

# Manhattan Beach Sun

The Weekly Newspaper of Manhattan Beach

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## Local Printer Helps A Charity in China



Left to Right: Three High School Students sponsored by the Peach Foundation, with Edward Su in the Yunnan province. For more photos, see page two. Photos provided by Ed Su.

## Local Business Owner Sees Fruits of Charity First-Hand in Visit to China

By Brian Simon

While most people have a “good feeling inside” when they donate to a cause, there can be a sense of disconnect especially if the contribution goes into a general pool and one doesn’t know anything about the beneficiary. But then there is the case of Ed Su, a long-time local business owner (he runs Studio Printing in the South Bay and also did layout work for Herald Publications in the late ‘90s) who along with his wife became involved with a non-profit charity a few years ago. The Peach Foundation, an organization based out of Foster City near San Francisco but with its main operating offices in China, supports children in that Far East country—mainly in the Yunnan province. It is one of the poorest regions of China where many families can’t afford to send their kids back to school after completion of an elementary education. As Su explained, “The Chinese government pays for the education from grades one to nine, but after that the families have to pay for the schooling. For some of the rural farmers with their very, very low incomes, it’s almost impossible.”

Su learned about the Foundation from his wife’s sister-in-law, whose friend started the organization about 10 years ago. “While my wife’s sister-in-law was recovering from her breast cancer treatments, she became heavily involved with Peach Foundation and still travels to China at least three times a year to visit with the children and their families,” Su said. “The desire to help these children is what kept her going and motivated to beat her cancer and she always said that Peach Foundation and the kids saved her life.”

Seeing the positive impact that the Foundation made on a family member

prompted Su to put the organization on his radar and make an annual donation. He also alerted his fellow Rotarians and the club now sponsors a couple of children every year. But Su never truly realized how much a contribution meant to a particular child until he had the chance to see it first-hand. “Every October Peach Foundation arranges a trip for their sponsors, donors and volunteer to a different region of the Yunnan province to get a better understanding of what the Foundation does and how they find the kids to support,” Su said. And so he recently

went on the trip, which lasted 10 days. He learned how, where and what kind of families receive the support. It’s only \$300 per year for the education—an amount that may seem like a drop in the bucket to many of us, yet hopelessly unaffordable to those impoverished over there.

During the visit, Su spent countless hours trudging through backroads on buses and stopped at various rural farms seemingly in the middle of nowhere. “We saw the parents of the children and the environment in which they lived,” Su

**See The Peach Foundation, page 2**

## Where Rock Fans Head For A Strange Brew

By Rob McCarthy

Rock & Brews has leapt from a corner nobody wanted in El Segundo onto a national stage using the KISS principle.

From Southern California to San Antonio, fans of rock music, burgers, buffalo wings and beer have embraced the bar-and-grill concept that co-founder Michael Zislis and his rock-star partners started four years ago in the South Bay. Rock & Brews from the beginning had a simple proposition: Give the people grub, grog and a good time.

Zislis recalls partners - Gene Simmons and Paul Stanley of KISS - having a lukewarm reaction to the original location, which had been a pizza restaurant until the economy tanked in 2008. Dave Furano, a rock promoter and business partner, pushed for the flagship Rock & Brews to start on Main Street in El Segundo. Dave’s brother, Dell, also got involved before the concept took off.

“It was Dave Furano and I who liked it. The others thought we were certifiably crazy,” Zislis said. “So we did it as a trial thing. We bought the pizza place, and we

rented the four lots next door ... the place was packed. We did a million bucks in three months. We couldn’t believe it!”

“So, we bought the four lots, tore it all down, ordered a metal building online, and six weeks later we erected it.”

Rock & Brews is one of America’s fastest-growing small restaurant chains, according to Restaurant Business journal. The 15 locations include Albuquerque, N.M.; Buena Park; Cabo, Mexico; The Colony, Texas; Corona, Calif.; Oklahoma City; Overland Park, Kan.; Oviedo, Fla.; Paia, Maui; and at StubHub Center in Carson and the AT&T Center in San Antonio, Texas.

A Dallas Rock & Brews just opened and will celebrate with a grand opening May 10. It’s much bigger than either the El Segundo or Pacific Coast Highway restaurants, and the menu has some regional favorites like fried catfish, sweet heat chicken and Miner’s Gold BBQ with a sweet mustard base.

