

Spring Home & Garden Show features innovative products and design services

Some 200 exhibitors will showcase their home and garden products and services at the second annual Spring Home & Garden Show which opens February 3 at the Novi Expo Center. Highlights of the products and services on display in the 200,000 square feet of exhibit space include: for the nostalgic in the crowd, Gameroom Goodies of Farmington Hills will show off antique jukeboxes and other hard to find antique coin-op machines. Antique architectural elements from mantels to furniture will be displayed by Materials Unlimited of Ypsilanti. Andersen Window Center of Wixom and Pella Window & Door of West Bloomfield will present their windows and doors while Tarnow Doors of Farmington Hills features garage and storm doors.

Windows and doors can be seen at the display by Mans Building Centers of Trenton and Chelsea Lumber Company of Chelsea as well as kitchen cabinets, custom decks and rails, and a home construction financing program.

A wide variety of kitchen appliances will be on display by Appliance Distributors of Grand Rapids, Radio Distributing Company of Taylor,

Trevarrow of Auburn Hills and Wholesale Builder Supply of Wixom. Kurtis Kitchen and Bath Centers of Livonia and Mathison Kitchen, Bath and Plumbing Supply of Livonia, Cabinet Clinic of Livonia and H.J. Olden Kamp of Warren will show kitchen and bath ideas for new homes or for remodeling existing homes. Fireplace & Spa of Southfield and Thompson Plumbing Supply of Waterford will feature whirlpool baths. Michigan Bathtub Liners of Auburn Hills brings its bathtub liners, wall surrounds, shower doors and fixtures. Especially for the do-it-yourselfer, Church's Lumber will display kitchen and bath cabinets, doors and windows, house plans and decks.

Home security systems are exhibited by Complete Protection Alarms of Oak Park and Brinks Security of Livonia. Another security option is presented by Safeway Outdoor Lighting of East Pointe for homeowners interested in lighting their entire home.

Grandma's Loft of Novi and Tenpenny Furniture of Livonia will display solid oak furniture while Jimmies Rustics Furniture of Livonia and Novi shares its rattan and wicker. Palm Beach

Patio of Waterford and Jimmies Rustics Furniture will also be showcased among the furniture displays. An energy-efficient geothermal heating and cooling system, and decorative and security lighting fixtures will be displayed by Detroit Edison.

For the arts and crafts enthusiast, Alice's Promotions of Detroit has assembled an array of exhibitors featuring hand-crafted, hand-made and hand-painted clothes, dolls, leaded glass, jewelry, dried flower arrangements, ceramics, seventeenth and eighteenth century tinware, oak and pine furniture, baskets, birdhouses and clocks.

Keep those creative home decorating notions flowing by checking out the unusual granite, ceramic and marble tile and slabs displayed by Ceramic Tile Sales of Southgate and Novi Tile Sales of Novi. Also, painting and decorating products for the home will be demonstrated by Imperial Images Paint & Restoration of Livonia.

Carlson Glass and Mirror of Brighton will exhibit custom mirrors, bath enclosures and glass etchings. Glass Block Sales of Warren will boast its creative designs using glass blocks in walls and windows. Still more ways to use glass for home improvements will be featured by Patio Enclosures of Novi and Mr. Enclosure of Warren with their glass sunrooms and additions. Linoleum tile and carpeting for inside the home will be on display compliments of Carpet Specialist of Livonia. And for the outside, see why brick paving as an alternative to decks is so popular as demonstrated by Blue Fox Interlock of Whitmore Lake. Coy Construction of Walled Lake will feature the traditional wood decks, and awnings for the exterior of the home will be featured by Marygrove Awning of Livonia. Custom new homes will be the focus of the All American Homes of Brighton and B. Joseph & Associates of Farmington Hills exhibits.

Kitchens by Stella of Plymouth and Pioneer Cabinetry of Davison will show

you custom cabinetry for kitchens. Kitchen updating will be on display by Maday Valley Cabinets of Beverly Hills.

Seventy rare species of wood from around the world will be on display from Public Lumber Company of Detroit, and custom cherry millwork will be available courtesy of the Fingerle Lumber Company of Ann Arbor.

Especially for the garden enthusiast, a complete line of unique garden gifts and landscaping ideas will be displayed by English Gardens of West Bloomfield. Outdoor power equipment will be the focus of Foote Tractor which will feature on display a Kubota tractor, and do-it-yourself cedar gazebos will be available from Gazebos, Ltd. of Walled Lake.

Other exhibits showcase the latest technology, products and services for yard/gardens, doors, windows, kitchens, baths, remodeling, furniture, arts and crafts, decorative accessories, electronics, heating, cooling and appliances.

Special highlights at the show include NBC's Today Showgardening commentator Jeff Ball's "Yardening Academy" and lawn care information, demonstrations on decorating, home repair and remodeling, the Metropolitan Detroit Landscape Association gardens and a Treasure Chest contest with daily prizes.

In addition, information will be available on remodeling and design services from Fairway Construction Company of Southfield; how to obtain materials and financing for homeowners interested in building or finishing their own home provided by Pierson-Gibbs Homes of Richmond; and mortgages, construction financing and financial services from Standard Federal Bank.

BASM is also sponsor of the 76th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show at the Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center and the second annual Fall Remodeling Show at the Novi Expo Center.

What qualities are you looking for in a new home?

New home buyers in the '90s are finding the widest-ever variety of styles and options from which to choose. While those choices may bewilder some, a quick look at current trends in home building should help the buyer make a decision.

"Home buyers look for the latest in style and technology," says Robert R. Jones, president of the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan and of Robert R. Jones Associates in West Bloomfield. "Those buyers are naturally going to gravitate to builders who offer up-to-date products."

Many of the trends in new homes relate to recent advances in technology. Built-in appliances, including microwaves and hot water dispensers, are the rule rather than the exception in the '90s. Phone jacks in every room, built-in entertainment centers, and even built-in whirlpool baths are among the things buyers are looking for in their homes. Many buyers consider these amenities virtual necessities.

Other popular items fit into the category of luxuries. Master bedroom galleys, spacious bathrooms with dual vanities, high ceilings, and home fitness centers are among the "extras" new home buyers are looking for.

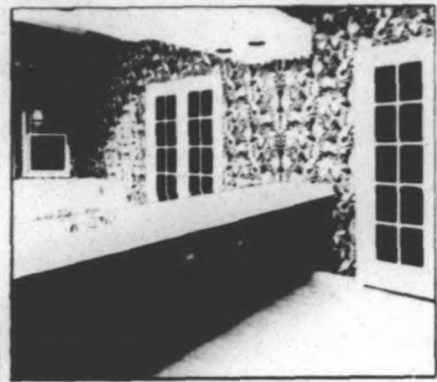
"There is also a move back to classic styling," Jones continues. "We get many requests for skylights, radius corners, and tone-on-tone floor surfaces which help increase visual space. Overall, many new homes would be considered neo-classic in their design theme."


Perhaps the one item that is getting more attention than any other from most home buyers in the '90s is the overall quality of the home. Buyers are looking for workmanship that will last and that will ensure their new home will be a showplace well into the next century.

High-gloss cabinets, a wide array of built-in storage spaces, plentiful shelving in closets, and even pop-out ironing boards are all features that today's buyer will find attractive and useful while adding to the "finished" appearance of the home. Combining those features with careful detail work will give the home a desired high-quality effect.

"More and more buyers are realizing that spending a few more dollars up front pays off in improved appearance, reduced maintenance, and increased resale value," Jones states. "Cutting corners is a thing of the past. Buyers today want the highest-possible quality of workmanship."

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