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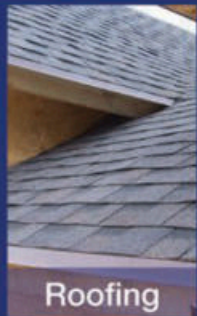
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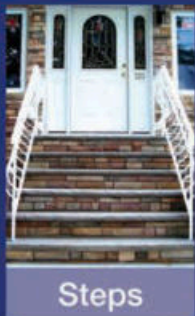
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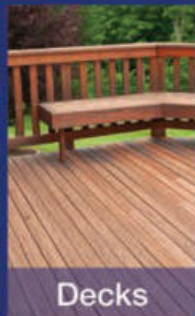
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On the cover:

Based in northern New Jersey, Just Decks by Capri was started more than 30 years ago by owner Carmine Capriglione. It's a business he has nurtured and grown, reaching new heights in design and customer satisfaction year in and year out with more than 1,000 custom decks designed and installed. There is no one more focused on industry innovations, knowledge and reliable professional service than Capriglione and his award-winning carpenters. To find out more about how he educates customers on proper deck construction, turn to page 27. Cover image courtesy of Just Decks by Capri



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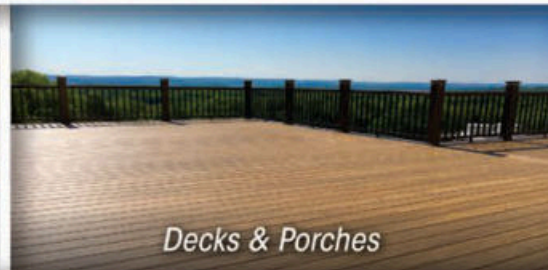
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HOUSE & HOME

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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

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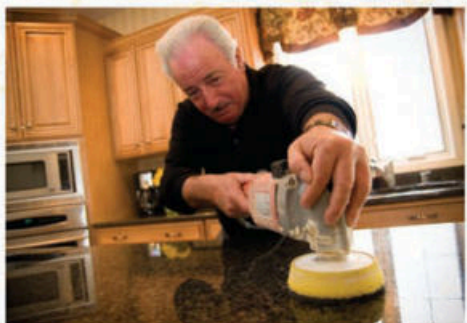
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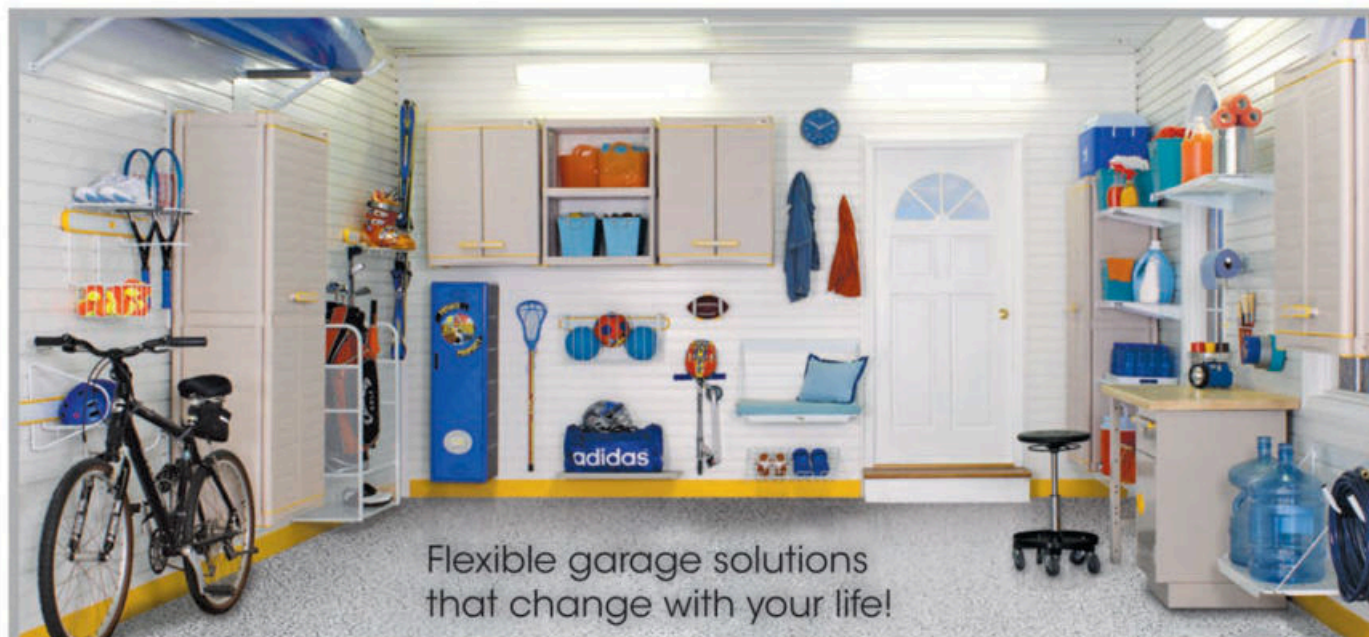
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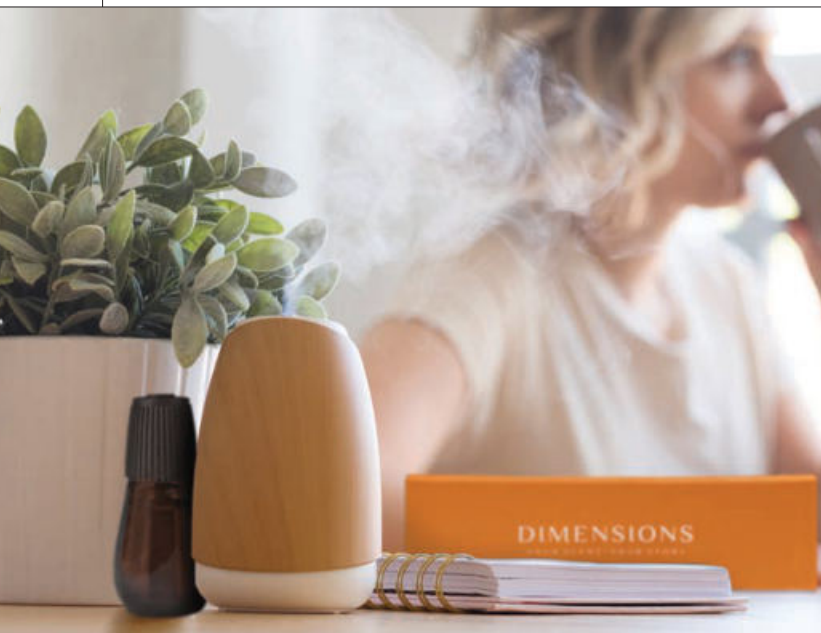
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the foundation

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**How to keep
comfort and safety
in mind as you
remodel the
home you love.**

Stay Awhile

Baby boomers remain one of the most interesting segments of the country's population. History has watched them grow up, and as more of them age into their senior years, they are increasingly making their living preferences known. Studies show a majority plan to stay in their current home, as opposed to move to a retirement or assisted living community, and many plan to make improvements on their home. Remodeling industry professionals have embraced this

trend of upgrading kitchens and bathrooms with a balance of luxury and safety in mind.

Often referred to as "aging in place," this trend empowers those who want to stay in their home but may need modifications to make it more suitable. This may mean moving a master bedroom to the first floor or installing safety features in a bathroom. We spoke with some of the region's prominent remodelers about renovating for this segment and how aging in place can still be done with style.

BY DANIEL SEAN KAYE



Top right images courtesy of Dilworth's Custom Design



Often referred to as “aging in place,” this trend empowers those who want to stay in their home but may need modifications to make it more suitable.



Stay Awhile

First steps

Assessing the safety and security of a home is a priority, says Christopher Fontana, owner of Magnolia Home Remodeling Group. “We have to look at everything, including the electrical, plumbing and heating. Older houses often don’t have what they need to help people stay there so a lot needs to be updated,” he says.

