

HOUSE & HOME

Montco/Main Line East

Your #1 Resource and Design Magazine

Volume 20, Issue 3

Visit
housemagazine.com
for a free estimate
from a local home
improvement pro!
Look for this button:

Free Estimate
Click Here

Red Hot

Fireplaces add value
and ambiance

**ASK
THE
EXPERT**



**GEHMAN DESIGN
REMODELING**

*Why it's beneficial to work with a
design-build company* page 25



**THE FOAM
OUTLET**

*Why you should replace
your couch cushions* page 35

Visit www.HouseMagazine.com to view our Online Design Center

BRING OLD WORLD ELEGANCE TO YOUR HOME...

SPECIALISTS IN THE FABRICATION & INSTALLATION OF NATURAL STONE & QUARTZ

Kitchen Countertops | Vanity Tops | Fireplace Surrounds | Bar Tops | Slab Walls



Cambria Promotion

Selected colors to
choose from.

Call for details
and mention
House & Home for
special pricing.

**Family Owned and Operated
since 2004**

Fall Special

All in stock inventory up to

40% Off



M

IMPERIAL

MARBLE & GRANITE

**QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS
STARTING FROM**

\$1,899

Up to 40 sq. ft. installed with 8 free edges
to choose from. Exp 10/30/19



**We'll
BEAT Any
Written
Estimate
by Up To
10%**



IMPERIAL MARBLE AND GRANITE, INC.
AIRPORT BUSINESS COMPLEX
200 OLD TINICUM ISLAND ROAD, ESSINGTON, PA 19029

Visit our 4,500 sq. ft. showroom and 25,000 indoor warehouse.
Choose from over 500 slabs of Granite, Marble & Cambria
Call for Your Free Estimate & Design Consultation

610-521-0130 • www.imgstone.net

VERY WELL ROUNDED.

pool & spa decks
outdoor fireplaces & kitchens
pergolas & screened porches

A *mazing Decks*
DECK BUILDERS

Contact us about your vision today!

215.654.1886 | anotheramazingdeck.com

END OF SEASON
CLEARANCE
SALE!

Up To
50% OFF
+ \$200 Off Every
\$1,000

You Gotta
See This
Showroom!



- Patio Furniture
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Grills and Firepits



Experience the Ultimate in Outdoor Living Space™



2420 Bethlehem Pike
(Rt. 309) Hatfield

215-368-(RAIL) 7245

The Most Spectacular
Outdoor Living Showroom!

LARGEST SELECTION OF PATIO FURNITURE

AREA'S LARGEST SUPPLIER OF DECKING & RAILING

- Decking and Railing
- Hardscaping
- Windows and Doors



925 Easton Rd.
(Rt. 611) Warrington

215-918-DECK (3325)
Deck & Railing Showroom Only

www.decksupplies.com

CLEARANCE SALE

50% Off + \$200 Off every \$1,000 Purchased
+ Free Delivery select inventory



ALUSTRA® PIROUETTE® WINDOW SHADINGS

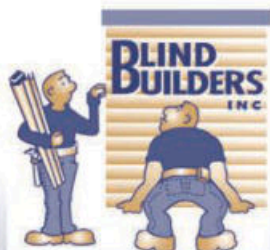
Don't wait to get your home holiday ready with beautiful Hunter Douglas shades.

\$100
REBATES
STARTING AT
on qualifying purchases*

SEPTEMBER 14-DECEMBER 9, 2019

ASK FOR DETAILS
HunterDouglas

*Manufacturer's mail-in rebate offer valid for qualifying purchases 09/14/19-12/09/19 from participating dealers in the US only. Rebate will be issued in the form of a prepaid reward card and mailed within 4 weeks of rebate claim approval. Funds do not expire. Subject to applicable law, a \$2.00 monthly fee will be assessed against the card balance 6 months after card is issued and each month thereafter. See complete terms distributed with rewards card. Additional limitations may apply. Ask participating dealer for details and rebate form. © 2019 Hunter Douglas. All rights reserved. All trademarks used here in are the property of Hunter Douglas or their respective owners. 19Q4MAGAPC3



BLIND BUILDERS INC
CALL US FOR A **BLIND DATE!**
HunterDouglas Gallery®



AMERICAN DESIGN
& CRAFTSMANSHIP
HunterDouglas

CUSTOM WINDOW TREATMENT SPECIALISTS

Blinds, Shades, Shutters, Fabric Treatments, Specialty Shapes, Motorization And More



Our Friendly Staff,
Here to Assist You!

- Local family owned & operated
- Free measuring, installation & warranty service
- We match competitor pricing

Visit our Showroom:

418 W. Street Road | Feasterville, PA

Mon, Tues, Thurs: 10 am-5 pm
Wed & Fri: 10 am-8 pm
Sat: 10 am-4 pm

10% OFF
Purchase
Over \$500
BLIND BUILDERS
215-322-5855

With this coupon. Must be presented at time of purchase. Excludes restricted products and shutters. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Limited Time Offer

25% OFF
NewStyle®
Hybrid Shutters
Free Upgrade To HiddenTilt™
Free Installation Within 4 Weeks

With this coupon. Must be presented at time of purchase. Excludes restricted products and shutters. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Limited Time Offer

215-322-5855 | **www.blindbuilders.com**

Dilworth's
custom design inc.
Kitchen & Bath Remodeling

DESIGN | BUILD | DELIVER | INSTALL
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED NO SUBCONTRACTORS



**QUALITY
CRAFTSMANSHIP &
CONVENIENCE
SINCE 1990**

**COMPLETE FLOOR
TO CEILING
KITCHEN & BATHROOM
RENOVATIONS**

PA Contractor
#009417

NKBA

Contact Us For A Free Design Consultation **610.917.9119**

dilworthscustomdesign.com

175 North Whitehorse Road, Phoenixville, PA 19460 | Minutes from Valley Forge



Fall Sale!

Caesarstone
Quartz Special
Limited Quantities
**STOP BY
TODAY!**

**NOW
OFFERING
FINANCING!**

**REMNANT
BLOW-OUT
SALE!**

**GRANITE COUNTERTOPS AS LOW AS \$39 PER SQ. FT.
OVER 250 COLORS AND 5,000 SLABS TO CHOOSE FROM**



COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

PA #086951

**406 Caredean Drive
Horsham, PA • 215-392-6052**

HV@keystone-granite.com

Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm • Sat. 8am-4pm • Sun. 10am-3pm

www.keystone-granite.com

217-C Lisa Drive • New Castle, DE • (302) 323-0200

1905 Olde Homestead Lane • Lancaster • (717) 394-4972

**GRANITE
PACKAGE DEAL**
starting at

\$39 PER
SQ FOOT
no minimum

**QUARTZ
PACKAGE DEAL**
starting at

\$42 PER
SQ FOOT
no minimum

BOTH DEALS INCLUDE:

FREE 5 EDGES TO

CHOOSE FROM!

FREE ONE-TIME SEALER

FREE ESTIMATE, TEMPLATE,

FABRICATION & INSTALLATION

FREE CUTTING BOARD

FREE

stock single or double bowl sink

with purchase of 40 sq ft or more

Keystone Granite & Tile • 215-392-6052

With this coupon. Cannot be combined with other offers, promotions, or prior purchases. Pricing and availability subject purchases. Offer expires 07/31/19. Coupon must be presented at the time of purchase.



16

contents

16 Burning Questions

Everything you need to know before approaching a fireplace project

25 Ask the Expert

Gehman Design Remodeling

28 Fit for Fall

This season is an ideal time for a number of landscaping tasks and tips

35 Ask the Expert

The Foam Outlet

36 Annual Checkup

With cold weather approaching, now is the time to assess the key parts of your home and make sure they are ready for winter



28



On the cover:

Fireplaces can add value and a lot of ambiance to a home, but it takes the knowledge of a skilled professional to ensure it's up to code and a fit for your lifestyle. *House & Home* spoke with several local companies about maintaining, installing and updating fireplaces for years of enjoyment. See their tips on page 16.

WE FIX

SINKING
CONCRETE

**BQ Basement
Systems**

The Basement, Crawl Space, Foundation Repair
& Concrete Specialists™

Interest-Free
FINANCING

Angie's list

BEST
HOUSE
GEEK™
2019

FIX IT NOW. PAY LATER!

0% FINANCING AVAILABLE

WET
BASEMENTS

NASTY
CRAWL SPACES

Call today for a
FREE ESTIMATE!

215-989-4188

BQHouseandHome.com

\$500 OFF
BASEMENT OR
CRAWL SPACE REPAIR

\$200 OFF
CONCRETE REPAIR

EXPIRES 10/15/19
MUST PRESENT AD AT ESTIMATE.
EXCLUSIONS APPLY. CANNOT COMBINE.

