



Get Warmed Up

Warmboard-R is a radiant heat panel designed specifically for remodels. It is a 13/16" thick radiant panel that provides unmatched response, energy efficiency and comfort. The smaller, thinner panel is ideal for installing over existing subfloor or slab, or walls or ceiling. As the panels are installed, the modular channel pattern automatically produces the tubing layout. The tubing is rolled out into the stamped pattern and attached

to the hydronic circuit. This smooth process can save you money throughout your construction process.

The entire panel, including the tubing channel, is bonded to thick aluminum, creating a highly conductive surface which pulls the heat from the tube rapidly and spreads evenly throughout your home. Warmboard-R delivers a sturdier floor and virtually any type of flooring can be installed over these panels. The experts recommend that you use a regular water heater, the same one that provides hot water to your home instead of a boiler to heat the water for your underfloor system.

Not only does radiant heat warm your floors, making them cozy on your feet when it's COLD outside, but it warms the whole house up as well.



In the Year 2018

- The Philadelphia Eagles win the 2018 Super Bowl
- Don Gorske consumes his 30,000th Big Mac
- Eldridge Cleaver's "Soul on Ice" is returned to the Public Library after a shocking 47 years
- First Lady, Barbara Bush dies following a long illness
- Baseball's Albert Pujols collects his 3,000th MLB hit
- Meghan Markle marries Prince Harry
- Neil Diamond retires after being diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease
- President George H. W. Bush dies at the age of 94.
- Black Panther movie was released.



**A little child,
 A shining star,
 A stable rude,
 The door ajar.
 Yet in that place,
 So crude, forlorn,
 The Hope of all the
 world was born.**



Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way! Oh what fun it is to ride in a one-horse open sleigh . . .



BIG THANK YOU!

I would like to thank everyone who has referred Sechrist Construction and Remodeling Inc. to their friends and family. You are what makes us a success and we are so grateful for the work!

Email the Expert

Q.— I'm planning to remodel my bathroom in the spring. What popular new additions are people making as they remodel their master bath?

Dan and Marisa

A.— Thank you for your question. Nostalgia and stress release comfort are on the rise and people are making their bathrooms larger to accommodate. A larger shower with a rain like shower head is a common trend right now but people are beginning to put freestanding tubs back in as well. Seats and shelves in the shower are popular as they provide spots to sit briefly and a place to store your shower sundries. Granite vanities have become extremely popular in bathroom upgrades as well as the dual vanity with under mount bowls. Homeowners also change out their faucets and flooring and give the walls a fresh coat of paint in a soft shade for their convenience. I hope that gives you some ideas to run with as you begin planning your remodel.

EMAIL THE EXPERT by sending your question to steve@sechristconstruction.com. Please be sure to include your name and phone number in case additional information is required to answer your question.

Porcelain Tile-The Wood Look

The trends in flooring are changing so rapidly it is not easy to keep up! One of the newest wood look flooring on the horizon is porcelain. It is made from kaolin clay which is very dense, making it highly durable. This wood look flooring is heat, rust and water resistant and uniform in color. Among other looks, it carries off the wood look so effectively that you don't know its porcelain.

Aside from the traditional places to use porcelain tiles, such as the kitchen or bathroom, you can install this tile anywhere inside or outside your home and it will hold up perfectly.

A major concern in the industry is whether the porcelain on the shelf is genuine. Fortunately, you can look up the product line to see if its certified by the Porcelain Tile Certification Agency. If it is certified, you are good to go. Wood look porcelain, here we come!



I've Been There Before

I was to buying groceries for my family recently. To my dismay, when I got to the checkout counter, my debit card was declined.

Sheepishly, I took a couple of items off the belt and asked the clerk how much the bill would be without them. Before she had a chance to remove the items, a very pleasant woman behind me said, "No, I will pay for them," and gave me \$20 to cover them.

Again, I tried my card, hoping there would be enough in my account this time, and again it did not work, so I put back another item. Again, the woman spoke up and said: "I'll pay for that, too."

I was very embarrassed at this point and prayed my card would work to cover the rest of my bill. Again, it was declined. I apologized to the line that had formed, thanked the woman who had helped me and told the clerk that I would need to put my order back. The woman again stepped forward and said, "Here is my credit card. I've been there before."

I was incredibly touched by this stranger's generosity. Her kindness and unselfishness is something I will never forget.



Bismarck, ND, holds the record for the most snow angels at one time. On February 17, 2007, several schools joined forces to create 8,962 snow angels.

Love It or Leave It

We wonder: what popular home design looks should continue into the new year and which ones do we leave behind?

