Lakeshore Living IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR MADISON AREA HOME





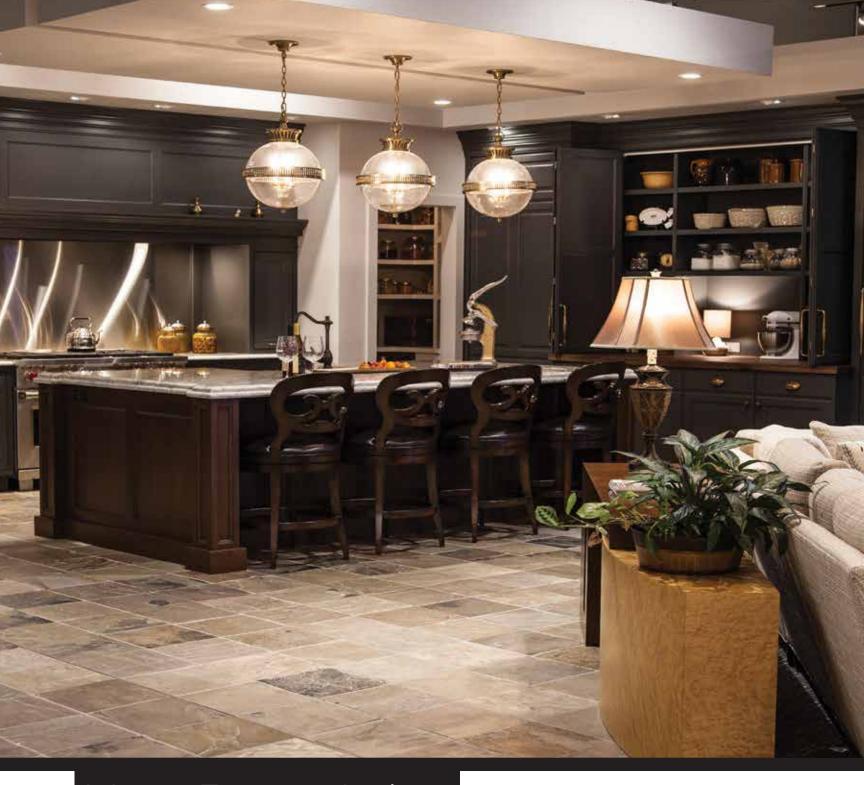
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COVER PHOTO: © SHANNA WOLF

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from the editor



Travel Takeaways

For me, travel is refreshing in so many ways. I love visiting new places and gleaning inspiration from the sights and sounds that surround me. (And it sure helps to take a break from our cold winters for a bit!). Another thing I always seek out during travel is eating a meal, taking a walk or enjoying the sights along a body of water—whether it's on an ocean or a lake. For me, water is hugely soothing and one of my favorite scenic spots.

Luckily, we're approaching the best seasons to be on the lakes here, so no travel is required. Boat rides and lazy days in the water, here we come! And in this edition, we're bringing you more ways you can enjoy your home—in and out of the water. Like Kristine Hansen's "Party Like the Pros" piece on page 30 full of expert advice for prepping for all of your summer soirées. Photographer and stylist extraordinaire Shanna Wolf concepted our "Pick Your Outdoor Style" spread with five (!) different themes with cool backyard and patio accessories that'll step up your outside style game. See all of her picks on page 9. And if you love room makeovers, you'll appreciate our brand-new Transformation feature on page 18, where we showcase a fabulous before-and-after project. Our inaugural feature kicks off with a pair of Madison homeowners who turned a little-used breezeway into a

beautiful three-season sunporch that added much-needed functionality to their home.

And if you want to tour more gorgeous lakefront homes—we've got that covered, too. Check out a Southern-inspired Lake Mendota residence, a charming and chic Lake Kegonsa abode and our cover story, an artfully-inspired Lake Mendota home that's beautifully appointed.

Thank you for reading! If there's ever a topic you're interested in seeing in our pages, don't hesitate to drop me a note. And if you or someone you know has a home that would be great to feature within our pages, please email me at Shayna@ ntmediagroup.com.

Enjoy the lake!

Shayna Mace, Editorial Director

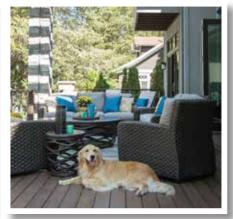
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Shy Man_

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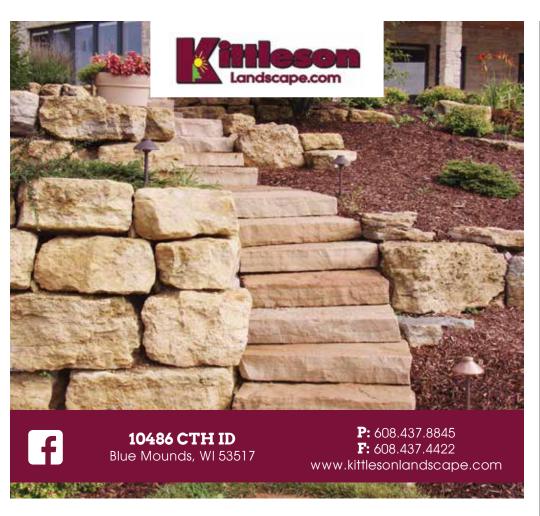
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Lakeshore Living IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR MADISON AREA HOME.

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Pick Your Outdoor Style

Indoor living moves outdoors with these fun design details.

Styling and photography by Shanna Wolf



design | *the edit*



Beautiful Bohemian

(Clockwise from top left) Mad Mats recycled plastic 4x6 Turkish rug, \$50, The Bruce Company; Soji Stella solar lantern, \$40, The Bruce Company; 37" garden trellis, \$80, Fontaine Home; Sunbrella Indigo Tile outdoor pillow, \$65, World Market; Janice enamel wood serving bowl, \$30, World Market; and Octavia faceted outdoor stool, \$70; World Market.



(Clockwise from top left) Mad Mats recycled plastic 4x6 Navajo rug, \$50, The Bruce Company; 222 Fifth Sea Splash I2-piece melamine dinnerware set, \$44.99, bedbathandbeyond.com; Mateo brass outdoor bench, \$465, Brown & Beam (photo courtesy of Brown & Beam); concrete garden planter, \$225, Brown & Beam; Alcott rectangular gas fire pit table, \$1,999, Patio Pleasures (photo courtesy of Patio Pleasures); and woven arrow striped outdoor pillow, \$35, World Market.



(Clockwise from top left) 222 Fifth Strata melamine I2-piece dinnerware set, \$45.99, and Palace Bianco melamine coupe plate (set of I2), \$119.99, both from bedbathandbeyond.com; Liora Manne by Trans Ocean 5x8 outdoor border rug, \$99, Patio Pleasures; black metal wire lantern, \$30, oversized striped outdoor lumbar pillow, \$30, and faux cement outdoor accent table, \$130, all from World Market.



Tropical Treasures

(Clockwise from top left) Black bamboo lantern, \$40, World Market; Michel Design Works palm plate, \$12 and up, Fontaine Home; Chilewich Bold Stripe 3x5 floor mat, \$185, The Century House; Sunbrella palm leaf outdoor pillow, \$65, and Santiago Fruit outdoor pillow, \$25, World Market; and Jasper wicker outdoor stool, \$100, World Market.

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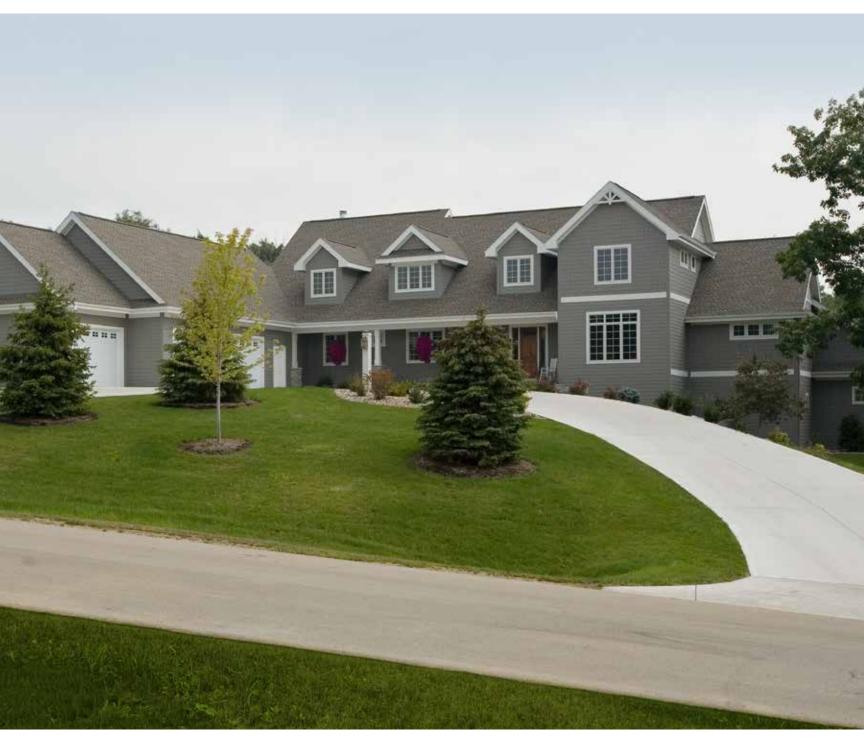
Simply the Best











design | inspired interior



Very Versatile

Layering neutrals through fabrics, paint and furniture creates an elegant and timeless feel to any room. Designer Shelley Johnstone Paschke of Shelley Johnstone Design, designed this incredibly chic and stylish dining room, shown above.

"Fabric-adorned walls, linen-printed drapery treatments and vintage Chippendalestyle rattan chairs add warmth and a more casual feel to the space. I chose these elements to create a timeless room that is inviting and beautiful," says Johnstone Paschke.

Personally, I like to design neutral spaces with pops of color through accessories are anything but boring. The end result is an elegant room that will never go out of style. – *Alexandra Wood, owner of Alexandra Wood Design (@alexandrawooddesign)*

PATTERN PLAY

Small doses of punchy colors and bold prints add an unexpected layer when paired with classic neutral patterns.

- 1-Schumacher Brentwood Stripe in Neutral, fschumacher.com
- **2 Schumacher Lotus Garden in Jade**, fschumacher.com
- **3**-China Seas Java Grande in Tan on Tint, quadrillefabrics.com
- 4-Samuel & Sons Rhodes Épinglé Velvet Border in Raspberry, samuelandsons.com



SHOP THE LOOK —



Hue Cues

Manchester Tan, Benjamin Moore (HC-8I): A favorite go-to soft neutral, this color is an easygoing beige that works well with many undertones.

Revere Pewter, Benjamin Moore (HC-172): This paint remains a top pick by designers because of its warmth and adaptability in a space.

Borrowed Light, Farrow & Ball (#235): Complement your neutral walls with a painted ceiling! Dubbed the perfect light blue, this color works well in rooms with natural light and is hands- down a favorite for interior ceilings.

iin image courtesy of Shelley Johnstone Design





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Light and Bright

A couple turns a little-used breezeway in a 1940's Madison abode into a stunning, airy, three-season getaway.

By Shayna Mace | Photos by John Urban/Sweeney Construction Corporation



functionality-not rooms that get little use or attention. Which is exactly what Madison homeowners Jt and Claude Covelli were seeking in their history-tinged home in the Orchard Ridge neighborhood. The home had a narrow screened-in breezeway that connected the farmhouse-style house to the garage, but the couple found they had little use for it because of its rectangular layout—and they could never use it during cooler months.

"There was no part you could be where people weren't coming through. There was a flat roof with evident that we could have something that would suit our needs if we were going to stay here, so we started looking. We wanted something more usable than a screened porch," says Jt Covelli.

