



Advance your Dreams...

■ A Newsletter for
the Connoisseur of
Beautiful Design/
Build Remodeling

■ Volume 3

New Client Services Available!

New Home Services

Two exciting new services are now available through the same company you have come to know and love! Many requests over the years for the smallest “projects” have preceded the rollout of the **Advance Home Services** division. Specializing in **handyman services and home maintenance**, services include (but are not limited to):

- Window and door replacement
- Granite and natural stone sealing
- Vent cleaning and replacement
- Installing accessories and hardware
- Electrical and plumbing work
- Deck power washing and refinishing
- Painting and Staining
- Small carpentry projects
- Floor polishing and repair
- Grout cleaning and sealing
- Garage door installation
- Hanging window treatments
- Installing shelving / closets
- Sealing and caulking interior and exterior
- Water and moisture control

And just about anything else you can think of!

Call us today to custom design your own program of annual home maintenance...or

if you just need a few things done in time for the coming Holiday Season! Mention this newsletter and receive a special discount off of your program booked by December 31st.

New Interior Design Services

We are happy to announce the availability of full-fledged Interior Design services from **Advance Design Interiors** and designer Scott Christensen who recently joined our staff earlier this year. Scott’s services include (but are not limited to):

- Wall finish and color palette selections
- Window treatments and furniture
- Design consultation for any room in your home
- Shopping and accessory selection
- Interior consultation and re-organization for home selling

Many people today are struggling to sell their home in a difficult real estate market, why not call Scott now to help you reorganize your home to show better? Or maybe you’ve been wanting to get that window treatment done in time for Christmas? Now’s the time to take a look!

Call us today to talk about the interior design packages available! Mention this newsletter and receive a one hour free interior design consultation with Scott.

Is it easy being Green?



Going green is a topic that we’re all hearing a lot about these days. As our clients become more aware of the impact that their product selections can have on both their quality of life as well as the environment, there is an increased interest in using products that are environmentally responsible and sustainable. Is it possible to incorporate green product selections into a kitchen or bath design without sacrificing style? The answer is unequivocally, yes.

(see “Green” on next page)

By Laura Barber, AKBD



Green... (cont'd)

Cabinetry

In response to the public's growing desire to use eco-friendly products, the cabinetry industry has diversified their options from standards like oak, maple and cherry, to renewable species like lyptus and bamboo. Consider this: An oak tree reaches maturity between sixty and eighty years at which time it can be cut down and converted into lumber. In comparison, the lyptus tree, an exotic species from Brazil, reaches full maturity in only fourteen to sixteen years. When the tree is cut down, the remaining stump grows into a new tree.

The lyptus forest is certified through the National Sustainable Forestry Program. Lyptus is a very hard, dense wood with a rich graining pattern similar to mahoga-

ny, using only sustainable forest products as well as reusing and recycling waste wood products in their own businesses.

Countertops

There are some beautiful new countertop options available for the environmentally conscious. One of the most interesting products is Vetrazzo, a material that uses 100% recycled glass from things like traffic lights, windshields, beer and soda bottles, Pyrex dishes and dinnerware. It offers a tremendous color selection, is beautiful and extremely durable. Your countertop even comes with its own certificate that tells the story of exactly where the glass came from. One color, Alehouse Amber, is made entirely of recycled beer bottles!



An example of a green kitchen design, created and rendered on computer by Advance Design Studio, Ltd.

ny. It lends itself beautifully to both traditional and contemporary styles. Bamboo is a product that is getting a lot of attention lately. It's a great alternative to wood because it replenishes itself quickly and on its own. When the stalks are harvested, the root systems remain intact, protecting against runoff and sprouting new growth. Bamboo products are made using veneers, come in a wide variety of colors and lend themselves beautifully to a more contemporary setting.

The cabinet industry is also addressing the use of formaldehyde in construction. There are cabinet lines that now offer formaldehyde-free or low formaldehyde construction options in response to public health concerns that formaldehyde emissions bring. In addition, many cabinet lines are practicing environmentally friendly manufacturing by committing to

Another fascinating product is called Paperstone. These paper countertops are made from 100% post-consumer waste, combined with a cashew nut oil-based resin to form an extremely high impact resistance. It's stain and heat resistance is comparable to high-end, natural and man-made stone. It comes in a wide palette of colors, making it very versatile for both kitchens and baths.

