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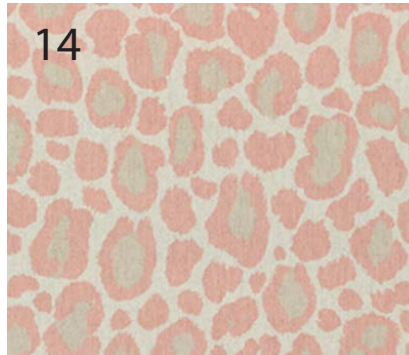


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ON THE COVER PAGE 42

PHOTOGRAPHY BY EMILY MINTON REDFIELD

Before even meeting in person, Laura had a good idea of the way the family lived and their likes. "All the inspiration photos had a few elements in common...mostly neutral colors, cozy and lots of layers and texture," she says.



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Florissant garden is a treat for both eyes and ears.

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It's easy to see that Laura Lee of Laura Lee Home loves to add pops of natural florals throughout her clients' home (pages 42-51). Not only do the flowers' beautiful color complement the well-designed spaces, but they contribute to the room's overall ambience.

Candice Wideman may not have fresh flowers in the kitchen she remodeled, but instead she designed a wall using colorful wallpaper panels with a floral design to the delight of the homeowner (pages 68-69).

With spring right around the corner and the warmer weather nudging the spring flowers and trees into bloom, our world will soon be exploding with color that we have patiently waited for a good five months!

Enjoy,

Suzie

Suzie Osterloh
Publisher/Owner

Suzie



Chillin' in Mary Tuttle's flower cooler with River, our assistant pup-lisher!



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pages 68-69



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















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Make me Blush

This year, we are deeming blush a new neutral. The soft, sheer shade works well in many different palettes and color stories.

By Melissa Mauzy

1. Suzanne Kasler collection, by Hickory Chair, available at *KDR Designer Showrooms*.
2. Villeneuve fabric, by Anna French, available at *The Great Cover-Up*.
3. Delilah peach diamond wallpaper, by Brewster, available at *The Fabric Co*.
4. African leopard fabric in pink, by Anna French, available at *LuLu Belles Fabrics*.
5. Utrecht lounge chair, by Gerrit Rietveld (1935) for Cassina, available at *Centro*.

5





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6. Lucy bed, by CR Laine, available at *Design & Detail*.



7

7. Lucent round rug in dusty blush, available at *West Elm*.

8

8. Berenson lantern, by Currey & Company, available at *Metro Lighting*.



9. Haven rug in blush, available at *Z Gallerie*.



9

10. Ada arm dining chair in blush, available at *Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams*.

11. Racer stool, by Blu Dot, available at *Centro*.

12. Chloe ottoman, by Hancock & Moore, available at *KDR Designer Showrooms*.



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VIBRANT VESSELS

Whether holding flowers or standing empty, the perfect vessel will bring interest into any home.

On location at Authorized Sales.

By Moe Godat





1. Minimalistic geometric vase, available at **The White Rabbit**.
2. Galvanized metal pitcher, available at **The Porch**.
3. Foliage print vessel, available at **Forshaw Inc.**
4. Decorative geometric vase, available at **The White Hare**.
5. Distressed metal vase, available at **Forshaw Inc.**
6. Hand-painted wooden vase, available at **Rusted Chandelier**.
7. Petite minimalistic vessel, available at **The White Rabbit**.
8. Gray-and-white glass pitcher, available at **The White Rabbit**.
9. Decorative curved vessels, available at **Dau Furniture**.
10. Dappled white vase, available at **Marketplace at the Abbey**.
11. Vase with blue vertical stripes, available at **Forshaw Inc.**
12. Rounded vase with blue accent, available at **Dau Furniture**.
13. Horizontally striped vessel, available at **The White Hare**.
14. Round vase with blue accents, available at **Dau Furniture**.
15. Delicate white vase, available at **Mary Tuttle's**.
16. Abstract geometric vase, available at **Rusted Chandelier**.

BEAUTY BUILDING

R.G. Apel tells us what's what in custom home building.



Dennis Auping of R.G. Apel uses 30 years in the business to craft truly signature homes. Whether looking for accessibility or the largest residential aquarium in the United States, he has you covered.

How did you get into the custom home business?

Dennis: I came up through the carpenter trade working with my tools for many years. Then I went to work as a construction manager for a large tract home builder. I then decided I would like to build custom homes with my own designs.

How did you become knowledgeable in the business?

Dennis: The years in the carpenter trade and learning other trades gave me a wealth of knowledge before I began my own business. I learned a lot about what it takes to build quality homes this way. I also learned the business from both sides: construction and sales. With over 30 years in the business, you're bound to learn some things.

What do you enjoy most about building custom homes?

Dennis: Every project still has its challenges, which keeps things interesting. You meet and become friends with so many new clients. Also, it is very satisfying to see a new project start from nothing and finish with a spectacular structure that someone will be connected to for maybe the rest of their life.

If a homeowner wants to build a custom home, what should they do first? Where would they start?

Dennis: I feel anybody that wants to build a custom home should first seek out a builder and meet with them for an interview to learn about their company and projects. This will help them decide who they are most comfortable with. Being a builder myself, I put the entire team together including the architect and designer if needed. I also help find the lot to build on if the home owner doesn't. It can take the effort of the entire team to complete a successful build, and I think the builder should be the head of the team.

How does a custom home differ from a home in a subdivision?

Dennis: In subdivisions they usually have three or so models to pick



Edited by Moe Godat
Portrait photography by
Colin Miller/Strauss Peyton

from. You select one with the most options you would like and then the builder will take it from there. The client won't usually see the home again until it is finished. When building a custom home, the client and builder are in constant contact usually going over selections, changes, schedules, etc. Most clients visit the job site weekly. Their home is one-of-a-kind being built.

Do you ever build the same house twice?

Dennis: No, we have not. We will sometimes start with a floor plan that we have and let the client look at it. There will be parts of it that they like and can see to start with ideas. Usually by the time the new floor plan and elevations are done, they are a complete new set of plans.

What is the most interesting thing you've ever built in a home?

Dennis: There have been so many fun and interesting things that we have done. There was an 8,000-gallon aquarium in a lower level that we did. (It was one of the largest in a U.S. residential home.) We have done gymnasiums under garages with 14-to 16-foot tall concrete walls. Observatories on the third and fourth floors. Pods inside rooms that are separate sleeping quarters with their own electronic doors, media equipment, HVAC, lighting, etc.

Do the architect and builder have to collaborate?

Dennis: Very much so, especially in the beginning to make sure that



the client is being heard and understood, and the team is working with the different municipalities in unison. The two work together also to keep the blueprints in line with the original budget.

When building a handicap-accessible home, what are the things you need to consider?

Dennis: There are many things to consider. Are you doing the entire home with accessibility or just certain areas? Exterior areas, interior areas, etc. This is the first place to start when making a decision for an accessible home.

What was the most valuable thing that you've learned from building

handicap-accessible custom homes?

Dennis: Probably one of the most valuable things is that not all needs are the same. You have to be able to adapt to different needs. It can be anything from aging in a place to needing very special access for certain special needs. Also, I have learned that you can do it all with a very beautiful level of finish. It all can be done to blend in with your beautiful home. ■ See stloushohomesmag.com for resources.



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Taking cultural insight and creating ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONS

From Analytical Data to Abstract Designs

By Tyler Bierman
Photography by Colin Miller/Stauss Peyton

For Alicia LaChance painting wasn't something she mastered from childhood. In fact, it happened long after growing up in Webster Groves, her stint of working three jobs abroad in Europe and even her collegiate career and professional start as an industrial designer in Seattle. No, Alicia LaChance only became a painter once she became a mother. "After my children were born and circumstances required that I come up with a new way to get my ideas out in the world and be with my kids. My brother, William, said that I should paint, so I set up shop on the kitchen floor."

From there she kept honing her craft and building her portfolio, "Every time I would sell a painting I would buy an artbook and gradually teach myself about art history. Then it was just exploring ideas and continuing to try and grow."

And she did continue to expand her experience and find her voice as an artist. One of her most monumental inspirations was, unusually enough, visual data graphs. "That was a big shift in the work for me, just sort of looking at the way visual data graphs plot exchanges between people and the inherent botanical nature of that. It's just really





beautiful seeing this plotted data create such natural imagery." Beyond that, it became a way for LaChance to explore the data behind the graphs to shine a light on intellectual ideas through symbols, languages and colors.

As for how LaChance goes about creating one of her abstract paintings, it's all about "looking for the mysteries." She elaborates on this idea by saying, "I'm interested in the gaps. I always like to equate it to jazz. You may be playing a series of notes, but it's the hang time, or the absence of a note, that makes you wonder. I always set out to create something that evokes that sensation and draws them closer. It starts there and then it's an exploration to find what comes next."

Today LaChance, having raised her family and left them to forge their own paths, has a new perception and is using that on her most recent collection of paintings she's calling "The Ornament of Grammar." Inspired by Owen Jones in his book "The Grammar of Ornament," these new pieces are a reversal on his ideas in that, instead of looking at the different aesthetics that come from different cultures, LaChance is looking at the symbols and images that come out of cultural boundaries. LaChance explains, "It's fascinating to me that you can take these geometries, boil them down and yet that understanding can transcend cultures and borders."

Along with this promising new focus on her art, LaChance is also working on getting her new website up and running and making a big move to a new workshop; she's also bringing a new and rare treat for local artists, a Peter Marcus print press. "I think there are like 10 of those that exist, and there are very few that are that scale. Seeing the ebb and flow of ideas and new artists using this machine will be so wonderful. I don't know what's going to happen, but I'm excited." ■ See stlouishomesmag.com for more photos and resources.

BAUER FALLS



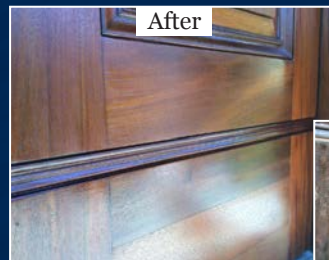
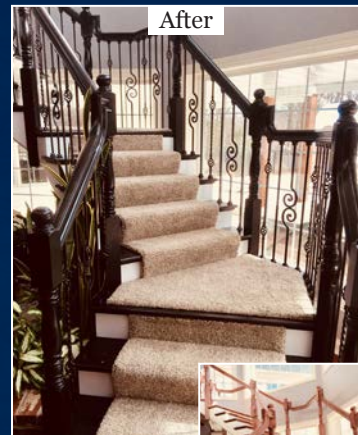
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GROWING JUNIPER

Juniper branches out with Southern roots firmly planted.

