# BOWLING GREEN

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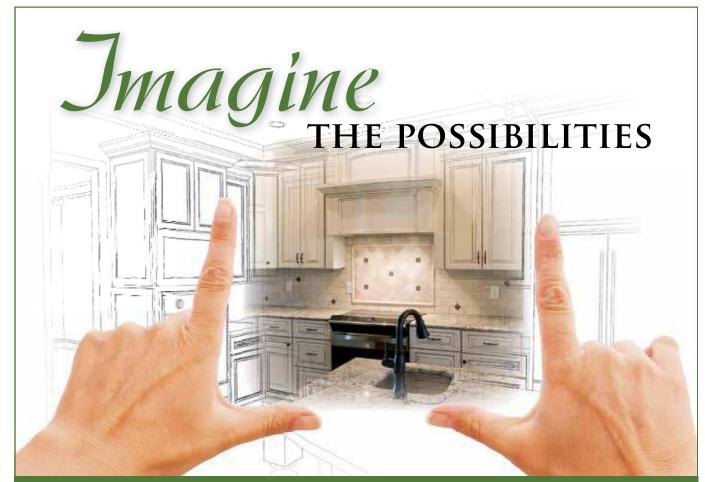
MAY 2018

### Here Comes the Sunroom Tony Henon Construction Adds an Upside to the Downsize

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### May 2018

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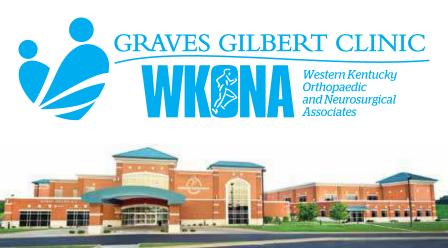
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EDITOR'S NOTE

# The Magic of May

sk any six-year old which is the best month and the answer will always be May.

First of all, it's easy to spell.

May is in and of itself an abbreviation, and no extra letter "r" stuck in the middle like February.

It is also the Friday of months because summer is just around the corner. It's that interlude between what you have to do and what you want to do. It's like a weekend just within reach.

This issue of Bowling Green Home & Lifestyle, celebrates May with a Tony Henon Construction project to showcase the home of Judy and Tommy Hunt where the colors of spring—soft greens and baby blue skies—are part of the interior landscape and a long expanse of screened in porch at the back is dedicated to the proposition that the best room in the house may actually be outside the house.

We also introduce a new column, *Saturdays with Dave and Sally*. Veteran and author, Dave Kirgan explains how road trips with his lovely wife have become part of their weekend routine and offers a path to literally follow in their footsteps as they explore driving destinations in and around Warren County.

We also profile some special women—a traveling sisterhood that spends the month of May putting together the final details for their annual girl's trip. They have learned—that a vacation is neither a diversion nor an option—but a necessary way to restore body and soul.

Enjoy every day of the month of May, but save a little love for June when the Bowling Green Garden Club will celebrate its 10th Annual Fairy Garden Tour, where children and adults alike share a magical afternoon exploring miniature displays meant to inspire a love of gardening.

So, bring a child, or just bring the child within on Sunday, June 3, to this very special home tour. Along the way, children collect stickers, tiaras, wands, and wings and other fairy things.

After the tour, head to Lost River Cave where fairy refreshments are served and children get to make their own potted fairy gardens and carry the magic home.

Tours go from 1 to 4 pm. Refreshments at the Cave are from 3 to 5 pm. Tickets are a great bargain at \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. They can be purchased ahead of time at Lost River Cave, Riley's Bakery and from Garden Club members.

Big or small, old or young, may your May be full of magic and mystery just in time for June to make you swoon. See you back in July when our DDIY—Don't Do it Yourself—issue will explain why some things are better left to the experts!

-Mary



Mary Nestor Editorial Director mnoinbox@gmail.com

For more information on the Fairy Garden Tour, call 270 781 2711, or email Alice Kummer at ahk174@twc.com.

Photo by Alison Houk

# Home Lifestyle

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# Heirloom Pieces: Three Generations of Family-Friendly Furniture

n 1946, when United Furniture first opened its doors in Bowling Green, the war was over, the boys were home, and even though fabrics came in florals, stripes and plaids, you wouldn't know it because color television didn't yet exist and color advertising was too expensive for most retailers.

Fast forward 72 years. Busy fabrics have long ago been replaced by a softened palette of tone on tone. Televisions broadcast in a full spectrum of color thanks to high-tech and high-def. The population of Bowling Green has tripled.

But one thing hasn't changed.

United Furniture still occupies the same location on the corner of Tenth and State in a historic 15,000-square-foot showroom. The store that Sam Kirtley Sr., opened has been in the family for three generations.

Sam Kirtley III, who manages the store for his father, credits loyal shoppers and a dedicated staff for not with the company's continued success. "Not only are we third generation but a lot of our customers are also third generation," he says.

And it doesn't hurt that United offers them 12-months same as cash monthly payment options and a one-stop shop for furniture, mattresses, electronics and appliances. They carry Ashley Furniture, a huge selection of Catnapper<sup>®</sup> recliners, and the best washing machines on the market.

