



HOMES & GARDEN

APRIL 28, 2019

Bergmann Interiors offers one-stop shopping for all your home interior needs

By Karin Ramige
Publisher

At some point or another everyone's home needs an update. Bergmann's Interiors in Glencoe have been providing quality interior design solutions for over 40 years.

Bruce and Debbie Bergmann and Matt Klima can help from flooring in a small closet to a total bathroom or kitchen remodel.

Over the years, Bergmann's have seen many trends come and go, but some things never grow old.

In the kitchen and bathroom, oak remains mighty, according to the Bergmanns. Oak cabinets have been the most popular for years. Painted cabinets are a popular second. White and grays in the painted are still most popular, though some enjoy a bold color choice. Combinations of white or gray upper cabinets with the lower cabinets or center island in a color have become popular. Blue has become a big color in recent years. The shaker or mission styles are always a popular choice.

Quartz counter stands the test of time. They can endure the wear and tear any family can throw on it. With the help of vendor software, Bergmann's can tell you what paint selections will best match the counter tops.

Customers are returning to classic subway tile and herring bone patterns for their kitchen backsplashes.



Pictured above from left to right: Matt, Deb, and Bruce.

Luxury vinyl has quickly become the most popular floor cover. There are patterns that look just like wood and the product is 100 percent waterproof which make it a favorable option.

Laminate flooring remains popular and manufacturers have improved the product to be water

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resistant. The popularity of carpet has seen a decline over the years with new products coming to market.

Bergmann's has seen the increase in popularity of larger tiles and wider planks in flooring.

Ceramic tile is very popular in bathrooms with a 12 by 24 or 24 by 24. Their certified tile installers use the latest tools and technology when installing. Even the grout has become more sophisticated being more stain resistant. And don't forget about in-floor heat!

Deb Bergmann says vertical blinds, two-inch pleated shades and banded fabric blinds have remained popular window treatments, while drapery and valance have made their way out of popularity.

If you have ever removed wall paper you are going to hate to hear that, wallpaper is making its way back. An accent wall with bold color or design to a room can add a lot.

As our population ages, "aging in place" has become very popular. Bergmann's have helped many customers with remodeling and retrofitting their homes to allow them to stay at home as they age.

Removing a tub and shower combo or shower with a lip or curb for a "zero entry," curbless shower can make all the difference.

As a licensed general contractor, Bergmann Interiors can move walls and reconfigure spaces to accommodate the customers changing needs. New products have sped up the time a bathroom remodel can be completed to three to five days depending on product availability.

As the styles and trends have changes, so has the technology. Often times a customer can preview how a new floor or paint color looks in their



These are two recent completed projects.



room before purchasing by uploading a photo of the room into the manufacturer's software.

Bergmann Interiors is located just south of Glencoe at 7416 80th Street, Highway 10. Beyond their expertise in all things design, their customer service is second to none. Stop by to talk to Bruce, Deb and Matt and check out their showroom and get your next remodel or re-design project started.

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Potential culprits behind thinning grass

Thick grass is often a hallmark of a healthy lawn. If grass begins to thin, homeowners may feel as though all the time and effort they spent tending to their lawns was for naught.

Thinning grass can be caused by any number of things. And while it might take a little effort to address, thinning grass can be treated if homeowners correctly identify that cause of the problem.

Leaf spot

The Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment at the University of Massachusetts Amherst notes that leaf spot diseases affect both cool- and warm-season turfgrasses. Various fungi can cause leaf spot. Symptoms and the timing of the appearance of leaf spot will vary depending on which fungi is causing the problem. For example, *bipolaris sorokiniana*, which affects grasses in warm, wet summer months, produces small spots that are dark purple to black. *Drechslera poae* is another fungi that causes leaf spot, and it also produces dark purple to black spots. However, it tends to appear in the spring when the weather is cool and moist. Understanding the different fungi and when they typically strike can help homeowners identify what is causing their grass to thin. In such situations, professional landscapers can be invaluable resources as well.

Stripe smut

The University of Maryland Extension notes that stripe smut primarily poses a threat to Kentucky bluegrass that is older than three years. Pale green streaks that run parallel to the veins in the leaves and leaf sheaths are symptomatic of stripe smut, which tends to be noticed in spring and fall, when weather is cool. As the disease progresses, stripes turn black or a silvery gray, causing the leaf blade to shred and curl. After the blades have shred, they turn brown



While it might take a little effort to address, thinning grass can be treated if homeowners correctly identify that cause of the problem.

and die. The grass thins because stripe smut makes it vulnerable to problems like drought.

Ascochyta leaf blight

Lawns suffering from ascochyta leaf blight will become straw-colored. According to the lawn care and pesticide experts at Ortho®, when a lawn is affected by ascochyta leaf blight, its healthy grass blades will be mixed in with diseased grass blades. Most prevalent in the spring, this disease can affect grass at any time during the growing season. That's because the ascochyta fungi invade leaf blades through wounds, such as those that can result from mowing. Ortho® notes that dull lawn mowers can contribute to the disease, which might disappear on its own and can even return after it's

seemingly been cured.

Various issues can cause grass blades to thin. Working with a landscape professional is a great way to combat such issues before they compromise the look of a lawn.

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Holasek is ready to help you plant your garden

By Karin Ramige
Publisher

May is almost here. The snow is mostly gone. The days are getting warmer and longer. We are ready to get out and plant our gardens. Holasek Flower Power Garden Center in Lester Prairie is ready to help you make your selections. They have been working all winter to grow the flowers and vegetables that now fill their 20 greenhouses.

All the annuals and vegetables are grown in-house from seed or seed plugs. The shrubs and perennials come from a grower right outside of Lester Prairie and the trees sold at the garden center come from just down Highway 7, according to Jay Holasek, retail manager and assistant grower. "When you know where the plants come from, it is easier to control the quality," he said.

Holasek's have a beneficial insect program and use a minimal amount of pesticides, if any, Holasek said. "Good bugs eat the bad bugs." Beneficial insect programs are widely becoming an industry standard as more and more consumers are requesting less pesticide use.

As the days get warmer, we all get anxious to plant our gardens and flower beds, but Holasek says be mindful of overnight temperatures. Cold crop veggies and flowers are fine to plant now, but Holasek suggests waiting until overnight temps are in the high 40s or low 50s. Temps around 45 degrees at night can be harmful.

Soil and water quality are key to successful planting, which the garden center is very particular about. Many problems in growing stems from the quality of the soil.

The University of Minnesota has a soil sample testing laboratory, where samples can be sent for analysis. For more information on the program visit the website: <http://soiltest.cfans.umn.edu/>



The garden center offers a unique and wide variety of heirloom vegetables, many annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees available onsite. If you have any plant-related questions, just stop in and ask the greenhouse staff. "Plants are what we do," Holasek said.

Jay Holasek grew up in the green house that his grandfather, Fred W. opened in Lester Prairie in 1978. He returned to the family business two years ago as retail manager and assistant grower alongside his dad, Fred, after completing his

bachelors degree in horticulture at the University of Wisconsin, River Falls.

The garden center celebrated a grand re-opening of their new retail greenhouse April 19-20. The previous greenhouse collapsed on April 15, 2018 during a blizzard.

Holasek Flower Power Garden Center is located at 18364 County Road 9 in Lester Prairie.

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