What Dallas, PCH and El Segundo have in common is parking. Some reviewers on

**See Rock & Brews, page 5**

## Weekend Forecast

Friday,  
May 6  
Showers  
63°/55°



Saturday,  
May 7  
Partly Cloudy  
64°/54°



Sunday,  
May 8  
Partly Cloudy  
66°/55°





Rural Villages and Farmland nestled on the mountain side, elevation approx. 9,000 to 10,000 feet.

said. “No matter how tough their life is and how little they have, the parents will do anything and everything to send their kids back to school. And the families were all very touched by the fact that someone [Peach and its volunteers] actually cares more than their own government does.” Su added that he noticed many households where one or both parents passed away or even ran away. “There were quite a few single parents and in some cases orphans raised by their grandparents. It make me really appreciate what we have here in the States.”

Su was especially touched and encouraged when he met many of the children who benefit from the Peach Foundation. He ended up visiting a number of schools in several towns, meeting hundreds of kids along the way. “We spoke to them, encouraged them to stay in school and finish their education because that’s the only way that they can help their family,” he said.

Yet the most pivotal moment of the trip came one day when Su actually met a child

that he directly sponsors. “Is it very rare to be able to do this, but I did,” he said. “She is a very good student and she really wants to stay in school—but because her dad is the only provider in her family and they live a few hours away from her school [getting to the campus is two hours by car and then requires another two to three hours walking into a mountain area], her dad gets very angry when she asked for money for school. She does go home once a month and that’s all she can afford. It broke my heart when I spoke to her and she was very emotional when she talked about her family and her education.”

Having seen in person the hardships experienced by these Chinese families has changed Su forever, especially since he is also a father of a 14-year-old. “It taught me not to take what we have for granted and to be grateful that we live in the South Bay where our kids can get a great education and enjoy a wonderful quality of life,” he said.

For more information on the Peach Foundation, go to [peachfoundationusa.org](http://peachfoundationusa.org).



Kitchen / Living area visited



Farmhouse/Storage Shack...with Pigs



Picture with Sponsored Children at a rural high school

# Sports

## Kings Kicked Off the Throne

By Adam Serrao

If there is one thing that we have all learned about these Los Angeles Kings over the past few years, it's that they are the masters of the comeback victory. This year, and more specifically, this playoff series against the San Jose Sharks has been no different. In the final game of the series last Friday night at the Staples Center in Los Angeles, the Sharks led 3-0. It seemed as if all was lost. The Kings and the magnificent season that they have had would all be ousted from play, simultaneously. The Kings have fought, though. The team put their sticks to the ice, gritted their teeth, and did everything they could to get back into the game, tying things up at 3 goals apiece. Maybe their comeback attempt took all the energy that the team had out of them, or maybe the Sharks were simply the better team this year. Whatever it was, San Jose rallied in the third period scoring three more goals and with a 6-3 victory, ended the Kings season much sooner than originally expected.

The Kings looked outclassed for most of the series against the Sharks, falling behind early and often in almost every game that the two rivals played. Even in Game 3, the one game that the Kings did find a way to win, the Sharks scored first and it took an overtime goal by Tanner Pearson to secure Los Angeles's first and only victory of the

series. "We were chasing the lead all the time. Pretty much every game," Kings forward Anze Kopitar explained. "With the exception of one game when we scored first, we were chasing the lead the rest of the way. You can't do that." The one game that the Kings actually had a lead in was Game 1, when Jake Muzzin scored early on. It wasn't long, however, before Joe Pavelski knotted things up and before you knew it, Brent Burns made it 2-1 and the Sharks never looked back from there. San Jose dominated the series from that point forward.

Despite setting a franchise record this year with 48 wins, the Kings managed to give away the Pacific Division towards the end of the season to their rivals from Anaheim, the Ducks. Their seeding and eventual matchup with the Sharks wasn't the only thing that led to the Kings downfall, though. The team's style of play was put in jeopardy when Alec Martinez left due to injury in Game 1. Martinez was a key player in the Kings 2014 playoff run and ultimate championship. Without him, their blue line defense was depleted and as evidence by the 16 goals allowed in the series, the Kings just weren't the same. "We can't use injuries as an excuse," head coach Darryl Sutter explained, "but we weren't really evenly matched when you think about it. The Sharks got [Marc-Eduard] Vlasic back and we lost Marty. That's losing the top end

of your defense."