Consumers are lovin' the destination bathtub—people are spending more to increase the size of their bathroom to accommodate the 'ole claw foot type bathtub, whether they use it or not.

Tile backsplash—creates an eye-catching feature wall
Kitchens that open to the outdoors—with the kitchen as the hub of the home, large sliding doors that link to decks and patios expand the living space and make entertaining easier
Board and batten exterior siding—the modern farmhouse style for interiors and exteriors is still going strong.

Leave It behind!

Word art—its time for it to go

Industrial type kitchen—the exposed pipes and beams are not inviting or authentic. Stainless steel is cold looking. Install, soft gold hardware, faucets and lighting fixtures.

Kitchen islands—long, big, wide kitchen islands are criticized for being bulky and lack storage space

Cold grays—time to go, shift to warmer tones instead

Over-the stove microwaves—instead of hard-to-reach microwaves, mount your microwave in the easy-to-reach location—under the counter.

Adapted from The Oregonian/OregonLive

Kohler Company



A construction boom arrived at the end of WWI and the increase of the modern bathtub, sink and toilet started to appear in many American homes.

In 1883, an Austrian immigrant named **John Michael Kohler** invented the world's first bathtub. He took a cast-iron horse trough and added four decorative feet to the bottom of it and covered it in enamel finish. The claw foot tub was born!

Through the years, the claw foot was replaced with a more modern built-in tub with an apron front. In addition to being different colors, this tub was easier to maintain.

The color trend today, however, seems to be shifting back to the original elegance of pure white and the luxury of the soaking claw foot bathtub. They are freestanding and imitate the original claw foot tub. Instead of cast-iron these tubs are made of classic light weight acrylic or resin stone.

National Bacon Day

Sunday, December 30, 2018



The Glittering Magic of Christmas at Biltmore Estates

As a grandson of famed industrialist and philanthropist, Cornelius Vanderbilt, **George Vanderbilt** took his place among one of America's wealthiest families. Visiting North Carolina in the Blue Ridge Mountains, George's imagination was sparked. He had found the perfect location for a country home.

Vanderbilt's 250-room French Renaissance chateau is a true marvel. Over a six-year period, an entire community of craftsmen came together to create America's premier home and the environmental wonderland that surrounds it.

On Christmas Eve 1895, George opened Biltmore to friends and family. It contains over four acres of floor space, including 35 bedrooms, 43 bathrooms, and 65 fireplaces.

Today, visitors can wrap up in the scent of fresh evergreens as they are dazzled by the holiday décor featuring a Christmas wonderland filled with the sparkle of thousands of ornaments on more than 55 glorious Christmas trees, hundreds of poinsettias and miles of ribbon. Truly, a magical evening!



For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. John 3:16

Sechrist Construction and Remodeling, Inc.

5265 West Route 973 Hwy. • Cogan Station, PA 17728

Phone: 570-398-3507 • Fax: 570-398-3509

www.sechristconstruction.com

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FROM MY DESK:

Merry Christmas!

I wanted to take a few minutes out of my day and personally thank you for your business. It means a lot to us at Sechrist Construction and Remodeling and we certainly look forward to building, remodeling and painting your home as we arrive at 2019.

Ring in the new year with friends and family and we will see you soon! **Steve**

Candied Pecans

1/2 c brown sugar

1/4 t cinnamon

1/4 t salt

2 T water

1 c pecans

Salad

6 c mixed greens

2 apples, thinly sliced

1/2 c crumbled blue cheese

1/2 c dried cranberries

Dressing

2 T apple cider vinegar

1/2 shallot, finely chopped

1/2T Dijon mustard

1/3 c extra-virgin olive oil

Christmas Apple Salad

Adapted from delish

Candy pecans: In a skillet over medium heat, combine brown sugar, cinnamon, salt, and water. Stir and dissolve sugar.

Add pecans and toss until coated. Simmer 5 m. until sticky, remove from heat and let cool on a parchment-lined baking sheet. In a large bowl, combine greens, apples, candied pecans, blue cheese, and dried cranberries. Refrigerate until ready to serve. In a glass jar, whisk together apple cider vinegar, shallot, mustard, and olive oil. Season with salt and pepper. Drizzle salad with dressing and toss to combine. Serve.



From My Home to Yours: Pass along family heirlooms and cherished items this Christmas to your family so they can extend memories into the next generation and for years to come. Perhaps you have kept clothing that is now vintage, old photographs, the childrens' home videos, jewelry, tools, guns, quilts, clocks, old toys or memorabilia. Leave a legacy to the future generation that they will be sure to treasure.