That's right, Kirtley says. Speed Queen washers are American made in Wisconsin and last for 25 years. Think of it as the muscle car of washing machines where front-loaders and simultaneous motion are for sissies. Instead, Speed Queen has stuck with a top-loading, dual-action agitator that gained a

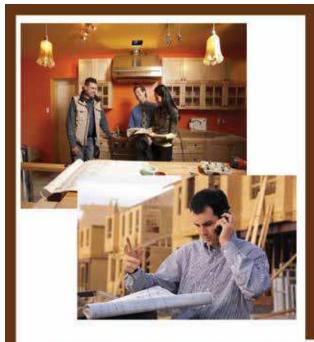


loyal fan base because the design is dependable, sturdy and gets even the heaviest work clothes clean.

And those floral upholsteries from years ago have been replaced by micro-fibers and stain-resistant fabrics. Kirtley says his customers "use" their furniture. "We sell stuff you're going to use — not just sit there and look at," he says. Their buying group — Brand Source — helps keep price-points competitive. But his first questions when making a determination on what to stock: Is it family friendly? Will it hold up? Will it keep clean?

Their downtown location also helps Kirtley keep his costs lower and he passes the savings along to his





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WWW.JEWELRYBARNPROMISE.COM BOWLING GREEN, KY (270) 781-1194 customers. "We have value pricing. We are not the cheapest and we're certainly not the most expensive," he says.

In addition to Speed Queen and Ashley Furniture, United carries "the best selection of recliners in South Central Kentucky. We carry easily 65 recliners on the showroom floor and we keep 120 in stock," Kirtley says, adding it doesn't matter if shoppers come to United first, or last, but if they're in the market for a recliner, they should definitely check out United's inventory.

Among their most popular is Catnapper\*--a power recliner that makes it easy to get into and out of the chair. Power recliners can also be locked into position at any point in the range of motion. And United carries Jackson brand recliners that don't recline for the people who say they "just aren't there yet."

"Customers say — 'Oh, I don't need a power recliner yet," Kirtley says. His sense is that some shoppers consider them strictly for elderly people who aren't strong or agile enough to kick the chair open and closed. But as he points out — a manual seat in a vehicle is a thing of the past, and why should recliners be any different.

Kirtley has a good point. He says customers have preferences and United has options. Hydraulics are fine, he jokes. As long as Catnapper doesn't try to introduce a solar-powered self-driving recliner, we're good.

United has been an Ashley Furniture dealer for 25 years. Kirtley says they declined the opportunity to expand and relocate because, as he puts it, "We're family." Some stores are required to open seven days a week and it wasn't in the cards for this family-owned landmark in downtown Bowling Green. "We are very family-friendly for customers and employees," says Kirtley, and closing on Sunday is not a business decision, it's a family decision.

Of course, online shopping is always available and United is in the process of redesigning its website, **www.unitedfurnitureappliance.com**, so loyal customers and new ones can pre-shop 24 hours a day, seven days a week for many years to come. **\*** 

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ON THE CORNER OF STATE AND MAIN

The Cure for Spring Fever COMMUNITY

s spring finally arrives in Kentucky; the road beckons. Luckily, Warren County residents have a quick route to Paradise.

Paradise Point Marketplace, that is.

This iconic landmark operated by the Erskine family is a stone's throw from the Barren River Lake and just a few miles from the state lodge.

They bill themselves as Your Ultra-Hip Oasis for Lakeside Shopping and Good Eats and it's a fitting description. The shop is filled with funky fun stuff. Hosts John and Sebrina Erskine are generally on-site to serve up breakfast treats, sweets, Bongo coffees, and Kosher dogs. (Hot dogs, that is—but the open-air restaurant is definitely pet friendly.)

For a seasonal schedule of hours and events, visit them on Facebook at: Facebook.com/ParadisepointKY

From there, make the short trip to the Barren River State Park, where the staff is busy preparing for the official start of summer. Meanwhile, there is still plenty to do. Just a 30-minute drive from Bowling Green, the park is an ideal place to take the kids for a hike while spring begins to blossom. There are playgrounds and trails for bikes as well.

Horseback riding is available on the weekends (weather permitting), and by appointment during the week. So, be sure and stop at the stables to check on the schedule.

Fishing is always a fun way to spend an afternoon, or just take a picnic and enjoy the lake. The important thing is to get the family out and enjoy Mother Nature's beauty. Fresh air and sunshine are the best medicine for family fun.

If a summer rain storm lands on a Saturday afternoon, the newly-opened Highland Pub on-site at the Barren River Lodge, offers the perfect excuse to bird watch from the comfort of a barstool, or people watch, or just watch MLB on the big screen. The pub features local wines and spirits and a relaxed atmosphere with awesome views.

Winter may be over, but it's still a good time to fly south. For more information: www.parks.ky.gov. \*









### **RUN DON'T WALK**

### Barren River Lake State Park Events

### MAY

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MAY 26TH Movie Nights. Call for more information.

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**JUNE 23RD** Concert Series 7 pm to 9 pm. **JUNE 30TH** Movie Nights.



Flea Market Finds

BY **DAVE KIRGAN** 

ike most men who grew up in the sixties, especially in small towns like Bowling Green, shopping wasn't something I looked forward to. A couple of trips each year to Sears or JC Penney's to replace worn-out clothing was plenty. Fashion back then was a breeze, penny loafers and socks that matched our shirts. Oh, there were some shopping adventures I did enjoy, like going to K-Mart to stock up on the latest fishing gear before the spring season. But otherwise, shopping wasn't for me.