OUTDOOR LIVING IS IN



Your One Source Outdoor Solution

3D Rendering • Outdoor Structures • Landscape Design-Build

GroundTecInc.com

Call us to schedule a free consultation: (610) 525-5352

HOUSE & HOME

YOUR #1 RESOURCE AND DESIGN MAGAZINE SINCE 1999
housemagazine.com

PUBLISHER
Edward P. McCartney

EDITOR
Peter Proko

EXECUTIVE EDITOR
Liz Hunter

ASSISTANT EDITORS
Matt Cosentino, Lauren Kubiak, Julie Shannon

CONTRIBUTORS
Josephine Cusumano, Lindsey Getz, Kaytlyn Mroz

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Hank Alspach

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Brian Mikulski

DESIGNERS
Nicole DiPace, Abby Lurty, Rachel MacCord, Dori Shields, Lisa Zollinger

ACCOUNTING DIRECTOR
Darlene Versak

SALES DIRECTOR
Lindsay Gonzalez

SALES MANAGER
Jim Romano

NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPER
Chuck McKane

MARKETING CONSULTANTS
Rochelle Dodge, Gary Edelstein, Frank Liantonio, Jeff Mascaro,
Susie Smith, Laramie Traina, Amy B. Weiss

DIGITAL MEDIA DIRECTOR
Leigh Stuart

PUBLISHER EMERITUS
Bob Doran

EXECUTIVE PARTNERS
Gerry Haggerty, Edward P. McCartney

Advertising Information Call: 610-272-3120

HOUSE & HOME

HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC, dba HOUSE & HOME ("H&H"). H&H reserves the right to determine the suitability of all materials submitted for publication and to edit all submitted materials for clarity and space. H&H is not responsible for loss, damage or any other injury to unsolicited manuscripts, unsolicited artwork or any other unsolicited materials. Furthermore, H&H will assume that unsolicited photographs, as well as ad photographs, are being submitted for possible publication and should they be published, no fee is due the photographer or model unless otherwise agreed upon in advance in writing.

HOUSE & HOME is a news magazine with emphasis on home repair and remodeling. H&H does not knowingly accept false or misleading advertising or editorial content, nor does H&H or its staff, editors or writers assume responsibility should such advertising or editorial content appear in any publications. Readers are encouraged to notify H&H if they suspect false or misleading advertising.

Before attempting any renovation or repair project mentioned in H&H, readers are advised to consult with professional home repair and renovation specialists for assistance, and to take any and all appropriate safety precautions.

HOUSE & HOME has not independently tested any products or services advertised herein and has verified no claims made by its advertisers regarding those services or products. HOUSE & HOME makes no warranties or representations and assumes no liability for any claims regarding those services or products or claims made by advertisers regarding such products or services. Readers are advised to consult with the advertiser and/or other home repair and renovation professionals regarding any such claims and regarding the suitability of an advertiser's products.

No reproduction of printed materials is permitted without the consent of the publisher of HOUSE & HOME. Copyright 2012 by HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC, all rights reserved. Subscription available for home delivery at our website, www.HouseMagazine.com, at a cost of \$19.95 per year.

National Sales Office:
HOUSE & HOME Magazine, LLC
700 E. Main St.
Norristown, PA 19401
Phone: 610-272-3120 Fax: 610-272-2805
Email: info@housemagazine.com

Regional Editions:
Bucks County HOUSE & HOME - PA
Central Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ
Delaware HOUSE & HOME - DE
DelChester/Main Line West HOUSE & HOME - PA
Montco/Main Line East HOUSE & HOME - PA
Northern Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ
South Jersey HOUSE & HOME - NJ

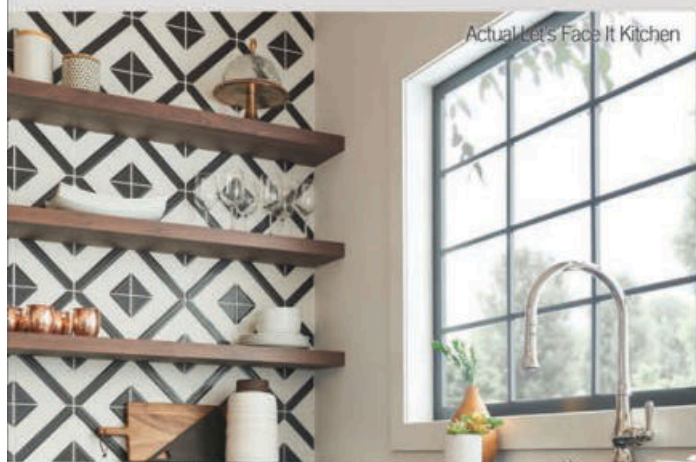
Visit www.HouseMagazine.com to view digital versions of each of the above editions.



Get the free mobile app at
<http://gettag.mobi>

KITCHEN REFACING...

Get a beautiful kitchen...
without the high price tag!



Save 60% Compared To A Total New Kitchen

- *Locally Owned Since 1984
- *Unique Hardwood Doors
- *Fast and Clean Installations
- *Installations by Employees
- *Keep any prior upgrades
- *LIFETIME WARRANTY!

\$500 OFF
PLUS Two FREE
Rollouts!



With a full kitchen refacing project
including new countertop install.

Let's Face It 1013 N. Bethlehem Pike, Lower Gwynedd, PA 215.600.2154

Must present coupon upon initial consultation.
Cannot combine with prior contracts or any other offers. Offer expires 10.31.19



Vince



quality kitchen refacing
Guaranteed.



Beth

Call Today To Schedule Your In Home Consultation



215.600.2154
www.LFIKitchens.com



YOUR SOURCE FOR BACKYARD MAKEOVERS AND MORE

- Pavingstone Systems
- Natural Stone Choices
- Kitchens, Grill Modules, Pizza Ovens & Bars, Fireplaces & Fire Pits for Outdoor Rooms
- Poolside-Compatible Copings & Steps
- Professional Grade Wall Systems & Stairs



With ArmorTec®



Without ArmorTec®



Both Cambridge pavingstones shown above were installed in residential driveways in 2006 (Photos taken in January 2010).

www.CambridgePavers.com

CAMBRIDGE

Outdoor Lifestyling™ – With the ArmorTec™ ADVANTAGE!



Limitless Color, Texture & Stylish Combinations

“Fully-Transferable Lifetime Warranty”
Charles H. Gamarekian, Founder / Chairman / CEO

INSPIRING DISPLAYS! FREE 100+ PG. OUTDOOR LIFESTYLING™ GUIDE!



711 Countyline Road at Chestnut Street
Souderton, PA 18964

215-723-5506 • www.landisbc.com

Store Hours: Monday-Friday 7am-4pm, Saturday 7am-12pm • email: info@landisbc.com
Visit our showroom. We are a Full Service Hardscape Supplier

Look For
Us On



STOP IN FOR YOUR FREE 108 PAGE CAMBRIDGE OUTDOOR LIVING ROOM GUIDE



LOVE
WHERE
YOU
LIVE

DESIGN
BUILD
RENOVATE
REMODEL



KITCHENS • BATHS • ADDITIONS • BASEMENTS
WHOLE HOUSE RENOVATIONS

LICENSE NUMBERS: PA 105182
PHL CONTRACTOR 43643
NJ 13VH08327600

LBI
luxury bath & kitchens 

For a free in-home consultation
Give us a call or visit our website
215-675-5000 | luxurybathandkitchens.com



KEYSTONE CUSTOM DECKS

An Outdoor Living Company



BRINGING YOUR OUTDOOR LIVING DREAMS TO LIFE



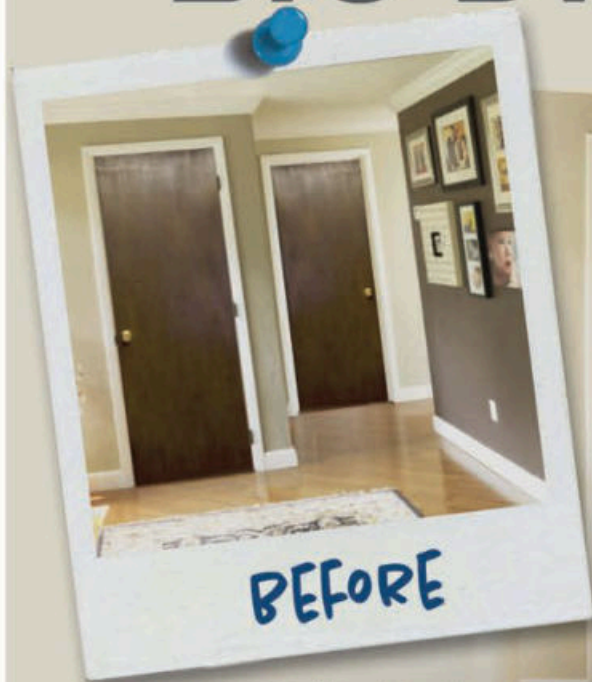
 **TimberTech**
Less Work. More Life.

VIEW MORE OF OUR WORK ONLINE / CALL US TODAY FOR A COMPLIMENTARY ESTIMATE

KEYSTONECUSTOMDECKS.COM

(717) 355-0592

NEW INTERIOR DOORS MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE



⌚ 3 hours later with
no messy construction



ONLY

\$159

PER INSTALLED DOOR | 10 DOOR MIN.*

DESIGNER COLLECTION



SHAKER COLLECTION



MODERN COLLECTION



VIEW THE COMPLETE COLLECTIONS ONLINE



CLOSET DOORS

BY-PASS • BIFOLD • BARN DOOR SYSTEMS
AVAILABLE IN ANY COLLECTION STYLE

**6 FREE
INTERIOR DOORS**

WITH PURCHASE OF
3 SETS OF CLOSET
DOORS*



CLOSET ORGANIZERS

WALK-IN CLOSETS • BEDROOM CLOSETS •
LAUNDRY ROOMS • PANTRIES • HOME OFFICES •
GARAGES

**FREE
INSTALLATION**

WITH PURCHASE OF 2
CLOSET SYSTEMS*

**ONE DAY
DOORS & CLOSETS.**

North America's Largest
Door & Closet Company
Now 33 Locations!

