

Dani Polidor — Norbut Construction

Resident Alien Puts Well-Honed Skills to Work

By Fred Jennings

Dani Polidor brings an unusual talent and a multicultural heritage to her career as a designer in Pittsford, NY. She was just 8 years old in 1981 when she accompanied her parents to Canada from their native Germany. Her mother worked for some of the top interior designers in Toronto and her father became an accomplished HVAC contractor. “I grew up around building plans and job sites,” Dani says. “It fostered the desire to pursue the career I’ve been engaged in since 1997.”

How in the world, then, did this 34-year-old German national end up in Pittsford? Through her husband, Keith, whom she met the following year while he was in Toronto. The couple married in 2004 in a cathedral in her hometown of Düsseldorf, Germany, and Dani now proudly admits to being “a resident alien” of the United States. Keith is an engi-

neer at OGP in Rochester. The Polidors have one child, Mia Marjorie, who is 9 months old.

With nine-years experience running her own kitchen and bath remodeling firm in Toronto, Dani was looking for a new opportunity in the quaint town of Pittsford. She met the wonderful people at Roberts Kitchens at Schoen Place and patiently waited for the opportunity to join their team. Bob Wells is the esteemed owner with more than 35 years of experience in designing highly creative functional spaces. His kitchens are always mentioned by name in real estate listings. Lynn Helmer is a senior designer at Roberts. She has worked extensively in restaurant design and has a strong relationship with Rochester’s top architects and contractors. The office is highly organized due to the skills of Julie Trueblood. A dedicated team of established contractors headed by Brent Suhr and Gil Vargas make the installations successful. Top builders and industry professionals call on the team at Roberts Kitchens for all of their interior needs. And, just recently, Dani has joined the design/build firm Norbut Construction as their in-house designer. Norbut Construction specializes in restorations and additions that dramatically enhance their clients’ real estate investment and lifestyle.

Dani is an NCIDQ (National Council of Interior Designer Qualification), a Certified Interior Designer, and a Certified Kitchen and Bath Designer. These impressive credentials are the result of many years’ hard work within the industry. Dani prides herself on professionalism and her skills. She is an active member of the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) and the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA). She received a Bachelor of

Design degree from the Ontario College of Art and Design in Toronto and is a graduate of the school’s Environmental Design Program. This discipline considers the entire building environment and has a strong focus on “sustainable” or “Green” design using environmentally sensitive materials and “Universal Design”—the integration of user-friendly spaces for people of all ages.

At age 34, she says she wants “to be the best designer I can be” and hopes to have “the same passion for the field at the end of my career as I do now. I am committed to furthering the industry as a whole.”

While having to diplomatically deal with customers’ unrealistic expectations, she enjoys “guiding them through their disruptive renovation experience with as few hiccups as



PHOTOS BY CHUCK WALNWRIGHT

possible through careful planning and efficiency.” She prides herself on being “highly sensitive to clients’ needs. I get a great deal of satisfaction from completing jobs on time and on budget,” she adds.

Dani’s NKBA entry is a kitchen project completed in a 13-year-old house. “It is quite spectacular,” according to Dani, “in that gorgeous granite dominates a keyhole-shaped island. Painted maple Omega Embassy cabinetry is finished with a soft glaze that accentuates the unique slate backsplash and stainless steel GE appliances. A glass door section over the wine bar is a great place to display favorite crystal. Lighting is the key to a successful design. No expense was spared in lighting this kitchen; a leaf theme is continued in the light fixtures. It was introduced in the custom hood and is repeated in the metal accent tiles. Overall, the customer is thrilled with their investment and the young family enjoys their ‘designer’ space daily.”

When it comes to materials, Dani always opts for the quality inherent in brand-name products. For cabinetry, she prefers reliable products such as Omega Embassy, Plain and Fancy and DBS. For plumbing fixtures, there is the leading edge of engineering and design of Kohler and Grohe. For countertops, there’s Rocky Mountain Granite and Solid

Surfaces, Inc. for Corian. Favorite appliance manufacturers include European leaders Miele, Bosch and General Electric and the seamless integration of Sub-Zero and Wolf. For all kinds of tile accents, she works with the professionals at Tile Wholesalers to come up with the right look.

Dani speaks quietly, but authoritatively. Her accomplishments speak for themselves. Her work is highly creative, appreciated and recognized by all who call on her expertise. She says she “relishes clients who get excited about making their house a home and does what she can to accommodate their wishes and exceed their expectations.” ■



PHOTOS BY CHUCK WAINWRIGHT