HIII

Things have changed a lot since then. K-Mart has closed and Amazon has opened a flood gate of online shopping for everything from socks to soap to washing machines. Even so, one thing didn't change. For the most part, retail therapy is still for the ladies—while most fellas will happily find other ways to spend their free time.

So, when my wife Sally dragged me along on a thrift store shopping excursion, (kicking and screaming all the way), imagine my surprise, when I actually enjoyed the adventure. We were on a hunt for furniture for a house we plan in the country and come to find, thrift store shopping combines things guys enjoy like logistics, hunting (even if it is for bargains), history lessons and even some delicious food.

We left Bowling Green on Highway 68/80, headed for Guthrie—home of the indoor Southern Kentucky Flea Market. In Russellville, we turned left onto Highway 79 drove

LOCAL

past about forty miles of farm land until we hit the intersection of Highways 41 and 79, where a giant statue of a pink elephant is a landmark hard to miss. Take a left. The indoor flea market is about a half mile on the right.

I had expected to find thrift shopping boring, but this flea market was like visiting a museum. To start with, the place is huge, not at all what I expected. It consisted of four rows of booths, each about a hundred yards long that would easily take a serious shopper at least a couple of hours to wander through. Many of the items reminded me of my own past. There were movie posters featuring iconic images such as John Wayne astride a horse, looking out over the plains, or Gary Cooper flashing his famous smile. And because the market is close to Fort Campbell, there were several items of military surplus gear, some of which I had worn during my own career.

Our first adventure was actually so much fun that when Sally suggested another excursion, there was no need for kicking and screaming. This time, we made the rounds of the local thrift stores, consignment shops, and Goodwill stores. Instead of simply looking for novelties, and blasts from the past, now when we go, we shop for specific things. Sally looks for craft supplies and I have started collecting a few things as well such as antique boxes and interesting pocket knives. And thanks to our thrift store adventures, we now have a yard full of wonderful unique bird houses and feeders, reclaimed from these secondhand stores. The birds don't mind that we didn't buy them new.

Over the last year, Sally has given me quite an education in thrift shopping. Thrift stores, such as Goodwill and St. Vincent De Paul, sell donated items. A consignment store is where individuals take things they wish to sell and the owner displays and sells them for a percentage of the sale. Some flea markets are more like a consignment store where there is a central check out. Others have booths where the person doing the selling is available to answer questions or negotiate. Each is a different atmosphere with its own charm.

Kentucky abounds with thrift shops



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and flea markets—including a 400-mile "garage sale" that takes place in the spring. Nevertheless, Guthrie called for a second excursion, so last weekend, we returned to the little community of Tiny Town and the Southern Kentucky Flea Market where a funny thing happened that would have seemed crazy to me before I learned to go with the shopping flow but now seems perfectly reasonable.

We met a woman who makes these things called fairy houses out of driftwood and decorates them in Steam



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Punk style with gears and metal and such that she finds in thrift stores. She said she donates the finished fairy houses—each one a unique work of art—to schools and churches that can raffle them off in fund raisers. She told us of a place in Clarksville called Miss Lucille's Marketplace where she shops for metal things like broken watches and moving parts—the gears and gadgets that make up the Steam Punk theme.

Naturally, we decided an adventure to Clarksville was in order so we headed out in search of Miss Lucille's and made our first stop at the Warehouse 41 Consignment Mall—a funky old building with three different stores inside featuring tons of old antique and restored furniture. It reminded us of another favorite spot—the Vette City Antique Mall in Bowling Green with lots of consignment booths and a central check out area.

From there, we followed the GPS, headed over to Madison Street and found Miss Lucille's. As soon as we walked in, we saw the famous café and since it was lunch time, we went in and ordered. The sandwiches were a bit pricey, but they were delicious. The Cuban I had was easily the best I'd ever eaten and after finishing lunch, it was time to check out this mecca of consignment treasure.

Miss Lucille turned out to be a very large and upscale consignment store. It looks like the kind of place the American Pickers would love to wander through. Antique's, crafts, and unexpected treasures included a line of Joanna Gaines' home décor. Sally recognized many of the items from the TV show Fixer Upper.

Miss Lucille's has booth after booth each one decorated in a theme to match what was being sold. They had a lot of furniture—everything from antique to mid-century modern and vintage pieces we grew up with. It didn't seem the place to find a bargain, but if someone was looking for a unique piece to finish a home décor project—this was the place to find it.

Now that I understand the thrill of the hunt for collectibles like the cool Field and Stream brand hiking backpack in perfect condition that I got for a mere \$4.99, I will neither kick nor scream when Sally suggests a shopping excursion.

'til next time...

Dave & Sally



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BY MARY NESTOR

#### **TOP:** COSTA RICA

Black dress: Angela Stevenson, Next to her: Valinda Perkins Woodard, Yellow: Andrea Davis, Blue: Amanda Emmons, Lighter purple: Shashray Mc Cormack, Blue: Selena Gillians, White dress: Larecia Denning, White shirt and skirt: Anita Thomas, Green and yellow: Linda Love, Orange: Michelle Jefferson-Patton, Yellow: Yvette Sutton, Black blouse: Yasmeen Thompson, Purple: Ti'Sha Loving Williams



#### ABOVE: NEW ORLEANS

Andrea Davis, Larecia Denning, Dana Swain, Linda Love, Shashray McCormack, Anita Thomas, Michelle Jefferson- Patton, Kita Clement, Runetta Arnold, Valinda Perkins Woodard, Selena Gillians, Lisa Rowe, Ti'Sha Loving Williams acation math equation: Ten women plan a vacation and 7 of them are able to make the trip. They drive south for 8 ½ hours and 7 years go by—Where are they now?

