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17th Annual
HOME & GARDEN SHOW
NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
APRIL 13TH - APRIL 15TH
Mohegan Sun Arena
255 Highland Park Blvd.
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702
By Bill O’Boyle
boboyle@timesleader.com

Cornerstone Building Solutions is a full-service builder that takes the customer from the ground up to project completion. Dave Boniello, vice president at Cornerstone, said the company gets involved early on in the design process. He said they have an extensive catalogue of homes and, as a custom builder, they can use original plans or modify them.

“We build a three-dimensional product in the factory, bring it to the site, and 90 to 120 days later, you’re moving in,” Boniello said. “We cut construction time down 60 to 90 days, sometimes more.”

By working cooperatively with the very best skilled tradesman to reach the customer’s goals, Boniello said, those results speak for themselves.

Boniello said he approaches his job from a unique perspective — with his more than 30 years on the job, Boniello has experience across all phases of construction from customer to contractor.

Boniello said he rose from an entry level construction job to his management role with Cornerstone. Cornerstone is the sister company of Simplex Industries, a modular home manufacturer in Scranton. Boniello said Cornerstone is owned by Simplex, serving as its retail arm. He said Cornerstone buys from, then sells to the general public. Boniello said Cornerstone has been in business since 2005 and its reach is primarily Luzerne and Lackawanna counties.

Boniello said Cornerstone is not only “the builder you deserve,” but also the general contractor you expect. “We are built from the ground up by individuals committed to providing the best to our homeowners,” Boniello said. “We have made professionalism, quality and attention to detail an integral part of each of our construction projects.”

Owned by the Fricione family, there are examples of Cornerstone buildings throughout the region: Creative Benefits Office Building, Rear 345 Market St., Kingston, was built by Cornerstone Building Solutions.

“My customers often have great amounts of capital in play and they want to know we are 110 percent dedicated to their project, their deadlines and to insuring we deliver the quality that is synonymous with Simplex,” Boniello said.

With exceptional long- and rugged modular national of customization, Boniello said. “We have made professionalism, quality and attention to detail an integral part of each of our construction projects.”

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JML Gifts customizes garden flags, much more

By Matt Mattei

For Lake Sheridan gift-maker Cindy Edwards, starting a business out of her Wyoming County home was the result of wanting to have a gratifying occupation and needing to make it a stable living.

These years after founding JML Gifts, it’s not only become her livelihood but also something she enjoys sharing with her children.

JML Gifts specializes in customized items from ornaments to beach towels to functional home and office products to gifts that commemorate life’s milestones, but it will be Edwards’ garden flags on display April 13 through 15 at the 17th annual NEPA Home & Garden Show at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Wilkes-Barre Township.

“We decided to just stream­line it to one item,” Edwards said in a recent phone interview.

“What I’ve found is at these shows, the make-and-take shows, it’s good to not bring everything so people don’t get overwhelmed.”

Overwhelmed.

“Everything so people don’t get overwhelmed,” Edwards said. “It’s good to not bring the make-and-take shows, the make-and-take view.

That’s why in 2014 he opened One Week Kitchens, assuring customers that in one week, or very close to it, they would have the new counter top, state of the art stove and new cabinets as perfect back­drop for making family memo­ries and entertaining guests.

According to Rome, the business on Wyoming Avenue which showcases options cu­tomers might have, has been a great success. He emphasizes on his website that although the kitchens are put in quickly, it’s not “a one size fits all” deal, but that each customer gets what he or she wants.

“Our process is unique for two reasons. We don’t subcontract employees. All of the installers work for our company making it easier to control the whole installation schedule,” he said. “The sec­ond reason is we have a special relationship with our counter­top fabricators who turn our orders around for us in just a few days.”

Over the last four years, the company has grown not only in the number of customers it serves, but geographically.

“The word has gotten out about our process and our beautifully designed kitchens. We have also expanded into the Lehigh Valley and subur­ban Philadelphia market. We have a second showroom in Quakertown,” said Rome.

