



AROUND THE HOUSE

DECEMBER 2013

NEWS FROM OUR FAMILY TO YOURS



Our Services Include

- Kitchen/Bath Remodels
- Basement Finishing
- Additions
- Whole House Remodeling or Build
- Energy Efficient
- Siding/Windows
- Home Offices
- Certified Aging-in-Place Specialist
- Four Season Rooms/Patios
- Outdoor Kitchens

Inside This Issue:

- **Fundraiser for Serenity**
- **Repay Friends Through Your Smartphone**
- **Decluttering Made Easy**

Plus much, much more!!!



FUNDRAISER FOR SERENITY

*A Benefit for Serenity
&
The Erskin Family to repair flood damages to their home*

After the recent floods here in Colorado, as you can imagine, we were inundated with calls. So many families and so many homes, so much damage..... One call in particular is exceptionally heart wrenching. We received a call from a woman in Firestone with flood damage. Upon going to her residence to surmise the damage and provide an estimate, we quickly realized that Adell, Josh & Serenity Erskin needed more help than what we could offer.

There can be no crueller form of cancer than that which strikes children. Like most children her age, 3 year old Serenity Erskin loves to play with her friends. But something sets Serenity apart from her friends: Serenity has fought cancer not once, but now twice, in her young life.

Serenity was born with Downs Syndrome, and had to undergo open heart surgery. After recovering from the surgery, she was dealt another bad diagnosis. The doctors discovered she had Acute Myeloid Leukemia. (AML, Blood Cancer). She endured months of intense treatments, including 6 different chemotherapies. After almost a year of treatment, she was declared cancer free. Her cancer was in remission. In August 2013, a short 8 months later she relapsed. This will be another long battle of painful treatments, and will undergo a bone marrow transplant

In September 2013 the Erskin family was hit again with flood damage to their home. Major repairs are needed to the Erskin residence, and with help from the community we can give them a home that provides a sound environment, safe and nurturing to fit Serenity's unique needs.

WHAT YOU CAN DO



Please join us for a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction Friday December 6th, 2013

THE WHAT: Christie's Design Build Remodeling of Dacono is hosting a Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction

The WHEN: Friday, December 6th, 2013 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

The WHERE: The Firestone American Legion. 70 1st St, Firestone, CO 80520. Dinner is \$10.00 per person, children under 12 free!

The HOW: Donation, Donations, Donations! We need silent auctions donations, monetary donations, trade volunteers, and lots hungry people who like spaghetti!

Confirm mail or drop off auctions donations at Christie's office, located at:

114 8th St

Dacono, CO 80514.

Email: Admin@christiescompleteservices.com

Ph. 303-833-4715

*Please make checks payable to the: The Serenity Fund. Checks & Donations may also be made directly at any JP Chase Bank C/O: The Serenity Fund. Acct# 3016274622

Follow Serenity and her Event on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/554463164645985/>

<https://www.facebook.com/theserenityfund?ref=hl>

Christie's Design Build/Remodeling

December Is:

- Hi Neighbor Month
- National Stress Free Family Holiday Month
- Bingo's Birthday Month
- Read a New Book Month
- National Made in America Month
- Universal Human Rights Month
- Learn a Foreign Language Month
- Art and Architecture Month

How Big is Big Enough?

Want a really big TV? Check out the Sony 4K!

It has been more than four years since the end of analog TV. With your first HDTV, you probably reveled in the high definition at 720 pixels and a little later, at the 1070 pixels.

Today, not only are prices way lower than they were then, but most HDTV viewers are perfectly satisfied with the picture quality.

Sony's 4K will change their degree of satisfaction, but it probably won't happen for a while. The electronics industry is championing what it claims as the next be-all television. The 4K is so named because it boasts several times the picture resolution.

It's a thin, elegant 65-inch backlit LED set, with a magnificent picture that has more than 8 million pixels, a vibrant color palate and two powerful 65-watt front-facing speakers.

Getting customers to trade up isn't going to be easy. Right now, the set lists for \$5,499.99. Over time, however, the price will be much lower.

Sony also offers an 84-inch model, the XBR 4K for \$24,999. A 55-inch model will cost \$3,499.

The Consumer Electronics Association forecasts factory shipments of Ultra TVs will grow to 23,000 units in 2013. So someone is buying them, even if it's not you. Yet.