When a hockey team loses, its often easiest to blame the goalie. Jonathan Quick allowed 15 goals this postseason, hardly anything like his stellar play of years past. What's even worse is that the Kings lost to and had trouble getting shots by Quick's former backup, Martin Jones. It wasn't only quick allowing goals, though. The Kings star players had trouble scoring them, too. Kopitar was held to just two games in the series, as was Jeff Carter. Tyler Toffoli, a named that was all over the press and Kings coverage in 2014, was rendered completely irrelevant by the Sharks. While the Kings main cogs were held in check all series, the Sharks stars went off. Pavelski and Logan Couture led the charge for the Sharks and ultimately guided their team toward the series win.

While its rather difficult to see into the future, the Kings demise seemed to be somewhat on the horizon. The team lost three of their last five games of the regular season and four of their last six, ending the year with two losses to two subpar teams (Vancouver Canucks, Winnipeg Jets). Being unable to get

into a groove towards the end of the regular season really hurt L.A.'s chances of bringing momentum with them into the postseason. Once the Kings clinched their playoff spot, the team let up. Almost as if they were out of gas or maybe even just stopped trying. "We can make excuses all we want with Martinez being out of the lineup and this and that, but at the end of the day, we didn't play the right way when we needed to and it ended up costing us," Kings left wing, Milan Lucic explained.

No matter what the real reasoning is, hockey season has come and gone in the city of L.A. There are still teams to root against, like the Ducks or the Chicago Blackhawks, but the Kings will now have to wait another year for a chance to bring the Stanley Cup back to the Staples Center. Now that they have lost, you can say whatever you want about the Kings, but you certainly can't call them quitters. With their backs to the walls all series long, the Kings fought and battled tooth and nail to bring home wins. Despite being eliminated, that's all you can ask for from your hometown hockey team. •

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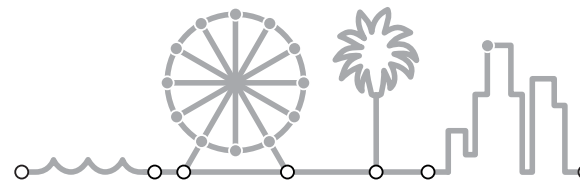
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# Metro Briefs

SOUTH BAY

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### Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project Update

Construction on the Crenshaw/LAX Transit Project is halfway complete. To celebrate, Metro is inviting members of the community and public to our "Halfway There" event on Saturday, May 7. The free event will include food, games and performances from local businesses and artists. For details, visit [metro.net/crenshaw](http://metro.net/crenshaw).

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# Finance

## Making The Most Of College Financial Aid: 7 Tips You Should Know

(BPT) - What do parents of toddlers and parents of high school students have in common? Both worry about paying for college. With the constantly rising costs of higher education, financial aid becomes more important than ever for making the dream of a college education possible. So if you're interested in receiving financial aid, where should you start?

"The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or FAFSA, is your gateway to money for college from both the federal and state governments for most colleges and universities," says Mark Kantrowitz, author of "Filing the FAFSA" and "Secrets to Winning a Scholarship." "Filing the FAFSA correctly is crucial, as it has a direct effect on how much money you receive from various types of financial aid."

College Ave Student Loans partnered with Kantrowitz to offer top tips for maximizing your need-based financial aid for college:

### 1. Save Strategically

When it comes to covering the cost of college, financial aid should be at the forefront of your mind, whether you're ready to file the FAFSA right now or not. It's best to save money for college in a parent's name, rather than the student's, as the FAFSA assesses money in the parent's name at a much lower rate. Every \$10,000 in student assets reduces aid eligibility by \$2,000, while every \$10,000 in parent assets only reduces eligibility by up to \$564.



### 2. File Early

The earlier you file the FAFSA, the better. Right now, you should file the FAFSA as soon as possible on or after Jan. 1, but starting in 2017, you can start as early as Oct. 1. Ten states award aid on a first come, first served basis, and 12 have hard deadlines in February and March. Specific schools can also have specific deadlines, and students who file early may qualify for more aid. So, as a rule of thumb, file the FAFSA in January to maximize your eligibility.

### 3. Minimize Income In The Base Year

Using income and tax information from a previous year, or base year, the FAFSA calculates the financial strength of your family. Because the formula is heavily weighted on

income, it's a good idea to reduce your income in the base year. If you can, avoid realizing capital gains. If you must sell stocks, bonds or other investments, try to offset capital gains with losses. Taking retirement plan distributions during the base year will also count as income.

### 4. Reduce Reportable Assets

Minimize your money in the bank by using it to pay credit card and loan debts. This not only makes good financial planning sense, but may help you qualify for more aid.

### 5. Maximize The Number Of Children In College At The Same Time

Something as simple as having more than one child in college can dramatically increase your chances of receiving more financial

aid. While you can't change the ages of your children, you can use this impact on aid eligibility as a deciding factor when determining whether to allow your child to skip a grade.

