

More Future Charlottesville Real Estate Features Include Electronics

In Charlottesville real estate, it's the steak—not the sizzle—that draws serious offers.

Even so, every year about this time it can be useful (and great fun!) to watch what comes out of Las Vegas' CES gathering. This year's edition of the Consumer Electronics Show—the annual trade extravaganza that grabs headlines for its bounty of new electronic product unveilings—unveiled a number of smart home tech debuts. Some were, as commentators noted, “weird and wonderful”—while others were potentially important incremental steps toward what will eventually become everyday household necessities. Among those that caught my eye:

- **Echo Plus**-connected gadgetry: Amazon's ubiquitous wifi-connected digital assistant (aka “Alexa”) is getting its/her artificially intelligent mitts into a vast number of home devices, from TVs to toasters. Disneyland-style *homes of the future* seem ever closer at hand as more and more household appliances and devices become controllable with just a word to your closest Alexa or Google Assistant outlet.
- **5G**: Get familiar with this term, which denotes the technology which soon will enable home wireless speeds 100 times faster than the current technology Charlottesville homes use today. In the unlikely event that your own home still lacks wireless connectivity—we should talk!
- **Smart Rooms**: too many to detail, smart bathroom appliances include intelligent showers that save water even as they direct temperature-controlled streams your way; smart kitchens featuring ovens clever enough to shut themselves off when dinner's ready; and smart driveways that clear themselves of debris.
- **Furbo**: a treat-tossing camera/speaker that lets owners remotely spoil pets from anywhere in the world. A personal favorite of mine!
- **Robots and More Robots**: on hand were a laundry-folding robot; a pair of dancing robots; an owl-like children's companion robot; and LG's kitchen helper, a recipe-fetching robot (“*Cloi*”) that repeatedly stalled (possibly from over-excitement).

The consumer show also demonstrated what looks like an iPad perched on a roller-mounted monopod: a real estate agent robot! Said to be capable of leading prospective renters or buyers on home tours, it answered prospects' questions via long-distance connection with an actual agent who managed the tour via remote control.

For the foreseeable future, I think I'll be sticking with less creepy, in-person showings. For those or any other of your own Charlottesville real estate initiatives, please give me a call!



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SETH BATTON

REALTOR, ABR®, e-PRO®, GREEN®

Born and raised in the Shenandoah Valley of Central Virginia, I love everything outdoors. Most of my free time is spent hiking, rock climbing, playing water sports, or cooking out on the back deck with friends. As a child, my parents built me with the core values of a southern gentleman. Trust starts with honesty and honesty builds integrity. I'm a technology guru! One of my favorite hobbies is restoring old homes in depressed neighborhoods to meet the needs of our generation today. My mission is to build a career worth having, a business worth owning, and a life worth living. Being GREEN® is more than just the resource efficiency of your home. It's a lifestyle choice! Let's discuss how to minimize your carbon footprint in everyday life by simplifying your daily commute, decreasing your household energy costs, and boosting the efficiency and sustainability of your daily routine!

I'm an Accredited Buyer's Representative (ABR®) with the National Association of Realtors. Which means I have extensive training to help walk you through the home buying process from start to finish. From lenders and home inspectors to mortgage agents and closing companies, together we will find the best home for your family's needs!

As an e-PRO®, I can show your home to over 500 million visitors today. And you don't even need to vacuum! Curb appeal isn't just about looking good from the street. It's about looking good from the digital highway!

For more information contact me at:

Seth Batton, Realtor

3510 Remson Ct., Suite 301

Charlottesville, VA 22901

(c) 540-241-1877

(w) 434-220-2200

SethBatton.com

seth@FindHomesInCharlottesville.com



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