



MOTHER-IN-LAW SUITES GAIN IN POPULARITY AS MORE BABY BOOMERS ACCOMMODATE LIVE-IN, AGING PARENTS

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. (Dec. 6, 2010) – When the needs of an elderly parent are not serious enough to warrant full-time assisted care, Baby Boomers increasingly find themselves taking care of loved ones in their once “empty-nester” home. The U.S. Census Bureau’s latest statistics show that more than 3.6 million parents live with their adult children, a 67 percent increase from 2000. The result, according to vice president of Aurora Custom Remodeling Jeff Brecko, is that a large majority of these Boomers need to remodel their homes to include a mother-in-law suite.

“Parents who are moving in with their adult children require their own space – a place where they can feel independent and have some measure of privacy,” said Brecko, chair of the 2010 Northeast Florida Builders Association Remodeler’s Council. “We have seen a growing number of homeowners who need to either renovate or add-on to their existing home for an older parent who cannot live on their own any longer and who may have experienced a recent life-changing event.”

Brecko said most homeowners who request a mother-in-law suite have specific items they want included in the addition, including a bedroom, bathroom, a living/dining area and an efficiency kitchen with everyday appliances. Many times, Aurora Custom Remodeling will incorporate universal design concepts that allow older residents to age in place. These features include a one-story design with low thresholds and minimal steps for easy accessibility, walk-in curb-less showers, wide doorways and halls, kitchen counters and cabinets at more convenient heights and user-friendly features such as rocker switches and door levers rather than knobs.

While mother-in-law suites are an increasing source of business for remodeling companies, Brecko reminds homeowners that they need to do their homework and choose a remodeler who will stay within their budget, finish the project in a timely manner and manage the job professionally. The National Association of Home Builders has several guidelines and tips for selecting the right remodeler on its website at www.nahb.org/remodel as well as a Remodeler’s Directory that assists in finding building industry professionals.

Call Aurora Custom Remodeling for more information about home remodels at (904) 246-5400 or visit its website at www.AuroraBuilders.com.