



by Sara Sobota

Creating An Appealing & Functional Backyard Oasis For Your Homeowners

The majority of new construction & remodeling projects completed by building contractors & homeowners include some sort of new outdoor installation & design. Having an attractive, appealing pool, spa, outdoor kitchen or relaxing patio area in the rear of the home has almost become standard in today's market. *Building Industry Synergy* reached out to five local companies that have been providing all of the products & services for decades that are essential to creating the perfect outdoor oasis.

When it comes to an outdoor living project, homeowners want to know they're working with a reliable, experienced professional. With 33 years in the business, a brick-and-mortar showroom that offers inspiration and possibility, and impeccable customer service, **Art Work Masonry Construction & Outdoor Design** is the place to go for outdoor projects of any size.



Jason Alston with Artwork Masonry Construction & Outdoor Design.

Art Work Masonry owner Jason Alston, who has 44 years of industry experience, custom designs each project, fulfilling clients' vision for their property while offering expert guidance. Whether it's a patio, outdoor kitchen, fireplace, pergola, or paver walkway, Art Work Masonry exceeds customers' expectations.

The Art Work Masonry

showroom in Murrells Inlet sets the company apart from other masonry companies. The outside showroom includes a large patio with a variety of pavers and walls, so clients can walk through and visualize their project. It also includes an operating outdoor kitchen, fireplace, pizza oven, and a vinyl pergola fire pit – “just a few things to give customers ideas,” said Alston. The brick-and-mortar location also gives clients a reliable place to go to ask questions or follow up on their projects.

Pergolas have been a popular item for Art Work Masonry



Jason and Artwork Masonry met our expectations with respect to the craftsmanship, fit, and cleanliness of the project. Ron & Patty Kyslinger.

lately. “People mostly want them for the looks; it enhances the look of the property, while

it also provides shade.” Alston said that often, clients start with one project and then build around it, once they realize how great the finished product looks. “Sometimes it's a new patio we're installing, or it's a patio upgrade. Then we might install an outdoor kitchen, and a lot of times people want a pergola out there so they can enjoy the weather with a little bit of shade.”

Art Work Masonry also provides landscaping to surround the

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project, often making the company a one-stop shop for a beautiful back or front yard. “If we're building a patio, we might bring in some dirt, and then I'll talk to the client about sod. You might need sod around the edges,

material – we do brick, stone, stucco, tabby – to the façade,



to the grill and the appliances, we can handle it all, and work with the client on design and

and that might lead to a few palm trees, flower beds, or a garden wall.”

Fully equipped outdoor kitchens, also, are a one-stop endeavor with Art Work Masonry. “We design them with the client, from the type of



selections at each stage.”

Art Work Masonry isn't limited to large jobs, either. “We do things as little as small repairs, maybe the mortar is out on the front steps or a brick came off. We'll come.”

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING ARTWORK MASONRY CONSTRUCTION & OUTDOOR DESIGN CALL (843) 651-6804 OR VISIT PAGE 9 OF THIS ISSUE.

Since 2017, veteran-owned **Patriot 55 Services** has been the go-to supplier of gas for all homeowners and custom home builders. With its comprehensive list of services and products, and especially now with its new showroom, Patriot 55 Services makes the installation and servicing of gas in any home simple and effective.

Patriot 55 offers vented and vent-free gas fireplaces, electric

fireplaces, outdoor grills with burners, fire pits, tankless water heaters, pool heaters, generators, and gas pipe installation and repairs.

Patriot 55 Services owner Tom Moxley, who has been in the gas industry for over two decades, said tankless water heaters are becoming the standard in custom-built homes because of their

efficiency in space, water usage, and cost.

“They’re not like the old, 80-gallon tanks in the corner of your garage taking up space,” said Moxley. “It’s a heater that has no tank. Once the water goes through it, it’s

heated and gets sent to whatever appliance is asking for hot



water. When no appliances are running, it sits there and does nothing. It consumes no energy, no gas, no electricity. A tankless water heater saves on energy. If it’s one person taking a shower, it needs only enough water for one shower; it’s not heating 199,000 BTUs at one time. This also saves the homeowner on



Tom Moxley with Patriot 55 Services.

