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Spring 2009

**2009 NARI
Remodeled
Homes Tour**

Sunday,
June 7, 2009
9:30am—4:30pm

We will be featuring a home in the popular Northside Brentwood neighborhood.

Look for our Tour mailing in late May. It will contain all the details!

2009 Contractor of the Year Award Winner

Project wins both Local and Regional NARI awards for Residential Universal Design

This winter, we were honored to win a NARI Contractor of the Year (CoTY) Award for a residential universal design project. This project is close to our hearts and we were thrilled that it was recognized not only on a local level, but also within Region 3 in the National NARI organization. Let us take you through this special project.

The reality of today's homes is that accessibility within the kitchen is lacking. For an individual in a wheelchair an accessible kitchen can make meal preparation a joy versus a burden. This was the problem facing our homeowner. As a teenager, the homeowner had been in a car accident that left her with no use of her fingers, little upper trunk strength and the need to use a wheel chair. She is an active, independent and spirited individual who works out of her home. She has owned her home for several years and had al-

ready made many accessible improvements. The kitchen was the last piece of the puzzle. The homeowner has staff that comes in to help with meals for part of each day. But the homeowner had never been able to prepare a meal in her kitchen. It just wasn't accessible for someone with her physical limitations. The homeowner came to us about modifying her kitchen and dining room to make it universally accessible and functional. She wanted to be able to entertain and cook with her physical restrictions.

The goal of this project was to remove all obstacles and create a barrier-free kitchen that would enable the homeowner to cook and function in an independent, safe and accessible manner.

It was also very important to design a warm, modern feel to the room that would not "look" accessible at first glance. We wanted to create a universal



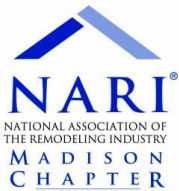
This gorgeous kitchen became an accessible haven for the homeowner.

kitchen that would have added value if she ever decided to sell her home. This all had to be accomplished within a strict budget.

In the end the goals were more than realized. The homeowner has the kitchen of her dreams. She is able to flex her culinary muscle and be in control of her kitchen for the first time. Careful and meticulous selection of appliances allows the homeowner

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Take Advantage of 2009 Tax Credits



Under the stimulus legislation, the percentage of the cost and lifetime cap for home improvements have been tripled to 30% and \$1,500, respectively. The list of eligible improvements has been expanded and the deadline for applying has

been extended through the end of 2010.

Installing energy-efficient windows, doors, roofing and insulation as well as furnaces, air conditioners and heat pumps all qualified for the credit.

There will be more information on the credit program in our next newsletter. Stay tuned to see how taking advantage of renovations can be a "green" way to save some green (\$\$)!

CotY project, continued.

to access refrigerator, oven, stoves, hood fan and dishwasher with new found ease. With the custom installed pull out storage shelves, she can easily access pans and cookware, spice and dry goods to prepare her meals. She can move seamlessly through the kitchen and from room to room with wider doorways and smooth floor transitions. The project was finished on time and ready for her to entertain family and friends at the first Easter dinner she was able to cook herself! It was a very festive dinner in that many prayers had been answered!



Above: The finished project!

Below: The "before" photo.



CotY²⁰⁰⁹
Awards



The new kitchen is open and spacious. Room was made for a wine bar and breakfast area.

Don't forget to call us when you have small projects that need to get off your To-Do list! Many homeowners are planning to take advantage of 2009 tax rebates for home improvements. Schedule your door and window replacements or add insulation to help your home's efficiency.

We look forward to hearing from you!

**The TZ Team
Larry, Karen, Jesse,
Nate, Chris and
Kristin**

Congratulations to CotY Project Team Members

Good work doesn't happen in isolation. This CotY project was no exception. A dedicated team was formed to share ideas and help solve problems that were part of making this dream kitchen truly accessible. Each Team Member had to think outside the box for their part of the project.

Congratulations to the Team Members whose contributions helped make this project an award winner!

Bella Domicile

Benjamin Plumbing

Evenaire Company, Inc.

Ever Ready Electric, Inc.

**Schreffler Custom
Flooring, Inc.**

Grand Appliance

R & D Drywall, Inc.