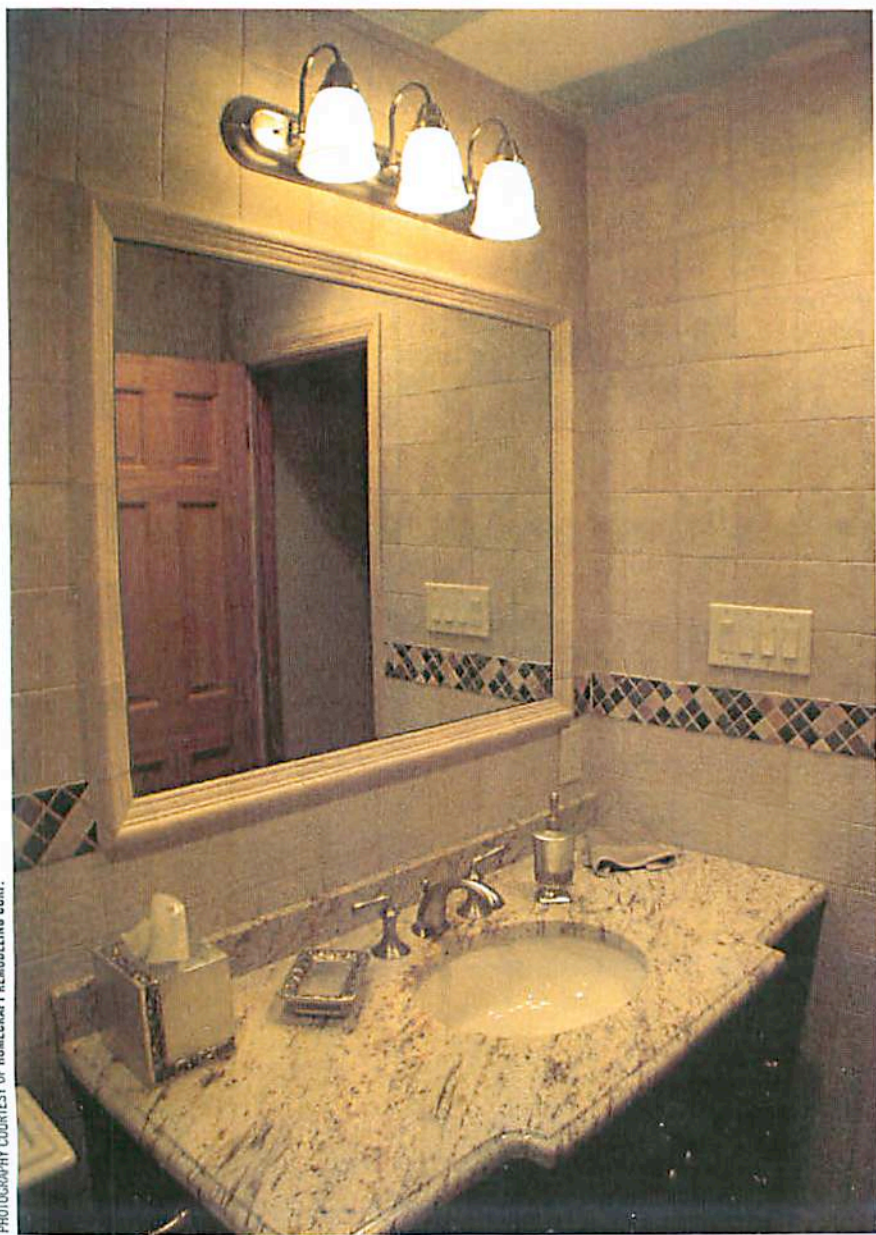


A REMODEL OF FORM AND FUNCTION



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF HOMECRAFT REMODELING CORP.

When Julie and Mike Fegan bought their home in Merrick, NY, they knew they would eventually be remodeling. With young, growing children, the space was quickly becoming too confining.

Built in 1965, the high ranch-style home with living area upstairs and down was typical of those designed during its era. It had four very small bedrooms, the kitchen and dining room were separated by a wall with little flow between them, and the bathrooms were quite cramped.

Additionally, the home featured a master bedroom that was part of a previous remodel. It was part of a second story "bump out" so it was up on stilts without anything beneath it.

"The home's style was clutter," says Julie. "There just wasn't enough space for our kid's things, or for anything else. It was really a lack of space that drove our decision to remodel," she says.

"We also felt the kitchen and bathrooms needed to be remodeled with a more contemporary style," Julie adds. The home still had its original bathrooms which needed to be updated. And, with a wall between them, the kitchen and dining room both seemed cramped and inconvenient.

To meet these challenges, the Fegans hired Homecraft Remodeling Corp. Working with Norm Gavin, CR, CKBR and president of Homecraft, a remodeling plan was developed to meet their needs.

The need for increased space was addressed in several ways. First, the size of the second floor "bump out" was significantly increased to allow for a larger master bedroom complete with a walk-in dressing closet. The design



also approximately tripled the size of the master bathroom.

"I love the dressing closet," Julie says. "We had a closet company design it for optimum use of the space and it includes a built-in dresser that's just wonderful."

Second, the area below the master bedroom was closed in and turned into a children's playroom. An entire wall in this room was devoted to closet space for storing toys and other items. It can be accessed via one of three sets of double doors.