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their water and power bills.”

Recently, Moxley decided it was time for Patriot 55 Services to branch out into its own retail location, featuring a brick-and-mortar showroom where clients and builders can see first-hand the array of products and services available. The showroom, which opened in June 2024, features items on display including an outdoor kitchen with island,

a free-standing grill, a fire pit with a gas burner, and a pump station where clients can fill 20-pound propane tanks.

In working with current homeowners and custom build homeowners,

Moxley and his team offer a full-service, one-stop shop for gas. “With each client, we sit down and design their fireplace



for them and help them to get something that will fit their needs long-term,” said Moxley. “If they need gas, or installation of appliances, we can sell, install, and service each item. They can come into the showroom and see the fireplace live burning, and we follow each project from beginning to end. That’s the biggest thing that clients need: someone who’s going to walk with them from the very beginning of the project to the very end. They don’t have to call and schedule 16 different people to come in – we handle it all.”



The new Patriot 55 Services showroom located @ 9470 Hwy. 707 in Myrtle Beach, SC.

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With 40 years of experience in the pool building business, **Sunco Pools & Spas** is your destination for a beautiful, automated, custom-built pool with all the accoutrements – spa, sundeck, waterfall, lights, you name it. Serving both existing



home and new construction markets, residential as well as commercial, Sunco Pools & Spas creates luxurious backyard

getaways and commercial paradises. Designers and sales representatives Dan Uribe and Katie Chavis partner with each client from the first step of their project to the end. For a residential build, Uribe and Chavis are ready for any plans the homeowner can dream of.

“Anything they think of and they want, we can make it happen,” said Chavis. Uribe noted that with the latest features in automation, controlled by a smartphone app, “You can tell the spa, ‘Get ready for me – I’m on my way home from work.’” A project with Sunco Pools &

Spas means thoroughness. “We take each client through a design process, through our 3D program where we can



Dan Uribe with Sunco Pools & Spas.

show them their whole yard and look at the big picture,” said Uribe. “We consider not just the pool, but what’s going in for the decking, and landscaping, and the outdoor kitchen -- the whole outdoor living space



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is what we’re concentrating on.” Chavis said Sunco Pools & Spas’ service brings clients peace of mind. “Clients like the fact that they have me or Dan doing the whole process,” said Chavis. “They can contact us when needed, and we handle all aspects of



Katie Chavis with Sunco Pools & Spas.

inspection up to the final.” On the commercial side, Sunco Pools & Spas recently completed the pool area at the Holiday Inn near Springmaid Pier in Myrtle Beach, as well as the Edison at Farrow Commons in Myrtle Beach.

a concept from their architects that didn’t work through DHEC. With our design software, we were able to take them something that worked and fit their budget.” Sunco Pools & Spas even stays involved after the project is complete, taking care of the



“For the Edison at Farrow Commons, we took the project from beginning to end, talking with the project managers for the development as well as the owners,” said Uribe. “We did 3D designs for them, and that helped them visualize the project. They had



pool “for the first 28 days to help get the client going,” said Uribe. After that, clients can arrange for service visits, or they can visit the Sunco Pools & Spas showroom for education, chemicals, and water testing.

You'll want to stop in to one of the **Plants Direct** showrooms – one in Little River and one in Conway – to see



Randy & Leigh Anne Gaskins with Plants Direct.

the beautiful blooming flowers, lush palms, and gorgeous container gardens. But once there, you'll want to stay a while, browse through the materials and accessories, and talk with the knowledgeable managers. Through them, you'll learn the full extent of the services and products that Plants Direct can offer to your home

or business.

Plants Direct is a locally and family-owned business. Owner Randy Gaskins with his wife Leigh Anne have been creating stunning residential and commercial landscapes for 15 years. In combination with Teresa Nunn, manager of the Conway showroom, and James Farrenkopf, manager in Little

River, the Plants Direct team boasts more than 70 years' experience in the industry.

