

All Phase Remodeling, Inc.  
2720 Alpha Access  
Lansing, MI 48910

WINTER

# the Addition

Additions • Kitchens • Baths • Basements • Exteriors • Custom Cabinetry • Handicap Remodeling • Handyman Services

2011

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HICKORY NC  
PERMIT NO 212



Design/Build  
In Business since 1985

"Where quality and customer service come first."

(517) 482-6433  
www.AllPhaseRemodeling.com



Photo: Courtesy of Kohler Co. (www.kohler.com)

## A Fresh New Look

Do you love older homes with the thick crown molding and ornate ceiling medallions typical of traditional-style architecture? They can evoke fond memories of long ago family gatherings, or favorite romantic films you watch again and again. Perhaps you also appreciate the sleek lines and unadorned natural materials that typify modern-style interiors and fit your active family so well.

(continued on page 2)

- A Fresh New Look
- Your New Year's Resolutions
- It's Home Show Season!
- Wet & Wild
- Light Up Your Life
- Keep It Clean

IN THIS ISSUE

### Your New Year's Resolutions:

#1: Fix that broken window!

Now that the holidays are over and the New Year has begun, it's a great time for meeting that New Year's resolution you have been putting off: to finally fix that broken window. Or perhaps it is rotten siding, fix a screen door, install deadbolts, etc.

If you don't have the time, tools or skill to complete these tasks—contact **All Phase Remodeling, Inc.** and ask about our handyman service. Our carpenters are highly skilled and are able to complete projects like this in significantly less time than the typical homeowner.

Call 517-482-6433 for more details. ■

### It's Home Show Season!

Take a deep breath. You've survived the holidays. The winter blues are upon us. You need a reason to think ahead to spring flowers, the warm spring sunshine and your spring home improvement projects!

We would like to help you in the right direction by inviting you to attend the **Lansing Home and Garden Show at the MSU Pavilion, March 17-20**. We will be at booth number 1305 and look forward to seeing you. Stop by our office for a "Buy One Get One Free" coupon! ■



# A Fresh New Look



Photo: Courtesy of Laufen (www.laufen.com/usa)

(continued from page 1)

If so, these days you can have your cake and eat it, too. The latest trend is to mix modern and traditional for a fresh, new look that is perfect for today's casual lifestyle. To have a little of both—to combine modern and traditional and end up with a wonderful effect—requires some planning, however.

To begin, you should decide which style elements you want to predominate in your home. If both styles are

given equal emphasis, they will battle for attention. Is your home primarily a modern space to which you would like to add some antique accents, or would you like to integrate some modern design elements into a traditional space?

It is important for the two styles to work together in forming a unified whole. There are several ways to make that happen, and you can decide which best fits your personal taste. Do the materials used have something in common? Ornate wood bar stools may look fabulous in a kitchen with modern, streamlined wood cabinets. Does the creative use of color tie the space together? The walls of a very traditional living room can be painted in a bold color that matches a thoroughly modern upholstered sofa. Is there a similarity in the shape or texture? The sensuous curve of a modern stainless bathroom faucet may be repeated in the shape of the elegant traditional mirror hung above the vanity.

Do you prefer a restful harmony of design features in your living spaces or do you thrive on exciting contrasts? If serenity is what you are after, cabinetry and furnishings should be more alike, even if they are from two different architectural styles. Adhering to a palette of neutral colors throughout a room can blend many styles together with beautiful results. On the other hand, if you delight in contrast, juxtapose a very formal element with something quite casual. Spice things up by upholstering traditional furniture with large scale contemporary prints.

In the final analysis, it is all about having the freedom to mix finishes and periods—creating a comfortable blend that reflects your individual personality and lifestyle. ■

## New Product Introductions

# Wet & Wild

Feel free to take a shower while your favorite TV show is on. You won't miss a thing when the new MB Quart Waterproof Television is installed in your shower. It is ideal for wet, steamy or rainy conditions and can be mounted practically anywhere—in spas, saunas, bathrooms, kitchens, boats, pool side, patio bars, outdoor gardens, water fountains—even underwater.



Built to withstand the elements, this LCD HDTV is completely sealed against moisture and humidity, while also featuring fog-free glass. With a depth of less than 1.0", it is designed to be flush mounted. It offers high-performance internal waterproof speakers and dual controls. To operate all the TV functions, you can use either the touch panel

on the unit's face, or the waterproof floating remote that magnetizes to the television's border.

