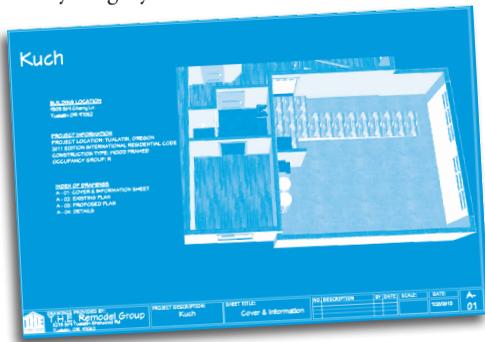


# Tualatin Business Community Comes Together to Help a Neighbor

BY **DARREL BOYD**, OWNER/MANAGER, ELEMAR OREGON LLC

On a warm summer weekend, Jay Malhi stepped out of his home to see his neighbor, Tony Kuch, busy at work in the front of his house. Jay had already heard the news; On May 20th, Tony's 18 year old son Kyle was crossing Boones Ferry Road in a marked crosswalk when he was struck by an intoxicated driver. Jay knew it was "touch and go" for young Kyle for weeks but little else. "I decided to take the opportunity to see how Kyle and the family were doing and went over to speak with Tony," said Jay. That's when he realized Tony was working on a ramp. Kyle had pulled through but the prognosis was that he would most likely require a wheel chair from now on.



for over 10 years. EleMar Oregon supplies granite and other slab materials primarily used for countertops. When Jay came to me the next day with the story we quickly started listing all the local contacts we had developed over the years. Obviously our business could help with the countertop and tile materials but this job would need much more than that. We decided to contact Jonathan Crane at

Tualatin Life to help us get the word to as many local contractors as we could. Jon immediately took the ball and got it rolling. In fact, the response was fantastic; within

5-6 hours we had more help than we could use in the home.

Steve Klingerman of The Remodel Group put together the design and made sure it was in compliance with ADA standards. The design called for a ramp in the garage leading to a platform and new entry door. The new bathroom would need to be designed to provide the extra space needed for the wheelchair. With the plans completed, Tualatin City Engineers, Randy Soelberg and Paul Ilg were instrumental in expediting the permit process so construction could begin as soon as possible.

With the plans and permits in place, Tod Lords of Lords Construction got to work on demolition and framing. In fact, Tod would essentially take over the project as GC; coordinating all the work to be done. This is an essential role to insure the work gets done quickly and efficiently.

Gregg Walther of GAW Electric is providing all the electrical work. Ryan Venne of Venne Plumbing is providing plumbing. Chris Bravo of Bella Pietra Marble & Granite from Salem will cut and install the countertops and Orlando Sobenais of Carranza Marble & Granite in Milwaukie, will do tile setting.

Finally, Lords Construction will finish up the job with drywall and finish work. The job is in progress right now and expected to be completed by August 22nd.

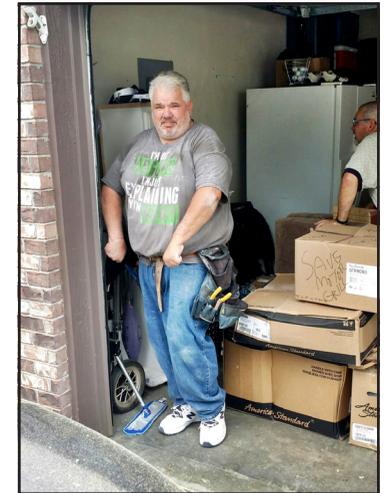
Jay and I would like to give our deepest appreciation and thanks to all of the people who have given time, labor and energy to this effort. Kyle and his family face some pretty significant challenges in days to come, but hopefully the "Pay It Forward" spirit of these local businesses and city officials, have helped to make things a little bit easier.



ADA Compliant Ramp from garage into house.



Keith Richardson of Lords Construction constructing the ADA compliant ramp to the new entry door in the garage.



Gregg Walther of GAW Electric.



Sam Briggs of Venne Plumbing.



Ryan Venne of Venne Plumbing.

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