Shaver hosts home expo

BY STEPHANIE JADRNICEK
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SENECA — The joint was jumping at Shaver Recreation Complex on Thursday. With 69 businesses represented, this year's Home, Health and Life Expo hosted by 94.1 FM The Lake drew in a crowd of more than 750.

Every May, The Lake hosts a senior living expo, but last year the station also held the first Home, Health and Life Expo. The event's success inspired them to host another so that local businesses could come out and showcase their services.

"We've been very pleased with this expo. The business community has really rallied around this event, and that's what makes it such a success," station general manager Brand Kessler said. "It's a great opportunity for people who are moving to Seneca or anywhere else in the Golden Corner to learn more about the businesses in our community under one roof."

Attendees saw a sample of everything at the expo. Health and wellness businesses ranged from Clemson Eye and Greenville Health System to Issaqueena Pediatric Dentistry and Excel Rehab and Sports.

With the spotlight on breast cancer awareness this month, J.J. Thomas of Oconee Memorial Hospital's Breast Care Center was at the expo spreading the word about the center's services.

"We are a full-fledged breast care center offering screenings, mammograms, ultrasounds and biopsies. We can carry a patient from screening all the way through diagnosis and into surgery," Thomas said. "We want to let everyone know that we're here to take care of our community. We want to meet any needs that they might have."



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Residents sampled food from local restaurants, learned about local businesses and reconnected with old friends at the Home, Health and Life Expo hosted by 94.1 The Lake on Thursday.

The home aspect of the expo included everything from remodeling to remediation. Due to its attractive curb appeal, Unlimited Landscapes Stone and Granite's booth enticed many expo attendees. Since the business specializes in outdoor landscapes, owner Tony Francisco beautified the booth with stonework.

"We do landscapes, hardscapes, patios, waterfalls, fire places, fire pits, granite counter tops — basically anything you can think of with natural stone. We also do concrete pavers in driveways," manager Paige Burrows said. "The expo is an awesome opportunity for the local businesses and residents to get together to see who's in your neighborhood."

Brandy Hodges with Dr. Energy Saver was at the expo talking to residents about how to make their homes more comfortable and lower their power bills at the same time. The business helps homeowners increase energy efficiency.

"There are a lot of older homes in this area," Hodges said. "We clean up moisture problems by encapsulating crawl spaces and basements, we seal windows and we insulate the home, whether it has a crawl space or a basement. We also do a lot with attics."

Representatives from Elkmont Trading Company and Oconee County Parks, Recreation and Tourism told attendees about the outdoor adventures and natural beauty they can enjoy so close to home. And for a little taste of Oconee, the expo incorporated wine pours and food from local restaurants.

"Any time you can connect a large group of people together, they're going to build relationships. And relationships are the cornerstone of business, especially in a local community," Oconee County Chamber of Commerce executive director Jillian Lusk said. "Events such as this expo foster those relationships with people who are going to come time and time again to make sure your business is successful."

stephanie@upstatetoday.com | (864) 973-6686