



Designed Around You.

McCaffreyHomes.com

# Picket Fence

Summer 2008

## McCaffrey Homes Honored As 'Best in the West'



*The award-winning Tuscan Castle model at Madison Place*

For the second time this year, our Tuscan Castle model at Madison Place has received a major national honor from the building industry! In June, McCaffrey Homes was honored with a Gold Nugget Award at the Pacific Coast Builders Conference in San Francisco out of a field of 520 entries.

The Tuscan Castle received 'Best in the West' honors in the 'best single-family detached home under 2,500 square feet' category.

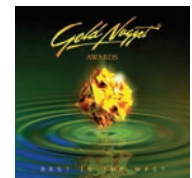
In its 45th year, the Gold Nugget competition is the oldest and largest competition of its kind. It honors creative excellence and innovation in architectural design and land use planning. This year, the competition was expanded to include residential and commercial projects from around the world.

"We are thrilled and delighted with this honor," said Lauren McCaffrey, vice president of marketing for the company, who recalled that the award was bestowed in an Academy Awards-like ceremony in San Francisco in front of 1,200 guests. "The Gold Nugget award symbolizes the thoughtfulness, care and craftsmanship that go into every McCaffrey home and the entire design and construction team deserves recognition."

"We particularly salute architect Kevin Crook, who designed the single-story residence that is highlighted by an impressive rotunda-style entry," she said. "The home was designed with maximum flexibility that has been extremely attractive to our homebuyers. By changing the configuration of the home, it meets the needs of first-time homebuyers, empty nesters and families who want a private guest suite.

The Tuscan Castle model, available in northwest Fresno and Clovis, was also honored this year at The Nationals Gold Award, a competition sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders.

To tour this award-winning model, visit the Madison Place model complex at Gettysburg and Hayes in northwest Fresno or visit us online at [McCaffreyHomes.com](http://McCaffreyHomes.com).



## Household Hints

**Wall Saver** To remove crayon marks from walls or woodwork, apply a little toothpaste and rub with a soft cloth.

**Candle Wax Remover** To remove candle wax from dining tables and other wood surfaces, heat the dried wax with a hair dryer, then wipe it up with a paper towel or soft cloth.

**Brass Cleaner** Instead of using harsh polishes to clean brass, cut a lemon in half, sprinkle it with salt and rub the brass. The tarnish dissolves instantly!

**Barbecue Cleaner** An easy way to clean stainless steel barbecue grates is to put them in the oven the next time you run the oven's self-cleaning cycle. *(Just be sure to scrape off most of the grease, so it won't smoke too much.)*

**Companion Planting** Companion plants are those that tend to support each other by providing nutrients or by discouraging pests. Here are some common ones. To keep bugs from roses, plant onion and garlic alongside. Plant basil near tomatoes. Plant oregano and marigold throughout the garden; they both discourage pests of all kinds.

## Strawberry Salsa

*Perfect for summer barbecues.  
Your guests will applaud!*



8 servings

16 ounces coarsely chopped strawberries  
1 tablespoon orange peel, shredded  
1/3 cup jicama, diced  
1/3 cup radishes, diced  
2 tablespoons rice wine vinegar  
2 tablespoons sugar, or to taste  
1/4 cup crystallized ginger, diced  
1 tablespoon cilantro, chopped  
1-2 jalapeños, to taste

Place all the ingredients in a medium-size bowl. Stir well to blend flavors. Chill for a few hours. Serve with tortilla chips.

*Note:  
Crystallized (candied)  
ginger is available  
at gourmet shops and  
Trader Joe's.*

**cook's  
corner**



*Residence Five at Poet's Crossing features big side and backyards, and boasts a lot size of over 7,300 square feet*

# Introducing Poet's Crossing

*A new neighborhood of 62 single-family homes  
in northwest Fresno, starting at \$199,990*

The poet Robert Frost said a poem begins in delight and ends in wisdom. In designing these homes we took that to heart. We think they elicit delight that is followed by sheer satisfaction – isn't there wisdom in that?

This intimate neighborhood of 62 homes, ranging in size from 1,349 to 2,503 square feet, reflects the craftsmanship and style you've come to expect from McCaffrey with a price tag that puts these homes within reach. Prices start at just \$199,990! Combine that with new financing programs and you can see that these homes won't last long.

With two to five bedrooms and two- to three-and-one-half baths, Poet's Crossing offers variety and versatility within one-, two- and three-story designs.

Poet's Crossing homes are on 7,300 square foot lots that boast unusually huge side and backyards that give rise to a host of possibilities; tropical pools, gardens, orchards, playgrounds and storage for big weekend toys, such as RVs and a jet ski.

The beautifully crafted details of these homes could have been designed by an artist. There is personality from every angle. Handsome exteriors are lavishly detailed with stone, brick and ceramic tile accents in keeping with authentic Italian, Spanish and Traditional architecture.

The kitchens impress the most demanding gourmet by merging efficiency and beauty. The spacious kitchens include an array of built-in GE kitchen appliances, generous storage and counter space, recessed lighting, maple cabinetry and ceramic tile floors.

Artistic designer-influenced amenities mesh with state-of-the-art communication systems and energy-saving features to create a home that is stylish, practical and affordable.

To learn more, visit the Madison Place Welcome Center located at Gettysburg and Hayes, in northwest Fresno, call (559) 276-3400, or visit [McCaffreyHomes.com](http://McCaffreyHomes.com).

## Local minister and his wife find "Home" at Madison Place



Madison Place homeowners, Jan and Norman Broadbent

Fate brought Norman Broadbent, minister of the First Congregational Church of Fresno (*the Big Red Church*), and his wife, Jan, to Madison Place in northwest Fresno; faith convinced them to buy.