Finally, the wall between the kitchen and the dining room was knocked down. While the rooms weren't increased in size, the removal of the wall allows both rooms to function as one large space.

"The kitchen area is just more usable now," says Julie. "With the wall down, the kitchen is a nicer place for our family to gather. I can be working in the kitchen and my kids can be playing at the dining room table and we're together."

New floor-to-ceiling cabinets offer a significant increase in kitchen storage and granite countertops include an overlap where stools provide additional seating.

As much of their home was being remodeled, the Fegans took this opportunity to update the style of their home as well.

The kitchen got a complete makeover, including new high-end cabinets, granite countertops, new stone floor tiles, a custom tile back splash and new appliances.

"The built-in oven and in-counter cooktop, in addition to being very functional, just blend into the kitchen's design beautifully," says Julie. "The



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design itself is very warm looking and the custom, multi-colored tile backsplash really sets it off."

In fact, Julie used tile as a major design element to get the "look" she wanted in the kitchen and the three bathrooms. She selected several unique tile styles that would become the focal points of her rooms.

"I think the tile really makes the room in a lot of cases," she says. "The tile installer and I really worked to make sure to lay it in for maximum design impact," she says.

In both the master bathroom and the hall bathroom, an inset mirror is surrounded by tile to create a feel of elegance. Both upper bathrooms have tile floor to ceiling and complementing granite countertops.

The master bath also features a large six-drawer vanity and a spa-like shower stall with a frameless glass door.

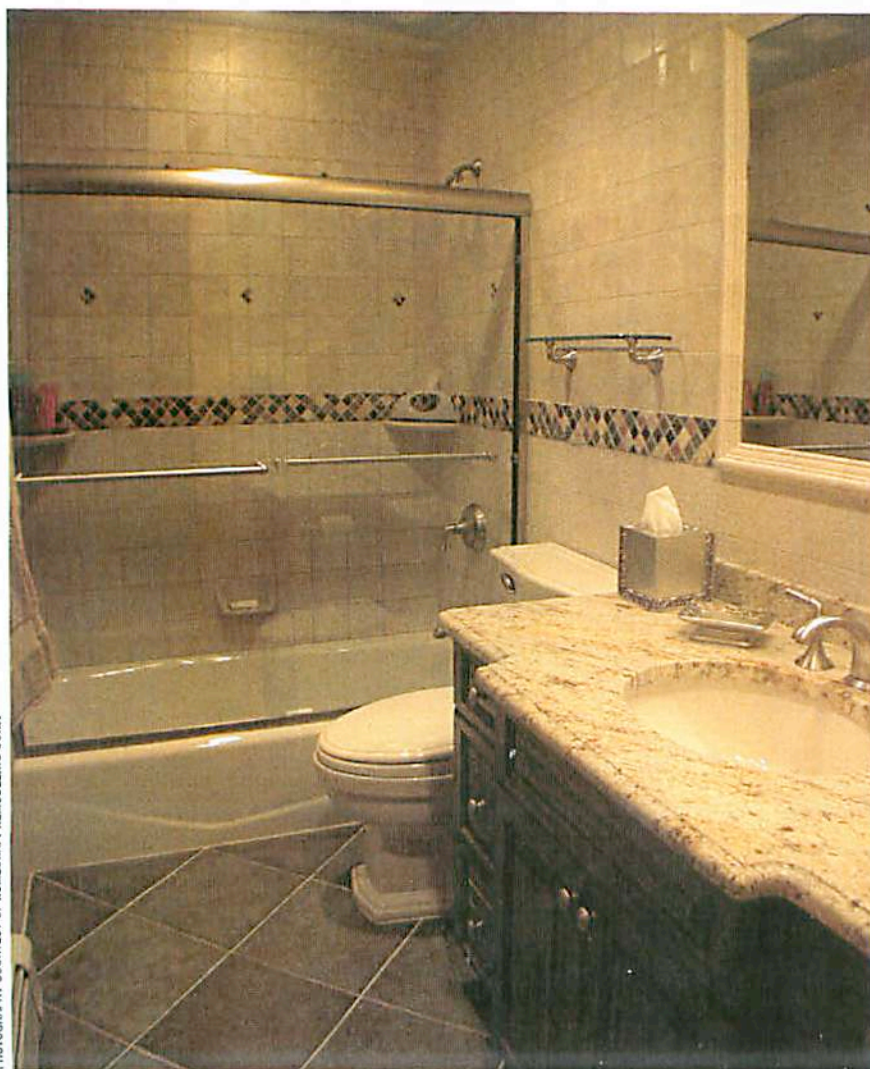
Julie changed up the style of the bathroom on the lower level using a pedestal sink and tile only half-way up the wall. Brilliantly-colored glass tiles adorn the floor in this room.

After living in their home for nine years, Julie and Mike knew a lot about what they wanted in a remodel, but still had to find the right firm to help them achieve it.

According to Julie, one of the keys to their project's success was hiring Norm Gavin and Homecraft.

"You need a contractor you can trust," she says. "I knew I'd be on the phone with Norm everyday and I needed a comfort level I could feel good about." She suggests homeowners interview potential contractors to be sure they are comfortable dealing with them.

"Working with Norm and the people at Homecraft was a wonderful experience," Julie says. "We lived in the house while the work was being done and it was quite an adventure. But the job went smoothly and was done right on time," she says.



PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF HOMECRAFT REMODELING CORP.

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