### 6. Seek Generous And Low-Cost Colleges

There are many generous colleges, including some in the Ivy League, which implement "no loans" financial aid policies. This means they replace loans with grants in the student's need-based financial aid package. Additionally, in-state public colleges are likely to be your least expensive option, especially after subtracting gift aid, grants and scholarships.

### 7. Organize Your Documents And Information

Filing the FAFSA is all about the details. Pay attention and stay organized to get the job done right, starting by filing the FAFSA for the correct year and staying on top of deadlines. Make sure to use the right Social Security Number, date of birth, marital status and correct financial information. Follow the instructions and fill out the forms as carefully as possible to get the most accurate results.

Once you receive your financial aid award letter and assess your savings, you'll have time to consider taking out a loan. If you need it, find a simple option that works for you, such as College Ave Student Loans.

Navigating the world of financial aid can be tricky, so follow these tips to maximize your eligibility and make college a reality. For more information and resources, visit [collegeavestudentloans.com](http://collegeavestudentloans.com).



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## Rock & Brews

from front page

Yelp complain about the parking, which is valet. It's not that there's too little in Dallas. Self-parking isn't practical at the newest location, they say.

Still, "The Colony really needed a place like this," one Yelp reviewer wrote.

South Bayans could step into the Dallas restaurant and not skip a beat, Zislis said. The designer kept the open-air seating and the red-barn look and high ceilings, but the picnic benches are pushed apart. It seems, Texans like their personal space.

"In Dallas, you'd feel right at home because the weather there is more like El Segundo," Zislis said.

"Communal seating is sort of way of life in Southern Cal, with the beach. I don't see communal seating being as popular around the rest of the country. People outside of Southern Cal don't like it as much," said Zislis, who is a rock star in the South Bay craft brewery movement.

Gene Simmons is the star attraction in the enterprise, and co-KISS member Paul Stanley is a close second. Their other two partners, Dell and Dave Furano, are rock promoters with a glitzy client list that includes Led Zepelin, Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Grateful Dead and George Harrison. The musicians and the roadies know how to drink beer. Michael Zislis knows how to make it.

Zislis attained master brewer status while a student at the University of Southern California, and brought to the Rock & Brew concept his expertise and background in craft beer and food service. Zislis opened his Manhattan Beach Brewing Company in the 1980s, before beer was trendy.

"He was from Manhattan Beach and he knows the area, and has an incredible sense for restaurants," said Bill Ruane, the El Segundo Realtor who co-owned the patio next door to the pizza business. "He got the

demographics there, literally just outside the Chevron gate."

Rock & Brews carries locally crafted brews at each of its locations, making a visit to any of the restaurants outside Southern California a chance to sample new beers. The decor screams rock 'n' roll, but beer is celebrated as much as KISS and the legendary bands plastered on the walls.

"What's the first thing someone asks when they're out of town. What do you have that's local?" said Zislis. Strange brew is the ready answer.

Before a new restaurant opens, the owners meet with local breweries to sample and decide which up-and-comers the bar staff will promote when they're asked about the hometown selections. He's introduced the El Segundo Brewery and its Mayberry IPA to Southwest and Delta travelers who've grabbed a bar stool waiting for a flight at Los Angeles International Airport.

"We celebrate the local breweries in every market," he said. The beer menu includes the half-dozen domestics Bud, Coors, Miller and Stella Artois - sometimes referred to "the 'Budweiser of Europe.'" Zislis and his management staff backfill the rest of the list with Mama's Little Yella Pills, Rio Grande Outlaw Lager, and Isotopes Slammin Amber, to name a few New Mexico favorites. In Maui, it might be Green Flash West Coast or a Kona Fire Rock Pale Ale.

The Rock & Brews concept features a menu built on American appetites for burgers, wings and beers. People living in New Mexico and Texas don't eat the same way that Southern Californians do, so a regional specialties section was added to the menu once expansion got under way.

"The menus have changed a little bit because of the appetites around the country," Zislis said, explaining that local favorites now



Co-founder Michael Zislis

appear on the menu. "It's not something I was ready for."

A New Mexico diner wants green chiles on his burger, and in Florida they like their barbecue sauce made with mustard, according to Zislis. A kale salad, which is a top seller at the South Bay and Buena Park restaurants, isn't listed on the menus outside of Southern California.

