

# Show's heart

## Gardens harken spring, show guests endless possibilities for their own homes

**By Sharon Pound**

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**V**isitors to the 30th annual Dogwood Arts Festival House & Garden Show can check out the latest gardening ideas and find out how to add value to their homes with tips presented by nine award-winning gardeners this Friday-Sunday.

"Gardens most definitely add value to your property," says Julie Cooper, a designer for Acadia Landscape Co., this year's featured gardener. She describes a house in Farragut for which she created a woodlands garden in the backyard,

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A rocky waterfall prompts 11-year-old Madison Bohlen to capture the scene with her cell phone camera.



Petey Ward, of Petey's Landscaping, chats with a potential client.

complete with a pergola and fire pit.

"When that house was put on the market, there were many others in the neighborhood already for sale," Cooper explains. "But it had the 'wow' factor, and they received three offers within one month. Their investment definitely came back to them."

Acadia will present an English

courtyard garden at the Show's front entrance. Cooper says the 30-by-40-foot garden will portray a feeling of formal elegance and simplicity.

Special features of the Acadia garden are water canals that run alongside cobblestone pathways complemented by walls covered in greenery; a wrought-iron, arched trellis draped in roses; and Italian pots from Tuscany filled with

evergreens. Three stepped tiers rise in the center of the garden, and sitting walls offer plenty of room for relaxation.

Cooper notes that Acadia will offer a special drawing for a free garden design worth \$700, along with information on various garden specialties.

"Homeowners can discover a huge variety of garden plants and ask the experts any questions they may have about gardening," says Kim Litton, gardens chairman for the House & Garden Show.

"This is the perfect time to view all of the gardens at one time and spend the day surrounded by blooming plants in February," Litton continues.



A rocky nook in one garden scene.