By Barbara E. Stefano
Photography by Colin Miller/Strauss Peyton



Workers in the bustling Central West End have had no problems finding Juniper in the past several months, ducking in for lunch, an earlier happy hour, later evenings and Sunday brunches. It's Midtown location is perfectly situated for a bite before or after ball games, theater events, exhibits and most other St. Louis attractions.

Owner and chef John Perkins moved the restaurant only a few scant blocks from Boyle to Laclede, but the space is larger, airier, more visible and includes a smoker and wood-fired grill that allow for a more expansive menu and improvements on the old one.

The faithfulness to the tradition of Southern cuisine is unchanged — but the ability to deliver it in its most delectable ways has changed for the better.

"A grilled chicken entrée — something as simple as that — was something we could add with the grill," John says. "We have a grilled pork chop on the menu now. We're able to grill hamburgers, we have a beefsteak that we grill [and] we do a lot of vegetable work on that grill. Just the grilled bread for the shrimp and grits is amazing."

..... St. Louis Homes + Lifestyles

Cooking School with **JUNIPER**

John Perkins will bring Juniper's southern fare to cooking school on Thursday, April 11, at Ferguson Bath, Kitchen and Lighting Gallery, 7895 Chesterfield Airport Rd. Chesterfield, MO 63005 from 6:30 – 8:30pm.



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COOKING SCHOOL MENU

Deviled eggs: As if Juniper's creamy gribiche at the center of the eggs weren't enough, smoked trout and a warm assortment of spices make these big-bite-sized savory morsels a joy.

Salad pair: Cooking School students will enjoy the smokiness of the charred endive and radicchio salad. Salad No. 2, the Little Gem Salad, includes cured egg yolk, crisp radish and fennel and cornbread crumbs. Both dishes are topped with homemade vinaigrettes.

Shrimp 'n' grits: A do-at-home version of Juniper's fan-favorite, this grilled shrimp dish gets its zing from roasted tomatillo sauce, peppers and andouille atop satisfying Southern grits.

Shrimp 'n' grits.



Salad pair.

In fact, it may be the presentation of Juniper's breadbasket that John loves most. "All the breads are just really, really good," he says, calling out the mouthwatering assortment of biscuits, popovers, cornbread and Sally Lunn bread on the small plate menu. "Bread has deep roots in Southern cooking. It's a simple deal, but it's often overlooked."

John and his executive chef, Glenister Wells, overlook nothing in the sourcing and preparation. They purchase close to home as often as possible but maintain fidelity to the South in the flavors and textures on each plate.

"We try to honor where the dishes come from. We like to ride that fine line between tradition and innovation. A lot of things are pretty straightforward, but we try to give people options with things that are a little more esoteric," says John.

For example, the Southern staple shrimp and grits gets a twist from Perkins' tomatillo sauce and "bloody butcher grits" made from red grits. They are courser than grits derived from white or yellow corn, and offer a dramatic, almost purplish presentation.

Longtime patrons and new customers alike are along for the ride. St. Louisans are more open-minded than food experts in other large cities have given St. Louis credit for.

"The kind of dining [St. Louisans do] has changed dramatically over the years. Maybe there was a latent sophistication we didn't recognize." ■ **See stlouishomesmag.com for resources.**



Deviled eggs.

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With her background in studio art, Laurie draws inspiration from color, artwork and fashion. These wide-ranging influences allow her to affect the overall experience and aesthetic of a space while adding finer elements to surprise and delight. She especially enjoys working with clients to realize and surpass their vision through architecture detail, color, lighting, finish palettes and artwork procurement. With more than seven years of experience in hospitality, commercial, senior living and residential design, Laurie is creating her own unique influence on St. Louis design.

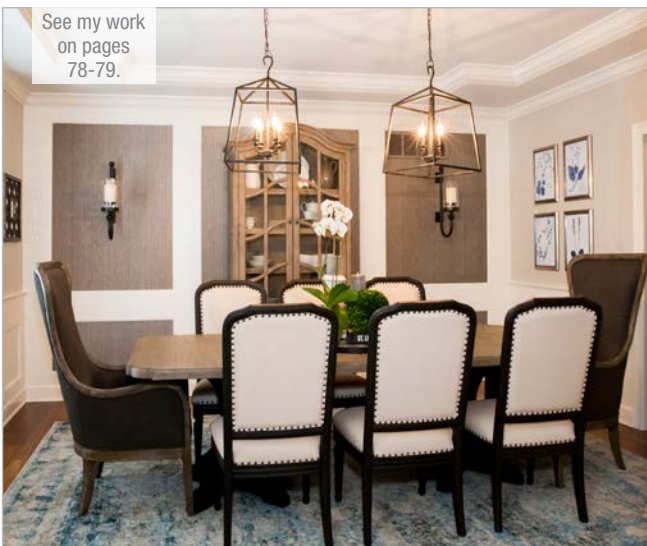
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Teddy Karl, Allied ASID, principal designer has over 20 years experience. He is skilled in all areas of the interior design process. Teddy's consider's himself a classic traditionalist with meticulous attention to detail and a touch of the unexpected. He loves to mix pattern and texture to create a sophisticated, well put-together look. Teddy has an incredible passion and energetic personality with the utmost professionalism. Visit The Great Cover-Up Monday through Saturday and discover the wonderful selection of custom furniture, window treatments, lamps, tables, artwork, accessories and gifts. The Great Cover-Up offers full-service interior design with an amazing library of wallcoverings, fabrics and trim. Visit the store or simply call to schedule a complimentary appointment. Let us help you create the home of your dreams.

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on pages
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Ellie Redders Interiors (ERI) will be celebrating its 10 year anniversary this upcoming November. Thanks to repeat customers and referrals, ERI has quickly grown into a full service residential and commercial interior design firm. The team currently consists of Ellie and 3 additional designers. Their shared passion for collaboration and positive client experience is evident from start to finish. Whether it's one room, a custom build, or a residential / commercial remodel, ERI has a "Design Package" to fit your unique needs. ERI has a showroom and warehouse in Wildwood and will be opening a newly remodeled showroom and office in Ellisville this summer. We look forward to listening to your vision and making it a reality.

DESIGNERS IN DEMAND



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16668 Old Chesterfield Road
Chesterfield, MO 63017
314-482-5590
accentoncabinets.com



Kathy Israel counts more than 18 years experience as a professional kitchen and Bath designer. Having begun designing cabinetry in Chatham MA in 1982, and moving to St. Louis in 1998, her award-winning projects have gained national attention. Her cabinets are synonymous with the finest quality and service along with elegant and understated cabinetry designs for every room of the home. She believes it's the attention you pay to the little things that can take a project from pretty to show-stopping. Cabinets are custom-designed to suit your space and your lifestyle. Our award-winning team works within each individual's needs and budget. From the initial design concepts to the onsite installation, the same care and professionalism are provided throughout the project. Call to schedule a free consultation, or visit our showroom.



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17014 New College Avenue, Suite E
Wildwood, Missouri 63040
annemariestudio.com
636-821-3395



Anne M. Boedges, President and Designer of Anne Marie Design Studio, LLC has been helping clients fall in love with their homes all over the St. Louis area since 2001. She obtained her BFA in Interior Design from Maryville University in St. Louis, MO. She has previously taught the NKBA Bath Design Certification Course at St. Louis Community College. Specializing in Kitchen and Bath Design, Anne's positive and down to earth approach helps clients feel anything is achievable, and her unique attention to detail distinguishes her work amongst the rest.

DESIGNERS IN DEMAND



BAUMHOUSE DESIGN, LLC

Julie Baum, ASID, CAPS
11 Vance Road, St. Louis, MO 63088
636-225-9000
BaumHousedesign.com



BaumHouse design is a kitchen, bath, interior remodeling, cabinetry and product showroom. Owner Julie Baum provides a single point of contact for both the design and construction phases of a project. As an interior design firm, BaumHouse design brings you a design solution, specific to your budget, lifestyle and aesthetic desires through education and years of experience. As a project management specialist, BaumHouse design manages all trade contracts providing a unified team approach to bring your project to completion. Your project will be managed in a controlled and efficient manner, so that you don't have to. We make it that simple. Your goals are our goals. Call for an appointment or visit our website for photos of our past projects. "More than designing spaces...We design lifestyles."



TOM MANCHE INTERIORS

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314-993-2700
tmanche@sbcglobal.net
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Tom Manche Interiors is not limited to just one design discipline. "Whatever your style - Traditional, Modern Traditional, English, Country English, Country French, Transitional or Classic Contemporary - we make your dreams come true!" Please visit our web site at: tommancheinteriors.com.



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636-519-4090
BeautifulRooms.Design

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314 922 7254
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DETAILED DESIGNS BY DENISE

174 Clarkson Executive Park
Ellisville, MO 63011
636-220-6445
denise.deen@yahoo.com
denisedeen.com



Denise Deen, Certified kitchen and bath designer and owner of Detailed Designs by Denise, has enjoyed helping clients create amazing kitchens, baths and basements for 30 years. Our design team, Denise Deen and Becka Chick, focus on the client and their details to create a unique project which is perfectly functional for their lifestyle. Our design studio has a comfortable atmosphere which offers a one on one personal approach to the design process and product selection. As we keep current with the latest trends in design and products, we also educate our clients and help guide them towards the best choices for their space. Most importantly, we love what we do and fully enjoy creating spaces our clients will enjoy for many years to come.



ALSPAUGH KITCHEN & BATH

Christine Paul, B.A. Interior Design
9808 Clayton Road, Ladue, MO 63124
314-993-6644
glenalspaughkitchens.com



For fourteen years Chris has worked as a designer for Alspaugh Kitchen & Bath with the goal of creating highly functional, beautiful spaces based upon her clients' personal needs. She brings her educational background in interior design to the kitchen and bath industry, providing a valuable and comprehensive perspective. Chris' passion for design drives her to explore current trends, keeping abreast of the latest innovations to educate and inspire her. Chris builds relationships with her clients, providing excellent customer service from the initial design process through installation.

Joy Tribout's interior design concept for Many Oaks is evident from every vantage point – dramatic and clean-lined with numerous color accents, complementing the dark-toned woodwork that emphasizes the home's striking architectural elements.





FROM “FORLORN” TO FABULOUS!

Enterprising homeowners, a talented architect and Joy Tribout Interior Design breathe new life into a historic Ladue residence.

