

# Lakeshore Living

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR MADISON AREA HOME

## BEFORE & AFTER

4 Mood-Lifting  
Room Makeovers

*Style*

What to Wear  
This Spring

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## A Ravishing Refresh

We all love oohing and aahing over a good before and after project. There's something so satisfying about seeing the potential in a space that you *know* can look better or flow more functionally. We tapped our designer network and in this edition, we bring you four amazing makeover projects from three of the four different communities Lakeshore Living covers: Madison, Lake Country and Lake Geneva. One of the makeovers was a large undertaking: a Fort Atkinson A-frame home underwent a six-month revamp to reveal a lighter, brighter and more user-friendly kitchen and great room. On the opposite end of the spectrum, we also showcase a smaller-scale makeover. The designer took a simple breakfast nook (shown on the cover) and redecorated and reimagined it a bit without changing anything structurally. Read about all of the before-and-afters, starting on page 58.

As always, this issue is bursting with other ways you can invigorate your home and life, too. Once the temperatures start creeping up, it's prime time to give your lawn and garden some TLC. Our "Lawn and Garden Care 101" guide on page 26 lends you pointers for not only what to do now, but what to do year-round to keep your landscape healthy. And, once you have your backyard in tip-top shape, you'll want to throw a party. We consulted with party-planning expert Chloe Starz for tips on how to put together a cheeseboard that's a work of art, and then we threw in what beverages to serve and tableware to use for your soirée. Catch that on page 34. Spring and summer surely is the best time in Wisconsin, and writer Shelby Deering also put together a guide on planning the perfect Madison lakeside staycation on page 30 so you can be a tourist in your own town.

We also have two home tours that you won't want to miss, including an East Coast-inspired beauty on Lake Delton and a one-of-a-kind contemporary, yet homey abode on Lake Kegonsa. Both showcase totally different styles—which makes it fun to garner inspiration for your own home projects.

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](mailto:Shayna@ntmediagroup.com).

Enjoy the lake!

Shayna Mace, Editorial Director  
[@shaynamace](https://www.instagram.com/shaynamace)

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# Lakeshore Living

IDEAS AND INSPIRATION FOR YOUR MADISON AREA HOME

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Cabana pet bed, from \$162; whomhome.com



Up Country Heart of Gold collar, \$23, and lead, \$24 Nutzy Mutz & Crazy Catz



Recycled rubber food mat, \$13, Nutzy Mutz & Crazy Catz



Reddy bamboo and black ceramic pet bowls and holder, \$40, Petco



Palermo pet bed, \$114, wayfair.com

# PERFECT PET STYLE

Pamper your furry pal with super-stylish accessories.

Photography and styling by Shanna Wolf



Lurvig pet travel bag, \$25, IKEA



Honeycomb stainless steel pet bowl, \$8, and Top Paw Gulp pet bowl, \$10, PetSmart; Mud Cloth pet bowl, \$17, fringestudio.com; Harmony Slanted marble print stainless pet bowl, \$12, Petco



Lurvig cat house, \$55, IKEA



## COLORFUL

(Clockwise from top left) Best Dog ceramic treat jar, \$28, [fringestudio.com](http://fringestudio.com); Blueberry Pet Bow tie (set of two), \$20, [Rescue Me Boutique/My Dinky Dog Pet Boutique](http://Rescue Me Boutique/My Dinky Dog Pet Boutique); Molly Mutt bed, starting at \$25, [Bad Dog Frida](http://Bad Dog Frida); white dogs pet bowl, \$13, [fringestudio.com](http://fringestudio.com); BFF pet bowl, \$17, [fringestudio.com](http://fringestudio.com); Blueberry Heart pet lead, \$24, [Rescue Me Boutique/My Dinky Dog Pet Boutique](http://Rescue Me Boutique/My Dinky Dog Pet Boutique).

## SERENE

(Clockwise from top left) Shag donut cuddler, \$40, [Tabby & Jacks](http://Tabby & Jacks); cat saucer, \$13, [FringeStudio.com](http://FringeStudio.com); Celestial dog treat jar, \$31, [fringestudio.com](http://fringestudio.com); Casper Memory Foam pet bed, starting at \$125, [casper.com](http://casper.com); Caturday pet bowl, \$13, [Petco](http://Petco); Dipper large pet bowl, \$26, [Nutzy Mutz & Crazy Catz](http://Nutzy Mutz & Crazy Catz).



## NAUTICAL

(Clockwise from top left) Up Country Sailing Fleet lead, \$24, [Nutzy Mutz & Crazy Catz](http://Nutzy Mutz & Crazy Catz); Reddy insulated pet bowl, \$20, [Petco](http://Petco); recycled Waterhog pet bowl mat, \$25, [LL Bean](http://LL Bean); Foggy Dog waste bag dispenser, \$24, [thefoggydog.com](http://thefoggydog.com); French Blue Stripe bandana, \$26, [thefoggydog.com](http://thefoggydog.com); Crater Lake pet bed, starting at \$99, [Pendleton](http://Pendleton).



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## { Orange Crush }



With a portfolio ranging from homes on Chicago's North Shore to vacation homes in Florida and Martha's Vineyard, Page Louisell of Page Louisell Design knows how to create sophisticated and livable interiors for her clients. "We transformed the third floor of an old Victorian home into a play space for the family's three young children. We fully updated the bathroom vanity, but kept the old cast iron tub and gave it new life with a fresh coat of orange paint. The color selections were chosen by the homeowner himself—he loves orange, and we thought what better place to do it than in the play space?"



**Pattern Play** Add a pop of color through textiles. A pillow in a citrus orange pattern or a tassel adorned on a chair are great ways to pull this color into your decor.

**Ceylon Orange on Tint**, [quadrillefabrics.com](http://quadrillefabrics.com)  
**Citrus Garden in Primary**, [fschumacher.com](http://fschumacher.com)  
**Annecy Chair Tassel in Terra Cotta/Melon**, [samuelandsons.com](http://samuelandsons.com)

## — SHOP THE LOOK —



Palm Beach classic mirror, \$535, [shopsocietysocial.com](http://shopsocietysocial.com)



Carriere Freres orange blossom candle, \$50, [carrierefreres.com](http://carrierefreres.com)



Worlds Away tissue box, \$92, [houzz.com](http://houzz.com)



Island tray, \$60, [amandalindroth.com](http://amandalindroth.com)

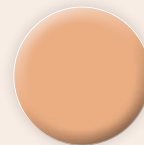
## Hue Cues



**CARROT STICK**, Benjamin Moore (2016-30): This bright and crisp orange is great for accent pieces, kitchens or play rooms where you want to pack a punch.



**STARTLING ORANGE**, Benjamin Moore (2016-10): This striking and super saturated hue is perfect for cabinets or where you want to make an accent statement.



**TOOTY FRUITY**, Benjamin Moore (089): This light orange hue with peachy undertones is a great way to add color to a space without overwhelming it.

Produced by Alexandra Wood  
[@alexandrawooddesign](https://www.instagram.com/alexandrawooddesign)







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# Spring Things

Fun styles and silhouettes and peppy hues kick-start your warm-weather wardrobe into gear.

Photography and styling by Shanna Wolf

## PANTONE PERFECT

Pantone's spring/summer 2020 color palette showcased shades including Faded Denim, Saffron, Orange Peel, Coral Pink and more—so introduce these happy hues into your closet. (Clockwise from top left) THML striped paperbag pant, \$68, Tradition Women's Market; Current Air striped pleated dress, \$98, Tradition Women's Market; Loeffler Randall Cruise Tote, \$350, Twigs; Figi pant, \$70, Madewell; Las Rayas striped tote, \$48, Madewell; Mara Hoffman Daphne swimsuit, \$265, Shopbop.



This gorgeous swimsuit in a sizzling shade of orange has cute shoulder ties—another swimwear trend! →



## TROPICAL TREAT

Relaxation awaits in these warm-weather styles. (Clockwise from top left) Eberjay Summer of Love Elba dress, \$135, and Palmacea Terra swimsuit, \$108, both from **Shopbop**; Second Wave ruffle edge textured bikini top, \$50, and bikini bottoms, \$45, **Madewell**; Schutz Aiyna sandal, \$170, **Shopbop**.



## CALL OF THE WILD

Look for swimsuits with shoulder ties and belted styles, as well as slide sandals in this fun print. (Clockwise from top left) Olympica leopard swimsuit, \$178, **Madewell**; Melissa Essential sandal, \$65, **Shopbop**; Beach Riot Julia belted swimsuit, \$174, **Shopbop**; Loeffler Randall Caro pleated knot sandals, \$275, **Twigs**.

