

Special  
Technology  
Issue



# Washington REALTOR<sup>®</sup> NEWS

Quarterly Publication  
Washington Association  
of REALTORS<sup>®</sup>

Spring 2001

A Diamond Production

Washington Association of REALTORS<sup>®</sup> Newspaper

Vol. 1, Issue 2

Direct Mailed to 14,800 REALTORS<sup>®</sup>

## Technology Comes Home to Roost

**W**e've become comfortable with the idea of real estate clients using the Web to look for available housing and other information, but will they one day soon consider the Web another must-have utility in the new home they purchase? Some Internet applications developers believe homeowners will view the



Web in the same category as electricity, gas and phone service and that builders will wire houses for increasing Web applications.

Home owners who want to simplify their lives are embracing e-mail terminals and screen phones in their residences, as well as a handheld Web pad that gives the ability to control home systems from anywhere in the house.

Visionaries and application developers believe the home of the future will be fully wired: doors, TV, stove, refrigerator, and more. Left the lights on when you left for work? You can go online to turn them off.

The Olympian reported several home-technology features on the near horizon in the Dec. 12, 2000, issue:

- Starting this year, some retailers (Best Buy, Sears and others) will network existing computers and TVs with state-of-the-art home security, heating, air conditioning, stove, refrigerator, DVD, VCR, gaming and monitoring devices via a cable

*continued on page 5*

## REALTORS<sup>®</sup> Commission Paper on Shorelines

**R**EALTORS<sup>®</sup> recently asked Perkins-Coie, LLP to prepare an analysis of how the new Shoreline Master Program Guidelines will affect REALTORS<sup>®</sup>. The resulting analysis is a White Paper entitled "Washington's New Shoreline Master Program Guidelines: Recommendations For REALTORS<sup>®</sup>". This paper highlights the major impacts of the new shoreline

**Technology Comes Home**

*continued from page 1*

modem. Users in one room will be able to monitor various video views of their home; by linking PCs and TVs, they can watch DVD movies on the PC and streaming Web video on the TV. Price: about \$3,000. For more info, see InternetHomeAlliance.com.

- Wireless is growing, and it can be retrofitted. Later-model ThinkPad laptops from IBM can be fitted with an attachment that lets them communicate wirelessly with printers, wireless phones, mice, digital cameras and PDAs with a wireless technology called Bluetooth. Price: \$189.

- Cell phones swing, storing and playing MP3 music that you put on hold when a call comes in. Samsung Upoar phone: \$399, available at Sprint retailers.

- Digital voice recorders are storing more and using built-in speech recognition software that lets you dic-

tate, transfer the data to your computer and see your words instantly turned into text. Sony ICD-MS1VTD with Naturally Speaking software; \$199. Olympus DS3000; \$299, plus software.

- Eye Trek goggles from Olympus make TV time quiet and personal by plugging into any TV and replicating a 52-inch image on an LCD screen a few inches from your eyes. \$499.

- The WinTV Personal Video Recorder from Hauppauge tapes shows directly onto the PC and stores them on the hard drive or burns a recordable CD, an alternative to pricier personal digital TV recorder/players. \$249.

And the house itself can be a technological wonder. Bellevue REALTOR® Deena Loveland is building her "House of the Millennium" on the Pine Lake Plateau north of Issaquah. An open floor plan free of walls

except those enclosing bathrooms will showcase views of Lake Sammamish from a hillside location. The structure will be a mix of concrete, steel and glass, supported by exterior walls made of Rastra, recycled Styrofoam filled with concrete that provides long-term durability. A new stucco product, designed specifically to endure Pacific Northwest weather, is being applied directly to the interior and exterior foam walls.

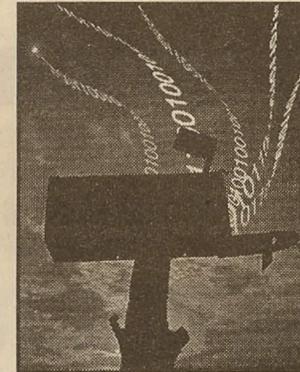
"There will be very little wood," Loveland said, citing her interest in recycled, sustainable building products.

The interior will shine with state-of-the-art products, which Loveland has spent considerable time research-

ing personally. Among those new items will be the latest in kitchen and bath design from Italy; interior steel beams powder-coated with a baked-on finish to prevent rust; European tilt-and-turn windows that open like doors or tilt open in a manner that ensures security; flexible plumbing that does not rust or leak; and an energy efficient hot water tank that never runs out of hot water, while hanging on the wall in a mere 2 feet-by-3 feet-by-6 inch space.

A 25-year real estate veteran, Loveland works for Prudential Michael Smith in Bellevue. For more about her "House of the Millennium" [www.deenaloveland.com](http://www.deenaloveland.com)

*By Monica M. Walk*



**PDA's**

*continued from page 4*

ware give remote users access to desktop networks. The service can be used on many new digital wireless phones, but the LG InfoComm TP3000 has a large touch-display screen similar to a PDA. Users can take notes on an electronic sketch pad, write e-mail and record notes;

\$299. [www.sprint.com](http://www.sprint.com).

Verizon Wireless is launching its Kyocera Smartphone, which doubles as a PDA with the Palm OS. It features a mobile Internet browser that downloads full-text versions of Web pages, not the short extractions usually customized for small PDA screens;

connections are made via wireless carrier of the Internet Service Provider used for desktop surfing. The device can be equipped with hundreds of specialized Palm applications available by Web download. \$499 with a one-year Verizon service contract. [www.verizon.com](http://www.verizon.com).

*(Editor's note: If you have questions about downloading listing information from NWMLS, contact their technical department at 800-541-0455. NWMLS does recommend the use of a Palm III or Palm V PDA, loaded with a Web browser and one software package.)*