“When you’re considering aging in place renovations, the existing home has to be assessed for what can and cannot be done within budget,” says Doug Mottershead, CKD, kitchen and bath designer for McHales. “I have to look at all kinds of solutions. Can I build a soffit to hide things? Can I lower the ceiling or raise the floor to make access easier? These are important questions.”

Sophia M. Amiano, design assistant at Amiano & Son Design-Build says hearing the client’s thoughts is what truly determines the direction of the project. “Do they want to use the stairs as frequently? Do they want a more functional kitchen and bathroom? Questions like these are dire when renovating a forever home,” she says. This information guides choices on budget, materials and planning.

“When people can move into new homes where they can have everything they want, it can be rare to have homeowners who want to convert a 60-year-old house,” says David Cerami, CKBR, president of HomeTech Renovations. “When they do, there’s a lot to think about, especially accessibility to everything.” He mentions ramps, doorway widths, ADA compliance, getting to and from the house, aisle width, etc. “A renovation is a substantial investment that could cost \$60,000 to \$70,000. You have to ask yourself, ‘Can we do this? Do we want to?’ It really comes down to your quality of life.”

The homeowners might not even need health-specific renova-

tions yet they don’t want to downsize. “We’re finding a lot of people are getting the work done not because they are having medical issues, but because they want to make their homes more comfortable,” says Stephen Turbyfill, president of Freedom General Contracting. “This might be the house they’ve lived in for decades, but they never had time to renovate. They’ve paid off the mortgage, the kids have left and they just don’t want to move. This is their chance to get 10 to 15 more years out of their house.”

Features to consider

Like any remodeling project, changes come in many degrees, from full-scale demolition/design/build, to minor updating that doesn’t necessarily disrupt homeowners’ daily life.

“Remote control lighting, keeping areas accessible and free of clutter and trip hazards are low-cost, common-sense ideas that can be beneficial to everyone,” says Dave Dilworth, director, sales and design of Dilworth’s Custom Design.

For other renovations, making the space accessible is key, says Cerami. “You need to consider walkers and wheelchairs, wider doorways, easy thresholds and transitions. Can the person easily manipulate a walker in the room? Is there enough space to turn around? Is the room easy to use assisted or unassisted? You might need to rip everything out of a space and reconfigure the room to make it function the best.”

With this in mind, an open floorplan often works best. “In all parts of the home, clients are asking us for open-concept layouts. They’re easier to get around, especially if the client uses a wheelchair or walker,” says Amiano.

“Bathrooms and kitchens are not usually set up for anything other than what an able-bodied person needs, so you have to approach things differently. Someone who is blind will need things that someone who uses a wheelchair doesn’t. There are different requirements,” says Mottershead. “People with visual impairment



Homeowners don’t need to sacrifice their taste. “There’s a lot that can be done that is still very attractive.”

—Christopher Fontana, owner of Magnolia Home Remodeling Group

can’t have white cabinets and white countertops. Having brighter, cleaner light and maybe white cabinets with a dark countertop helps with depth perception. People in a wheelchair will need a 9-inch high toe-kick for their kitchen cabinets instead of the usual 4-inch high one. They also need shallow-sinked sinks so they can fit their chair in and are able to get things out,” he says. “Also, no one likes to have to reach into the back of a cabinet, so we install roll-out trays in almost every one. It’s about making everything inside accessible.”

The kitchen now has many features that make life easier for homeowners, says Dilworth. The farmhouse sink and wall ovens

don’t require as much bending over, pull-out drawers give easier access and corner cabinets can be designed to allow use of the entire space without reaching far back. “Soft-close doors and drawers can be modified as to the amount of force required to open them. Kitchens can be modified to have larger doorways if needed for wheelchair access,” he says.

For those homeowners who are looking to aging issues, they might put an addition on the first floor to have a bedroom space available in the future and reduce the needs for stairs, says Turbyfill. Another popular option is to convert the garage into a living space, allowing older people more convenience without them worrying

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Stay Awhile

about going up and down steps, says Amiano.

Once the first floor of the home is remodeled, homeowners may want to consider specific changes in their bathroom, like replacing a large whirlpool tub with a freestanding soaking tub, and making the spaces cleaner and more simplistic. "But we're seeing that no matter the choices, everything is style attractive and style-driven," Turbyfill says.

Homeowners don't need to sacrifice their taste. "There's a lot that can be done that is still very attractive," says Fontana. "We had one house a son wanted fixed-up for his mom. The grab bars and towel bars were very tasteful and aesthetically looked really nice. It's not like a hospital."

"In bathrooms, many changes are good to have no matter who uses the space. Horizontal grab bars and small vertical ones are good ideas. Maybe even having a seat in the shower," Mottershead says. In addition to the standard hot and cold valves, he suggests a secondary one so you have more control, and installing a diverter so you can shower when seated, [using] the main one to rinse.

"We're getting more requests for low-curb or no-curb showers, because they're much easier to navigate for older people," says Fontana. They also install lower controls and showerheads on hoses, as well as a main floor drain and no-slip materials on the floor.

Bathroom doorways are often too tight for wheelchairs so a 36-inch door gives plenty of room, says Amiano. A curbless shower helps clients who find it difficult to lift their legs over the pans.

"Vanties can be made taller for less bending over and can be multilevel to accommodate a wheelchair," says Dilworth. "Radiant floor heating can eliminate the need for throw rugs in

the bathroom, a trip hazard as we age. If it's taking longer to get in and out of the tub or shower, a heat lamp may be a welcome addition." Other features to think about include touchless and anti-scald faucets with lever handles, and improved task and under-cabinet lighting. "Bathrooms should always have a nightlight and the shower area should be properly lit."

One option Cerami floats is the idea of building or creating an in-law suite, with a brand-new layout specifically built for the older person. "Maybe they don't need or want a full kitchen. Perhaps a smaller kitchenette is best. The space functions as a mini-apartment, so the senior can keep their independence."

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Deck Guardian

by **Lindsey Getz**

I imagine stepping outside of your home onto your beautiful new deck to grill up some dinner while your family lounges at the fire table nearby to keep you company as you cook. A deck provides you with an extension of your home with space that you can socialize with family and friends—all while enjoying the beauty of the outdoors.

Of course, none of this will be possible by the time warmer weather rolls around if you don't start planning for your new deck soon. Deck expert Ion Colbasiuc, owner of Deck Guardian in Somerset, says that from the time you start dreaming about your deck until you're actually sitting on it can be as long as two to three months.

Colbasiuc has been installing and repairing decks for the last 11 years, since launching his business in 2008. He says that it's quite common for homeowners to underestimate how much time may be involved in building a deck and stresses that it's important for homeowners to start the process early.

What is a realistic timeline for getting a deck built?

Homeowners tend to underestimate how long it can take to build a high-end deck. Chances are, you want something special, and that's going to involve a professional design and of course, permitting. Once a decision is made and you approve the estimate, it may take one to two weeks to get blueprints drawn by an architect—an important step so that your deck comes together the way you truly desire. Once the blueprints are complete, we can file a permit with the township which may take an average of three to five weeks to approve. Then



EXPERTISE: DECK DESIGNING AND BUILDING



Ion Colbasiuc, owner

you'll have to get on the schedule to start building, which may be another one to two weeks. Finally, the build itself may take about a week to complete. In total, you could be looking at as much as two to three months—which is why you must get on the schedule early. For us, by March, our schedule is already getting full.

How can homeowners choose the right size deck for their home?

While there are some general rules of thumb that you can follow, the fact is, it comes down to how you plan to use the space. It's generally said that a deck should be between 15 and 20 percent of the home's overall square footage—but everyone's needs are different. If you're just using your deck to grill and eat with your immediate family, a 300 or 400 square foot deck would be enough. If you want extra space for lounging, you likely need a deck between 400 and 600 square feet. And if you really want a deck with all the bells and whistles then something 600 to 800 square feet or even bigger would allow you to do that.

What should homeowners know about wood versus composite?

