



Winter 2010 Newsletter

Divisions of Sure-Lock-Homes

SLH Has Expanded!

Introducing Che Bella Interiors

Given the types of projects SLH Home Systems has sold over the past several years, it became apparent that there was a need to offer additional services to our clientele – Interior Design Services.

Che Bella Interiors, a division of Sure-Lock-Homes provides full service residential interior design services to homeowners, builders and remodelers in the Twin Cities. Tracy Hains is the principal designer and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Organizational Administration as well as an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Interior Design. She is an Allied Member of ASID, American Society of Interior Design and is also a Member of NKBA, National Kitchen and Bath Association.

Tracy enjoys building relationships with her clients and prides herself on listening to each client's unique needs and desires. It is her overall goal to provide excellence in all areas of interior design while maintaining the highest levels of honesty, integrity and professionalism.

Starting with this issue, we will incorporate information from both SLH Home Systems and Che Bella Interiors. We hope they provide insight and useful information that you can use when thinking about building, remodeling and/or if you are finishing your basement.

If there is a topic you would like us to write about in an upcoming newsletter please let us know at either info@slhsystems.com or info@chebellainteriors.com.

Come visit us at the 2010 Home and Garden Shows!

We're "amped" up to show off our best new products!

This year SLH Home Systems plans on stealing the show as the leading home automation and integration experts at the 2010 Home and Garden Shows.

Stop by either show listed below and see SLH Home Systems' demonstration of the affordable, energy-saving Control4 Home Automation System. You'll be amazed at how this system can control every system in a home – audio and video systems; lighting; temperature; security system, and more – with touch-screen ease from a single remote. You will want to see the new Control4 System's Dock for iPod and hear about all the practical applications you will really love. This year we are featuring the "Get Wired Lounge" where you will be inspired to create the ultimate space for your home by discovering the latest trends in electronics.

With so much to talk about and show, this year's booths are bigger than ever! SLH Home Systems' staff will be on hand to meet with you and answer your questions about automated home systems for your new or existing home.

Minnesota Home & Patio Show

Booth # 11

(St. Paul River Centre)
Feb 18 - 21, 2010

Thursday:	12:00pm - 9:00pm
Friday:	12:00pm - 9:00pm
Saturday:	10:00am - 9:00pm
Sunday:	10:00am - 6:00pm

Find out more information at:
www.homeandpatioshow.com

Mpls. Home & Garden Show

Booth # 2237

(Minneapolis Convention Center)
Feb 24 - 28, 2010

Wednesday:	12:00pm - 9:00pm
Thursday:	10:00am - 9:00pm
Friday:	9:00am - 10:00pm
Saturday:	9:00am - 10:00pm
Sunday:	9:00am - 6:00pm

Find out more info and get \$3 off your admission at:
www.minneapolishomeandgardenshow.com





From the Nonstop Brain of Don Hains

HDMI: Misconceptions and Must Know Info

There are lots of misconceptions out there about what some technologies can and can't do. HDMI is definitely one of them. Although many consumers have been told that HDMI is the gold standard, I recommend, "Buyer beware."

One of the things HDMI technology was designed to do is prevent people from being able to make high-quality copies of movies. I'm on board with Hollywood protecting its investments, but the technology needs to work correctly. And for the average consumer, that isn't always the case.

Simply put, HDMI doesn't play well with others. Like a bully on a playground, HDMI sometimes won't let HDMI and component devices and cables play nicely together. The problem is, there's no way to know until you get everything connected and flip the switch whether the system as a whole will work, resulting in costly backtracking and troubleshooting.

Most consumers think HDMI is the best route for both audio and video quality. But that's not true. High definition component video gives a beautiful picture in full 1080p. Where the difference actually lies is in audio quality. HDMI does take advantage of additional channels on surround sound, but component systems still offer an excellent audio experience.

It's a complex issue, and one that we're following closely. Rest assured that we're on top of the hype and the facts, and we'll work with you to design a system that's both top-notch and one you and your family can enjoy for years to come.

