

Ludington Daily News

ROOM REDO

the reveal section



The perfect space

LDN Room Redo team transforms gathering area at Boon House

BY JEFF KIESSEL
ASST. MANAGING EDITOR

“Blessed.” That’s the first word you see when you enter the Connexion Point gathering space. “Blessed” sums up how Dr. Michelle Kuster was feeling last week at the Ludington Daily News Room Redo reveal at Connexion Point gathering place located at 309 N. Rowe St.

As Dr. Kuster and Beth Kirby, Connexion Point board member, walked down the stairs — leading into the basement gathering space — both placed their hands over their mouths as they took in the transformation from a cold lifeless basement to an inviting and warm gathering space where people can engage with one another.

“I am speechless right now,” Dr. Kuster said. “It is so warm and welcoming. I can’t wait for everybody to see it. This will be a perfect gathering space for us.”

The space — an 18-foot by 18-foot area — will be used as a gathering venue for men and women in recovery.

The home, known as the Boone House, was built in 1890 and donated to Connexion

Point to serve as a place for men working through their various addictions.

“I just never could have imagined it could have turned out this way,” Kuster said. “This is just amazing.”

When they looked around, they said the basement looked like every area had a purpose behind it. They took a few moments thanking the design team for their work in transforming the space.

“I was completely floored by the transformation of it,” Kirby said. “It was dark and dirty before. It was a basement that was just used for storage, and now it is perfect for the gatherings.”

Kuster agreed, saying she knew it would be a great space for people to gather.

“This was such a blank slate,” she said. “I thought I could picture it, but there was so much thought and purpose behind it all.”

Kuster took her time to investigate every little detail of the space during the reveal.

One of those areas included a donor wall where Connexion Point can place the names of people, organizations or businesses that help to keep their message alive.

There are many areas that allow the organization to be able to sit and gather. There is a small book library. Another area includes a coffee bar area. There are several seating options that will allow for a multitude of meeting options.

SEE ROOM REDO, PAGE 2



Michelle Kuster and Beth Kirby get a look at the Ludington Daily News Room Redo for the first time at the reveal last week. Both were delighted at the transformation of the Boon House basement, from a space that was cold, dark and dirty to an area that is warm and inviting. The basement walls, floor and ceiling beams were cleaned and painted, taking the bulk of the work. Tony Kuster installed new basement windows, door and handrails.



A rug outside of the door welcomes guests to the gathering space located at the Boon House in Ludington.

In her application, Beth Kirby asked for a warm and inviting space to hold meetings and other functions. The design team created several spaces or nooks that could be used for small gatherings with chairs that could be pulled together for larger meetings.

ROOM REDO: Connexion Point’s Boon House gathering area is transformed

FROM PAGE 1

“This will give us so many possibilities of providing a safe gathering space,” Kuster said. “I can’t wait for our members and more people to be involved in it.”

Kirby said the space exceeded her expectations of what it could be when she first filled out the Room Redo application.

Kirby said her original intent behind applying for the Room Redo was to have a gathering place for groups to help in their recovery.

“I just wanted that space to be as warm and welcoming as the groups will be,” Kirby said.

“They have such a vision,” Kirby said of the Room Redo team. “We worried that if we did not get this (Room Redo), we would have to do this on our own. And we would have not even come close to doing something like this.”

This year’s Ludington Daily News Room Redo team consisted of Julie and Dann Van Dyke, of Cottage Works; Sue Von Pohl of Cottage Works and Niki Breazeale of Birch Michigan.

“We were excited to pick Connexion Point’s Gathering Room because it was different from any other project we have done in the past Room Redos,” said Julie. “We all enjoyed getting to know Michelle and Tony Kuster better personally, and seeing the passion they and the board members have for helping others.”

The team spent many hours painting which helped to transform the space into the a welcoming gathering area.

“This year, we didn’t just beautify someone’s home, we gave back to our community,” she said. “This warm and cozy gathering room will be a great meeting space and boost the spirit of the Connexion Point clients.”

Von Pohl once again brought her creativity to the team by creating a donor wall to the gathering space.

“My challenge this year was to create a donor wall for the gathering room,” Von Pohl said. “When we learned that the Boon House symbol was a tree, that inspired me to create something organic — not the typical wall plaque.”

“With the help of the Wolf’s Den of Scottville and Armour Design of Ludington, I was able to design engraved wooden rounds that will hang from the leaves of a wall-mounted tree sculpture.”

The thought behind the sculpture was as Connexion Point’s donor list grows, its tree will blossom with the donors’ names.

New to the Room Redo team this year was Breazeale.

“My design mission has always been to transform a home into a haven for my clients,” said Breazeale. “The goal of that mission was magnified, once I learned about Connexion Point’s mission. Organizations like Connexion Point are so important for a community not only to grow, but to take care of those who have contributed to building it.”

Breazeale is hopeful that the men of Connexion Point and the Boon House find this gathering space to be their safe haven to gather, heal and grow.