One of the most common questions we get

is about which material is better—and most homeowners want to know about the cost. A lot of people believe that composite is twice the price of wood but that's only true of the material itself. The labor is generally around the same. When homeowners realize what they're getting for investing a little more in composite, they often decide it's worth it. While natural wood can be beautiful, most people don't have time to maintain it. After all, these days homeowners are busier than ever and have minimum time to dedicate to tasks around the home. Wood decks need regular pressure washing, painting and staining. By spending a little bit more, you can have a deck that is virtually maintenance free.

How can homeowners find the right contractor for the job?

My best recommendation is to choose a company that is dedicated to building decks—not just your average contractor that “does it all.” Decks are more involved than people realize, particularly high-end decks with all of the bells and whistles. Use the internet to your advantage and check up on their reputation and experience. Make sure you're working with a legitimate company. The last thing we like to see is people get burned because they chose the wrong company. **H&H**

Deck Guardian

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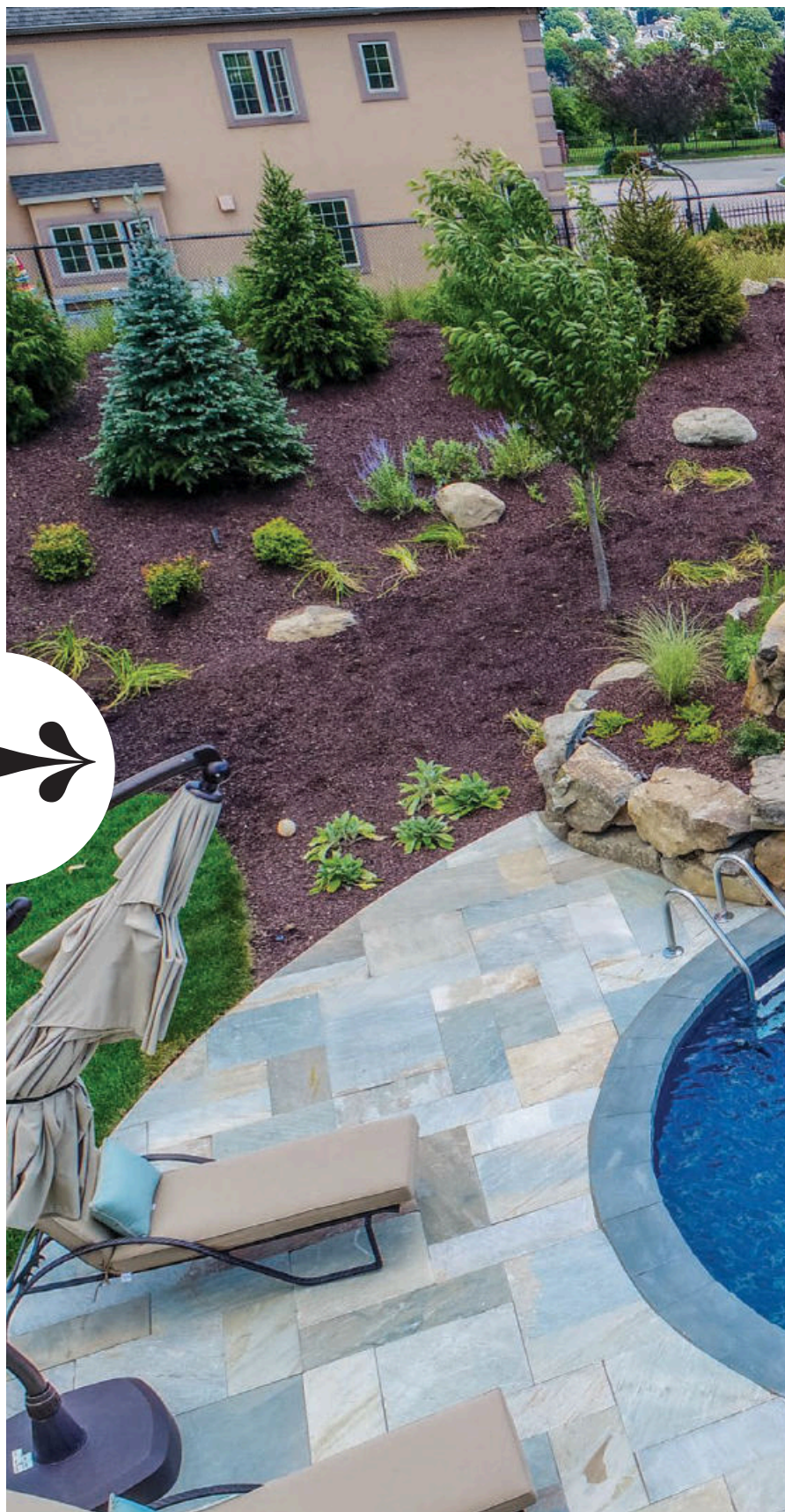
HEAD START



BY LINDSEY GETZ

While we may not be finished with snow and icy temperatures just yet, warmer days are just ahead and the only way to be truly ready for them is to start planning now. Landscaping professionals are already gearing up for their busy season and booking jobs. Homeowners who are waiting to make that call risk getting left behind as landscapers fill their schedules on a first-come-first-serve fashion.

“Checking in with your landscaper before the spring is an excellent idea,” says Chelsea Feast, sales and marketing-Go Green Division-at Elite Landscaping. “Professional landscapers are extremely busy in the spring because they are starting to install



Landscape design sketch and project images courtesy of CLC Landscape Design

LANDSCAPING CALENDAR



MOST HOMEOWNERS DON'T
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...IT PAYS TO GET THOSE
PLANS STARTED EARLY..."

—Richard Cording Sr.,
owner of CLC Landscape Design

HEAD START

all of the projects that were planned during the winter. Therefore, the longer you wait to reach out and plan, the longer you will end up waiting for the project to get on their schedule and get completed.”

“It’s never too early to get ready for spring—especially if you’re looking for something fun to do,” says Tammy Panetta of D. Panetta Contracting. “D. Panetta does 3D designs of your yard to show you what you can do by bringing it to life on the screen. You can see how your yard can become the backyard paradise you are dreaming of. Then, when you approve the design, we’re ready to bring it to life for you.”

Plan Now for Warm Weather Fun

The landscaping experts we spoke with all stressed that the “offseason” is an excellent time to start the planning and designing phase of an outdoor living project—particularly if it’s a larger undertaking like a new patio, an outdoor kitchen or maybe even a pool. In fact, it’s simply not feasible to have a project like this finished if it doesn’t get underway early on.

“Most homeowners don’t realize just how much time it takes to plan a project,” says Richard Cording Sr., LIC, owner of CLC Landscape Design. “A lot of that process is out of our hands with permitting being required for even smaller projects these days. We’ve had permits take two or three months to get approved as the local townships are often overburdened with receiving so many at once. It pays to get those plans started early so that there are no hold-ups when it’s time to build.”

“The offseason is the best time to start planning your landscape updates and renovations,” adds Dave Zimmerman, owner of Zimmerman Landscaping. “Unfortunately, those who wait until the first signs of spring to start thinking about their landscape could be in for a long wait. If it’s a large

project, you may not even be able to enjoy it until the following season. We always recommend getting on your landscape provider’s radar well ahead of time—even if it’s just an idea at this point.”

Planning in the winter is also a great way to get through those “wintertime blues,” adds Dean Johnston, owner, Johnston & Associates Land and Water Creations.

“It also helps you create a budget so that you don’t overspend

or rush into something,” Johnston says. “I find a lot of mistakes with homeowners who are just rushing to put something together at the last minute.”

Cording says that acting soon will also help avoid disappointment. He has had first-hand experience with this and says he always gets last-minute calls from homeowners who want to have a brand-new patio built in time for their child’s high school graduation party or a pool installed in time for Memorial Day swimming. It’s difficult to have to disappoint those people.

