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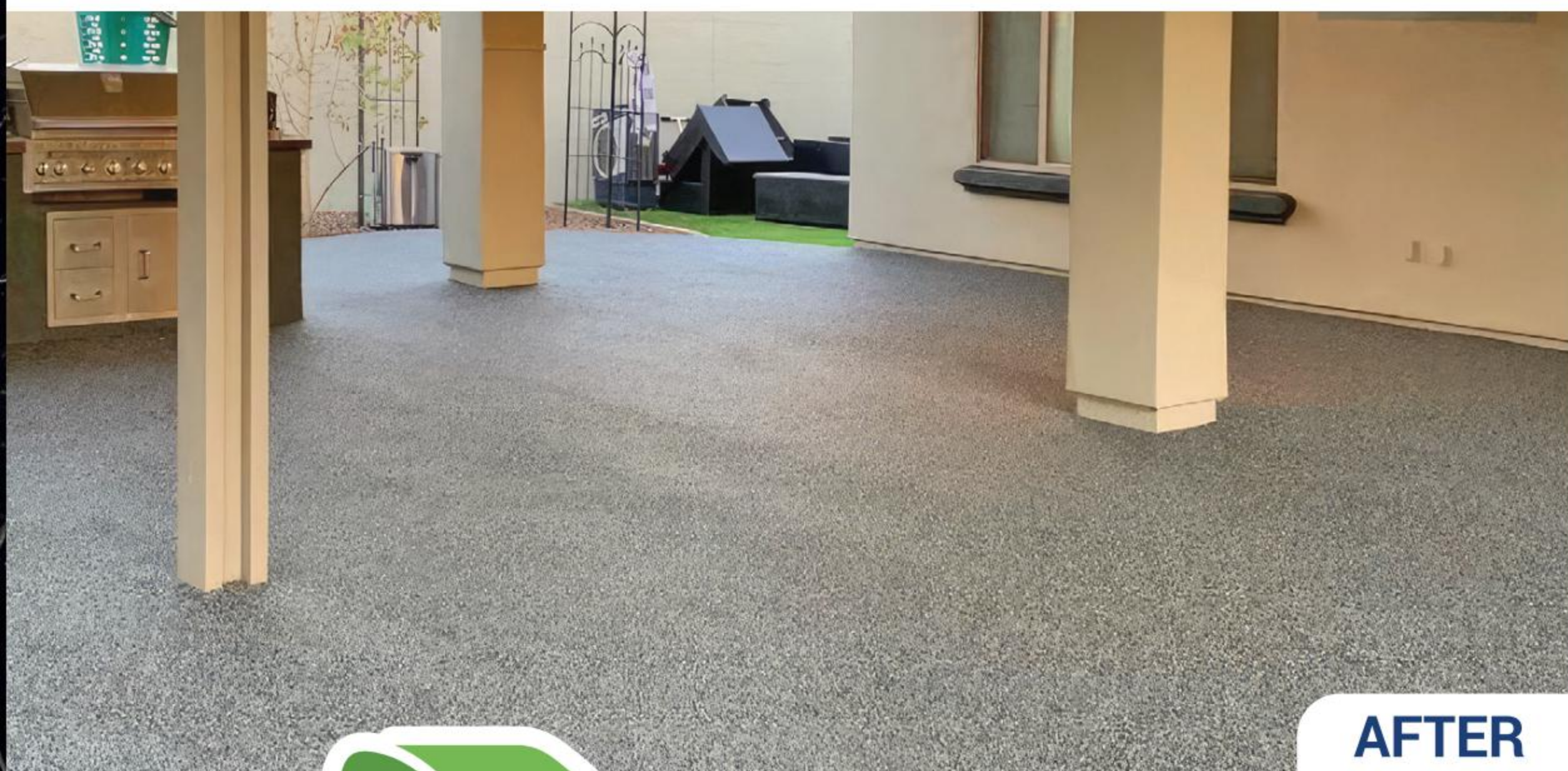
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30

SOUTHWEST HOMES

30 Inspired by Nature

This contemporary Albuquerque home takes its design cues from the riverside surroundings while harnessing the spectacular views.

74 Artful Amalgamation

Japanese inspiration, Native American and African art, and a contemporary vibe define this adobe home in historic Old Town Santa Fe.