Jason Muralt of ProMaster scrubs the basement floor before it was painted. The basement floor had some areas of grease and dirt that needed to be cleaned before Van Dyke could put down the final coat of paint.



Dann Van Dyke spray paints the ceiling in the basement of the Boon House.



The basement was cold and dirty before the crew started on the transformation.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Spring will be here soon! NOW is the time to plan your exterior home improvement project!

JOE HAMBURGER
Project Specialist-Exteriors

Your Lowe's Project Specialist will come to your home to discuss how we can coordinate your projects from start to finish!

Design and selection of products, materials and supplies, delivery, installation team, permits, financing options and more!

Lowe's has your exterior improvement solutions!

4460 West US 10, Ludington
231-480-5100
Mon.-Sat. 6 am-9 pm
Sun. 8 am - 8 pm

Let's make your DREAMS COME TRUE.
Call or email us today to set up your In-Store Consultation: 231-907-1169
joseph.hamburger@store.lowes.com

We Take Relaxation Seriously...

The world takes a lot out of you. Is it possible that your home seating could help restore you? Perhaps. If it adapts to your body and supports you in ways no other seating can. How it moves, how it works, how it feels. You, of course, will be the judge. Experience **Heggs Furniture Gallery** and decide for yourself.

Exceptional Relaxation and Design.

LUDINGTON
231-425-3734
200 W. Ludington Ave.

HEGG'S
gallery of fine furniture

HART
231-873-4665
112 E. Main Street

COTTAGE WORKS®

Lakefront Living

WHY WORK WHEN YOU CAN RELAX? YOUR COTTAGE IS OUR BUSINESS.

www.yourcottageworks.com

2396 W. US 10
Ludington, MI 49431
Phone (231) 233.7010

Follow us on Facebook

Maintenance • Construction • Docks • Boat Lifts • Kayak Landings/Racks
Seawalls • Swim Rafts • Cottage Décor • Outdoor Furniture



Members of Connexion Point, its board and the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team pose for a group picture in the newly transformed gathering space located in the basement of the Boon House at 309 N. Rowe St.

JEFF KIESSEL | DAILY NEWS PHOTOS



Sue Von Pohl created this donor wall which will hang in the basement and recognize those individuals, organizations and businesses that help Connexion Point make a difference in the community.

Niki Breazeale and Liza McCloskey, foreground, move a chair into place as Sue Von Pohl places coat rack and bench at the bottom of the stairs leading down into the space.

Customize Your Shower!

Custom Shower Door Installation




- Frameless or framed
- Doors to fit any style
- Various Pattern glass to choose from
- Glass thickness up to 1/2"



LP&G LUDINGTON PAINT & GLASS




Mixing Paint & Service Since 1948
213 S. JAMES, LUDINGTON 843-8250
www.ludingtonpaint.com

BIG TO-DO? BRING IT ON!



CARTER Lumber

Fix it. Paint it. Remodel it. Landscape it.
We have your spring improvement needs covered with expert advice and everyday low prices!



2323 West US Hwy. 10, Ludington, MI **231-757-9000** carterlumber.com



JEFF KIESSEL | DAILY NEWS PHOTOS

Julie Van Dyke, Sue Von Pohl and Niki Breazeale begin to set the gathering space at the Boon House last week prior to the reveal. The team incorporated an old table that was provided to them by Connexion Point. The team created several gathering spaces within the basement to allow for a variety of meetings to happen in the space.



The stairs leading down to the basement were done to provide a stable entry into the gathering space. The team encased the stairs with ship lap and cedar, and added a hand rail. They painted the treads, adding a non-slip tape.

Now Open At Our
New Location in Ludington

Stop in to browse the latest and greatest flooring styles from the best names in the business.

Hardwood

Vinyl Planking

Laminate

Ceramic Tile

Carpet

Quartz Counter Tops

Grabber Window Treatments

• Full Service from Start to Finish

• Free Measures

• Custom Ceramic Showers

• Sand & Finish Hardwood Floors

• Ceramic Tile, Carpet, Vinyl Planking, Vinyl & Window Treatment

• Installation

Over 40 Years Experience



3473 W. US 10 (Formerly Marek Auto Parts)
Ludington • 231.845.7149
Open Monday-Friday 9 AM-5 PM; Sat. 9 AM-1 PM





Delivering quality
you can feel.

With technology designed to maximize performance, Tempstar Heating and Cooling Products delivers home comfort you can feel. Choose one of our quiet, energy-efficient home heating systems, each backed by an outstanding limited warranty.



NO HASSLE
REPAIRS
LIMITED
WARRANTY

10 YEAR
PARTS
WARRANTY
LIMITED

TEMPSTAR®

Heating and Cooling Products

Quality you can feel.



205 Second St., Ludington
231-843-3575 www.premier247.com



Ask Sherwin-Williams
How You Can Save Every Day!

Join our
FREE Paint Perks Program
for exclusive sale events,
great decorating tips
and how-to information,
plus savings on paints
and stains every
time you shop.



