

Local home designer completes advanced green building course

Mickey Thompson, of Archetypic Designs and TexasHomePlans.com, recently completed a two-day course entitled, "Advanced Green Building: Building Science." This class, sponsored by the National Association of Home Builders, instructs building professionals on proper building science techniques for constructing high-performance home without significantly driving up the cost.

The course uses case studies, detailed construction drawings and technical resources to provide the highest level of information available to create a more durable, environmentally responsible and sustainable living environment. Graduates of this course are taught to apply building physics to performance and design by dovetailing energy, water and material efficiency with indoor

environmental quality.

All aspects of real estate development are in the process of "greening" up the industry, making this knowledge increasingly important. The Appraisal Institute has recognized the value difference between homes just built to code and those that incorporate energy saving features and is expected to add a green and energy addendum to its appraisal report form. The mortgage industry now offers Energy Efficient Mortgages and the Board of Realtors is including green attributes and certifications in MLS listings.

Mickey is one of only six certified green professionals in the Kerrville, Fredericksburg, Bandera area, and the only home designer. He has designed more than 850 projects that include many award winners.