SPECIAL SECTION

50 SPRING Parade of Homes

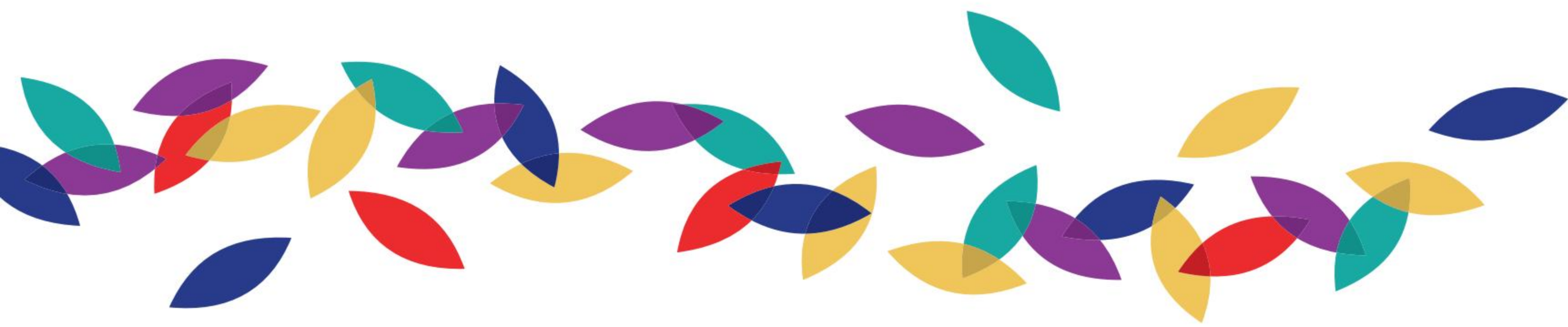
Bring this copy of Su Casa with you as you tour 21 beautiful and innovative new homes in the Albuquerque Spring Parade of Homes, April 26–28th, and May 3–5th. Details about each home and builder are included, plus maps and directions.

On the cover: John Blueher of Blueher Abodes LTD, helped capture the essence of the dreamy riverside location in this contemporary Oxbow Bluff home that captures the views and is a beautiful backdrop for the homeowner's art. Photograph by Alexander Vertikoff.



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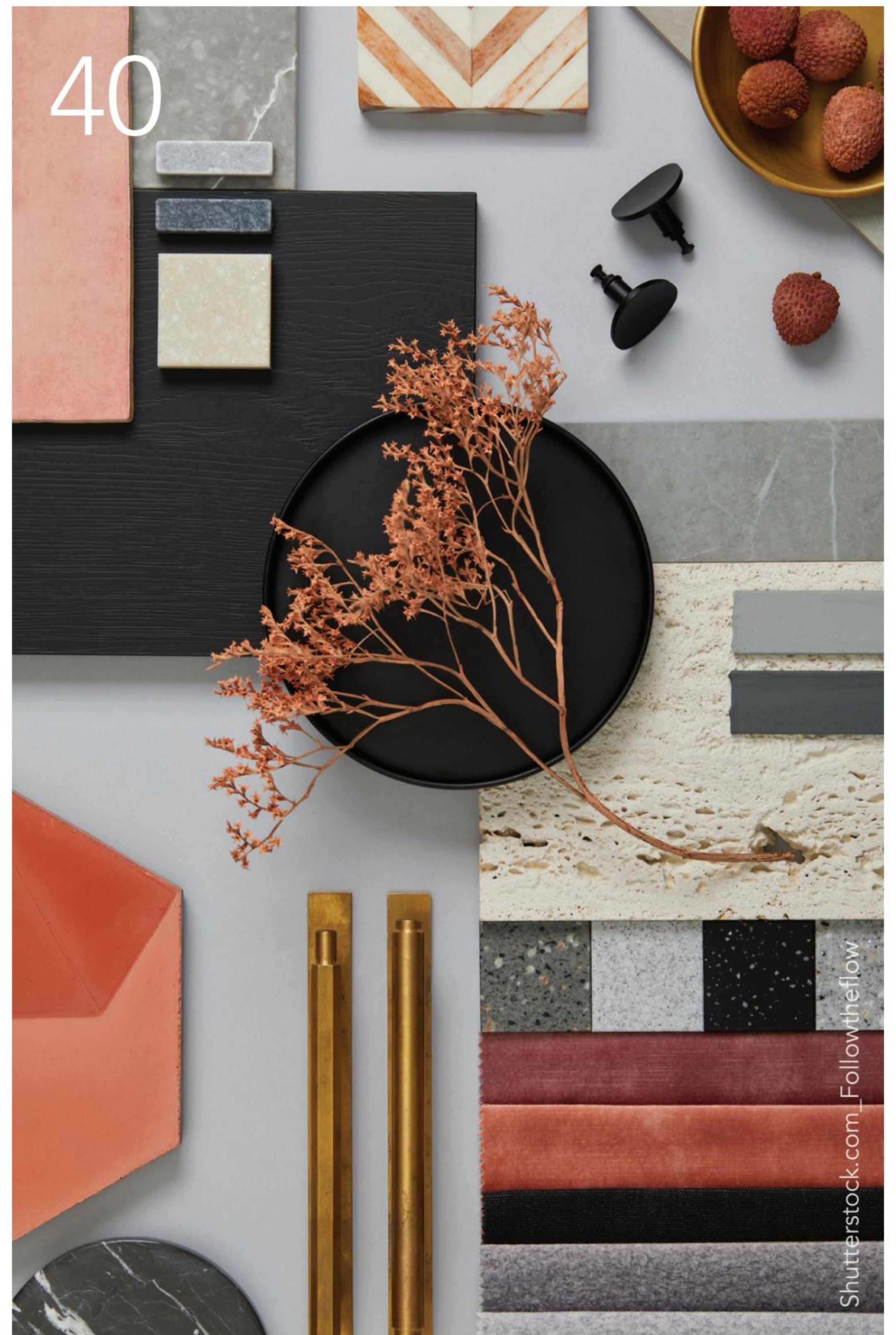