The couple landed on Sweeney Construction, and after sharing Houzz and Pinterest boards and going back and forth on designs with Linda Sweeney, vice president and architectural designer with Sweeney Construction, the team settled on an expanded, three-season space with vaulted ceiling, skylights and windows on three sides that overlook Jt's lovely gardens.

Before, the narrow, screened-in breezeway was rarely used besides walking to and from the garage. The flat roof had a porch on it as well.









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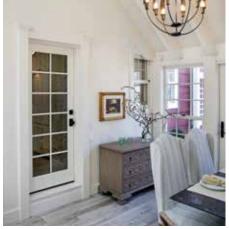
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(Top left and right) Jt worked with designer Wendy Strang to select some of the furniture from The Home Market and Brown & Beam. The upholstered furnishings are from The Nest in Sun Prairie. They're slipcovered in durable yet stylish Sunbrella fabrics to withstand temperature swings and wear and tear. (Bottom) With the seamless exterior design, passersby can't even tell that the new room wasn't part of the original house design.



"I wanted to blur the lines to feel like you're on a porch, but also right in the garden. It's really changed a lot of things in my mind about the way we live here, and it's fun," says Jt.

MAGIC MAKEOVER

Now the 300-square-foot space offers an entire extra room for the Covellis to read, hang out and eat dinner in, and for family to visit in. By expanding the room's footprint from the original II/2-foot-by-II/2-foot space to go over an existing deck, the new three-season room (or sunporch, as the couple also calls it) also seamlessly ties in the new structure with the existing home and garage with matching barn-red exterior and white trim.

"It all blends so seamlessly—keeping the integrity of the home was a key element in the design. [It's] like [the room has] been there since the home was built," says Jeff Dargas, who does sales and estimating for Sweeney Construction.

Double-hung windows and transoms by Marvin Windows convey an East Coast vibe, and creamy white shiplap walls and whitewashed brick (covered with a "German schmear" technique) plus exposed white wood beams on the ceiling and illuminating skylights make the classically elegant room seem like it's always been here—even though it's only about two years old. The floor is wood-look porcelain tile with radiant heat underneath. The room also has baseboard heating so it's kept at a comfortable temperature year-round that's warm enough to use for three-quarters of the year.

Tucked in the original breezeway space is a rustic farmhouse dining table that the couple dines at frequently in warmer weather, and an oil-rubbed bronze Hubbardton Forge circular light fixture from Madison Lighting hangs above the table.

Special artwork hangs throughout the conservatory, like a painting by Jt's mother-in-law and a piece by Door County artist George Shipperley that infuses the space with hominess.

"This room is a game-changer for us-it's amazing," says Jt. "It has so much light—it makes us happy." "€"



A front entrance makes it easy for guests to walk right into the sunporch (top). The garage's brick exterior was tied into the interior of the new room and eventually covered with a "German schmear" whitewash technique (bottom).



JOYFUL HUGS



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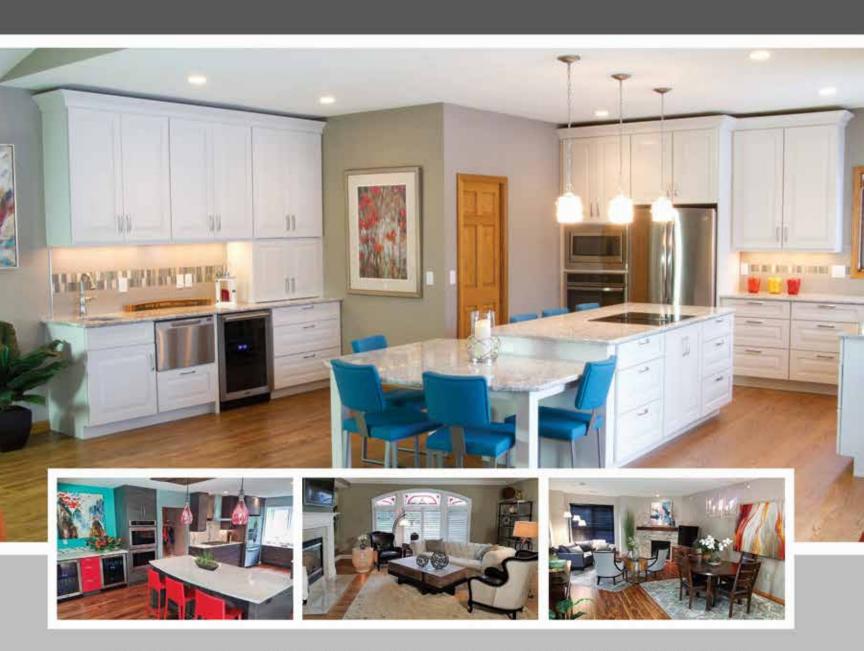


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Shades of khaki, blush, cream and olive make a

quiet, yet stylish, statement this

spring.

Styling and text by Shayna Mace

Photography by Shanna Wolf

Rainy day? It's no sweat with this water-resistant trench with menswearinspired accents—just throw it over a neutral striped sweater, highrise, distressed jeans and easy black flats. A bold necklace and richly-hued crossbody add some kick.

Top it Oft

Mackage Iva trench, \$450, Twigs; Olive + Oak Poppy striped sweater, \$74, Luceo; Citizens of Humanity Rocket Crop in Reminisce, \$228, Jerome Dreyfuss Demi crossbody handbag in Very Green, \$615, Jenny Bird Riri collar, \$125, and Vince Damris black flats, \$295, all from Twigs.

the look | style

Light & Airy

Keep chic and cool in a tie-dye-inspired maxidress. Tempo Paris maxidress, \$85, and layered necklace, \$55, both from Chauette.

SWEET STRIPES

Put on this gorgeous striped sweater and you'll never want to

take it off. Kinross crewneck cashmere sweater, \$249, Terese Zache.

FUN FRAYS

This woven tank with frayed detail is cool and casual. John & Jenn Milos tank, \$99, Twigs.

AT FIRST BLUSH

This soft and subtle pick is perfect for spring into summer. Black Swan Camille blouse, \$74, Luceo.

EXCELLENT **EARRINGS**

Pair these hoops with your favorite sundress or shortsand-tee-combo. Caroline Hill hoops, \$24, Chauette.

NECK CANDY

This soft scarf with a jolt of citron is the perfect pop for a neutral look. Kinross cashmere seagull scarf, \$136, Terese Zache.

CUTE AND COMFORTABLE

Paired with a chambray buttonup or white T-shirt these shorts are crazy-comfortable. Others Follow shorts, \$44, Luceo.

SUNNY SURPRISE

For those chilly spring and summer evenings, here's your next favorite sweater. Knot Sisters sweater,

\$84, Luceo.

These super lightweight, lasercut shoes are one-of-a-kind. llse Jacobsen Tulip flats, \$80, Chauette.

IT'S EASY BEING GREEN

A military-inspired hue takes shape in a feminine silhouette. Xirena Drue dress, \$248, and Jenny Bird Lola collar, \$115, both from Twigs.



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the look | trending

Meet the Maker





Pure Pottery

The pleasure of art is that it can make a statement without using a single word. Such is the meaning behind Jennifer Darner Wolfe's work, who owns JD Wolfe Pottery. Her pieces employ quiet simplicity, clean lines and lovely shapes in some pieces—like clouds and hearts.

"My work is not terribly complicated—the most important thing to me is executing good design and functional pieces," says Wolfe. "This includes durability and stability considerations in choices of clay, glazes and firing techniques. It's more my thought and design choices that sets my work apart."

The studiousness yet whimsicality of Wolfe's work is augmented by its plain usefulness—like a beautiful cake stand with gold-striped base, polka-dotted bowls and adorable cloud ring trays. She even made too-cute sets of ceramic Christmas trees for the holidays that would make anyone smile (seriously, check them out on Instagram @jdwolfepottery).

Her aesthetic reflects today's love of modern, contemporary and timeless pieces that can be used forever. Wolfe admits her "style is hard to pin down. It's really my own thing. I'm certainly influenced by Japanese ceramics and modern Scandinavian design."

Wolfe's solid background includes working for Rockdale Union Stoneware and eventually owning her own studio and gallery for I5 years on Main Street in Stoughton. After she started her family, she shifted to online sales and other outlets to sustain her career.

The artist has collaborated with big-name brands like J. Crew, Anthropologie, and the Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe on limited-edition pieces. Locally, she makes custom pieces for baker Curtis & Cake; event-rental business A La Crate; and she has a booth at the outdoor Dane County Farmers' Market every Saturday.

In Madison she also ticks off the National Mustard Museum, the Madison Greenhouse Store, Alimentari, Fromagination, Hatch Art House and chefs Tory Miller and Dan Bonanno all as places or people she's selling at or works with. Waxwing in Milwaukee and Hotel Retlaw in Fond du Lac are also customers. She also sells out of state and in her own Etsy shop, too.



Her designs are beloved by many. "There is a comfortable essence about my work that people connect to," says Wolfe. "I'm an artist at heart. Being able to create and connect with people every day in such intimate ways—I couldn't ask for anything more fulfilling."

Hatch Art House, I248 Williamson St., and etsy.com/shop/ idwolfepottery

Shoppist



Fair Trade and **Fabulous**

Shoppers are more educated than ever and the desire to do good while buying things they want and need is on the rise. And BUNGALOW608 right off the Capitol Square packs a two-for-one punch, with stylish home décor and accessories, about half of which are fair trade. (Fair trade means artisans and workers are paid fairly for their goods, rather than lower than the standard of living).

Owner Adrian Murphy opened the petite space last October after working in product design for an international fair-trade organization for a year.

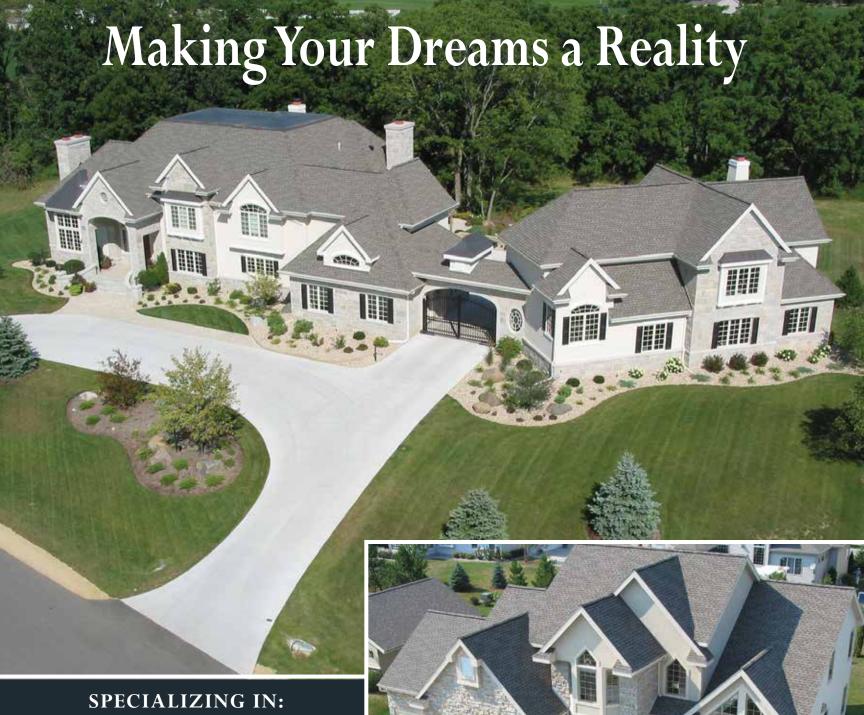
"I decided if I wanted to do this, I wanted to have a local presence and add something to the area," explains Murphy. "This was the dream, so I went for it!"

