

BATHROOM
FROM PAGE C1

had covered up the controls, the toilet top and were out on the floor.

Apparently, the Air Masseuse's air jet system and 21-inch-deep tub had given Pierson a better work-over than a Swedish masseuse.

"It's wonderful," she said. "You get in, and you're like 'ah.'"

Even Pierson's husband likes an Air Masseuse massage every now and then.

To enhance the soaking experience, he's painting a blue sky and white clouds on the bathroom ceiling.

"This is a biker who wants clouds," joked Pierson.

The Air Masseuse is "the Pentium 4 of the bathtub," said Frank Mathison, co-owner of Mathison Supply Co., which donated all the tub, toilet, sink, fixtures and cabinetry used in renovating the bathroom.

"Instead of circulating water, we're blowing hot air out of about 50 air jets. It's a lot healthier, and you're getting



Mike DeSmit of J&M Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling in Westland checks on his installation work.

a better massage. Air massage is a complete body massage.

Pierson's bathroom not only was a bit unsightly, but also less-than-structurally sound, said Mike DeSmit of J&M Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling, which donated its renovation and installation services to the contest.

Water leakage had caused the joists in Pierson's floor to rot. Furthermore, Pierson's fears about the tub weren't unfounded, DeSmit said.

"When I got here, I could rock the tub back and forth. So I did

what I call a total tear-out," he said.

Even drywall was replaced before DeSmit and crew installed the bathroom's new components, which include a Gerber Ultra-Flush toilet, which has a tank within a tank for sustained pressure. Oasis marble top and sink; and Birch oak vanity with lighted shelving and cabinetry.

Solid brass faucets and hardware by Harden and ceramic tile in sandstone, which was taken care of by Ceramic Tile & Marble in Garden City,

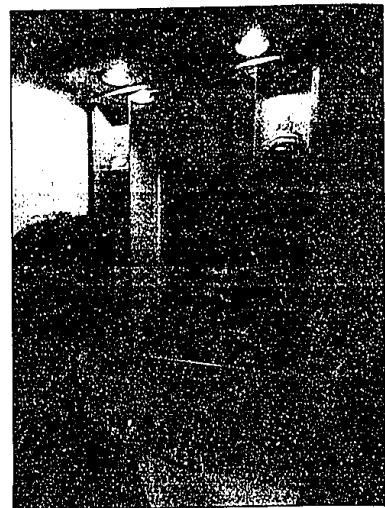


Solid brass faucets by Harden finish off the Jason Air Masseuse Massage bathtub.

complement the warm-toned oak cabinetry.

To say the least, Pierson is thrilled.

"I'm like, okay, this is too good to be true, I've been here praying for a new bathroom," she said.



Pam Pierson shows her new Berth cabinet mirror and light combination.

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Design center sets semiannual sale

Michigan Design Center's Semi-annual Floor Sample and Clearance Sale will take place 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 25, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 26. The event is the only time that the public is invited to shop the showrooms of MDC. Shoppers will find semi-annual sale savings of 60 to 70 percent off list prices on hundreds of floor sample items, including furniture, Oriental rugs, lighting, original art, accessories and ceramic tile.

Admission is \$6, with a portion of the proceeds going to benefit the Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS), the largest shelter for homeless men, women and children in Michigan.

Michigan Design Center is at 1700 Stutz Drive in Troy, which is north off Maple, between Crooks and Coolidge. Merchandise will be sold as is and all sales are final. Payment may be made by cash or check. Some showrooms will be accepting Visa or MasterCard.

A delivery service will be available and arrangements can be made at the customer's expense. Delivery must be accepted within 10 days of purchase.

Back by popular demand, design seminars will be presented by MDC at 1 p.m., 2 p.m., 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. each day. Sample sale participants may attend these seminars at no additional charge. Topics include:

- Color Trend Forecast for 2003 - Find out which colors are hot and which aren't.
- Using Scale and Contrast - Never again make the mistake of buying pieces that are too big or too small for your rooms. Learn how to accent your color schemes with contrasting accessories.
- The Art of Accessorizing - Learn how to take your rooms from ho-hum to fabulous just by adding the right accessories.
- Kitchen and Bath Surfaces - Granite, tile, Corian and Zodiaq - those choices are endless. Find out what to choose and why from a kitchen remodeling expert.

During the sale, MDC's Designer On Call interior designers will be available to answer questions. Designer On Call is an exclusive MDC design program that enables consumers to work one-on-one with a professional interior designer and gain access to interior furnishings from premier manufacturers across the globe, all under one roof at MDC. MDC showrooms serve the interior design professional. Consumers interested in products from MDC showrooms may contact Designer On Call 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday-Friday by phoning toll-free (888) DIAL MDC, or visit MDC's Web site at www.michigandesign.com.



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Bring your letter into any Mathison Supply store or the Novi Home Improvement Show or mail it to Clear Channel Radio, Dear John Contest, P.O. Box 1310, Dearborn MI 48121 or enter on any of the Clear Channel Radio websites.

The winner's bathroom will be upgraded with new fixtures, tile, cabinets and accessories with a value of up to \$10,000.

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- Bath Cabinetry by Berth
- Faucets by Harden
- Ultra-Flush Toilet by Gerber
- Cultured Marble Counter top and Tub Wall Surround by U.S. Marble
- Installation by Complete Home Improvement
- And More!

All entries become the property of Clear Channel Radio and must be received by April 12, 2003. No cash equivalents. Judges' decision is final. No purchase necessary. Winner will be announced May 18, 2003.

Employees of Clear Channel Radio, BIA and Mathison Supply are not eligible to enter.

Looking for new decorating ideas? Read the At Home section every Thursday in the Eccentric.

Foundation offering free trees

Ten free flowering trees will be given to each person who joins the National Arbor Day Foundation during January 2003.

The free trees are part of the nonprofit foundation's Trees for America campaign.

They are: two white flowering dogwoods, two flowering crabapples, two goldenrain-trees, two Washington hawthorns and two American redbuds.

The trees will be shipped postpaid at the right time for planting between Feb. 1 and May 31 with enclosed planting instructions.

The 6- to 12-inch trees are guaranteed to grow or they will be replaced free of charge.

To join the foundation and receive the free trees, send a \$10 contribution to: Ten Free Flowering Trees, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Avenue, Nebraska City, NE 68410, by Friday, Jan. 31.

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