“It’s no fun having to tell a homeowner who is excited about their project that it’s not going to be ready in the timeframe that they want it,” Cording admits. “But when you don’t make that call until March, it’s just not realistic. Even if we worked as fast as we could, there will always be factors like weather and permitting that are out of our hands. In most cases, we’re already starting to break ground on projects by mid-March, so you want all the designs and permitting to be finished by then.”

Of course, planning ahead doesn’t only apply to large-scale design/build projects. While it’s

definitely critical that you get those on the calendar, you can also use the offseason to plan for maintenance projects. Feast says that the winter is a good time to create checklists of smaller items that you plan to do (or want your landscaper to complete) in the spring such as power washing and resealing your patio or deck, repairing loose boards or bricks in outdoor spaces and making sure that all outdoor lights are operational.

Trends on the Horizon

In terms of what homeowners are interested in, the big trends seem to be all about “backyard vacation destinations,” says Zimmerman. Homeowners are looking for lots of amenities like new patios with outdoor fire places, built-in stone pizza ovens, outdoor kitchens and combination water/fire features for amazing “accent pieces,” Zimmerman adds.

Sam Waddell, owner of SLS Landscaping, agrees and says that the “stay-cation” trend continues to reign in popularity. If anything, homeowners are getting more elaborate than ever with their backyard paradises. He says that it’s due to the fact that people are



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—Christine Gale,
president of Gale Nurseries

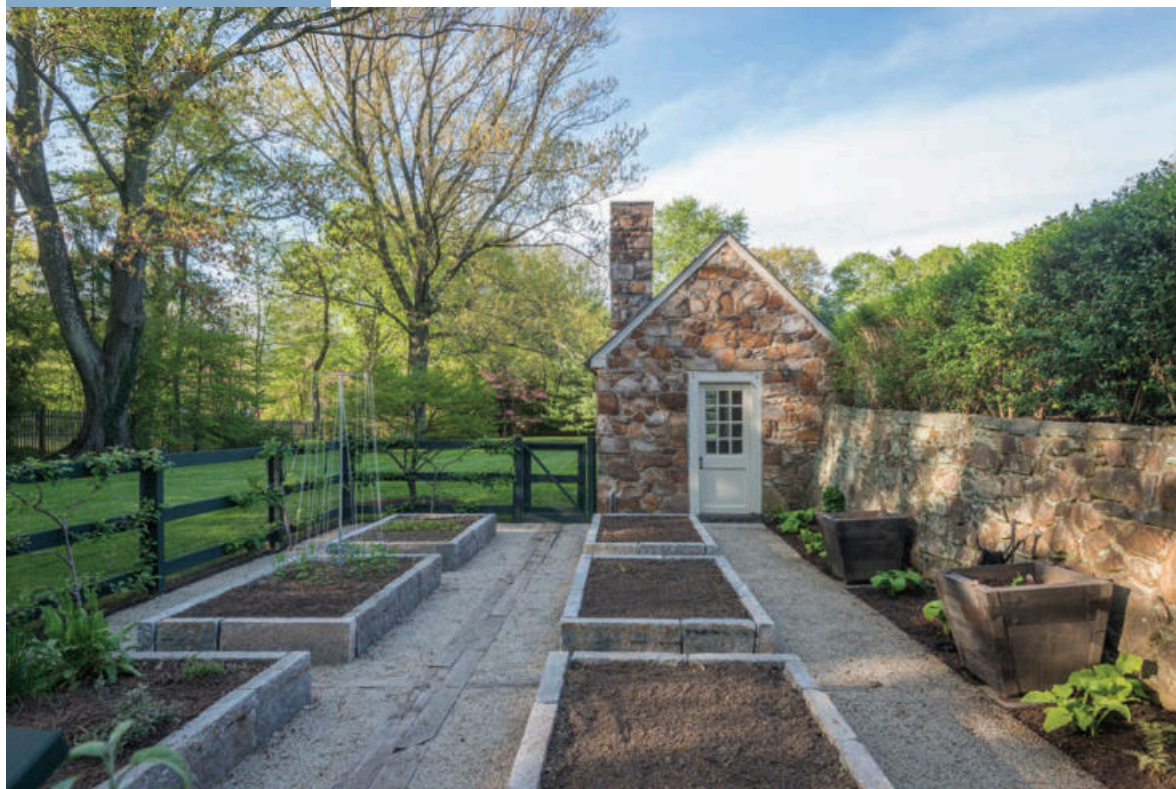


Image courtesy of Gale Nurseries



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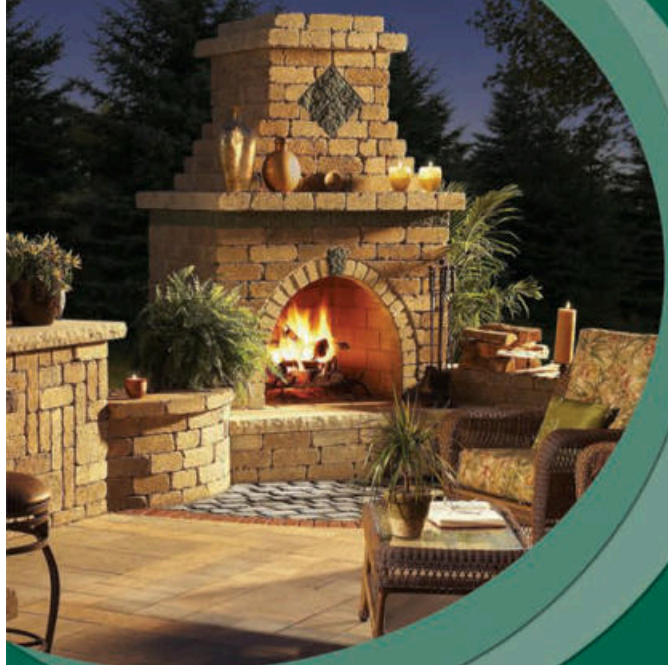
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HEAD START

spending more time at home and want to have a backyard they can enjoy.

Beyond outdoor living spaces, there are other trends to pay attention to in 2019 as well. Christine Gale, president of Gale Nurseries, says that she's seeing more requests to accommodate organic lifestyles.

"Many clients are requesting vegetable gardens so that they can eat organic," she says. "We have done a lot of raised-bed vegetable gardens recently. Along that topic, we have done some very interesting chicken coops and even vineyards. People want to grow their own food and it's an easy way to accommodate an organic lifestyle."

Along those same lines, there's also an increased interest in being environmentally friendly.

"Permeable pavers are gaining a lot of attention as they reduce or even eliminate any rain or storm water runoff," adds Zimmerman. "This is great for the environment as it keeps water from your property out of storm drains leading to rivers and streams and eventually to the ocean. Sustainability is becoming a key feature in our ever-changing climate."

Making Smart Choices

As you think ahead to the summer, Johnston advises that you make sure you "work with a professional."

"You may find that anybody with a truck calls themselves a landscaper," he says. "But many of us go to school in the winter to sharpen our skills and knowledge. An educated designer and builder will help you get the right results the first time. I work with a lot of clients who went with the cheap contractor first because they wanted to save some dollars but ended up spending two times what it would have cost to work with an experienced and educated

contractor in the first place."

The bottom line? Reach out to a professional who has your best interest at heart and plan now. If you want to be able to actually enjoy your space all summer long, you must plan ahead.

"Meeting with a landscape professional now enables sufficient time to design the swimming pool, outdoor kitchen and landscape, make necessary revisions to plans, submit for permits and schedule and order job materials," Waddell says. "Projects implemented in late winter and early spring will provide for all-season-long use of the new backyard, giving family and friends time to enjoy it!"