## SAFARI CHIC

One of spring's biggest trends is wild and wonderful. (Clockwise from top left) Mystree shirt jacket, \$78, **Tradition Women's Market**; Saloni Sinead leopard dress, \$650, **Twigs**; Stateline Wonderland sunglasses, \$160, **Twigs**; Koorinal Giovanna hat, \$50, **Tradition Women's Market**.



## GUY STYLE

Curate a palette of blue and saffron for a streamlined, yet memorable look. (Clockwise from top left) Harvest Label sling, \$60, and Descendant of Thieves Aloha shirt, \$125, **Jazzman**; Alex Mill lightweight French terry garment-dyed sweatshirt, \$88, **Journeyman Co.**; RVCA Club swim shorts, \$55, **East Dane**; SeaVees Legend sneaker, \$72, **Journeyman Co.**







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## Meet the Maker



## Treat Yourself

Many small-business ventures are started because an entrepreneurial spirit saw a need in the market. Such was the case for Emma Zwissler, founder of clean skincare line **The Sunday Standard**. After battling hormonal acne much of her adult life and trying countless prescription medications, Zwissler started to dig into the root causes of what wasn't working.

"Many ingredients found in conventional beauty products are synthetically-produced chemicals that are known to be toxic and disruptive to the endocrine (hormonal) system," says Zwissler. "These harmful ingredients can wreak havoc on your hormones, leading to increased acne breakouts and other imbalances."

Tapping into her product development background, the then-Milwaukee-based entrepreneur started a small skincare line in 2016 as a "creative outlet"—and was surprised at how effective the oil blends were for her skin. She sold her products at craft shows and events and learned that customers desired clean, natural skincare. In 2018 she relaunched her business under the new name The Sunday Standard that's a nod to Sunday being a "self-care day. But it's Sunday self-care for every day of the week," she notes.

Her curated line has four products: an oil cleanser, a clay mask and two facial oils. Spirulina, or blue-green algae, is a key component in her products because it's a "superfood powder that contains a full spectrum of nutrient-rich vitamins and minerals ... making it a powerhouse addition to your daily skincare routine," says Zwissler. Other ingredients she uses include borage seed oil ("a really good source of gamma-linolenic acid that helps promote healthy cellular turnover"), blue tansy oil ("it soothes and calms the skin"), green clay and essential oils. Zwissler's products are backed by the knowledge she gained with a degree from Formula Botanica, an online accredited organic skincare school, and a certification in natural preservation methods.



"Our products are formulated with blemish-prone skin in mind and work to repair damaged skin from the inside out by promoting barrier repair and cellular renewal, eliminating blemish-causing impurities and restoring balance," explains Zwissler, who's now headquartered in Chicago. "One customer comment that always sticks out in my mind sums us up. [They] called our product line 'luxurious and effective,' which, if I could pick two words for customers to describe what we do, those would be the ideal."

[shopthesundaystandard.com](http://shopthesundaystandard.com)

## Shoppist



## Curated for Customers

When Vicky Marsala opened **Red Barn Company Store** in Waunakee in 2013, it was simply a fun outlet for her to sell her favorite vintage finds as well as holiday décor. Her small shop was only open a few days a week, since she worked full-time in the real estate industry. But slowly, the shop became more popular and demanded more of Marsala's time. By the end of 2014, it became clear that Marsala needed to pursue her part-time passion—full-time.

So she left her real estate job, moved Red Barn into a larger spot and expanded the shop hours. With Marsala's experience in both fine jewelry sales and real estate, she was able to combine all of her expertise into her shop, selling home décor, Pandora jewelry, a bit of clothing and even some vintage finds still mixed in: "it's really so many stores in one," affirms Marsala.

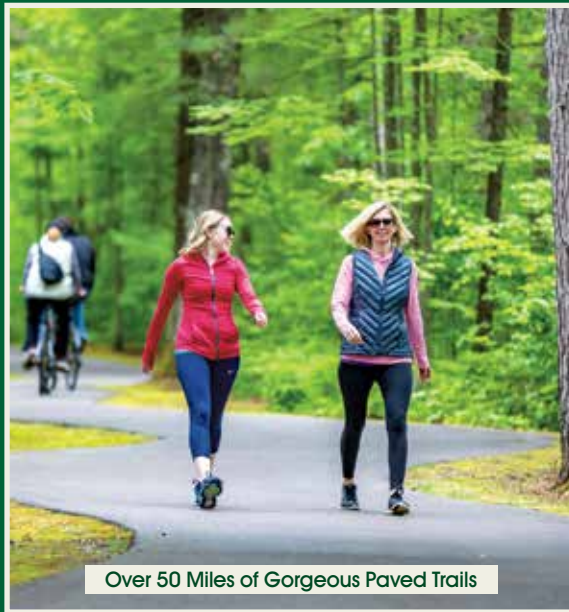
Find lots of lake-inspired goods by Lakegirl clothing (hoodies, hats and T-shirts), custom Madison lakes wall hangings and trays (made especially for Red Barn), mineral and clay paint brands Fusion Minerals and Debbie's Design Diaries DIY Paint, Vera Bradley handbags and totes, and hand-poured soy candles by 1803. It's a little something for everyone, but with a hand-picked touch.

The shop's "modern farmhouse" vibe as Marsala puts it, is reflected in the wood-look flooring, brick walls (that are part of the building next door's original 1800's structure) and on-trend décor, ranging from faux florals to framed artwork to furniture with a slightly distressed patina. Marsala's enthusiasm for finding new items for her customers and helping them locate the ideal gift or house accessory is clear: "I love that people come in and the things we have can make their home more of a joy for them," says Marsala. "It's all about the guest experience."

114 E. Main St. Suite 107, Waunakee.  
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## Ten Minutes With SARAH ARTZ

The Green Bay native and founder of Good Day Shop talks about creativity, her favorite makers and the shop owner's life.

By Shayna Mace

### What were you doing before you founded your own business?

I did marketing for 10 years in the corporate, nonprofit and university settings. Toward the latter of [that] career I started doing upholstery on the side ... and I kind of fell in love with [how] you can do something with your hands that creates a product that's useful and functional. It reopened the creative side of myself, which I hadn't had for a long time. I was at a pivotal point in my career. So, I decided to go for it and quit that career path [and] pursue a business idea around creativity.

### You started with your original business, One-OneThousand, back in 2015. Talk about your journey with that company.

I was trying to create this entire ecosystem because there were so many different gaps in what I was seeing in Madison supporting the professional maker community. I [came] at it from all angles—affordable studio space, professional development specific to these entrepreneurs and then giving them a way to sell their goods. When we started, we just did pop-ups and meetups [for makers]. And then I opened the creative studio and I started to grow One-OneThousand with more workshops. Then, we launched the Good Day Market, which at that time was a twice a year market with makers.

### Based off the success of your pop-up events, you decided to open a retail shop on Monroe Street. How has that been fulfilling?



I always thought that I was going to create that ecosystem from behind the scenes and help makers build their brands and give them opportunities to sell their goods. But I learned that I like being able to help [by selling] their goods. And I found it's a meaningful way to work with makers and be a conduit for helping them build a livelihood much more directly.

One of the biggest questions I get is, "Is everything here local?" and that's a great question to ask. Because what [customers] are really asking is "Where does this stuff come from?" and, "Is it a good purchase?" I try to source local as much as possible but my curation perspective has expanded. A majority [of

products] are U.S.; in fact, [most] are Midwest-based. But I also carry pieces from Studio Non in the Netherlands and Mariana Muravito from Mallorca. What drives me in my process is sourcing from independent brands and small-batch makers that are mindful about their production process.

### You always have creative ideas up your sleeve. What is next for Good Day Shop?

In April we're bringing in some small-batch, sustainable clothing lines. We'll [also] be continuing to refine our retail experience, whether it's working with our customers on an individual basis for custom orders or with our makers on specialized product lines. 🐾

*"Seek & Swoon blankets are supremely soft, and made with recycled cotton scraps from apparel factories."*



*"These Kate hoops by Atlanta-based MACHETE ... are ethically manufactured in Italy from eco-friendly and non-petroleum-based cellulose and bio-acetate."*



*"I love The Sunday Standard's Superfood Oil-to-Milk Cleansing Balm. It's plant-based, and I love how it feels—you take a moment and massage it into your face. It's a bit of self-care."*

*"This glass French press is by YIELD, a designer duo out of Florida. Ethically made, I love that they elevate an everyday process of making coffee through their modern and beautiful aesthetic."*



*"This leather fanny pack is by Directive out of Milwaukee. It's so cute, and it always sells out—people love them. It's like a commuter bag."*





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# Lawn and Garden Care



**Your year-long guide to keeping your lawn handsome and your garden gorgeous.**

By Maura Keller

For many homeowners, landscaping is as simple as putting in a tree here, a flowerbed there. For others, gardening and lawn care has evolved into a sophisticated process. Some homeowners are willing to invest as much time and money on the outside appearance of their homes as they dedicate to their home's interior.