By Barb Wilson
Photography by Bob Greenspan Photography

Architect: DL Design
Interior Designer: Joy Tribout Interior Design

Surrounded by towering trees, some more than 200 years old, “Many Oaks” had been a Ladue landmark since 1907. The formal gardens once reflected the grandeur of the World’s Fair era and, in 1911, the imposing Bavarian Tudor residence was among the region’s first to convert from gas to electricity. Owned by a succession of prominent St. Louisans over the years, the historic home had been updated in the 1980s, but still retained its original character.

A lifelong resident of Ladue, the soon-to-be owner had been fascinated by the property since boyhood. When made aware that it was available for purchase, he jumped at the chance. His wife, however, was reluctant. The home had been empty for four years and looked a bit “forlorn” to her, but razing the structure wasn’t an acceptable option.

Inside, the décor was clearly high-end — traditional and ornate, with vast quantities of silk drapery, elaborate plaster molding and vintage Brunschwig & Fils wallpaper. But neither the style nor the spatial flow was particularly well-suited to the family’s contemporary lifestyle, which included two young sons. Still, the husband was vigorously enthusiastic, the wife acquiesced, and they took possession of the property in 2013.

Since renovation of the home would be a massive undertaking, the couple first remodeled the guest house as a temporary residence while they developed their plans. Finding an architect who could grasp their vision proved difficult, but Darryl Labruyere of D.L. Design eventually “zeroed in” on their concept, and construction began.

Built during the Edwardian era, the main house was originally designed for horse-drawn carriages and a household staff of servants. Every room would need to be redone, which meant the interior would have to be taken down to the studs. Inspired by the wife, the centrally located ballroom was transformed into a spacious kitchen and family room, the hub of the home and overlooking the rear lawn and gardens.

Elsewhere, the dining room was converted to a magnificent main-floor master suite, with a sitting area, private deck and spa, and an opulent master bath and

Designed by Darryl Labruyere of D.L. Design, the newly-added great room soars to a unique beamed ceiling and is furnished with large, comfortable pieces chosen by Tribout and the homeowner to match the scale of this imposing space.





Originally the living room/library, the formal dining room includes a sitting area, where deep-hued walls, hand-painted gold picture frame molding, and a chandelier reminiscent of art nouveau styling recapture the home's vintage elegance.





Primarily the living room/library, the formal sitting room includes a dining area, where deep-hued walls, hand-painted gold picture frame molding, and a chandelier reminiscent of art nouveau styling accentuate the home's vintage elegance.



dressing room. The original living room/library became the formal dining room and, capitalizing on the picturesque setting, all rooms on the main level were fitted with French doors that open to either a covered or open-air veranda.

The new floor plan added a spectacular great room; bistro-style bar and TV room; butler's pantry; and a finished lower level with fireplace, second kitchen, gym and full bath. A special haven for the wife, her private space is multi-functional, combining an office and craft room with an adjacent indoor kennel and dog bathing area.

By 2015, construction was at the stage when it was time to start choosing interior finishes, and the wife was feeling rather overwhelmed by the prospect of furnishing 9,800 square feet of living space. Attracted by several items in the window of a local design shop, however, she

met her "lifesaver." Designer Joy Tribout has been a well-known industry professional for 35 years, and the two connected instantly.

Now based in Belleville, Joy Tribout Interior Design features a 17,000-square-foot showroom and warehouse that the homeowner gleefully describes as her "candy store." Open exclusively to clients except for two annual sale events, the business includes daughter Tammy Tribout-Carusio, who has 27 years of design experience, Joy's daughter-in-law Anna, a team of expert seamstresses and a full-time artist.

When asked to describe the interior effect she hoped to achieve, the homeowner replied, "I wanted 'Joy's style' – dramatic and clean-lined, with no frills but lots of color accents." Unfortunately, some of the home's original elements they'd wanted to preserve —



Opposite page: Formerly the dining room, this space was converted to a sumptuous main-floor master retreat, accented in a refreshing shade of blue and adjoined by a lavish bath, private deck, and spa.

This page top: Bold diagonals add visual interest to the predominately white, superbly appointed master bath. Through the door to the right is a spectacular closet and exquisitely furnished dressing/vanity room.

Bottom: Serene and inviting, the bedroom's bayed sitting area offers lovely views of the historic grounds.







for example, decorative molding — had inadvertently been destroyed during demolition. Tribout compensated for the loss by bringing in her artist, who hand-painted walls throughout the home to restore their vintage character, detailing and beauty.

Throughout the main level, dark-toned woodwork provides contrast and calls attention to the design's architectural assets, in particular, beams accenting the volume ceilings and window casings/muntins that emphasize the gorgeous views.

Furnishing the spaces was accomplished on a room-by-room basis and proved a continuous source of excitement for the owner. "Installation day is the best day of the year!" she enthuses. "Joy's truck pulls up, and we move things around until we have exactly the look we're going for." Her statement further illustrates the unique flexibility of working with Joy Tribout Interior Design.

The firm's innovative designers, large warehouse of items, and skilled staff of artisans offer clients a seemingly endless range of options. A clever example in the case of this home, two adjoining rooms are furnished with identical sofas, one custom-upholstered in a creamy hue, the other in a warm taupe-y shade. The owner can interchange these two pieces any time, accent them with colorful throw pillows, and create a fresh seasonal ambience for both spaces.

Installation of a front drive and entryway were the final major additions to the residence. When purchased, the home included garage space for three vehicles, situated on the lower level at the rear and following the old carriage route. A curved walk provided the only access to the front door and a small entry foyer. The revised layout now welcomes visitors to a dramatic 2-story foyer, and the new main-level three-car garage is easily accessible from the front driveway.

By autumn of 2016, the superbly renovated version of "Many Oaks" was ready for occupancy. To retain the charm of the landscape, great care had been taken to remove as few trees as possible, and the owners are now engaged in a "multi-season process" of restoring the grounds to their original glory, with flagstone and brick walkways, native plantings and fountains.

The interior design process is also ongoing, and the designer/client relationship has evolved into a warm and enduring friendship. "This is a fun house to do," says Joy, to which Tammy adds, "They're dream clients, and both have great taste."

Ultimately, the transformation of this extraordinary residence is evidence of what can be achieved by homeowners with a reverence for history, an architect who shared their vision and a design team whose stated objective is "to create beautiful interiors that support and enhance family life." ■ See stlouishomesmag.com for resources and additional photos.

Opposite page: Totally redesigned, the entry foyer now rises to two full stories while retaining the home's distinctive exterior styling. The sense of arrival is enhanced by a graceful staircase, gleaming marble flooring, and a minimalist circular chandelier.

This page top: The foyer's intriguing collection of styles, patterns, and color set the stage for the interior décor of this extraordinary residence.

Bottom: Inspired by the wife and now the "hub of the home," Many Oaks' ballroom was transformed into a fireside family room, open to the island kitchen which was designed by Alsbaugh Kitchen & Bath.

creating COZY

With no time to spare, designer Laura Lee helped a family create a new home in St. Louis.

By Melissa Mauzy
Photography by Emily Minton Redfield



Purchasing a new home and moving isn't typically a fast and simple process for most homebuyers. But for Brett and Jennifer Cecil, the move to St. Louis came quickly after Brett signed as a pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals in late 2016. Soon after, the couple got to work finding a home for their family in the Lou before the season began.

After Facetiming with their real estate agent to check out properties, a brand-new spec home in central St. Louis was the winning choice for its lot size, open concept layout and casual feel. As they packed up their belongings and prepared for the move, the couple got in touch with local



Opposite page: Layers of texture and pops of aqua and lavender add interest in the otherwise neutral sunroom. **This page:** The designer made the sunroom a family friendly space with a grownup feel by choosing textiles that were durable yet aesthetically pleasing like the laminated vinyl ottoman in a snakeskin print.



interior designer Laura Lee of Laura Lee Home. "We didn't meet in person until Brett and Jen moved into the home," Laura says. "We got to know each other over Facetime."

While not the typical working relationship, Laura enjoyed the added challenge and found creative ways to engage her clients from afar. She gives each of her clients a homework assignment after their initial meeting. Laura asked Jen to gather five inspiration photos to use as a starting point in conceptualizing the design of their new home. Before even meeting in person, Laura had a good idea of the way the family lived and their likes. "All the inspiration photos had a few elements in common...mostly neutral colors, cozy and lots of layers and texture," she says. "They are a very laid-back couple and a pile-on-the-couch family."

After the inspiration photos, Laura started building a color story for the home. While the Cecils gravitated towards neutrals they mixed in splashes of cool colors like blue, aqua, lavender and gray in fabrics and accessories. "I would select fabrics and textiles I thought would work in the home and would send Jen a box of swatches for each space in the home wrapped up with a pretty bow," Laura explains of her process. "It allowed Jen to touch the materials and really visualize the space." While different for the designer, it was a fun way to approach the design process and keep the homeowner involved.

Once the family finally moved in, the real work began. Since the home was brand new, there was no major construction needed. The designer changed out all of the lighting in the home and installed blinds and shades for privacy. Though the Cecils didn't bring a lot of their furniture with them, Laura and Jen had already purchased most of the pieces before the family moved in. "We prioritized which spaces needed to be done first and then worked in phases to order," Laura says. Phase one included the great room and the nanny's room. Phase two focused on the dining room, sunroom and kitchen.

Since the main level of the home was open concept with



The two-story great room required some creativity in the size and scale of furnishings. The designer chose a 5 1/2 foot wide chandelier as well as an extra deep, oversized sectional to fill the space. The sectional is one of the family's favorite places to hang out.





Ceiling beams delineate the dining room from the kitchen in the open-concept floor plan. Laura Lee encouraged the couple to embrace original artwork and antiques in the new home, and the antique valve piece on the dining room buffet from Rick Ege Antiques adds an industrial element. **Opposite page top:** An oversized "hunk" of wood, as Laura calls it, brings texture to the dining room table and accented with fresh florals is a cheery pop of color. **Bottom:** Aqua tones from the dining room are carried in to the kitchen in the counter stools, which are covered in an aqua leather seat with a textured fabric back and nailhead detail.



walls delineating spaces, each space had to complement the other. Dark-stained floors and grige-painted walls throughout helped create an even plane for decorating and accessorizing. The great room is central to the main level and the prime place the family hangs out. It is two stories in height, so the size and scale of the furnishings and lighting was important. Laura found a Ralph Lauren chandelier that is 5.5 feet wide and fills the ceiling space while casting beautiful light.

