



2880 International Circle Colorado Springs, CO 80910

Building A Better Community
Thru Education and Enforcement



“CAN WE TALK?”

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HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU!

I had a great idea for Christmas this past year. Being married for 37 years there are not a lot of things we need, so I suggested for our Christmas we buy a Sleep Number Bed. My wife agreed and I purchased the bed. The bed arrived on schedule. The other day I said “Let’s set up our new bed today”. My better half’s response was “Oh no. Before we set up the bed we need new carpet, paint, and window coverings.” After feeling my face changing color I thought about it for a few minutes. I could not disagree with my wife’s statement. She knew that if we went through the effort of setting up the new bed the much needed upgrades to our bedroom would never get done. So the bed remains in boxes in one of our spare bedrooms. Every morning I get up and look at all of the large pieces of furniture covering about 80% of the floor space in our bedroom that will have to be moved. Soon we will be picking out new carpet, studying paint colors and looking at what is available in insulated window coverings. I’m thinking that the purchase of a new bed should come with a warning label. ‘CAUTION THE PURCHASE OF THIS PRODUCT COULD RESULT IN A COMPLETE REMODEL OF THE ROOM IN WHICH IT WILL BE LOCATED’ I’m confident I will feel it was all worth the expense and the effort when we complete the bedroom. In case you’re wondering, none of this work will require a permit.

On the other hand, how many of you have uttered one of the two most expensive phrases ever made “Let’s remodel the kitchen.” While sitting with the kitchen designer it is suggested that you relocate the sink to another wall and move the stove and refrigerator. Then your wife remembers a kitchen she was impressed with in a magazine and thinks the walls that segregate the kitchen in many older homes needs to be removed. Now you’re looking at a building permit to remove the walls and possibly some engineering if the walls being removed are bearing walls, a plumbing permit to

relocate the sink, a permit for the electrical changes that will have to be made and, possibly, a mechanical permit for any heating or venting changes. A homeowner can be his or her own contractor and pull the required permits if the home is the primary residence and the homeowner is doing all of the work. Speaking from experience, I would recommend that you hire licensed contractors to perform the work. Kitchen and bathroom remodels can get very expensive as well as being stressful to the occupants of the house during the process. That said, I've seen statistics showing that these types of projects are two of the best investments you can make to your house. By the way, the second most expensive phrase is "Daddy, Johnny asked me to marry him and I said yes." Hopefully you won't have to deal with both in the same calendar year.

The Housing and Building Association will be hosting their 53rd annual Home Show this year. The dates are February 11-13. The location has changed this year to the Barnes Market Place located at the corner of Powers and Barnes. The HBA expects there will be 200 exhibitors and admission is free this year. If you've never been to the show, there is a wealth of information available for pretty much any project you may be considering for your home. Once again RBD will have a booth and I will be there during part of the show. If you go stop by and say Hi!

All of my previous columns are available on our website www.pprbd.org
Submit your questions to: terryb@pprbd.org or mail to: Pikes Peak
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