**January 2020**

Newsletter at MDS “Home” Renovations

So! We closed the year of 2019 and we’re settling in to 2020! We truly hope that 2019 treated you well and expect that 2020 brings you peacefulness of the soul, smiles galore, time to spend with friends & family and prosperity in SO many ways!

We’re hoping to post some newsletters throughout the year so that you can know who we are, get some great tips, maybe have a laugh and hopefully we get to know all of you too!

**Reasons you may contact us are:**

* You are finally at the time in life where you want to hire someone to help complete your DREAM BATHROOM or DREAM KITCHEN renovation!
* You have decided to finish your basement as a FAMILY SPACE, A MAN OR LADY CAVE, to make ROOM FOR THE KIDS or you would like to have help with the monthly expenses by creating an INCOME PROPERTY!
* An area in your home desperately needs HELP! It could be dated, in poor condition or some disaster has taken place! This could be DRYWALL REPAIRS/REPLACEMENT, NEW FLOORING, PAINTING etc!
* You have decided to SELL your home and there are areas that need UPGRADING or FRESHENING UP
* WINDOWS & DOORS need upgrading. Are they letting cold air and noise in? Are they allowing frost in? Are they rotting?

**Whether you hire MDS or someone else. Do your research. Here are some things to ask a potential Contractor:**

* How long have you been in business?
* Can you provide references?
* What work are you, or your subcontractors, licensed to do (e.g., electrical, plumbing)?
* What kind of work do you specialize in?
* Have you done a similar job before?
* What work schedule will you follow?
* What kind of warranty do you offer and what does it cover?
* Do you carry workers’ compensation and liability insurance?
* Will you provide a written contract?

**JANUARY TIPS:**

**TIP #1:** It’s cold outside! BRRRRRRR! We work in homes and work along with Plumbers and unfortunately see disasters all the time due to pipes freezing in the winter months. Drywall gets wet and damaged leaving the areas open to mold, not to mention the awful visual mess. Flooring gets ruined and other items in your home! Keep your home warm during the cold and windy times to help prevent pipe freeze ups. A little extra heating cost is much cheaper than a water damaged nightmare! Hopefully, back in the Autumn, you turned off and winterized your outside tap! Please be sure to do this each year, prior to the cold weather’s arrival! If there are exposed pipes in your basement -try getting heat to that area (keep extra doors open etc) In extreme cold, you may need a fan or space heater to help. You can also open up cabinet doors under kitchen, bathroom and laundry sinks to allow warm air in. We work SO hard to pay for and keep our homes nice- so hopefully none of these disasters effect you in 2020!

**TIP #2:** Left over water in your shower areas and bathtub spaces -Keep these areas as dry as possible after bathing -Trust us, this will help extend the life of your caulking and grout a great deal, keeping your bathtub area or shower area like new! Have a couple of rag/towels handy so you can quickly wipe down the area dry. Nowadays, we also have wonderful products like mold-resistant grouts to help too! We do try to always remember to mention this information to our Clients when we finish up a bathroom renovation!

**Comfy Cozy, Cold Weather COMFORT-FOOD Recipe: ½ hr -45 mins**

**Maxwell Chili:**

**Ingredients:** Lean ground beef, 2 Onions (chunky sliced) 5- ¾” cubed White Potatoes, 1 can Red kidney beans, 2 cans Hunts original tomatoe sauce, Chili spice, Salt/Pepper

**Instructions:** In large pot, add the onion, salt/pepper to taste and the beef together and cook until beef is cooked thoroughly. In the meantime, in a separate pot, boil the cubed potatoes until you can put a fork through the potatoe and drain. Add the tomatoe sauce, potatoes and kidney beans to the beef mixture pot. Add chili spice to taste and simmer on low. This is a quick and yummy winter meal that our family has enjoyed for many years! We usually make a HUGE pot of this so our ingredients would be tripled for leftovers! Chili ALWAYS tastes better the next day! Of course -serving with fresh French buttered bread adds that additional comfort lol! Roots comfy pants may be required after eating!

Thanks for reading!

Mike & Lisa – MDS Home Renovations Inc

* A Smile Is A Curve That Sets Everything Straight! -