COMPLIMENTARY **ISSUE** 



# & GAR

March 18 • 19 • 20

FRIDAY NOON - 6 • SATURDAY 10 - 6 • SUNDAY 10:30 - 3:30

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Specials valid thru 3/31/2011

# **27TH ANNUAL**

# HOME CONDO& GARDEN SHOW

elelcome to the Home, Condo and Garden Show. To celebrate our 27th year we are doing our part to stimulate the economy by keeping the admission to 1999 prices...only \$5 per person......and children under 13 are FREE!

All our Show exhibitors are here for you and many will be offering 'economy stimulating' bargains...just ask! As you browse around you are going to find some deals! Along with returning exhibitors, this year's show has a number of innovative new vendors you will want to check you, keeping your current or future plans in mind for renovations and projects around your home. Many also offer 'green' building solutions that you can incorporate into your plans.

Many of our most popular vendors are also at the show again this year. Blaine Bunting, owner of Bunting's Landscaping and Nursery in Bishopville, is one of the returning vendors who looks forward to the show each year for both its social and business opportunities. "It's a good venue for new customers, but also a great chance to see our existing customers." One of the other aspects he most looks forward to is the chance to meet with other vendors to get a feel for market trends.

And finally, be sure to visit the Art & Craft section showcasing talented Artists and Crafts people from near and far presenting an assortment of gifts and accessories.

Please use this guide as a reference tool to use during your 'show time' and also to take with you. It's going to come in handy locating those businesses that can assist you when you are ready to start that new project, find a perfect home.....and make your dreams become reality!

Enjoy the show!

Mi Ke Wic Klein
Ocean Promotions

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### HOME CONDO& GARDEN SHOW

Brought to you by:



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# **Remodeling Tips:**

The classic way for homeowners to increase the value of their house is by remodeling existing rooms or adding on to its current plan.

Some choose to build recreation rooms and studies while others add new appliances, fixtures and cabinets to enliven rooms and make their home more attractive to future buyers.

But, when should you decide to stop sinking money into a home and buy a bigger place? And how much rehab is too much when it comes time to recovering remodeling costs through a home sale. With this in mind her are a few tips for those struggling to add value to their home.

First, always protect the character of your home. Nothing sticks out more than a new addition that is in a completely different architectural style. Be consistent, recognize character and stay within its framework.

The most financially rewarding areas to remodel are usually the kitchen and bath. Newly re-done cooking spaces and cabinets can attract more buyers and may command a slightly higher price for the home than a



comparable one on the market.

Enlarged bathrooms are the most popular attraction for new home buyers. Today, the most popular additions for

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younger buyers are whirlpool baths and showers.

Buyers are, by convention, more interested in above-ground living space - replacing worn carpeting, tiles and wood floors can give your home an immediate advantage over similar properties in the area. Updating paint colors in all areas of your home can also prove beneficial.

However, it's recommended that you use neutral colors, such as gray, beige and offwhite when adding new floor and wall coverings. Fewer buyers will then turn away because of differing tastes.

Look at your home as though you were the buyer. Chances are that if you find the upstairs

bedroom could be brightened by a larger window, potential buyers will probably feel the same. More than likely, the time and money you spend adding quality to your home will be rewarded with greater profit at selling time.



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# Window coverings: chic, stylish and economical

Window treatments always spruce up a room's interior design. They add a little style and décor to a home, think of it like jewelry for your rooms. No matter how much you like the view, it's always important to invest in some kind of window covering.

Window coverings add elegance and privacy to a home, but they also create big energy savings. Just like bundling up the kids for school, your home wears its own layers: siding, insulation, drywall, etc. During the winter, window coverings are not only decorative but also add an extra barrier of insulation to protect your home's thermostat. And they can also help cut out the harsh summer sun, which prevents furniture fading and rising temperatures.

Like layering your clothes in winter, while selecting your window coverings it's best to start from the inside out. Begin with the layer closest to the glass and work outward. Your first line of defense from the outdoor elements is shades. Whether it is a vinyl pull-down or a thermal solar screen, these items can easily be custom-

ized to fit any size or style of window.

But you don't always want to completely block the natural light, so the next layer provides options. Blinds are a great option because of their adjustable slats. Aluminum mini-blinds, or Venetian blinds, are popular because of their inexpensive price tag and horizontal design, but they can also get bent, sun damaged, and dealing with the string can become a hassle. Therefore, you may want to consider other materials on the market, such as wooden or bamboo shutters.

