

Are We Ready for the Next Big Storm? | Battle of the Luxury Gyms

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011 \$3.95

Bethesda

The **B**est of



Chevy Chase / Gaithersburg / Kensington / Potomac / Rockville / Silver Spring / Upper NW DC

Best Interior Designer **Natalie Nunes Interior Design**

Natalie Nunes believes the design process should be fun. "It's stressful," she says, "but with a sense of humor, it's much more enjoyable."

Nunes, 48, started her design business in 2001 and mixes homeowners' existing furniture and accessories with new finds, creating spaces with clean lines that require little maintenance—especially important for clients with children.

Julie Farkas says Nunes created the feel she was hoping for in her Chevy Chase home last year. "It feels great walking into our house," Farkas says. "It's warm, relaxed and beautiful."

7832 Fulbright Court, Bethesda, 240-461-6611, www.natalienunesinteriors.com

Other top vote-getters: ELR Design, Carole Freedman Design

Best Handyman **Tie: Case Handyman Service** **Made Perfect Handyman**

Other top vote-getter:
Dan Millen Handyman Services

Best Kitchen Design Firm

Jack Rosen Custom Kitchens

Jack Rosen installed his first kitchen in the Washington, D.C., area in 1956. More than five decades later, Jack Rosen Custom Kitchens is now run by his son, Larry Rosen, and specializes in high-end custom kitchen design.

The company won first- and second-place "Best in Class" for large kitchens in the Washington-Baltimore 2010 National Kitchen & Bath Association competition.

Jurij Mojsiak says Jack Rosen Custom Kitchens designed an outstanding modern kitchen for his Potomac home last year. "The staff is professional and personable," Mojsiak says. "They will bend over backwards to please you."

12223 Nebel St., Rockville, 301-363-4071, www.jackrosen.com

Other top vote-getters: Stuart Kitchens, Kitchen and Bath Studios, Case Design/Remodeling, Jennifer Gilmer Kitchen & Bath



Larry Rosen runs the company his father started more than 50 years ago.

STACY ZARIN-GOLDBERG

Best Home Remodeling Firm **Meridian Homes**

Meridian Homes has transformed almost 200 residences in the area since it was founded by Bethesda brothers Jonathan and Michael Lerner in 1996. Projects have ranged from kitchen renovations to the transformation of a 1950s rambler into a contemporary.

Bill Nussbaum hired the company to substantially renovate his Bethesda home last year. "They finished the project within the promised schedule and budget and did a fantastic job," Nussbaum says. "And Michael Lerner was always available if we had any questions."

Meridian Homes won the Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association's award for "Best Custom Home Over 12,500 Square Feet" in 2010.

4938 Hampden Lane, Suite 330, Bethesda, 301-652-4440, www.meridianhomesinc.com

Other top vote-getters: BOWA Builders, Case Design/Remodeling, ELR Design, Ideal Kitchen and Bath, Smiley Renovations