For seating, she chose an oversized charcoal sectional that was extra deep with a higher down fill so it is one of the most comfortable places to lounge for family movie nights. An ottoman measuring 4.5 feet by 4.5 feet has storage baskets underneath to stow away the children's toys and books. It was important to the Cecils that they purchase furniture and case goods made in the USA whenever possible. One challenge the designer faced was the corner floor-to-ceiling stone fireplace and how to maximize seating with the angle. Laura's solution was to mount the TV above the fireplace on a tilt for easier viewing. Then she angled the sectional and essentially tilted the arrangement of the whole room to the same angle as the fireplace.

Two special gifts are displayed in the home. Jen surprised Brett and had his prized deer head mounted on the fireplace in the great room. The other surprise was a set of four pen-and-ink drawings of St. Louis landmarks Laura gave the family as a Christmas gift, now displayed in the sunroom. "This is the Cecils first 'real' home, so they didn't have any original artwork or antiques," Laura explains. "It was fun to introduce those to them and they really embraced those elements. New homes always have to have old things to add a sense of character and interest."



Displayed in the dining room on a rustic buffet piece with antique mirrored doors is an antique valve mounted on an iron base from an old building in St. Louis from Rick Ege Antiques, which adds an industrial touch. The 8-foot dining table is made of solid oak. The thick, heavy piece grounds the space and is surrounded by gray Crypton upholstered chairs. An oversized aqua glass lamp on the buffet adds color, and the palette was inspired by the soft, beachy tones in the artwork.

Open to the dining room, the kitchen carries the Aqua tones with three bar stools covered in an aqua leather seat with a textured fabric back and spaced out nailhead trim. The designer changed out the lighting opting for three pendants over the island. A Parisian waitress tray sourced from Rick Ege Antiques holds produce on the island. Laura likes the piece because it helps control the clutter in a big, open-concept space.

The sunroom is a cozy place for the whole family and easily viewed from the kitchen if the adults are cooking. A bookcase with baskets and storage ottoman help hide away kids toys, especially the youngest child's. "With the home being so open-concept, you can't just shut the door and hide all the kids' mess so we had to create options to conceal them," Laura explains. The ottoman is a laminated vinyl in a snakeskin print, making it very kid friendly while still aesthetically pleasing. Laura says the sunroom is a space that is all about the kids, but it still looks grown up. She was able to achieve this



Opposite page: Laura added glam and feminine details in the master bath including wallpapering the ceiling with a marble paper in shades of ivory, tan and cocoa. **This page:** The homeowners wanted the master bedroom to be a space for grownups, so Laura made the room ultra glam with plush fabrics, metallic nightstands and draperies around the bed. A white, stacked-stone LED fireplace was also added.





One of the first spaces in the home the designer and homeowners focused on was the nanny's room. For a rustic feel, Laura wallpapered the wall behind the bed in a faux wood paper. Touches of pink, the nanny's favorite color, were incorporated in the lamps and bedding. **Opposite page:** Located in the lower level, the kid's playroom has an Americana feel with red, white and blue accents. Laura used FLOR tiles for durability and ease of replacement. Built-in bookshelves display the children's favorite LEGO creations.



balance by working with Fiber-Seal to treat most of the furniture and soft goods in the home making them pretty yet practical. "It allowed us to incorporate elements into the home we otherwise would not have been able to with young kids," Laura says.

One space that they made all about the grownups was the master suite. The couple wanted it to be a place to escape, so the designer focused on making it very sophisticated and tactile with lots of layers of texture. They added a white, stacked-stone LED fireplace with crystals that let off a cool glow. Two Donghia covered silk pillows with threads of lavender, gray and blue defined the color story for the room. A lavender velvet bench is set at the end of the four-poster bed. Laura added the drapery around the bed to enhance the room's sophistication. Metallic silver-leafed nightstands and a crystal chandelier further amp up the grown up feel. A charcoal coverlet and light gray duvet fit into the color story but allow for the couple's dogs to be on the bed. Laura also had a figure drawing by Denver artist Theresa Davis made for the space.

Another space fit for a grownup that was very important to the couple was their nanny's room. She loves the color pink, so Laura made sure to incorporate touches of the hue in the space, like in the pink glass lamps on the nightstands. Their nanny requested a rustic feel, and Laura found a faux wood wallpaper to accent behind the bed. Layers of texture in the space make it feel cozy, while the mirrored nightstand and chandelier make it sophisticated.

One final space was designed just for the kids. The playroom in the lower level is outfitted with custom-built bookshelves with places for the boys to display their Lego creations. Laura chose a red, white and blue Americana scheme and included tons of floor pillows to make the space cozy. Patterned FLOR tiles were used for their ease of care.

With family at the forefront, designer Laura Lee has given this new-to-the-Lou couple a place they can call home. Neutral furnishings and accessories chosen to withstand the wear and tear of kids, layers of texture and splashes of color have resulted in the right mix of casual and sophisticated. A place for a Cardinal and his crew to cozy up and be together. ■ [See stloushohomesmag.com](http://stloushohomesmag.com) for resources and additional photos.

the Music of **THE GARDEN**

Florissant garden is a treat for both eyes and ears.

By Lucyann Boston Photography by Kim Dillon









Sticklers for the English language would argue that gardens couldn't compose music or sing. But then they wouldn't have been to Ginny Mueller's garden. It harmonizes with the land via streams that spill down the hillside with boundless joy and hums quietly in pools filled with colorful koi. It trills to the tune of a landscape interspersed with five fountains. There are crescendos in the stone steps that climb the hillside and staccato notes in the sharp boulders that give the garden its definition.

A rhapsody of vibrant color swirls from the garden beds to the outdoor living spaces. Whimsical ditties seem to hover around the charming, dollhouse-like garden shed. The whisper of woodwinds is present when the breeze ruffles feathery evergreens and draping branches. Cool jazz seems to emanate from the sophisticated outdoor living room at the base of the hillside.

Not only does the garden make its own song, Ginny's love of music ensures that anyone who steps into the garden is immediately enveloped by whatever recorded music she is playing that day. Four speakers, placed throughout the landscape, invite visitors to instantaneously make the connection that this is a garden not only for the eye but for the ear.

To anyone who might look at her landscape and see it as a huge project, Ginny is quick to point out that the garden has been 40 years in the making. When she and her husband, Ray, purchased their Florissant home, they were living in St. Charles. Ginny was an elementary school teacher, where music was a part of her curriculum. In a subdivision of only 25 homes, the property backed to over 50 acres of common ground. "We looked at the house on a freezing cold winter day with snow on the ground. When I walked through the front door, I could see right through the house onto the deck and into the woods," she recalls. The couple fell in love with the feeling of spaciousness the property offered.

At the time, the house was only six months old and the yard was a blank slate, she adds. "The back yard had a slope to it and there were these 'beautiful' old railroad ties to hold back the water that was coming in from the street. The whole back yard was filled with cottonwood trees."





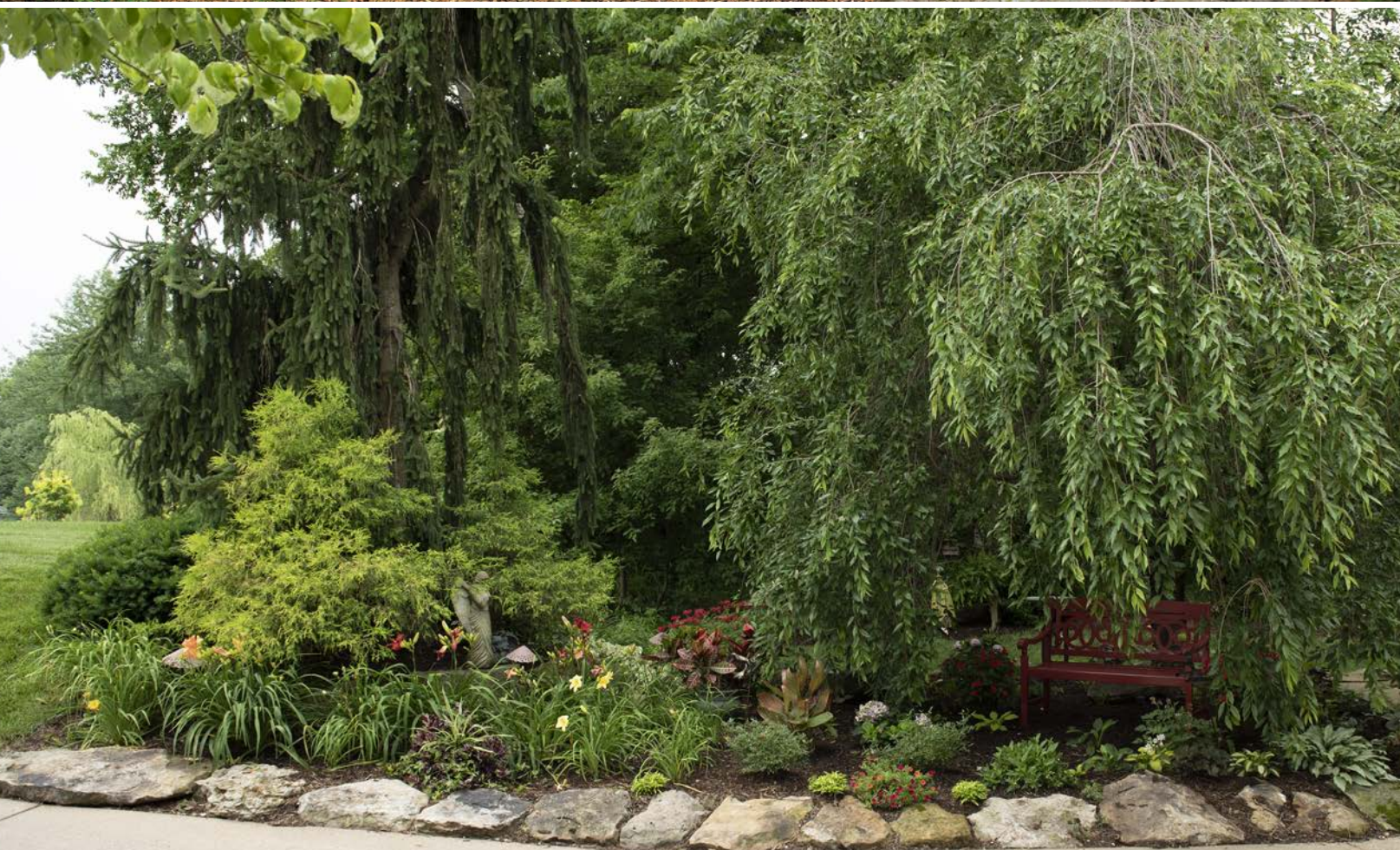
The garden started small with the couple doing their own landscaping. In time they added a small pond and “gardened around it. Then, we expanded it and we expanded it again,” she recounts, calling in Land Works to do the literal heavy lifting of creating and expanding streams and ponds. More recently, Caleb and Josh Bauer of Bauer Falls help tweak and maintain the project, which now consists of an upper bog pond filled with waterlilies and a lower koi pond. Two streams flow down the hillside and a natural stone bridge links both ponds.