Draperies and curtains create drama. Plus, they clean up a space by hiding the more practical layers you've just installed. Though they're usually made from fabrics, which can run the gamut in terms of price.

And if you really want to protect your windows you could even add exterior shutters, grills, or louver vents, adding a stylish accent to the outside of your home.

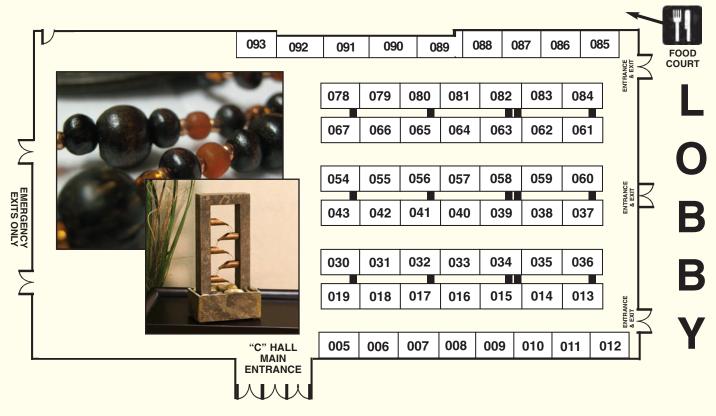
Though window coverings can easily be bought and installed on your own, it doesn't hurt to hire a pro-

fessional interior designer since there are an infinite number of décor options out there, it can sometimes feel like the blind leading the blind (no pun intended). But these interior experts are better able to identify your décor needs and can help lead you through the design maze. They have the ability to assess a space in terms of its size, style, and necessity. Plus, they can open your eyes to the newest products on the market, allowing you complete access to all the available options.





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# An Expert's Guide To Hardwood Flooring

As you plan your home and office improvements, think long-term by making choices that are informed, responsible and financially sound. Hardwood flooring is one of the best long-term investments to be made. It is environmentally friendly, forever fashionable, and will last for generations.

### SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORING

Solid hardwood flooring is just that; a solid plank of hardwood milled into a piece of flooring, usually with a tongue and groove on the edges and ends, so that the pieces fit together on all sides. While it comes in a variety of thicknesses, 3/4 inch is the most common produced in the U.S. and is usually nailed to a wooden subfloor. Thinner profiles, such as 5/16 inch, can be glued

directly on to a surface such as concrete. Widths typically range from 2 1/4 inch strip to 8 inch and wider plank. Favorite U.S. species are red and white oak, hard maple, ash, hickory and pecan, walnut and cherry. All solid hardwood flooring can be sanded and refinished, however special care must be taken with the thinner profiles. And in all cases of hardwood flooring installation, a clean, moisture-free surface is essential to eliminate future problems with movement or moisture.

# TWO TYPES OF SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORING

Unfinished solid hardwood flooring comes directly from the mill and is sanded and finished onsite. Most often used in new home construction, the rough sanding occurs during the early stages of the building process with the final coating



being done just prior to movein. Today's numerous dust containment sanding systems however, allow homeowners to enjoy the beauty of site finished, custom hardwood flooring practically anytime.

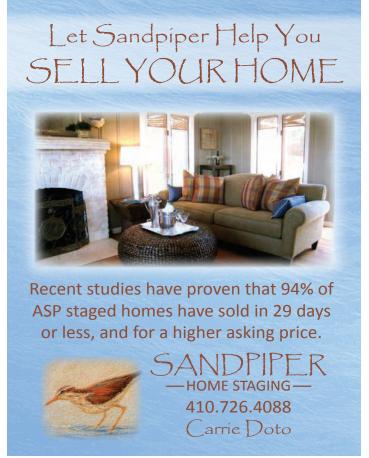
Prefinished solid hardwood floors have already gone through a multiple stage finishing process before leaving the factory. They are ready to be enjoyed. This type of flooring usually comes with a substantial factory warranty, and species choices and color ranges are virtually endless.

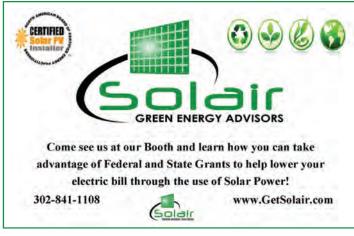
# ENGINEERED OR MULTI-LAYER HARDWOOD FLOORING

Engineered hardwood flooring is typically made

from seven to ten layers of thin veneers or sheets, glued together to form a type of plywood, then finished with a solid hardwood wear layer. It can be installed directly over concrete and most other types of subfloors. The advantage of engineered hardwood flooring is that it will not react to moisture changes and is more stable than solid hardwood flooring. Because of this stability, engineered is recommended over solid in wide plank applications. Depending on the thickness of the wear layer, an engineered floor will perform in much the same way same as a solid floor.