Murphy works with artisans in far-flung countries like Kenya and Rwanda, and domestically, like San Francisco and Woodstock, Illinois. Gorgeous textiles from Africa hang on the wall and pillows made with vintage Turkish kilims pop against the store's soothing neutral backdrop. Stacks of hand-carved wooden kitchen utensils, bowls and trays from South Africa capture a minimalist vibe. San Francisco-made candles and diffusers with scents like teakwood and leather and oakmoss and amber tempt shoppers and deep blue hand-thrown pottery pieces by Illinoisbased Blue Eagle Pottery (that are dishwasher safe!) convey farmhouse chic.

Most importantly, there's a story behind each product line Murphy carries. She's proud her handmade kantha throws are made by a Bangladesh women's co-op and the African baskets that pepper the shop employ basketmaking skills the women already have—but they can get paid for now.

"I want to support artisans, whether they're here or in a country far away," says Murphy. "There's dignity in this work, and their craftsmanship tells a story."

BUNGALOW608, II6 E. Washington Ave. 285-92II, bungalow608.com



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Ten Minutes With CERA FASS

The Madison native and Arch owner shares how she brought the upscale cosmetics boutique and blow-dry bar to the area.

By Shayna Mace

What brought you to Arch after working in the cosmetology and hair styling fields in downtown Chicago?

I went to cosmetology school with Betsy Branca, the founder of Arch. She opened the first location in Rockford in 2011. I bought in and joined the company when the Chicago shop opened in hopes that we would open a store in Madison someday. After [our] Madison [boutique] was up and running in 2015, we started looking into the Milwaukee area and it fell into place [to open one there] this past November. That's been a vision since we opened.

We try to keep it boutique—we're not a fan of the "commercial" feel. There's walkability and foot traffic with our stores. I really like the Square and there wasn't a lot for retail [in this area]. But in the last five years or so, that seems to be changing a bit.

Opening brick-and-mortar shops is refreshing in this day and age of online shopping. Why did you and Betsy decide to go this route?

We're both very driven, and I'm a risk-taker myself. We see it as more of an opportunity than a risk. What's different about us is that we're locally owned—there's no franchising. With our four stores, it's very manageable for [Betsy and I], and our other business partner, Emma Brearly.

What's special about the products that Arch curates and the services you do?

We're adamant about our products being natural—a lot of them are natural or organic. We



carry a selection of products with different price ranges so there's something for everyone. And, a lot of them are [items] you can't find just anywhere. We do try all of our products too.

We also focus on express services. So, makeup application, full facial waxing with a focus on brows, eyelash and eyebrow tinting, lash lifting, blowouts and hair styling, hydrafacials and express facials, and BOTOX, Sculptra and Kybella injections. We've also started BI2 injections too which can help with stress, anxiety ... and energy.

What brands are you most excited about?

Chantecaille is one of the main

ones. They are a philanthropic brand, so many of their products will be paired with an animal foundation and part of the proceeds will go to that particular animal foundation. Also Omorovicza and Eminence for skincare, Laura Mercier and Kevyn Aucoin for makeup, and Oribe for hair are brands that can be hard to find. A few of our lines we worked with them for years before we were allowed to carry them.

Why do you like working in the beauty industry?

I love the clients—everybody is here to feel beautiful, and they're always in such a great mood. It's rewarding to help with that process. *

Tornado Steak House has been around for years. I like to support locally owned businesses. My favorite is their wedge salad.





We sell Ambre Blends like hotcakes. It's a female-owned company out of Indianapolis. She makes organic perfume oils and deodorants. They're great because they mix

with your natural chemistry, and it smells different on everybody.

Kevyn Aucoin's Emphasize Eye Palette in Focus is my favorite—I wear it almost every day.



Our Chantecaille Waterproof Brow Definer pencils are amazing. I use these on probably every client—they're amazing. They're waterproof, smudgeproof and super fun to work with.

I am in love with Omorovicza's Midnight Radiance Mask. It's an overnight treatment. It's super hydrating and exfoliates at the same

Omorovicza.

time, but it's a gentle exfoliation. You wake up and your skin is just glowing.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY SHANNA WOLF

HANDCRAFTED HOMES LIFELONG RELATIONSHIPS

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Warm weather equals more frequent parties and gatheringsespecially if you live on the lake with those scenic views. But if you want to spruce up your next soirée, who better to ask than the pros when planning your next party? After all, party planners and event organizers have likely endured-and recovered from-event snafus.

Start by taking care of yourself first. This is not the time to try out a Julia Child recipe or embark on home renovation or landscaping projects. David Caruso, owner of Dynamic Events by David Caruso in Milwaukee, encourages clients to focus on "simple, easy and delicious."

"Don't plan for more than you can handle," he says. "No one's going to have fun at the party if the host isn't having fun. Use items in your current household inventory to spruce up your table settings." And don't forget to stock up on ice, garbage bags, napkins and cleaning agents for spills, he says.

Picking a theme helps streamline planning. This will make all subsequent decisions easier. If you opt for a Tiki party, you won't be swayed by farm-chic Americana decorations and can start on that tropical fruit platter.

Make as much food as possible ahead of time or recruit help. Got a shy person at the party with a knack for grilling? Designate him or her as grill master. Lean toward grab-and-go items with a chalkboard outlining the menu. These should either fit on a small plate or be portioned into small containers "that people can take off the food station and eat from," Caruso says. Along those lines, he likes to wrap cutlery sets in a

Big-Batch Drinks

Drinks you can make ahead of time and in largescale format save you from setting up a full bar or designating a bartender. Mallory Wedel, owner and lead designer of Elevate Events in Madison, likes Geoffrey Zakarian's rum punch recipe with basil and watermelon, which you can make ahead of time or in batches (see right page for recipe). In general, to determine how much alcohol you need, consider the time of day, says Wedel. An afternoon soirée might have alcohol as a secondary option, while an evening party will up the drinks consumed. By plugging in the guest count, types of drinks and the party duration, Evite's Drink Calculator tells you just how much alcohol to buy (evite.com/pages/ party/drink-calculator).

And you can't go wrong with Wisconsin craft beers. Wines in an ice bucket allow quests to help themselves. Studio Winery's tasting room in Lake Geneva lets you sample five wines for \$8—or the tasting is free with a two-bottle purchase. Lemonade is a perfect refreshing nonalcoholic alternative and can be amped up with fresh mint or basil leaves. Caruso likes to put edible flowers into ice-cube trays for a burst of color in drinks.

napkin and tie with a bandana or ribbon, and prop in a galvanized bucket, so guests aren't digging around for a spoon.

Charlie Lorenzi, president of Celebration on Wells Catering in Lake Geneva, suggests doing most of your food shopping at the Thursday farmers' market (if you live in Lake Geneva, or, venture to your local farmers' market). You can even pick up fresh flowers to set out on tables. Making the shopping fun and more like an outing than a chore might coax you into relaxation, not stress.

When cleaning the interior of your home, says Mallory Wedel, owner and lead designer for Elevate Events in Madison, know that "folks will always congregate around the food and drink supply, so make sure you aren't setting those items

out in a spot that could create a bottleneck."

Don't be shy about sticking to a budget for décor. Nobody has to know how much you spendand on what. Buying items that you'll only use for the party means either cluttering your home after or loading up the car for a Goodwill run. "You don't want to go out and buy a bunch of games and then have to store them in your garage and basement," says Caruso.

Dollar stores are your friend when you want to build out the theme through paper napkins and other accessories. Caruso also scores inexpensive but fun items at Michael's, Walmart and Target's Dollar Spot (near the store's entrance).

Most likely your party will be all ages. "I like having a few things

Rum Punch

Courtesy of Geoffrey Zakarian and the Food Network

Ingredients:

8 cups (64 oz.) white rum 4 cups (32 oz.) watermelon purée (see below)

3 cups (24 oz.) orange juice 1 cup (8 oz.) lime juice

Watermelon purée

5 cups fresh watermelon, cubed

5 oz. orange-flavored cognac liqueur, such as Grand Marnier

15 fresh basil leaves.

shredded Muddle the watermelon. liqueur and basil in a glass until you reach a thick and slightly chunky purée consistency.

Directions:

Mix and stir the rum, watermelon purée. orange juice and lime juice. Serve over ice in chilled cocktail glasses.



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at yard parties that are interactive. Even things like croquet and beanbag toss," says Caruso, "are friendly for all ages and abilities." Siblings can pair up or a younger guest be matched with an older guest. Got a pool? The latest craze are inflatable flamingos and unicorns, which can net you some social-media traction if that's what you are angling for. Another game that's easy to create from scratch is DIY Lawn Twister.

"Give them something to talk about," advises Caruso. "Having another layer to your party gives it a certain entertainment value." 👻

Kristine Hansen lives in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood. Once, she hosted an outdoors party during a rainstorm—but everyone stayed under the tent and didn't leave, proof that it was a good party.

Good Eats

Your party should ideally serve a main dish, a side dish and dessert.

Lorenzi likes the convenience of crudités (sliced or whole raw vegetables with a vinaigrette or dipping sauce) as a side dish, based on whatever's in season. This satisfies vegan, vegetarian and health-minded diets. Other side dishes he says, are bruschetta (cut and toast baquette slices the day prior) using farmers' market tomatoes, or, deviled eggs or hard-boiled eggs with a side of radishes. "Get them really, really cold and put them out last," he says about the eggs.

"Spinach artichoke dip is a tried-and-true standby in our home," says Wedel, "and is a great way to give your guests some options (pair with veggies or pita chips). Plus, it works great in the slow cooker." Avoid appetizers that require lots of heating or cutting or put you in the kitchen for an extended period. "You also want to be sure that you plan your menu so that you're not waiting to put everything in the oven 15 minutes before guests arrive. Do your best to stagger cook times, or serve only a few warm options."

Mini-size brats from Wilson Farm Meats in Elkhorn go well with dilly beans, says Lorenzi. Another easy main dish he suggests is grilled tenderloin topped with dry mustard and served with horseradish cream sauce.



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Bringing the Indoors Outside

2019 backyard design trends encourage homeowners to make their outdoor oasis one with comfortable finishes, functionality and major style. By Deanna Kane

With outdoor entertaining season on the horizon, shifting your home design aspirations to the exterior may be the energy shift you need to get through the last legs of winter. For entertaining aficionados, make 2019 the year you create an additional living area—al fresco.

From resort-worthy pools, to outdoor fireplaces, to backyard kitchens that will make your main kitchen jealous, it is truly possible to create an entertaining haven outside of your home's four walls. This summer, it's all about bringing the comforts of the indoors, outside.

STAYCATION HAVEN

With nearly limitless possibilities in pool design, skip the airfare and hotel hassles, because there is no reason to book a summer vacation—you can have a dreamy pool at your own place if you have the room.

"We build many custom pools," says Mike Murillo, sales director for Barrington Pools. According to Murillo, this level of custom design ranges from inpool sitting areas, to tanning spaces and infinity

edges. If you still don't believe you can skip the summer vacation, Murillo says swim-up bars are trending features that give backyard pools an extra edge.



To elevate the basic to the exquisite, it's the details-functional and finishing-that make all the difference in a backyard pool.

"Using LED lighting in pools is energy efficient, as well as convenient," says Rene Huston, president of Patio Pleasures. "Large, in-pool LED lights can work with home automation systems. Turning



on the lights can be as simple as asking Alexa to light up the pool."

For finish details, Murillo focuses on using Italian porcelain tile for the deck surface, and uses Pebble Tec interior finish as an alternative to plaster pool floors.

Additionally, to spend less time maintaining the pool and more time enjoying your guests, saltwater

pools are an alternative to chlorine, as they require less maintenance. "Many of the new pools being installed are saltwater versions," says Dawn Shaw, co-owner of Shaw Building & Design, Inc.

As the afternoon sun turns into cocktail hour, Murillo also sees fire bowls decorating outdoor pool areas. With this level of luxury combined with the comfort of home, a backyard staycation is calling your name.

