



J. Francis Company LLC

GENERAL CONTRACTING AND REMODELING

1410 High Street • Pittsburgh, PA 15212 • phone: 412.322.6407 • fax: 412.322.6425

newsletter

Super Trivia Challenge

July 2011

Here's your Chance at a \$25 Gift Card!

Trivia is a fun feature of the newsletter. The first correct answer emailed to john@jfcollc.com will be the proud winner of a \$20 Gift Card of your choice.

Question: What was the name of the first movie theater to install air conditioning?

Answer:

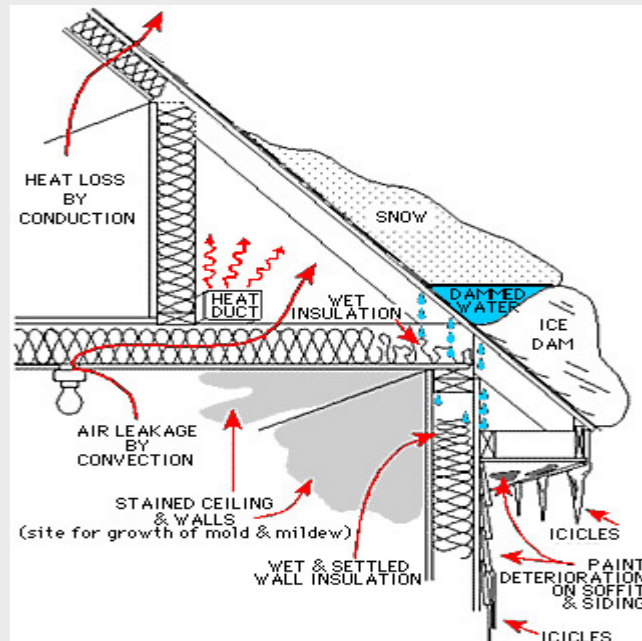
- a) Grauman's Metropolitan Theater
- b) Nickelodeon Theater
- c) Folies Berger Theater
- d) Koster and Bial's Music Hall

Greetings!

As the nights heat up and summer marches on, it is time to take advantage of the warm weather and get started on those projects you have been putting off. J. Francis Company professionals are available to work with you on your next renovation/remodeling project.

Check out our latest project : [Kitchen and Sunroom Remodel.](#)

Remodeling Tips



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Thanks for the Kind Words

"My friends thought that I had added on more space. We did more with what we had. The sunroom is now my favorite room in the whole house. "

Remember the Winter of 2009 / 2010?

With that February 2010 snow storm behind us, many homeowners either thought it was going to happen again or regrettably experienced more damage. With this in mind here is how ice dams form.

Snow on the roof melts higher up on the roof where heat builds up as it rises - out of the house "envelope" due to

By Jill Foley
"Featured Project"

Company Update

Shawn Shimel has recently joined our staff in the capacity of Project Coordinator. Shawn is an architect who brings with him over 20 years of residential design experience. Experienced in all facets of home improvements, Shawn expands our in-house design capabilities. Using computer aided drafting, Shawn helps customers plan and visualize their home improvement projects from custom cabinetry to decks to renovations and additions. Originally from central Pennsylvania, Shawn now resides in the south hills.

Our Core Values

- Caring
- Competence
- Integrity
- Respect
- Timeliness

J. Francis Company, LLC approaches business with our core values as a guide.

What Kind of Work Does J. Francis Company Do?

Our Typical Remodeling/Renovation Work Includes:

- Additions
- Bathrooms
- Basement Remodeling
- Classroom Improvements
- Demolition
- Drywall and Plasterwork
- Electrical
- Finished Carpentry
- Flooring
- Gut and Rehab
- Kitchens
- Mechanicals

poor insulation in the attic space. This water runs down the roof under the snow load to the eaves (overhang) and freezes. Icicles form. This cycle of freeze/thaw produces an ice dam. Icicles grow, melted water backs up under the shingles, the roof leaks causing exterior and interior damage.

When there is inadequate or improperly installed insulation in the attic of a home, snow melts because warm air from the house is able to move into the unconditioned attic space and warm the roof from underneath. In most cases, insulation should be in the ceiling pockets / "floor" of the attic leaving the framing of the roof un-insulated. Adequate ventilation of the attic space is important in regulating heat load in the summer and is required by most shingle manufacturers for the warranty.