To solve for x, is to understand the power of friendship, and the magic of travel.

That original group of seven travelers has blossomed and transformed the lives of 21 women. After that first road trip to New Orleans, they committed to making a "girl's trip" every summer, with the goal of rejuvenating their spirits and also bringing that positive energy to people whom they meet along the way.

TiSha Loving Williams considers herself something of a founding member of the group and she shares some of the insights gleaned from their very unique travel agency.

Like most vacations, their plans begin with a list. They have determined a few "must haves" over the years. For



FAR LEFT: OCHO RIOS JAMAICA From Left: Dana Swain, Lisa Rowe, Quin Mosley, Middle pregnant : Shashray McCormack, Linda Love, Ti'Sha Loving-Williams

LEFT: THE FIRST GIRLS TRIP TO NEW ORLEANS Michelle Jefferson, Larecia Denning, Lisa Rowe, Shashray McCormack, Valinda Perkins Woodard, Dana Swain, Ti'Sha Loving Williams

example, they decided long ago that being in the same house was much better than splitting up into twos and fours in hotel rooms where they didn't truly feel they were together.

But things like where to go, and what to do are democratic decisions made by popular vote and they change from year to year. Next summer's trip always begins in the fall with that pre-planning. The list of options is steadily narrowed as the months pass and summer beckons. By the time school is out and the kids are on break, they will have used the power of the vote to choose a destination, a theme, extra-curricular activities and something to mark each trip as a special occasion.

When they first traveled to New Orleans all those years ago, Williams initiated a tradition that remains today. She secretly planned for a surprise photo shoot for the women to celebrate their beauty and have a keepsake of the trip. Since then, they have not only made a point of documenting their travels with some professional photography, but they have zip-lined, hiked, shopped, galloped, and hit the spa for beauty day in places as far away as Cancun, Mexico and Miami, Florida.

One thing they've never done is be on time to a concert.

TiSha laughs recounting their adventures in New Orleans. For two years in a row, they attended the Essence Festival where one of their favorite memories was the opportunity to see a performance by His Purple Highness, Prince.

But the truth is, they almost missed the show.

That's because part of their goal isn't just to relax, but to reconnect and in doing so they often talk late, or early, or in lieu of getting ready on time. When the condo becomes a dressing room and a group of women need to choose an outfit, do their makeup and prepare for BEACH, PLEASE. WE FLY NON-STOP FROM NASHVILLE \$599\*

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the night out-things don't always go as scheduled.

We spend so much time at the house just sitting and talking about things going on in our lives and giving each other positive uplifting feedback, we were late to the concert, says TiSha.

The group grew organically from that original seven because they invited friends to join them. But one caveat is this:

They may be old enough to have "baggage" but nobody is allowed to bring it.

"Our motto is: We Are Enough," says TiSha. And by that she means—each woman accepts herself and each other. Size doesn't matter. Weight doesn't matter. All that matters is that they be prepared to leave their worries behind and be positive in their relationships with one another.

Williams says the effect is transformative. Their ability to make themselves both vulnerable and accountable to one another-even if it's only for one week in July-allows them to "look behind the mirror," the other 51 weeks of the year.

Looking behind the mirror is a little bit of self-love and a little bit of honest reflection. It goes beyond the surface, says TiSha. Oftentimes, people tell you what they want you to hear, she explains. Sometimes it's easier to be distant than to be honest.

But these annual trips and the commitment to their friendship allow a space for honest reflection and lot more

#### **TOP LEFT: NEW ORLEANS**

Andrea Davis, Larecia Denning, Dana Swain, Linda Love, Shashray McCormack, Anita Thomas, Michelle Jefferson- Patton, Kita Clement, Runetta Arnold, Valinda Perkins Woodard, Selena Gillians, Lisa Rowe, Ti'Sha Loving Williams

BOTTOM LEFT: Chiquita Sparks, Karen Stockton, Ti'Sha Loving Williams, Donna Spillman Milton, Stevie Cherry, Quin Mosley

than one "second opinion."

"Sometimes they (her fellow travelers) guide me to see things that I may not be aware of myself," says Williams. "I can ask my husband for advice and he will say, '...hey you're great at everything'."

But her friends "behind the mirror" will reflect in a positive way the things she can't decipher by herself. She says it's both encouragement and honesty but that it's always delivered in a positive wav.

For example, another "founding member" Shashray McCormack, taught school in Louisville for many years. According to Williams, her friend is not only a devoted educator, but a pretty adept baby sitter as well. "You can walk into my house and my kids are running around crazy and she (McCormack) snaps her fingers and says, 'hey guys come on' and they're listening. They're paying attention."

