

Home Builder Seeks His Own 'Makeover'

By LORI GROSS

Straight out of the idea behind the hit show "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," shabby homeowners are encouraged to be extra nice to their friends: a compelling letter from one of them to Major Homes might nominate a lucky family into overhauled digs.

Major Homes, a family owned remodeling business based in Bayside and Albertson, is not new to the free remodel game.

President Mitchell Kersch said his charitable bona fides include \$7,000 in free siding to the family of a guitarist who had lost three and a half fingers and the donation of a kitchen to a family with three children suffering from cystic fibrosis.

Kersch, the third of a four-generation family dynasty, said there's no catch and that the business is often charitable with their services, though there is one caveat.

"I'm not going to just give away free

work," Kersch said. "I'm going to interview needy people and get out there." He expects the process of interviewing nominated finalists will take more than a month.

The contest has no eligibility requirements. It doesn't even have an official name. "All they need to do is send a letter," said Kersch. "There's no cost. No obligation. It is not a gimmick." They won't even enter information from entries into a sales database, he said.

To nominate someone for free windows, roofing or siding, write a letter explaining their circumstances. Include both your information and your nominee's information, including: name, phone number, address, and email if you have one. Send letters to Major Homes, 48-52 Clearview Expy., Bayside, NY 11364, attention Mitch Kersch.

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