

## **Charlottesville Homeowners and “*The Home of the Future*”**

Whenever a sign announces “*The Home of the Future*”—whether it’s in front of an exhibit at a science museum, a ride at Disneyland, or an exposition at some World’s Fair—it’s sure to draw a crowd. Of course! What Charlottesville homeowner wouldn’t be willing to fantasize about a future with housekeeping robots, self-cooking meals, houses with walls that change color whenever you want, etc.?

For a couple of reasons, Charlottesville homeowners have learned to take such imaginative projections with several grains of salt. For one, many predictions have proved unrealistic. The flying cars that have been promised for a century haven’t yet taken wing—nor are they likely to be in showrooms anytime soon. For another, when *Home of the Future* features like giant screen TVs *do* become reality, the glamor attached to them fades quickly. *Color TV*? Music by just asking for it from a box named Google or Alexa? No earthshaking Big Deal!

Still, Charlottesville homeowners can’t be faulted if they keep at least one wary eye on technological advances. It’s clear that the pace of technology keeps accelerating. That makes the possible impacts on lifestyles of the future ever more likely—probably in ways we aren’t even imagining today. Such impacts could make some of today’s homes more or less desirable. If the advent of the automobile created the suburban communities of today, who knows what inventions might shift living patterns in the future?

The reassuring news for today’s Charlottesville homeowners is that for the moment, the kind of major innovations that might affect future property values aren’t even on the horizon. At this year’s Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas, most of the innovations consisted of short steps along the same path we’ve been hearing about for a while now—internet-connected appliances, artificially intelligent voice-activated assistants, and screens attached to most everything. Refrigerators with touch screens, smart dishwashers with touch screens, and ovens that connect with barcode scanners to set proper cooking times and temperatures might be incremental conveniences—but hardly earthshaking Big Deals.

Still, this could be a momentary lull. Kitchens are currently the hub for most Charlottesville families. If strides in artificial intelligence and ever-more-powerful microprocessors succeed in transforming traditional food preparation activity in any meaningful way, that’s one possible advance that could conceivably affect future lifestyles—as well as typical floorplans.

For the moment though, the typical Charlottesville Home of the Future looks to remain pretty similar to those you find here in the Charlottesville listings. Call me if you’d like to take a closer look!



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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!

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