Visit [sherwin-williams.com/preferred](https://www.sherwin-williams.com/preferred)
to sign up or see store
for program details.

5862 W. US 10, LUDINGTON
231.843.2188



Ask Sherwin-Williams.™



Julie Van Dyke and Niki Breazeale look on as the room is revealed last week.



Michelle Kuster gets a hug from Julie Van Dyke at the reveal.



A coat rack and bench combination is located at the bottom of the staircase.



Julie Van Dyke talks with Connexion Point members Beth Kirby and Michelle Kuster at the reveal as they explore the newly transformed space.



Tony Kuster adds a handrail to the stairs leading to the gathering space. Kuster put in a lot of time helping in the redo, including installing new basement windows.



The team always adds their own special little details to bring the room together.

Birch Michigan

home décor | specialty gifts | interior design
119 S. Hancock St. | Pentwater, MI

Does your home need a design reboot?
Whether it's one room or the whole house,
we can help update your look.
Booking winter projects now.

birchmichigan@gmail.com

AMAZING KITCHENS

Start Here!

Kitchen Updates & Remodeling

Nobody does kitchens better than The Home Depot. We offer the top brands and home services in the industry, and we'll help you get the kitchen you've been dreaming of. Choose us for your next remodeling project you'll also enjoy some unique advantages:

- FREE kitchen design services
- Experienced, expert kitchen designers
- Licensed, insured, background-checked installers
- Flexible financing options

Kelsey Schoenlein
Home Depot
Kitchen Specialist

www.homedepot.com
3865 W. US 10 | Ludington
231-843-9108
Open Mon.-Sat. 6 AM-9 PM; Sun. 8 AM-7 PM

2020 Ludington Daily News Room Redo Connexion Point - Boon House

Item	Purchased from
Décor Items Needed.....	Supplier
Electric Fireplace.....	Lowes
Coat Rack/Bench at bottom of stairs	Kristin Burnett
Stair Rubs, Light Fixtures, Bulb	Lowes
Green Clock	Cottage Works
White washed Desk - Coffee Bar	Cottage Works
White washed coffee table	Mary Meyer
Wood Nesting Tables Set/3	Cottage Works
Galvanized Trough on Coffee Table	Cottage Works
w/3 Large Greens from All State Floral	Cottage Works
Leaf Bucket	Cottage Works
2 Wire Mesh Table Lamps	Cottage Works
Cute Botanical	Cottage Works
2 Lime/Brown Vases	Cottage Works
Chain Candle Holders.....	Cottage Works
Eucalyptus Branches	Cottage Works
7x10 Natural Rug	At Home
Coffee Mugs - 17 White & Gold	Birch Michigan
Mason Jars/Coffee bar accessories	Niki-Dollar General
Floor Lamp & White washed side table	Birch Michigan
Tree Canvas	Birch Michigan
Coasters	Birch Michigan
Rutan Screen Room Divider	Birch Michigan
Faux Tree	Birch Michigan
Shelves above Coffee Bar.....	Birch Michigan
Birch Centerpiece for round table	2DBirches
Shiplap - 2 Boxes	Home Depot
Barn Door & Caster, Misc Hardware.....	Lowes
4 Pillows & Donor Tree-Sculpture/Wood burning 6.....	Sue/At Home
Green Pillows	Birch Michigan
Misc. Staging Items.....	Birch Michigan
Rubber foot pads for blue chair	Lowes
10 Gallons of Grey Paint.....	Ludington Paint & Glass
Kilz Primer	Lowes
3/4-inch by 6'-foot Pipe Ins.....	Lowes
Floor Paint.....	Ludington Paint & Glass
Floor Cleaning	ProMaster
Coffee Maker	Meijer
Wood Rounds Engraving	Sue/At Home
Water Bottles & Cookies for Reveal	Meijer



Room Redo 2020 was able to provide Connexion Point with a gathering space that will help the organization continue to make a difference in the community.



Michelle Kuster walks through the space to thank the room redo team last week.



Michelle Kuster and Beth Kirby were happy with the way the reveal went for the Room Redo. The space was turned into an area where Connexion Point could hold gatherings.



Connexion Point board member Jackie Steckel and Michelle Kuster take a closer look at everything during the unveiling of the gathering space at Connexion Point Boon House.

A Professional Clean

For your home or office

Eliminate more than 99% of the germs living in your carpet with our professional cleaning services.

SERVING MASON, MANISTEE AND OCEANA COUNTIES

UPHOLSTERY • TILE • JANITORIAL

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE • FREE ESTIMATES

Pro-Master
CARPET CLEANING

Jason Muralt – Owner/Operator

231-757-9061

REGENCY FIREPLACE PRODUCTS

Winter Savings

ON SELECT GAS PRODUCTS

MARCH 1ST 2020 - MAY 1ST 2020

SAVE UP TO \$200

SKOOG HEATING & COOLING

1102 S. Madison, Ludington, MI 49431 • 231-845-6302 • Fax 231-845-6904