Daniel Nadelbach

IN EVERY ISSUE

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- 40, 86 Design Studio
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Interior design books—one with *stunning* floral photos fit for framing and another to inspire mental health.

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Inside *Su Casa*

Welcome to the Spring Issue of *Su Casa*

Well, it's that time of year again. The time when we turn our attention to our homes and gardens. We at *Su Casa* love this time of year. We find ourselves daydreaming about home renovation—or even a new home—complete with the perfect kitchen, open floor plan for entertaining, restful spaces for sleep and relaxation, plus manicured yards with flowering plants.

For all of this and more, you'll find inspiration at the Spring Parade of Homes—this will be your one opportunity this year to get inside these spectacular homes by local builders, so don't miss it! We're proud to be your guide for visiting 21 homes throughout the Albuquerque metro that showcase the creative and quality work of our local home building community. This parade's Signature Builder, Westway Homes, strives to meet its mission of building communities that “inspire one family, one home at a time.”

Also in this issue, we peek inside two stunning yet very different feature homes. One, a contemporary design befitting the homeowner's personal aesthetic, harnesses the views from its riverside location in Albuquerque's Oxbow Bluff community. The second home is a striking blend of Santa Fe style with Japanese inspiration and both Native American and African art that blend seamlessly for a warm, inviting, livable space.