One Day Doors & Closets is the only company in the industry offering Tru-Fit, custom milled doors, factory finished with complete installation for the whole home in one day. We use patented 3D measurement technology and robotic automated cutting to ensure architectural precision EVERY TIME, resulting in lower overall costs and minimal disruption to the home renovation/construction project process. It's a win-win for everyone!



PHILADELPHIA
AUTHORIZED ONE DAY DEALER

**PHILADELPHIA
DOORS AND CLOSETS**

FREE ESTIMATES BY APPOINTMENT

(610) 227-6088

onedayphiladelphia.com

1841 Norristown Rd. | Ste. 100
Maple Glen, PA 19002

*\$159 promotional price is good for our two most popular styles, MANHATTAN & VERANDA, when purchasing 10 or more doors in 80" standard weight. Doors are sold separately for orders less than 10 doors. Hardware and paint sold separately. Estimate by showroom appointment. Must present ad at time of estimate. May not be combined with other offers or discounts. Offer expires 9/30/19. This is an independently owned and operated retailer of One Day Doors & Closets. Contractor's license # PA HIC #145341



ELA

Environmental
Landscape
Associates, Inc.

"We create outdoor living spaces and develop transitional areas that flow effortlessly from interior to exterior. Our team offers a unique skill set providing everything including architectural design, comprehensive building and horticultural services connecting the architecture of your home to the surroundings of your landscape."



Keith Frederick
President & CEO

LANDSCAPE

MASONRY

CARPENTRY

RENOVATIONS



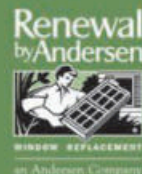
GARDEN CENTER & SHOWROOM

5095 Route 202, Doylestown, PA | 215.794.2400 | ELAOutdoorLiving.com

Award Winning
DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION



● These 29,241 local homeowners chose our windows.



● = Our Delaware Valley Customers



Why have 29,241 Delaware Valley homeowners chosen us to replace their windows?

No pressure. During your Free Window and Door Diagnosis, we'll give you an exact, down-to-the-penny price that's good for an entire year.

116 years of window expertise. Renewal by Andersen is the full-service replacement window division of Andersen, the window and door brand that your dad told you to trust.

No middleman to deal with. You won't have to deal with a manufacturer or chase down an installer. We manage the entire process—from building to installation to the warranty—on our windows and doors.

We won't sell you vinyl. We've replaced thousands of poor-quality vinyl windows and doors, so we made our window's Fibrex® composite material two times stronger than vinyl.



Must call before Oct. 15th!

SAVE 20%
on windows¹

SAVE 20%
on doors¹

SAVE 20%
on installation¹

— plus —

NO NO NO
money down payments interest
for 1 year!

**Make an appointment
and get a price that's
good for an entire year!**



Call for your FREE Window and Door Diagnosis

CHERRY HILL, NJ **609-429-4123**

MILLVILLE, NJ **856-265-0177**

DOYLESTOWN, PA **267-337-8998**

WILMINGTON, DE **302-543-2044**

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA **484-868-9897**

TOLL FREE **877-779-1393**

SmartWindowChoice.com

Renewal by Andersen of Greater Philadelphia is an independently owned and operated affiliate operating in the Delaware Valley (PA, NJ, DE). Offer not available in all areas. Discount applied by retailer representative at time of contract execution and applies to purchase of 3 or more windows and/or entry or patio doors. Cannot be combined with other offers. To qualify for discount offer, initial contact for a free Window and Door Diagnosis must be made and documented on or before 10/15/19, with the appointment then occurring no more than 10 days after the initial contact. No payments and deferred interest for 12 months available to well qualified buyers on approved credit only. Not all customers may qualify. Higher rates apply for customer with lower credit ratings. Financing not valid with other offers or prior purchases. No Finance Charges will be assessed if promo balance is paid in full in 12 months. Renewal by Andersen retailers are independently owned and operated retailers, and are neither brokers nor lenders. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only, and all financing is provided by third-party lenders unaffiliated with Renewal by Andersen retailers, under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender, all subject to credit requirements. Renewal by Andersen retailers do not assist with, counsel or negotiate financing, other than providing customers an introduction to lenders interested in financing. PA Lic. # 001884. NJ Lic. # 13VH05055400. J&M Windows, Inc. d/b/a Renewal by Andersen of Greater Philadelphia. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are marks of Andersen Corporation. ©2019 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2019 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved.

BURNING

QUESTIONS

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE
APPROACHING A FIREPLACE PROJECT.

By Liz Hunter

This month, many homeowners will be turning their attention to indoor projects to set the space up for the months when we tend to go into hibernation mode. With more time spent indoors, we want everything to be functioning properly and looking its best, and that may even mean a bit of remodeling. One area often considered at this time of year is the hearth. Whether yours needs some routine maintenance, a facelift or even if you want to install one completely new—there are plenty of questions to ask before beginning a fireplace project. *House & Home* spoke with some of the area's leading fireplace companies to pick their brains about some of the most frequently asked questions.

Does a fireplace add value to a home?

A fireplace will always add value to a home as most new homeowners regard that as a must-have on their wish list when looking. The design options available now allow numerous choices in the chosen decor of any home. The most important plus is that 95 percent of the fireplaces sold today offer a heat source for the homeowner.

Jody Miller, manager, Alber's Fireplaces



“A fireplace will always add value to a home as most new homeowners regard that as a must-have on their wish list when looking.”

— JODY MILLER, MANAGER, ALBER'S FIREPLACES



BURNING QUESTIONS

What maintenance is required on an existing fireplace and why are inspections beneficial?

When it comes to wood-burning fireplaces, the National Fire Protection Association recommends having it cleaned and inspected every year. Most manufacturers of gas fireplaces recommend annual maintenance and inspections. People are more likely to neglect gas fireplace inspections, but we tell people, just like your furnace or AC system, this needs routine maintenance too.

Inspections tell you a lot about what's going on and homeowners don't realize it takes a trained eye to spot corrosion. We might spot a bit of white corrosion built up by the pilot which could be a

bigger problem, or if we notice water leaking, we need to figure out where it's coming from. Everything is interconnected.

**Ed Gaynor, owner,
Newtown Fireplace Shop**

Why is chimney repair an important component of maintenance?

Chimneys should be swept yearly. Creosote can cause a chimney fire. Chimneys are also impacted by the freeze and thaw of winters, and may require brick pointing or crown repair, which if ignored could lead to costly damage and a potential rebuild.

Chris Tor, owner, 3C Home & Hearth

For homes with wood-burning fireplaces, do you see the homeowners opting to transition that to gas or a gas insert?

We absolutely see people wanting to convert from inefficient wood-burning to gas—it's a majority of what we do. There are some misconceptions about the terminology within the industry and it can sometimes be confusing to understand all of the options out there, so we recommend a trip to a showroom to discuss and make recommendations.

Ed Gaynor

What are the advantages to fireplace inserts and do they make switching easier?

Direct vent inserts provide high ef-



Image courtesy of Alber's Fireplaces

iciency along with thermostatic temperature control and ease of use with most being remote controlled. A gas or wood insert takes the old, brick, very inefficient fireplace and turns it into a sealed combustion, high-efficiency fireplace.

When converting from wood to gas it is recommended that a Class II inspection be performed to check the integrity of the chimney and to see which type of appliance is appropriate. Once you've completed the Class II you should then contact a licensed plumber to see how difficult the gas run will be to get gas into the fireplace. Once those two things are complete it's pretty simple to select what's right for your home, be it a simple, vented gas log or a high-efficiency unit that will adequately heat the room.

**Dave Rettinger Sr., co-owner,
Rettinger Fireplace Systems**

What are the differences in vent styles?

A direct vent fireplace is an enclosed chamber that pulls the cold air in from the outside and expels all of the combustion gas back outside, without the need for a chimney. For vented gas units, the home must have a traditional chimney fireplace to expel the exhaust. If someone in the home has asthma, I would not recommend going this route.

Chris Tor

How has electric fireplace technology evolved?

The changes in electric fireplaces have been a game-changer—opening up the option for a fireplace where people can't put a chimney or vent, such as basements and bathrooms. Electric is not going to be a large source of heat, maxing out at 10,000 BTU, but they are a nice option for areas of a home you wouldn't have thought to have a fireplace.

**Jay Stong, owner, Salter's Fireplace
Patio Grill**

What are some new or trending styles of fireplaces you would recommend?

The linear gas fireplace has become very popular as many homeowners look to install a television above their fireplace. The manufacturers have made advances in the options which can be added to ensure the safety of heat damage to TVs. Another very popular product that is available to install into existing fireplaces are direct vent gas inserts. These are heat sources that can provide 900-1,200 square feet of additional heat to the home.

Jody Miller

What remodeling options are there to update the look of an existing fireplace?

Fireplace remodeling has become our niche. Many people have builders-grade fireplaces and man-



Choose *Salter's* for Your Indoor & Outdoor Fire

distinctive designs | quality products | experienced hearth designers



This hearth season, tour one of our TWO showrooms filled with burning displays including fireplaces, fireplace inserts, stoves and log sets.