H&H



RESOURCES

CLC Landscape Design

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

D. Panetta Contracting, LLC

Randolph, N.J.
(973) 659-9374
DPanettaContracting.com

Elite Landscaping

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

Gale Nurseries

Gwynedd Valley, Pa.
(215) 699-4714
GaleNurseries.com

Johnston & Associates Land and Water Creations

Newark, Del.
(302) 521-2984
LandAndWaterCreations.com

SLS Landscaping

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

Zimmerman Landscaping

Serving New Jersey
(908) 240-6459
ZimmermanLandscapingLLC.com

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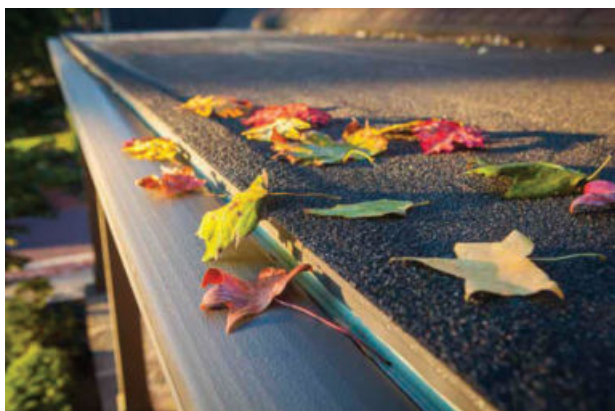


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One-Stop Shop

Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements is a reliable, family-owned business that provides all types of exterior services for your home. *by Julie Shannon*



It's inevitable that at some point while you own your home, your roof, siding and/or gutters will have to be replaced. There are many companies that provide these services, but specialize in just one or the other. Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements, a family-owned and -operated business serving New Jersey and New York for over 20 years, specializes in all three of these services, along with installing energy-efficient windows.

"We do everything exterior, from new roofing, vented soffits, trim and capping, to all new siding, vinyl or Hardie Plank, and custom Leaf Free gutters or open seamless gutters—all under one umbrella," owner Noel Naughton says, who left corporate America in 2002 to join his father's company full-time. "Some guys just do roofing then call someone else for gutters and the projects take days to get done. We have all our own crews and we do everything in-house. Instead of waiting a week or two for a roofing company, it's a seamless process with us. Once we're done with the roof, we get straight to the gutters."

Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements only uses the best products available, including their Leaf Free gutter system, part of the K-Guard gutter family. According to Naughton, they are held in place with patented, high-impact, all-weather polymer hangers and keep the gutter from losing its form.

"Our Leaf Free system is made of strong gauge aluminum so the base material doesn't wear away," Naughton explains. "It's the only one that is seamless and hingeable, all

custom-formed on the job site. Besides offering protection and durability, it looks like crown molding and comes in a variety of different colors. It also comes with a lifetime guarantee of nonclogging and keeps out all birds, squirrels and animals."

Naughton's family has been installing gutters since 1976, so it comes as no surprise Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements knows every little detail about gutters. Once they were extremely knowledgeable about

"We do everything exterior, from new roofing, vented soffits, trim and capping, to all new siding, vinyl or Hardie Plank, and custom Leaf Free gutters or open seamless gutters—all under one umbrella." —Noel Naughton owner, Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements

gutters and had the materials and crews they needed, they added roofing and siding to their résumé. From roof installation to roofing repairs, Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements is known as a leading roof contractor, offering the highest quality materials from some of the best lines available. They are also a GAF Certified Installer and a licensed contractor in both New Jersey and New York.

"Because we're GAF certified, we're able to offer a tax rebate up to \$1,500 because it's an efficient roof," Naughton says. "We also offer a 50-year warranty on Life Time shingle roofs, which we recommend because it's been held to the industry standard to protect your house. Some companies install metal roofs because they think they are more cosmetic, but it's more of a hindrance with heavy rain, snow and ice. It's very important to protect your house with a good, solid roof and keep the elements outside."

When it comes to siding, Leaf Free Gutters



Noel's father, Patrick Naughton, installing gutters in 1976

and Home Improvements has many options to choose from, but Naughton recommends Hardie Plank siding—fiber cement siding that is extremely durable and has long-lasting color that fits any aesthetic.

"It's expensive, but it's a 50-year product," he says. "Once you install it, you don't have to get siding on your house ever again."

Once the project is finished, Naughton and his team continue the relationship with their clients by thanking them in more ways than one.

"Last year we installed over 700 jobs and 63 percent of them were referrals," Naughton says. "After every project we mail a thank you letter to the client and give them a \$25 gift card for a nice review on social media sites. It's a nice incentive we like to offer to our clients."

It's offerings like this, as well as having a qualified and honorable staff and providing the best customer service and products on the market that make Leaf Free Gutters and Home Improvements a step above the rest.

"We have a really good product, we don't offer fly-by-night products," Naughton says. "For example, if you go to a place like Home Depot and buy a mesh system [for gutters], you'll get clogs. On the flip side, there are other companies that will charge \$9,000 or \$10,000 for a gutter system that doesn't work. We are honest and professional and that's how we run our business. We're not the cheapest, but we're not going to take advantage of people. We're a trustworthy family business." **H&H**



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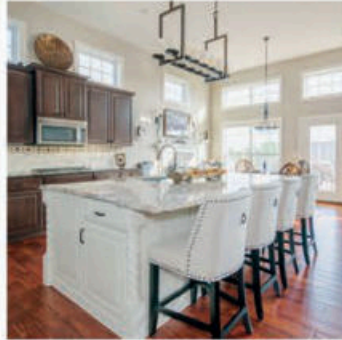
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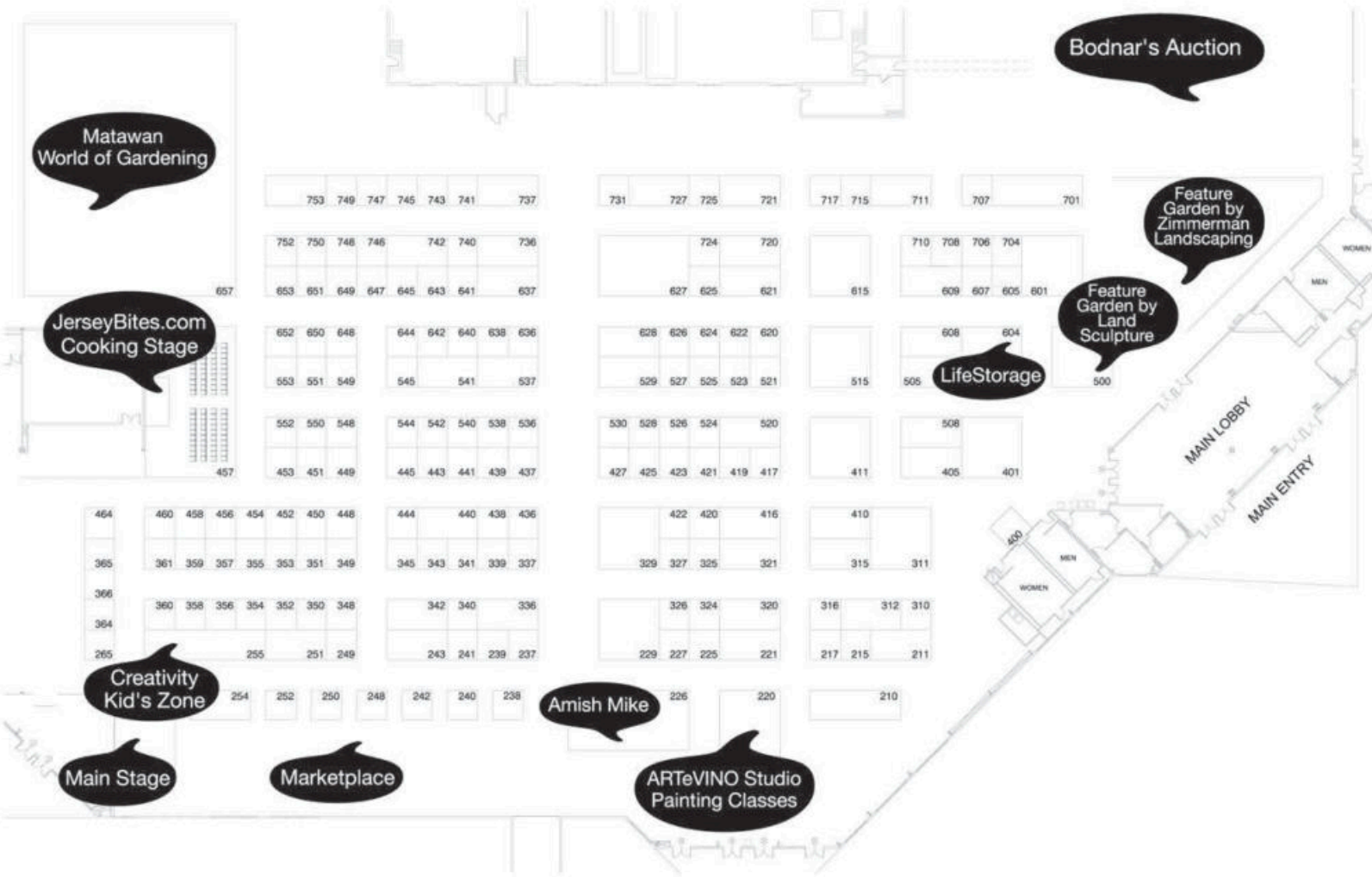