Whether you are hoping for a big harvest, a beautiful landscape or a lush lawn, knowing the "when" and "how" of gardening and lawn care on your property is paramount.

## SPRING HAS SPRUNG

Northern Wisconsin gardeners face extreme cold and an even shorter growing season. Gardeners in the southern area of the state face unreliable snow cover and fluctuating winter temperatures. And all face untimely snowstorms, flooding and drought.

Melinda Myers, a Mukwonago-based gardening expert, author and TV/radio host with over 30 years of horticulture experience, says it's vital that homeowners plan before planting. "You are less likely to overbuy and purchase the wrong plants if you start with a plan," Myers says.

### SPRING TO-DOS:

- » **Lightly rake the lawn** as soon as snow recedes to avoid snow mold disease.
- » **Repair any lawn damage** by tamping disrupted turf back in place or reseeding dead areas in May.
- » **Fertilize your lawn.**
- » **Mow high (3-3.5") and often** (removing no more than one-third of the height) as soon as grass begins to grow. Leave the clippings on the lawn to decompose and improve the soil. And, keep clippings out of the lake.
- » **Monitor plantings** for damage from winter weather and animals.
- » **Prune any broken branches**, but wait to see how they recover as temperatures warm. Stressed plants and a cold spring can delay bud break. "Prune with a purpose—to control size, improve structure, flowering and fruiting," Myers says.
- » **Clean leaves and debris** out of plant beds. If leaves and debris are left too long they can prevent perennials from emerging and sometimes even kill them.
- » **Mulch and edge the lawn.** According to Kyle Kohlmann, senior landscape architect at Seasonal Services, be careful not to apply too much mulch or else that could potentially smother plantings. "Edging plant beds could also be done at this time. The beds will be looking fresh and new right away in the growing season," Kohlmann says.

- » **Examine perennial gardens** for coral bells, bulbs and other perennials that may have frost heaved. The freezing and thawing that areas of Wisconsin have experienced cause soil to shift and can push plants out of the ground, so reset as needed.

"And if you let perennials stand for winter you can cut them down and compost the debris," Myers says. "The longer you wait, the better for the beneficial insects that may be overwintering in the stems. I pile mine in an area out of sight until mid-summer to give any beneficial insects a chance to hatch."

- » **Check seed packets and plant tags** for timing on planting. Wait until the soil warms and the danger of frost has passed to plant warm season plants like tomatoes, squash, melons, impatiens and coleus.

"With the snowmelt, there is a lot of available nitrogen in the ground for spring green up," says Craig Kittleson, owner of Kittleson Landscape. "I'm not a big advocate for a lot of fertilizer [during] spring time on lawns, and most of the plants and shrubs should not need any fertilizer at this time."







## SUMMER SPLENDOR

Summer is the time of year to watch plants burst into vibrant blooms—often at different times. As Kittleson explains, for areas of your landscape that lack color, go to a nursery and find some perennials that are flowering at this time.

“There are plenty of perennials to choose from that will give you a stronger color in the late summer and

fall when some of those shrubs are just looking green,” Kittleson says.

Also, be sure your lawn is fed throughout the whole growing season.

“Think of it as if you are eating a balanced meal all year long versus one really rich meal and then nothing after that,” Kittleson says. “If you dump a bunch of fertilizer [on your lawn] in the springtime and then do not do any more throughout the rest of the season, it will cause your grass to [be] stressed and be more likely [to encourage] disease in your lawn.”

### SUMMER CHECKLIST:

- » **Lightly fertilize and water** your lawn under drought conditions to help keep things looking green.
- » **Mow your lawn** to a three-inch height to keep the ground cooler and conserve moisture for your grass.
- » **Weed gardens.** Just like in spring, it’s important to suppress weed growth in summer. If weeds start to take hold in the garden they can overrun ornamental plantings. Kohlmann suggests using Preen in plant beds, which is a preemergent granule herbicide that kills weeds’ seeds.
- » **Mulch soil** with shredded leaves, evergreen needles or other organic material to conserve moisture.
- » **Water established plants** thoroughly when the top few inches of soil begin to dry, and check new plantings and keep soil moist until seedling and transplants are established.
- » **Check container plantings** and water thoroughly as needed.
- » **Deadhead perennials.** After perennials have flowered it’s a good idea to remove spent flowers. This keeps the plant looking healthy and clean. Sometimes it will spark a second round of flowering in some perennials.

## Lakeside Garden and Lawn Care

For owners of lake homes, Myers says it is important to always keep the health of the lake in mind.

“Growing a healthy lawn and gardens can help keep water and any dust and pollutants on the property and out of the lake,” Myers says. “Do not discard pond plants in the lake, as non-native and invasive plants damage our water quality. And avoid harmful chemicals that may end up in the lake.”



## FALL PREPARATION

When the growing season winds down, there are some key tasks that will help protect your lawn and garden during the cold months.



### AUTUMN TASK LIST:

- » **Leave perennials** to stand for the winter.
- » **Plant spring flowering bulbs** after temperatures are consistently in the 40s to low 50s.
- » **Plant perennials**, trees, shrubs and grass seed.
- » **Continue mowing** high and often as long as the grass is growing.
- » **Fall fertilization** of lawn is the most effective at encouraging a thick lush lawn. "Fertilize on Labor Day and Halloween with a low-nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer like Milorganite," Myers says.
- » **Shred leaves** with your mower and leave them on the lawn to add organic matter and nutrients, or use as mulch or compost.
- » **Place winter protection** and animal barriers in place as needed before the ground freezes.
- » **Protect sensitive plantings** from critters. Wrap tender evergreens with burlap for further protection.

## WHAT TO DO IN WINTER

To keep up your lawn and garden maintenance, even cold-weather tasks will help preserve your hard work.

### WINTER WRAP-UP ITEMS:

- » **Apply evergreen boughs** over sensitive perennials and bulbs after the ground freezes to reduce the risk of frost heaving.
- » **Monitor your landscape** for animal damage and adjust management strategies as needed.
- » **Winter is a great time to do structural pruning** on trees and shrubs because the branching structure is visible (there are no leaves on the trees). "Be sure not to prune early spring flowering trees/shrubs in winter [like] lilacs, magnolias, forsythia, et cetera," Kohlmann says. "This would remove flower buds and prevent the plant from blossoming."

*Freelance writer Maura Keller frequently writes about home-related topics for regional and national publications.*

## Top Tools



### PRUNING SHEARS AND LOPPERS

Buy a high-quality pruner with sharpened blades and well-balanced grips. Loppers are essentially long-handled pruning shears that are used for trimming shrubs and trees.

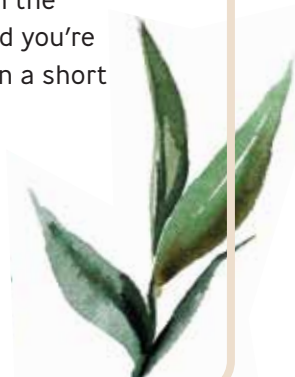
### SHOVEL OR SPADE

If you do a lot of planting, buy a high-quality, curved digging shovel or straight-edge spade.



### BULB AUGER

If you plant a lot of annuals, perennials and flower bulbs, a bulb auger—or earth auger, as they're sometimes called—will become your best friend. Attach the auger to your hand-held drill and you're ready to dig hundreds of holes in a short amount of time.








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# *A Perfect Staycation in* **MADISON**

FROM FRIDAY AFTERNOON TO SUNDAY EVENING, HERE'S HOW TO  
SPEND THE PERFECT LAKESIDE WEEKEND. By Shelby Deering

**Going on a vacation to a new place is always exciting**, but it can be just as fun being a tourist in your own town. As much as you love living on the lake, perhaps there are areas of Madison that you are longing to explore a little more—there are four lakes here after all, waiting to be discovered. From fresh restaurants to standby favorites, activities in the water to near the water, to places that are (slightly) off the beaten, lakeside path, here's the ideal Madison itinerary from Friday to Sunday.

## *friday*



**12 p.m.** To kick off your perfect lakeside weekend, start at The Boathouse at The Edgewater for lunch. Arrive by boat and anchor it at The Edgewater Pier, or plan to enjoy downtown on foot before and after lunch. Sit right next to the water, watch the sailboats drift by and keep it light (plan on dessert later!) with coconut shrimp, parmesan truffle fries or a cup of New England clam chowder.

**2 p.m.** As a Madisonian, or someone who lives nearby, you've probably already visited the Terrace at UW's Memorial Union. But have you ever truly sat in one of the iconic chairs without having somewhere else to be or grabbing a bite as you head to your next destination? If not, it's an idyllic way to spend a Friday afternoon. People-watch to your heart's content, pet some dogs and soak up flawless waterfront views. And, don't forget to pick up some Babcock Dairy ice cream from Daily Scoop.

