

CHARLOTTE URBAN

# HOME

FALL 2009

Designs | Lifestyles | Investments | Improvements

## ONE WITH NATURE

Mid-Century Style

## Purple REIGN

## Decorating AU NATURAL

Jim Schmid Photography

# SAFETY

## A Sound Investment



The home safety council reports 21 million medical visits each year are the result of unintentional home injury. What hidden dangers are lurking in your home or, more specifically, the war zone you call ‘the garage’ . . . a top spot for home hazards. Urban Home turns to Bill McGuirk at GarageTek for insights on garage safety to protect you and your family from the hidden dangers at home.

His first suggestion is the most obvious. “Clear the clutter. Pick up rakes, shovels and other tools to prevent tripping and cuts. Then, put chemicals and other hazardous materials in high or locked cabinets, out of the reach of children and pets.”

A GarageTek organization system is a great way to turn your garage into a “safe-zone”. GarageTek’s TekPanel wall system allows you to accessorize your walls with locking cabinets, and other hooks, brackets, and baskets that can move those dangerous items from the floor to the wall. You will have created a safer space for your family and you’ll have more room for the cars!

Bill explains that while grills and generators are safe to store in the garage, homeowners should never operate them inside because of the dangers of carbon monoxide. The same goes for warming up a car in the garage on a brisk fall morning. “You just shouldn’t do it,” he says. “But, one thing homeowners should do is purchase carbon monoxide and smoke detectors for the garage. A fire extinguisher is a good idea, too.” All three items are available with a GarageTek organization system.

As the owner of GarageTek, garage safety is a little easier for Bill than it is for the rest of us. His family members have their own space



in the garage: a lockable cabinet for his wife’s garden supplies and chemicals, a basket system to hold his daughter’s sidewalk chalk, jump ropes and bike helmet, hooks to hang up the Razor scooters and ride-on toys, and a ceiling storage system to store camping equipment and holiday decorations up and out of the way. “Since the garage is the primary entry point for our house, I don’t want my kids tripping over toys and getting into things that they shouldn’t be getting into. With a GarageTek organization system, everything has a safe place to live.

Add an extra layer of protection and organization to your garage, like Bill McGuirk. Contact Garage

Tek for a free consultation and 3-D design that will allow you to see your space before you move the first rake. And, for Urban Home readers, a zero-interest finance plan is available. After all, an investment in your family’s safety is always a smart move.❖

For a comprehensive Safety Checklist, visit [garagetek.com](http://garagetek.com) or call Garage Tek at 704-257-6600.