"Finding Madison Place was sort of a fluke," said Jan Broadbent. "I was just out driving when I saw the models and decided to check them out. I immediately loved the first model I walked into. I was really impressed by the floor plan, especially the way the living area and kitchen opened up to each other."

She said she was surprised that things normally considered upgrades in a home were standard features at Madison Place, keeping the home within reach.

Fairly new to Fresno, the Broadbents were not familiar with McCaffrey Homes; but a number of members of their church were very familiar with the company. In fact, several members of the church assured them that "McCaffrey Homes has an excellent reputation." The couple knew they had found the right home and the church members'

**"We have nothing but wonderful things to say about our home building experience with McCaffrey Homes."**

faith in McCaffrey Homes was all they needed to reinforce their decision to buy.

How do church members feel about Reverend Broadbent's new home? Many seem to be as excited as the homeowners. In fact, one of them stopped by the Broadbents' new home and said, "I can see a lot of church parties here!" Jan and Norman are already planning an Open House. And although the menu might not be ready, their guest list is!

The Broadbents said they are "absolutely thrilled" with their new home and feel blessed to be living there. Jan enthusiastically commented, "We have nothing but wonderful things to say about our home building experience with McCaffrey Homes. It was absolutely the most pleasant experience. Everyone we've dealt with at McCaffrey Homes has had a smile on their face and has been kind and helpful."

And, Jan should know. She was at the construction site all the time, observing the building process from the bare lot forward, taking photographs every step of the way.

## LOCAL Did You Know?

**Did you know there are two nearby water parks to cool off this summer?** Island Waterpark is located off Shaw Avenue and 99 in Fresno, at 6099 W. Barstow. Wild Water Adventure Park in Clovis is located at 11413 E. Shaw Avenue, 7 miles east of Clovis Avenue.

**Did you know that Fresno and Clovis have festive Farmers Markets with the finest quality, locally grown produce?** Old Town Clovis is the site of a Farmers Market every Friday evening during the

summer from 5 to 9 p.m. For 22 years, the Vineyard Farmers Market has been operating at the northwest corner of Blackstone and Shaw in Fresno. The twice-a-week market is Wednesdays from 3 to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 7 a.m. till noon.

**Did you know that there's a great VIBE downtown?** Scheduled to coincide with the Friday night home games of the Fresno Grizzlies, the city of Fresno is sponsoring a rockin' outdoor street fair with food, fun and family-friendly entertainment on

July 18 and August 22. The action takes place on Kern Street between N Street and Van Ness Avenue and is aptly named the VIBE at Sports Town.

**Did you know that you can participate in a beautiful and moving Toro Nagashi festival?** (It's the ancient Japanese ceremony in which paper lanterns are floated down a river.) The annual summer event will take place at the Zen garden in Woodward Park in northeast Fresno on Saturday, August 8. Information: (559) 226-8034.

# Summer Care Tips

As summer approaches here are a few hot tips to help keep your home in tip top condition. Please take time to inspect these items in and around your home and attend to any that need maintenance.

## Exterior

- Adjust sprinkler timer for season.
- Check and repair as needed sprinkler heads for proper operation.
- Maintain drainage swales for positive drainage of surface water away from house, in from fence and out to the street.
- Check operation, tighten bolts and lubricate the wheels and chain as needed on garage doors.
- Monitor air-conditioning condensation lines regularly to ensure water is draining from the primary line and not the secondary. Call a licensed professional to repair, if draining from the secondary line.
- Maintain monthly insect control.
- Drain your water heater to remove sediment.
- Oil hinges and locks on exterior doors. Touch up paint on exterior doors that are cracked or peeling.
- Check all window and door locks for proper operation.
- Fertilize lawn as necessary.

## Interior

- Change return air filters monthly.
- Inspect and immediately repair leaks at all plumbing fixtures.
- Inspect and re-caulk, as needed, sinks, tubs, showers, plumbing fixtures and toilet areas (we can't say this enough).
- Test smoke detectors and replace batteries annually.
- Test and reset Ground Fault Circuit Interrupters (G.F.C.I.) breakers monthly.
- Weather permitting, open windows to allow cross ventilation.
- Check water hoses on clothes washer, refrigerator, icemaker and dishwasher for cracks and bubbles and replace if necessary.

*Tending to these simple tasks will help keep your home cool and comfortable this season from the sizzling hot days of summer. For your convenience, additional homeowner maintenance tips can be found in your Homeowner's Manual or please do not hesitate to contact our Customer Service department at (559) 256-7000. Enjoy a summer of fun!*



*McCaffrey Homes' red, white and blue barn proclaims our love for the American way of life*

## Happy Birthday US!

Classic American barns, such as the McCaffrey barn on Highway 41 and Avenue 12 in Madera County, lend a mystique of charm and character to the rural landscape. The tradition of barn painting – usually in the form of advertising – was common from the late 1800s up until the 1950s. Thousands of barns were decorated with ads for Mail Pouch Tobacco or Coca Cola, and sometimes farmers would hire artists to do more creative motifs.

We decided to decorate our barn after the events of 9-11 to illustrate our support for the ideals represented by the American Flag. The barn has a total of 50 stars and six stripes. Fourth of July is the perfect time to celebrate everything that makes this the Land of the Free and Home of the Brave. Happy Birthday, America!

Barn lovers can check out 'Barn Again,' a national program to preserve historic farm buildings sponsored by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and *Successful Farming* magazine. The National Barn Alliance is a group of self-proclaimed "barn-huggers."



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