**4 p.m.** For the full campus-meets-lakefront experience, walk from the Memorial Union to Picnic Point along the Lakeshore Path. As you listen to the waves from Lake Mendota, meander along the path until you reach Picnic Point, Madison's iconic peninsula that happens to be one of the best spots in town for sunset viewing.

**7 p.m.** Not far from campus, end your evening on a high note at a rooftop locale. Camp Trippalindee at the Graduate Madison Hotel has a summer camp vibe—something that seems all too appropriate for a lakeside weekend. With Lake Mendota vistas in the distance, park yourself in an old-school red chair, claim a fire pit and look at the stars as you roast marshmallows.





## saturday

**8 a.m.** Begin your morning on dry land at the Dane County Farmers' Market, because there's no better way to start a Saturday.

**9 a.m.** After snacking on some spicy cheese bread from the Stella's Bakery stand, it's time to head to Lake Monona. Whether you're biking, rollerblading or if you're a long-distance runner or walker, circle the entire lake on the 11-mile Lake Monona Loop. Enjoy watery scenery next to the Monona Terrace and take in picturesque lakefront neighborhoods as well.

**11:30 a.m.** Once you've completed the loop, you'll end up near Sardine, one of the area's most beloved lakeside bistros. Savor French-inspired brunch favorites like the fines herbes and Gruyère cheese omelet, Croque Monsieur or keep it light with the Honeycrisp apples and chicories salad—you'll be moving more later!

**1 p.m.** If you haven't already brought one with you, you can go to several kayak or canoe rental spots in the area to see the sights from the water—Marshall Boats on Lake Mendota, Brittingham Boats on Lake Monona or Wingra Boats on Lake Wingra.

**4 p.m.** The convenient part of living nearby on the lake is that after kayaking or canoeing all afternoon, you can head home to freshen up before a waterside dinner.

**6 p.m.** With views that are stunning both indoors and out, Paisan's is a Lake Monona mainstay. Originally founded in 1950, its lakeside residence is its fourth locale and still serves up the same Italian specialties it did back in the day. Manicotti, mushroom alfredo, specialty pizzas with Paisan's famous spicy cheese—you'll be well-fed and you can't beat those views.

**8 p.m.** Conclude your Saturday night with a glass of Chateau de Cruzeau 2016 at Fresco, located on top of the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art.







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## sunday

**10 a.m.** Spend your Sunday morning trying something new on the water. Rent a stand-up paddleboard from Rutabaga Paddlesports or UW's Wisconsin Union, or take it up a notch with some stand-up paddleboard yoga. Perennial Yoga offers classes, and for one-on-one time, book local yoga instructor Aubree Saia. And for something really new, take a log-rolling class with Madison Log Rolling on Lake Wingra.

**12 p.m.** Sure, you can be all about the lake, but for a change of waterside scenery, enjoy lunch at Breakwater on the Yahara River. Between two levels of patio seating, live music and tasty pub fare, you'll experience weekend bliss before you know it.

**2 p.m.** After lunch, pretend you're a kid again at the Henry Vilas Zoo. Polar bears, penguins and the university's famous mascot (the badger!) are all on view.

**3 p.m.** With its proximity to Lake Wingra, take a walk from the zoo to Vilas Beach, where you can dig your toes into the sand and peacefully watch the waves.

**4 p.m.** Lake Vista Café at Monona Terrace is a perfect early-evening destination, with its dancing and music events, rooftop gardens, local brews and pristine views of Lake Monona.

**6 p.m.** Bring your Madison weekend to a close by attending a concert at The Sylvee. Located in the heart of downtown, it's an all-too-hip music venue that books indie acts like Fitz and the Tantrums, Wilco and The Revivalists and Top 40 bands like Foreigner and Third Eye Blind. 🎶



## leave the boat at home

Let another captain take the wheel with Betty Lou Cruises. Founded in 1961, Madison's famed cruise line offers a wide variety of outings. Take a spin on Lake Mendota or Monona with a public cruise. These cruises are focused on fun themes, like a champagne brunch cruise, fireworks cruises or even a country music cruise, all featuring menus that cater to every palate. Along the way, you'll learn all about the lake's history, from notable landmarks to local lore.



# Pull Together a Perfect Party

(Painlessly!)

Think you need a complicated party plan to throw a shindig? Not so—here are easy ways to push your soirée into swanky territory.

BY SHAYNA MACE | PHOTOGRAPHY BY KATIE DERUS PHOTOGRAPHY



*Bring on the Board*

Chloe Starz, a Madison-based event planner (who literally teaches workshops on how to build a cheeseboard!) gives insight into how to easily construct your own.

Cont. on page 36





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# Super Sippers

A party's not complete without great drinks. Here are some Wisconsin-based brands to consider for brews, cocktails and mocktails. Photography and styling by Shanna Wolf



- 1. Forage Tropical Kombucha
- 2. Hop Haus Brewing Co. Sweet Sunglasses Blonde Ale
- 3. Wisco Pop! Strawberry Soda

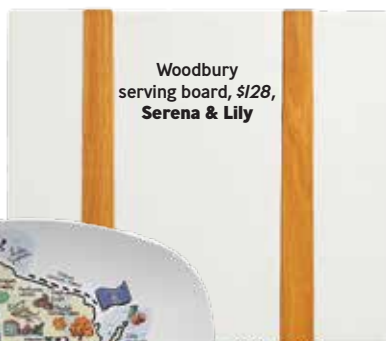
- 4. Wisconsin Dells Brewing Company Connie Ale
- 5. One Barrel Brewing Company Up North Wisconsin Lager
- 6. Top Note Classic Tonic Water

- 7. State Line Distillery Gin
- 8. Lakefront Brewery Gluten-Free New Grist Pilsner
- 9. Wollersheim Winery Wollersheim White canned wine

- 10. Plain Spoke Cocktail Co. Mojito canned cocktail
- 11. Sprecher Orange Dream craft soda
- 12. Quince & Apple Fix Tart Cherry Grenadine



Granada tray, \$58, Serena & Lily



Woodbury serving board, \$128, Serena & Lily



Fish Kiss Wisconsin platter, \$39, Orange Tree Imports

## Pull It All Together

Cute tableware makes everything look better.



Handmade SW ceramic serving bowl, \$68, Bungalow608



Striped inlay olive wood salad servers, \$38, Bungalow608



Vinglacé Graphite wine/sparkling water insulator, \$90, Crate & Barrel



# LAKE HOUSE MADE MODERN

*A beachy new Wisconsin Rapids vacation home achieves timeless style with a little help from FLOOR360.*

## REQUIREMENTS

The process began when the homeowners shared their design vision with FLOOR360's interior design team in the form of curated photos from Pinterest and Houzz. They wanted a modern lake house look with timeless, neutral and classic materials in a soft color palette. Key words included “beachy, light and airy” and “soft touches of color.” As with any vacation home, they wanted everything to be easy to care for and low-maintenance for the family and their guests to thoroughly enjoy. Together, they started to piece together a look.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

FLOOR360 and the homeowners' interior designer presented options. The direction from the homeowners was that each of their several bathrooms have individual identities, but use similar materials, including white subway tile. To meet that expectation, different sizes and textures of white tiles were selected, using varying colors of grout, metal accent framing and creative patterns. FLOOR360 provided detailed CAD drawings for each area of the home, ensuring the installation was accurate to the intention of the design.

Another layer of quality control was added with the FLOOR360 designer working with FLOOR360 field support to monitor the full installation process.



The “design foundation” of the home was over 3,000 sq ft of light European oak flooring. All elements work in concert to create an environment that’s more than the sum of its parts—a fully realized vision that can be felt as much as it can be seen.

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**FLOOR360 DESIGNER**  
Courtney Wollersheim

**BUILDER**  
Alterra Design Homes

**INTERIOR DESIGNER**  
Anne Trinklein, Anne Michelle Design

**PHOTOGRAPHER**  
Meghan Mehan Photography



## *Sustainable Living* **With Smart Devices**

How connected gadgets can help you save money  
and lessen environmental impact.

By Amy Wunderlin

**THERE'S NO DOUBT** that connected devices have made our lives easier, smarter and safer. But is there also an opportunity for smart technology to help us live more sustainably?

With the average household spending about \$2,000 on electricity bills per year, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, advances in thermostats, lighting, plumbing, home appliances and more are making it easier for the average consumer to monitor and maintain their energy and water usage. This is not only good for the wallet but the environment.

<<<

### **HEATING UP AND COOLING DOWN**

Smart temperature control is the first step to a more sustainable use of energy for the average homeowner, and it is easy to see why with heating and cooling making up almost 50% of total home energy use, according to thermostat manufacturer ecobee, which introduced the first smart Wi-Fi thermostat in 2007. Connected thermostats work by allowing homeowners to control and monitor the heating, cooling and humidity levels in their homes easily from an app on their phones.

