

Quality craftsmanship

Beautiful details

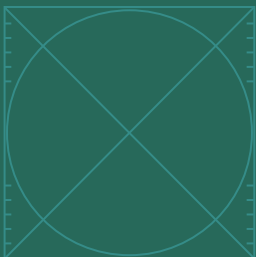
Artisans' skill



Residential Remodeling:



- Additions
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Bedrooms and
Master Suites
- Attic Conversions
- Home Offices, Studies,
Studios and Libraries
- Family Rooms
- Porches
- And more...



The *"Celebrating 30 years of service to Twin Cities Homeowners."*
 **Silver Bulletin**
Helpful and Interesting Information for Homeowners

Some of What's Inside

- ▶ Project Spotlight
- ▶ Smart Home Technology
- ▶ Home Theaters
- ▶ Tips for Selecting Windows
- ▶ Our 30th Anniversary
- ▶ Seasonal Reminders



**WINTER 2006
INSIDE**

- ▶ Project Spotlight
- ▶ Smart Home Technology
- ▶ Home Theaters
- ▶ Tips for Selecting Windows
- ▶ Our 30th Anniversary
- ▶ Seasonal Reminders



Member:

National Association of the Remodeling Industry (NARI)

Remodelers Advantage Roundtable

Minnesota BBB

AFTER



Project Spotlight

To create this beautiful kitchen, we enlarged the room by four feet and opened the wall between it and the family room (an addition Silver Bullet did a few years earlier). By removing the wall we were able to create a sense of openness in the limited available space. The kitchen received a new pantry (not in picture), custom cabinets, and granite counter tops. ■

Before



Smart Home Technology

Smart home technology integrates your home with computer technology. By automating processes throughout your home, smart home technology makes homes safer, more energy efficient, more comfortable and more convenient.

You may think smart home technology is a hope for the near future, but the technology is actually available today.

You may even have some smart home technology in your own home. Programmable thermostats, automatic coffeepots and remote-controlled windows are just a few examples of this technology already in common use.

As the demand for convenience in the home grows, more and more

continued inside

Home Theaters

Compared to the experience of a movie theater, watching television in your living room is rather limited. In a movie theater, the music, dialogue and sound effects are all around you, thanks to the surround-sound system. The large screen and dark room allow you to completely immerse yourself in the film. And the clear images make the details sharper and more realistic. The same movie seen on your television is a pale comparison. Yet, the television in your living room provides you privacy and comfort, something rarely found in a typical movie theater.

So why not create your own theater? It's not as difficult as it first seems. By installing a home theater system, you can recreate the feeling of the movie theater in the comfort and privacy of your own home. The simplest home theater system requires little more than surround-speakers and a large-screen television. The more you invest in the system, the closer to the theater experience you will get.

Some homeowners install theater chairs, cabinetry systems and light dimmers to further their theater experience. The most avid movie fan



might add a windowless room addition to their home with the screen, speakers, and other electronics incorporated directly into the room. Advanced systems can even include high-definition or projection televisions and state-of-the-art sound systems.

Simple home theaters can be purchased as a package at your local electronics store. More advanced systems require professional help. However, once your home theater system is set up, all you have to do is select your movie. ■

Smart Home Technology

continued from front page

smart home appliances have been introduced to the market. For example, several manufacturers have begun producing smart refrigerators with computer systems integrated inside. These refrigerators can keep notes, store appointments, download recipes and monitor the inventory inside.

A product coming in the near future is the smart showerhead. Your household will be able to program the shower to deliver just the right temperature and pressure settings. The convenience of always having the perfect shower also saves

money and conserves water by eliminating the need to adjust the temperature settings every time.

The fully automated smart home is becoming closer to reality every day. Compare it to the microwave or the personal computer. Once a luxury, now most households find it almost impossible to live without them.

Ask Silver Bullet how your next remodeling project can incorporate Smart Home Technology. ■



Photo courtesy of LG ELECTRONICS

Tips for Selecting Windows

When selecting new windows, it is important to take into consideration several factors. The type of frames or glass you use affects how much maintenance will be needed in future years and how energy efficient your windows will be.

Windows with wood frames and sashes, while beautiful, require some maintenance. Vinyl is a low-maintenance, energy efficient alternative, but is not as aesthetically pleasing and is rarely used in upscale remodels. Aluminum windows are also low-maintenance, but are not considered a good choice for cold climates such as ours.

If you want the energy efficiency of vinyl and low maintenance but don't want to sacrifice the visual appeal of wood, you can also choose a vinyl or aluminum-clad window. These windows are wood on the inside of the home, with vinyl or aluminum bonded to the outside.

As for glass types, climate has a big influence on what you should consider. In our climate, the best

choice is usually low emissivity (Low-E) double-paned (insulated) glass. This type of glass is designed to let heat from the sun pass through the window, but prevent heat in your home from escaping. It also prevents damaging ultra-violet rays from entering your home.

Before you make your final window decision, remember that a quality window should last a very long time. If you will be living in your home in your later years, choosing an easy-to-operate window now would be a wise investment for your future. ■



Our 30th Anniversary

This year marks the 30th anniversary for Silver Bullet, Inc. Design & Build. Founded in 1976, Silver Bullet has grown into a full-service high-quality design/build remodeling and renovation firm. We have transformed hundreds of homes, becoming one of the area's most trusted remodeling firms.

When asked about the secret to Silver Bullet's success, Terry Streich said, "We've always made it a point to listen closely to our clients' needs. By spending the extra time getting to know each client's individual tastes, we can create living spaces that fit their own personal style." Gary Welton added, "Our clients enjoy the personal service, creative solutions and attention to detail we provide."

With three decades under our belt, we plan to continue providing our design/build services to Twin Cities homeowners who are looking for high-quality design and construction. ■

Community Service

Silver Bullet's project manager Randy Kirk donated his time and skills to Habitat for Humanity. Working with the local church group Vision of Glory, Randy helped to provide a home for a local family in need. ■

Seasonal Reminders

- **Check for moisture damage from ice dams.** Ice dams cause millions of dollars of damage to homes each year. Melted water caught by these dams leaks into homes—damaging plaster, peeling paint, and soaking insulation. Do a visual inspection of the edges of your roof to see if there is a build-up of ice.
- **Change furnace or HVAC filters.** If filters are not changed often enough, they can become clogged. This forces your furnace to work harder and less efficiently to maintain airflow. In the long run, it can damage your furnace. Change filters monthly or following the unit's instructions. ■

Thank You

We'd like to thank Elizabeth and Michael Balay for asking us to design and build their basement remodel, which includes a laundry, bath, sauna, office, and entertainment room. The project also includes an upstairs bath remodel. This is their second project with Silver Bullet.

We'd also like to thank Frank and Beth Boyle for referring Ann and Jack Keneffick. ■

Referral Rewards – AmEx Gift Cards

The majority of projects for new clients that Silver Bullet does every year come from past clients and company friends referring new homeowners to us. We are very grateful for your referrals. When you refer someone to Silver Bullet who becomes a client of ours, we will show you our appreciation with an American Express Gift card worth \$250. ■