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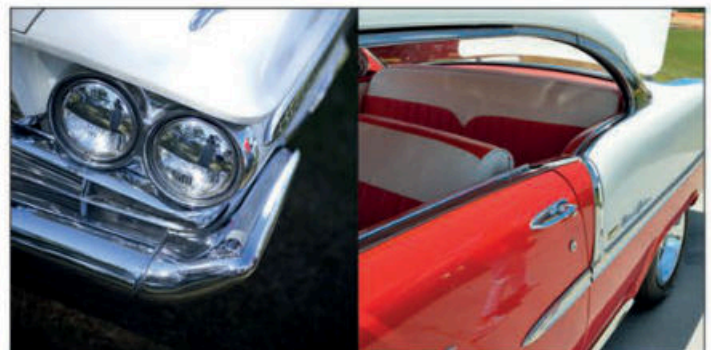
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1 Day Bath	736	Life Storage	604
A+ Power Washing and Roof Cleaning LLC	708	Living Well Products Direct	361
ACRE Replacement Windows	741	Longford Landscape and Excavation, Inc.	411
Acu-Pulse	549	Luxury Bath of NJPA	515
ADT Security Systems	438	Maintenance Mart	552
Aerus / Electrolux	324	Matawan World of Gardening	657
American Kitchen Refacing	423	Mattress Firm	329
American Quality Remodeling	436	MegaLight, INC	314
Amish Mike	226	Metropolitan Window Fashions	610
ARTEVINO Studio	220	Mid-Atlantic Waterproofing New Jersey	316
AT&T	460	Midtown Chimney Sweeps	538
Atlas Home Contractors	221	Modifications Home Improvement	345
Audio Cafe	710	Momentum Solar	417
Awning Design	725	MOVE or IMPROVE in NJ	440
Balaney Contracting	320	N-Hance Wood Refinishing	545
Basement Waterproofing Specialists	727	National Fence Systems	508
Bath Fitter	749	New Jersey Kettle Korn	Outside
Bathroom Masters	348	New York Life	421
Beadweaver's	240	NJ Clean Energy Program	624
Best Tile	520	NJ Mosquito Patrol	544
Biogents USA	521	NYC Daylighting Inc.	310
Bodnar's Auction Sale	900	Outdoor Lighting Perspectives of Central NJ	652
Brothers Landscaping	636	Paradise Grilling Systems Inc	601
Carol's Scents N' Soaps	242	Passanante's Home Food Services	605
Carpets & More	416	Patchmaster, The Drywall Repair Specialists	325
Castle "The Window People"	647	Pella Windows And Doors	537
Celestial Gardens LLC	248	Pipe Works Home Services Inc.	210
Click Heat	720	Pool Designs Inc	701
Corbin Electrical Services, Inc	217	Popcorn For The People	343
Cream Ridge Winery	449	Power Home Remodeling	211
Creative Marketing Ventures	717	Precision Tech Home Services	344
CUTCO Cutlery	453	Princeton Van Service Moving & Storage	358
Cyber Homes Inc.	644	Quality 1st Basement Systems Inc	526
D&E Window and Door, LLC	322	Rebath	315
David Lerner Associates	628	Renewal by Andersen	311
Delux Railing	229	RetroBath	529
Digandbark.com	252	Rhineland Cutlery	731
Edison / Hillsborough Garage Door	620	Richmond Tile and Bath	401
Exploria Resorts	437	Roof Wizards	327
F & C Professional Aluminum Railing	548	RoyalZ	336
Floor Coverings International	445	RTI Builders LLC	501
Gallas Beauty Inc.	743	Sears Home Improvement Products Inc.	410
Garden Irrigation	225	ShelfGenie of New Jersey	448
GenRenew	707	Shen Yun Promotions Intl	528
Gloria Nilson & Co. Real Estate	360	Shuster Doors	653
Got-Stuff.net	405	Skydell Contracting Inc.	524
Gourmet Creations	249	Sleep Number	737
Gutter Helmet by Harry Helmet	536	Solid Wood Cabinets	337
H&R Funding LLC	607	Spectrum Energy Inc (Spectrum Solar)	648
Home and Garden NJ	422	Spectrum Painting & Paper Hanging LLC	527
Home Improvement Guide	622	Sundancer Awnings & Canopies	609
Home Star Remodeling	704	TD Marketing	541
House & Home Magazine	606	Tri-State Window & Siding	523
Innate Living	425	TriOrganics	419
JNL Financial Services, LLC - Allstate	525	TriState LeafGuard	420
Joe Percario General Contractors, LLC	721	Upper Cervical Chiropractic of Monmouth , LLC.	540
Joseph J. Gormley CPA	321	Viking Pest Control	312
Keystone Contracting LLC	641	vipHomeLink	442
Kitchen Craft	530	Vision Group Holdings / The Lasik Vision Institute	349
Kitchen Design Centers / At Home Kitchens	215	Well-Sweep Herb Farm	254
Kitchen Magic	621	Window Plus	553
Land Sculpture	500	Window World of Jersey Coast	615
LeafFilter North of New Jersey, LLC	444	Wood-N-Dreams	365
Legends Design, LLC	227	Zimmerman Landscaping LLC	600
		Zuzu Confections	427

NEW JERSEY HOME SHOW

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COOKING STAGE



Saturday, February 23rd

11:00am Lisa Grant
Author, Blogger & Home Cook of
JerseyGirlCooks.com
Chili with a Twist



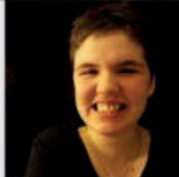
1:00pm Zoe Gelsi
Chopped Jr Participant
Homemade Pizza with Arugula
Pesto & Crispy Speck



3:00pm Rachel Weston
Culinary Educator & Author
Mediterranean Stew & Farro Salad



5:00pm Gillian Rose Eisenberg
Aspiring Youth Chef
Risotto with Zucchini & Prosciutto



Sunday, February 24th

11:00am Valerie Gray
Recipe Creator & Founder of
FromValsKitchen.com
Pressure Cooker Cheddar Risotto
with Ham



1:00pm Chef Jesse Jones
Author of POW! My Life in 40 Feasts
Chicken Jambalaya



3:00pm Little Fox Kitchen
Cooking Classes
& Culinary Event Space
Tagliatelle al Ragu, featuring a
handmade pasta demonstration



Main Stage decorated by Legends Design
legendsdesignllc.com

MAIN STAGE



Friday, February 22nd

4:30pm Laurie Smith
Trading Spaces Designer
Discovering Home: Laurie's Favorite
Renovations



**5:30pm Neil Parsons of Design Build Planners
& Professional Realtor Jacqueline Venezia**
Move or Improve...
What's Best For Your Family?