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# **Curb Appeal Increases Your Home's Value**

Your own home, a piece of property with a building and some unique qualities. Sounds pretty simple, not really. Buying and maintaining a home is not the easiest task on the planet. Anywhere on this planet the ability to own a home comes with great responsibility. Homeowners are met with the challenges of maintenance, repairs, taxes, house payments, and those little buggers called utility bills. Homeowners work very hard a retaining the value of their homes by performing maintenance, doing the necessary repairs, paying the taxes, and utility bills. But one overlooked task can improve the value of your home, and even the homes around you. Landscaping your property is the best way to increase your property value.

Appraisers look at the exterior of your home, and than compare it to the entire neighborhood. So, what can one do

to increase the value of your home; landscaping up-grades.

According to Money magazine spending on landscaping and installation has more than tripled in the past five years. And no wonder it offers one of the best returns on investment of any home improvement you can make. Think about what you want and how you will use your landscaping dollars: formal entertaining, herb gardens and children's playgrounds are all possibilities. Don't limit yourself to plants and trees. Maybe you would like a fence, a fountain, deck, patio or other outdoor elements.

Make a realistic budget. One rule of thumb is to invest 5 to 10 percent of your house's worth. If this seems steep, consider that appropriate landscape improvements are estimated to return 100 to 200 percent of their cost when a house is sold.

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# Flooring

### HAND SCRAPED HARDWOOD FLOORING

With this type of flooring - available in solid or engineered, unfinished or prefinished - the manufacturer hand scrapes each piece of flooring to mimic the look of an old, worn floor. This look is most popular in wide planks for that "old world" charm. But a word of caution - to refinish these floors, all the detail will be removed in sanding.

### CARE AND MAINTENANCE

Care and maintenance of hardwood flooring is easy; often just a matter of common sense. Follow these simple guidelines and your floors will last a lifetime, providing the warmth and feel only real hardwood can offer.

- 1. Water is a hardwood floor's worst enemy. Clean up spills immediately. Do not use a damp mop or oil-based soap. Always check with the flooring manufacturer for recommended cleaning products.
- 2. Sweep hardwood floors regularly. Dirt and dust can grind into the finish. Consider doormats at every entrance - rugs in high traffic areas.
- 3. Sunlight can be harmful and can drastically change the color of the wood. Consider sheer drapes, curtains or blinds to limit direct sunlight.
- 4. Shoes can also cause damage. High heels can dent. Small stones can scratch. Consider leaving shoes and the grit of the outside world at the door.

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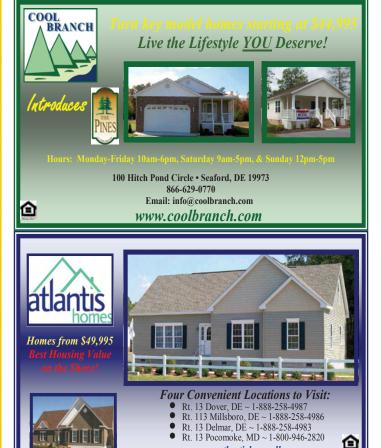
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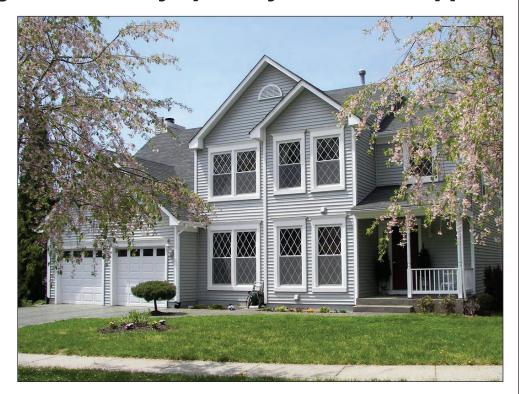


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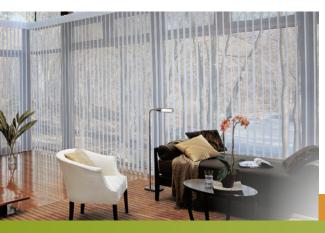
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