The garden now covers nearly an acre, according to Ginny, who has continued to maintain it following Ray’s death in a tragic road accident in 2010. Ginny credits the music of the garden with helping her get through the terrible period in the immediate aftermath of Ray’s death.

The couple had previously committed to their garden being featured on the 2010 Pond-O-Rama garden tour sponsored by the St. Louis Water Garden Society and plans for the tour were far enough advanced that it was too late to cancel. Friends and family jumped in to help in the final stages of getting the garden ready for the tour. “I put on music and I dug, and I planted,” Ginny recalls. “So many people offered to assist me. It was healing to be in the garden and have music throughout the garden.”

Even now, garden music continues to be an inspiration. “If I have to put down mulch, I want something that keeps me moving,” she says with a laugh. “If I want to think about things, something softer and more meditative gets me back on track.” While Ginny’s love of music is a dominant theme in her garden, her love of color strikes an important note. Her choice of flowering shrubs, perennials, vivid annuals and outdoor ornaments celebrates the feast for the senses that encompasses her orchestrated hillside. “I love color in my house, I love color in my clothes and I love color in my garden,” she affirms.







Her third love, plants, ensures her garden is never static. "I love going to garden centers, finding something new and looking for a place to plant it," she says. As much of her garden is in shade, hydrangeas, hostas, astilbies and ferns, some from Ray's Aunt Tillie's garden in Litchfield, IL, are favorites.

"People should not be intimidated by doing anything in the garden," she says. "I am not one of these people who has 2,000 varieties of one plant, and everything labeled. Gardening has to do with trial and error, creativity, patience and trust; trust that plants will come back and the ability to experiment and change things up. Winter is like a blank canvas and in comes spring and everything changes. The garden is beautiful in the snow but even then, it changes every day. As the seasons go on, there is always something new and different, even if it is just a different blossom or a fish jumping."

The changes in nature are a constant inspiration for her to do new things herself, she says. "I always think I have done everything I am going to do and then every year, I end up changing up what I can and what needs to change up."

She loves the water features in her garden for the beauty, tranquility and soothing sounds they provide. "Water is healing," she believes. She encourages others to make water a part of their gardens and partake of its benefits. "A water garden doesn't have to be big," she emphasizes. "Small ones are very manageable. You can do it yourself. The St. Louis Water Garden Society welcomes new members, has speakers and shares information. There are so many resources out there for people to try and use." ■ See stlouishomesmag.com for resources and additional photos.

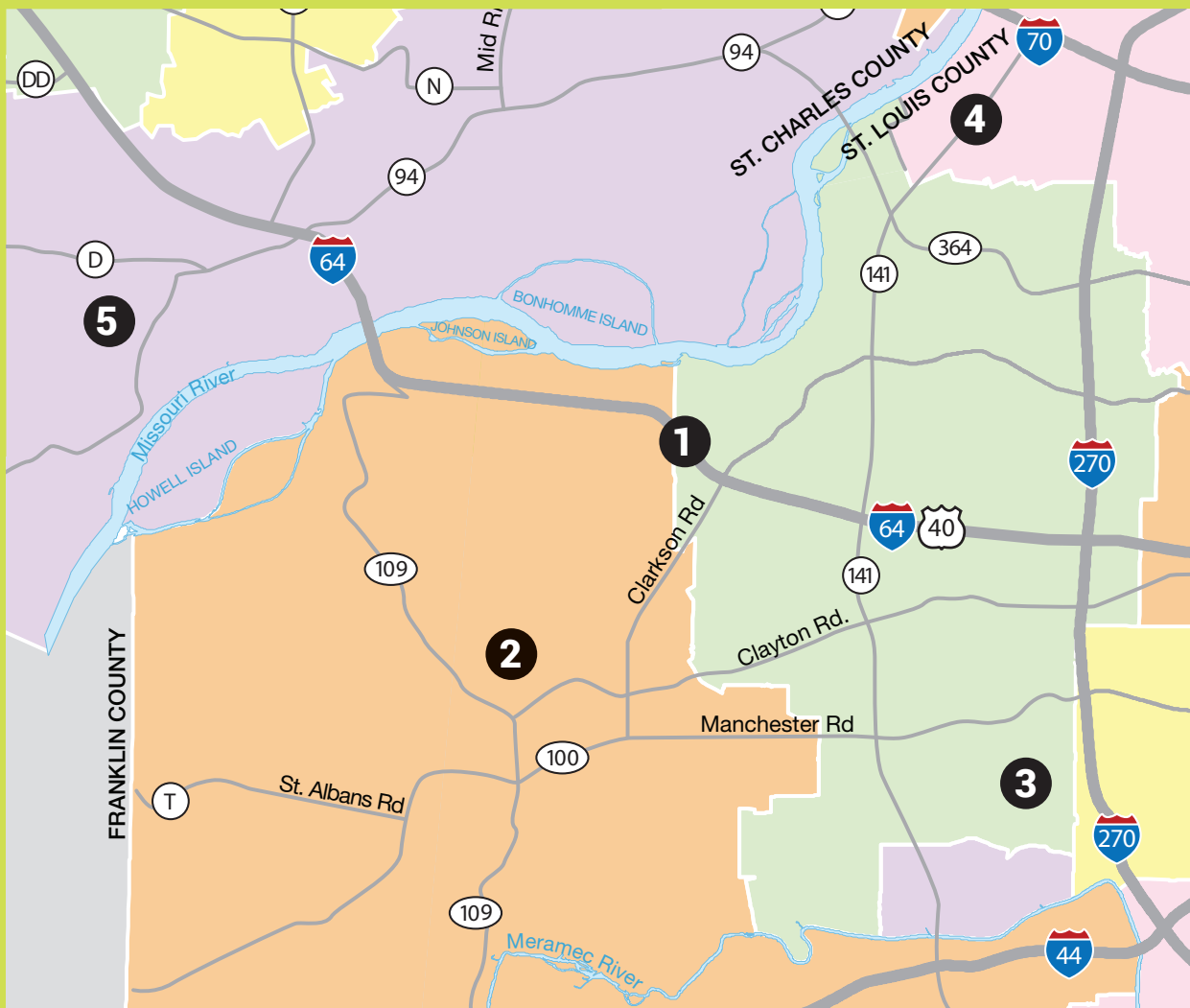
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Topic: All about hydrangea and unique varieties you'll love
Raffle: Kyushu hydrangea tree form 15 gal. \$210 value
- 2. Zick's Great Outdoors Nursery + Landscaping – 16498 Clayton Road, Ballwin, MO 63011**
Topic: Designing a 12 month "good-looking" landscape
Raffle: A gift basket filled with a variety of perennials and fertilizer to make your beautiful design at home. \$60 value
- 3. Greenscape Gardens – 2832 Barrett Station Road, Ballwin, MO 63021**
Topic: The Bountiful Backyard: The best tips for growing organic fruits, veggies & herbs at home
Raffle: A gift basket of organic garden supplies and edible plants. \$150 value
- 4. Schmittel's Nursery – 13801 Marine Avenue, Maryland Heights, MO 63043 (Off Hwy 141 & 70)**
Topic: How to create a deer-resistant landscape
Raffle: Black gum tree 1.75" trunk caliber. \$330 value
- 5. Frisella Nursery – 550 Hwy F, Defiance, MO 63341 (8 miles off Hwy 40)**
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Ann Lapides, Sugar Creek Gardens

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Divide every three to four years, yielding the best results in early fall.

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Fertilize with a granular fertilizer in spring to help the plant grow larger roots. This promotes more flower growth.

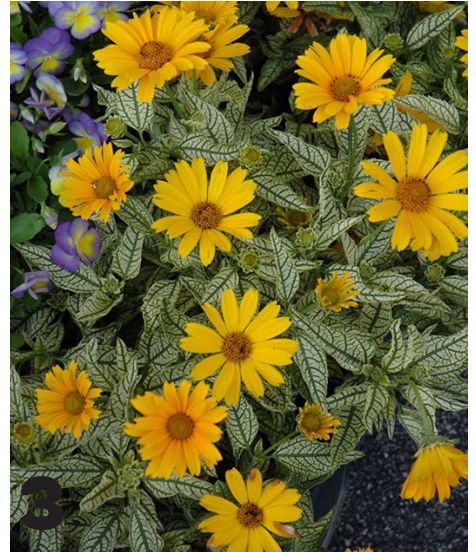
Winning a top spot on our perennial favorite's list, the vibrant Stokesia adorns the garden with enormous, periwinkle-blue 4-inch blooms. The blossoms are held high and flat on strong stems, making them perfect for cutting. It begins its prolific blooming in June, with continual waves of flowers through August. Magnificent in full display, it will have hundreds of its jewel-toned blossoms appearing at the same time. Stokesia makes a great companion to other sun perennials, including yellow tickseed, red and pink bee balms and showy coneflowers.



The trustworthy Russian Sage perennial has many favorable characteristics; it's a great staple for every garden. Not only is it drought-tolerant once it's established, it is also a longtime bloomer in summer and fall. We love Russian Sage because it's very deer resistant, and we are confident in recommending it for your sunny garden beds. **Bridget Clancy, Zick's Great Outdoors.**



New Day Rose Stripe Gazania. This stunning annual blooms from late spring into summer. This is a favorite due to the numerous vibrant colors, from the bright yellow-orange eye to the magenta petals with bright white margins. These gazanias will brighten up any landscape or garden! **Chesterfield Valley Nursery.**



Heliopsis "Sunstruck" is a showy and reliable sun-loving perennial featuring variegated foliage and a large, deep yellow flower. Its short, compact nature makes it a great addition to the smaller garden, in the front of the border or even in containers. Keep it deadheaded and it will bloom late into fall. **M.A. Ward, Timberwinds Nursery.**



A native Missouri coneflower, Echinacea Purpurea does well in the varying climate. It is very easy to grow in full sun or light shade. It has a long bloom time, makes a great cut flower and is an excellent source of nectar for butterflies. It is perfect for both small gardens and large prairie meadows. **Anne Deutch, Garden Heights Nursery.**



The Asiatic Lily "Landini" is the darkest Lily you will find with prolific, deep midnight-red flowers. These summer bloomers grow to be over 4 feet tall, and their long stems make them excellent cut flowers. It is ideal for containers, but be sure it is well watered and in a sunny location. **Sarah Riley, Bowood Farms.**



Also called Hyssop or Hummingbird's Mint, the Agastache comes in yellow, purple, orange and coral. This plant is in the mint family and has a nice fragrance to attract butterflies and hummingbirds (but not rabbits or deer). Most selections are a nice, compact size, and can tolerate full sun in dry to medium soil. This works great for a border or in pots. **Kate Nevins, Kirkwood Gardens.**

APRIL

Stay up-to-date in your landscape with planning tips and events from the Missouri Botanical Garden.