But when McCormack had the opportunity to adapt a course of study in African American history to her elementary school children, she faltered and lacked faith in her ability to do the program justice. When she took her problem to the group, they buoyed her and reminded her how capable she is and that not everybody has the skill to work with children. Today, after 13 years of teaching Kindergarten, McCormack heads up an African American studies program that is used throughout the entire grade school. "Your gift is teaching," they reminded her from behind the mirror.

"It's kind of like a human vision board," explains Williams. "It's other people sharing their vision of you with you."

This July, the women have a trip planned to Sin City but it's clear that what happens in Vegas won't stay there. It will resonate among friends and their friends and their friends until it becomes impossible to measure. \*

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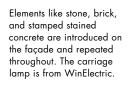
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The builder steered his client away from her initial impulse—plank style extra wide flooring. Instead, they selected these beautiful walnutstained oak floors in variable widths of four and five inches because they are less likely to shrink or bow as the home settles.

The builder used the ceiling lines to define and identify interior spaces. A vaulted ceiling creates a spacious great room, while kitchen, dining, and sunroom are made more intimate by ten foot ceilings. Arched passageways often serve as a marker from one space to the next.

hen Tony Henon Construction started work on this home near Indian Hills, their clients were downsizing. But at the end of the day, it wasn't so much about downsizing, as refinement.

The blueprint that had inspired the project was modified, and they finished with a 3,600-square-foot home that utilizes every bit of its quarter-acre lot. Tony Henon and his brother, Scott Henon, have been building homes and developing projects in Warren County since 1990. Tony's son, Colby Henon, and Scott's son, Cory Henon, have grown up in the business. These family ties and a common purpose make every Henon project more cohesive.

Tony's wife, Kellye Henon, also enjoys helping clients. She





Variety is the spice of life, but in this kitchen and throughout the home—there were a total of two paint colors: Benjamin Moore's edgecomb grey on walls and ceilings was matched with a highly-reflective pure white on the trim, cabinets and case goods. Creative Wood Designs in Russellville built the custom cabinets.





The contractor's challenge generally is to keep clients within their budget and make sure everybody is informed of the next step in the construction process.



brings years of design experience to share if and when they need inspiration or a second opinion. In this case, Kellye says her job was easy because the homeowner "knows what she likes."

"She did a great job of keeping her wall colors consistent even with so many different angles," Kellye says. Only two paint colors were ever used — Benjamin Moore's edgecomb gray on the walls and ceiling, and a highly-reflective white on cabinets and trim.

The home has a dramatic circulation and a blend of contemporary and classic finishes.

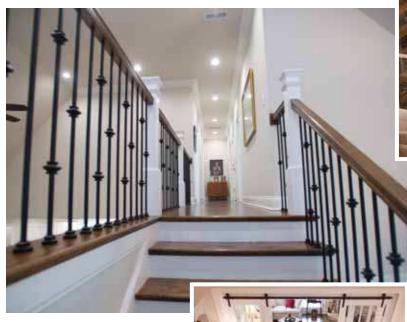
From the foyer, arched passageways frame the formal dining room and lead toward the combination kitchen/great room where a pair of glass-front, barn-style 8-foot tall interior doors are mounted onto a metal rail and can be left open or closed off to create a sanctuary space in the sunroom. A set of stairs leads up to a landing and a decorative balustrade in oil-rubbed bronze runs across the catwalk toward the guest rooms.

The design uses ceiling lines to help define interior spaces. For example, there is a vaulted ceiling in the great room to create the feeling of spaciousness, while the kitchen and dining areas utilize more intimate ceiling heights. And the main level master suite has a beautiful trey ceiling that helps capture sunlight from the back windows and makes the room seem larger.

The architectural palette is also consistent. For example, the arches from room to room are subtly repeated in window







One of the most striking elements in the design is the way a pair of glass-front track-mounted "barn" doors can slide open or closed to reimagine both form and function. Open, they unify the main level, and closed they create a quiet sunroom awash in natural light.





frames, case goods and furnishings. Barn doors with a modern twist appear in both the great room and the master suite. Stacked stone veneer on the façade was also used on the fireplace and the entire lower level is finished in variable-width hardwood floors. Even the natural sunlight was effectively incorporated throughout, thanks to large windows, interior transoms and high ceilings.

The clients entrusted Tony Henon Construction with the project after touring a home they built in the South Glen Gables neighborhood near Rich Pond. They liked the blueprint but wanted to adapt it for their needs.

Henon's starting point was a good understanding of how they planned to live in the home. "They told us what they wanted in a living space, and we came up with it," he says.

"Understanding what someone wants to do and what they expect to pay allows us to get them the most for their money."

The contractor's challenge generally is to keep clients within their budget and make sure everybody is informed of the next step









The home is balanced without being predictable. Some small changes make all the difference. In the master bath, for example, it is common to build a double-vanity side by side. Instead, Henon put his and hers sinks are on opposite sides of the barn door entry.





For every action there is a reaction: The laundry room "borrowed" a few feet from the downstairs guest room which in turn created more space upstairs for an exercise room and across from it—an extra guest room can serve as an upstairs den.

