



## HouseTalk Highlights

### Solar Electricity Picking Up Steam and Gaining Ground

Recently **Matt Shannon** of American Solar Electric, Inc. appeared as our guest on HouseTalk and educated us on solar electricity and solar electric power systems. Solar electricity uses the sun to generate electricity. Arizona certainly has plenty of that! It is clean, it reduces our utility bills and, in some cases, makes them disappear altogether!

One of the biggest hurdles to overcome with solar generated electricity is the cost. It appears that this obstacle is getting closer to being overcome through rising electricity costs, utility company rebates, net metering, and the tax incentives that are currently being offered.

One thing that should be mentioned is that many people believe that batteries are needed to store the power generated from solar electric panels. This is not true. What happens is that you hook up to your electric meter and when your solar panels are generating more electricity than you are using, your meter actually spins backwards and you put electricity back into the grid. You then get a credit for that from your utility provider.

For more information on the subject of solar electricity, go to [www.americanpv.com](http://www.americanpv.com) or call them at **480-994-1440**.

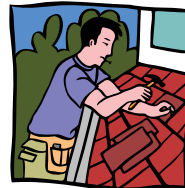
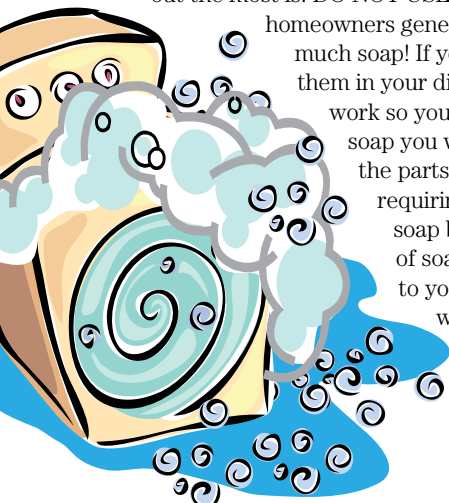


### Appliance Repair

**Mike Frazier**, manager of the service division for the Maytag Service Center, gave us some tips on appliances and on appliance repair. The tip that stands out the most is: **DO NOT USE SO MUCH SOAP!** Mike explained that

homeowners generally are in the habit of using far too much soap! If you rinse your dishes before putting them in your dishwasher, you've done most of the work so your dishwasher only requires 10% of the soap you would normally add! As a rule of thumb, the parts getting gummed up and eventually requiring service are the parts that fail due to soap buildup. So, cut down on the amount of soap that you add to your dishwasher and to your clothes washer. Also, if you have a water softener use even less soap!

If appliance repair is what you need, call our friends at the Maytag Service Center at **602-252-6030**.



### Trades Roof Maintenance Program (TRMP)

If you own a home or commercial property, the buildings on your property may or may not need a new roof. How do you know if your buildings need a new roof? Enter TRMP. This is the Trades Unlimited Roof Maintenance Program. This program has been brought to us by Patrick Lyons, a new Trades Unlimited team member and former owner of a large, successful roofing company. How does TRMP work? For a fee of \$150 per home, you can achieve piece of mind with a "6 Point Roof Evaluation" from Trades Unlimited. Here is the information that you will be given:

- 1) Type of roof you have.
- 2) Approximate square footage of your roof.
- 3) R.C.I. (Roof Condition Index) which is a score of 0-100, (100 being excellent).
- 4) E.R.L.E. (Estimated Remaining Life Expectancy) in years.
- 5) Repair Cost Estimate (only if there are repairs needed).
- 6) Re-roof Cost Estimate (only if a new roof is needed).

If problem areas exist on your roof, you will be emailed photos of the problem areas. This will enable you to have a bird's-eye view of all that is going on up on your rooftop. As previously mentioned, a \$150 fee is normally charged for our "6 Point Roof Evaluation" on homes. Effective now through the end of 2007, Trades Unlimited will waive this fee, with some exceptions on commercial properties. Hurry, this offer expires at year end!

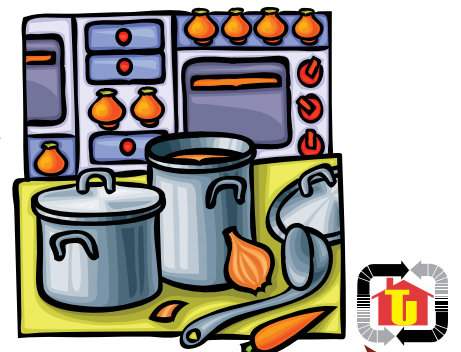
**Refer family or friends to  
Trades Unlimited and receive a  
2% referral fee.\***

*Warren Raisanen*  
Warren Raisanen, President

\*Call for details 480-483-1775

### Kitchen Remodeling

In our past newsletters we featured some beautiful before and after photos of kitchen remodeling projects. At Trades Unlimited, we have performed over 600 remodeling projects and we have a bit of experience in getting them right, right, right! A couple of quick tips: the first is to always focus on function, and the second is to make it pretty. Often we wish to remodel a kitchen or other area because we do not like how it looks. Making a space look good is easy, whereas getting it to function well and last into the future is what may be difficult to do and it takes a bit of "know how" to achieve this goal. For example, if you remodel your kitchen and it looks great, you are thrilled with it. If, as you use your kitchen, you find that it does not function well for you, you begin to dislike it and your perception of how it looks will quickly fade. If it looks great and as you use it you find that you really like how it functions as well, you will become even more pleased with it as time passes. This is the goal of a successful remodeling project!





## Speaking of Awards...



uggling a multitude of various duties and tasks, **Susan Raisanen** handles each of these responsibilities with ease!

A Minnesota native, Susan comes to us with an education background and a knack for getting things done! Whether it is repeat customers calling in to share their satisfaction with another job well done or a first time caller who happened to hear us on our Saturday morning radio show, Susan handles each caller with enthusiasm, a friendly smile and a truly positive attitude. Signs of a true customer relations professional and a definite asset to Trades Unlimited!



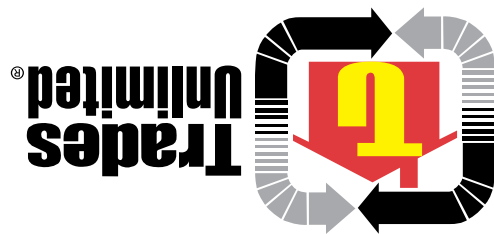
**Trades Unlimited®**

**Roofing • Kitchens • Baths • Windows**



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## ***Kitchen and Bathroom Remodeling***



***Two more successful remodeling projects by Trades Unlimited!***