"Installing a smart thermostat reduces daily resource consumption, automatically taking what is needed from the energy grid without sacrificing comfort," says Kathryn Checkley, manager of sustainability for ecobee. So far, ecobee has helped homeowners save up to 23% in heating and cooling costs, but Checkley notes that home efficiency is about more than cost savings.

"Since more than half of home energy use is for heating and air conditioning, ecobee's better heating and cooling management inherently reduces users' carbon footprint," Checkley says. An internal study of thermostat savings from 2014-2018 indicates that ecobee smart thermostats reduce emissions by an average of one metric ton of CO<sub>2</sub>eq per home, which is powerful, considering the average North American has a personal carbon footprint of about 17 tons per year.

Image courtesy of ecobee



"You can kind of pick and choose how you manage temperatures at different times of the day and different times of the week, based on how you set up a thermostat," explains Gary Trucinski, principal owner of AVLET Inc., a commercial and residential technology service provider that manages about 26 houses around Lake Geneva.

A smart thermostat will also alert the homeowner or whoever is managing the home such as a company like AVLET if the temperature or humidity level falls below a certain point.

"Many of our clients have more than five zones of heating and cooling in their house, so they want to be able to pull up an iPhone or an iPad app and see all five zones and get an indication right away what the temperatures are in those areas," Truckinski says, explaining that "then they know right away if there's a problem or something they should pay attention to.

"Those apps also have the ability to alert us or the HVAC contractor that we've got a problem that needs to be checked on," he adds.

### >>> **LET THERE BE LIGHT**

Growing up, you may have heard the common parent refrain: "Turn off the lights!" Of course, it probably had to do with saving money—but the energy savings smart lights afford have some major green benefits as well.

Like smart thermostats, smart lights allow you to turn your home's

lights on and off from your smartphone or by voice activation. Philips Hue, one of the biggest names in smart home devices, often tops the list of best smart bulbs and offers one of the largest selections in a variety of hues, such as white, color and ambient. The brand also offers the convenience of a central hub that allows the homeowner to control each bulb from one mobile app.

Additionally, some smart lights such as those offered by Philips Hue offer dimmer functions, which have the potential for an even greater impact.



Philips Hue bulbs can be controlled via a Bluetooth app or by voice assistants like Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, Apple HomeKit and their own Hue Bridge device (*far left*). The Philips dimmer switch (*far right*) can be removed from its magnetic base on the wall to use as a remote control.



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My holistic approach to design considers three elements to accomplish the design goals for your home. **Visual** - how you see color, texture, and light as they create visual layers; **Physical** - the functional relationship between furniture and flow, room layout, size, scale, and proportion, and **Emotional** - the feeling you get in a room when it perfectly reflects your design goals.

From consultations to full house interior design services, I'll help navigate you through the huge array of choices that need to be made and I'll introduce you to some new ideas, too. My personal commitment to the design details allows you to feel confident knowing the process is in good hands.



**Residential Interior Designer**  
**Carol Ferris**  
**Designer/Solopreneur**  
**214-577-3927**  
**email: carol@poshandpatina.com**  
**website: PoshandPatina.com**



"Dimming a light bulb just 10% can double the life of the bulb and reduce your burn by 25% on your electricity. So, dimming down any lights is a tremendous benefit to everyone in terms of burn and life expectancy of the bulb," Trucinski says.

<<<  
**WASTE NOT WATER**

According to the United States Geological Survey Water Census, if all U.S. households installed water-saving features, water use would decrease by 30%, saving an estimated 5.4 billion gallons per day. That is a compelling argument for considering smart upgrades in the kitchen and bath.

Smart plumbing features include faucets and shower heads, which can monitor water usage via smartphone apps where you can set threshold and view water and heating savings. Some shower heads even feature LED lights that turn the water spray blue, green, purple or red based on the volume used.

---

Kohler's DTV Prompt digital showering system with Eco-Mode (*left*) lets you control spray patterns and water temperature. To help save water, the LCD interface has a water-conserving warm-up mode, a pause function that halts water flow for up to two minutes and an option to set the shower duration to save time and water.

---

Image courtesy of Kohler Co.



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"Homeowners are looking for insight on how they can better manage their resources within the home—including water and energy," says Jonathan Bradley, product manager, smart home at Kohler Co.

The Wisconsin-based manufacturer, known for its beautiful and functional plumbing products, is also driven by sustainability. Integrating its products with technology allows them to take it one step further.

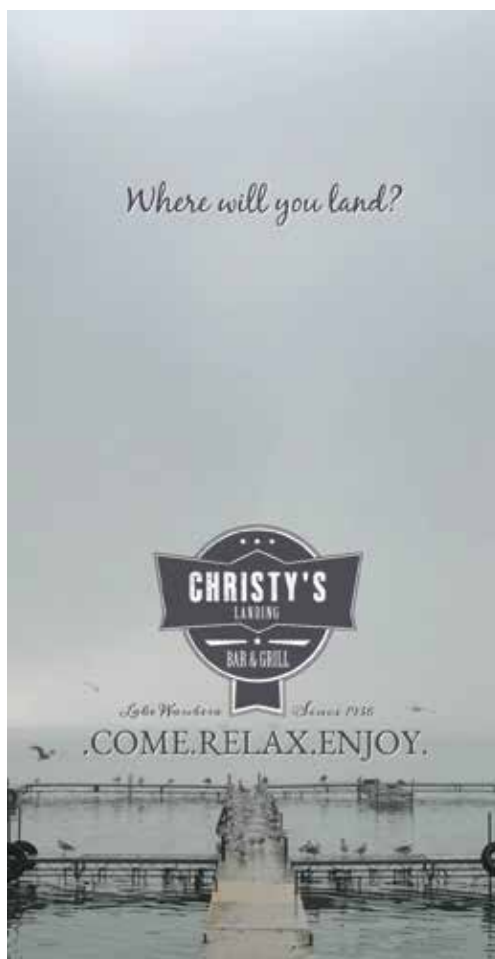
For example, Kohler's new Aquifer Refine Water Purification System allows homeowners to purify water while also monitoring water usage and leak detection. In the bathroom, Kohler's DTV Prompt digital showering system with Eco-mode is an integrated diverter that meets CalGreen requirements, a set of building codes established by the state of California to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. In addition, it offers a water-conserving warm-up mode, a pause function that halts water flow for up to two minutes and an option to set the shower duration to save time and water.

"Technology has and will continue to play a crucial role in how our products can help homeowners implement sustainable practices in their everyday lives," Bradley adds.

Ultimately however, using all of these technologies together in a true smart home is the best option for more sustainable living, according to Trucinski.

"Sustainability-wise, a connected home can give you that, but a connected home again requires you to initiate it every day. People today are very busy because life has become more complicated than it's ever been, and there's a lot of information at our fingertips. Sustainability comes easier in a smart home where you can put these programs together and put them in play by the touch of a button or by an activation of a voice command," he concludes. 🐾

*Amy Wunderlin is a Fort Atkinson-based freelance writer who has written for publications across a variety of industries, including Wisconsin Meetings, Concrete Contractor and Food Logistics, among others.*





# Lakefront & Luxury



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## *come in*

Homeowners Megan and Andy Walker designed the entryway around a mahogany door by the Pivot Door Company that swings in the middle instead of hanging from hinges. "The front door is a great piece that everyone always comments on," says Andy. It was Megan's idea to wallpaper the ceiling in the front entryway for an unexpected, contemporary touch. Black herringbone tile defines the space.



