



Photographs by Karen Chase

Visitors tour the new Kent Kitchen Works store in Kent Green Saturday. Below, one of the model kitchens.

## New kitchen design shop in Kent

BY MAGGIE BEHRINGER  
Staff Reporter

Trish and Jeff Namm completed the finishing touches on Kent Kitchen Works in the early hours of last Saturday morning. When they returned to open the shop for its first day of business, they were nervous about people coming. Proving that the couple had nothing to worry about, residents overwhelmed Kent's newest home improvement locale until well past the planned closing time.

The Namms have a long background both in interior design and Litchfield County. Mrs. Namm has worked with Wall Street companies, with Mr. Namm's assistance, for 20 years through HSN Design Associates, crafting luxury apartments from the ground up. With the company located in Kent, they have been able to enjoy the small town's comforts while taking advantage of New York City's proximity.

"It's designed as a living space so you can see yourself living in it," Ms. Namm said of the new business's showroom.

Kent Kitchen Works, located in Kent Green, required a bit of work to reach its present state. The space was once Kent Pharmacy and then was vacant



for several year. In November 2007, the couple began designing the store's layout and framing the space. While the majority of the store is complete, the bathroom department is to be installed in the spring. Until then, the open corner will house decorative items, small appliances and kitchenware.

With an eight-page long product list, Kent Kitchen Works offers everything needed when building or remodeling a kitchen, from custom cabinets to counter tops to larger appliances, as well as a bathroom and closets. The Namms can produce a design and then either collaborate with an outside contractor or carry

out the installation themselves. Whichever route a client should choose, the couple will supervise the construction.

Because the store works with such a range of products, it is able to fit a range of budgets. The Namms admitted that new house construction is certainly down given the real estate market. However, the market for remodeling, either to better sell a house or simply for the sake of updating a home, is more stable.

If Saturday is any indication of Kent Kitchen Work's coming business, the Namms are looking at a very busy winter. For more information, call 860-927-4855.

## Library lau

When planning your calendar for the month, you can now find all of the events at Kent Memorial Library in its monthly on-line newsletter. The electronic publication, which made its debut this month, will highlight upcoming events, lectures, book discussions and activities in the junior room, as well as columns by various library staff and other guest writers.

Those interested in receiving the newsletter can sign

## Drawing for

This week marks the last few days for folks to enter to win a Toyota Prius. The library's Annual Car Raffle winner will be drawn at 5 p.m. Sunday at the Kent Memorial Library. Then, that winner will go home with the brand new red Prius.

Raffle tickets will be sold at the library up until 15 minutes before the drawing. A person's chances of winning the raffle are pretty good, considering that a maximum of 5,000 tickets can be sold.

The Prius will be on display one last time outside the library at the book sale Friday through Sunday. The hybrid car is being raffled off to help fund the Kent Memorial Library's operating budget. Due to high gas prices and growing concern for the environment, consumers across the country have been rushing to put their names on waiting lists

## Library spons

The current volatile economic market is forcing many families to wonder how they will pay for their kids' college education, among other concerns. In an effort to help these families, the Kent Memorial Library is sponsoring a lecture called "Financing College: Tips for Turbulent Times" on Monday, Nov. 10, at 7 p.m.

Dr. Carol L. Brown of Educational Resource Services will conduct an open discussion session on