

Builders Show marks 76th birthday at Cobo

The 76th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show will encourage thoughts of spring when it comes to Detroit's Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center March 19-27.

"With the sale of new homes on the upswing and spring just around the corner, this is the ideal time for our show," said Robert R. Jones, president of the non-profit Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan and of Robert R. Jones Associates in West Bloomfield.

The Cobo show is the largest of its kind in the Midwest and BASM is the event sponsor.

More than 400 exhibitors will span display space equivalent to more than 10 football fields (500,000 square feet), featuring the latest technology, products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, gardens, remodeling, financing, arts and crafts, decorative accessories, furniture, appliances, heating and cooling.

A special feature of this 76th show will be the Riverwalk Gardens, a 400-foot-long indoor river surrounded by two football fields worth of landscaped gardens. The project is sponsored by Home Window Co. and will be built by the Metropolitan Detroit Landscape

Association.

Other highlights include: Gary Koller, guest host of PBS's Victory Garden, March 19 and 20; Discovery Channel's Ms. Fix-It Beverly DeJulio March 24 through 27; a full-size, 1,850-square-foot, three-bedroom, two-bath manufactured house displayed by YCD Homes; Parade of Homes featuring new houses and a free plan book; expert demonstrations on gardening, decorating and remodeling; the House of Nails and Treasure Chest contests; and a Chevy Truck give-away.

BASM also sponsors the Spring Home & Garden Show and the Fall Remodeling Show at the Novi Expo Center.

The Builders Show will be open 2 to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday; noon to 10 p.m. Saturdays; and noon to 6 p.m. Sundays. Admission is \$5.75 for adults; \$3.50 for senior citizens and children ages 6 to 12; and free for children younger than 6. Family tickets for two adults and accompanying children are available at Farmer Jack/A&P for \$8.

Discount admission coupons were mailed to homeowners in their Detroit Edison bills and free admission coupons for March 21 are available at all Builders Square stores.

INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS SHOW

What: 76th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show sponsored by the non-profit, Farmington Hills-based Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan. Robert R. Jones serves as president of the association and running the show this year will be Rosalie Lamb as operations manager and Irvin H. Yackness as director.

When: March 19-27, 2 to 10 p.m. weekdays; noon to 10 p.m. Saturdays; noon to 6 p.m. Sundays.

Where: Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center, foot of Woodward, downtown Detroit.

Features: If there were a single theme for this year's show it would probably be "A River Runs Through It." A 400-foot-long river surrounded by lavish landscaping will be the centerpiece of the show which will feature 400 exhibitors in an area that measures 500,000 square feet. Exhibits include the latest technology, products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, gardens, remodeling, financing, arts and crafts, decorative accessories, furniture, appliances, heating and cooling.

Admission: Tickets are \$5.75 for adults and \$3.50 for senior citizens and children age 6-12. Children younger than 6 will be admitted free. Family tickets for two adults and accompanying children are available at Farmer Jack/A&P for \$8. Discount coupons were mailed along with Detroit Edison bills.

Special Section Credits: This special section appears today, Thursday, March 17, in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the HomeTown Newspapers. Both newspaper groups are part of Suburban Communications Corp. Bob Sklar, O&E special projects manager, coordinated the section with assistance from Barbara Wilson. O&E representatives Roy Meadows and Chris Bitzer coordinated advertising.

About the cover: Creative Services Coordinator Glenn Merilat designed the cover for this section.

Spruce up with products, services featured at show

Homeowners whose tastes lean toward the old-fashioned or the ultra-contemporary or anywhere in the middle will find something to suit their fancy at the 76th annual International Builders Home, Flower and Furniture Show, March 19-27 at the Cobo Conference-Exhibition Center.

That's because more than 400 exhibitors will showcase their products over 500,000 square feet of space.

YCD Homes brings a full size, 1,850-square-foot, three-bedroom, two-bath manufactured house with cathedral ceiling, fireplace and skylight to Cobo.

Moderately priced new houses that offer the design and extras of much more expensive ones will be presented by Crosswinds Communities of West Bloomfield.

Hamill Homes of Grand Ledge will be showing its custom designed Bavarian-style houses. Pierson & Gibbs Homes Inc. of Richmond will showcase carpenter-built, owner-finish custom houses. Royal Palace Homes Inc. of Canton will show its custom designs for houses built on the customer's lot.

The Parade of Homes will feature pictorial renderings of 54 model houses currently for sale by member companies of the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan. A free plan book includes information and location maps.

Qid Homecare Suites Inc. of Birmingham will present a modular unit that turns a one- or two-car garage into

INTERNATIONAL BUILDERS HOME FLOWER FURNITURE SHOW

COBO CENTER
Detroit, Michigan
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a barrier-free living space for those who are frail, elderly or disabled. The unit includes bath as well as living space and has self-contained plumbing and electrical systems.

Detroit Edison will show its own energy-efficient geothermal heating and cooling system and security lighting for homeowners. The Dow Chemical Co. of Midland will demonstrate how to insulate existing concrete basement walls.

The realistic settings of Mathison Kitchen, Bath & Plumbing Supply and the Cabinet Clinic Inc. of Livonia will help visitors picture the potential of their own kitchen and bath. Michigan Bathtub Liners of Auburn Hills will bring its well-known bathtub liners,

wall systems, tub and bath fixtures and shower door products.

People's Restaurant Equipment of Detroit and Trevarrow of Auburn Hills will display cooking equipment from commercial ranges to built-in cook tops.

Especially for the handyman or woman in the crowd, Builders Square brings its kitchen and bath cabinets, entry and garage doors, paint, ladders, closet organizers and garden, heating and air conditioning products.

For wood lovers, Hardwood Door and Bevel of Utica will display oak and mahogany hardwood doors and mantles. Shopsmith Inc. of Dayton, Ohio, shows woodworking products. Weiss Pres-taining of Ann Arbor features pre-stained exterior wood siding.

For the elegant look in decorating, Grandma's Loft of Novi and Flint and Tenpenny Furniture of Livonia will display a variety of solid oak furniture including classic roll-top desks.

To lend an artistic touch to any house, Alice's Promotions of Detroit has assembled more than 100 exhibitors featuring hand-crafted, hand-made and hand-painted clothes, dolls, baskets, dried flower arrangements, weather vanes, leaded glass, ceramics, oak and pine furniture and planters, jewelry and birdhouses.

To organize your life right down to the closets, visit the display sponsored

by the California Closet Co. of West Bloomfield. This exhibit will show custom closet organization systems, shelving and cabinets.

For homeowners looking for increased peace of mind, Complete Protection Alarms of Oak Park features security systems.

For those interested in technical and construction-related information, the Construction Bookstore of Gainesville, Fla., will have books available on these topics, including information on building codes and standards.

Comerica Mortgage Corp. and NBD Bank will provide information on mortgages and a complete range of financial services. Show visitors can pre-qualify for a mortgage, sign up for an account or withdraw money from the ATM at Standard Federal Bank's exhibit.

Get ready for spring with a new tractor or lawn mower from Carefree Lawn Center of Trenton. To add appeal to an outdoor setting, Uniflock Michigan Inc. of Brighton brings its paving stones and retaining walls for the garden area to Cobo.

Other exhibits include the latest technology, products and services for kitchens, baths, doors, windows, yards and gardens, financing, remodeling, arts and crafts, decorative accessories, appliances, furniture, heating and cooling.