Consult with our experienced hearth designers to create for you a beautiful fire feature unique to your home and lifestyle. Our team is dedicated to exceeding your expectations.

Read our reviews and ask your neighbors. Salter's is truly a WARM place to visit!

Conveniently Located in Hatfield & Our NEW Eagleville Showroom:



610-631-9372

3076 Ridge Pike, Eagleville

215-362-2443

11 N. Market St., Hatfield

For inspiration, browse our online catalog and follow us on social media.

www.SaltersFireplace.com



Better rate
Better flexibility

HELoC Select

Introductory rate

2.49% APR*
for six months

Rates as low as

4.49% APR*
thereafter

Plus, apply by Sept. 30, 2019, and the processing fee will be waived!**

Apply today:

1-877-TRUMARK • trumark.com

TruMark Financial

*Annual Percentage Rate (APR) accurate as of 8/19/19, applies to minimum line amount of \$5,000, is subject to change without notice, and applies to a loan-to-value (LTV) ratio of 80% for primary residence. Rates vary depending upon amount financed, credit score, lien position, and collateral. Minimum APR is 4.49% (prime rate minus 0.51% minus an additional 0.25% for automatic payment from checking account), maximum APR is 18%. Introductory rate will be in effect for six (6) billing cycles from credit line open date. After the introductory discount period expires, the variable APR is effective for the life of the line. Rates reflect a 0.25% discount for loan payment via automatic funds transfer from a TruMark Financial checking account. Otherwise, APR is 0.25% higher. Property and/or flood insurance is required. APR is variable based on the highest Prime Rate published in The Wall Street Journal and is adjusted on a monthly basis. As of 8/1/2019 the Prime Rate was 5.25%. All loans/lines of credit are subject to approval and collateral evaluation. Fees and charges may apply. Additional restrictions, limitations, and exclusions may apply. You may elect to "lock in" or convert a portion of your variable-rate outstanding balance to a fixed APR over a set term. You may select the term of your lock feature from terms provided to you at the time you exercise this option. Offered rate will be based upon borrower's creditworthiness and term selected. The minimum amount that may be locked in is \$5,000. The minimum term of the lock feature is five years and the maximum term of the lock feature is 20 years. Please call TruMark Financial at 1-877-TRUMARK for further details. **Processing fee only waived on HELoC Select applications received 8/1/19 - 9/30/19. All other fees apply. You must maintain \$5 in a savings account to utilize the credit union's services. Account subject to membership eligibility (anyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers, or attends school in the Southeastern PA counties of Bucks, Chester, Delaware, Montgomery, or Philadelphia, or has a relative who is an existing TruMark Financial member.) NMLS 404938 MK849 8/19



Napoleon
built-in
electric
fireplace

tels that look outdated. We can remodel it with custom stone work or tiles, a new gas unit or wood-burning insert and bring it up to the times and give it a "wow" factor.

Chris Tor

How are mantel designs changing?

Shiplap is very popular right now and we're actually seeing not just your traditional white shiplap look, but painted different colors like gray and even navy blue at the beach. Another popular trend popping up is metal walls and mantels which lend themselves to the industrial or farmhouse look.

Alexis Rettinger, co-owner, Rettinger Fireplace Systems

What are some safety considerations for mantels?

It's very important to find a contractor who knows what they are doing and knows what is allowable for every fireplace and the mantel. I'm a firefighter, so we don't mess around. Some mantels pose a problem, like shiplap you sometimes can't have it for safety reasons. Manufacturers are getting sharp to the fact that homeowners want to place their TV over the fireplace, so they are making products that redirect the heat. We try to discuss what's allowable with every client because it's all specific to that fireplace.

Ed Gaynor

What other features are worth noting about modern fireplaces?

In the last few years, gas fireplace manufacturers have added accent lights to bring attention to the fireplace even if it's not on. The lights make it look like something is going on and it's

entertaining, making it a focal point any time of the year.

Jay Stong

What else should homeowners know before beginning a fireplace project?

This industry is largely unregulated, but it's increasing in education requirements. I strongly suggest readers do their homework, reading online reviews, checking someone's certifications and accreditations to make sure they are following the best practices of the industry. Hire someone who is licensed, insured, qualified and screened—this is not a project for an amateur.

Ed Gaynor H&H



RESOURCES

3C Home & Hearth
Doylestown, Pa.
(267) 261-6886
3CHomeAndHearth.com

Alber's Fireplaces
(732) 629-7444
AlbersFireplaces.com

Newtown Fireplace Shop
Newtown, Pa.
(215) 968-3981
NewtownFireplaceShop.com

Rettinger Fireplace Systems
Voorhees, N.J.
(855) GET-RETT
RettingerFireplace.com

Salter's Fireplace Patio Grill
Eagleville, Pa. | Hatfield, Pa.
(610) 631-9372 | (215) 362-2443
SaltersFireplace.com

Transform Your Home with Sunburst® Shutters



Custom window treatments are one of the most dramatic home upgrades you can make. New shutters go with any decorating style. Sunburst Shutters has everything you want, and we do all the work for you. Just pick your treatment and you're done. You'll love the look!

Sunburst[®]
SHUTTERS &
Window Fashions

732-354-4832

SunburstShuttersNJ.com



- ❖ Add equity to your home
 - ❖ Free In-Home Consultation
 - ❖ No Interest for 12 Months*
- *Subject to credit approval.

Get up to **\$500 Off**
Polywood® Shutters
Minimum Order Required.



Fully Licensed and Insured
Free Estimates



DRIVEWAYS



COMMERCIAL

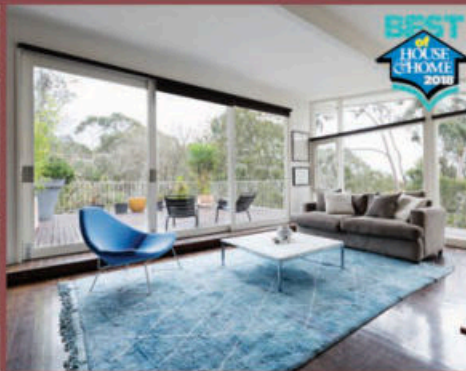
With over 60 years of experience, Harrison Brothers Paving can handle all your residential paving needs. From asphalt driveways to beautiful tar & chip, and everything in between, we look forward to working with you on your next paving project.

Harrison Brothers Paving | 1-844-DRIVEWAY | www.harrisonbrotherspaving.com

OVER HALF A CENTURY OF SERVICE ON THE MAIN LINE



CLEAN



REPAIR

KAZANJIAN

FINE ORIENTAL RUG GALLERY

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1953

809 LANCASTER AVE
VILLANOVA | PA

610.537.8921

KAZANJIANGALLERY.COM

Cleaning - Restoration - Sales - Trade In - Appraisals

NEW & ANTIQUE DECORATIVE CARPETS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

EXPERT REPAIR AND RESTORATION • FREE LOCAL PICKUP, DELIVERY & ESTIMATES

WE BUY OLD AND ANTIQUE RUGS

20% OFF
NEW RUGS

on selected rugs with this ad,
expires 12/31/19

15% OFF
**PROFESSIONAL
REPAIR**

on most repairs, with this ad,
expires 12/31/19

33% OFF
**SECOND RUG
DEEP CLEANING**

when you clean 2 rugs of equal
or less value, expires 12/31/19

YOUR NEW KITCHEN!!



- Beauty
- Affordability
- Durability
- Convenience

**Refinish without
compromise**

RENEW ALL THE WOOD
IN YOUR HOME OR OFFICE

CABINETS • FLOORS
TRIM • STAIRS

1/3 THE COST OF REFACING
1/5 THE COST OF REPLACING

SPECIAL OFFER 10% OFF! CALL NOW

866-944-WOOD (9663) • info@dewoodrenewal.com

PA LIC 118713

JAN FEB MAR APR MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC



BED BUGS



RODENTS: MICE & RATS



ANTS, CARPENTER ANTS & CLOVER MITES



TERMITES



STINGING INSECTS



MOSQUITOES



TICKS



STINK BUGS & LADY BUGS



AN ANTICIMEX COMPANY

VIKING
Pest Control

STAY A STEP AHEAD
WITH VIKING'S
PEST CALENDAR

HOME PROTECTION PLANS

STARTING AT

\$36* PER MONTH

*Restrictions apply.
See vikingpest.com/offers for details.
Expires 10/30/2019.

GOT BATS?

CALL VIKING AND GET

\$175* OFF BAT SERVICES

*Restrictions apply.
See vikingpest.com/offers for details.

GOT BED BUGS?

CALL VIKING AND GET

\$50* BED BUG SERVICES
+FREE INSPECTION

*Restrictions apply.
See vikingpest.com/offers for details.

FREE* FALL HOME INSPECTIONS

GET YOUR HOME FALL-READY WITH OUR FREE EXCLUSION INSPECTION

*Restrictions apply.
See vikingpest.com/offers for details.

Call Today for a Free Estimate!

848-251-0751 • vikingpest.com/HH



Factory Direct
Prices Because
We Are The
Factory!



making your outdoor
storage dreams a reality



garages



storage sheds



garden sheds

With over 42 years of experience in professional building of outdoor structures, you can rely on Stoltzfus to provide you with the best build and best options for your budget. Honesty and integrity that you can count on every time.



