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Remodeled home tour this weekend in Louisville

By Wesley Robinson • wrobinson@courier-journal.com • August 11, 2010

Local homeowners can get home improvement tips at this weekend's 25th Annual Tour of Remodeled Homes.

The Home Builders Association of Louisville will hold the event showcasing 22 remodeled homes across the city from noon to 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. Tickets are \$10 for adults — children are free — and come with the tour's magazine, which details the work done in each home.

Tara Brinkmoeller, the association's public affairs director, said it expects thousands of visitors and has something for everyone looking to remodel, from bathrooms to the entire house.

She said the tour displays the many different levels of remodeling that take place in a home and helps people visualize changes.

"It's interesting to see how spaces transform and can change and people get great ideas that way," Brinkmoeller said. "It's a great way to showcase the latest trends in remodeling and the talents of those who remodel."

Todd Stengel, of Todd Stengel Construction, specializes in custom construction, renovation and restoration, and worked on a home at 1401 Cherokee Road that is part of the tour.

"I just try to respect these older homes and the neighborhoods they are in," he said.

Stengel said he specializes in updating older homes with modern amenities and has worked on the property since he built a carriage house and custom fence eight years ago. Now he has renovated and redesigned the kitchen and dining room and turned the powder room into a 22-foot atrium.

Joe Dumstorf, of appliance supplier Trend Companies of Kentucky, said the tour is one of the most effective ways to showcase the products.

"You can really get a lot of very good leads because they are there to see what you have to provide," he said. "Basically, we are just moving our showroom around the city."

He said his company participates in larger shows, but during the tour people take their time and are genuinely interested in the home appliances he sells.

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The advertisement features the USA TODAY logo at the top left. The main title "AutoPilot" is in large, bold, black font, with a blue airplane icon to its right. Below the title is a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which includes a "USA TODAY" header, a "USA TODAY's Meeting" section, and a list of items with icons. To the right of the phone, the text reads "The new travel app for iPhone® and iPod touch®". Below this, it says "Presented by: Hampton" with the Hampton logo. At the bottom right, a blue button contains the text "SEE HOW IT WORKS >>".

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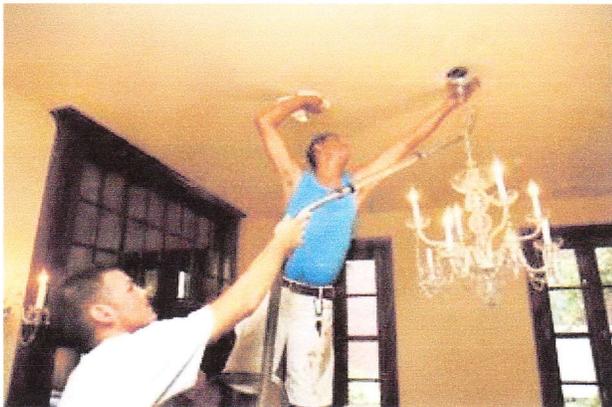
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Linda Gibson Cecil, president of the Greater Louisville Association of Realtors, said even with a recent improvement in **home sales** over the past year, a lot of people are staying put and remodeling.

She said people who choose to remodel may not get 100 percent of their investment back in resale, but remodeling the kitchen, bathrooms and finishing basements return the best results.

“It is more realistic for the average consumer and (the tour) is a way of seeing how you can make yesterday’s home look more modern,” she said.

Reporter Wesley Robinson can be reached at (502) 582-4336



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Devin Blondin a painter with Glenn Patterson Painting, left, holds a vacuum in the dining room while Roger Roel a foreman with Glenn Patterson Painting sands a patch in preparation for spot primer. (By Pam Spaulding, The Courier-Journal) August 11, 2010

Information

Tickets — \$10 for adults and free for children — can be purchased at any of the 22 homes on the tour. For a list of the homes, visit hbal.com.

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