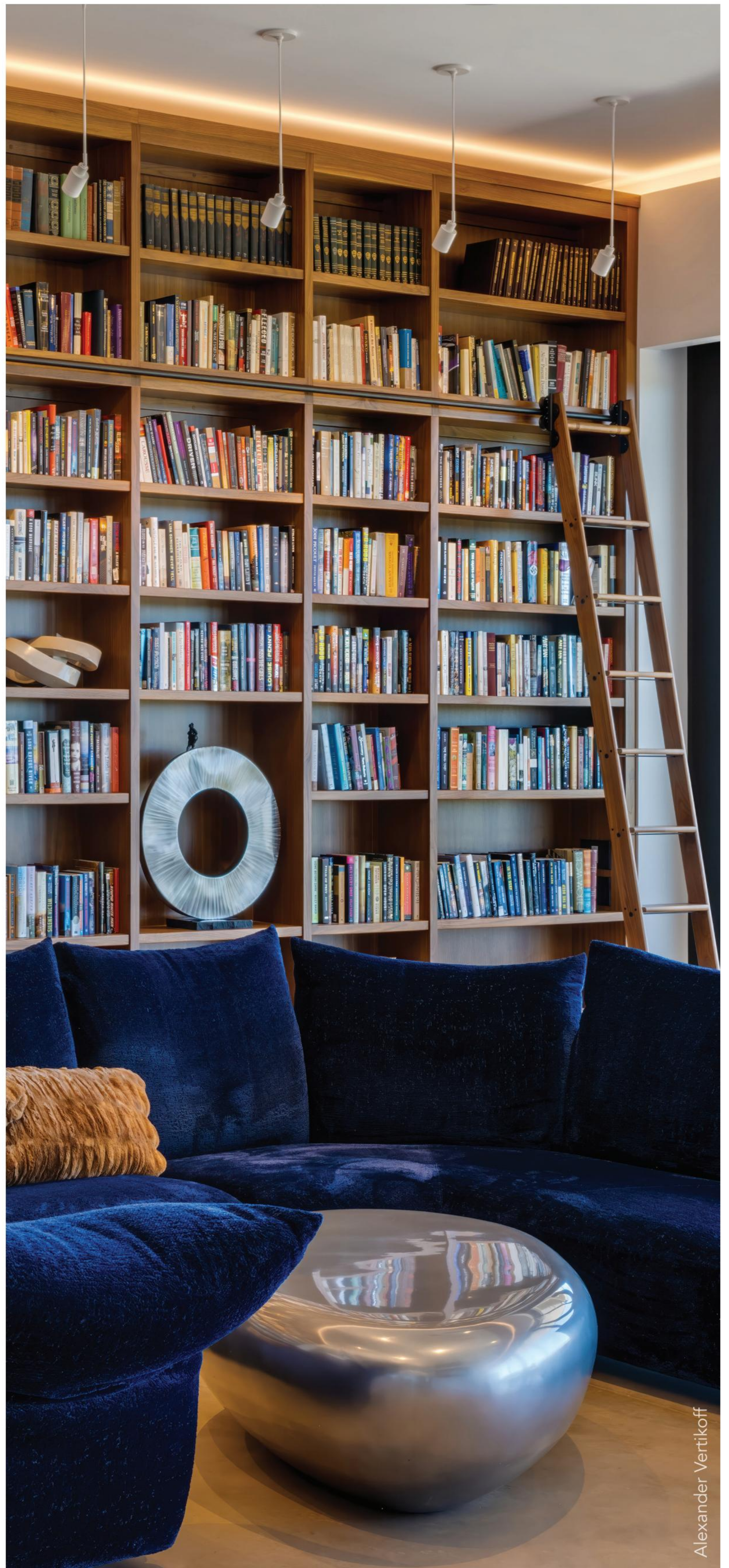
Creating a warm, feel-good home often has to do with color. We explore the psychology behind color, and local designers share tips for choosing colors that will enhance your home and your mood. It's not a glamorous room, but a mudroom might be the most hardworking space in your home. There's no reason this room can't be uber functional and beautiful. We show you how to accomplish both for a smooth transition from garage to home.

Turning our attention outdoors, we celebrate hollyhocks in this issue. These majestic spires are the perfect posies to line a garage wall or fence, and they come in an array of fresh colors to grace your gardens.

Enjoy the Spring Parade of Homes—we'll see you there! And sit with this issue to relax, be inspired and read up on local spaces and places you're sure to love.

William P. Lang
Publisher

Right: This riverside home is designed to thoughtfully display the homeowner's art collection and bountiful books. Read more on page 30.



Alexander Vertikoff



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standing tall

hollyhocks thrive in New Mexico gardens

WITH THEIR TOWERING STALKS and myriad bold colors, hollyhocks are a staple for any New Mexico garden. Though not the official flower of New Mexico, the hollyhock is beloved for its sturdiness and beauty.

Albuquerque and Santa Fe gardeners have the privilege of choosing from various hollyhock types and colors, says Valerie Jones, production manager of Payne's Nurseries South in Santa Fe. She says some popular varieties include the double-flowered "Chater's Double" series and the vibrant "Nigra" with deep maroon blossoms. Colors range from pinks and whites to reds, yellows, purples and even halo types with more than one color.

Hollyhocks—known as Las Varas de San Jose or St. Joseph's staff—are not particularly demanding when it comes to planting. Still, it should be done before the heat sets in, according to Vangie Chavez, who works in plant maintenance for



Osuna Nursery in Albuquerque. “Late fall and early spring are the best times [to plant them] since the plant’s roots have time to establish themselves before the heat comes,” she says. She adds that the flowers are easy to grow from seed but suggests that newbies start with a potted plant from a nursery.