610.593.7700 | www.mysheds.com
5075 Lower Valley Road, Atglen PA 19310

Gehman Design Remodeling

by **Matt Cosentino**

Communication, collaboration and accountability are important facets of any construction project, and one way for homeowners to ensure they are getting all three is with a proven design-build company.

Gehman Design Remodeling (GDR) certainly fits that description. With almost three decades in business and well over 100 years of combined experience, GDR transforms homes with kitchen and bath remodels, finished basements, outdoor living spaces and exterior siding. The company oversees around 100 projects a year from start to finish behind a staff that includes accomplished designers, project managers and carpenters.

House & Home spoke with President Dennis Gehman, MCR (Master Certified Remodeler) about the benefits of using a design-build company and why certifications are important.

What are the advantages to using a design-build firm in a construction project?

To me there are two major advantages. Rather than having a traditional architect and contractor—who aren't always on the same page—you're dealing with a one-stop stop. Certainly the design is going to happen first, and while that is taking place we're also looking at it from the construction perspective. We're taking into account the engineering aspect and such things as how we are going to install the plumbing pipes and HVAC duct work. I think it eliminates finger pointing because all the fingers are pointing at us as the design-build company if an issue comes up. That flows right into the next advantage, which is that it should be a smoother process for the client. Once they have gained your confidence and understand the goal, you don't have a standoff with another company—it's all in-house.



Dennis Gehman, MCR, president of Gehman Design Remodeling

How do you establish communication and teamwork during the project?

The initial contact for a customer is the remodeling consultant and that is their contact person from start to finish. We involve a designer and an estimator and somebody from production is also giving input, so there's a lot of internal communication, but it's important to keep the homeowners in the loop too. Email and texting have certainly helped with that. Having one person as the contact all the way through also helps.

Are you also able to control costs better with this approach?

On one hand, I feel like we are. But we're not looking to sell on cost—we're looking to build a long-term relationship. We want customers to give us a call every time they have an issue with their house. If we can handle it, that's great. If not, we will refer them to someone else who better suits their needs, because honesty is always the best policy. That continues to solidify the relationships we have. Up front people might not be getting the best price, but in the end they're getting the best value.

What are the steps for you and your staff to become certified by the National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)?

To become certified you are required to take a course and must pass a written test at the end. Each year, there are continuing education requirements that you must meet ... and you also must confirm that you are still working full time in the remodeling industry and that you will uphold the code of ethics that NARI has established. For the

MCR—Master Certified Remodeler—which I hold, you need to have been a CR (Certified Remodeler) for 10 years and hold one other certification for at least two years. At this point, there are less than 100 master certified remodelers in the whole country. We have a private Facebook page where we can share ideas and ask questions, which I find helpful.

Why is it important to you to be affiliated with NARI?

I believe there are close to 100,000 registered contractors in Pennsylvania, but less than 1 percent are NARI members. The certifications are our commitment to wanting to be the best and wanting to be on the leading edge. They show the public that we know what we're doing and NARI is willing to recertify us each year because of our continuing education.

Is there a popular trend you're seeing right now in any aspect of remodeling that you're excited about?

People like to take vacations to the islands or Disney World or a resort; they enjoy their time there and they really want to bring some of those amenities home. So the trend is to create outdoor living spaces, finish the basement for a man cave or home theater or create a master bath that feels like a spa retreat. The beauty is in the eye of the beholder; what some people want in their home, others aren't very excited about. That's the fun part about our industry. I love it when I've earned the trust of people and they ask me, 'What would you do if this were your house?' That means they believe I care, which I sincerely do. Our tag line is, 'We take your home personally.' **H&H**

Gehman Design Remodeling

PA Contractor Registration PA-297

355 Main Street, Harleysville, Pa. | (215) 513-0300
GehmanRemodeling.com

12
Showrooms

SOLID WOOD CABINETS

Factory Direct

0%
FINANCING

*No one matches our **Quality** or **Price!***

Call for FREE 3D Kitchen Design: **844.848.WOOD**

FREE!

FINANCING!

DELIVERY!

ASSEMBLY!

SINK BASE!

DESIGN!



Exclusive
COLLECTION

Everlife™ — FROM MSI
Waterproof Rigid Core Flooring

Factory Direct

See our website for new 100% waterproof LVT kitchen flooring with a Lifetime Warranty!



Designed by Solid Wood Cabinets in Pennsylvania, parts fabricated globally, assembled in our Levittown, Pennsylvania factory.



855.644.WOOD • SolidWoodCabinets.com

PA : Allentown/Whitehall • Harrisburg/Mechanicsburg • Lancaster • Levittown • Plymouth Meeting • Wayne • Warminster
NJ : Brick • Moorestown • Woodbridge • Paramus • Egg Harbor

*See <https://solidwoodcabinets.com/price-guarantee/> for more details.

ShelfGenie®

EVERYTHING WITHIN REACH®

EASY ACCESS MEANS EASY LIVING.

Simplify your kitchen with custom-made pull-out shelves for your existing cabinets.

50% OFF

INSTALLATION!*

*Applies to purchases of 5 or more Classic or Designer Glide-Out® shelves.
Lifetime warranty valid for Classic or Designer Solutions.
Expires 11/30/2019. PA License #144034



Increase Storage

Improve Organization

Save Time

Reduce Frustration

Complimentary design consultation | (484) 265-9958



★ Red, White & Blue ★

SAVINGS!!!!

Residential and Commercial Paving

Parking Lots - Driveways - Seal Coating
Repairs - Road Materials - Tar & Chip

10%

OFF

Up to
\$500

when you mention
HOUSE & HOME

Not valid with other offers or
prior services, Expires 10/15/19

LIBERTY PAVING CO.
215-256-9077 610-434-9077



215-256-9077
610-434-9077
LIBERTYPAVINGCO.COM
HIC#PA025901

Licensed Bonded Insured
Family Owned For
Four Generations



LPC



This season is an ideal time for a number of landscaping tasks and tips.

BY LINDSEY GETZ

The air is getting crisper and the leaves are starting to change—and it's a beautiful time to be outdoors. It's also a great time to think about ways in which you can enhance your landscape. Although spring is traditionally thought of in terms of landscaping, the fall is actually an ideal time to perform a number of important tasks.

Plants and Flowers

One of those tasks is planting. The fall can be a wonderful time to install new flowers and plant material around your property.

“Studies have shown that fall is actually the best time for planting—better than the spring,” says Richard Cording Sr., president and licensed landscape architect with CLC Landscape Design. “That’s because the weather conditions are ideal. It’s still sunny but the air is cooler. Roots grow deeper and stronger. Plus, with plants going into dormancy, they have a better chance of survival during the cold winter months than newly installed plants needing to survive the stress of summer heat.” ➔



Fit for Fall

Image courtesy of CLC Landscape Design



The fall is also the time to plant spring flowering bulbs such as tulips, daffodils and hyacinths, says Sam Waddell, president of SLS Landscaping. To ensure you have beautiful early spring color, you don't want to miss that window.

"The avid gardener will also start planting chrysanthemum and aster that will offer that splash of color for the fall," adds Waddell. "A little bit later into the fall, winter pansies will make an appearance and provide color late in the season and another big push in the early spring."

Chris DeMato, owner of Rock Bottom Landscaping & Fencing, says watering needs are also less intense in the fall (as opposed to spring and summer), so that's appealing to busy homeowners. He notes that there are a number of tasks that are best-performed at this time of year—including seasonal color.

"Removal of any annual flowers can also be done in the fall and then replaced with fall blooms like mums, pansies or kale, to name a few," DeMato says.

"Fall is most known for mums, but it doesn't have to stop there," agrees Michael Pasquarello, landscape architect with Elite Landscaping. "Many varieties of fall annuals are available such as celosia, aster, kale/cabbage and purple fountain grass. Even ornamental peppers offer an array of autumn hues to add a splash



Your lawn is also a vital aspect of your overall landscape and the autumn months are the ideal time to pay attention to your lawn's overall health.

of color to container gardens."

Selective pruning can also be completed in the fall, adds Pasquarello.

"Once certain varieties of shrubs and trees have lost their leaves it makes an easier determination of what should be pruned and shaped," he explains. "It is very important not to prune any set buds on flowering plants for the upcoming spring."

Michael Carmack, owner of A & M Landscape Management, agrees that fall can be a great time to shape and prepare many varieties of trees and shrubs for the winter and the next growing season, but adds that pruning can definitely be more complex than a lot of homeowners realize.

"Many common varieties of

deciduous shrubs such as spirea, burning bush and barberry can be cut back hard in the early winter for the reduction of the plant size and shape," he says. "But early blooming varieties of shrubs such as rhododendrons, lilac and forsythia have already started producing buds for the spring and should not be pruned in the fall. Pruning these varieties in the fall and or winter will remove flower buds and reduce the number of flowers the plant produces for the spring. Late-blooming flowering shrubs such as crape myrtle and butterfly bushes can be pruned in the late fall or early spring as they produce flowers on new growth."

When in doubt, leave the pruning to the pros who will know exactly what needs to be pruned and when. This will help ensure that you achieve optimal results and don't negatively impact bloom time.

A Beautiful Lawn, Too

Your lawn is also a vital aspect of your overall landscape and the autumn months are the ideal time to pay attention to your lawn's overall health. The weather conditions make it the perfect time for services such as aeration and over-seeding.