LET THERE BE LIGHT

Thoughtfully selected outdoor lighting can elevate the space and lend a warm, ambient feel to the area. Lighting provides additional dimension to the backyard, long after the sun goes down.

"We continue to see outdoorfriendly string lights with Edison bulbs, as well as soft lighting throughout the backyard to give the area an inviting feel," says Shaw.

Incorporating a soft warmth throughout the backyard brings a sense of comfort. "A light bulb that resembles a flame is a low-voltage landscape lighting alternative. Fire elements bring a sense of intrigue to the area, and since it is low-voltage, the lighting is inexpensive and relatively easy to install," says Huston.

HYGGE IN THE OUTDOORS

An outdoor fireplace can extend your time outdoors, whether it's spending cool summer evenings outside, or carrying your backyard season through the fall, courtesy of the fire's warmth. But, one negative of an outdoor fireplace can be the post-fire smoky smell that lingers on clothes and hair. According to Murillo, many people are turning to gas fireplaces instead of wood, to avoid that telltale fire smell.

Creating a Private Retreat

Even the most dedicated entertainer needs a retreat sometimes. There are unique ways to create additional privacy, such as deco panels made of Australian eucalyptus trees. "These can be used as privacy panels, in addition to other purposes such as a kitchen backdrop or to hide pool equipment," says Huston.

Private backyard refuges also come in the form of a separate structure, such as a garden shed, but not used solely to store equipment. Garden sheds are becoming more prevalent as a refuge to pursue leisurely activities, such as gardening, according to Huston.

Fire tables can be a lower-maintenance alternative to a full fireplace, while still providing the warm ambience.

"Outdoor fire tables are a quick and convenient way to ignite a fire, especially if you are entertaining," says Huston. "The range of fireplaces [you can find] incorporates so many tastes and styles, from a shiplap farmhouse vibe, to cement."

OUTSIDE MEETS INSIDE

Summer in the Midwest is fleeting, so taking advantage of the limited window of outdoor living is a priority for many. Thanks to the ability to design a full-service kitchen outdoors, there's no need to give up indoor comforts

"The backyard vision often starts with a pool and hot tub, and expands to include an outdoor kitchen," says Huston. "Wood pellet grill units are becoming more prevalent, as well as more standard amenities such as refrigerators and built-in seating."

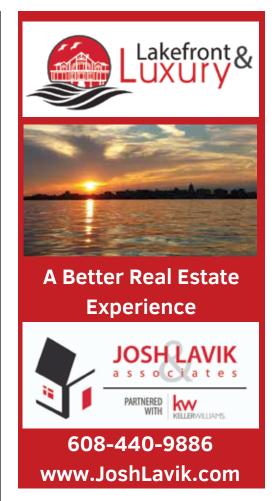
"Anything indoors can be outdoors," says Murillo. "Backyard kitchens can be outfitted with dishwashers, warming drawers, kegerators, refrigerators and anything else you would include indoors."

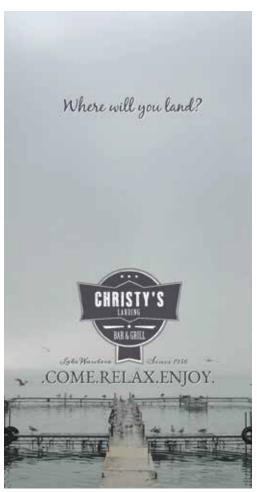
As the kitchen is the heart of the home, the basis of an outdoor kitchen is no different. "It really comes down to how can people best entertain and maximize time with family and friends," says Huston.

Creating your outdoor oasis-whatever that may be-will be well worth it. There's something about the outdoors that makes you slow down, focus on face-to-face conversations and live in the moment.

"We live in a fast-paced world and creating an outdoor environment helps us come together and eliminate distractions," says Huston. "A well-designed backyard can create that endless weekend atmosphere. By including an outdoor kitchen, a fireplace and gathering family, friends, you can really create those connections. It's also a great way to naturally de-stress." "€

Deanna Kane is an interiors, home décor and real estate writer, who also enjoys taking on her own home renovation and design projects.







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Blending Form and Function for a Well-Designed Home

Make these easy tweaks to your home's interior for subtle, stylish results. By Deanna Kane

If your itch to spring clean extends to giving your living space a facelift, it can be easy to fall into a rut of selecting the functional features that meet your basic needs. While there are inevitable home items that are necessary to create a livable space, the options to elevate the aesthetics of these essential home features, such as lighting or storage, can take your space from builder-grade to custom. Including these practical features facilitates an overall more comfortable way of living; however, these unavoidable selections don't need to sacrifice style.

"Just because something is functional does not mean it can't be pretty," says Eileen McGee Wetzel, interior designer with Story Hill Renovations, LLC. "Minimal updates to your house can make a huge difference; there are small things you can do to every room to elevate the home."

INSPIRING ILLUMINATION

Upgrading light sources is one of the easiest way to make a visual impact. "We love making a bold statement in a foyer or over an island," says Wetzel.

However, it's the standard, functional light sources that can often be overlooked.

"A ceiling fan is an excellent cost-effective option for homes with minimal air flow. They do not have to be basic; updating a ceiling fan can create a bold statement and dress up a functional eyesore," says Wetzel.

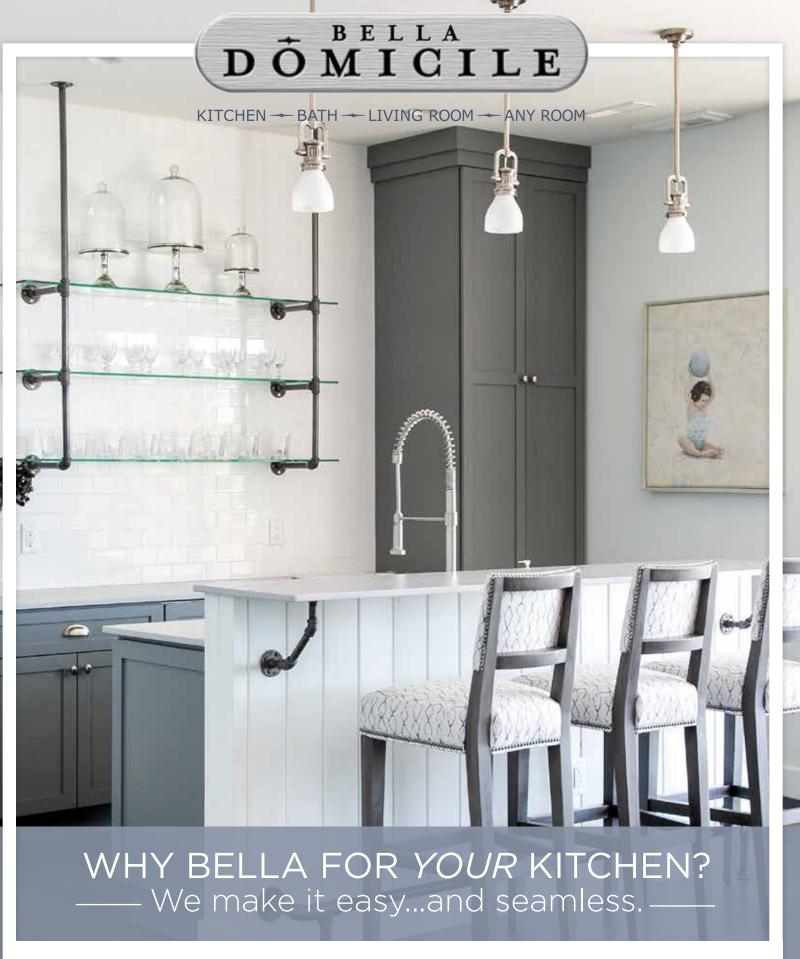
Another area to upgrade is highly functional recessed lighting. "Installing wood clouds on the ceiling instead of can lighting adds a fun architectural element, and also lowers the ceiling to make the room feel cozy," says Jerry

Schmidt, sales director with Dream House Dream Kitchens.

Light switch covers are another functional feature that can be easily overlooked.

"We should kiss goodbye the toggle light switches and dial dimmers. With the resurgence of vintage fixtures, we are seeing more decorative plate covers and even bringing back push-button switches," says Wetzel. "These are great if you want to bring a little vivacity to utilitarian fixtures."

"To fully blend the outlets and switches into the home's design, I would recommend going to a company such as Legrand, and swapping out those old plates and switches for a modern take," says Wetzel.



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at home | *the workbook*







(Top left) A built-in buffet with glass-door top cabinets can lend smart storage to a dining room, butler's pantry or pass-through. (Top right) A stylized wall register is a step up from ordinary. (Bottom right) Cabinets that extend up to the ceiling give the illusion of more height. A pasta filler above the range makes cooking easier. (Below) A well-organized mudroom makes life easier for everyone with cubbies for each family member, a bench for changing shoes and bonus storage up top.

ARTFUL AIR SUPPLY

Upgrading basic house necessities can be what separates a cookie-cutter model house from a custom-designed home.

"Upgrading standard heat registers and air vents to a version in a honeycomb pattern or bright brass is inexpensive and takes your home from generic to branded without a high price tag," says Wetzel.

"We are not seeing our clients settle for typical metal grates on floor and wall registers," says Scott Lowell of Lowell Construction. "They are choosing designer grates made of cast iron by companies such as Reggio Register. The grates can be left as natural cast iron, brass or aluminum, or painted to match the walls."

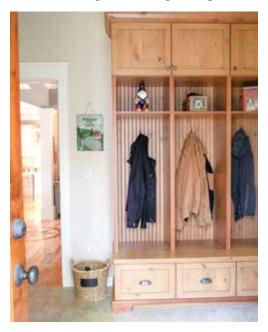
This level of customization even extends to marble flooring. Air vents can be fabricated in marble to blend in seamlessly with bathroom floors, according to Lowell.

SMART STORAGE

Storage is the number one request when remodeling a home, according to Wetzel. She suggests easy ways to incorporate storage features throughout the home, such as fabric boxes or storage ottomans to hide clutter.

Another option is to replace standard-issue plastic laundry baskets with decorative fabric bins. They are less of an eyesore when they inevitably end up left out in the open.

Bathroom drawers are notorious for becoming a graveyard of tangled cords and appliances. Upgrading one of these drawers to a grooming drawer can alleviate the mess caused by accumulated appliances, as well as countertop clutter. According to Schmidt, grooming drawers



house canisters for hair dryers and curling irons, and also include in-drawer outlets and metal inserts to put the appliance back when it is still warm.

"These drawers really help with heat and cords," says Schmidt.

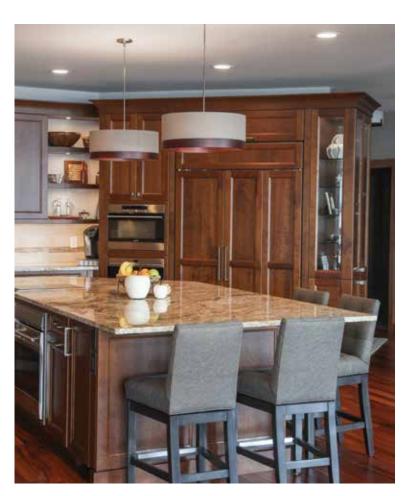
BONUS FEATURES

Intelligent add-ons like a pot filler installed behind the range top allows for easily filling large pots, according to Schmidt.

This feature can make preparing meals infinitely easier, minimize mess in the prep space, reduce the strain of carrying heavy pots and cut back on clean-up time.

Instead of letting phones, tablets and laptops accumulate on the kitchen island, charging cabinets are a highly practical feature to incorporate in a home's desktop space. "Charging cabinets in the drop zone can be customized for every family member; everyone can have their own slot to charge their individual device in one central location," says Schmidt.

