LLC, Witt Construction Inc. and Vasiliou Homes Inc. taking home the most awards in their respective categories.

Saratoga Builders also did well in the event.

The mood was decidedly upbeat at the association reception Sept. 28 at The Saratoga Hotel and Conference Center.

The awards were presented in two categories: home valued under \$590,000 and home valued over \$590,000. In the former category, Belmonte Builder and Vasiliou Homes won either first place or runner up in each category.

In the latter category, Witt Construction had the most first-place awards, and Saratoga Builders took four awards.

For the Realtors' Choice Award, the Under \$590,000 (sponsored by *Saratoga Today*) was won by Belmonte Builders. In the Over \$590,000 category (sponsored by *The Daily Gazette*), Saratoga Builders was the winner.

The five other award areas were decided as follows:

- Best Exterior Architectural Design, (sponsored by Crawford Door & Window Sales):

Under \$590,000, first place – Belmonte Builders; runner up – Vasiliou Homes.

Over \$590,000, first place – Snyder Builders LLC; runner up – Saratoga Builders.

- Best Interior Floor Plan (sponsored by RCS Publications/Capital Region Building):

Under \$590,000, first place – Vasiliou Homes; runner up – Belmonte Builders.

Over \$590,000, first place – Witt Construction Inc.; runner up – Saratoga Builders.

- Best Kitchen (sponsored by Curtis Lumber Co. Inc.)

Under \$590,000, first place – Belmonte Builders; runner up – Vasiliou Homes.

Over \$590,000, first place – Saratoga Builders; runner up – Witt Construction.

- Best Interior Decorating (sponsored by Time Warner Cable)

Under \$590,000, first place – Vasiliou Homes, with interior decorating by Hughes Interior Design; runner up – Belmonte Builders, with interior decorating by Plum & Crimson Fine Interior Design.

Over \$590,000, first place – Witt Construction, with interior decorating by Sutton's Furniture; runner up – Saratoga Builders, with interior decorating by Saratoga Signature Interiors.

- Best Landscaping (sponsored by Adirondack Trust Co.)

Under \$590,000, first place – Belmonte Builders, with landscaping by Blue Spruce; runner up – Vasiliou Homes, with landscaping by O'Neal Landscaping.

Over \$590,000, first place – Witt Construction, with landscaping by Brookside Farms Nursery; runner up – Snyder Builders, with landscaping by Elegant Landscapes.

The People's Choice Award was to be presented following the public tours and will be announced later by the association.

This year marked the 13th Showcase of Homes, and the event serves both to promote fine home building in Saratoga County and to support community organizations that work for others. Since 1995, SBA has contributed \$427,000 from ticket sales to local charitable groups.

Proceeds will go to Habitat for Humanity of Saratoga, Warren and Washington Counties and Rebuilding Together Saratoga County.

Habitat is a volunteer program that constructs new, affordable housing for partner families, who also work on the projects. Habitat is constructing a home at 18 Medbury Road in the town of Greenfield. The lot and materials were purchased with funding from the Showcase, and most of the labor is supplied by volunteers.

Rebuilding Together is a volunteer-based provider of home repair services, having rehabilitated more than 100,000 homes across the country. The Saratoga County affiliate was formed in 2003 to help the elderly, disabled or families with children live in warmth, safety and independence. Since then, it has helped over 80 homeowners and non-profit facilities with all sorts of repairs and rehabilitations. □