One Albuquerque diner left a Yelp review complimentary about the regionally influenced menu. She wrote, "The menu is really long, but showcases pub type food but with a New Mexico influence. Lots of green chilies of course, tacos, and dishes with a Tex-Mex feel."

Then, there's the Yelp reviewer - a former Redondo Beach resident and surfer - who was stoked to have fish tacos again.

"Growing up in OKC with Mexican

food as a weekly family tradition I was deep into adulthood before I enjoyed my first fish taco. I lived in Redondo Beach and two super surfer yoga friends insisted I eat fish tacos before our safari south to San Onofre State Beach (beside the nuclear cooling towers). ... That was a life-changing experience - warm water surfing and the fish tacos, which I have loved since.

"Fast forward, last year I visited Redondo Beach, curious I cruised into the Rock & Brews off Pacific Coast Highway for the first time and parked myself at the bar. After perusing the menu I asked, "How

are the fish tacos?" The bartender thrust two thumbs up. "Excellent, best in the South Bay." He was right. ...

"So, a short story long, I was ecstatic when I heard Rock & Brews was opening in OKC."

Zislis said as many as eight more restaurants could open this year and a dozen more in 2017. The company doesn't own or operate all of the locations, though the partners want to open more of their own around Southern California.

When you think about brands like Hard Rock, they're only going to be in the Super Bowl cities, where the Super Bowl is. The stadium with tourists, Zislis added.

"We see Rock & Brews can work in any community. It works in Calabasas, it works in Corona, in Buena Park," he explained. "We can be anywhere." •

# Looking Up

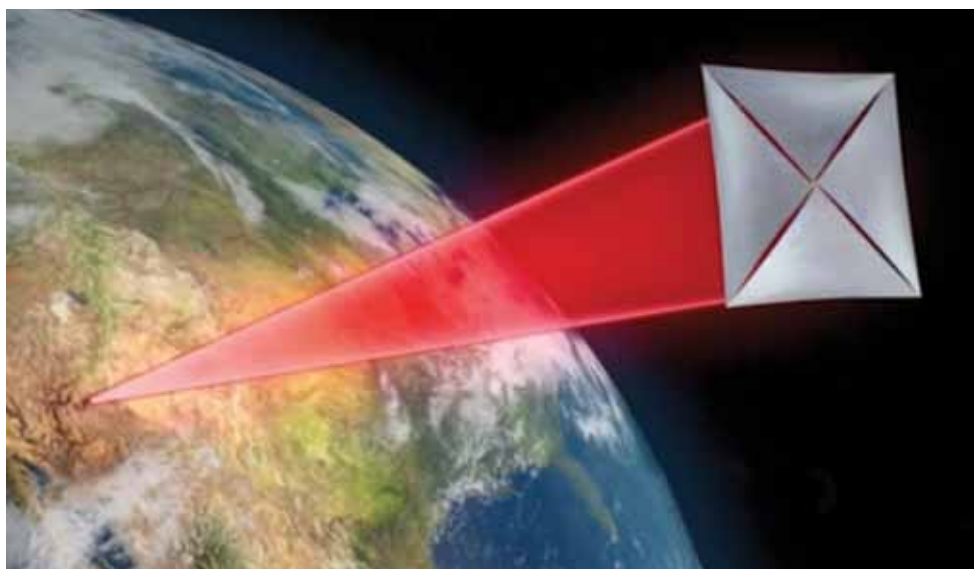
## Breakthrough Starshot: Off to the Stars Within 20 Years?

By Bob Eklund

No, it's not Star Trek yet, but it could be a way to reach the stars within the lifetime of many of us.

The initiative is called Breakthrough Starshot—a research and engineering project by Breakthrough Initiatives to develop a proof-of-concept fleet of light sail spacecraft, called StarChips, capable of making the journey to the Alpha Centauri star system, 4.37 light-years away, at speeds between 20% and 15% of the speed of light, taking between 20 to 30 years to get there, respectively, and about 4 years to notify Earth of a successful arrival. The conceptual principles to enable this interstellar travel project were described in “A Roadmap to Interstellar Flight,” by Philip Lubin of UC Santa Barbara.

The project was announced April 12 by physicist and venture capitalist Yuri Milner and cosmologist Stephen Hawking, who is serving as board member of Breakthrough Initiatives. Other board members include Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg. The project has an initial funding of \$100 million to start research. Milner places the final mission cost at \$5–10 billion, and estimates the first craft could launch about 20 years from now. The Starshot concept envisions launching a



“mothership” carrying about a thousand tiny spacecraft to a high-altitude orbit, and then deploying them one by one. Ground-based lasers would focus a light beam on their light sail to accelerate each individual craft to the target speed (1/5 the speed of light) within 10 minutes.