"From a designer's point of view, these elements are eye candy. They are little pieces of good design in unexpected pieces that will inevitably make you smile and feel more at home," says Wetzel. "



Cabinet Updates 101:

Upgrading Builder-Grade Cabinets

Jerry Schmidt of Dream House Dream Kitchens lends some tips on top-notch cabinetry:

- Break up cabinetry by installing glass cabinet doors. Maintain symmetry by using them on either side of a range hood.
- » Extend stock cabinetry up to the ceiling with a piece of crown moulding to reach the ceiling. The visual effect of ceiling height cabinets offers a professionally designed aesthetic.
- » While maintaining the same exterior cabinet doors' uniformed, symmetrical look, customize the cabinet's interior, based on storage preferences (i.e. using shelving in one cabinet and pull out drawers in the adjacent cabinet).







at home | technology



What to Seek (and Skip) in Smart Home Technology

The latest in what's new, what's outdated and what to forgo.

By Deanna Kane

It's likely at least one aspect of your home is automated—a convenience that makes the chaos of daily life a little easier. But unless you are fully immersed in the world of technology, automating an entire home can be overwhelming. As home automation becomes the norm, home design professionals are becoming as well-versed in home technology as they are in scale, finish selections and HVAC.

"As professionals, it's our responsibility to educate clients on what is available, because many clients won't know what to ask for. It's up to us to show them what is possible," says Eileen McGee Wetzel, interior designer with Story Hill Renovations, LLC.

Whether à la carte home automation is your preference or you're ready to take the full plunge, there is smart home technology available for every level of tech enthusiast.

SECURE ENTRY

After several days with a video doorbell, such as Ring, you'll wonder how you survived without it. This device allows you to monitor all front-door activity on your phone. If you are unavailable to answer the door, you can talk to the individual who rang the bell via the app. This is especially

convenient if you are not home, and do not want that person to know.

"Video doorbells are an easy way to see who is coming and going. As a bonus, the Ring Video



Home Tech Safety Tips

Just because home automation is becoming the norm, that doesn't mean it's immune from security issues. "Smart technology is vulnerable; the majority of internetconnected smart devices have security vulnerabilities," says Wetzel. Her tips to stay secure include:

- Look for devices that require usernames and passwords.
- Once the system is installed, the first step is to protect yourself. Set a strong password, change the password regularly, use a secure router, create a separate network for your system and hide that network.
- Update the firmware on the router and software on a regular basis.

"While home automation is our inevitable future, I strongly recommend caution and research before jumping in. Designers and consumers need to educate themselves on the products and the risks involved," says Wetzel. "Be aware of how the provider collects and stores data, and how you can be affected by a DDoS attack or a power outage."

STAYING CURRENT

With a constant influx of new technology, it can be easy to get caught up in the latest piece of flashy equipment. While it is inevitable the product will need to be updated eventually, it is most important to stay current on its security.

"It's not a matter of updating the product, such as the light switch or thermostat, it's about updating the firmware to make sure you are secure," says Wetzel.

Home security and safety systems are particularly important to check and update regularly.

"Wireless sensors for doors, motion detectors and smoke alarms have batteries that must be changed regularly. These are often unique types of batteries that are not easily available. It's also important to do regular software updates on smart home devices, as these updates often include security and performance enhancements," says Mirabal.

Doorbell lets neighbors share video clips with other Ring members, acting as a neighborhood watch system," says Rene Mirabal, director of special projects with Fearing's Audio Video Security.

Whether you own a rental property, a family vacation home or a primary residence, keyless entry hardware can reduce misplaced keys, forgetting to lock the door or the risk of someone having a key who shouldn't.

Keyless entry is also available for the deadbolt, such as the Schlage Connect Smart Deadbolt. As you leave the house in the morning, simply lock the door with your voice on the way out.

"Remote smart home access is endless, provided you have internet available," says Dawn Shaw, co-owner of Shaw Building & Design, Inc.

Outdoor lighting is a function that not only offers aesthetic elements, but safety as well.

"Smart lighting is becoming more common on new homes. Wi-Fi enabled light dimmers and switches are easy to install and offer

many benefits," says Mirabal. "For example, you can program your porch lights to turn on automatically at sunset and turn off at sunrise," says Mirabal.

HOME COMFORTS

"In the remodeling business, we have many reguests for smart thermostats like Nest or ecobee," says Wetzel.

A smart thermostat, such as the Nest Learning Thermostat, turns itself down when you are away, and learns your temperature preferences to build a schedule around your lifestyle. A



newer add-on to the Nest thermostat family is the Nest Temperature Sensor, which works with the thermostat to control the temperature by room. For example, if you need it warmer in the nursery and cooler in the living room, the temperature sensor will adjust accordingly.

Lighting is another area that can be automated. The ecobee Switch knows when you're home, thanks to motion sensors. If you leave the house in a hurry, it will turn off the lights after you. The Switch can also create the illusion you're home, by randomizing the lights when you are away.

"Wi-Fi-enabled smart lighting can auto-dim when the movie starts, or can turn lights on randomly when you're on vacation," says Mirabal

So where is it best to lag behind on home technology trends? Televisions. "We often see clients wanting to purchase the newest TV that just came out. Technology changes rapidly, so we recommend buying a new TV when you are ready for a newer technology, such as upgrading from an LED to an OLED display," says Mirabal. 👻







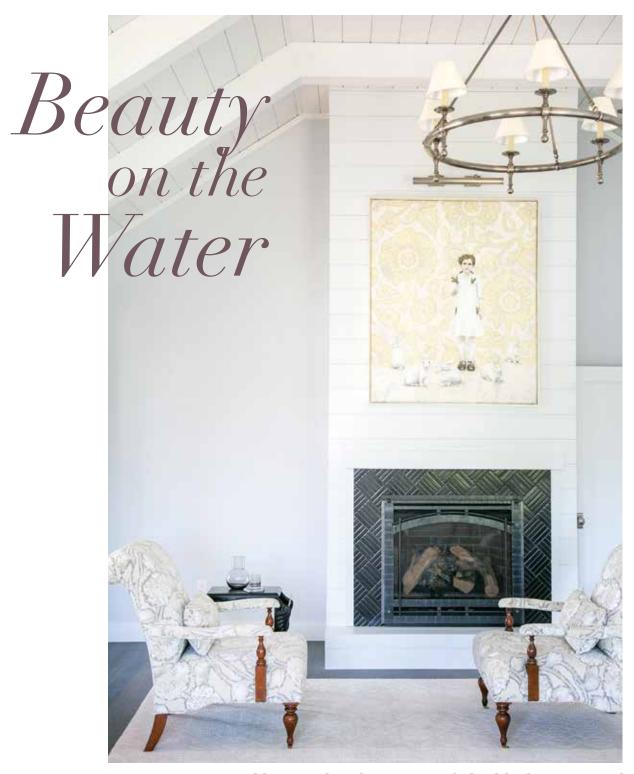
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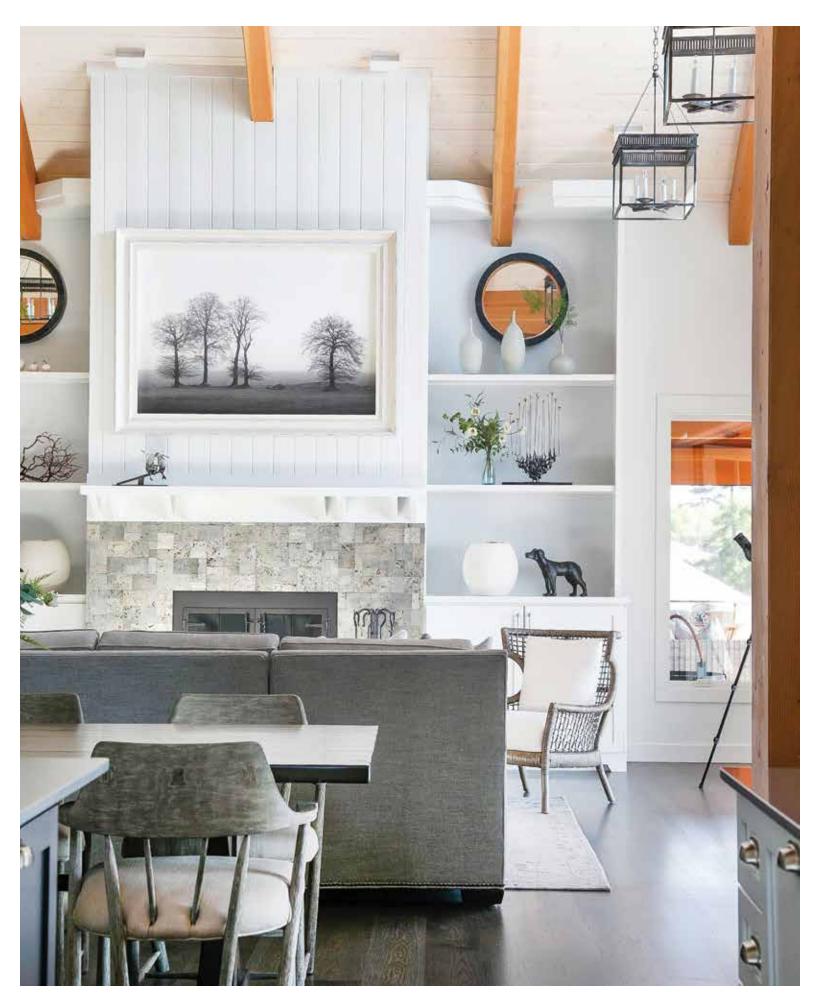
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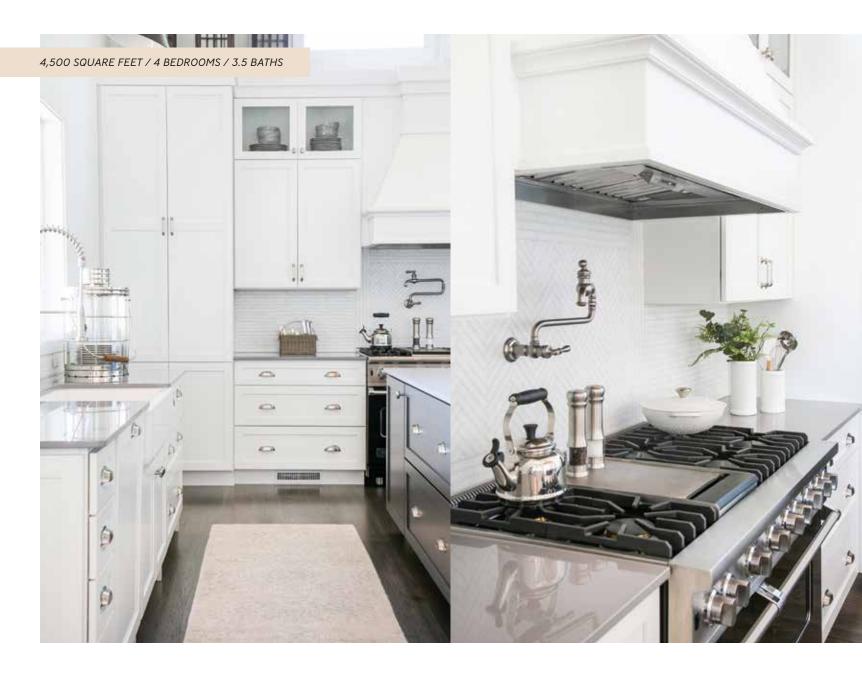
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Inspired by travel and art, a couple builds their tranquil piece of heaven on the lake.

By Shayna Mace | Photography by Shanna Wolf





Most homeowners design a new home by taking bits of inspiration from places they've visited and homes they've loved. Barbara and Robert Lehmann designed a home to reflect two of their favorite places—a lodge in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, and Door County's beautiful cottages. But they took it one step further: Barbara also wanted to imagine a home that could house their favorite artists' paintings, and factor that into the design.