Money Among Friends

The guys are out to dinner and they want to split the check. One says he'll pay by credit card, but no one else has cash. What's the solution?

Simple: Send cash through your smartphone.

With a quick email or a few taps on your cellphone, you can transfer the money, and your recipient will get it in a day or two.

The Federal Reserve says about one in four smartphone owners made a mobile payment in the last 12 months.

There are two good ways to make payment to another person. You can send cash through your bank. Most will let you transfer money using an in-house system, or you can use a service partner such as Dwolla, Google Wallet, or PayPal. You have to sign up if you don't have an account and so does your recipient.

To pay through your bank, sign up for the money transfer option online or via its mobile app. Then you can key in your recipient's cell number or email address and the amount to be sent. It will be debited from your bank account or credit card. He or she receives an email alert, then signs up to receive payments, basically providing a bank account where the funds can be wired, often within minutes if you're customers at the same bank, or within a couple of days if you're not.

Operation Santa Paws December 1 - 21



During the holiday season extra help is needed for abused and abandoned animals in local animal shelters.

One grassroots organization, Operation Santa Paws, is helping by spreading the word about a canine-feline toy or treat drive to benefit less-fortunate pets this season.

Animal lovers are encouraged to purchase a new dog toy, cat toy, food or food treats that will be delivered in time for Christmas to a local shelter and rescue organization.

Think about a sad puppy who knows nobody loves him, a beautiful cat that has lost her family for some reason, or a mature dog that had a loving family until they had to move and could no longer care for him.

On Christmas, a toy or a food treat will make them joyful for the day, and you will feel joyful for making it possible.

2		3	1					
	1	8	5				9	
	5				8			
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To solve a sudoku, you only need logic and patience. No math is required.
Simply make sure that each 3x3 square region has a number 1 through 9 with only one occurrence of each number.

Each column and row of the large grid must have only one instance of the numbers 1 through 9.

The difficulty rating on this puzzle is easy.

WE WELCOME THIS MONTH'S NEW CLIENTS TO THE CHRISTIE'S REMODELING FAMILY

Here are some of our new clients that became members of "Christie's Remodeling Family" this past month. I'd like to welcome you and wish you all the best.

Mike & Judy VanAbel of Broomfield, CO and Jacob & Kristi Brinkerhoff of Longmont, CO.

We are giving recognition to our new clients and our superb friends who are kind enough to refer their neighbors and relatives to us.

Make Room For Holiday Gifts

Decluttering will give you more space in your home and make it easier to move or sell in the future. Here's some advice on how to do it.

Paper: Gather all your papers in one place. Then divide them into three categories, Action, Save and Toss. The Action stack will have bills to pay and tasks to do.

The Save stack will include financial documents that are less than three years old. Always hold on to year-end statements showing the purchase price of your stocks and mutual funds so you can calculate cost basis when you sell them. Save all home purchase and home improvement documents, and all your tax returns. Keep other financial documents for a year.

Before you toss anything, put it through a shredder to make sure your account numbers can't be recreated.

How to sell your stuff:

Go to eBay and create an account. Focus on small items that are easy to price and pack, such as designer clothes, small collectables and jewelry. It costs nothing to list up to 50 auction items each month and add "Buy it now," say advisors at Kiplinger's Personal Finance.

Use Craigslist for larger items such as furniture and appliances. Buyers will come and haul them away. Listings are free for a week in big cities or 45 days in smaller cities. Insist on payment in cash.

Specialty sites will take expensive books. Enter the ISBN number and you'll receive online price quotes.

Or you could have a yard sale. Put a price tag on everything large or small and collect the money.

Making a donation of your clutter is an easy solution. Give your stuff to the Goodwill or the Salvation Army. If there's a lot, they'll send a truck to pick it up. Get a receipt if you want to take the donation as a tax deduction.

Predict Employee Behavior

If you've ever had a key employee suddenly announce he has found a new job, you already know the value of retaining employees -- and being able to predict if and when they'll leave.

For big employers, huge stores of data are being compiled into 'predictive analytics,' a fancy phrase for the new Human Resources' crystal ball.

Big employers are looking at patterns of behavior that might tell them who will stay with the company, whether that person is promotable, and when the person is likely to quit.

