

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **FIRST-EVER LIVABLE COMMUNITIES AWARD WINNER ANNOUNCED BY AARP AND NAHB**

### ***Local Company Is Recognized for Creating User-Friendly Remodel Appropriate for All Ages and Abilities***

**Washington, DC --** AARP and the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) today announced that Raleigh (NC) – based Quality Design and Construction, Inc. will receive the groups’ co-sponsored 2007 Livable Communities Award for forward thinking in the field of home design. The Livable Communities Award honors builders, developers and remodelers that create attractive, well-designed homes and communities which are safe, comfortable and accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

The winning project is a house remodeled with function and fashion in mind to become a “home for a lifetime.”

“Quality Design and Construction has done outstanding work that recognizes the need for quality housing and design to ensure people can enjoy their homes in comfort and safely and get maximum enjoyment and benefits from their neighborhood,” said Elinor Ginzler, AARP’s Director of Livable Communities. “This award celebrates the ingenuity of the winners in meeting the growing need and demand for user-friendly homes and communities designed to meet the needs and abilities of all residents.”

“This remodeler is being recognized as a leader in the effort to meet the needs of the nation’s 50-plus consumers and their families,” said NAHB President Brian Catalde, a home builder from El Segundo, Calif. “This fast-growing market is very important to our industry, and these award-winning projects provide great examples of design innovations that promote more safe and comfortable living.”

Quality, Design & Construction is receiving this honor for a remodeled home that was designed to accommodate the owners’ current and future needs in a pre-existing structure. Subtle elements promoting safety, comfort and accessibility include: a step-free entry, the absence of hallways on the first floor, zoned, recessed lighting and task lighting throughout the house, easy-to-use kitchen cabinets, a roomy bath with a curbless shower, and multi-level countertops.

Quality Design & Construction, along with other award recipients were honored at a dinner in Washington DC, on December 11, 2007 and will be featured in *AARP The*

*Magazine*, the nation's most widely circulated magazine. For more information, photos and video clips on the winning projects, visit [www.aarp.org/livablecommunitiesaward](http://www.aarp.org/livablecommunitiesaward).

*AARP is a nonprofit, nonpartisan membership organization that helps people 50+ have independence, choice and control in ways that are beneficial and affordable to them and society as a whole. AARP does not endorse candidates for public office or make contributions to either political campaigns or candidates. We produce AARP The Magazine, published bimonthly; AARP Bulletin, our monthly newspaper; AARP Segunda Juventud, our bimonthly magazine in Spanish and English; NRTA Live & Learn, our quarterly newsletter for 50 + educators; and our website, AARP.org. AARP Foundation is an affiliated charity that provides security, protection, and empowerment to older persons in need with support from thousands of volunteers, donors, and sponsors. We have staffed offices in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.*

The National Association of Home Builders is a Washington-based trade association representing more than 235,000 members involved in home building, remodeling, multifamily construction, property management, subcontracting, design, housing finance, building product manufacturing and other aspects of residential and light commercial construction. Known as "the voice of the housing industry," NAHB is affiliated with more than 800 state and local home builders associations around the country. NAHB's builder members will construct 80 percent of the more than 1.56 million new housing units projected for 2007, making housing one of the largest engines of economic growth in the country..