April 1-15

When buying bedding plants, choose compact, bushy plants that have not begun to flower.

Start mowing cool season grasses at recommended heights.

Topdress low spots and finish overseeding thin or bare patches.

Winter mulches should be removed from roses. Complete pruning promptly. Remove only dead wood from climbers at this time. Cultivate lightly, working in some compost or other organic matter.

April 15 - 30

Evergreen and deciduous hedges may be sheared. Prune the top narrower than the base so sunlight will reach the lower limbs.

Begin planting out summer bulbs such as caladiums, gladioli and acidanthera at 2 week intervals.

Begin setting out transplants of tomatoes, eggplants, peppers and sweet potatoes.



Events

April 5 – Sake and Sakura

April 5 – Arbor Day Tree Giveaway at the Missouri Botanical Garden

April 6 and 7 – Meet Me Outdoors at the Missouri Botanical Garden

April 6 – Daffodil Dash at Shaw Nature Reserve

April 13 and 14 – Meet Me Outdoors at the Butterfly House

April 14 – Tulip Trot at the Missouri Botanical Garden

April 27 and 28 – Chinese Culture Days

April 27 and 28 – Meet Me Outdoors at Shaw Nature Reserve

All of April – Spring Fling at the Butterfly House

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Tiny but MIGHTY

By Moe Godat
Photography by Darin Wood

Interior designer Candice Wideman catches the colorful personality of the homeowner in this small and feisty kitchen remodel.

Contractor: Berkley Construction
Interior Design: Youtopia Design

Though Tiffany's kitchen is small, she knew it needed a big makeover. "I'm a single woman who lives alone, so I didn't need a ton of space," she says. "But no matter how small, I needed it to have as much color and personality as possible."

Her search for an interior designer brought her right to Candice Wideman of YouTopia Designs. "I was nervous at first when I chose Candice because she'd worked on so many large, extravagant homes in the past," Tiffany explains. "But as soon as I met her, we clicked."

They began the renovation by removing the wall between the kitchen and dining room, which had a narrow 36-inch door. "Having that tiny door between the kitchen and dining room completely cut off one space from the other," Candice says. "By removing the entire wall, we were able to connect the two spaces and make entertaining much easier." Once the wall was removed, red oak hardwood flooring with a matte poly finish was put in the kitchen to match the original flooring in the dining room.

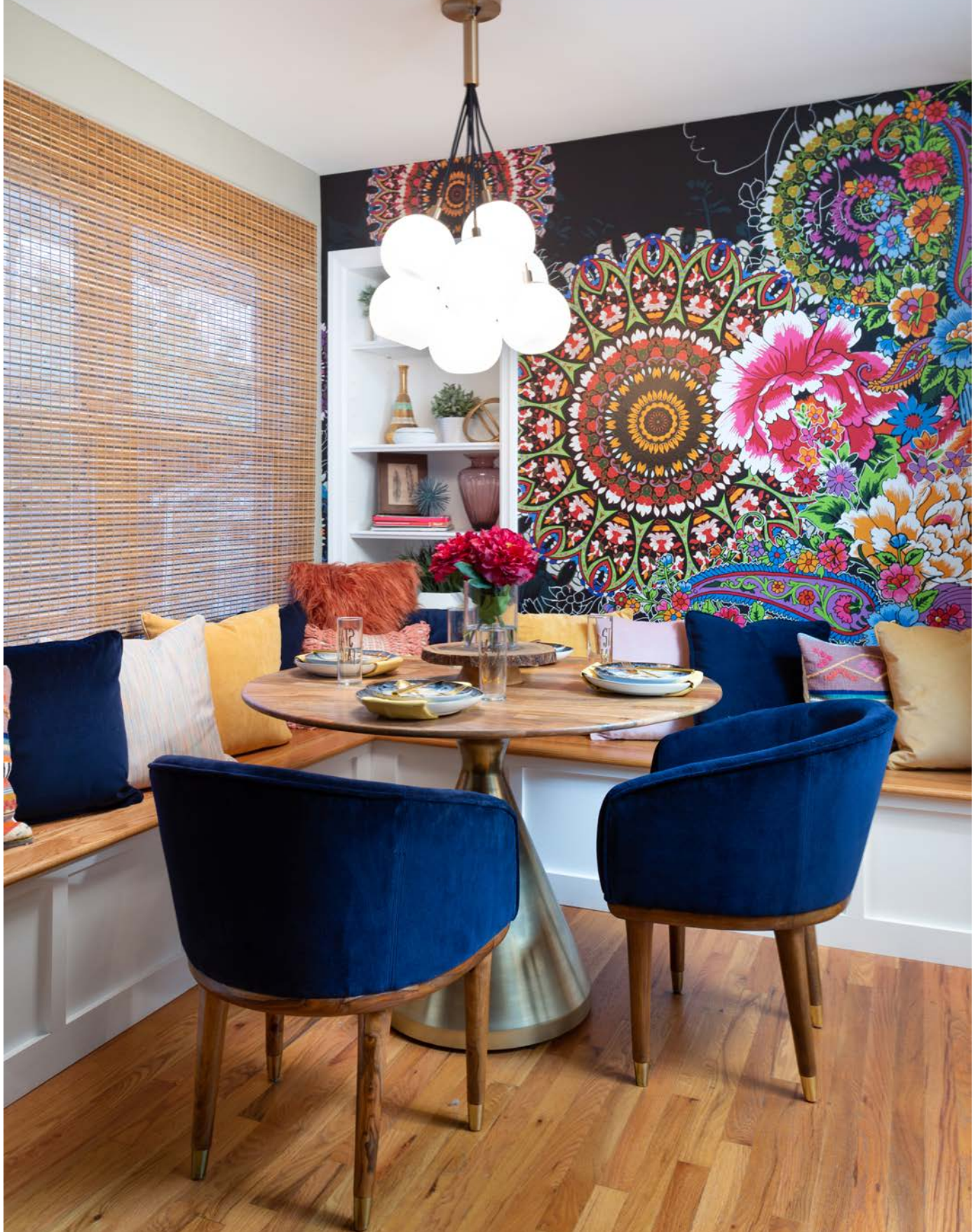
Candice and Tiffany worked together to pinpoint Tiffany's style and bring it to life. Right off the bat, Tiffany knew that she wanted contrasting cabinets and KitchenAid appliances, requests that Candice was happy to oblige. First, the soffits were eliminated to make room for tall white upper cabinets that they paired with navy blue base cabinets from Archway Cabinetry. The textured Byzantine Bianco 3D Ceramic Subway Tile that covers the backsplash gives the room depth while not overpowering the bold cabinets.

Tiffany wanted custom built-in bench seating in the dining area, but a short closet in the corner seemed to get in the way. Instead of removing the closet and losing much-needed storage space, Candice decided to turn the closet door into a bookshelf. "This new door allowed more space to showcase the client's décor without having to forgo the storage the interior closet provides," explains Candice. Now acting as extra storage and cute display, the bookshelf/closet overlooks built-in bench seating covered in the same wood and finish as the flooring. Hanging over the gold dining room table is a simple yet bubbly light fixture that played perfectly into Tiffany's boho chic style, keeping the room trendy and in sync with the kitchen.



BEFORE





With the kitchen and dining room reconfigured to make hosting parties a breeze, the space needed a final touch. Candice knew Tiffany wouldn't shy away from a vibrant statement wall, and they chose wallpaper panels from Brewster Home Fashions. Its colorful floral print gave the room the pop of color it needed while still tying in

the navy blue found on the lower kitchen cabinets. "The wallpaper is vibrant and unusual," Candice says. "It's not something that you'd see in just anyone's house; her bubbly personality and clear vision are what made this kitchen so unique." ■ **See stlouisshomesmag.com for resources.**



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CORI'S AMAZING TECHNICOLOR HOUSEHOLD

Interior designer Cori Dyer's fearless use of color inspires her neighborhood — and her clients — to get a clue about hue.

By Shannon Craig Photography by Anne Matheis

Contractor: House & Home Remodeling
Interior Designer: Cure Design Group

If mixing gray with beige makes minimalist and neutral greige, what does mixing an electric-teal pleather sofa with hints of citrusy yellow and orange make? For some the answer is, quite simply, "a raucous nightmare." For Cure Design Group's Cori Dyer, it's home. "My grandfather was an artist and he used to paint upstairs all day," the interior designer explains. "Art — color — has always...I don't know. Color is part of who I am. I'm just a color person."

Having an effortless relationship with color is a fight hard-won, as anyone that's browsed magazines or random corners of the Internet





for inspiration in the last few years can tell you. Current trends lean minimal. Neutral. Bold color, which many consider busy or complicated, doesn't have much representation on the palette. Matter-of-factly, Dyer says that this all-encompassing neutral craze is one based in fear. "I think people are afraid of making a mistake with color. People are on the side of being timid, and especially with the way the trends are now — neutral colors and clean, colorless kitchens are all people see."

Luckily, Dyer's love of color — and her amazing technicolor household in Wildwood — have made her an authority on the subject and a paradigm worthy of study. Decked out in sunny oranges, sultry teals and fiery reds and pinks, her home doubles as her showroom, revealing how color can be used to create depth, dimension and interest.

"One of my neighbors calls my house 'The Museum.' There are always people coming in and out of it to see what they can do with color." While there is much to look at in the space, it is also extremely comfortable and liveable. Dyer uses these visits as opportunities to get to the bottom of what people are afraid of, breaking down the barriers that are keeping them from using color on even a minimal scale. Color, according to Dyer, can be tempered. Consistency is key.

"Every room in my house has a portion of black and white. I use it as a neutral because for one, it's timeless and it has an amazing contrast. I love mixing large and smaller pattern scales [of black and white] with color. It makes everything 'not crazy.'"

