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## **Chico Beach Cottages honored at 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Builders Choice Awards**

SEATTLE – The Cottage Company and Wenzlau Architects were honored this week in Washington DC, receiving a Grand award at the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Builder’s Choice Design and Planning Awards. The awards program showcases the latest trends and influences in architecture, design and community planning across the nation. 36 Grand and Merit awards were chosen by a national jury from more than 350 national entries. Of the 36 winners, only 12 GRAND award winners were chosen – among them Chico Beach Cottages in Silverdale WA. A GRAND award was given to Chico Beach as best single family community, chosen from all entries submitted nation-wide.

“Builder’s Choice is the housing industry’s oldest and most prestigious national design awards program in the country,” said Denise Dersin, BUILDER’S editor in chief. “There were many wonderful entries, but the winners edged ahead by exhibiting the kind of innovation needed to stimulate and sustain the industry for some years to come. We applaud them for their vision, commitment, and perseverance.” A more sophisticated and defined interpretation of open-plan layout and projects perfectly suited to their sites were prevalent themes amongst this year’s honorees.

Chico Beach Cottages, a collaboration between The Cottage Company and Wenzlau Architects, is the first community developed under Kitsap County’s ‘Cottage Housing’ land use code provision. Seven 2 and 3 bedroom homes ranging from approx. 1600 – 1700 square feet cluster on an acre of premium waterfront property situated on Puget Sound’s Dyes Inlet with sweeping views of Mt. Rainier located just south of historic Old Town Silverdale.

Now sold out, Chico Beach Cottages is the first Built Green 4-Star and Energy Star Certified community as certified by the Kitsap Home Builders Association. Chico Beach Cottages is the second collaborative effort between Wenzlau Architects and The Cottage Company. Their first joint development was the Ericksen Cottages community in Winslow on Bainbridge Island.

The Cottage Company served as General Contractor for the Chico Beach Cottages community. Bainbridge Island-based Fairbank Construction Company provided construction management services.

Now in its 32nd year, the Builder's Choice Design and Planning Awards serve as a leading barometer of the latest trends and influences in architecture, design, and community planning across the nation. A panel of top builders and residential architects serve as judges for the open call for entries, and designate Grand, Merit, Special Focus, and Project of the Year winners. 2012 recipients were honored at a special awards dinner sponsored by Marvin Windows and Doors and Sherwin-Williams at The Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Washington, D.C. on Thursday, October 11. All winners are also profiled in BUILDER (print and online) this month. For more information about the program, visit <http://www.builderonline.com>.

### **About The Cottage Company:**

The Cottage Company is a Seattle-based real estate development company recognized & awarded nationally as a leader in innovative single family housing choices including clustered cottages and pocket neighborhoods. The Cottage Company's innovative development approach demonstrates the market demand for higher-quality modestly sized, new single family homes designed with community in mind. Built Green & Energy Star certified communities bring a new, higher efficiency, lower maintenance, walkable, single family housing choice, missing in today's conventional suburban landscape. The Cottage Company's work includes the development of new communities and consulting, land planning and code development with developers and jurisdictions across the United States. See more at: [www.cottagecompany.com](http://www.cottagecompany.com)

### **About Wenzlau Architects:**

Wenzlau Architects is a Bainbridge Island-based design firm focused on creating livable neighborhoods. Each of our projects – whether single-family homes, cottage communities, or mixed use projects – helps shape the larger community by supporting its character while guiding it towards a more sustainable future. Principles of compact development and pedestrian-oriented design are the basis of our work. These principles support our commitment to add value not only to each project and the life of its residents, but also to the community at large. See more at: <http://www.wenzlauarchitects.com>

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