6:30pm Laurie Smith
Trading Spaces Designer
Discovering Home: Laurie's Favorite
Renovations



Saturday, February 23rd

11:30am Laurie Smith
Trading Spaces Designer
Discovering Home:
Laurie's Favorite Renovations



12:30pm Mike Rutkowski
Account Manager, New Jersey's
Clean Energy Program
How to Choose the Best Contractor



1:30pm Laurie Smith
Trading Spaces Designer
Discovering Home:
Laurie's Favorite Renovations



**2:30pm Neil Parsons of Design Build Planners
& Professional Realtor Jacqueline Venezia**
Move or Improve...
What's Best For Your Family?



3:30pm Anthony Cotugno
General Manager at Richmond Tile and Bath
Top Tips for Your Bathroom and
Kitchen Remodeling



**4:30pm Founder & CEO Alfred Bentley and
Geoff Martin Co-Founder &
COO/CFO of vipHomeLink**
Is Your Home In Good Shape?
Take the Home Fitness Challenge



Sunday, February 24th

12:00pm Anthony Cotugno
General Manager at Richmond Tile and Bath
Top Tips for Your Bathroom and
Kitchen Remodeling

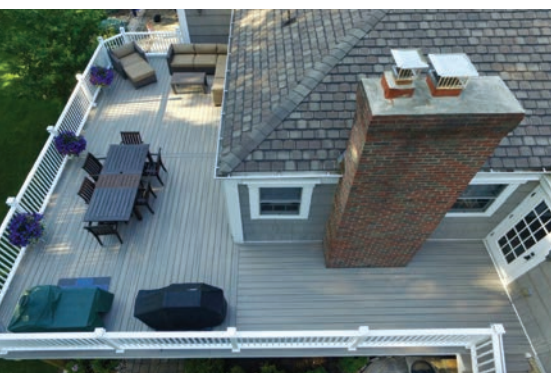


1:30pm Mike Rutkowski
Account Manager, New Jersey's
Clean Energy Program
How to Choose the Best Contractor



**2:30pm Founder & CEO Alfred Bentley and
Geoff Martin Co-Founder &
COO/CFO of vipHomeLink**
Is Your Home In Good Shape?
Take the Home Fitness Challenge





Confidence & Craftsmanship

FOR A DECK YOU'LL BE PROUD OF, THERE IS NO BETTER CHOICE THAN JUST DECKS BY CAPRI.

Picture this: It's a sunny summer day. You open the sliding back door and you step onto your new deck and settle into a lounge chair while the kids jump into the pool. You look around and admire the space you've worked so hard for, feeling a sense of pride knowing the deck was built by the most qualified craftsmen using the best materials available. This is what it feels like to be a customer of Just Decks by Capri.

Based in northern New Jersey, Just Decks by Capri was started more than 30 years ago by owner Carmine Capriglione. It's a business he has nurtured and grown, reaching new heights in design and customer satisfaction year in and year out with more than 1,000 custom decks designed and installed. There is no one more focused on industry innovations, knowledge and reliable professional service than Capriglione and his award-winning carpenters.

Education is something he promotes, not only within his own business, but for customers themselves. He has seen many people taken advantage of and heard horror stories of builders who cut corners and put customers' safety at risk. "Finding a local, licensed deck builder to give you the perfect space for entertaining and relaxing requires planning, interviewing and more," Capriglione says. "I believe that any deck project must be completed properly: with solid footings, structural supports and efficient egress to and from the house."

Having a picture-perfect deck starts with hiring the right deck builder, and Capriglione has some professional tips for finding the right one.

1. Check reviews and references from qualified sources. If friends or neighbors have recently had a deck built, ask about their experiences, good or bad, and whether they'd recommend their contractor.

2. Interview three or four deck builders. "Having worked with hundreds of customers, we have learned that there are plenty of companies out there that are untrustworthy and often do not do what they say," he says.

3. Get estimates that include all the options under consideration. The customer needs to understand the costs associated with every phase and design element of the project.

4. Carefully review the contract before paying the deposit. The contract should include: a complete description of the project (framing according to approved building plans, size, materials, colors, railing, and lighting); the total price of work; payment schedule; clean-up details and so on.

Many other companies run multiple crews, leading to multiple problems. "The communication breakdown leads to issues and there is zero quality control on their jobs," he says. "We do it differently. We build one deck at a time and I am personally on-site for every project. We're an established company and there is no need to worry about us not showing up or something going wrong. We do it right once." The company's reviews tell the story—with A and A+ ratings across the board, customers are overwhelmingly satisfied with Capriglione's decks.

Just Decks by Capri offers a limited 10-year warranty, and because the company is the leading installer of Fiberon decking, it also offers a

five-year labor warranty through Fiberon—a rarity in this industry.

"I have been working exclusively with Fiberon composite decking since 2005 because of their beautiful decking color options, durability, reliability and fade resistance of its natural wood flooring finish. It's a better surface for children and pets to walk on because there aren't any splinters or nail pops to worry about," says Capriglione. Fiberon also has a 25-year product warranty against termites, stains, splintering, cracking, decay and rotting. He trusts it so much his own home's deck was built with Fiberon 12 years ago and still looks as good as day one.

Capriglione wants to make sure the general public understands what goes into the Just Decks building and installation process. He recently produced a step-by-step video, available on YouTube (search "Just Decks building process"), showing how his crew goes about building a new deck for customers, from the concrete footing to the steel railing support to the staircase. This video shows nothing is overlooked.

A custom deck is an investment, and Capriglione understands that, knowing there is no room for mistakes. For homeowners who want top-of-the-line products and knowledge with innovative design, Just Decks by Capri is "just better." **H&H**

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Nothing to

With cold weather making its impact on the home, there are still great ways to save energy and money.

We spend a lot of time at home, so we want to be comfortable. But between drafts and ineffective materials, while we may love our house we don't always love the way it makes us feel. Luckily, there are upgrades, smart changes and long-term fixes that help stop the loss of precious energy (and dollars) through energy-inefficient homes.

LATEST TECHNOLOGY

Sam Litwin, of The Insulation-Heating & Cooling Group, says there is exciting new tech out there that can help. "The market is forever changing, so homeowners have to ask themselves, what gets them the biggest bang for their buck?" Litwin says that in order to figure this out, people *must* do an energy savings/comfort assessment

audit on their home. "It's like doing a blood test at the doctor. It helps you learn where any problems might exist."

He says the audit covers four areas: your home's health (indoor air quality, areas that could be a breeding ground for mold); your home's safety (testing for carbon monoxide, natural gas leaks); your home's comfort (drafts, seeing if

some rooms are colder than others); and your home's energy efficiency (making sure it's maximizing savings).

While drafty windows are a good indicator of a lack of energy efficiency, James Russo, owner of Lawrenceville Home Improvement, says that in an effort to cut costs, sometimes homeowners will choose window options that will



LOSE

need to be replaced in 15 to 20 years. "These will lessen in energy efficiency as time goes on," he warns. He says fiberglass has been a game-changer in replacement window energy efficiency, since fiberglass windows are stronger than vinyl and wood window options and offer superior energy efficiency.

"Unlike wood and vinyl

windows, the expansion and contraction rates of fiberglass windows are negligible. When a window expands and contracts over the changing temperatures of the seasons, its fit can become compromised," he says. This could lead to drafting, where your heated or air conditioned air is escaping. "You are using more energy to keep your home

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comfortable and are wasting both energy and money as a result.” And because fiberglass windows hold their fit, your home will benefit from maximum sustainability, he says.

“In the area of building materials there is and has been a push to make products more energy efficient,” adds Ned Scheffler, sales for Chapman Windows Siding & Doors. The biggest advancements are in glass technology, including using Low-E glass (covered in a

transparent microscopically thin coating that reflects heat), laminated safety glass that holds together when shattered, almost UV-eliminating glass tinting and solar-powered shades, he says.

Jacob Echevarria, president of Window World of Philadelphia, agrees about the developments in window technology. “The best investments depend on how long a person plans on staying at their house. Less than three years, people should invest

in double-pane windows with Argon gas; more than three years, people should invest in triple-pane with Argon gas; and more than 15 years, people should invest in triple-pane with Krypton gas,” he says.