Ice and water shield, which JFCo routinely installs on perimeters, valleys, and low pitch roofs, does prevent most leaks which ice dams cause; but not all. Ice dams last winter marched up roofs above that 36" perimeter on many roofs. On certain roofs with little or no overhangs, the edge of the roof became the entry point.

When adding storage space in your attic, you don't just simply lay plywood on top of the framing. In doing so, you are reducing the R-value of the insulation. Current energy codes specify 16 inches of insulation in the attic. Generally you want 4" of insulation covering the tops of the joists. When a customer asks us about storage in the attic, we cross frame the attic space with framing lumber to allow/achieve the R-value to meet today's energy code, add the insulation, then provide a plywood sub-floor. This method provides an added benefit of providing more structure to the storage area.

We are available to assist you in identifying and resolving your attic insulation and storage needs.

Feature Project

After



Before

- Office Build-Outs
- Painting
- Plumbing
- Roofing
- Rough and Trim Carpentry
- Siding
- Space Reconfigurations
- Tenant Build-Outs
- Windows
- Wood and Metal Framing
- and Much More !!

Referral Rewards Program

Could You Use \$100.00??

- For every referral you send our way that becomes a customer, you will receive your choice of: a \$100 gift certificate to the store or restaurant of your choice or a \$100 donation to the charity of your choice in your name.
- By referring your friends, clients & co-workers to us for remodeling & renovation projects, you've helped our business grow. Offering these special rewards is our way of saying thanks. To take advantage of our Referral Reward Program, just email to john@jfcollc.com or fax to 412.322.6425 the following contact information: your name & phone number, the name, address & phone number of the person you are referring. We will follow up on every referral.

Contact Us

Our Mission Statement:

"J. Francis Company, LLC exists to provide our customers with competent general contracting services. We emphasize integrity, respect and timeliness



After



Before



After

in all our relationships. Our goal is sustained growth and profitability by continually exceeding expectations."

Our Vision Statement:

At J. Francis Company, first we build the relationship and trust. Then we build quality projects, on-time and on-budget. We recognize that the success of your remodeling project is based upon what you have experienced during the process. The quality of that experience is our success.

Contact us:

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Links



Before



After





We are missing a metal job sign. If we have completed your job and left our sign, please contact us. We will give you \$25 gift card for helping us cross this off the list!

Before



After



Before



After



The homeowners desired to update the kitchen and open it to the surrounding rooms for entertaining family and friends. The original configuration did not allow for traffic flow and it was awkward to have more than one person working at time.

The sun porch, once unusable for several months of the year, is now a sun filled sitting room where you can't wait to curl up with a good book. The room is heated with a radiant floor system on an insulated, waterproof, reflective membrane with a floating hardwood floor. Full view aluminum clad low-e doors lead to the patio.

The major design change was the reconfiguration of the kitchen essentially flipping the layout end to end. The kitchen not only has a pass through window but now flows unimpeded to the new sitting room and the family room. The walls without cabinetry were clad with a painted

wainscot and chair rail stained to tie into the rest of the woodwork. New hardwood floors were installed to match the existing. The reconfiguration provided more space for frameless custom cherry cabinets and granite countertops making this kitchen user friendly for their large family and an entertainer's dream.

See the quote from the owner in the **"Thanks for the Kind Words"**.

What's New in '11

The Restaurant in Your Refrigerator

We all have heard the adage that the kitchen is the heart of the home. Current statistics indicate that Americans are taking it to heart. According to a recent survey conducted by General Electric, 60 percent of homeowners are eating out less and spending more time dining at home. More than half are cooking 6 to 10 meals per week for friends and family.

The result is a huge swing towards open-plan kitchen design -- with the kitchen as the focal entertaining space in the home -- as well as sparking a new generation of kitchen gadgets and appliances, all designed to make entertaining at home a breeze.

The kitchen has grown in dominance as a design centre that determines the style and tone of the home. Homeowners are adding LCD TV's, slate tiles for chalkboard walls, raised islands with deep sinks to hide the cooking mess, multiple work stations, and beverage stations for children and adults.

Today's entertainer's kitchen is well designed, impeccably detailed, and beautifully appointed. A Consumer Report survey revealed that "Roughly 30 percent of readers regretted not spending more time planning, learning more about materials, and screening pros. It's important to incorporate designated areas into a kitchen design, such as food preparation, seating and cooking, when you want to have a focus on entertaining. These areas allow the activities in the kitchen to flow freely and make the experience more enjoyable.

So, if you love to entertain and are planning a kitchen renovation, then it's time to transform your kitchen into the newest hot spot in town!





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