Rome and his staff are excit­ed, not only about their cur­rent success, but future growth.

“We are very excited about the future of our business,” said Rome. “We believe that we are happy to offer this service to homeowners in Northeast PA and suburban Philly and will continue to do so for years to come.”

Reach the Times Leader newsroom at 570-829-7242 or on Twitter @TLnews.

Aimee Dilger | Times Leader

Lake Sheridan gift-maker and owner of JML Gifts Cindy Edwards, center, and her customized garden flags for the NEPA Home & Garden Show April 13 through 15 at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Wilkes-Barre Township.

Edwards said JML Gifts will have its computer, printer and press on site as well as plenty of examples of garden flags that potential buyers can con­sider and choose from.

“We’ll customize it however the customer wants,” Edwards said. “Some people like pri­vacy, so they only want animal, others want them full names. You can even add a photo if you want. We’ve done pet memorial flags for the garden with a photo of a pet. Whet­her you want, you can order it and it will be ready for you in an hour.

The flags, Edwards said, were not a flippant item when she started the business. Rhet­­er, they were a product she began producing after noticing how prevalent they were in her neighborhood and investing in a printer that could handle the production.

“It’s something you notice a lot of people having; they’re very generic,” Edwards said.

Her custom work includes personalized and holiday and seasonal imagery.

“I have some people buy them to use them as their house markers,” Edwards said. “It might say ‘103 First Street.’

The process she uses to render the images is known as sublimation.

“The images become one with the fabric, so they will be weather-proof longer than your stand­ard $9.99 garden flag,” JML flags sell for around $25.

The flags are among her best sellers.
what happens to your family heirlooms when you pass? Let Die…?” You bought it. You collected it. You treasured it. Now Harry help you make a succession plan for your treasures.
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4 p.m.
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?}

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?
Handy Mike will share the life histories of each bird and answer questions. One or two birds are displayed at a time on a rotating basis.

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
4 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
9 a.m. - 11 a.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
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11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
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Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
3 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
10 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?

Harry Rinker, HGTV’s “Collector Inspector”
2 p.m. - 3 p.m.
Free Verbal Appraisals: limit 2 items
Curious about the value of an heirloom passed down over generations? Or are you just a lover of antiques?

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CELEBRITY STAGE SEMINAR SCHEDULE | Seminar times & features subject to change.
Friday, April 13

12:00 p.m. Inexpensive Home Products That Change Your Life
By Boyce Thompson, Author and Expert on New Home Technology
Architectural juries meet every year to bestow awards on the best home designs. They capitalize on outdoor views, uncluttered floor plans, and incorporate the latest wireless technology. Join Boyce Thompson, curator of the Life-Changing Products Exhibit, as he counts down the 20 most innovative new home products for 2018, including robots that want to automate your home, reduce energy consumption, and control indoor air quality.

2:00 p.m. Academy of a Great Home
By Boyce Thompson, Author and Expert on New Home Technology
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Saturday, April 14

10:00 a.m. Anatomy of a Great Home
By Boyce Thompson, Author and Expert on New Home Technology
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3:00 p.m. Birds of Prey Show – Raptors Rule
By Endless Mountain Nature Center
Meet three of the live birds, learn what to do if you find an injured bird, and discover which birds of prey are raptors. Discover how these bird species survive in the wild. Learn what actions you can take to protect wildlife.

4:00 p.m. Academy of a Great Home
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From ‘Fresh Cut Roses’ to ‘Sawdust' candle maker has it all

By Mary Therese Biebel

From ‘Fresh Cut Roses’ to ‘Sawdust’ candle maker has it all

Cindy Kuhns finds making candles as a Chandler — “it’s an old-fashioned word, and I like it” — and began making candles as a hobby, after having a heart attack at age 54. “I was spending a lot of time at home, and I had to do something, or I would have gone crazy,” she said. Kuhns never thought it would happen, that she would have all the flowers, come. Then people asked why I had all the flowers, so I had to do something, or I would have gone crazy,” she said.

