Businesses showcase services at home show

BY LINDSEY JOHNSTON
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SENECA — Local landscapers, contractors, Realtors and other home improvement specialists are showcasing their services during the 10th annual Home and Remodel Show that runs through today at the Shaver Recreation Center.

The event is sponsored by the Home Builders Association of Oconee County and runs today from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is $5 per person.

Some of those at the show Friday said things are looking up for home building and remodeling, a sign the economic recovery is continuing.

"2008 was a rough year for me," said Justin Beachy, owner of Integrity Roof Cleaning. "The recession and my lack of advertising definitely hurt my business, but the recent rise in the economy and my coming to home shows like this has helped a lot. Last year was my best year by far."

Beachy is not the only one who has seen improvements in his business. Fred Hamilton, one of the owners of Pendleton Home Builders, has also seen a significant increase in customers and business.

"Remodeling has picked up, and that's kept a lot of guys afloat, including us," he said. "In the

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Helen and Larry Golan talk with John Cothran, owner of Rainmaker Ponds & Irrigation and Hardscapes Plus, about adding a pond and hardscaping to enhance their yard.