"We frequently visit Door County and love the area," explains Barbara. "Over the years we've discovered some amazing art galleries and made some [great] friends. Shari Gransee, owner of Fine Line Designs Gallery in Sister Bay, is where we saw Pamela Murphy's oil and encaustics and Stephanie Evans' ceramics work. I quickly became a collector of both artists, and have gotten to meet and know them. I find their work complements one another and gives our house a very tranquil feeling."

THE GREAT ESCAPE

The Lehmann's home indeed is a very special place. A

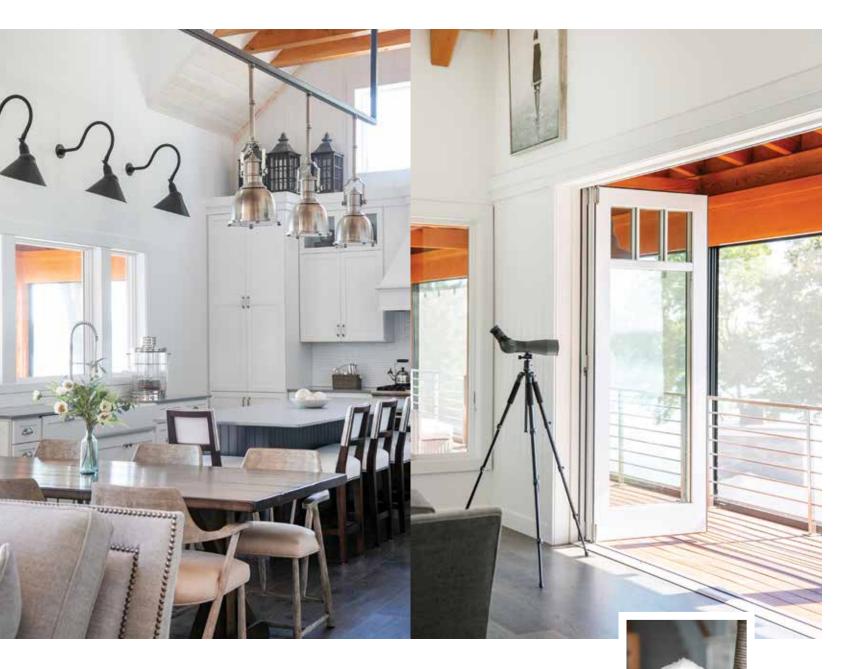
winding road dotted with trees, a pavilion and small bridge that greets visitors driving down their driveway is the first sign that it's a little bit of an escape—right in Middleton on Lake Mendota. The now-idyllic setting certainly wasn't how the property looked when the couple first visited it in 2016.

"There was a tiny dirt road coming into the property. It was overgrown—you couldn't even walk on the property," says Barbara. "But we looked at each other and went, 'Don't you feel like we're hiking in Door County?' So, we bought it."

The land had an old shack on it that the couple had to tear down-along with clearing out the land and dead trees to make way for new landscaping and a new home.

"Kittleson Landscaping had their hands full as the land had not been tended to for many years ... we consulted with several arborists to help us develop a plan and worked with Wayne Wyser from Wyser Engineering. We planted 78-plus trees and hundreds of plants. Kirk Zimple from Kittleson far exceeded

The Lehmann's minimalist kitchen still packs a stylish punch, and its close proximity to the outdoor dining table on the screened porch makes dining al fresco super simple on warm nights.



our expectations and did an exceptional job," says Barbara.

The Lehmanns met with Jeff Grundahl and Joel Geissbuhler of Brio Design Homes to concept their home. Barbara says the couple's priorities were "one hundred percent usable space. I didn't want extra rooms—I wanted something that's usable for our family—what our needs and lifestyle is." The couple's three grown children frequently come to visit (and daughter Chelsea and her husband even live across the lake!) so having space for everyone inside and out was a high priority.

"We're the place to be. Not only do we have parties here, our children have parties here!" says Barbara.

That's why the first floor is for the most part is wide open with soaring 20-foot ceilings, a spacious living room, dining area and kitchen. Functional touches like a pantry tucked in the kitchen, a custom-built entryway closet, two entrances to the garage to eliminate trudging through living areas and a smartly-designed powder room make entertaining easy.

Exposed pine beams (a touch cribbed from the Steamboat Springs lodge) with a pickled whitewash add warmth to the peacefully neutral interior and are a design focal point.

Built-in bookshelves flank the stone fireplace and inviting and comfortable furnishings ordered through Jodi Jacobs at Nathan Nichols & Company (out of Baileys Harbor)

fill out the polished living room nicely. Barbara thought having a large flat-screen TV would interrupt the serenity of the room, so she artfully hid it instead. That black-and-white statement art piece above the fireplace? It rolls up in seconds to reveal a TV hidden behind it.

Another stunning feature of the home that's perfect for parties is the screened-in porch that runs the entire length of the house. The couple can enjoy sunrises and sunsets from the kitchen, living room and their bedroom simply by stepping outside. Outside the master bedroom is a comfortable sitting



area with plenty of places to lounge, and on the other end of the porch is an outdoor dining table that the couple uses almost every night in the summer. Accordion-like doors open up the living room to expand the size of the room instantly and welcome in the outdoors. The best part is that thick, clear weatherproof plastic covers shield the screens during the cooler months so amazingly, the couple can even use the area during more temperate cold days.

"Last year at Christmas we had the doors open! It can get chilly, but it can also get very warm back [on the screened porch] and you can actually go out there and enjoy it," says Barbara.

PRETTY AND POLISHED

Another area Barbara loves is the kitchen because the family

spends a lot of time here, and she had a strong hand in the overall design. Working with Dan Luck and Abbey Weiss of Bella Domicile, the company installed all of the custom kitchen cabinetry (as well as the bathroom and laundry cabinets throughout the home).

"The details in each area that Barbara and Robert specified brought the design to life," says Bella Domicile's Weiss. "It was a joy to collaborate with the Lehmanns and Brio Design Homes on this stunning new home."

Wonderful design details pull together the kitchen beautifully, like the glossy Dekton countertops (a new option on the market, made of quartz), herringbone backsplash, vintage-look Kohler pull-down faucet, apron sink, half-moon cabinet pulls and nautical-inspired pendant lamps by Visual Comfort & Co. An industrial-look dining room chandelier blends seamlessly with the kitchen's modern simplicity and beauty. Functionality also reigns supreme here with a double-wide Sub-Zero fridge, Viking stove and pasta filler that help make meal prep easier.

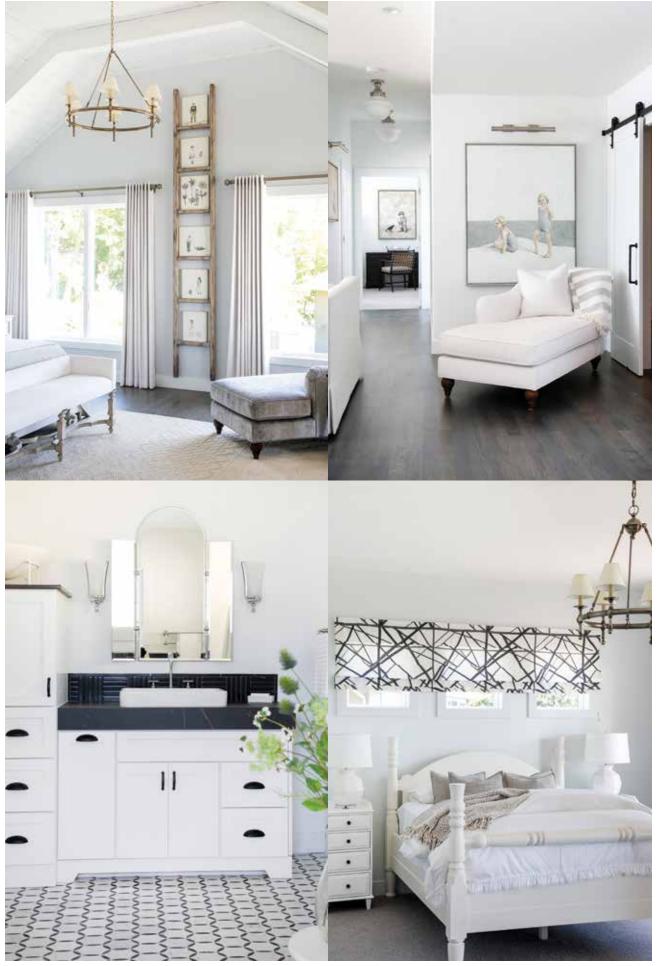
Also on the main level is Barb's lofted office space that overlooks the living room. It's filled with furnishings passed down from family, including a wood table made by her greatgrandfather and great-uncle (refinished by a local tradesman) and her father's desk. Barbara also has favorite art pieces scattered up here as well, "because we wanted this house to be about family—and Door County," she smiles.

Adjacent to the living room is the couple's luxurious master suite, with a spacious bedroom, gas fireplace, walk-in closet and high-end master bathroom. The gorgeously graphic black and white custom tile (handpicked by Barbara at Ann Sacks in Kohler), large walk-in shower, vintage-look soaking tub and hisand-hers vanities mean the couple each has their own space.

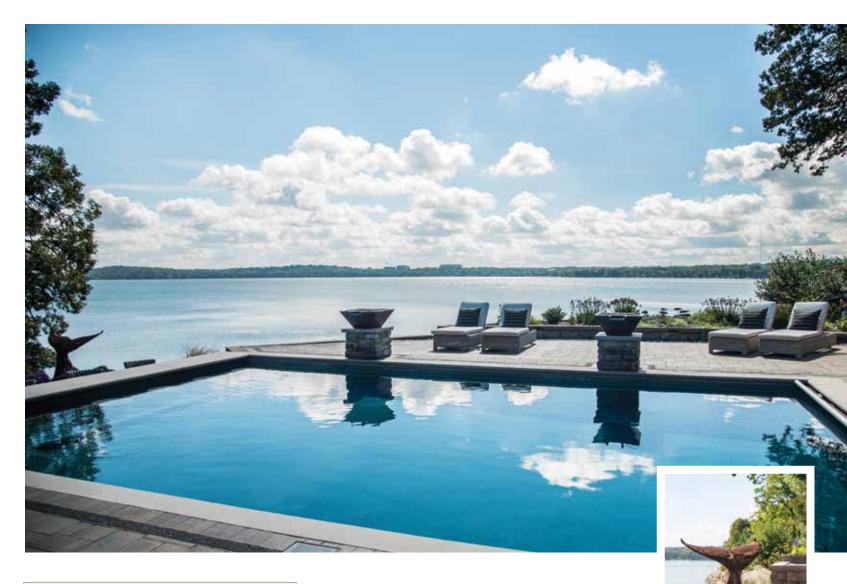
GREAT FOR GUESTS

Downstairs the couple's family and visitors have no lack of space with another living room, three bedrooms, workout





(Top left) Two of the most meaningful art pieces in the entire home for Barbara are in the master bedroom. Encaustic paintings by Pamela Murphy hung within the ladder each contain an item which has meaning to each family member. Above the bedroom's fireplace (shown on page 42) is a Pamela Murphy painting that reminds Barbara of her mother—so she bought it on the spot when she saw it. (Top right) Downstairs, Barbara's careful selections of more Pamela Murphy art pieces quietly make a statement. (Bottom right) A downstairs guest bedroom has lake views and an airy, sunny disposition. (Bottom left) Custom Ann Sacks tilework makes an indelible impression in the master bathroomin a good way.



Artful Abode

The Lehmanns count Door County-based artists Pamela Murphy and Stephanie Evans as friends. The couple have gotten to know them over the years and frequently visit Door County because of their love of the area—and its galleries.



