PACE ENERGY

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WRITTEN BY KAREN MARLEY PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF PACE ENERGY

Pace Windows has taken its ability to create beautiful, efficient windows, doors and siding to the rest of the home. They can make your home work better for you, saving you money, keeping you healthy and achieving gorgeous design.

There are many ways Pace Energy can improve your home's efficiency but the hottest item on the market is solar. While most people cringe at the perceived costs and clunky aesthetics associated with solar, Brian Ludwig, Vice President of Pace Energy, explains how solar is a realistic option for even the most modest budgets and discerning architectural tastes. "State and federal governments really want you to use your tax liability to lesson your dependency on fossil fuels. And we're able to integrate solar panels into any architectural look, including older homes."

It's all about cash incentives and tax credits:

- New York State: a 25 percent income tax credit up to \$5,000 that can be used until fulfilled. Excess credit may be carried forward for five years.
- New York State's Energy Research and Development Authority: a cash incentive currently paying up to \$1.50 per watt per system. No end date has been identified.
- Federal: a 30 percent tax credit on any system regardless of size and not exclusive to main residences. This offer expires in 2016 but excess credits may be carried to the following year after purchase.

TRANSLATION: a 2,000-square-foot home with gas appliances uses about 10,000 to 12,000 kilowatts per year. It costs about \$28,000 to install a 4,000 kilowatt system capable of meeting half of this home's energy needs. Taking full advantage of the current offers, costs are reduced to \$8,600, which would fully pay for itself in just eight years! In 20 years you will have saved more than \$32,000 and prevented 86.8 tons of carbon dioxide emissions – the



same as not driving 217,000 miles Moreover, Pace Energy will finance the \$8,600 up to 20 years and give you 12 months of no payments and no interest on your tax credit dollars.

Pace Energy is available to do a free home survey and invites you to visit them at their demo home that is the epitome of an energy retrofit on a historic, old home.