New Affordable Closed Circuit Technology

Monitor what is happening at your home...

According to the US Bureau of Justice Statistics, approximately 75% of all crime in the states is property crime. In 2008, there were 16 million thefts of property, and of these, 83% were home and business burglaries. In the United States, the FBI has calculated that a burglary occurs every 8 seconds and that three out of four homes will be burglarized within the next 20 years. There's no reason to wait until it happens to you. While it might not make the evening news, when your home or business is burgled, safeguarding it becomes the most important issue in the world.

SLH Home Systems is now offering a state-of-the-art DVR System which is manufactured by Bolide Technology. Bolide has introduced a new user friendly "S-Box" series that features superior video quality, iPhone integration, USB backup, and other unique features at an affordable price. Bolide's custom iPhone application is the only one on the market that allows users to view up to 16 cameras remotely using their iPhone. The "S-Box" series is available in four, eight and sixteen channels and allows real-time recording, playback and provides picture quality that is unmatched by any other standalone DVR in the market. All "S-Box" series DVRs come with a built-in server for remote viewing and control makes viewing video on the iPhone very fast and clear. But what sets these DVR's apart from others in the market is the PTZ control via the iPhone. Users can use their iPhone to pan, tilt, or zoom with a PTZ camera connected to these DVRs.

Originally developed to provide the ultimate in security for banks, and traditionally used by security intensive operations like casinos and airports, today closed-circuit television and video surveillance systems are now affordable and simple enough to be used at home. Now that this powerful technology is within the reach of the average consumer, it makes an effective part of any home security system, as well as a small business' everyday video surveillance.



The use of surveillance camera systems can alert you before threatening situations worsen, as well as provide you with an important record of events. Monitoring your home or business can be invaluable, in identifying and apprehending thieves and vandals. The prevention or resolution of just one crime would be enough to pay for video surveillance system equipment many times over. For more information call Don at 952-224-5450.

ENTER TO WIN!

Drop off this coupon at either of the upcoming Home Shows and you will be registered to win one of the following from SLH Home Systems or Che Bella Interiors: (BOTH PRIZES VALUED AT \$300.00)

All of the information must be completed to be eligible for drawing.

ONE ROOM MAKEOVER

(Which may include paint consultation, furniture placement, professional recommendations, etc. (Maximum 3 Hour Consultation)

ONE YEAR OF ALARM MONITORING SERVICES

(Requires operational alarm system in home or business)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Countertops 101

Which countertop is right for your kitchen?

Your kitchen is a place to cook, eat, gather, and entertain. Whether you are expanding your kitchen, adding an island, or building a new home, the right countertops are essential. It is important to consider style, beauty, durability and price when reviewing the various options available today.

Laminate

Laminate countertops are the most widely used countertop materials used and remains the most affordable. It is inexpensive and low-maintenance. It resists grease and stains and it comes in a wide variety of colors and patterns. Today some laminates even mimic the upscale look of granite or quartz. Some drawbacks include the visible seams that can trap dirt or food and this type of countertop is susceptible to damage from sharp knives and hot pans.

Solid Surface

Corian, an acrylic solid surface made by DuPont, is nonporous and easy to clean and can be integrated with a solid surface sink. The color goes all the way through the entire counter so scratches and blemishes can easily be buffed out. This countertop also resists both mildew and stains and it has a uniform appearance. Solid surfaces may not stand up well to sharp knives or heat but can be repaired should they become damaged.

Granite

Granite is often the surface of choice for high-end kitchens. It provides a look that is incomparable for beauty and elegance. Granite is porous and must be treated with sealant to resist stains. If granite does become stained, it can be very difficult and sometimes impossible to remove. Granite is extremely durable, scratch resistant, and impervious to water and heat, however it can be chipped and broken if abused. If this happens it is difficult and sometimes impossible to repair.

Quartz

Quartz surfaces are man-made and are made from a composite of crushed quartz, pigment and resin. It is non-porous so it does not require sealing. Quartz surfaces are extremely hygienic, making it a food-safe choice and while it has the general appearance of natural stone, it has a consistent pattern and color. Seams are visible although the darker colors tend to minimize the seam. Quartz surfaces are resistant to stains but can be damaged by high heat and prolonged exposure to heat.

