

United-Bilt Homes Can Help You With \$8,000 Tax Credit

Time is of the essence for buyers to benefit from the government's \$8,000 tax credit for first-time homebuyers and the expanded credit of up to \$6,500 for move-up buyers.

United-Bilt Homes, a leader in custom home building in the Southeast for more than 50 years, is prepared to help qualified consumers take full advantage of this popular program.

To be eligible for the credit, buyers would need to complete the sale by June 30, officials said. Purchases made in 2010 could be claimed on the buyer's 2009 tax return.

Home buyers would not have to repay the credit as long as they live in the house for three years after the purchase date. There are exceptions for members of the military serving overseas.

Move-up buyers are eligible "so long as the home they are leaving has been used as their principal

residence for five years or more," a spokesperson said.

The tax credits coupled with UBH's financing options create an opportunity both for first-time and move-up buyers.

"Unlike many conventional lenders, we have financing available at attractive rates for qualified buyers. Lumber prices are at an all-time low, and we offer the highest quality homes for the best price," said Donald R. Pitts, President of United-Bilt Homes. "And now, with these generous tax credits, there's never been a better time to buy a custom-built home."

United-Bilt Homes – Your #1 Choice for Custom-Built Homes

When Eagle Lake residents choose United-Bilt Homes as their builder, they're choosing a company with history and stability. Since

1958, UBH has helped more than 30,000 families build the home of their dreams.

Multiple generations of families have chosen UBH to be the solution to their housing and financing needs. Their loyalty is a testament to their dedication to quality and service.

UBH is a large company with the opportunity to offer competitive pricing along with choices in home plans and financing options. Yet, United-Bilt Homes is still small enough to care for each homeowner individually.

Superior Construction

Top-quality materials and finely tuned construction management processes set UBH apart from the competition. UBH owns and operates their own lumberyard, which provides quality assurance, and most materials come with comprehensive manufacturers' warran-

ties. UBH provides both local and company management over the construction of each home, employing technology and professional standards for the highest level of quality and customer satisfaction.

Generous and Secure Financing Options

UBH has plenty of financing options available for qualified buyers. UBH offers 100% financing, zero down payment, no payments for 6 months, a single, easy loan (no separate loan needed for construction), land payoff options and flexible credit terms. UBH makes it an easy, one-stop process to build and finance a new custom-built home.

Huge Selection of Floor Plans

You'll find lots of inspiration at

United-Bilt Homes. Choose from the wide variety of home plans found on their web site - www.ubh.com - or bring your own. UBH can customize any plan to meet your individual tastes and needs.

Customer Service

Everyone at United-Bilt Homes is committed to making the building process easy and enjoyable. UBH is well known for its straightforward, daily communication so buyers always know how their home is progressing. There are never any surprises or hidden costs; UBH builds homes on time, on budget.

Tour model homes at their sales office in Kendleton, Mon-Sat, 8am-6pm, at 12425 Hwy 59 South, or call 866.578.5938. Learn even more at www.ubh.com.

Hot Trends For The Outdoors

Fireplaces: Make them the centerpiece to your outdoor living space. They also can provide some heat, if necessary.

Fountains and reflecting pools: They provide tranquility to a backyard. Add small fountains in your garden or even a small stream running throughout the yard - viewable from inside your home, too.

To get a spa feel, some homeowners are even installing outdoor showers near their pool areas.

Kitchens: Upscale gas grills

or even brick pizza ovens are on the rise for fancy outdoor cooking. Some outdoor kitchens are even complete with sinks, ranges and refrigerators.

Gardens: The Garden Media Group predicts 2007 trends will include gardens with colorful foliage plants, such as elephant ears, ornamental grasses and iresine.

Small gardens are also "in," according to GMG. Squeeze a small garden on your patio or rooftop, wherever there's plenty of sun-

light.

Also, consider a trellis with vines to create a natural canopy for your backyard.

Whatever outdoor makeover you choose, create a seamless transition from indoor to outdoor by using architecture details, flooring, color schemes and window treatments similar to the inside of your home, suggests the American Society of Interior Designers. Then, when you head outdoors, you'll still feel right at home.

Spring Cleaning Tips & Tricks

It's time to give your home a proper spring cleaning, but it's far too easy to miss hidden dirt - germs, allergens and dust mites that lurk in hard-to-reach spaces and places we often forget to dust or vacuum.

To keep a healthy home, you need to make a proper plan of where you want to clean and have the right tools at hand.

From sponges and mops to the right vacuum cleaner, arming yourself properly can help eliminate your home's hidden health hazards while making spring cleaning easier on your body.

"When it comes to ridding your home's surfaces of dirt and allergens it's all about being thorough and making sure you don't forget to vacuum bedding, upholstery and window treatments. Most importantly, you need to use a vacuum that maintains its suction power as your vacuum bag fills with dust and dirt," says Gino Iacovella, National Marketing Manager for Vacuums,

Panasonic Consumer Electronics Company.

Here are some useful tips from Iacovella and the experts at Panasonic, for effectively and more easily cleaning your home:

* Don't skip surfaces. Most people vacuum or wash their floors, but skip other surfaces where dust can accumulate. Be sure to dust and vacuum walls, ceilings, moldings, door jams, window sills and the tops of light fixtures or ceiling fans.

* Window treatments and lampshades attract dust and germs as much as any other surface in your home, but are just as easily cleaned when using a removable vacuum attachment, such as a combo brush or crevice tool extension.

* Be sure your vacuum is powerful enough and doesn't lose suction as it fills with dirt. If your vacuum loses suction midway through its run, dirt and harmful allergens and dust mites can escape right back into your home. For instance, Panasonic's Performance Plus Platinum

Line of OptiFlow canister vacuums uses new technology to extend the life of the vacuums' bags by creating better suction as the bag fills up.

* Wash bed linens, afghans and sofa pillow cases in 130 degree hot water to kill allergens and dust mites. Be sure to vacuum mattresses and pillows to rid them of hidden dust mites.

* If you or family members suffer from allergies, use a vacuum with a HEPA filter or a HEPA filtration telescoping wand. These filters trap irritating particles so they don't circulate back into your home's air and in this way keep your home's allergens to a minimum.

* It's easy to overlook common household mold in humid areas, such as your bathrooms or kitchen. Use a cleaning solution that contains low levels of bleach to kill mold on non-porous, hard surfaces.

* All that bending, stooping and stretching can make cleaning hard on your body. Having the right-sized cleaning implements like brushes and mops can help.

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