Dyer isn't looking to "scare them out of their shoes," so she'll usually suggest that clients incorporate color with a large investment piece, like art or an area rug. "I'll start there, and it usually encourages them to use a little more color."

Not everyone is ready for that much color in their home; she knows that color is, often, for the bold. But she feels that everyone — everyone — can benefit from layering color with classics and neutrals, finding space for the rainbow among their fifty shades of greige.

"I hope that my home is an anomaly in Wildwood," Dyer laughs. "We're exposed to so much [design,] you have to eventually choose what's going to be yours. It's harder than ever to bring in color, but I can show people a way to bring it in and really love it. They just have to trust me." ■ See stlouisshomesmag.com for resources.



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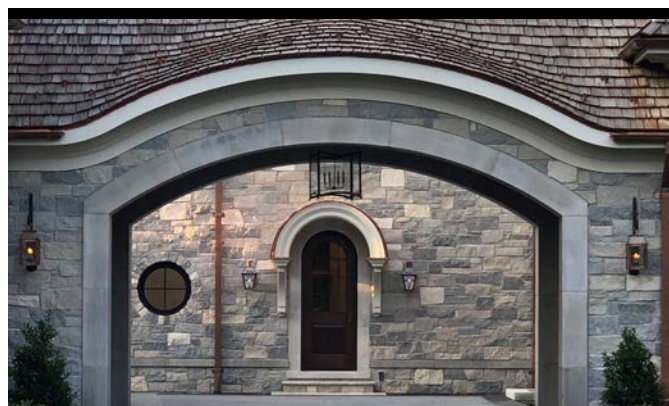
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PEACEFUL PROVENÇAL

Clever sourcing and a hands-on approach created a new Wildwood home with lots of history.

By Barbara E. Stefàno
Photography by Darin Wood Photography

Architect: Dick Busch Architects
Builder: Schindler Homes
Interior Designer: Ellie Redders Interiors

Jeff and Gina Schindler's Wildwood home may be less than two years old, but it has generations of history built into it. Not only did Jeff, a longtime builder, build the family home, but he personally gathered many of the reclaimed materials that now lend it so much charm. This is particularly true of the kitchen and hearth room, where interior designer Ellie Redders incorporated the wood and brick Jeff wanted to use in the design.

"The (kitchen ceiling) beams came from a barn that we took down outside of Washington, MO," says Jeff of the hand-hewn wood. "The big beam in the kitchen was a sleeper beam in the barn that held up the floor above it. It was an 1880s barn. We took some beams from a barn in Jefferson County, too. Good German engineering and ingenuity with different dovetail joints that weren't widely used in the area."

Planks from a 1930s railroad boxcar were incorporated into the kitchen floor by Historic Floor Company and also make





up the top of the large kitchen island. "They're 3 inches thick and real tongue-and-groove, and it was perfect for it. It has scrapes and gouges and lots of character," Jeff says. With two sons, ages 8 and 11, and two dogs in and out, the couple appreciates a space that is not so delicate they can't live normally as a young family tends to do.


Together with the Schindlers, Ellie helped plot the use of the reclaimed wood, as well as the Purington paver bricks Jeff got from a street in Chicago. The bricks adorn the kitchen backsplash and found a home in the mud and laundry room. Next, the designer turned a critical eye to selecting finishes such as lighting, hardware and wall coverings that would contribute to the warmth of the space without making it too dark.

"The space has so many textures and layers that all work so well together," Ellie says. "The feeling being what it was, things could get dark really quick, so it was important to keep the walls light and keep that light linen in the furnishings."

Ellie loves to "go big" on lighting and hardware but has an eye for keeping things in scale. While the light fixtures in the kitchen and hearth room are large, the openness of them prevents them from swallowing up the space, she says. Similarly, she scaled up the kitchen hardware to make a statement without drowning out anything else. "The island is a big, beefy piece, so little pulls just didn't work."

Wood, stone, warm neutrals and a big touch of muted green create a French Provencal vibe that echoes the rural-countryside look of the landscaping outside.

For Jeff, it's easy to feel transported as he stands in his kitchen gazing up at the old nail holes and scratches made during decades of use, and the Roman numerals the original German builders carved in the wood beams to organize each piece. "Right above my sink you can see the number 13," he says. "It's neat to think of all the things that went on for 140 years in that barn. It has so much unique history to it. I like to daydream." ■ See stlouisshomesmag.com for resources.



2019 Baths of the Year

Above: Alsbaugh Kitchen and Bath,
2018 BOTY GOLD winner.

Photography by Anne Matheis.

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LAKE SHORE CHIC

It takes the right combination of creativity and expertise to design a modern condominium overlooking Lake Michigan's bustling shoreline.

By Jamie Siebrase
Photography by Brad Schade

Homeowner Olivia Kirk relocated from California to downtown Chicago in 2014, shortly after losing her husband. Kirk moved cross-country to be near her two daughters and eight grandchildren, but urban living came with another advantage: From her Lake Shore residence, Kirk has found plenty of ways to keep busy with everything from volunteer work to ballroom dancing. And decorating her new digs!

Kirk didn't waste any time calling Pamela Calvert, a St. Louis-based interior designer she'd met in 2004. "Pamela designed the condo I bought in St. Louis, and when I moved to the West Coast, she designed my homes in northern and southern California," Kirk says.

She and Calvert lean toward a clean, contemporary aesthetic. In previous homes, Kirk's color schemes drew on black, gold and red. But in Chicago, Kirk says, "I was thinking the space could be more feminine." Hence the black, gray and yellow palette tying together two living spaces, a kitchen and the master bedroom in Kirk's open-concept condominium.

From the moment you walk in, it is obvious Calvert's specialties are texture and layering. Take that scalloped entryway mirror, for example: by pairing this Uttermost accent piece with a mirrored iron table, Calvert builds the framework for a dynamic space flush with character and style.

Calvert calls the look "city chic," with its streamlined sofas, unexpected fabrics and large-scale artwork from Chicago artist Greg Churchill, Z Gallerie and Kirk. "That's right," Calvert says, "Olivia painted some of the pieces herself."

Because the living room surveys Navy Pier, it was important to choose simple, bright window treatments that would "frame the view," as Calvert puts it. The rest of



the room is soft and feminine, with speckled cheetah-pattern club chairs, cheerful yellow throw pillows and a Surya custom rug with a flower print.

"I wanted to keep the living room formal for adult parties," says Kirk. In lieu of a traditional coffee table, Calvert created the illusion of space with two sleek wooden accent tables. After all, Calvert says, "Olivia was used to a big house, and I didn't want it to feel like the room was closing in on her." Tall John-Richard lamps help with that, too, by adding height and visual stimulation.

Custom swivel bar stools from Johnston Casuals bridge the gap between the living room and kitchen, with its bright white cabinets and granite countertops. "My grandkids love those stools," Kirk notes. They also love lounging in a makeshift family room that's

both cozy and elegant, the latter owing to mirrored china cabinets wrapped in alligator skin and a striking console from Global Views with cast aluminum branches.

Symmetry widens narrow spaces like this one, and clever seating, two square Century stools and a sheepskin rug placed in front of a gray Century sofa, allow all eight of Kirk's grandkids to hunker down for a movie.

The bedroom presented one more opportunity for Calvert to show off her ingenuity, this time with unexpected fabric choices: window treatments with a swirl design and high-end basket weave bedding. "Layers of texture add movement to the bedroom," says Calvert — and the entire home for that matter. ■ **See stlouisshomesmag.com for resources.**



By Kim Hill
Photography courtesy
of Herman Miller

EYE CANDY

The playful **marshmallow sofa** feels as good as it looks — and has stood the test of time.

If only all design “failures” were so successful. In the mid-1950s a plastics salesman approached George Nelson, director of design for the Herman Miller furniture company. The salesman was peddling inexpensive, molded 12-inch foam discs, so Nelson asked designer Irving Harper to develop a piece of furniture around the discs. Over one weekend Harper designed a sofa, playfully arranging 18 upholstered discs appearing to “float” on a 52-inch-long metal frame.

The salesman’s cushions proved impractical, but the designers were intrigued by Harper’s whimsical creation. Even though making and covering the sofa’s individual seat pads took considerable time and proved to be costly, Herman Miller moved the piece into production in 1956. The company’s catalog offered the sofa for \$452 and took pains to explain that “despite its astonishing appearance, this piece is very comfortable.” The discs were covered in vinyl, leather or fabric in bright colors; a buyer could even order mix-and-match cushion colors. In spite of the fact the marshmallow sofa turned heads, fewer than 200 were made between 1956 and 1965, when it was dropped from the Herman Miller line.

The sofa’s atom-like appearance is a precursor to the aesthetic

style of the pop art of the 1960s. Many mid-century designs fell out of fashion by the late 1960s, but in the 1980s, interest began to return. Herman Miller returned the marshmallow sofa to production in the 1990s, and today consumers can order the sofa that “brightens a room” in 12 colors. And you can still mix-and-match the seat cushions.

In a 2009 interview, Frank Maraschiello of the renowned auction house Bonhams called the marshmallow sofa “one of the most whimsical designs ever to become an icon of American design.” Collectors agree; a green naugahyde version of the original sofa sold for \$17,500 in 2015. Indeed, several top museums including the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, the Philadelphia Museum of Art and Denver’s Kirkland Museum of Fine & Decorative Art include marshmallow sofas in their collections, making it a functional piece of artwork for the home. ■ See stlouisshomesmag.com for resources.



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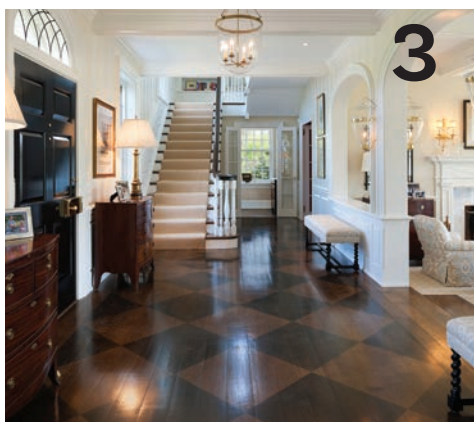
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With spring coming up, it's the perfect time to start creating that dynamic outdoor space that the whole family can enjoy. We offer outdoor kitchen that can include anything from a custom countertop, pizza oven, cabinets, barbeque grill, ceramic grill, and mini fridge to a simple yet cozy firepit. Having an outdoor area like this gives you a place to relax and enjoy in the spring, summer, and fall without having to leave your backyard! Other features such as pergola or overhead structures can add a more finished look to a customized outdoor kitchen and/or patio. With these outdoor living spaces, Chesterfield Valley Nursery can create a unique space that feels like an extension of your home. 636-532-9307, ChesterfieldValleyNursery.com.



