

Going green

Local businesses use Home and Garden Expo to attract customers

By Rick Romancito

From hot tubs to tiles, seedlings to bank loans, the 2007 Taos Home and Garden Expo was wall to wall with opportunities to start the spring season off right.

Bataan Hall of the Taos Civic Plaza Convention Center was bustling with activity Saturday (April 7) as representatives of local businesses and service providers displayed a wide variety of ways Taosños can take advantage of items they had to offer. One booth even showed a small green pill that supposedly will give you better gas mileage (however, online consumer watchdogs advise healthy skepticism about it).

Locals who visited the expo had a mixed reaction. One said he thought it was more like a trade show and that it offered little for locals to get excited about. Another said she had hoped there would have been more focus on ways to create or maintain sustainability, plus she hoped to pick up some seeds and maybe a few gardening ideas. Instead, there were high-end products and items displayed of which only the deep pocketed might take advantage.

Many others enjoyed the show for the talks, demonstrations and handmade crafts that were available. It was, in many ways, a tease to get customers to consider new ideas for home improvement, and if you needed a loan or an appraisal or advice on a real estate transaction, or where to shop for services or supplies, you might think of these businesses first. At that, the expo, sponsored by the Taos County Chamber of Commerce, seemed to do its job well.



Bataan Hall was full of folks eager for ideas to enhance their homes.



Mark Dudrow at the expo with his handmade custom tiles.



Dan's Carpet has much to offer of fresh approaches to



Sharon Mitchell of High Country Real Estate shares her expertise.