Don't want to watch just TV? Maybe you missed the end of a movie or need to check email? Plug in a DVD player or use a computer monitor. MB Quart's Waterproof Televisions have all the inputs, outputs and functions of a standard HDTV. When you are finished, turn the TV off and the unit functions as a mirror. ■



Photos: Courtesy of MB Quart (www.mbquartvmirror.com)

# Light Up Your Life

Even if your kitchen is blessed with multiple windows and ceiling light fixtures, some of your work area may still be in the dark. Your body and the upper cabinets often throw a shadow over the countertop where you are reading a list of ingredients or operating small appliances. Locating the bowls you need from within your dark cabinets can also be a challenge. These problems become even more pronounced in the evening when there is no natural light coming through the windows. For your ease and safety, your kitchen needs to be adequately illuminated.

Installing under-cabinet lighting helps eliminate dark corners and makes everything on the work surface easy to see. It has the added decorative benefit of showing off your tile backsplash to its best advantage.

Lights inside a cabinet make the interior space and its contents more easily accessible. Add glass doors to your cabinets and bring your favorite pottery collection into the limelight.

Placing lights in the recessed toe kick area of a cabinet floods the kitchen floor with light and adds to your overall safety. Toys your kids left behind on the floor can be seen easily and picked up—before anyone

## Lighting effects in the kitchen above:

*Kichler's Design Pro LED Linear utilized above the cabinets, inside the cabinets and on the toekick.*



*Design Pro LED discs positioned under the cabinets, close to the back wall.*



Photos: Courtesy of Kichler (www.kichler.com)



trips on them. In the evening, after the overhead kitchen lights are turned off, the toe kick lights may function as a handy night light to guide you safely to the refrigerator. These lights also add drama to the kitchen.

Another impressive lighting effect can be gained from above-cabinet lighting. It can

highlight decorative objects placed above the cabinet, or accentuate an interesting wall treatment, while adding to the ambient room lighting.

Cabinet lighting fixtures are available as strip lights, puck lights and linear lights. Strip lights offer an even, diffused light while puck lights provide a more focused pool of light that can nicely highlight a decor item. Linear lights are flexible and can bend around the corners and curves of a cabinet.

As you are thinking about types of lighting, keep in mind that fluorescent and LED lights are still the best choice for energy efficiency. Color quality on fluorescents has been improved, and now certain CFLs and LEDs are dimmable. Halogen and Xenon lights use much more electricity and burn very hot, however high-efficiency halogen bulbs have recently been introduced. ■

# Keep It Clean



Photo: Courtesy MTI Whirlpools (www.mtiwhirlpools.com)

The Jentle Jet Laundry Sink by MTI Whirlpools launders fine hand washables using three variable speed micro-jets.

Although doing the laundry may not be your favorite activity, it can be more enjoyable if your laundry room is an attractive, functional space.

To achieve this goal, it really helps to make a list of all the activities you plan to perform in your laundry room, as well as the various items you need to have available there. This helps you determine the mix of storage options you will need. For example, will you be creating a sewing nook for small mending projects in this room? Whatever the task, you will want all the necessary equipment and supplies conveniently located and well-organized. Along with shelves and cubbies, you should also provide a sufficient number of locked cabinets for placing hazardous cleaning supplies—such as detergents, cleansers and bleach—out of the sight and reach of children or pets. Having a place for everything helps you maintain an uncluttered space, which will add to your enjoyment.

It is very useful to have a space for storing and sorting soiled laundry until you are ready to wash. A couple of wire mesh bins—labeled for lights and darks—will work well for this, or use any receptacles that allow air to circulate throughout the laundry, preventing mildew.

A deep laundry sink for pre-treating stained items and for hand washables is essential. Provide a

spot for hand washables to air dry—a retractable clothesline installed above the sink is a good solution.

Many people are choosing to purchase front-loading washers today because of their energy and water efficiency, plus quiet operation. Consider having these appliances installed in a cabinet unit that coordinates with the rest of your cabinetry. The countertop provides a perfect place to fold laundry as it comes out of the dryer. You may choose to conceal the appliances behind doors or—considering their new designer color choices—you may decide to keep them on display.

Front loaders are often elevated on base pedestals for easier access. They also may be stacked, which is very practical for small laundry rooms. Whether you prefer a front-loading washer or you continue to be a fan of top-loaders, be sure to choose a model that is ENERGY STAR qualified.

In addition to a table or countertop for folding clean laundry, provide space for hanging clothes fresh from the dryer. A foldaway ironing station keeps the ironing board and iron out of the way, yet convenient for occasional use.

A laundry room requires excellent lighting, if you want to ferret out stains and needed repairs and then fix them properly. Include appropriate task and ambient lighting. If possible, install several windows in the room to fill it with natural light. A view to the outside that also allows access to the fresh air, helps make your mundane tasks more pleasant. ■



Photo: By James F. Wilson