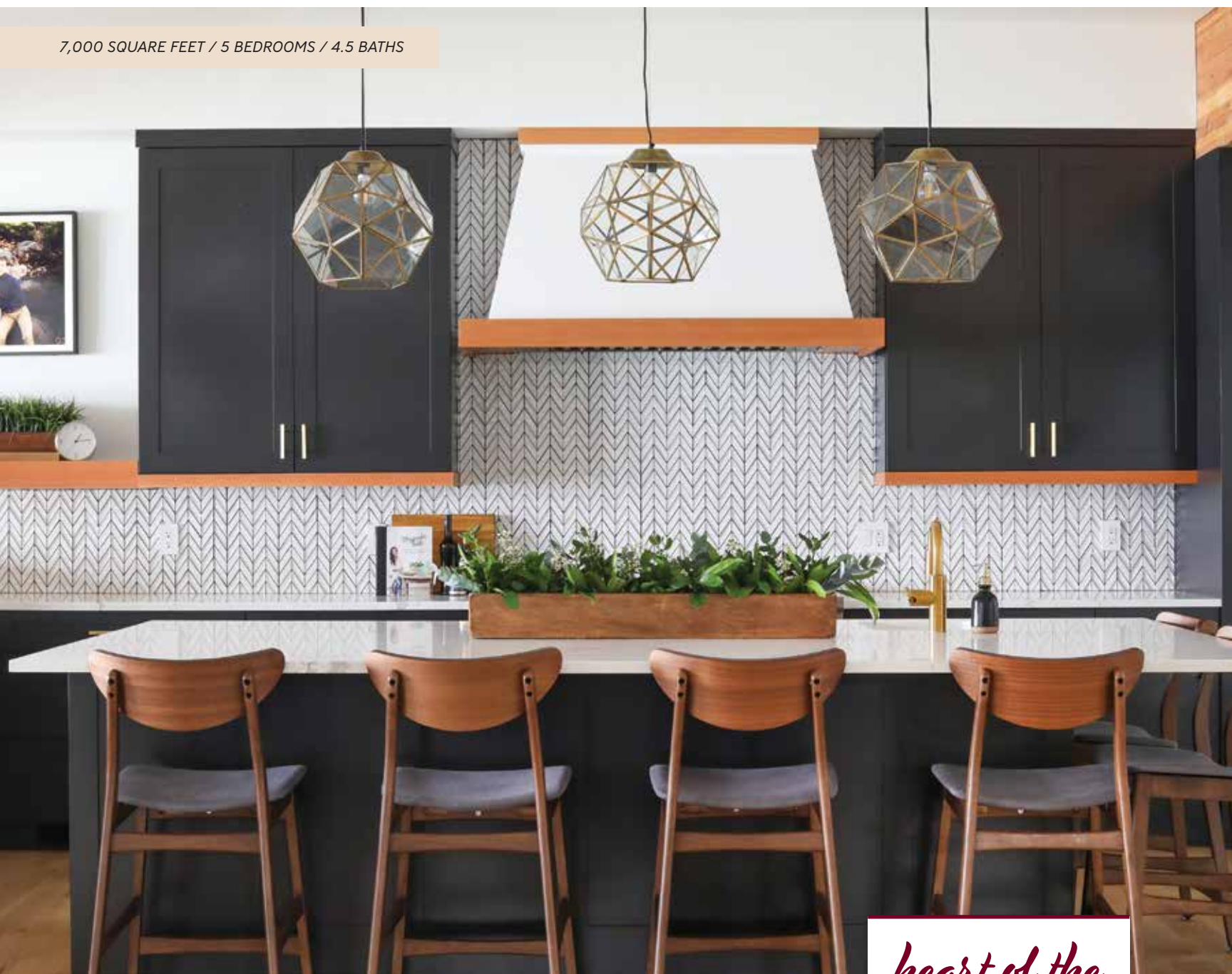


# Modern Muse *on the water*

A family of six enjoys the lake life in a completely customized abode with one-of-a-kind details.

By Shayna Mace | Photography by Shanna Wolf

7,000 SQUARE FEET / 5 BEDROOMS / 4.5 BATHS



## heart of the home

For several years, Megan and Andy Walker lived in a bit of limbo. Andy ran a software company on the East Coast and commuted back and forth to Wisconsin. Then his job took him to Washington, D.C., for a few years, and then, Chicago. All the while, he traveled for work and Megan and their four kids lived in a home they purchased on Lake Kegonsa in 2011. Adding to the family's busyness was the fact that a year or two after moving in, the couple chose to remodel the nearly 30-year-old property and replace all of the mechanicals. "After that, we were done—and it was a beautiful house. We really did love it," says Andy.



One night while out to dinner, the couple was approached by a visitor from Illinois who told them they liked their house, and asked if it was for sale.

The white chevron tile backsplash with gray grout dresses up the kitchen and complements the simple yet chic Shaker-style kitchen cabinets. The couple chose Douglas Fir accents from Brunzell Lumber & Millwork to kick up the cabinetry. Jewel-like pendant lamps from Steinhafel's hang over the kitchen island. (Bottom) The family's Double Doodle Gunner lounges in the entryway.





## special touches

"I jokingly said, for the right price, everything's for sale!" says Andy. "And, he took me up on it."

The family moved in with Megan's parents in Stoughton while they scouted for another home off the water to buy, with the plan of building another home on the lake again—when the right property came up for sale. Luckily, the Walkers found a pie-shaped lake lot relatively quickly that had a cottage on it, and they snapped it up. Next, they had to design their dream home.

### GETTING TO WORK

The couple worked with Tyler Hawryluk of Calgary, Canada-based THAD Residential Design Studio on the "modern, yet homey" feel they wanted in their floor plan, general design and even exterior renderings.

"We sent him pictures of our old house and told him that we loved that house, but I think we went a little too far on how modern we made it. [So] we wanted this one to feel a little bit more cozy, but at the same time modern, and

(Left) The kitchen has a waterfall edge peninsula that can seat four, in addition to the six people the kitchen island can accommodate. "It was really important for [us] that if we were having people over, that everybody could be in the kitchen eating and drinking and not feel like they have to stand," says Andy. (Right) The family room has a comfortable, casual vibe with a mix of leather, wood and metal accents. "We spent several days in Chicago sitting on furniture—we wanted something that was going to be comfortable and inviting. This couch is from Room & Board," says Megan.

blend those styles," says Andy.

In the design, the Walkers wanted the kitchen to be the heart of the home and ensure that the main floor was open and conducive to hosting guests, "because at the end of the day, that's where everybody wants to be," explains Andy.

Once the plans were finalized, Megan and Andy weren't afraid to roll up their sleeves to do the work—in fact, they acted as the general contractors—hiring everyone from Fuller Excavating to tear down the old cottage, to working with Kyle Kane of DK

Design Build to oversee laying the foundation and the framing of the home. They also worked with Dream House Dream Kitchens on the main floor's layout, cabinetry and other elements throughout the home.

### DREAM DESIGN

In the open floor plan, each space blends seamlessly with the next—which also presented some design challenges, admits Andy. One design trick the couple used was



## *water vistas*

The “outdoor room” as Andy calls it, faces the lake. It has two sets of NanaWalls, which are foldable glass walls. One set is on the home’s exterior, and another set separates the outdoor room from the dining room. Each set of walls is also equipped with screens, so the room can become a screened-in porch or completely open to the outside. When both walls are open, lake breezes waft into the home. The tiled floor adds durability for when the room is open to the outside, and hearty West Elm furniture can withstand temperature swings.





utilizing tile flooring in the entryway and the outdoor room that faces the lake to demarcate those spaces. The couple also used Douglas Fir ceiling beam accents to help ground the space and subtly emphasize room divisions.

“What Megan did really well was use those [ceiling] beams as an artificial separation in the house. [So in the entryway] the herringbone tile stops at one of the beams and then it transitions into hardwood even though the beam is on the ceiling—not on the floor,” says Andy.

The couple wove in Douglas Fir touches throughout the entire home—including in contrasting trim on the inky black kitchen cabinetry. Quartz countertops in the kitchen provide a clean, refreshing break to the dark



## cool touches

(Top left) The Walker's double-sided vanity was a one-of-kind request, says Dream House Dream Kitchen's Jerry Schmidt.

But once the team saw how it turned out, they were sold.

Andy's dad custom-welded and powder-coated the mirror that hangs from the ceiling. (Top right) The spacious rectangular

tub was a must-have for Megan.

Matte black Brizo plumbing fixtures are used throughout the master bath. (Bottom right) Andy ordered an online kit

and assembled the wine rack underneath the stairs himself in the temperature-controlled wine cellar. (Bottom left) The couple's two teenagers share this upstairs bathroom. Each kid

has their own vanity for getting ready and storing their items.







cabinetry and gold faucets add a gleamy touch to the space. Two dishwashers, a 48-inch-wide Wolf cooktop (plus searing station and griddle) and plenty of prep area mean the space can easily accommodate the family of six plus guests anytime.

The dining area is another special spot, outfitted with a table custom-made by Andy's dad, a retired woodworking teacher. The furniture piece against the wall was crafted by Dream House Dream Kitchens and houses a cooler drawer and icemaker on the left, and a wine fridge on the right—all cleverly disguised as a buffet. "I really think they did a good job," affirms Andy.

As a busy family of six, Megan and Andy also needed a respite in their home to retreat from the daily grind. Their master suite takes up about two-thirds of the main level, which includes the bedroom, a master bath, his-and-hers closets, and Andy's office. "It feels like a mini apartment, to be honest," says Andy.

Jerry Schmidt, director of design at Dream House Dream Kitchens, praises the Walker's unique vision and painstaking detail in the home. "I would say the fact that you can see straight through the house end to end is a cool feature," he says. "It's a fun house, because you feel like you're walking on the water, in a sense. It really pulls you toward the lake. It has the right window heights and lines—it's a great formula." 🍷



# *airy* ELEGANCE

A Lake Delton family home has the look of a Cape Cod cottage while weaving in classic, curated décor touches.

