

# kitchen & bath DESIGN NEWS

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Product Highlights

# Lake Views Inspire Entertainers' Paradise

BY ANITA SHAW



OBH, the designer and the client collaborated to create the slab doors and drawers mixed with a custom stepped profile collaboration between

The perimeter cabinetry in the kitchen is rift and quartered white oak with a custom finish, paired with Iceberg quartzite countertops, which is used throughout the space

On the island that separates the dining room from the kitchen, The Galley workstation stands at the ready to go from prep to party space, along with Sub-Zero ice maker, beverage refrigerator and pop-up outlets

The islands feature a hand-painted finish in white Barely There

Surrounded by nature's beauty, this lakefront home incorporates warm and natural elements to deliver the ultimate social space.

**LAKELAND, IL** — The primary home for this empty nest couple is located on Crystal Lake in Lakewood, IL, which affords the interior of the home beautiful lake views from multiple vantage points. Wine aficionados who enjoy traveling and an active social life, the clients brought in interior designer Julie Novy of architectural interior design firm JWN Designs in Crystal Lake to create a home that would work for entertaining. Novy, in turn, teamed with Chicago-based O'Brien Harris (OBH) to create the kitchen and cabinetry design throughout the home, which was built by Orren Pickell. OBH focused on the kitchen and pantry, primary bath, mudroom, family workstation/message center, dining room and bar, wine storage, primary bedroom, powder room and closets.

Fulfilling a lifelong dream to live on the lake, the couple desired a lake-living lifestyle, complete with warmth and natural elements. A custom floating fireplace, distinctive wine chiller display and heated outdoor living space were among the amenities requested.

"We used natural materials, such as green marble on the

wine wall, an end ring wood countertop on the family workstation, and custom stained woodgrain tall kitchen cabinets to add comfort with an approachable feel," Novy states. "The placement and shape of each window was not only considered for exterior architectural balance, but for interior axis connection impact. The draw of nature through window views of the lake water, plant life and stunning sunsets were all framed by the complementary interior surrounds."

Every room optimizes the lakefront home's access to natural sunlight and views up into the tree canopy, and from the shoreline views to the rooftop oasis, she adds.

In addition, "building piques of interest, with a wonder of what is beyond, is a repetitive design thread I wove through this property," Novy continues.

Designed to be the home's main entertaining space, the kitchen, dining and living areas are connected via an open floor plan so guests can all be in one space. Two kitchen islands allow for easy socializing, with seating at one island and a gathering space anchored at the other. ■



At the main kitchen sink cabinet bank, the trash/recycle, sink base and dishwasher cabinets are joined by pocket doors to the left and right of the window for small appliance storage.

Among the kitchen's amenities are a Kallista faucet paired with a Julien sink, and statement lighting over the island from Arteriors.

The main kitchen island is highlighted by a polished stainless steel cuffed foot detail, used to create a furniture feel.



The design of a faux panel above the pantry is meant to give the illusion of walking into a special cupboard.

The pantry includes drawers and open shelves with stainless steel liners to hold food items, oversized kitchen cookware, cookbooks and entertaining items.

A hidden sliding door includes a mesh grill to add interest to what's beyond yet provide privacy when needed.

*“Anchored at the center of the home is a special cook’s kitchen with dual islands, all surrounded by a three-sided fireplace.”*



*“The structure of the design is based on three-dimensional axis point architectural connections – meaning that wherever a person stands in the space and views the other rooms or architectural elements, there is symmetry and flow.”*



*“Nothing on this property happened by chance. I focused on twisting and tying the axial connections between rooms, which paid off by creating a space that offers an enveloping experience.”*

The dining room buffet features tobacco stain on walnut as well as mesh paneled doors that coordinate with other spaces in the home



The cabinet is solid rift and quartered white oak with a gray flannel finish and angled show shelves and lip at the bottom



To address privacy and sightline issues, two custom floor-to-ceiling, armoire-style cabinets were added to the primary suite



Along the side wall of the dining room, the buffet area includes pull-out drawers for liquor storage, with an interior pull-out for cigars and bar utensils

The built-in buffet is used for glassware and entertaining dishware

The door details on the cabinets are a play on a glass-paneled French door, with recessed panel instead of glass for privacy



Sinks and faucets from Kallista enhance the upscale feel of the primary bath

Gray flannel cabinetry with natural maple interior and polished stainless steel door inlay from OBH is topped with polished Carrara marble

Tile from Artistic Tile surrounds the Kohler tub and adds shine to the wall