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Coastal Living unveils Idea House



By SARAH SHEW WILSON

SUNSET HARBOR—From a cozy fireplace to an outdoor kitchen to an upstairs “sleeping porch” complete with hanging bed, the Coastal Living Idea House in the Seawatch community has ideas for every taste.

That’s the purpose of the magazine’s annual Idea House, which opens for tours to provide customers with ideas for their own homes. Each year, the idea house uses materials from national sponsors as well as local and regional providers to create a one-of-a-kind dream home for touring and to feature in the magazine.

The house will be open to the public Sept. 3-Nov. 29. A portion of the proceeds from the tours will go to the Boys and Girls Homes of North Carolina. The house will be featured in the November edition of Coastal Living.

“Every year, our staff seeks out a community for the project, and we’d been working with Seawatch for quite awhile,” explained Nicole Hendrick, manager of the Idea House program. “Our editors meet with the developers to find a development that represents the coastal lifestyle.”

Seawatch filled the bill this year. Builders with Mark Saunders Luxury Homes and Coastal Construction broke ground on the nearly 6,000 square-foot home in January. Work was completed July 4.

Architect Sam Guidry designed the home to fit within the neighborhood’s theme—Cape Cod with a coastal North Carolina flair.

“I also tried to design a home to fit within the site and capture the views,” Guidry said. “I like designing areas where you can enjoy the outdoors. North Carolina has lovely springs and falls.”

Phillip Sides Interior Design of Montgomery, Ala., chosen to design its fifth house for Southern Progress, the publishers of Coastal Living and other lifestyle magazines, designed the interior meticulously, from the custom built-ins to the unique fabric wallpaper.

The home includes three traditional bedrooms, a “sleeping porch” complete with cozy built-in lounges, a second fireplace and a hanging bed in the front of the room, a loft with bunk beds upstairs, a study, five-and-a-half baths and a downstairs recreation room that leads to the outdoor kitchen and dining area.

Bold yet inviting wall color choices in the family room provide plenty of inspiration for would-be designers, while the custom built-in fireplaces and cabinets welcome guests into a homey, inviting atmosphere.

The bathrooms and the outdoor dining room and kitchen contain heated flooring.

In addition to the covered outdoor areas, an outdoor patio with four large wooden chairs that back up to a running water garden and rainwater collection system designed by landscape architect Dan Weeks.

The system collects the rainwater in a 500-gallon barrel to be used for irrigation, Weeks explained.

Guidry said the house will be a “trendsetter” for Seawatch as well as for visitors who tour the home.

For more information about Seawatch, visit www.seawatch-nc.com.

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