Plumbing Fixtures

Water is our planet's most precious resource. Water conservation is easier than ever with the numerous options available today in lowered water volume fixtures. The new technology allows us all the comfort and convenience we expect while significantly reducing the output of water from our faucets, showers and toilets. A standard household can save over
(see "Green" next page)



Attend a Kitchen Warming

How would you like to be a dinner guest in a newly remodeled kitchen with area renowned chef Dave Perlick from Montarra Grill? Lakewood resident **Barbara Stevens** did exactly that last month at the Leverenz home in Turnberry. "We liked the way everything was planned, it was classy and casual at the same time" said Barbara.

The Kitchen Warming sponsored by Advance Design, Abt Appliances, and Cuisines Larier of Canada featured a five course tasting menu, wine pairings, and decadent desserts. Casual conversation with guests and the homeowners centered around the couple's new kitchen "unveiling," new kitchen products and appliances, and the workmanship, design, and experience with Advance Design's turn-key Design/Build remodeling services.

If you are interested in remodeling any room in your home, and would like to be a special guest at an upcoming Kitchen

Warming, please call Christine Jurs at the studio (x104) for the current calendar of events scheduled.



Kitchen of **Gail and Jeff Leverenz**,
Crystal Lake, Illinois

Do you know someone who can use Advance Design's services? Refer a new client to Advance Design and receive your choice of the following:

- Handyman-For-A-Day to help you complete the "honey-do" list around your house

- or -

- Complementary Interior Design consultation

You will receive guidelines upon referral. Please feel free to call the studio for details and guidelines , 847-836-2600.

*Refer a
Friend*

Green

24,000 gallons of water per year simply by changing out their old 5.5 gallon toilets to new 1.28 GPF, high-efficiency toilets! Companies like Toto, Grohe and Kohler are all committed to the highest level of research and innovation in their field and offer products that are not only beautiful, but conserve water too.

Appliances

One of the best things you can do for your home is to purchase Energy Star rated appliances. These appliances, while a bit pricier initially, generally pay for themselves in energy bill savings within the

first few years. Some of the highest efficiency models even qualify for tax credits. Whether you are doing a full kitchen remodel or simply replacing your old appliances, this is an easy way to save money while helping the environment.

I've just touched on a few things we can do when remodeling that benefit both our families, our lifestyles and our planet. Every project is different. Whether you choose to implement only a few green practices in your remodel or every green option available – either way, every bit helps our environment!

"Do you want to be impressed by a truly professional and talented design team? We were! After meeting with a total of three designers, Advance Design had, by far, the most comprehensive and professional presentation overall.

As business partners, [they] earned our trust by listening to our concerns, being honest about our options, and professional throughout the project. We never felt there was information being withheld, or any advantages being taken for our lack of experience with remodeling.

The end result... the best kitchen we could ever have! From floor plan design to style of materials and décor, our kitchen is stunning. We have definitely increased the value of our home with this investment and won't hesitate to use Advance Design for future projects."

Phillip and Julie Cesaroni
Elgin, Illinois



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Advance Design News...

The **Leverenz kitchen** featured in the fall issue *Signature Kitchens and Baths*, pages 40,41. On news stands now or call our office for a complimentary copy

Feature article *Escape at Home; Redefining the Master Suite* by Christine Jurs in *The Art of Luxury Living Designer Baths Sixth Annual Addition* on news stands now. Pages 16-22

Come in and see our recently completed new state of the art Workroom (dubbed "The Playroom" by our clients), our beautiful new Inset Kitchen, and Travertine Marble Master Bath here at "The Studio".



Meet Cindi Shannon

Some of you may recall Cindi Bransky from your past experience with Advance Design. In July, Cindi married her longtime sweetheart Mike Shannon during a "monsoon" at the gazebo in downtown Lake Geneva.



Cindi started with Advance Design in 2002. Today as the company's Financial Director, she oversees all aspects of the behind-the-scenes accounts payable, receivables, financial reporting, and client billings. Most of what clients "see" when encountering Cindi are detailed, easy to read financial updates on their projects.

Cindi and Mike enjoy spending their summer weekends on Lake Geneva on their pontoon boat with their family. They have five children between them; Courtney 20, Zach 18, Alex 12, Kayla 14, and A.J. 11.