"Pamela Murphy is an amazing person—she's 90 percent sustainable and lives in Door County on her own farmette. In addition to creating beautiful works of art, she builds her own frames to complement her paintings."

Another Door County artist Barbara is very fond of is Stephanie Evans, who creates gorgeous ceramic dresses. Barbara was also introduced to Evans at Fine Line Designs Gallery. Every day I say to Robert, 'We're so blessed to have our friends be a part of this house [like] Stephanie and Pam and all of the women that are up there [in Door County].' Shari Gransee of Fine Line Designs Gallery in Sister Bay supports all artists in Door County, and that's really what this is about."

room, laundry room, two full bathrooms and even a bar area. Each bedroom is outfitted with lovely art pieces by Pamela Murphy—each of which was chosen by Barbara for a specific reason. For example, Murphy's painting of a young boy with a black bird hangs above a desk that was in her father's childhood home. The young boy reminds her of her father's generation and the time period he grew up in.

If the downstairs entertaining area isn't wow-worthy enough, the couple's outdoor patio overlooking the lake is even more jaw-dropping. Featuring a large infinity-edge pool (that overlooks the lake) the Lehmanns can actually sit in the pool on stools (like at a resort) or lounge outside the pool with bar-edge seating and high-top chairs. The area also has a pergola with grill and eating area, hot tub, shed with storage and plenty of room for laying out, so guests probably feel like they're at a highend resort—right in Madison. The couple worked with Mark Brzezinski of Neuman Pools (based in Beaver Dam) along with Kittleson Landscaping to achieve their one-of-a-kind patio area. And the couple didn't forget the art outside—a metal whale tail sculpture by Carl Vanderheyden from Edgewood Orchard Galleries in Door County gives a friendly wave to guests and boaters.

The couple love all of their entertaining space and are thrilled when family and friends come over. But really, it all goes back to the art for Barbara.

"The more artists I could get from our collections into the house to really make it feel like a home for family and friends—that was our goal," reflects Barbara. "It's just been an amazing journey getting to know these women and the people up in Door County, and it makes having this [art] so close to us [more meaningful], and it's been great."

Laurie Driscoll Interiors, Inc.

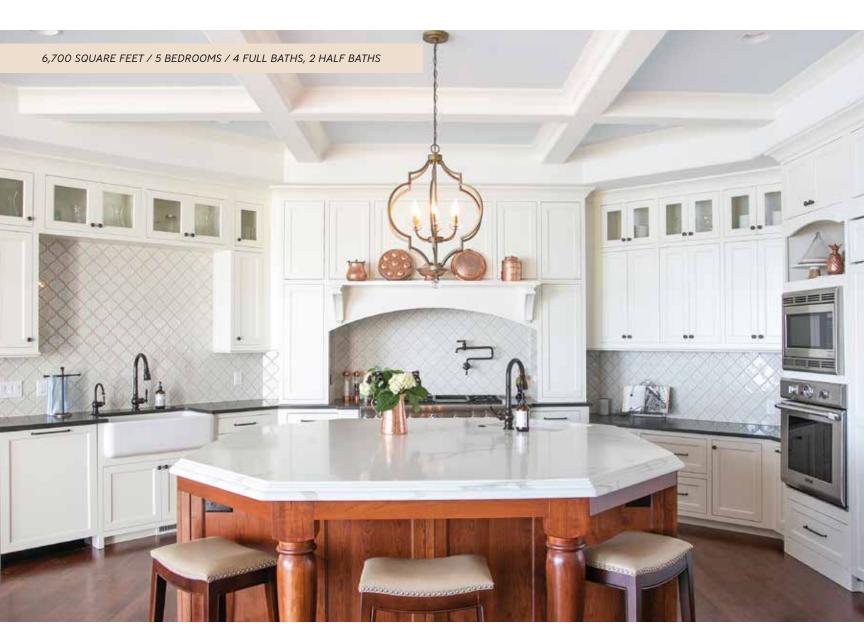
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If you've ever visited the graceful streets of downtown Charleston, South Carolina, or the stately plantations of New Orleans, the deep South has a sense of hospitality and charm that permeates the air and the dignified, historic homes that are there. And up here, Middleton couple Ryan and Janelle Baxter designed their own slice of Southern paradise—right on Lake Mendota.

A long road scattered with towering pine trees takes visitors to the elegant abode with a circular driveway designed by Steven Swenson of The Bruce Company (a purposeful down-South touch) that has a classy white exterior with handsome copper accents-and wooden shutters dotted with pineapples (hand-carved in each shutter by their builder, Brian Sipple of Classic Custom Homes of Waunakee). After all, the pineapple is the symbol of hospitality down South.

"When we were in Charleston on a walking tour,

we always knew pineapples meant hospitality, but we didn't know why," explains Ryan. "We learned when sea captains would come back from trips, they would bring this very exotic fruit home to their wives—and it was always the pineapple, and they would set it on the porch."

"That was a sign you could come by and say 'hi,'" adds Janelle.

And for the Baxters, pineapples turn up again and again in their home in light fixtures and art—a welcoming gesture to family and friends who are always visiting their traditional-meetsnew-build home.

IDEAL COMBINATION

When the Baxters decided to build their dream home on the lake back in 2016, it was a merging not only of lives for the engaged couple at the time—he's originally from Madison, she's from Chicago-but an integration of several must-





haves on their list, including a Southern-inspired floorplan and design, the ideal piece of property and a location close to city conveniences. Enter the overgrown, yet sprawling piece of land (that had a 1950s cottage on it) that they snagged to start the process.

"What captured me was the pine-lined driveway. That's why we didn't look for a 'new' piece of property because we really love having the established trees," explains Janelle. "There's character—there's already years of growth."

When concepting the design with Classic Custom Homes, the Baxters endeavored to incorporate their love of the tasteful, historic homes they had seen on their travels.

"We wanted something that looked like it had been here a long time—something that was unique-looking," says Ryan. "So the home façade mirrors a home that [we saw] in Oyster Bay, outside of Boston. This home had a very unique half-circle entry, and it struck us."

"The rest of that home was Dutch Colonial, and we love that architecture style, but the way this property lies, we wanted to maximize the lake view, so it's kind of wide and narrow," says Janelle. "We had a vision board of probably two or three thousand pictures. As we looked at the images, a couple of themes came about. We liked the coastal Cape Cod look, and Dutch Colonial. And once we started with that [half-circle] entrance, we built the rooms around that, and the little details fell into place from there."

The home's half-circle entryway is certainly the statementmaker in the home. A curvy staircase hugs one side that circles around to the second floor, where the Baxters get panoramic views of the trees in the front and the lake in the back. A soft and subtle yellow shade (Sherwin-Williams' Philadelphia Cream) colors the entryway and the adjoining

Every detail in the home was meticulously planned—including the paint colors chosen. The light blue hue in the kitchen (seen above and on page 54) was a color the Baxters frequently saw down South in homes—so they used it in theirs, too. The coffered ceiling (above top) is another touch that lends gravitas to the brand-new build.













An arched doorway leads to the guest wing of the house, where Ryan's office (top right), a bedroom and full bath (bottom right) are situated. The couple placed several variations of seaside paintings throughout the home as a nod to the coastal life. A Luce Lighting pendant adds sparkle to the area.

living room that has built-in bookcases, a granitesurround fireplace, wall-to-ceiling windows on one side, and white wainscoting. The room has a sense of lived-in comfort about it-which was of course deliberate.

"The other big influencer for us was Southern homes—that hospitality presence," says Janelle. "I wanted archways because that gives a unique visual. Crown molding and coffered ceilings [were also must-haves]."

Although the home flows easily from one room to another, the couple also wanted a bit of separation in the home.

"A traditional home is very segmented—so there aren't big, open living areas," says Ryan. "So the living room is separated, as is my office. The remainder of the home is laid out very traditionally, where you have long hallways and not a lot of big, open areas. But then our one main living area [the eat-in kitchen and lounge area] is wide open—and more convenient."

Ryan's referring to the most-used area of the house—the eat-in kitchen and sitting area with fireplace. The couple like to sit here with oneyear-old daughter Savannah, or entertain friends. They wanted to blend in traditional touches along with modern conveniences, so they sought the expertise of interior designer Laurie







Janelle's stamp is seen in the master suite, with pale pink walls, a luxe upholstered bedframe and fuzzy white area rug. In the master bath, she chose custom-painted pale pink cabinets, glamorous mirrors and quartz countertops for a high-end look.





The plantation-like feel of the property is what appealed to the Baxters, with its towering trees and lush look. The boathouse's deck (below) has a coastal feel with an enviable view.

Driscoll of Laurie Driscoll Interiors, who recommended their octagonal kitchen island have a cherry base and quartz top (to reflect the character of an older home), a Moroccan-inspired backsplash, heightened kitchen cabinets and dark countertops as a balance to the light and bright kitchen. Janelle's parents' prized 50-year-old copper pieces sit on display above the range—a touching reminder that family is always nearby.

FULLY FUNCTIONAL

Tucked next to the kitchen is a spacious pantry (with a library-like ladder that moves back and forth on rails) and butler's area with an extra sink and storage. The couple's laundry room with extra fridge, more storage, dog-washing area and mudroom cubbies help the busy family of three keep life in order.

Through another arched doorway next to the kitchen is a small playroom for Savannah and a wet bar with mini fridge so guests can grab beverages as they make their way out the back door to the water. A final Southerninspired touch is the screened-in porch on the right side of the house that has brick-red floors (another element inspired by the South, says Ryan) with built-in grill, fireplace and dining table. The room is the perfect place for the family to sit and eat dinner on warm nights, or for larger gatherings with friends.

"My favorite part of our home is being steps from Lake Mendota," says Ryan. "I'm reminded daily of my fondest childhood memories, [like] taking boat rides with my Dad, and knowing that I'll make those same memories with my kids." ♥



MEET THE CARULLOS

The Carullo family, Madison, WI

"Our three kids are only a year apart, and have a lot of friends. Since we put in a Sport Court backyard court, we've become the hangout house. They love it because there's so much to do, we love it because we know where they are. With all the fun, the neighbors always know when we're home!"

-Mary Beth Carullo







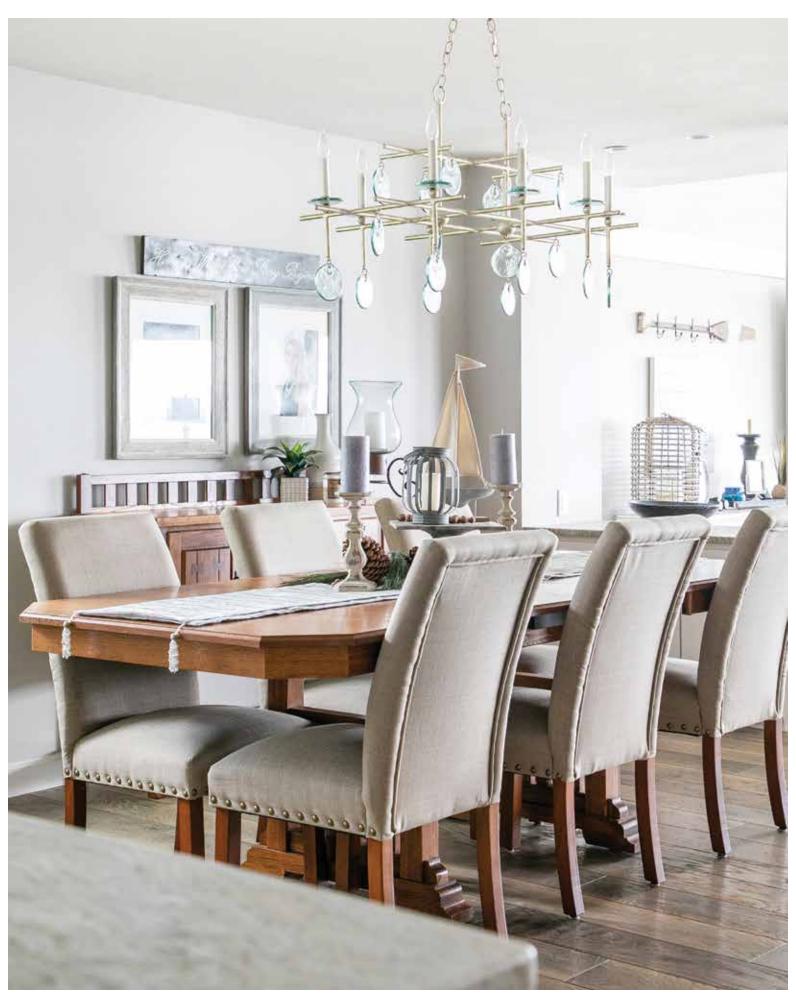
A Stoughton couple reimagines a lakeside ranch for a more livable—and stylish—home.

