

# The Record

Friend of the People It Serves

## Let buyer beware on home repair

Editor, The Record:

The Record's June 2 article headlined, "The home wreckers," by Warren Boroson was very interesting. As the president of Rehab Construction, I have fallen upon many a homeowner who has been the victim of the lowest bid.

Low bids are often the beginning to great expense down the road. Often prices on windows or doors do not include grills, screens, and even the hardware necessary to exhibit a craftsman-like job. Too often low bids do not take in architectural drawings, which in many cases are essential to bring about a satisfactory job, hence an inaccurate bid. Materials are often exchanged for inferior products.

General contracting by the

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homeowner can also become a disaster. The homeowner often finds himself with a job half done because he has chosen to be the general contractor and those he is depending on never show up.

You must check references of contractors. Many contractors have simply bought a pickup truck and pasted a sign on their truck. One of the first things you should do is ask

for a list of satisfied customers.

You should not only call but go to see the work your contractor will do for you. You have saved or even borrowed money to make a personal dream come true—do not take it lightly. Other sources of references for your contractor would be your local municipality and the Better Business Bureau in your county.

Payment of work done should be done in a systematic way.

Contractors who have been in business for a long time have excellent credit. Contractors should not need the bulk of the money for a particular project to begin the project.

It is expected that the home owner will make a good faith deposit on the initial signing of the contract and make payments periodically as work is being done. Under no circumstances should bulk money be given prior to work being done.

**KENNETH L. TRABONA**  
Lincoln Park