One example from NBC news: A manager has a key employee who is pregnant with her second child. The manager begins to worry that the key employee will have to be replaced. How valid is that concern? Predictive analytics would analyze data from many sources and could come up with an answer for the manager: More than one factor goes into an employee leaving.

At ConAgra, predictive analytics found that high performing managers who were born between the late 60s and early 80s (Generation X) are least likely to leave the firm. On the other hand, Generation Y employees (born after the 1980s) are more likely to leave.

ConAgra also used data to see if it was true that the younger the worker, the more ability to adapt to changing work conditions. They found age was not a factor and the ability to learn can be present at any age.

Pay was not among the top 10 reasons people leave. Their relationships with their supervisors and whether they are recognized for their work were two of the stronger factors. Understanding those factors in a present employee can help companies make changes and retain people.

Christmas Breakfast Sausage Casserole

Ingredients

- 1 pound ground pork sausage
- 1 teaspoon mustard powder
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 4 eggs, beaten
- 2 cups milk
- 6 slices white bread, toasted and cut into cubes
- 8 ounces mild cheddar cheese, shredded



Directions

- Crumble sausage into a medium skillet. Cook over medium heat until evenly brown; drain.
- In a medium bowl, mix together mustard powder, salt, eggs and milk. Add the sausage, bread cubes, and cheese, and stir to coat evenly. Pour into a greased 9x13 inch baking dish. Cover, and chill in the refrigerator for 8 hours, or overnight.
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- Cover, and bake 45 to 60 minutes. Uncover, and reduce temperature to 325 degrees F (165 degrees C). Bake for an additional 30 minutes, or until set.

Recipe Source: Allrecipes.com

Cracker Candy



- ¼ (16 ounce) package saltines
- ½ pound butter
- ¾ cup sugar
- 2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
- ¾ cup chopped walnuts

- 425 degrees
- Melt butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Stir in sugar and bring to a low boil. Continue boiling, stirring constantly to prevent burning, about 3 minutes.
- Arrange crackers on a cookie sheet in a single layer. Drizzle with sugar mixture. Bake for 5 minutes or until edges begin to brown.
- Remove from oven and spread chocolate chips evenly over the top as they melt. Sprinkle with nuts, gently pressing into the chocolate. Cool until chocolate has hardened and break into pieces. Refrigerate until ready to serve.

**Call Today
To Learn
How To
Save On
Your Next
Home
Project**

**(303)
833-4715**

****\$900 Remaining****

Each year, because of the nature of our business, we spend thousands of dollars on advertising, much of that money wasted over the past years learning what works for our company. Since referrals from our clients and friends have always been the best source of new business, we thought, "Why waste our money on unproductive advertising and spend some of our advertising dollars on what works best - referrals"? It's our way of saying, "Thanks for the Referral" and giving recognition to our good friends and clients who help support us!

\$2,500 Give Away!

CHRISTIE'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELING is asking for your help. When you send your referrals, you are helping the business grow. To say, "Thank You" Christie's is offering these special rewards for you and your friends and family.

Here's how it works:

You'll receive \$200 for each referral. That's \$200 for referring your friends, family, and your neighbors, etc. WOW that's easy money! *

There is no limit to the amount you can earn! Refer as many times as you want.

You or your referral can call, fax, or email their contact information to us and we'll take it from there!

Our rewards program runs until the \$2,500 is gone or until the end of the year (12/31/2013), whichever comes first! Watch for future newsletters for the future balance.

Rest assured, at **CHRISTIE'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELING** we'll treat your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers with the care and professionalism you've come to trust.

Call: (303) 833-4715

Fax: (303) 325-7344

Email: Office@ChristiesCompleteServices.com

****We must receive the referral information in our office or we won't know to give you credit for the referral. To receive the \$200.00, the contract minimum is \$5,000.00. A contract must be signed and deposit received by Christie's before the referral compensation will be issued. There is no limit to the number of times you can receive compensation**



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(303) 325-7344 fax**

**Office@Christies
CompleteServices.com**

**www.ChristiesComplete
Services.com**

As Christmas Day looms ever closer we'd just like to take this opportunity to thank all our past, present, and future customers, and wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



May the Christmas season fill your home with joy, your hearts with love, and your life with laughter.

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8	7	2	4	9	3	5	1	6
3	6	5	7	1	2	9	8	4

*Love,
The Christies Design Build Remodeling Family*