



New Fall ROOMREDO

And the winner is...



DAVID BOSSICK | DAILY NEWS PHOTOS
Drew Poll points to a measuring board on the wall of the playroom as wife Wendy and son Caleb.



Drew, Caleb and Wendy Poll look over the nursery that was refurbished as a part of the Ludington Daily News Room Redo this fall. Both the nursery and playroom were a part of the project.



Drew, Caleb and Wendy Poll look into the playroom that was redone for them by the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team.



Drew, Wendy and Caleb Poll look at the playroom that was redone for the family by the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team.



Drew, Wendy and Caleb Poll look at the nursery that was redone for the family by the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team.



Wendy and Caleb Poll look at some of the items in a storage area in the playroom that the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team reconfigured.

Polls' nursery, playroom

With child on way, family sought, received updates to rooms

BY DAVID BOSSICK
MANAGING EDITOR

Wendy Poll had a mission for the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team. As the team went about remaking a play room and nursery in the home of Drew and Wendy Poll, Wendy wanted to make sure that their daughter Emma was a part of the remaking of the rooms. “We want to grow with Emma,” Wendy told the crew after they did more measuring in the rooms that were the focus of the project. The couple’s daughter, Emma, 2, passed away in May, and the family of three — Drew and Wendy Poll with son Caleb — have lived with the heartache that goes with a death. Still, the couple learned that Wendy is expecting a son in February, and they decided to enter the Room Redo contest to have the play room and nursery redone by the group. Fast forward to about three weeks later, and the Polls were pleased with the results — including taking a moment to gather in the birch wreaths hanging near the doorway of the nursery with a footprint and handprint from Emma, made by Susan Von Pohl of the team. The Ludington Daily News Room Redo team chose the Polls out of a group of five finalists. Drew Poll submitted his family’s application, talking about how the family lost a loved one, but also is looking forward to a different chapter of life with their soon-to-be-born son. When the play room was unveiled, the Polls were surprised. “Wow,” Wendy said during the unveiling. “That looks amazing.” “Holy cow does that look differ-



Drew Poll points out a crib to his son Caleb while wife Wendy looks on during the unveiling of the Room Redo.

ent,” Drew said. Then came the nursery, and taking in the wreaths made by Von Pohl. The Room Redo team consisted of Julie Van Dyke, Laura Sanders and Von Pohl of Cottage Works, and they were assisted this year by many others. Barb Erwin helped with the painting of the nursery while Kenneth Wilson and Pure Michigan Home Services painted the play room. Wilson donated his time, and he belongs to Prayer & Praise Assembly of God in Ludington with the Polls. Tracy Clifford assisted with many of the wall-hangings that were placed in both rooms, too. The nursery was nearly revamped from top to bottom. A

new curtain was hung and storage boxes were added to the shelving in the closet. A mirror was put above a brand new changing table with a lamp in the corner. A crib — donated to Cottage Works for the project — was painted and placed. Also added was a new rug. The nursery was topped off with a rocking chair and a small table that were repainted by sponsor Redeemed in Manistee. In the play room, where sheets were hung from the ceiling for a large tent-like area, a small teepee was placed in the corner with starry lights near the top. The windows were covered with pebble-like film to obscure the complete view of the outdoors. The window sill had a plant placed in the cen-

ter with a light hung above it. In the opposite corner of the teepee was a cushioned seat with a lamp near two acrylic bookshelves. Next to the bookshelves was a large metal measuring stick, reaching beyond 6 feet. Right next to that was an item to attach photos of the family, and just above a chalk board. On a wall between the entry to the nursery and the entry to the room from the living room was a shelf where toys were in bins. Above it is an art piece from The Market depicting Noah’s Ark. Along the opposite wall from the measuring stick was a storage area for more toys with a lamp there, too. Not only toys were stored there, but also art supplies. Above the storage area were

framed and matted art projects Caleb completed. A table with small chairs made up the center of the room, and it sat on a large area rug. On the table were many art supplies. “We knew we needed to do something different. It needed to have a different feel,” Drew said. The Room Redo team had a bit extra for the Polls, too. Two large, square poofy seats that maybe were going into the play room instead were placed in the family’s living room. And, the team also picked up an island table with seating for four near the kitchen. “This is not what we were expecting,” the Polls said, almost in unison when they arrived inside their home during their unveiling. What they are expecting in February is a son. They both were looking for a name for him, and they both — independently of one another — found the name Jaden. “We came to it separately,” Drew said. “We discovered, when we looked up what the name meant (online), it means, ‘God has heard.’” Van Dyke had suggestions for the family, too, when it came to their living room/kitchen area, including having a pantry along one wall and saying that perhaps having a little less is more. The Polls were very grateful. “We really appreciate all of you,” Drew said. “All of you.” Wendy said she would be in talks with the Cottage Works team about perhaps seeing about how to change up other rooms in the family’s home, including the living room. “Slowly, we’re going to have them come back and do room by room...,” she said.