By Shelby Deering | Photography by Shanna Wolf





## *coastal kitchen*

The decorative accents in the kitchen are close to homeowner Sarah Pope's heart. As for the Chinoiserie vases above the cabinets, she says, "Blue is my favorite color, and this is a collection I have been gathering over the years." She thought the silver whale "deserved center stage in our kitchen."

4,492 SQUARE FEET / 4 BEDROOMS / 3 FULL BATHS, 2 HALF BATHS



## *wide open spaces*

"The details are what makes the difference in any home," Sarah shares.

These details can be seen in the whisper-blue backsplash showcased in the kitchen, the Visual Comfort chandelier over the table, the Dwellings pieces seen in the dining room and great room, and a beloved painting over the fireplace. "This was a gift from a family member that we brought in from our previous home," Sarah explains.







During the summer, the Wisconsin Dells area transforms into a bustling destination for tourists visiting from near and far. Meanwhile, as tourists play the days away on water slides and go-karts, a family home sits quietly on Lake Delton, seeming as if it's a million miles away from the crowds.

In October 2017, Justin and Sarah Pope embarked on finally making their dream home a reality. After spotting a Hart DeNoble Builders home during the 2002 Parade of Homes, the couple fell in love with the builder's designs and decided then and there that they wanted them to build their future lake home.

Fast-forward nearly two decades after that Parade of Homes sighting, and the Popes are now living in, and loving, their lakeside home.

### AN IDYLIC PIECE OF LAND

Although the home project was started in 2017, their vision was formulated long before that. Lake Delton residents since 2004, the couple who are parents to two boys (Nolan, 13, and Ethan, 11) explains, "Our family was living in another home we had purchased in 2007 on the other side of the lake when we came across our current property for sale. We had been very happy with our previous home but [it] lacked green space for our boys to play on."

In 2017, the Popes met with Steve Hunter, their architect from Hart DeNoble Builders. From there they worked with a contracting team which included Jason DeNoble, Jason Franzen and Gar Holcomb. Later that year, the crew took down the original cottage and construction began.

### THE BUILDING PROCESS

Jason DeNoble shares that the Popes desired "a quality-built home taking advantage of the amazing lake views and lot."

Like many lake homeowners, the water was Pope's main focal point. "Our goal was to have a lake view from every main living space and bedroom," Sarah echoes.

Over the next 11 months, the team got to work. To maximize the vistas that the couple dearly wanted to enjoy, the elevation of the property was raised substantially.

Sarah adds, "It was a large undertaking to bring the elevation of the home up to what the design dictated. Over 50 truckloads of fill were brought in to raise the home. Our current main level sits at the same level as the previous cottage's roofline!"

Other design aspects provide unhindered views of the lake. For example, the couple opted for 10-foot ceilings throughout the home to open up the space and allow for expansive windows that would invite natural light to pour in.

"The elevation of our main level sits in a fashion that when you are standing inside, you feel as though you are right on top of the water," Sarah says. "It makes for a very peaceful and serene vibe in the home and a jaw-dropping view when you enter the two-story foyer."

### DÉCOR DETAILS

When the family isn't boating, fishing or taking in stunning lakeside sunsets (often shared with their pup, Gage, who equally loved being on the water), they are enjoying the comfortable, airy surroundings of their home.

"We wanted a timeless feel as we plan to stay in this home forever," Sarah says.

Amid the coffered and wood-paneled ceilings, wood mouldings, built-in cabinetry and Bluestone fireplace lie warm and thoughtful



## *marine colors*

From the laundry room's navy cabinets to the nearly all-white mudroom, blues and whites are prevalent throughout this lakefront home, nestled alongside visually-pleasing decorative elements.

These pieces are beautiful without overwhelming the space, like the quatrefoil mirror from Pottery Barn.

The couple was immediately drawn to the property—it was a double lot with flat water frontage and a bygone cottage that had been built in 1944.

"This was the perfect opportunity to build the home we had always wanted," Sarah shares. "We purchased the lot in 2015 and began making plans for our next home."



## *classic comfort*

Many Dwellings furniture pieces can be seen throughout the home. Co-owner Julie Umhoefer says, “When choosing the furnishings for Sarah’s home, we paid close attention to details—contrasting welts on the swivel chair and ottoman, hand-rubbing on the dining chairs, the sisal rug in the great room, layering of textures in the bedding pieces, upholstered captain’s chairs in the dining room and more. Every piece was hand-selected to create a finished look.”







## *lakeside look*

This home's locale is infused in nearly every room you see, from the nautical bedroom outfitted in Ethan Allen linens to the bathroom featuring weathered wood, to the washroom drenched in navy blue hues.



décor touches. Sarah especially loves the lighting throughout the home, all purchased through Madison Lighting.

Dwellings, a Madison-based furniture and interior design company, lent their aesthetic expertise to the home as well.

"We helped Sarah select furnishings for her great room, master bedroom and dining area," co-owner Julie Umhoefer explains. "Because

of the beautiful lake view and details that Sarah had already paid such attention to, we knew the furniture needed to be complementary to the home itself. We wanted to create a cozy, inviting and livable space, one that her family could enjoy and feel comfortable in. This home feels like a soft, Midwestern lake retreat."

The breezy visuals carry to the exterior as well. Inspired by trips taken out East and spending time in Cape Cod, the exterior has



## *life on the water*

Even when indoors, the outdoors are never far with the home's copious windows. Hart DeNoble's Jason DeNoble notes that the placement of the rooms optimized the views, and to continue the lakeside fun, he says that "storage was added under the garage with easy lake access for watersports equipment." A patio outfitted with wicker furniture and a gilded Pottery Barn coffee table invites friends and family to linger over lakeside views.







handsome gray shingles and Bluestone reminiscent of an ocean-front cottage.

When asked about her favorite aspect of the home, Sarah says, "For me, I would say everything! This home has been in my head for years, and to see it become a reality has been nothing short of a dream. Some of my favorite days are spent sitting by the fire with a glass of wine and taking in the views, whether it be by the fireplace or outside at the fire pit. I feel so fortunate to be able to call this my home." 🐾



*Shelby Deering is a lifestyle writer from Madison, contributing to regional and national publications like At The Lake and Country Living.*



## get the LOOK

Sarah and Justin Pope called upon the interior design expertise of Jenny Haley and Julie Umhoefer of Madison's Dwellings to furnish key areas of their home. The sisters designed and chose pieces such as the master bedroom's bed, dresser and linens; the dining room's table, chairs and area rug; the great room's sectional, ottoman, swivel chair, floor lamp, console table and area rug; and the upstairs loft's media cabinet. Other items in the home were purchased from tried-and-true retailers such as Pottery Barn, like the silver whale in the kitchen and the quatrefoil bathroom mirror. The chandeliers in the dining room and master bedroom are from Visual Comfort.



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# *Before & After*

Four mood-lifting makeovers that breathed new life and functionality into spaces with gorgeous results.







Instead of simply doing the herringbone backsplash up to the cabinetry, Cullen extended the tile up to the ceiling for a unified look. Polished gold pulls add glamour and interest to the space.

between the kitchen and dining room floors. If the wall came down, both floors would have to be replaced. That being the case, the Cullens decided to do both projects simultaneously.

Mary did most of the design work herself, tapping Alex Wood of Alexandra Wood Design for some consulting. To lighten the kitchen, Mary selected modern white-painted cabinetry, adding brass pulls to match the rest of the home's brass hardware. She swapped the dark countertops for a light marbled quartz, then added a much larger island—sans stovetop.

Since the decorative hood for her new Wolf range needed to be installed on a sturdy exterior wall, Mary located the stove and hood on the same wall as the sink, which looks out to the home's backyard. A new stainless steel Sub-Zero refrigerator with French doors went in, an improvement over the space-hogging, single-door version it replaced. And neutral, chocolate-toned oak flooring erased the golden tones that emanated from the prior maple planks.

But the pièce de résistance, according to Mary, is the gray-and-white herringbone tile that runs from the countertops to the ceiling on the exterior wall.

"I was nervous about it," she says. "But once it was up, it became my favorite part of the kitchen. It's definitely a win."

Wood agrees, adding the overall result is a kitchen with a classic, timeless look. "So many people try to do trendy things," she says, "but sometimes simple is better."

## MINIMALIST CHIC

By Melanie Radzicki McManus | Photography by Shanna Wolf

Mary Cullen likes a clean aesthetic. And when she moves into a new home, she prefers to take her time building up color and adding layers. So when she and her husband, George, settled into new digs in Madison's Maple Bluff two years ago, she knew a kitchen remodel had to be done.