PRODUCT UPGRADES

“Proven time and again, the No. 1 thing to do is invest in insulation,” says Litwin. This is followed by considering smart thermostats, windows, equipment

(heating and air) and appliances. Another good choice is mini-blinds/curtains, which are energy efficient because they reflect heat, he says.

In addition to choosing a fiberglass window product, Russo suggests homeowners explore the various advances in glass construction. “Most windows are double paned, which in itself is greatly superior to the antiquated single-paned versions. The double pane allows for the space between to be filled with an insulative gas. Furthermore, many double-paned windows offer Low-E coating to enhance the deflection of UV rays that can fade the interior furnishing of your home and preserve energy efficiency,” he says.

Scheffler backs that up, pointing to two specific upgrades for doors and windows. One is double Low-E glass, which cuts the thermal performance U-Value; and the second is skylights with Low-E, laminated glass and solar-powered light-blocking shades.

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GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE

While there were government tax credits available in 2018 for energy-efficient home improvement projects, it's not clear whether these will be renewed in 2019, says Russo. "Tax credit or not—putting off the replacement of inefficient windows will hurt a homeowner's bottom line," he says.

Both New Jersey and Pennsylvania offer tax credits and rebates for upgrading heating equipment and old appliances, says Litwin. "There's the NJ Clean Energy Program, and there are similar programs through PECO and PPL."

Echevarria says the current government programs offer about \$50 for using energy-efficient replacement windows. "The window must be under .30 U-factor to be considered energy efficient," he says.

"There is also a tax credit for solar-powered skylight operation and light-blocking shades," says Scheffler. This means a 30 percent tax credit for the skylight, solar-

powered light-blocking shades and the labor to install the skylight.

21ST CENTURY ADVANCES

One of the biggest advancements is how intelligent items are getting. "Products are getting 'smarter,'" says Scheffler. "Velux skylights have an app to control your skylight from anywhere in the world or open or close shades by programming." Their solar-powered operating skylights will close if rain is sensed, he says.

Litwin agrees, saying that using smart home products means you can heat or cool the areas in your home where family typically congregates long before they even get there.

"Products are definitely getting smarter because the consumers are getting smarter," says Russo. "My father and my uncle, who ran this business before me and my cousin took the reins, would rarely have customers grill them on whether or

not a product was green or what the Energy Star rating is, but customers are coming in with more and more of these issues on the top of their lists. Products are being developed and enhanced every day to meet the growing demand and need for sustainable products that will save the homeowner money and help to preserve the environment. Fiberglass windows are a prime example of this."

One very cool area of sophistication, says Echevarria, is another surprise. Low-E tint can identify solar ray angles so that when the sun is at a high angle (in summer) it reflects the rays from heating the homes, and when the sun is at a lower angle (in winter) it allows the heat to enter.

The options to save energy and money are plentiful and the results are heartening. New technology, better materials and a focus on being proactive can make all the difference in the comfort level of your home. **H&H**



RESOURCES

Chapman Windows Doors & Siding

West Chester, Pa.
(610) 400-3382
ChapmanWindowsDoors.com

Lawrenceville Home Improvement Center

Showroom in Lawrenceville, N.J.
(609) 882-6709
LawrencevilleHomeImp.com

The Insulation-Heating & Cooling Group

A division of NJ-PA Energy Group, LLC
Hammonton, N.J.
(609) 704-7040
TIGNJ.com

Window World of Philadelphia

Horsham, Pa.
(215) 395-1608
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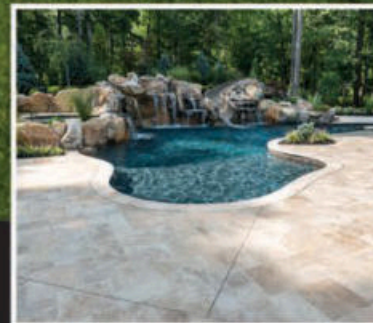
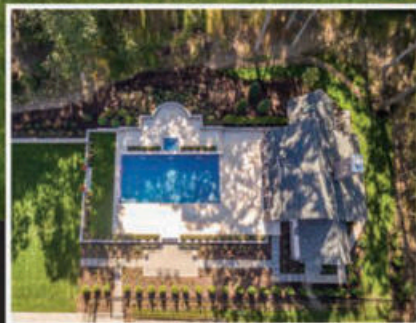
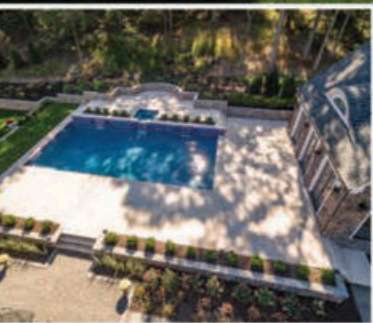
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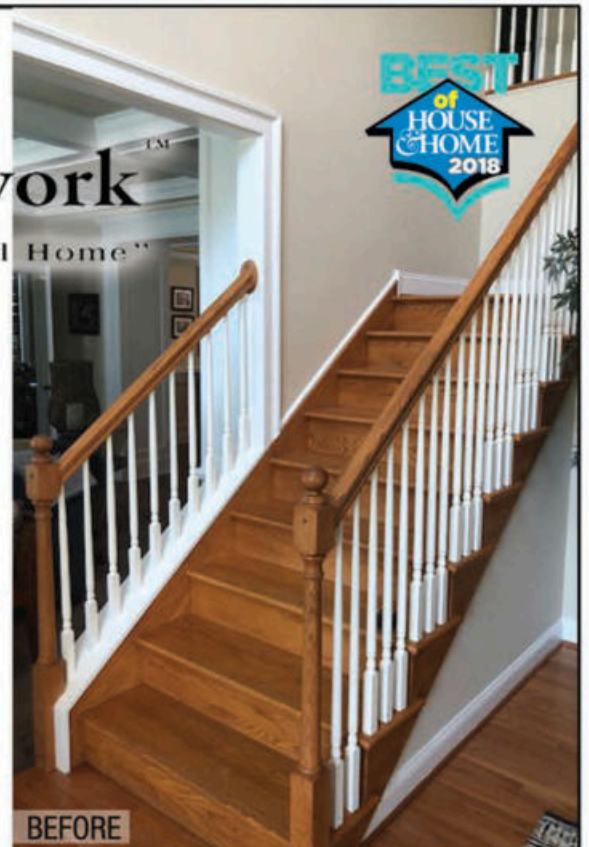
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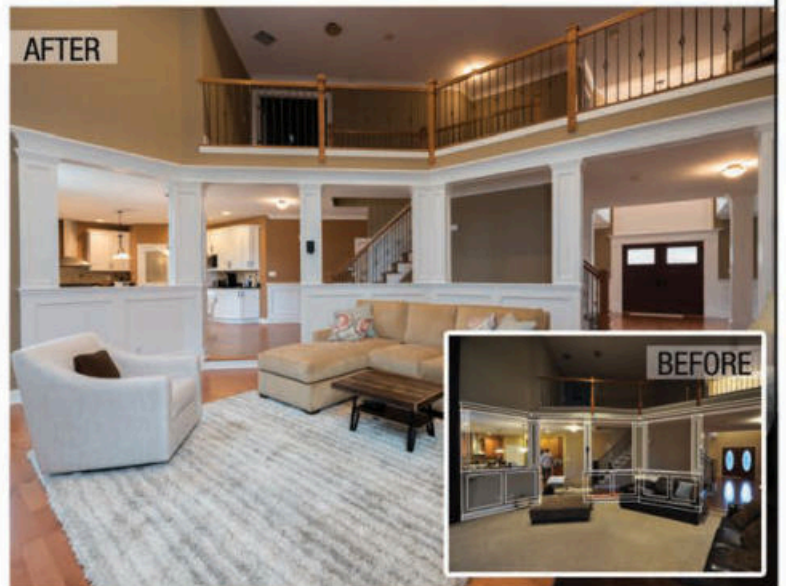
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