By Shayna Mace | Photography by Shanna Wolf

Angie and Mark Halverson are the type of people that see hidden potential in homes that could use an update, and they're not afraid of rolling up their sleeves and doing the work. After all, they've flipped four houses in the Stoughton area.

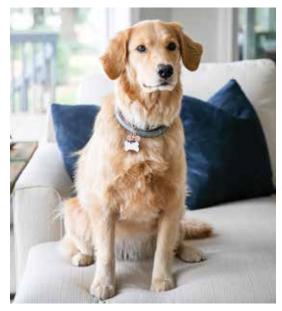
Then Angie's parents called the couple to let them know that their neighbors two doors down on Lake Kegonsa were moving to Minnesota and selling their home—would Angie and Mark like to take a look at the house? It also happened to be in the exact area they wanted to be in-close to Stoughton Country Club—and of course, on the water. Angie, Mark, and teenage daughters Kendra and Karlie walked through the home a few times and decided to move forward with the sale. However, the couple also knew that the home needed a bit of work to make it uniquely theirs. A three-quarters wall closed off the small eatin kitchen from the dining room and sitting area, which then opened into an expansive living room with vaulted ceiling and beautiful lake views. If they could get rid of the walls there, a gorgeous lake view would greet them from the kitchen, too.

"We knew the potential ... [that] once we knocked down two walls, we would have a huge entertaining area. We [wanted to] make this a huge kitchen to entertain in and have this whole open concept," Angie explains.



5.324 SQUARE FEET / 3 BEDROOMS / 4 BATHS





(Top left) "We knew the potential of this property because a lot of lake homes are on smaller properties," says Angie, referring to the fact that a ranch home in general has a larger footprint because it's one level. (Bottom left) Fancy poses for the camera. (Middle) The spacious family room add-on was a boon to the Halversons, who constantly use it to hang out and entertain in. (Top and bottom right) The home's original master bedroom is now a quaint den with sliding pocket doors. The petite "blue bathroom" as Angie calls it, was left untouched on purpose by the couple, who love its retro appeal.



The couple enlisted Dream House Dream Kitchens to help them reimagine much of the ranch's main level, which also included knocking down some walls in the home's entryway and front hallway to make the floorplan more open.

"[The home] felt outdated. Mark and I did love the layout because we like ranches and having everything on the first floor. We love to entertain, so we loved how the main area was one huge space for entertaining."

A CUSTOM KITCHEN

The four-month-long renovation process with Dream House Dream Kitchens was "phase one" of the home's planned changes, says Angie. Phase two involved redoing the home's exterior siding, and adding on a lovely three-season porch.

The kitchen was the main area of focus for the couple. The previous layout had the three-quarters wall and two islands that left the layout feeling closed off and not very functional. They removed the wall and the islands and the kitchen was suddenly flooded with light. A huge 8½-by-7½-foot leathered granite island was installed as the centerpiece of the (now) large kitchen. A pantry was carved out in the corner, and a small mudroom that leads to the garage was also revamped in the other corner. A double fridge holds all of the essentials for the family and a microwave is tucked in the large island to keep visual clutter to a minimum. Angie also loves the sleek







light gray tile backsplash throughout the kitchen, the custom stove hood and new white cabinetry (both crafted by Dream House Dream Kitchens) and the glamorous Madison Lighting pendant lamps that hang above the island. It's clear this room is for groups to gather in.

"I had no idea this island would be this amazing and I was so excited when we placed it in. Everybody is always in the kitchen," says Angie.

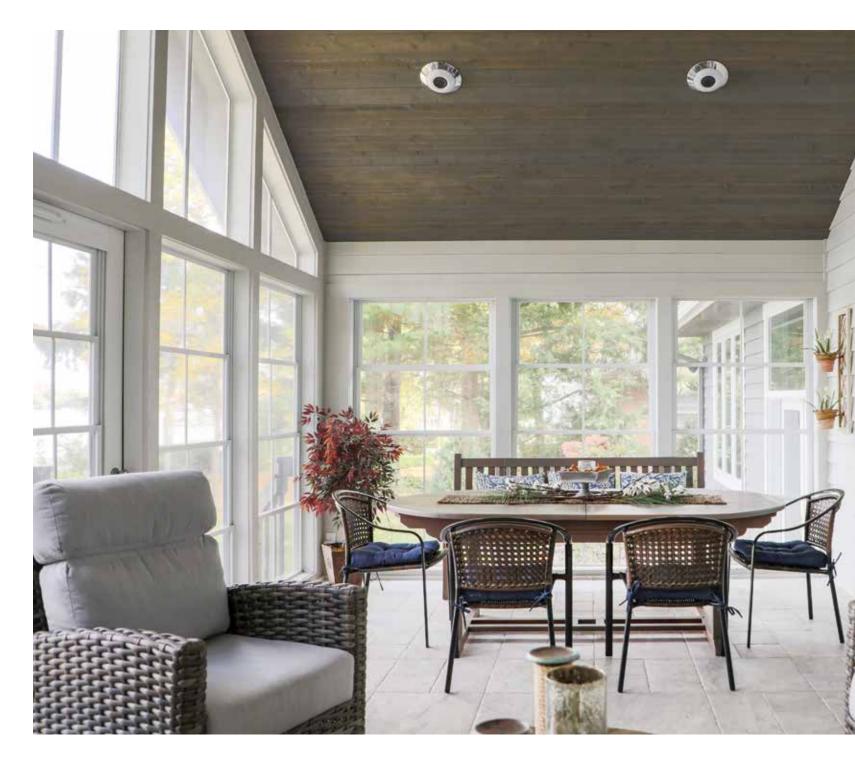
A RELAXING RETREAT

Adjoining the kitchen is the dining room and quaint sitting area with original stone fireplace that the couple wanted to preserve.

"Because we were moving to a lake property, we really loved the idea of having an original fireplace instead of gas—there's just something about a wood-burning fireplace when you live on the lake. It gives you a whole different feel. We sit here all the time at night."

A pair of chairs sit at the ready in front of the fireplace and it's often where they can find Fancy, the family's Golden Retriever, lounging in front of. Angie decided to keep the cherry built-ins around the fireplace to break up the white trim throughout the rest of the house. It's a nice touch that hearkens back to the home's roots.

Next to the dining area is a large family room add-on with vaulted ceiling,



floor-to-ceiling windows and built-in bookcases that the previous owner designed himself.

"I love this room because [the original owner] was an engineer, and he had such great ideas. The work in here was excellent quality," says Angie.

Angie decorated the room in her signature "coastal glitz" style with navy and white furnishings from Waunakee Furniture ETC and Steinhafels, and sea-inspired décor pieces. The couple left the ceiling beam and built-in bookcases (not shown) in the original cherry to break up the continuity of white trim.

Adjacent to the family room is the three-season porch add-on that the couple adore. They worked with Jim McMillan of Premium Construction (who also redid all of the home's siding) to effectively integrate the new room into the home's layout, so from the exterior, one can't even tell that the room is a new addition. The heated floors, shiplap walls, comfortable exterior furnishings and teak dining table invite guests to come right in and take a seat. This room has Angie's stamp all over it-after all, she outfitted the ladder in the room with favorite accent pieces, and she stained all of the boards that were used on the ceiling, too.

SMART UPDATES

From the three-season porch's second entrance, a former office space got turned into a combination workspace for Angie (who works from home) and entertaining spot. A mini fridge, cabinets, quartz countertops (for preparing drinks and snacks) and rustic wheeled cart all make this room flow easily into the home's layout.













(Left) The tranquil master bedroom is located on the far side of the house, and boasts lake views too. The couple didn't change anything in the bedroom except adding sliding barn doors for the master bath and closet. (Top right) Angie found this cool tiled wall idea on Pinterest—and had Dream House Dream Kitchens do it in their guest bath. (Bottom right) The couple also didn't change much in the master bath, besides some small cosmetic updates. His-and-hers vanities and separate cabinets make getting ready in the morning easy.

The hallway that attached the former office to the living areas was also opened up by Dream House Dream Kitchens so the office/entertaining space is completely open, as is the home's front entryway—which was previously partially enclosed by the hallway.

What didn't change in the home was all of the bedrooms—the master suite was thoughtfully added on by the previous owners at the far end of the house, and the couple did slight updates in the master bath, but left the bedroom as is. A small den (that was the original master bedroom, before the addition) with pocket doors across from the entertaining area works well for quiet reading sessions, or, for an extra bedroom for guests. Barely noticeable is the cute, tiny full bath also fitted into the den that the couple left unchanged. The sky-blue tile and white walls are charmingly retro.

"When people come here, they say they want to go in the blue bathroom!" laughs Angie. "They love it—it's a little step back in time."

In contrast, a full, more spacious bathroom (also redone by Dream House Dream Kitchens) near the front entryway is a spa-like retreat with a tiled wall, a luxurious soaking tub and neutral palette.

The home's livability are major pluses for the family of four, who use each space in the home purposefully. The major updates the couple did on the main floor make it a retreat—but for every day.

"We live in the [main living space and adore] the kitchen, fireplace area and the view," says Angie. "We just live for this view."









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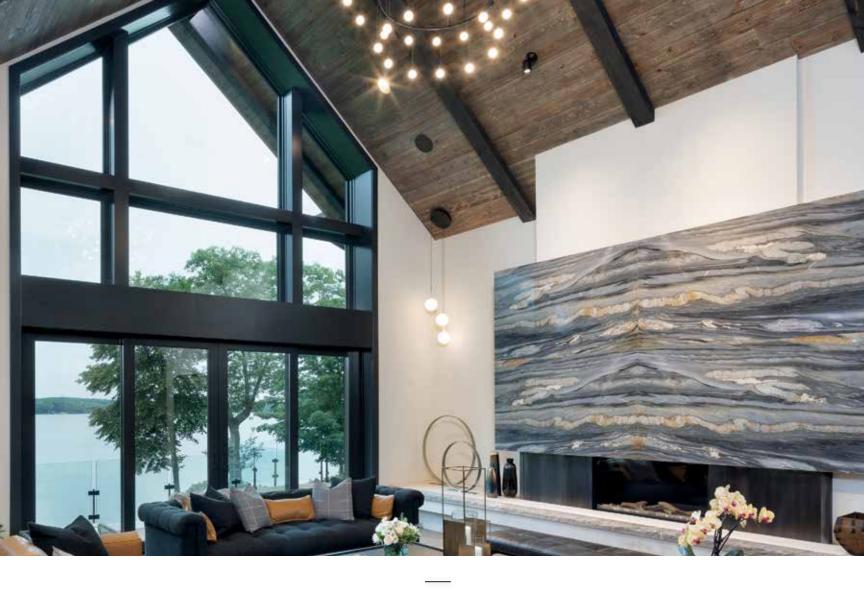
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