The home's previous owners loved Arizona, and decorated the kitchen in a Sedona-toned palette, including terra cotta walls and orange-brown granite countertops. And while the room's island was a welcome addition, it contained a built-in stovetop that dominated the space—an impracticality, given the Cullens have two children under the age of 3. In addition, the wall separating the kitchen and dining room blocked the dining room's wealth of natural light, plus views of the sunroom, which Mary planned to turn into a playroom.

Removal of the shared wall was actually the couple's first priority. After the couple tapped Jeremy Olson of New Way Remodeling for the job, he discovered a half-inch transition



Honeycomb tile was used as a subtle accent in the vanity, tying it into the shower tile. The vanity's wood ledge is a nice design touch—and can also hold greenery.







# A BATHROOM BEAUTY

By Shayna Mace | Photography courtesy of Kowalske Kitchen & Bath

When Elise and Mitch Murn purchased their Delafield home in June 2016, the downtown Milwaukee transplants were looking to set down roots in a quieter area that was still close enough to family and things to do. They loved the home and location—but weren't in love with the master bathroom layout.

Puzzlingly, their master bathroom had a stand-up shower and another separate bathtub and shower. A small alcove housed the toilet. The bathroom connected to their master closet and another doorway in the back of the bathroom led to the guest bedroom, eliminating any privacy the couple wanted in their space. In other words, it was cramped, closed-off and non-functional. They also desired to update the former color palette of tan and brown to something fresh and contemporary, like the rest of their home. They consulted with Kowalske Kitchen & Bath to reimagine their space.

"I wanted to streamline the bathroom and the closet so that it had much more circulation space so that we had room to actually use the space more productively," says Kowalske designer Christina Kolb. "I wanted to give them a bigger shower and vanity, and make [it] feel more open."

The Kowalske team closed off access to the master closet from the bathroom and shifted the bathroom door to the right. (They added another doorway to the left from the bedroom into the closet). They also sealed off the second doorway access from the guest bathroom. The team moved the toilet to the back left corner of the bathroom, and installed a new five-foot-by-almost-three-foot shower in the back right corner. The finishing touch was a seven-foot-long double vanity to give the couple plenty of space.

Elise says she deferred to Kolb on much of the design specifics—but gave her ideas on what they wanted to space to feel like, using a gray, black and white color scheme and emphasizing the new, open space. The bathroom's luxury vinyl plank flooring, honeycomb tile accents in the vanity and shower, black DreamLine shower enclosure and contemporary sconces all quietly convey relaxed style.

"[Their home] has a light, modern, young family feel," says Kolb. "So, I wanted to carry that into the master bathroom [but] add in more adult touches so that it felt like an escape suite."

The Murns love their new space, which won a Gold Remodeler of the Year award from the Milwaukee chapter of the National Association of the Remodeling Industry in 2019.

"I just love the lightness and the modern feel of the space," says Elise.









# COUNTRY CHARM

By Shayna Mace | Photography by Shanna Wolf

Jill and Larry Gierach live in their “seven acres of heaven” in Fort Atkinson, down a quiet country road. Since 2002, the couple have loved their A-frame home with its rustic charm. But with Larry’s impending retirement a few years ago, Jill knew that their tight, galley-style kitchen was quickly outliving its usefulness. Since Larry’s job was out of town, he only stayed at home on the weekends, so the kitchen’s layout didn’t affect their day-to-day lives as much. But with Larry being home 24/7, it was time to make some changes in their kitchen and great room.

“We couldn’t be in the kitchen at the same time. If one person opened the refrigerator, you were stuck,” explains Jill.

A peninsula closed off the kitchen, limiting traffic flow and creating functionality headaches. Jill consulted Shannon Figaro, founder and principal designer of Fig Interiors out of Madison, to help out.

“Jill and Larry were wonderful to work with from the initial meeting. They told me their pain points and the kitchen was not conducive to their lifestyle and the flow wasn’t the best. The peninsula was limiting their ability to enter the space with groceries. They’re baby boomers, so they wanted ease of use, some of the appliances replaced—essentially, they wanted an overhaul,” says Figaro.

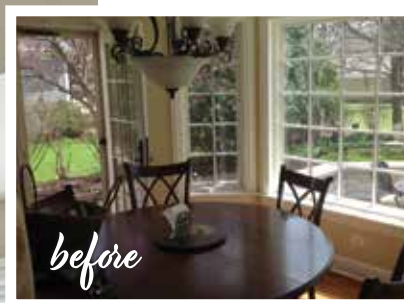
Over a six-month period, Figaro and her team revamped the Gierach’s kitchen and great room. In the kitchen, new cabinetry by Curran Cabinetry & Design, Cambria quartz countertops and appliances from Grand Appliance and TV were installed. A kitchen island was swapped in for the peninsula. An updated window over the sink replaced the old, non-functional one. In the dining area, Curran built a custom hutch to house Jill’s pottery pieces as well as a coffee and wine bar. Finishing touches included an apron sink, subway tile backsplash, barstools from Restoration Hardware and pendant lights from Madison Lighting.

The carpeting was ripped out in the living room and replaced with hardwood floors, stained to match the Gierach’s existing floors to create a cohesive feel between spaces. Since the A-frame was sheathed in knotty pine paneling throughout the entire first floor, Figaro suggested the paneling be removed in the kitchen and an adjacent wall to minimize busyness and let the new cabinetry shine. (The paneling was left throughout the rest of the room to preserve character.) Finally, the rustic wood staircase railing was taken down and replaced with a steel cable version for a contemporary touch.

“We were able to transform the space for the better, hitting the nail on the head with the goals for Jill and Larry,” says Figaro. “I’ve seen them enjoying the space with their family over and over again. That’s the best part to me, when I can see homeowners using the space exactly how they describe they would like to in our initial meetings.”

For Jill, an unexpected perk came with the kitchen transformation: “I had a husband who never cooked—and he’s loving to cook. He’s in here all of the time, and it’s changed that man’s life. [The kitchen has] opened a whole new way of using the space and bringing people together.”





furnishings. Then, they sought Cahill's expertise for their kitchen, which lacked functionality. Surprisingly, Cahill recommended that they reconfigure the kitchen to define it from the living room and provide separation for the two spaces.

"We closed off the space a little bit, which is contrary to a lot of people's thinking. But, it defined the space," explains Cahill.

As part of the kitchen revamp, the homeowners wanted to be able to effectively use the eat-in area of the kitchen with a bay window that housed a round dining table and chairs. Although it worked before, the homeowners wanted to make it cozier and more inviting. Cahill got to work reimagining the breakfast nook. A new creamy white table by Tritter Feefer was swapped in for the family's old, dark, cherry table. Comfortable upholstered chairs with white piping and nailhead trim swathed in durable indoor/outdoor fabric by Mr. and Mrs. Howard for Sherrill Furniture lend a luxe feel to the spot. A fashionable yet functional Lillian August tufted banquette occupies one side of the table for another comfortable seating option. The banquette touches on the popularity of built-in seating in dining areas, but is actually a stand-alone furniture piece.

"Don't be afraid to put furniture or a bench against a window. When we propose different layouts [to clients], they think, 'I can't put things in front of a window.' You can. It doesn't obstruct any view when you're standing there, and, you don't have to have three feet behind a bench. So, you've gained three feet in the room by using that banquette," says Cahill.

Other simple designer touches to the space included a new statement light fixture by Visual Comfort, shiplap detail on the ceiling (throughout the entire kitchen) and custom window treatments. Cahill was thrilled with the final results, and so was the family.

"I think any time we can get in bench seating ... I think it's so much more inviting and interesting than a bunch of chairs around a table. Mixing and matching different fabrics created an unexpected look that wasn't so matchy-matchy," says Cahill. "[The family] loves it. They use [the breakfast nook] and sit together more. We love to hear that [spaces we design] bring people together and that they're enjoying it—because this one does invite you in, and you want to sit there." 🍷

## SIMPLE BUT STUNNING

By Shayna Mace | Photography by Michael Kaskel

Making over a space doesn't always mean you have to spend a lot of money and weeks (or months) of time. It can be as simple as vision and creative energy. Such was the case for the breakfast nook that was part of a kitchen makeover project for an Illinois-based family.

The homeowners originally approached Melinda Cahill of North Shore Nest, a Glenview, Ill.-based interior design firm, for some advice on rethinking the setup of their living room



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**FUN IN THE SUN:** Taken on July 6, 1944, five girls sit on a pier on Lake Mendota at YWCA's Camp Maria Olbrich, a YWCA teen camp located on the shores of the lake. From left to right are Edith Gannon, Sally Smith, Mary Ellen Segerson, Turabelle Olson and Elspeth Hughes.

IMAGE COURTESY OF THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY (WHS-50073)





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