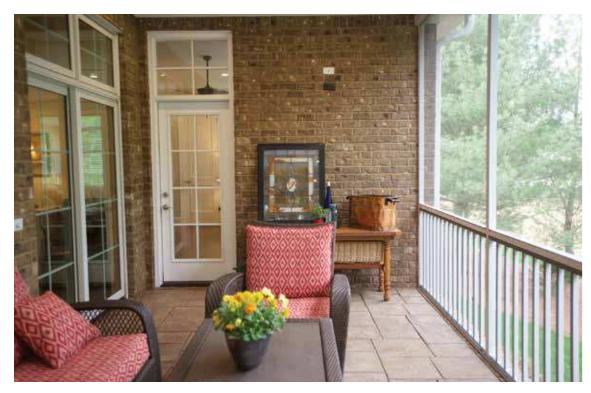




in the construction process. Even seemingly small changes can have significant repercussions because each piece of the building process impacts the whole. "For every action, there is a reaction, and nobody needs horror stories" is how Tony breaks it down.

Modifications that customized the home include the fireplace in the corner of the den and a downstairs guest bath. In this modified design, the laundry room "borrows" 12 inches from the adjoining guest suite to accommodate a wall of storage that wasn't in the original. Then they tucked an office alcove into a space off the kitchen. Even the garage is customized to include a third bay for a golf cart.

Through a pair of doors from the breakfast nook and also accessible from the den, a screened porch across the back is shaded and made private by a row of mature white pines. By expanding its footprint, they created space above as well, which allowed them to add an exercise room and about 300 square feet





of attic storage on the upper level that Henon insulated with foam barrier to achieve a high-efficiency energy rating, as is his process when building.

Coordinating and adapting to the changes never slowed or interrupted the building process, which from start to finish was about a seven-month period.

When they sold their old home rather quickly, the homeowner recalls the impending move and the near completion that found her struggling to make the final design decision that could entirely change the look of any house. She explains, "The most challenging thing for me was figuring out which stone to use on the façade."

So, she called upon Kellye, her de facto co-designer and trusted wing woman. The two of them drove to the entrance of South Glen Gables with a box full of rough-cut stones in various hues and a mission to come back with only one of them.

Today the Dutch Colony fallbrook stacked ledge they selected is an essential element of this beautiful new home where downsizing never felt so upscale. \* The open floor plan didn't stop at the backdoor thanks in part to transom windows, level thresholds for Universal Design, and consistent finishes that help establish a more fluid sense of inside and out. Natural hues offer a perfect excuse to play with pops of Western Red in the upholstery.



Lighting artist Catellani's iconic interplays between light and shadow create stunning and unexpected designs for both interior and exterior lighting applications.

> Beautiful and fascinating, every sunset brings a harmonious dialogue between light and nature. This outdoor lighting collection was designed to recreate the warmth and atmosphere of indoor light in green spaces.

# Pushing boundaries of light, art & design

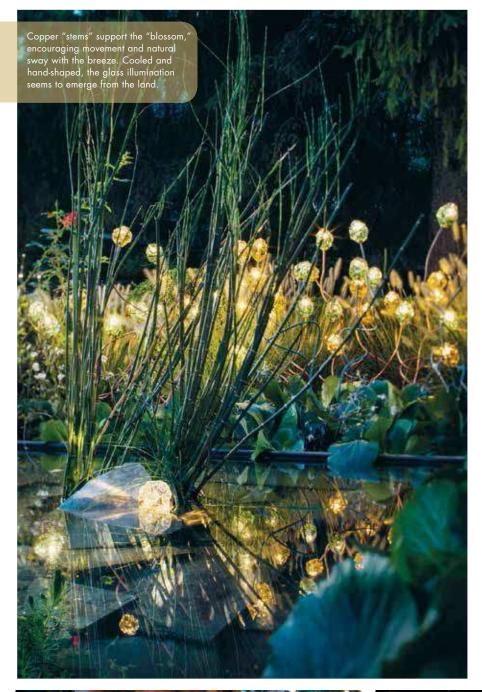


BY TERRI FERRAGUT | PHOTOGRAPHY COURTESY OF CATELLANI & SMITH

ight is a palpable and pervasive presence in our daily lives. We begin to understand its glorious nature when a sunbeam lazily drifts through a dust-filled room, or when a glistening shimmer from flawlessly cut crystal or multifaceted diamonds catches our eye. We revel in the warm rays of the sun and stave off the dark of night with incandescent and fluorescent bulbs. Daily we engage a simple flip of a single electrical switch releasing the power to reveal a space with an expanse of bright light.

For Italian artist Enzo Catellani, lighting guru and brand director of the world renowned Catellani & Smith, light is the proverbial canvas for thought-provoking lighting fixtures that elevate to works of art. Founded in Lombardy, Italy, in 1989, his contemporary lighting brand's unique aesthetics reflect daring explorations of form and function through light. His iconic interplays between light and shadow create stunning and unexpected designs for both interior and exterior lighting applications.

The value of his craftsmanship has been evolving for nearly 30 years. Keeping abreast of the latest innovative technologies has allowed Catellani & Smith to strengthen and expand its presence in the international lighting market of today. "Light is not only functional to the requirements of people who buy a lamp, but it is something more, that goes beyond a mere



lighting object," relates Enzo. "A lamp becomes an object that raises sensations, sometimes for an unexpected lighting effect, or by the shades created by a light beam that diffuses light through a hand-painted screen or crystals."

