

Real Estate Paparazzi

Parade of Homes struts into valley

Luxury houses to be listed for spring event

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SPECIAL TO REAL ESTATE

When the 2008 Las Vegas Parade of Homes comes marching into the valley April 18 through May 4, Bob Barnhart, owner of Red Rock Realty, has the listing on two of the event's most luxurious and innovative homes.

Bobby Shomer, 38, owner and president of custom home builder Krystal Development, has set his sights on the category of Best House Overall. Both of his homes are in Southern Highlands.

Shomer and his wife, Kristen, have three children, Krystal, 7, for whom his company was named, and twin 3-year-old boys, Kaymen and Kyle.

"I believe very highly in the Parade of Homes because it sets the stage to differentiate the custom builders from just a builder," Shomer said. "In the industry, the word eye-candy is used in the final stages of completion of the home. But I believe that what is behind the walls is just as equally important, if not more, because that is what really makes a custom home and one to be proud of — with well above standards, R-values, shear values and, most importantly, extremely structurally sound."

Among the vendors contributing to the design and construction of Shomer's candidates is Smart Pools, a Klohr

family owned and operated custom nontraditional pool designer and contractor in Las Vegas. Pat Klohr, outside construction manager, said his company built a custom pool for one of Shomer's homes that was featured in Signature Pools and Outdoors magazine, May/June 2007 issue, Southern Nevada edition.

Lisa Hester, president and chief executive officer of Las Vegas Parade of Homes Inc., explained how the event works: "Criteria for the Parade of Homes is 'never-been-lived'...as a builder's showcase,

the Parade of Homes is primarily interested in identifying and featuring the best of what is being built in the region...as a comprehensive project.

"Best architecturally, best construction practices...best material choices through to furnishings with interior designers...best use of lot and landscaping which is extraordinary and indigenous," she said.

"Some homes are speculative for the builder, build to suit for existing clients...and some are for sale. There are over a dozen which will span every sector of luxury living in the valley, featured in this year's Parade," Hester said.

Although challenges remain for the housing market, Barnhart stressed the positives.

"Although the media has cast the real estate market in a



A pool and view of the nearby championship golf course are highlights of a Southern Highlands custom residence built by Bobby Shomer, president and owner of Krystal Development. The home, which is listed by Red Rock Realty, will be a candidate in the 2008 Parade of Homes April 18 through May 4.

negative light, the ultra-luxury real estate market continues to prevail," he said. "Our firm in Las Vegas had a record year in 2007, selling seven of the 24 homes sold over \$4 million. Our firm has been able to sustain the market, being fortunate enough to work with high-net-worth individuals. We take a philanthropic approach to our business, giving back to people in need and building quality relationships."

Shomer's homes featured in the Parade are listed at \$6.3 million and \$4.2 million, respectively. Measuring 10,056 and 8,804 square feet, respectively, each touts amenities such as a spa/wellness center, game room and wet bar, media room, detached casita with bath, designer accents and architectural features throughout.

Below the main floor in each home can be found a spa with massage room, media system

and flat screens included, finished outdoor kitchen, the latest in modern technology with easy controls from touch-screen system, custom closets, office/library, waterfalls, atrium/sun room and resort-style pool and spa.

Looking ahead, Barnhart forecasts prosperity.

"I believe that the surge of megaresorts coming on between now and 2012 alone will create over 120,000 new

jobs," he said. "This will have a direct effect on the Las Vegas housing market and economy. This is the first year that we have had multiple properties listed over \$18 million, proving that Las Vegas is one of the most important places to live in the world, competing with New York, Miami and Chicago."

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Movie superhero purchases Brentwood home site for \$9.7 million