If an Earth-size planet is orbiting within the Alpha Centauri system’s habitable zones, Breakthrough Starshot will try to aim its

spacecrafts within 1 Astronomical Unit (93 million miles) of it. From this distance, its cameras could potentially capture an image of high enough quality to resolve surface features. The spacecraft fleet would have about 1,000 spacecraft, and each spacecraft would be a very small centimeter-sized craft weighing a few grams. They would be propelled by several ground-based lasers of up to 100 gigawatts. Each tiny spacecraft would

transmit data back to Earth using a compact on-board laser communications system using its sail as an antenna. Having a swarm of a thousand spacecraft would compensate for the losses caused by interstellar dust collisions en route to the target.

The technical challenges are formidable. Light propulsion requires enormous power: a laser with a gigawatt of power (approximately the output of a large nuclear plant) would provide only a few newtons of thrust. The spaceship will compensate for the low thrust by having to have a mass of few grams. The camera, computer, communications laser, a plutonium power source, and the solar sail must be miniaturized to fit within a mass limit. All components must be engineered to endure extreme acceleration, cold, vacuum, and protons. The spacecraft will have to survive collisions with space dust; Starshot expects each square centimeter of frontal cross-section to collide at high speed with about a thousand particles of size 0.1 micron and up. Focusing a set of lasers totaling one hundred gigawatts onto the solar sail will be difficult, due to atmospheric turbulence. According to The Economist, at least a dozen off-the-shelf technologies will need to improve by orders of magnitude. •



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## Purrrfect Companions



Khloe

Share springtime with a wonderful feline friend and adopt your purr-fect match.

Not ready to adopt, but need your "kitty fix"? Are you a person who loves animals? Kitten Rescue, one of the largest and oldest rescue groups in the Los Angeles area, is currently recruiting volunteers to foster kittens and cats that are rescued in the South Bay area. We currently have more kitties that we need to rescue than we have foster homes, and in order to save these babies we need new foster families. You don't need any special skills to be a foster parent, all you need is a loving heart and the commitment to help a kitten(s) or adult cat(s) until they get back on their feet and find a permanent loving forever home. Being a foster parent is a very rewarding experience! Kitten Rescue offers free foster training and once you are through training we will support you with expertise, vets, and adoption venues. We also post foster kitties ready for adoption on our website. You can find out more about Kitten Rescue at our website: [www.kittenrescue.org](http://www.kittenrescue.org)

**Khloe** is a beautiful, sweet girl with a gentle soul and expressive face. She lived with a family who found her and took her as a kitten, but they never really considered her their cat and never had the time to get her fixed. Since they let her roam around outside unfixed, she got pregnant and had five beautiful baby kittens. It was too much for her humans to handle, so they requested help from Kitten Rescue and we took the feline family in. Khloe has been an excellent mama cat, taking wonderful care of her babies. She is very trusting of humans and loves to be around people, especially children. Khloe is one of the gentlest and loving cats you'll ever meet, and she very much wants to have a home of her own where she will be cared for and loved and given the attention she deserves and craves. She gets along with other cats after a brief introduction and would love to

be adopted along with one of her babies, but can also be happy as an only cat.

**Shorty** has a special move where he will just flop down on the floor when you're about to pick him up. He'll roll over for some belly rubs and once you pick him up he'll let you carry him like a baby. He is a playful and sweet cat who will come greet you at the door when you come home. Shorty loves to carry little stuffed animals around in his mouth and chase toys that you throw across the floor. He loves his brother Stumper and would like to find a home together with him. Shorty was born to a stray cat and taken into a foster home as a kitten together with his brother, after their sister had unfortunately gotten hit by a car. He loves the cozy indoor life and all the comforts it provides.

**Phoenix** is a handsome short hair white and orange tabby who was rescued in Istanbul, Turkey. He has a wonderful personality and is playful, loving, affectionate, easy-going and super-sweet. Phoenix loves being petted and purrs loudly when you pet him. He loves giving his humans hugs and kisses and taking naps on their laps. He is good both with boy kitties and girl kitties and enjoys grooming, snuggling with them, and fun playing with his kitty friends and toys. Phoenix is special and endearing and is ready to give you lots of affection and entertain you with his playful tricks.