Plants Direct serves both commercial and residential sides of the landscaping business, so all customers have their specific needs met.



Hwy 544 (Conway) location General Manager, Teresa Nunn.

"We work with golf course developers, residential and commercial developers,



Hwy 57 (Little River) location General Manager, James Farrenkopf.

municipalities, and all the wholesale retailers in town," said Gaskins. "And then of course we cater to homeowners as well."

Plants Direct is truly a one-stop shop for landscaping needs. In addition to shrubs, trees, and flowers, Gaskins and his team build outdoor patios, sea walls, fireplaces, paved walkways, and outdoor kitchens. They install LED lighting, create container pieces for pool decks, and design all form of outdoor living spaces.

"We take each project from design to completion," said Gaskins. "I'm a very hands-on owner. I do initial consultations, come up with ideas, and offer the client a total design. I'll

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The Conway location @ 2019 Hwy. 544.

always be there to have my eyes on the project, help manage it, and make sure it runs smoothly."

Plants Direct showrooms serve as excellent destinations for browsing and inspiration, offering glazed pottery, hanging baskets, fountains, birdbaths, wrought iron pieces, yard art, and much more.

When it comes to palm trees,

Plants Direct not only offers a broad variety, but they also bring expertise and knowledge to the transplanting process. Their inventory includes the Sabal Palmetto (cabbage) Palm, Pindo Palm, Windmill Palm, Sago, and European Fan Palm. In addition to delivering and planting your new landscape item,

the Plants Direct team will offer information and guidance on how to best care for it.

Plants Direct offers delivery and services areas



anywhere within 200 miles of their nurseries, which includes Charleston; Wilmington, N.C., and Charlotte, N.C.

Gaskins and his team at Plants Direct would like to thank all their loyal customers for their patronage, and for shopping local!



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Considering a custom pool build? Now is a great time to do it, as the number of options for beautiful aesthetics, practical convenience, and luxurious accessories are at an all-time high.



Tommy Ashburn with The General Pool Company.

The General Pool Company, operating since 1987, has stayed on top of the latest trends, bringing a wealth of experience and knowledge to every project.

Tommy Ashburn, owner / operator, said fire features and

water fall / fire combinations are continually becoming more popular.

“And the colors & shapes of the fire bowls have also increased, so clients can customize with their pool color selections,” said Ashburn. “For a lagoon shaped pool, you might choose a round fire bowl, whereas for a pool with straight lines, you would choose a square. We place them on the top of beautifully built columns, and you can crown it off with a fire glass that is available in many shapes and colors.”

LED color lights incorporated into pools are also a hot item, Ashburn said.

“LED color lights are a must-have. You also can get colored

LED light bubblers. We usually install those in the wet deck or tanning ledge, and they’re very pretty.



Speaking of wet decks, you can go online and find ledger loungers or ledger furniture; they have different size chairs



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that are premade, and they won’t scratch up the wet deck. They are designed to go in and out of the pool. They usually have a matching table and you can install an umbrella through the center of the table into an umbrella anchor that we install in the ledger. People love that look. They see it in resorts when they go on vacation and they want it

for themselves when they get home.”

Ashburn said the pool tile industry is continually creating new options for pool owners. “There are so many pool tile selections, and they’re really beautiful,” said Ashburn. “You can do glossy, to semi gloss, to matte, and they also have a lot of different

glass selections -- colors and sizes too. In the custom pool tile industry, shade variations are still strong, and we have new colors coming out every year.” New color options in pool coping, plaster,

and paving have also expanded.

Custom pool computer technology continues to advance.

“In the past, a lot of that technology was primarily for pool/spa combinations, but now someone who wants a pool only has more control,” said Ashburn. “They can control the variable speed pump system, their heaters, LED lights, water features, salt generators and bubblers. They can even set schedules for their pumps and do light shows at special events such as 4th of July (red, white & blue), St. Patrick’s Day. (green), or customize their own special event.”