"Fall is a great time to address any lawn issues you may have with weeds or other problems," says DeMato. "The cooler mornings really help to speed up seed germination."

"Lawns can be much better established in the fall for a couple of key reasons," adds Cording. "For one, they don't have to compete with crabgrass and other spring weeds. But also, the cooler temperatures help stimulate root growth and prevent heat stress. Fall is the perfect time for aeration, seeding, lawn fertilization and even sodding."

Fall is definitely the time to strengthen turf roots to help the root system survive the winter, agrees Carmack. "This will help set the turfgrass up for success," he says. "Getting weed problems under control now [and eliminating growth] will help reduce the amount of weed germination in the early spring ... and allow room for top dressing and over-seeding to fill in voids created in the lawn as the fall provides the best opportunity for new turf seed growth."

A Focus on Maintenance

There are a number of important property maintenance tasks that can also be taken care of in the fall. Many professional landscape companies offer "fall cleanup," which usually includes services such as leaf and debris pickup and removal. Allowing leaves to sit on your property for too long can actually kill your grass.

"Be sure to not allow fallen leaves to sit on lawns for an extended amount of time," warns Pasquarello. "It is best, at minimal, to do two leaf cleanups in the fall."





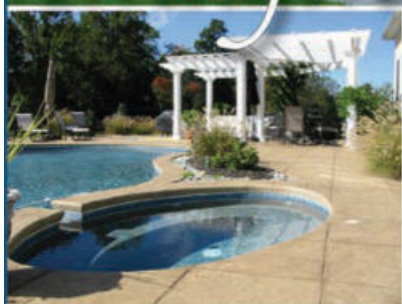
- Beautiful, versatile, and durable
- Long lasting with low maintenance
- Stamped, stained, colored, and more
- Industry experts in decorative concrete

We are the Tri-State's largest builder of decorative concrete systems, for over 25 years. Residential and Commercial + All Work Fully Warranted

1.866.956.2818

ARCHITECTURAL ACD CONCRETE
DESIGN®
By Christopher McMahon Contracting, Inc.

PA Lic. #PA4722, NJ Lic. #13VH01656500, DE Lic. #2002102708



ACDconcrete.com

Granite, Quartz, Quartzite Countertops



QUARTZ
STARTING AT
\$59.99
Per Sq. Ft.

\$1,099
UP TO 30 SQ. FT.
GRANITE

Offers expire October 15, 2019. With the coupon.
Not valid with other offers or prior services.

FREE estimates
FREE installation
FREE choice of 5 Standard edges

GRANITE
STARTING AT
\$35.99
Per Sq. Ft.
SELECT FROM
12 DIFFERENT
COLORS

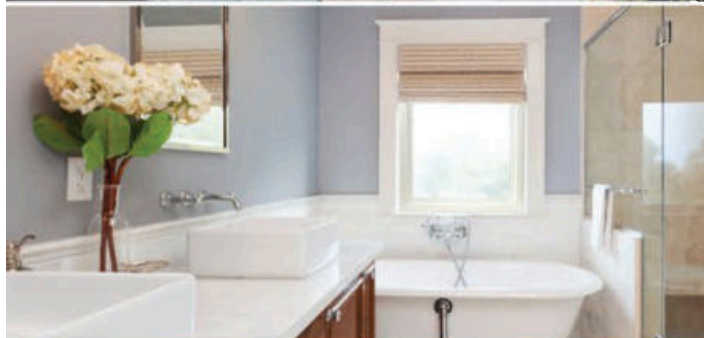


SPECIAL
GRANITE
VANITY TOP
1 sink hole with
finished edge
\$300 pick-up
price
TOP SIZES 24"-48"

IST GRANITE • 215-444-9773

1095 Mearns Rd., Warminster, PA • www.istgranite.com • info@istgranite.com

PA license # 139861



Window Replacement • Window Repair
Door Installation • Door Repair • Storm Windows • Storm Doors
Screen Repair • Storm Panel Repair

Vinyl • FiberGlass • Wood • Composite
Company Installers • Superior Workmanship

Visit One of Showrooms Today or Call **215.723.1192**
For an In-Home Appointment and Consultation or
Visit www.alderferglass.com

SAVE \$250 ON WINDOWS AND DOORS
SAVE \$250 ON WINDOWS AND DOOR PURCHASES OVER \$5000
Must Mention Ad At Time Of Quote. Offer Good Until 10/31/19.

ALDERFER GLASS
COMPANY

TELFORD
144 Telford Pike
Telford, PA 18969
215.723.1192

QUAKERTOWN
Rte. 309 & 1506 Mill Rd.
Quakertown, PA 18951
215.536.7807

LANSDALE
1613 N. Broad Street
Lansdale, PA 19446
215.855.5012

LIMERICK
205 W. Ridge Pike
Limerick, PA 19468
610.489.2221



Fit for Fall

The first when about 50 percent of the leaves have fallen and a final when they are all down.”

Don't forget to also pay attention to cleaning and maintaining your hardscaped surfaces, as well.

“Fall is also a great time for cleaning up and taking care of your patio surface,” adds Jarrod Nyce, vice president of Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete. “Cleaners and sealers can be applied this time of year because of good temperatures and low humidity. Many people cover up furniture or clean up ponds and water features. Winter preparations are needed for any water features because of freezing.”

Fall Hardscaping

Of course, if you want to get started with a hardscaping project in the fall, there's really no reason not to pursue it, adds Nyce. Most landscape companies work until the ground freezes so it's quite possible you could have a hardscaping project—such as adding a fire pit or a patio—completed at this time.

“A lot of homeowners think they have to wait until the spring but that's not the case at all,” says Cording. “Fall is a great time to have work completed on your property and most landscape contractors don't begin their off-season until December.”

It's also a great time to start planning ahead for large projects, such as a pool, that you may want completed in the spring, adds Cording.

“Many large-scale projects, like pools, require three to six months of planning prior to be shovel-ready and we have a lot of homeowners who start those projects in the fall and winter,” he says.

With the cooler weather and beautiful days, now's the time to get outside and enjoy it while you can.

As Nyce sums it up: “Winter is just around the corner, so take advantage of the fact that fall is a great time to get outside and enjoy your landscape.”

H&H



RESOURCES

A & M Landscaping Management

Voorhees, N.J.
(856) 264-1663
AAandMLandscaping.com

CLC Landscape Design

Ringwood, N.J.
(973) 839-6026
CLCDesign.com

Elite Landscaping

Berlin, N.J.
(800) 582-6598
EliteLandscaping.com

Nyce Crete and Landis Block & Concrete

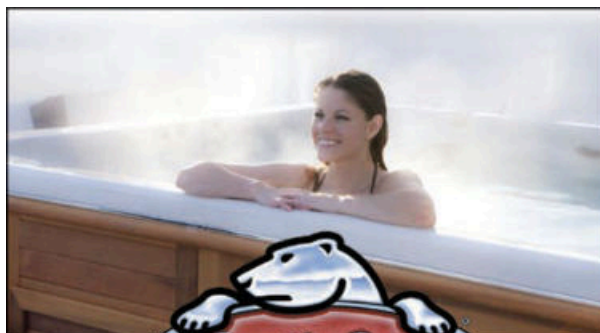
Souderton, Pa.
(215) 723-5506
LandisBC.com

Rock Bottom Landscaping & Fencing

(732) 873-6780
RockBottomLandscaping.net

SLS Landscaping

Lumberton, N.J.
(609) 518-5263
SLSLandscape.com



ENGINEERED FOR THE WORLD'S
HARSHEST CLIMATES.

COME SEE ALL THE
LATEST FEATURES
AND OUR NEW LINE TODAY!

RAINES POOL SERVICE CENTER
561 DURHAM ROAD,
NEWTOWN, PA 18940

www.arcticspasnewtown.com
(215) 493-8288



Can your spa do this?

AUTOMATED WATER CARE

The **world's first and only** system
that measures and maintains
clean and safe water.

Owning a hot tub or all weather pool
has never been so **EASY**.



PEACE OF MIND

with a certified drinking water system



Kinetico
home water systems

Systems to Remove:

- Bad Taste & Odors
- Bacteria & Nitrates
- Lead, Chlorine, Chloramines
- Heavy Metals
- Over 120 Contaminants

Water quality in both city and well water can change daily.
City or home plumbing can leach contaminants into the water.
Ensure your family is always drinking safe, great tasting water by
installing a Kinetico drinking water system in your home.

Bottled water quality
for only pennies a gallon

FREE
EXTRA FILTER SET
WITH KS PURCHASE

Offer Ends
09/30/19

FREE
WATER ANALYSIS*
& ESTIMATE

martinwater.com
800-887-7555

MARTIN
WATER CONDITIONING

- Family Owned & Operated Since 1973
- We Service Most Water Systems

*Free water test includes hardness, iron, pH, tds, chlorine & sulfur. ***financing requires credit approval and is not valid toward prior sales.