How does one harness a medium for design that is palpable as light? In his works, Catellani has studied how light refracts on different surfaces to develop his concept of light into objects. Glass, a medium he enjoys, is one material that interacts well with light, creating a symbiotic relationship that brings intriguing results. It is this exchange that invites the viewer a moment of introspection to realize the interplay of space and light.

Born in 1950, Enzo Catellani lives in Bergamo, an Italian city northeast of Milan. From the earlier days, when he first began creating a limited-series of lamps for sale through his own small shop, to now, Catellani & Smith has experienced prestigious successes both in Europe and the world. His continued artistic dedication, dedicated staff and the relentless desire to artfully "craft" lighting with no two pieces ever the same, will insure him a place in design history. \*

 $\leftarrow \psi$  Two over-lapping glass hemispheres create the striking appearance of this landscape light that, when turned off, becomes green in color to blend by day into its environment. By nightfall, it spreads an ethereal white.

 ${\bf \forall}$  These luminous "plants" seem to flourish and multiply within other natural plantings, creating a magical hedge-like appearance in the garden.







↑ Italian designer Enzo Catellani of Catellani & Smith brings thoughtprovoking beauty to each of his lamps. His desire to bring artful and functional lighting to outdoor living spaces inspired his entire collection.

→ Every glass "flower" tip is cooled and hand-shaped by Enzo Catellani and his artisan staff in Bergamo, Italy. From humble beginnings in his small garage to worldwide acclaim, his talent leaves an illuminating mark.





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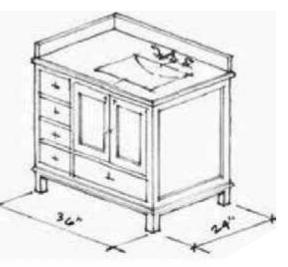
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VIEWPOINT

A typical counter height is 36 in., but increasingly we are seeing bathroom vanities installed at 38 in. as some clients find them more comfortable. lim,

well-detailed bathroom vanity is an efficient and elegant piece of furniture in your bathroom, while a poorly detailed vanity is a frustrating eyesore that can contribute to marital strife.

Given an option, many clients will choose a split vanity design for their master bath. Sometimes referred to as the his & her vanities, with this option everyone has their own space.

While some prefer a split vanity, for others, a well-designed double vanity is a perfect fit.

The following tips will help you understand the types of vanities and assist with your vanity selections.

What vanity design features should we consider when laying out our bathroom?

### SINGLE-SINK VANITIES AND CORNER VANITIES

A good target dimension for a single vanity is 36 in. This gives enough space for storage and a clear counter. If you are installing in a corner, you can offset the sink to one side to allow space for a drawer stack. If the vanity is centered in a space, it may look better to center the sink, but this will reduce storage.

#### **CORNER VANITIES**

Many single vanities are located in the corner of a room. These vanities engage the vanity top to the wall with a caulk in the joint where the counter meets the wall, and add a thin filler piece below to conceal the gap between the wall and the side of the cabinet.

### **DOUBLE-SINK VANITIES**

A double-sink vanity is typically 72 in. wide, though they are available starting at 60 in., but before installing the smaller size, it's worth considering the homeowner's pattern of use.

If less than one person will be in the bathroom at the same time of day, it may be preferable to install a single sink. This leaves more counter space and allows for more drawers for storage.

Storage and efficiency are essential in a vanity, yet the default design for most vanities includes a fixed panel in front of the sink where the depth of the bowl blocks the path for a drawer. Rather than forfeiting this space, an alternative option is to run a drawer along the bottom of the vanity, then place the cabinet doors above the drawer. You will still have room for the toilet brush and a small trash can using this method.

For larger vanities consider stepping the cabinetry forward at the sinks to modulate the size of the vanity, making it look more like furniture.

Whether you choose the split vanity configuration or the traditional double vanity for your home, engaging a professional cabinet designer and builder will be a tremendous asset. Their industry knowledge as well as years of experience will make your selection process simple and pleasurable. **\*** 









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# Going Green

M. 1.

After a rather long winter, adding nature's greens to our indoor spaces is definitely a step in the right direction for prepping weary spirits for spring.





BY **TERRI FERRAGUT** 

PHOTOGRAPHY BY **YVONNE DENAULT** 

othing brings fresh prospective and renewal like green living plants in your home.

To accomplish this burst of spring in you own home, I found an easy and cost effective way to do just that—growing wheat grass. As a farmer's daughter, I know from experience how quickly wheat berries germinate and grow when kept moist—the following directions will prove it! These simple steps will bring a colorful lift to your home and your children will love helping you grow the wheat grass. It's also a great project for them to witness firsthand photosynthesis, sprouting and developing root systems—right out of an earth science textbook.

Besides the satisfaction and beauty of raising your own wheat grass, even better reasons are the health benefits. Totally edible, the juiced grass contains all minerals known to man such as vitamins A, B-complex, C, E and K. Extremely rich in protein; it also contains 17 amino acids, the building blocks of protein. The nutrient laden green juice contains up to 70% chlorophyll—essential for building blood. Drink it alone or combine it with your favorite juices for a healthy start to your day. Your dog and cats will enjoy the health benefits from eating wheat grass too! Let's get started!





### **Growing Wheat Grass**

Hard red wheat, the type you use for making bread, works great. Hard wheat or soft wheat will produce the same results. You may purchase bulk wheat berries from your grocery or health food store right here locally. A 2 lb. bag of organic hard red wheat from Tochi products costs under \$3.00, making this project not only beautiful but inexpensive too!