**Ziggy** is a sweet little girl currently being fostered with her sister, Bowie. Ziggy loves to be held and cuddled, and needs a little help at first getting comfortable and relaxed with humans. Once Ziggy gets to know you, she is affectionate and playful. She would do great with another kitty, or can be adopted with her sister, Bowie. Ziggy loves belly rubs, and purrs loudly when you pet her.

**Bowie** is a little black and white tuxie girl.



Phoenix



Ziggy

She would make a great companion to another kitty. Bowie and be a bit timid at first, but once you start petting her, she loves to roll over in your lap and let you rub her tummy. She loves sitting next to you and taking a nap in your arms. Bowie is one of the most mellow and gentle kitten you'll ever know. She just needs someone to teach her how to play, so she can be a little more energetic. Right now, Bowie just loves cuddling up in a little ball and staying put, but she's happier when humans and other kitties are around!

**Rosie** is learning to be playful and learning to trust people again. She is friendly, but shy. Rosie was rescued off the streets, after being thrown out, and had to fight to stay alive by hiding and dodging traffic, dogs, etc. She wants to trust people again, and will warm up and become a loving kitty for the right gentle and patient family. Please give sweet little Rosie girl a chance. She promises to relax and trust her new humans right away!



Rosie

These kitties are available for adoption through Kitten Rescue, one of the largest cat rescue groups in Southern California. All of our kitties are spayed/neutered, microchipped, tested for FeLV and FIV, dewormed and current on their vaccinations. For additional information and to see these or our other kittens and cats, please check our website [www.kittenrescue.org](http://www.kittenrescue.org) or email us at [mail@kittenrescue.org](mailto:mail@kittenrescue.org). Your tax deductible donations for the rescue and care of our cats and kittens can be made through our website or by sending a check payable to Kitten Rescue, 914 Westwood Blvd. #583, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

On Saturdays, we have adoptions from noon to 3:30 p.m. in Westchester at 8655 Lincoln Blvd. just south of Manchester Ave. and also in Mar Vista at 3860 Centinela Ave, just south of Venice Boulevard. Our website lists additional adoption sites and directions to each location. •



Bowie



Shorty

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Illustrated by Lili Chin [www.doggiedrawings.net](http://www.doggiedrawings.net)

# Real Estate

## Choosing the Right Window for Your Kitchen or Bath Remodel

(BPT) - Kitchens and bathrooms are not only two of the most highly used rooms in your home, they're also two of the most popular rooms to renovate, according to home style experts and Remodeling Magazine's annual Cost vs. Value Report.

With any kitchen or bath renovation, there are many aspects to consider - cabinets, counters, floors, etc. And whether you're making small updates or completely gutting the room, make sure to include window replacement in your list of must-haves.

How can new windows benefit a room? With a style that fits your personality, the right window provides natural light and ventilation to help create a beautiful, functional and comfortable living space.

Keep three key elements in mind when choosing a window for your kitchen or bath: **CHOOSE A WINDOW STYLE WITH FUNCTION IN MIND**

Kitchen windows are often placed above counters or sinks, while bathroom windows tend to be located above tubs, beside showers or above bathroom counters. The placement of these windows can sometimes make them hard to reach, so choosing a window style that's easy to open and close is a must.

Sliding windows or casement windows - which crank open and closed - are good options for hard-to-reach areas like above a counter or sink.

Ventilation is another key consideration for kitchens and bathrooms. A properly placed window can help decrease the amount of heat and moisture retained from cooking or showering. Awning windows, which can be pulled in or pushed out, are a good option for ventilation, and perform



best when placed close to the ceiling or above eye level.

### SELECT A WINDOW MATERIAL THAT FITS YOUR NEEDS

Kitchens and baths require windows that are easy to clean and can withstand moisture, so materials like vinyl or fiber-

glass are ideal.

Fiberglass windows can withstand extreme heat and cold, are energy-efficient and can have the quality look of painted wood. Vinyl windows are easy to care for and don't require additional painting or staining.

However, if wood is a better fit for the style of your home, make sure to select a finish that will hold up against stains and moisture, and be prepared to do a little more cleaning and upkeep.

### CONSIDER ADDITIONAL FEATURES AND OPTIONS

If you want to maintain privacy while maximizing natural light in the bathroom, choose a window with obscure or opaque glass.

Or, you can streamline the look and

function of your kitchen or bath with between-the-glass cordless blinds or shades, which minimize allergens and eliminate clutter. Because these window coverings are tucked between the panes of glass, you won't have to worry about moisture or stains.

Take it one step further and motorize the blinds or shades. Controlled via a remote or home automation system, the blinds or shades can customize the level of light in the bathroom or kitchen. Pella's Insynctive technology is just one example of motorized blinds and shades.