PA#16492

Each Rug has its own personality
Pattern, Design, Color
 Find one to match yours

KNOTS & WEAVES

1st floor • RUG GALLERY
 2nd floor • LOFT • Home Decor ~ Clothing ~ Gifts
 Jewelry ~ Candles ~ Collectibles
 FAT paint ~ Mid century ~ vintage

THE Loft
 AT KNOTS AND WEAVES

DECORATIVE RUGS • HOME DECOR

BUY • SELL
 TRADE • CLEAN
 RESTORE

218 E King St
 Malvern • PA

Award winning
 selection &
 customer service

610-644-9192

www.knotsandweaves.com

DID YOU KNOW?

we buy estates in whole or part....call for more details

f @ p t

FLOOR COATINGS • STORAGE SYSTEMS

BEST of HOUSE HOME 2018
 GARAGE FLOOR RESURFACING

Call Today
 for a **FREE** Estimate!

DURABLE, BEAUTIFUL FLOORS

floorguard

THE PLATINUM IN CONCRETE COATINGS

(215) 510-8326
www.floorguard.com

Lic Numbers PA102660 • New Castle County LC7149 • DE 15-98004-52

C & C HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING Co., Inc.
 Serving Montgomery and Bucks Counties since 1972

www.CC-HVAC.com

**READER'S CHOICE
 THANKYOU**
 For Voting Us BEST
 Heating &
 Air Conditioning
 Contractor

C&C certified staff
 has earned York's
 distinguished service
 award for the last 24 years.

YORK
 It's time to get comfortable.

\$300 OFF
 Any Heating & A/C Heat Pump
 Combined System Installed
 Mention This Ad
Not good with any other offers • One coupon per job
 Coupon valid only at time of sale

\$100 OFF
 Any Heating or A.C. • System Installed
 Mention This Ad
Not good with any other offers • One coupon per job
 Coupon valid only at time of sale

Upgrade now and SAVE!

My Benefits:
☒ Increase comfort
☒ Lower energy costs
☒ Add value to your home
☒ Protect the environment
☒ Save Money!

800 Hagey Road • Souderton, PA 18964
 Call for a **FREE** Estimate 215-799-0515 • 800-564-3382
 Fax 215-799-0525

The Foam Outlet

by Julie Shannon

Have you ever noticed that new couch you bought a few years ago is getting soft and losing its support and comfort? Are you using pillows between your sofa's back cushion to give you better support? You're not alone. Foam cushions tend to break down and lose their firmness, making sitting down not nearly as comfortable as it was when you first purchased the couch, sometimes even somewhat painful. When you can't take it anymore, the first thing that crosses your mind is to get a brand-new couch again, which can be quite costly.

But there is a cost-effective solution that will make your couch look and feel brand new—The Foam Outlet. A family-owned and operated business with 29 years of experience serving the tri-state area, the company specializes in cutting replacement foam for couch cushions and offers a lifetime guarantee with every couch cushion they make.

House & Home spoke with owner Jim Marr about how he got into this business, the process of making couch cushions and what types of firmness are best for each individual.

How did you get into this line of business?

I am an upholsterer by trade; we needed a source for foam. As a parachute rigger in the Navy, 90 percent of what I did was sewing for pilots. ... My source of foam closed many years ago and I needed to get into the foam end of the business as a necessity. Between that and [my] trade, it became the perfect storm. As the price of oil

went up, manufacturers cut back on the quality of foam they put in [retail or store bought] couches, and just like everybody knows, these days cushions only last two to three years while mom and dad's lasted 30 years.

What is the process like?

It's easy—folks bring in their cushions with the covers left on them. You shouldn't take them off because they lose shape. We measure the cushion for you so the measurements are always correct and we place the covers back onto the new cushions which can be tricky at times. We also offer custom-cut cushions, so if you have an odd shape or a very large cushion you need to replace, we can satisfy that need. Then, we find out what your needs are by having you sit and sample three different types [of cushions and firmness] in our lobby. This gives the customer knowledge of exactly what they want and when they get home, there are no surprises. Then, we cut and install the foam while you wait. Sometimes it takes as little as 15-20 minutes.

How do customers decide which type of firmness is best for them?

Ninety-nine percent of the people who come through the door, the first thing they say is, give me the hardest foam. They usually change their minds after trying our different types of foam cushions. A [6-foot tall]

man needs a firmer foam than a lady who is [a little over 5 feet] and weighs 118 pounds, but that's the problem—people equate firmness with longevity. They think getting firm foam lasts longer, but that's not the case. A lot of times they come in looking for the hardest foam and they leave with the softest.

The important thing is we educate our clients so they understand what they are buying, and everyone has different reasons—someone may have had a knee and hip replacement done recently, a bad back or posture issues so they prefer to have their replacement cushions a little firmer.

Is this the only way for customers to go about getting new foam for couch cushions?

The Foam Outlet experience cannot be duplicated over the internet. You can buy foam online for less money, but you don't know exactly what you're getting. We are the only place that gives a lifetime guarantee on our couch cushions—you won't get that guarantee at any other store.

What else do you work with besides couches?

Besides replacement cushions for sofas, loveseats and chairs, we also cut replacement foam for boats, RV trailers, customer mattresses and foam for wheelchairs. Anything you need foam for, we can make. Our slogan is: we manufacture what you can't buy. **H&H**



Jim Marr, Owner



The Foam Outlet

Pennsauken, N.J.
(856) 382-7145 | FoamOutlet.com

Annual Checkup

With cold weather approaching, now is the time to assess the key parts of your home and make sure they are ready for winter.

Labor Day weekend has come and gone, the kids are back to school and soon the cool weather will be rolling in. There is no mistaking that fall is here and winter will soon follow, and now is the time for homeowners to make sure their houses are prepared for the harsh conditions.

Just like annual visits to the family doctor can help people stay on top of their health, a routine checkup on the home can ensure that it is in tip-top shape and functioning properly.

"It's important to winterize and secure your home for the colder months because energy efficiency becomes more vulnerable and taking steps to ensure the efficiency of the home will save money, will help the environment and will also provide a more comfortable living space," says James Russo, co-owner of Lawrenceville Home Improvement Center.

House & Home spoke with several area professionals for tips

on which areas of the house must be addressed to prevent failure in the winter and avoid potential financial disaster.

STARTING THE PROCESS

One of the first steps homeowners can take is a simple walk around their property to look for issues that need attention.

"Make sure all of your outside hose bibs are shut off and opened up, so you don't have any cracked pipes or anything," says Pete Afflerbach of Amiano & Son Design-Build. "Check the windows because the seal can go bad in the summertime, leading to condensation in the window. If you see condensation, most likely you have a bad seal."

With caulk being affected by the extreme heat of the summer, it may be wise to reapply it, particularly around windows.

"Caulking is just a good practice to have so you don't have snow or rain blowing in behind the window and deteriorating the wall," says Jamie Fiel of Renewal by Andersen of Philadelphia and South Jersey. "It's good protection for the home all the way around, because you could get mold behind your siding or something like that. The hot summer months take a toll on the caulk, so that's why I like to double check and make sure it's not cracked anywhere."

Russo suggests waiting for a windy day in the fall to check for a draft around the windows. Adam Parnes of Global Home





Improvement agrees and says fall is a good time to replace older or failing windows.

"We always have people who keep waiting to do their windows, but new windows are not just something where you see a difference in your energy bill; you also see it in the rooms you spend time in," he says. "Don't you want the rooms you spend the most time to be the most comfortable? Waiting an extra year, you might save money but your house is not going to be comfortable."

Both Parnes and Russo recommend fiberglass windows to avoid marked expansion and contraction of the window, which results in a poor fit. Fiel believes the Fibrex material patented by Andersen takes that idea a step further by not moving at all and not being susceptible to changes in climate.

On top of the right material is having an experienced professional overseeing the project. "At the end of the day, the best solution for a draft problem is a well-installed product," Russo says.

As with windows, doors should be checked for any air getting through. A poor fit might be able to be adjusted and weatherstripping can also help.

"If you're not replacing your doors, check your weatherstripping and make sure it's in good shape," Fiel says. "On most doors the weatherstripping is replaceable, especially entry doors. You can go to Home Depot, get a new weatherstrip

and pop it in there. That's always something I take a look at in my home."

CRUCIAL WINTERIZING STEPS

While a failing roof is certainly an issue any time of year, that is especially true during the winter. Homeowners should take stock before it's too late.

"You can inspect your roof, but if you don't want to get up there you can look at the downspouts and see if you have a lot of shingle granules," says Dave Lyons of DNA Roofing & Siding. "If that's the case, then your roof is getting near end of life."

"Obviously, the worst thing that can happen is you get a bad storm and you get shingles blown off, and then you get a leak. You want to be preemptive and do something before that happens. September, October and November are probably the best times to install a new roof. It's the best time for the crew, the best time for the materials and the temperature is perfect."

Several of the experts we spoke with warned of the dangers of ice damming on the roof.

"If you start having more significant leaks in the middle of the roof or ice damming where the roof meets the gutter, then you should really consider a replacement," Parnes says. "We've seen serious damage from ice damming where the ice builds up along the gutter, and when it melts it's almost like a flood inside your house."

TIME FOR A REFRESH? LET US HELP.

UPDATE YOUR KITCHEN IN 1-5 DAYS

1 DAY TUNE-UP • CABINET REFACING & REDOORING
CUSTOM CABINETS • CABINET PAINTING • AND MORE

Jeff & Penny Toren
Local Owners

610.421.4324

kitchentuneup.com

Kitchen Tune-Up Mainline, PA

Each franchise is locally owned & operated.

