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Survey Results

According to a Demand Institute survey of more than 10,000 households, homeowners will spend \$700 billion renovating their homes during the next five years.

The Housing Satisfaction Gap: What People Want, But Don't Have survey identified energy efficiency, updated kitchens, and homes suitable for aging in place as the top three homeowners desires.

According to the survey, household energy costs have risen by 56% since 2000, outpacing all other household expenses. It makes sense then that 71% of surveyed homeowners say energy efficiency is very important.

Another survey by Houzz in October showed that one out of five homeowners rated their homes unhealthy. There's an emerging recognition among consumers that homes can have a significant impact on their health, but little awareness on how to create a healthy home.

Keith Trembley owner of Keith Trembley Home Solutions and Doctor Energy Saver is not surprised by the findings in the recent homeowner surveys. He has geared his 35-year-old remodeling company over the past five years towards "looking at the entire home as a system, listening to the homeowner concerns and then offering specific solutions to address those concerns."

Keith said that "in the past if someone wanted to install new windows we would just go and install the windows. Most contractors only look at the one thing they are asked to do. We now ask why do you want new windows? When talking with homeowners and drilling down to their real concerns, we can target what is causing the problem in the home."

Keith's "ah-ha" moment came from personal experience about seven years ago.

"My wife and I had purchased a lovely 1970s home," he said. "The one problem with it was the house was built on a crawl space that was very wet and muddy. We really hated to go down there to address sump pump or furnace issues. It was musty smelling and just plain disgusting. We noticed over the next year that we were getting sick more often. It took a while before we contributed it to the basement conditions. After much research we addressed the crawlspace. We dried, waterproofed and insulated the nasty crawl space. It's now a bright white dry, clean odor free space. We then

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insulated the house, and replaced the bath and kitchen vents. We notice the difference immediately! We feel much healthier physically and mentally.”

The air in the home was improved dramatically.

It’s just basic science according to Keith: “What’s in your basement you breathe upstairs. Now we have a healthy home that is also saving us tons of money on energy costs.”

“A healthy home and energy efficiency go together,” says Keith. “We have trained our people and received many certifications in Building Science, Building Performance Institute, Air Quality, Mold Testing and Removal, lead paint removal, and waterproofing among others.”

Keith purchased the Doctor Energy Saver franchise a few years ago and it has helped tremendously in his company’s pursuit of addressing the healthy home, comfort and energy efficiency concerns of homeowners. Doctor Energy Saver is the largest energy efficiency retrofit company in the US.

“The training and expertise they give us on a continual basis is outstanding,” said Keith. “It was a natural fit for us as we do more than 1050 jobs a year in customers’ homes, and have completed more than 12,000 jobs in the past decade, and now we can offer multiple solutions and products for every homeowner. Now when we do a kitchen or bath remodel for a homeowner we are doing it with energy efficiency and home comfort in mind.”

For information about a whole-house energy evaluation or a remodeling design and estimate please contact Keith Trembley Home Solutions at 207-827-4205 or ktrembley@keithtrembley.com or go to KeithTrembley.com

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