She calls herself a “candle artist” and her candles are made from palm powders that give off a fragrance, and not allowed to have candles in the dorm. She makes melts and waxes well, and Kuhns expects to sell a lot of citronella and other scented candles designed to keep the insects away. Another product line, her Dead Sea Salts, are made from sea salt and mud, which she began to make during her daughter, Jaime, was in college. Kuhns’ small-scale business of 1998 Candle Company come in genuine Dead Sea and infuses with fragrance. “They’re full of minerals,” she said. “A lot of my clients are doctors and they’re majorly into the eucalyptus, peppermint.”

One of my clients just texted me the other night, to say “Oh, I was so relaxed. I just got out of the tub with my bath salts.” Kuhns enjoys making life more pleasant for her clients, whether her products turn bathrooms into a kind of spa treatment or scents of candlelight to a room. “Candles are part of the special moments of your life, when you’re feeling happy, sad, or romantic,” she said. “They affect just about every part of your life.”

In a new venture that she is starting with her sister, Sandy Kelly, Kuhns said the two of them will make custom pieces for showers and other occasions, with her sister in charge of the flowers and Kuhns taking care of the candles.
Kitner building better homes for 42 years

By Brigid Edmunds

Fred Kintner, Kintner Modular Homes is able to build air-tight homes. Kintner’s modular homes are built in a climate-controlled facility without the release of harmful VOC chemicals.

Thornbury says in a statement on the company’s website, “I was greeted by not only an individual of the century, which delayed the show and greatly limited attendance. Nevertheless, our product attracted attention and gave our partners and me the incentive to invest our time and limited capital in it.”

During the very early stages, two of Thornbury’s early partners developed a hot tub using “adequate, load bearing foam” for both the structure and insulation “and the heat recovery technology” that enabled the hot tub to be plugged into any 120 V outlet.

This new technology was a game-changer. Not only did it allow users to power the jets and heat the water without the use of a heater, but it also proved to be energy efficient and cost effective. Softub users could keep their water heated at the desired temperature for roughly $15 per month compared to the typical hot tub costs of $40-70 a month. According to the company’s website, “Softub spas can be kept at 104 degrees and be used for 20 minutes every day for an average cost of less than $35 or less per month.”

Softub spas are also manufactured in a “green facility without the release of harmful VOC chemicals.”

The foam structure of the tub allows it to be “easily moved from location to location and rolled “through any standard doorway.” The hot tub can be placed on any “adequate, load bearing smooth surface, outdoors or indoors,” as well.

This means nothing special needs to be placed under your Softub, which is not typically the case for other hot tubs, according to the company’s website. Softub offers three different hot tubs: Sportster 140, Legend 220 and Resort 300. The Sportster 140 fits one to two people, the Legend 220 fits three to four people and the Resort 350 fits five to six people.

A Softub spa can cost as much as $5,395 and as little as $3,595.

As a whole, the Resort 300, which is the highest end tub can cost as much as $5,395, but the Sportster 140, which is the low-end option costs as little as $1,595. Potential owners can also inquire about financing on the company’s website, softub.com.

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5TH ANNUAL TIMES LEADER 2018 READER'S CHOICE!
The RBoxTV offers a new way to get television, news and entertainment without the expenses involved with traditional cable companies.

According to the company’s website:
For $20 per month, customers can get up to 3 devices in their households with over 500 channels, including high definition channels.
The company will be set up at the Home and Garden Show from April 13 through April 15 to answer any questions about switching from cable.
The RBoxTV offers a “pay as you go” option, without any long-term commitments, activation fees or cancellation fees.
The physical component of the RBoxTV looks like a traditional cable box, with WiFi, Bluetooth capabilities and USB ports. It is also equipped with Google Play, and allows customers to download apps and social media platforms. Customers can also plug in webcams to use Skype through their televisions.
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