- In a large bowl, soak organic wheat grains in water overnight. Increase the amount of wheat berries depending on the size and number of planters you plan on using
- In the morning, strain and rinse the wheat.
- 3. Collect whatever trays, pots or bowls you choose. Get creative! Teacups, wine glasses or sherbet dishes work nicely for a special dinner table setting. Window boxes filled with nature's greenery looks great on a kitchen island. If the containers do not have drainage holes, gather small rocks or pebbles and place in the bottom.
- 4. Add potting soil mix on top of the layer of rocks, filling to within 1 inch of the top of pot. As the grains sprout and grow, the soil will naturally be pushed upward.
- 5. To insure a thick green stand, add a generous layer of wheat berriesabout a quarter of an inch. Gently tap down.

6. The key to germination is keeping the grains moist. Cover with saran wrap and mist 1-2 times per day. Keep in low light. By day 3 or 4 you will begin to notice small sprouts. Remove plastic once green blades begin to emerge. Move to bright light and continue to mist.

You did it! In a week, you will have lush green wheat grass to add the fresh look of spring to your home. \*







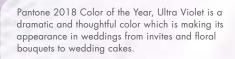












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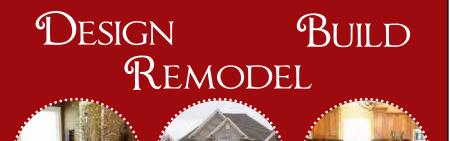
 $\wedge \psi$  Gorgeous fondant ruffled layers and flowers add beautiful embellishment to wedding cakes.



## BY GRANVILLE WOOD

ne of the most important things to happen to most of us in our lives is the union of marriage. The most tasty aspect of that day will be the wedding cake — the towering sugary masterpiece that may have more bearing on the wedding than the bride's dress. Wedding cakes are serious business and you better not mess it up; more on that later.

This year marks one of the more meaningful wedding seasons since Diana and Charles tied their rather loose knot. The royal wedding of Prince Harry to an American commoner, the lovely Meghan Markle, adds a whole new element. There is nothing like a



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Each tiny gold candy ball or "dragée," was placed meticulously by hand around the bottom of each tier of cake.

royal wedding for quite a show. Harry's mother, Princess Diana, had a masterpiece cake of marzipan towering 5 feet tall. The royal pastry chefs made one fantastic cake plus a second, a stunt double if you will, just in case there was an accident with the first.

The wedding cake has a deep and rather strange history. Ancient Romans sealed their nuptials with a cake made from barley that the groom would smash on his new bride's head. Try that today and it would be a short-lived affair. The British took the "Brides Pye," as it was known in medieval times, to an all time low with the cake consisting of cockscombs, lamb testicles, sweetbreads, oysters and spices. Even boiled calf's feet made it to the mix.

Thankfully, refined white sugar was becoming more available by the 16th century in Britain. Pure white icing became the standard for wedding cakes. Not only was the whiteness of the cake a status symbol of the families' riches,



it also symbolized the bride's purity. Wedding cakes were getting bigger and more grandiose — a true reflection of the exorbitant Victorian era. The royals are the benchmark for outlandish ceremony. When Queen Elizabeth II wed Prince Phillip in 1947, the wedding cake weighed in at an outrageous 500 pounds. Imagine the quantity of eggs, flour, sugar and butter to make a 500-pound cake not to mention the hours involved.

To determine the time it takes to create a wedding cake, I turned to my dear friend (and without a doubt in my mind, best pastry chef) Nichole. Over a glass of wine, we talked about the challenges of making the bride happy with the other "star" of the show — the cake. Depending on the size, a solid eight to ten hours is invested in the baking, cooling, icing and decorating. That doesn't include the planning conversations back and forth with the bride. Nichole explained that wedding cake construction has evolved over the years. Gaining in popularity is a

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smaller cake dedicated to the ceremonial cutting, with separate sheet cakes cut for guests. Is it a matter of finance?

The cost is a matter of several ingredients. The time invested into decorative piping, marzipan decorations and other frills, coupled with the number of guests invited, determines your investment. But it only happens once, right? Splurge and make it a showstopper.

Over time, certain traditions surrounding wedding cakes have remained constant. The bride and groom feeding each other a bite is a show of affection symbolizing their commitment to each other. The messy and unflattering grinding of the cake into one or both participants faces is another ritual. Not recommended without prior approval, I might add.

A tradition spawned in the Victorian era, is the groom's cake. Back then, the groom's cake was usually a fruitcake given to the groom in acknowledgement. The cake, rarely eaten at the reception, was cut and presented to the single ladies at the wedding. The legend being, if a young woman placed the piece of the groom's cake under her pillow at night, she would dream of her future husband.

As mentioned earlier, I learned to not mess up the cake. A potential disaster occurred when I was rolling a wedding cake down a hall to the reception. A stray bottle cap caught a wheel of the cart. The cake kept moving forward, but without the cart. As luck would have it the tiers of cake, protected by the stands, came apart and slid on the floor without touching. A race back to the pastry shop for virginal white icing for a quick touch-up and we were good to go. That was the last time I made a wedding cake. Now I leave it up to the pro's. **\*** 









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