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Sue Von Pohl holds a measuring tape while getting final measurements of the playroom of the Poll family.



Laura Sanders looks over the nursery as she makes final notes on what the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team planned to do in the room.



Barb Ervin carefully paints below a window in the nursery of the Poll family.



Sue Von Pohl uses a roller to paint the wall of the nursery.



Sue Van Pohl puts containers into the nursery's closet.



Daily News Sales Representative Shelley Kovar varnishes a windowsill in the nursery while Tracy Clifford of Cottage Works works on putting up brackets for a curtain rod.

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Tracy Clifford and Sue Von Pohl place a curtain rod in the Polls' nursery.



Laura Sanders and Julie Van Dyke put together a teepee for the playroom of the Poll family.



Laura Sanders and Julie Van Dyke put together a teepee for the playroom of the Poll family.



Sue Von Pohl hangs a wreath that has the handprint of the Polls' daughter Emma on the wall in the nursery.



Laura Sanders and Sue Von Pohl put baby clothes on hangers for the closet in the nursery.



Tracy Clifford and Sue Von Pohl hang the wreaths created by Von Pohl for the Poll family.



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Tracy Clifford and Laura Sanders put together the crib in the nursery.



Laura Sanders and Julie Van Dyke work with a rocking chair and table near the closet in the nursery.



Tracy Clifford hangs a framed print above the crib in the nursery.



Laura Sanders puts toys into a drawer in the playroom.



Sue Von Pohl and Laura Sanders put stuffed animals in a basket in the nursery.



Tracy Clifford works to hang a framed and matted piece of artwork done by Caleb Poll in the playroom.

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Laura Sanders and Sue Von Pohl set up the lights in the teepee in the playroom of the Polls.



Tracy Clifford measures where to put the top shelf of a pair of shelves in the playroom.



Laura Sanders cuts a piece of film as Julie Van Dyke holds the piece down over a box. The film was used to cover the windows in the playroom at the Polls' home.



As Tracy Clifford looks for a stud in the wall of the playroom as Sue Von Pohl and Laura Sanders place books on the shelves.



Sue Von Pohl puts a toy in a box in the playroom at the Polls' home.



Laura Sanders and Sue Von Pohl put a film on the window in the playroom to obscure the view of the outside.

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The finished playroom featured framed and matted art, teepees, a table with chairs to go with art supplies, a chair for reading with a chair near books.



The nursery of the Polls when it was completed by the Ludington Daily News Room Redo team.



Stuffed animals fill a basket near window while a rocking chair and table are in front of the closet in the nursery. The table and chair were from Redeemed.



Laura Sanders and Sue Von Pohl place books in the shelves in the playroom.

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Tips for finalists from LDN Room Redo team

The Ludington Daily News Room Redo team had recommendations for the four other finalists it considered for the project.

LYNN GILBERT

- Replace ceiling fan and light fixture over the game table.
- Add area rug (8-foot by 10-foot)
- Create a conversation area in the front left-hand corner with two chairs and a round coffee table
- Buy new lamps or replace existing lampshades
- Pull puzzle table away from wall and add 5-foot by 8-foot rug underneath
- Remove miscellaneous tables, chairs and appliances
- Add decorative pillows to loveseat/sofa/sleeper
- Add large red compass or paint old thrifted oars red and mount

JUDY LOEHR

- Add a 6-foot by 9-foot area rug under sofa
- Buy a 32-inch round coffee table
- Add shorebird (heron) art set of two (from Cottage Works) to replace the three wicker mirrors
- Add throw pillows and a throw to sofa
- Stage built-in shelves

- with books and lake decor
- Add floor lamp to the right of the couch
 - Add two chairs and a game table facing the fireplace
 - Move three wicker mirrors to kitchen or bedroom
 - Add set of three white-washed flower art (from Cottage Works)

KAREN SMITH

- Declutter room
- Remove roll top desk
- Remove trunk
- Move cat litter and food to another area of house
- L-Shape set up with Costco folding tables
- Add an area rug
- Put a stand up shelving unit in the alcove where the roll top desk was to house crafting supplies
- Add decorative storage bins/fabric boxes under Costco tables

O'NEALYA GRONSTAL

- Paint mirror and dresser in bedroom to match the current nightstands
- Add headboard
- Add bedside sconces over nightstands
- On porch, paint TV console to match coffee table
- Remove fish table
- Add colorful area rug and accent pillows



Dan, Caleb and Wendy Poll look into their remade playroom during the reveal of the Ludington Daily News Room Redo as Cottage Works' Julie Van Dyke looks on.



Dan, Caleb and Wendy Poll take in the playroom during the unveiling of the redone room.



Dan, Caleb and Wendy Poll look around the nursery that was redone by the Room Redo team.



Julie Van Dyke, Sue Von Pohl and Laura Sanders share a laugh with the Poll family during the Room Redo unveiling.



Laura Sanders shows Caleb Poll some of the art supplies that are in the playroom at his family's home.

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