Visit Pella Windows and Doors on Pinterest or Houzz for design inspiration, or visit Pella.com to begin designing your new windows. •

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### quote for the week

"Children are the anchors that hold a mother to life." - SOPHOCLES



# Real Estate

## Upgrade the Most-Used Rooms in Your Home

(BPT) - Kitchens, bathrooms and bedrooms are typically the rooms in any home that get the most use, which could also be why homeowners, when surveyed, consistently cite those rooms as the ones they most want to renovate. It makes perfect sense to upgrade the rooms where you spend the most time, but in high-traffic areas, you can't afford to make changes just for the sake of cosmetics. You want improvements that can enhance your enjoyment of a room and its functionality.

Here are five smart improvements to make in the rooms users of Ranker.com voted as the most popular ones in their homes: kitchens, living rooms, bedrooms, bathrooms and game rooms.

### ADD NATURAL LIGHT

Most rooms in the home look better and are more functional in natural light, and more daylight can help reduce the need for artificial light. What's more, there's no arguing the positive mental and physical health effects of natural light. Daylight stimulates the body to produce Vitamin D and boosts brain levels of serotonin, which is thought to be associated with positive moods.

Adding skylights is a practical, cost-effective and attractive way to bring more natural light into virtually any room. Remote-controlled, solar-powered fresh-air skylights from Velux America provide not just natural light, but passive ventilation, a real plus in kitchens and baths. Adding solar powered blinds, in designer colors and patterns, increases energy efficiency while giving you total control over the amount of sunlight entering a room through the skylight.

In kitchens, Energy Star-qualified fresh air skylights increase natural light and ventilation without requiring any loss of wall space you could better use for cabinetry. In bathrooms, they provide the perfect combination of privacy and healthful natural light and ventilation.

If you already have older glass or plastic bubble skylights, you can upgrade to the latest solar powered models, plus solar blinds, and receive a 30 percent federal tax credit on the products as well as installation costs. You can even bring more natural light into rooms or areas without direct roof access, like half-baths, closets and hallways, with Sun Tunnel tubular skylights. Visit [www.whyskylights.com](http://www.whyskylights.com) to learn more.

### ADD ORGANIZATION/STORAGE

Clutter and chaos not only make a room function less efficiently, it can impact your mood as well. Adding organization and storage to rooms where clutter typically collects - such as bedrooms, living rooms

and game rooms - is an easy, cost-effective way to improve the function of the room and how you feel about spending time in it.

In bedrooms, maximize closet space by installing organization units. A variety of manufacturers offer ready-made units you can install yourself. Or, for a bit more investment, you can have a professional closet organizer custom-make a unit to fit your space and needs. In living rooms and game rooms, built-in shelving and cabinetry is a functional and beautiful way to improve organization.

### IMPROVE VENTILATION

Air flow is critical to the health of your home and everyone who lives in it. Ventilation in kitchens and bathrooms carries away excess moisture that can cause mold and mildew, and creates a fresher, more healthful environment by exhausting stale indoor air.

Bathrooms should be equipped with exhaust fans, and kitchen hoods should vent to the exterior of your home whenever possible. You can further improve ventilation by installing Energy Star-qualified, solar-powered fresh-air skylights, like those made by Velux. Because these skylights open, they provide passive ventilation to allow stale indoor air to escape and admit fresh air. A sensor operates a motor to close the skylights automatically in case of rain.

### REPLACE OLDER, INEFFICIENT FIXTURES AND APPLIANCES

Fixtures and appliances are key elements of kitchens and bathrooms. Older ones not only look dated and shabby, they can cost you money because they use more electricity and water than newer, more efficient models.

Replacing old faucets, shower heads, dishwashers and washing machines with newer models that use less water can reduce your water bill and give kitchens and bathrooms a whole new look. Energy Star-qualified appliances such as stoves, clothes dryers, refrigerators and washers also use less electricity than older appliances, so you can also lower your energy bills.

### FRESHEN THE FOUNDATIONS

Every room benefits from a good foundation, and that doesn't just mean sturdy flooring, and that doesn't just mean sturdy flooring. Wall color, flooring materials and trim are fundamental elements in any room. Simply repainting walls and woodwork can completely change the way any room looks. Or, if you like the colors you have, a fresh coat in the same color will make the room look brighter and newer. Replacing worn carpeting or dated tiles, or refinishing a hardwood floor are also great ways to improve the foundations of any room. •



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