VISIT OUR SHOWROOM | 391 Lancaster Ave - Malvern, PA

EXPERIENCE
connected living

MULTI-ROOM MUSIC

SMART LIGHTING

HOME THEATER

AUTOMATED SHADES

CLIMATE CONTROL

WHOLE HOUSE WiFi

valley automation

EXPERIENCE CONNECTED LIVING

valleyautomationllc.com

SCHEDULE A CONSULTATION

215.622.4915

@VALLEYAUTOMATION



"It's important to winterize and secure your home for the colder months because energy efficiency becomes more vulnerable and taking steps to ensure the efficiency of the home will save money, will help the environment and will also provide a more comfortable living space."

James Russo, co-owner of Lawrenceville Home Improvement Center

All of your walls are wet, all of your insulation is wet, and it's just a nightmare to go through insurance, replace all of that stuff and deal with mold and mildew."

Gutters often get overlooked in the winterizing process, but it is important to keep them cleaned.

"You should really go up in the late fall and make sure the leaves are out of there because the gutters will fill up with water, and the next thing you know you have water freezing under your shingles and you have an ice dam, creating a leak inside your home," Fiel says. "I can't tell you how many times I've seen homeowners have water pouring in their house and it's not even raining, and it's all because of clogged gutters. So that's one of the main things I believe you should do."

Lyons has seen many homeowners dealing with water in their basements this year and recommends painting the basement walls with Drylok and putting a foundation coat on the outside.

Another useful suggestion



- Asphalt Paving
- Residential and Commercial







215-4-PAVING

(215-472-8464)

215-513-1977

HarrisPavingIndustries.com

comes from Afflerbach, who warns homeowners to make sure their chimney caps are closed and to check soffiting so that animals can't get inside and cause damage.

BRINGING THE HEAT

The last major piece of winterizing centers on the home's heating system, which will obviously be counted on throughout the season. Chris Cavanaugh of R&D Heating and Cooling recommends having an inspection completed to make sure everything is working mechanically, especially if it's an older system that might need to be replaced before the cold temperatures arrive.

There are also important steps homeowners can take on their own.

"The big thing is using the change of seasons to remind yourself to change your air filter," Cavanaugh says. "Especially as we start entering flu season, you want to make sure that thing is clean. As it gets colder and you shut the

windows, you're trapping air inside the house and it's just recirculating, so you want to make sure it's filtered as much as possible."

Cavanaugh also suggests getting the humidifier ready to run by changing the pad, hosing off the outdoor air condenser and looking into a condenser cover, particularly in a wooded area.

"[In addition], if your [HVAC] system has a UV light it's a good time to make sure the bulb is still working," he says. "Typically the UV bulbs are good for roughly two years. As we move into the flu season, it's best to make sure your system is doing everything it can to help fight the germs."

With more and more homeowners opting for generators, Cavanaugh also stresses that yearly maintenance and weekly testing are critical to ensure it will operate when called upon.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Some of the measures for winterization can be knocked out in a weekend, while others will be more

expensive and require a professional. Either way, it is important to remember that a home needs to be prepared for the rough season ahead.

"All homeowners should definitely do checks around the house," Afflerbach says. "Anytime we're

going to have bad weather, you want to prepare so that way it doesn't cost you more in the long run. Your home is your largest investment in your life, so you want to take the steps to make sure everything is doing what it should be." **H&H**



RESOURCES

**Amiano & Son
Design-Build LLC**
Tabernacle, N.J.
(609) 268-5923
AmianoAndSon.com

DNA Roofing & Siding
Greenville, Del.
(302) 286-9126
DNARoofingSiding.com

Global Home Improvement
Servicing Pa. and N.J.
(866) 735-1121
GlobalHomeInc.com

**Lawrenceville Home
Improvement Center**
Lawrenceville, N.J.
(609) 882-6709
LawrencevilleHomeImp.com

R&D Heating and Cooling
Kennett Square, Pa.
(484) 734-1956
RDHVAC.com

**Renewal by Andersen
of Philadelphia and
South Jersey**
Servicing Pa. and N.J.
(877) 779-1393
SmartWindowChoice.com

DO YOU HAVE A PASSION FOR DECORATING?
Looking to start a new career as an
Interior Decorator or Home Staging Professional?



Certified Classes in
Interior Decorating
and Home Staging




**Bella Home
Interiors**

Registration
now open for
classes in
your area!

(856) 468-4400 • www.bellahomeinteriors.com

Specializing in Custom Window Treatments & Interior Decorating

**Abbey Plumbing
& HVAC**



Quality plumbing and
HVAC service since 1976

BEST
of
HOUSE
& HOME
2017

**\$25 OFF
ANY
SERVICE**

BEST
of
HOUSE
& HOME
2018

24 Hour Emergency
Phone: 215-643-6645
Fax: 215-643-2216
www.abbeyplumbing.com

YOUR LIFE, YOUR STYLE, YOUR GARAGE



**START TO FINISH,
WE DO IT ALL.**

- ▶ Cabinetry
- ▶ Flooring
- ▶ Craft Wall Systems
- ▶ Wall Accessories
- ▶ Lighting
- ▶ Wall Repairs and Painting
- ▶ Your complete garage installed in 2 to 5 days

**Call for your complimentary
in-home consultation today.**

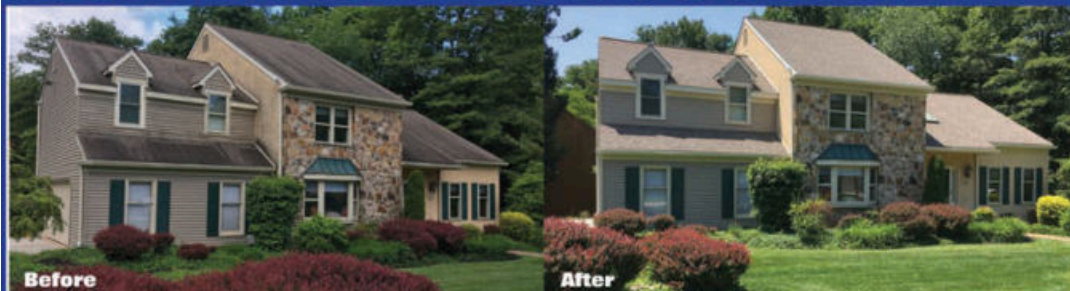
800-997-9769

For most homeowners, the garage is the least attractive, most cluttered part of the home. Yet, it is most often used as the primary entrance. Give your home and family the entrance that they deserve.



WE ARE THE **EXPERTS** ON **EPOXY** AND **POLYUREA** FLOORS
www.garagecraftinteriors.com

Roof & Exterior Cleaning



**15% OFF
OF ANY
SERVICE**

Offer expires October 31, 2019

**Bacteria are not just an aesthetics issue. These micro organisms are actually eating and decomposing your roof at an alarming rate. Our exclusive softwash system cleans your roof and other surfaces by killing:
Black Algae, Green Algae, Moss, Lichen, Mold, Mildew and Bacteria.**

Softwashing is safe and effective on ...

- Shingle, Tile, Metal & Shake Roofs
- Vinyl, Wood, Aluminum & Hardi Board Siding
- Stucco, Dryvit and EAFIS Surfaces

- Driveways, Patios and Walkways
- Wood or Composite Decks
- Wood or Vinyl fences
- Many, Many More Exterior Surfaces not listed here.



Soft washing gives you the clean you expect with the benefits of a pest control like application, lasting 4 to 6 times longer than destructive power washing.

www.SoftWashPlatoon.com

610-494-8490

From a National Network of  **GoodStewards** Companies

AFTER



Home Trimwork

Making Your Home "A Model Home"

*You Deserve
The Best*



BEFORE



Limited time offer!
5% Discount
coupon for any
project.
18 Months 0%
financing available.

Crown Molding • Wainscot • Archways
Window Molding • Picture Frames
Raised Panels • Fireplace Mantels
Bookcases • Stairs • Iron Balusters
Wood Floors • Interior Painting
And More!

AFTER



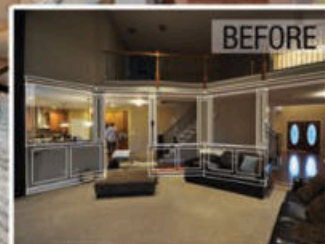
BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



Home Trimwork™

Making Your Home "A Model Home"

610.287.1100

www.hometrimwork.com

Financing Available.

No Interest For 18 Months!

#NJ:13VH05107600 PA: 003315 DE: 2006203461

**FREE DESIGN
CONSULTATION!**



Spring in your step. Stone in your kitchen.

Turn your kitchen into a gathering place. Create a home that perfectly reflects you, with stone countertops that spark conversation and surround you with inspiration. At Colonial Marble & Granite, we're proud to bring you the nation's largest selection of extraordinary stones from around the world, at prices you may find hard to believe.

\$0 DOWN AND 0% MONTHLY INTEREST FOR 18 MONTHS**



COLONIAL
MARBLE & GRANITE

COLONIALMARBLE.NET

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA | PHILADELPHIA, PA | NEW CUMBERLAND, PA | NEW CASTLE, DE | **OPEN 7 DAYS**

*Fully installed up to 50 sq ft, on any promotional granite.

**On purchases of \$1499 or more. \$29 account activation fee will apply. Visit ColonialMarble.net for details.