Stainless Steel

Stainless steel countertops are an extremely tough surface and are very popular with the high-tech crowd. They offer a sleek and contemporary surface that is very easy to clean, is impervious to stains and hot pans and are often the counter of choice in most upscale restaurants. Some drawbacks include this countertop shows nicks and it scratches easily. It needs a solid, firm underlayment or else it will dent.

Butcher Block

True butcher block uses end-grain hard-wood for counters; however many counters come in a lesser grade. This countertop offers a warm, natural appearance of hardwood and is ideal for cutting and chopping. Surface scratches are easily sanded out and wood has natural antibacterial qualities. Butcher block must be sealed or frequently treated with mineral oil.

While the above is not an all-inclusive list of all the possible countertop materials available, these are some of the more popular options used in today's kitchens. Che Bella Interiors can help you evaluate and determine which countertop is right for your home.



Design Trends

What to look for in 2010!

1. Color Palette

Look for colors that are subdued and more muted in tone. Hues such as earthy browns, aged greens and smoky blues will be reflected in both paint and fabric.

2. Nature Inspired Materials

Look for materials that are reminiscent of the land, sea and sky. Wood can also be used in unexpected ways. Find an old window and hang it as a piece of art.



3. Metallics

Metallic finishes are gaining popularity and can be used to add depth and interest to any space.

4. Re-Purpose Furniture

Try shopping for a vintage piece of furniture, a side chair or a chaise, and reupholster it in a modern fabric or a vibrant color.

5. Wallpaper is Making a Comeback

Large scale patterns are on the rise. Look for tone-on-tone nature inspired patterns or bold combinations of color. Use large scale patterns sparingly in your space, possibly on a focal wall or above wainscoting.



6. A Touch of Bohemian

Throw in a few funky pieces to jazz up your space. It could be a vintage mirror, a couple of unique pillows or an exotic rug. Mix dark stained woods with painted finishes and metals to give an eclectic vibe.





SLH
HOME SYSTEMS

CHE BELLA
Interiors

Divisions of Sure-Lock-Homes

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Licensed-Bonded-Insured
MN Lic. 20384355

Proud Members of:



CCARSA



Burnsville



Visit us at both Home Shows this winter!

Minnesota Home & Patio Show - Booth #11
(St. Paul River Centre) Feb 18 - 21, 2010
Home & Garden Show - Booth # 2237
(Mpls. Convention Center) Feb 24 - 28, 2010

Come visit us during the 2010 Spring Parade of Homes!

Friday March 5th - Sunday March 28th
Models open Noon - 6pm

McDonald Construction, Inc.



MODEL

Highland Hills #3
Highland Hills #4**
Farms of Lake Elmo
Woodland Preserve
St. John's Village
Romkema Model
Rhapsody Model
Ritter Model**

ADDRESS

6709 Highland Hills Lane, Cottage Grove
6711 Highland Hills Lane, Cottage Grove
2995 Jonquil Trail N, Lake Elmo
11599 Avery Drive, Inver Grove Heights
1275 Lakemoor Drive, Woodbury
8712 Osprey Lane, Chanhassen
8920 Highview Ct., Victoria
1287 Waters Path, Woodbury

Lecy Bros. Homes



MODEL

Bridgewater Model
SLH was named the winner of the 2009 Trillium Award for Special Area.
(SLH will have staff at this model on Saturdays throughout the parade from 10:00-4:00.)

ADDRESS

4640 Bluebill Trail, Medina

Boyer Building Corporation



MODEL

Pipewood Model

ADDRESS

4060 Pipewood Lane, Chanhassen



ABOVE LEFT:
Highland Hills #4
ABOVE RIGHT:
Highland Hills #4
LEFT:
Bridgewater Model

Are you building a new home? Remodeling?

Call us Today!
952-224-5450

**Che Bella Interiors completed Interior Design Selection and Staging