KDR Designer Showrooms

Outdoor living today is a natural extension of your home interiors, with built-in features like outdoor kitchens, fireplaces, bars, video screens and an array of plush seating. Tommy Bahama offers designs across a diverse range of styles to create an environment that is uniquely yours. Let the furniture experts at KDR guide you on your search for the perfect outdoor furnishings. Walk right in the showroom to discover the endless possibilities in luxury outdoor living, weekdays 9 am to 5 pm. 314-993-5020, kdrshowrooms.com.



Metro Lighting

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Frisella Nursery

Frisella Nursery has been designing and installing award-winning outdoor environments for St. Louis homeowners and businesses since 1953. Frisella Nursery's landscape design process is rooted in more than three generations of horticulture knowledge, ensuring proper plant material selection that matures gracefully to its environment. This knowledge, coupled with general contracting experience ensures an outdoor space that is not only beautiful but also functional. Over the years, Frisella Nursery has worked with a wide range of customers and contractors designing and installing projects including outdoor kitchens, pools, pool houses, patios, natural stone walkways and stairs, arbors, reflecting pools and waterfalls, among many other elements. To bring your outdoor living dreams to fruition, call Frisella Nursery. **636-798-2555, FrisellaNursery.com.**



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The Gifted Gardener

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Colorful Hotels By Moe Godat

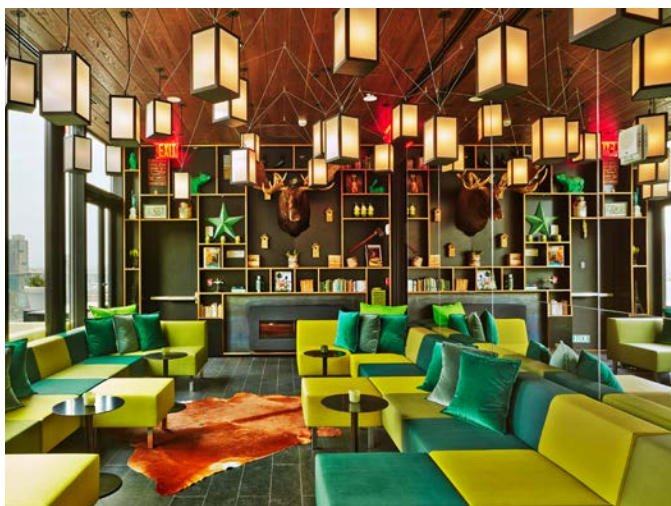
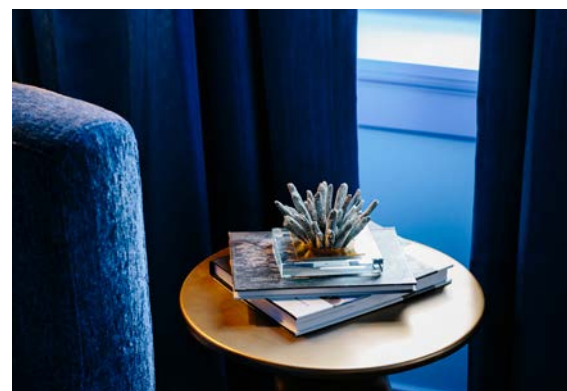
Places to go, things to do and see and people who are leaving their mark on the world of style.

Angad Arts Hotel, St. Louis

Photography courtesy of
Angad Arts Hotel



Art and hospitality find a new type of common ground in this new St. Louis hotel. Opened in November 2018, The Angad Arts Hotel took over the old Missouri Theatre building. This revived space features art from the St. Louis area and beyond, serving its guests with beautiful cultural installations, sculptures and paintings. Perhaps the focal point of this new hotel is the Chameleon Lounge, which acts as the hotel's lobby. In the center is a large changing light that looks like an oversized lamp. This light changes both images and colors to bring a new flavor to the room with each new look. The rooms in the hotel are signature as well; guests choose which room they want based on the mood they are in. The rooms come in a variety of colors, and you will be paired to whichever room best fits your given mood and personality. Staying here will be sure to add a little color to your St. Louis visit.



citizenM Bowery, New York City, NY

Photography courtesy of citizenM Bowery

The citizenM Bowery Hotel in Manhattan offers views galore with wall-to-wall windows. As the tallest building in the neighborhood, this hotel shows its guests a new way to experience the city: from above! New York visitors can enjoy a night of luxury in the rooftop bar which offers a wide cocktail selection with a view. Designed to look like a large living room, its colorful and eclectic lobby is fit to burst with Vitra furniture, shelves full of art, books and sculptures and small places to

work. Overall, the hotel's design itself mirrors that of the neighborhood's culture, mixing both old and new designs to bring forth the city's history and its youth. Another interesting addition to this hotel is the canteenM, a restaurant right at the heart of the hotel. With a cozy design and open kitchen, guests can watch their food being prepared and enjoy the some espresso shots from the coffee bar.



Pantone Hotel, Brussels, Belgium

Photography courtesy of the Pantone Hotel

Pantone is a paint company well-known for its color of the year predictions. These predictions show which Pantone color will be the most prominent for the year to come. We predict that The Pantone Hotel will turn into a colorful international must-see of designers and Pinterest-lovers alike. Color is naturally what makes this hotel so signature. The Pantone Hotel located in the city of Brussels, Belgium, offers a different hue for each floor. No matter your favorite color, the Pantone Hotel has the room perfect for you. Some rooms are bright and others toned down with rooms ranging in style from business to leisure. Designed and built by Michel Pennerman and Olivier Hannaert, the "hotel of colors" is a boutique-style space suited to complement the buildings in the surrounding Brussels area. Though known for its color, the Pantone Hotel is anything but overdone; designers made sure to keep elements of white to allow a clean space for color to pop. Lively and original much like the city itself, the Pantone Hotel will inspire your entire trip and your color choices after!





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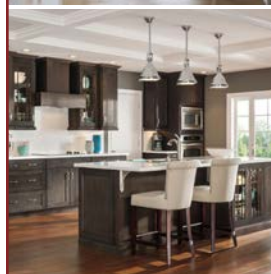
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Contrasting Cabinets

Our April issue is all about color, whether monochromatic or brightly contrasting. We asked local design professionals to share their opinions on contrasting cabinet colors in the kitchen.

Edited by Moe Godat
Photography courtesy
of Gegg Design & Cabinetry



CLASSIC

"Kitchen design with two-toned cabinetry is ranking higher in demand each year and will remain a classic for years to come. When looking back to the 1950s, we started seeing this design technique implemented by designers, which involved contrast with cabinetry, countertops and even appliances. Yellow cabinets and a blue refrigerator combined with a contrasting countertop was not out of the ordinary and equated to a quintessential postwar-age kitchen. As the years have passed, this classic composition of two-tone cabinets has transformed into a more subtle and sophisticated approach. As Sister Parish once stated, 'Innovation is often the ability to reach into the past and bring back what is good, what is beautiful, what is useful, what is lasting.'" *Natalie Slavik, YouTopia Designs.*

"For years kitchens have had contrasting finishes, in the 'European Country' era it was multiple finishes; we were doing kitchens with as many as five finishes for the 'unfitted' or 'acquired pieces' look. In the current trend of cleaner lines most contrasting colors have been limited to islands vs. perimeter. While we do some kitchens in a single finish; a contrasting island or section of cabinets is still classic and will likely stay. Mixing materials and finishes will likely always be with us. Why? Contrast adds depth, texture, or layers and it breaks up or defines spaces all resulting in interest or a focal point. While this does not apply to all kitchen styles, contrasting finishes likely won't ever go away completely. *Keith Gegg, Gegg Design & Cabinetry.*

"Kitchen design more than any other aspect of interior design is in a state of constant evolution. Driven by our need to personalize our environment, we are constantly searching for new ways to express ourselves in the kitchen. The option to change from painted finishes to a stained finish on the island gives clients the best of both worlds while visually separating the two spaces. That is what makes contrasting islands a classic." *C.J. Knapp, Yours By Design.*

"I have used two-tone cabinets in my kitchen designs for several years. I feel they add interest and dimension to the space. In some designs, I use a contrasting trim on the cabinets that are all one color. By using the two-tone or contrasting trim, it gives a custom look to any price level of cabinets, giving my clients a unique, custom kitchen that fits their budget. If this is not a classic design it should be as it is too good a look to just be a craze." *Linda K. Kusmer, Total Interior Designs Inc.*

"Contrasting kitchen cabinets are an absolute classic. The contrasting cabinets give the kitchen a creative interest by mixing different design styles, color and textures. This classic look creates depth that brings a warm, inviting feel to the room for congregating. Introducing the concept of contrasting cabinetry makes people hedge on the thought, but, once installed, they love the decision." *Deb Bokamper, Ageless Design.*

"Selecting different finishes for the island and the cabinetry has been a mainstay in kitchens for years. A natural extension was the move to contrast the upper and lower cabinets to create more of a furniture look and to make a personal design statement. Today's kitchen is about customization and personalization, not cookie cutter design. If the colors selected are classic, then I think the look will stand the test of time." *Gigi Lombrano, Gigi Lombrano Interiors.*

"Contrasting kitchen cabinets are a great way to give a kitchen personality and enhance the overall design of a kitchen. The options for contrasting cabinets are endless: contrasting cabinet doors, a bold color on a kitchen island, contrasting wood stains, contrasting upper and lower cabinet colors, painted cabinets with a stained island, etc. Adding an interesting color to a kitchen island is a great way to introduce a color that is used in other areas of the home. Over the years, contrasting kitchen cabinets styles have changed a little but will likely remain a design favorite for many years to come...definitely a classic!" *Barbara Collins, Barbara Collins Interior Design.*

CRAZE

"I think the contrasting color on the perimeter cabinetry is more of a craze. A contrasting island color is a classic look and will more likely be in style for the duration of your kitchen's life. Although, if you choose a painted color on your island, that could be a bit more trendy depending on the color you choose. A stained finish on the island would tend to stay in style. If you're looking to hit the current designer styles seen on sites like Houzz or Pinterest, try to remember you can always bring designer colors into kitchens with wall paints and accessories which can be easily changed from time to time. Another thing to keep in mind is if you're looking for a classic and timeless cabinet you should consider a square or beaded inset style cabinet. A well-built inset style cabinet is always a favorite of mine." *Bob Burmeister, Marc Christian Fine Cabinetry.*

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