

December 2019 Newsletter

Quote of the month:

"Don't look Back, you're not
going that way."

-Mary Engelbriet



BIG NEWS!

We used this special quote this month because we are definitely looking forward and not back! We have new employees working for us beginning December 2019! We decided to go more professional in the office and administration and hired Alyssa Greenwell. You may not immediately see the difference, but our office will become more organized and efficient with her in charge. Welcome aboard ALYSSA.





Paraphrased from Erin Carlyle

Kitchen and Bath by Far The Most Popular Renovations!

Last year in the U.S., spending on renovations of kitchens and bathrooms rose significantly according to a new Houzz study. For Kitchens, the median national spending amount jumped 27% from 2017 to 2018, according to the 2019 U.S. Houzz & Home report, the largest publicly available survey of residential remodeling, building and decorating activity in the United States. Spending



on master bathroom renovations went up 14%, while spending on non master bathrooms rose 17%. The trend is expected to continue through this year. “Last years 10% increase in tariffs on imported building materials is clearly hitting consumer pockets in areas such as kitchens and bathroom remodels that are heavily dependent on imports of cabinetry, counter tops, ceramic tile, plumbing fixtures and vinyl flooring from China.” Says Nino Sitchinava, Houzz’s principal economist. “We expect similar effects to take place in 2019, given the recent breakdown in trade negotiations.” The national study, fielded between February 13 and April 16, 2019, collected responses from more than 128,000 U.S. homeowners on Houzz, including some 67,000 who renovated their primary homes in 2018. The majority of homeowners who renovated last year (57%) say they have been wanting to do it all along and finally have the time or financial means.



Kitchens Are Still the Most Popular Rooms To Renovate!

In 2018, kitchens were the most popular rooms to renovate, whether as part of a remodel of an existing space or as an addition to a home. Guest and other types of bathrooms were second, followed by master bathrooms. The lowest median spending amount was on closets, and the highest on kitchens. Keep in mind that the median here is the midpoint spending amount for each room in 2018, with half of homeowners spending under the median and the higher half spending more than the median. The spending for a homeowner who spent the median amount rose 27%. This is likely due to quartz and natural stone being imported products that have gained popularity.





Rephrased from Cathy Hobbs

Why White Kitchen Cabinets are Still the Most Popular!!

When renovating a kitchen, what is the best cabinet color? More than ever, the answer is white. Not considered bland, boring or low end, these days white is a popular and desired choice for homeowners looking for a timeless and elegant look and a neutral palette. Here are some top reasons to make a case for white cabinets.

- ★ White cabinets blend well with a variety of countertops
- ★ White cabinetry is versatile, neutral, and won't clash with furniture
- ★ White cabinets will shine regardless of the finish and can perfectly compliment any knob/handle choice as well as appliances
- ★ Pairs well with any color and can provide a perfect contrast
- ★ Available in various styles and price points due to its popularity
- ★ Fits in with any rustic, minimal, or modern look
- ★ Remains a popular and desired choice in home resale value because it does not look outdated





GRANTS UPDATE

This has been a very different but rewarding year for our real estate future. As most of you know, last February I signed up for a \$5,000,000 grant to help our customers with home improvements and to own a home. Our grant writers name is Jeannie and, with her team of 9 researchers, she has been writing grants for over 30 years. Since that time I have made over 300 presentations and over 60 people have signed up for a grant.

It takes 10-16 months (up to 2 years maximum) to get a grant so we are past the halfway point of receiving our grant. When we receive it we will announce it in our newsletter so that everyone will know! Over 50 persons have also said that they will sign up for a grant once we receive ours. So stay tuned and do not hesitate to call us if you have any questions or would just like to learn more!

Types of Grants Available

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| ★ Home grants: up to \$200,000 in value | ★ Advertising Grants: up to \$500,000 |
| ★ Home Improvement Grants: up to \$500,000 | ★ Education Grants: up to \$500,000 |
| ★ Not For Profit Grants: \$1,000,000-\$50,000,000 | ★ Investor and Builder Grants: up to \$50,000,000 |
| ★ Business Grants For Profit: \$1,000,000-\$50,000,000 | ★ Senior, Veteran and Disabled Grants: up to \$500,000 |

*WE WISH YOU
A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS AND
A HAPPY NEW
YEAR!*

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