Thinking of putting in a new floor? Here are three different types of floor that are good for the budget and great for people constantly walking on them and eventually the name says — hardwood that has been scraped by hand. The long planks of wood give it a rustic look. Hand-scraped hardwood is the hottest thing in the McCrorie store in Port Angeles. Tigressá, a soft and durable brand of carpet, was recently added to McCrorie Carpet One’s product line. The carpet’s technology, which uses dense nylon fibers that are small but strong, results in a plush feel that is durable enough to withstand the regular foot traffic, while still remaining soft. Cottagecore, carpets get murals done so people constantly walking on them and eventually lose their freshness, David explains, but the Tigressá lasts much longer and won’t get crushed down. As an added bonus, the price is comparable to other carpet brands.

New hardwoods are now available at McCrorie Carpet One, which has stores in Port Angeles, Sequim and Port Hadlock. David McCrorie stands in front of the carpet samples of Tigressá, a new carpet line available at McCrorie Carpet One, which has stores in Port Angeles, Sequim and Port Hadlock. Photos by Chris Lidster.

When architectural designer Ann Raab started GreenPod Development, “there was a lot of focus on the outside of the home being environmentally friendly,” she explains. That raised the question, “What about the inside?” The vision behind Port Townsend-based GreenPod Development is simple — to construct sustainable, energy-efficient homes that have minimal environmental impact, but also homes that are healthy and “green” on the inside. Partnering with designer Suzanne DeVall and collaborating with other local business people, the group is simplifying the process of building a green home, while also keeping them affordable. One initial challenge that needed to be tackled was cost. “We wanted to prove that green isn’t necessarily expensive,” says Ann. The solution there was to build modular homes — called GreenPods — and offer a handful of affordable models that can still be customized.

Designs for the compact GreenPod range from a mere 300 to 800 square feet. Modular walls on the outside and multi-functional furniture maximize the use of that space. Additionally, the units are designed such that they can be joined or stacked to increase space. Pressure due to how much customization is needed.

If the design is kept close to the model, the price can be maintained while custom homes will naturally be more expensive. GreenPods can be used as a temporary house while waiting to build a more permanent home. There are even Floating Pods for those interested in modular “boats” that can be floated and then joined together.

The interiors are decorated with sustainable materials and incorporate the work of local craftsmen. Photos courtesy of GreenPod Development.

Port Townsend group builds homes that are healthy and sustainable both inside and out.

Carpet

Top: GreenPods are available in a handful of models, which typically range from 300 to 800 feet. Above: GreenPod interiors are decorated with sustainable materials and incorporate the work of local craftsmen. Photos courtesy of GreenPod Development.

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Eco-friendly

Interior varieties grown in green flooring materials, including bamboo and cork. Cork is harvested from bark from primarily cork oak trees, rather than cutting down the trees, while bamboo is a quick growing grass that can mature in sometimes just three years. McCrorie Carpet One has three locations on the Peninsula — in Port Angeles at 370 S. 6th Street (360-457-2700), in Sequim at 237 S. Washington (360-683-2745), and in Port Hadlock at 11026 Rhody Drive (360-379-3300). They are currently offering a sale on McCrorie carpet and heat & cooled hardwood. They can be reached at www.mccrorie.com.

Carpet

Top: Carpet, look and durable brand of carpet, was recently added to McCrorie Carpet One’s product line. “We just introduced it two months ago and it’s now our top selling line of carpet,” says David McCrorie. The carpet technology, which uses dense nylon fibers that are small but strong, results in a plush feel that is durable enough to withstand the regular foot traffic, while still remaining soft. Cottagecore, carpets get murals done so people constantly walking on them and eventually lose their freshness, David explains, but the Tigressá lasts much longer and won’t get crushed down. As an added bonus, the price is comparable to other carpet brands.

Hardwood

Hand-scraped hardwood is the hottest thing in hardwood right now, David explains. The flooring is exactly what the name says — hardwood that has been scraped by hand. The long planks of wood give it a classic hardwood appearance, while the scraped areas give it a rustic look. You can even find some of it on the floor of the McCrorie store in Port Angeles. The wood comes in both light and dark shades and is an alternative to the common smooth, thin planks of hardwood.

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For example, “Wool is organic,” Ann ex-
plains, “but it’s treated with pesticides in
not as healthy anymore. We’re getting back to
the basics — using products we know are safe.”

“We’re creating something that is func-
tional and sustainable,” says Greg
Lesley Barron, is set to start constructing a
GreenPod this month that will ultimately be
completed in Port Townsend, cutting down on
local contractors, business and crafters on the
homes.

“Staying local under controlled conditions, modular
homes typically take less time to build, cost
less, and produce less waste during construc-
tion,” Greg explains.

All the pods utilize tall windows that let in more light, a passive solar design —
south-facing so the sun naturally warms the
home — low flow plumbing and energy
efficient fixtures.

GreenPod Development strives to work with
local contractors, business and crafters on the
homes.

“In a recent move, the pods are now con-
structed in Port Townsend, coming down on
gas and transportation costs,”

GreenPods have already been built lo-
cally in Quilcene and Port Townsend.

“Once the perm-
itting process has been
completed and the site is ready, construction of the
home can take just a few weeks,” says Greg
Baron of GreenPod Townsend, who will oversee
and be a point person throughout construction of this
first GreenPod.

These accessory dwelling units could
take five to six weeks,” says Greg
Lesley Barron, is set to start constructing a
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