Once planted, hollyhocks require minimal care, making them a favorite for busy New Mexican gardeners. In fact, you’ll find the flowers growing in the unlikeliest of spots: in between the cracks in concrete and sidewalks, Jones says. If you prefer them in your garden, plant hollyhocks in well-drained soil, which helps prevent waterlogging that can lead to root rot. Chavez advises planting them in sandy or loamy soil mixed with compost for best results.

Though hollyhocks can grow in shady spots, they will thrive in full sunlight, so choose a place in your garden that receives six to eight hours of direct sunlight. They are drought-tolerant but benefit from regular watering during dry spells. Just be careful not to overwater them, Jones warns. “They’re kind of finicky in the sense that they do not like to be spoiled,” she says. These giants can grow anywhere from four feet to eight feet tall, so they sometimes need support. Provide stakes or cages to prevent them from toppling over in strong winds.

Chavez says most varieties are biennials, meaning they will produce foliage in their first year. Blooms appear in their second year, with the flowers appearing in the summer. The show continues throughout the summer months, providing a colorful display that enhances the beauty of your garden. The flowers are self-seeding, which means you’ll often have hollyhocks in your garden for many years with little effort.

With their towering presence and vivid colors, hollyhocks are a testament to nature’s ability to thrive in diverse environments. In Albuquerque and Santa Fe, these hardy bloomers stand as beacons of beauty in their harsh environment, adding charm and grace to gardens with minimal effort from their caretakers. ☒

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2

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1. Sleek Silhouettes

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3. Perfect Posies

These vases have an old-school industrial look that takes inspiration from Victorian lab equipment: Beaker-like, mouth-blown vases hang from a steel frame with set screw detailing and an antiqued finish. Choose a large single vase to perk up an entry console or nightstand. The row of five linear vases is perfect for a dining table, mantel or kitchen countertop to keep herbs within easy reach. *Holt Vase Collection (includes one large single vase and one multi vase), \$99, potterybarn.com*



4. Coffee Table Talk

Echoing the cantilevered lines of 20th-century architecture, this table's open shelves provide an artful display area for books, decor and more. The mix of richly finished metal and clear glass in this 52-inch long and 32-inch wide cocktail table offers modern appeal and limitless versatility. Spacious glass shelves and an open frame offer ample storage and display with an open, airy appearance. *Tribeca Coffee Table, \$2795, williams-sonoma.com*



5. Groovy Centerpiece

Inspired by mid-century modern glassware, these Venezia candle holders with sculptural yet playful silhouettes offer any table an eye-catching centerpiece. Crafted of clear or tinted glass, these candlesticks support a taper or can be used as bud vases. Mix and match the Crate & Barrel exclusive Venezia candle holders in various heights and hues to create an extravagant effect on your dining table or mantel. *Venezia Glass Taper Candle Holders, 3-piece set \$52, crateandbarrel.com*



inspired by nature

this Albuquerque home takes its design cues from the riverside surroundings



by Faerl Marie Torres
photographs by Alexander Vertikoff

Look out from any room in this Oxbow Bluff neighborhood home, and you'll find a view that evolves with the movement of the sun and the migration of the birds on the Bosque. Whether walking in through the front door or sitting in any of the conversation areas, there's a wide vista through long, low windows and window walls. "In all the rooms, my gaze goes to nature and what's going on in the city," the homeowner says. "The view changes depending on the sun, the city lights and wildlife. I never expected a different view every hour."

She did know when she selected the lot that the location was exceptional, and her plan for the home included several guiding factors: the riverside location, the surrounding natural elements and a design that would allow her to enjoy her artwork and personal treasures within a low-maintenance space. So, she enlisted a team that would be up to the task, including architect Richard Schalk and builder John Blueher of Blueher Abodes LTD, to help harness the dreamy riverside location and build a home for the ages.

Water is a consistent theme in this home and landscape design, echoed through the subtle, linear design of the water features in the front courtyard and backyard.





The striking stone slab in the foyer immediately introduces the outdoors-in effect that repeats throughout the home.



The main appliances are hidden behind pocketed doors and book-matched walnut cabinetry. Open shelves allow for the display of beautiful, colorful serving pieces the owner uses often. A skylight runs the length of the kitchen counter, providing gentle overhead light.



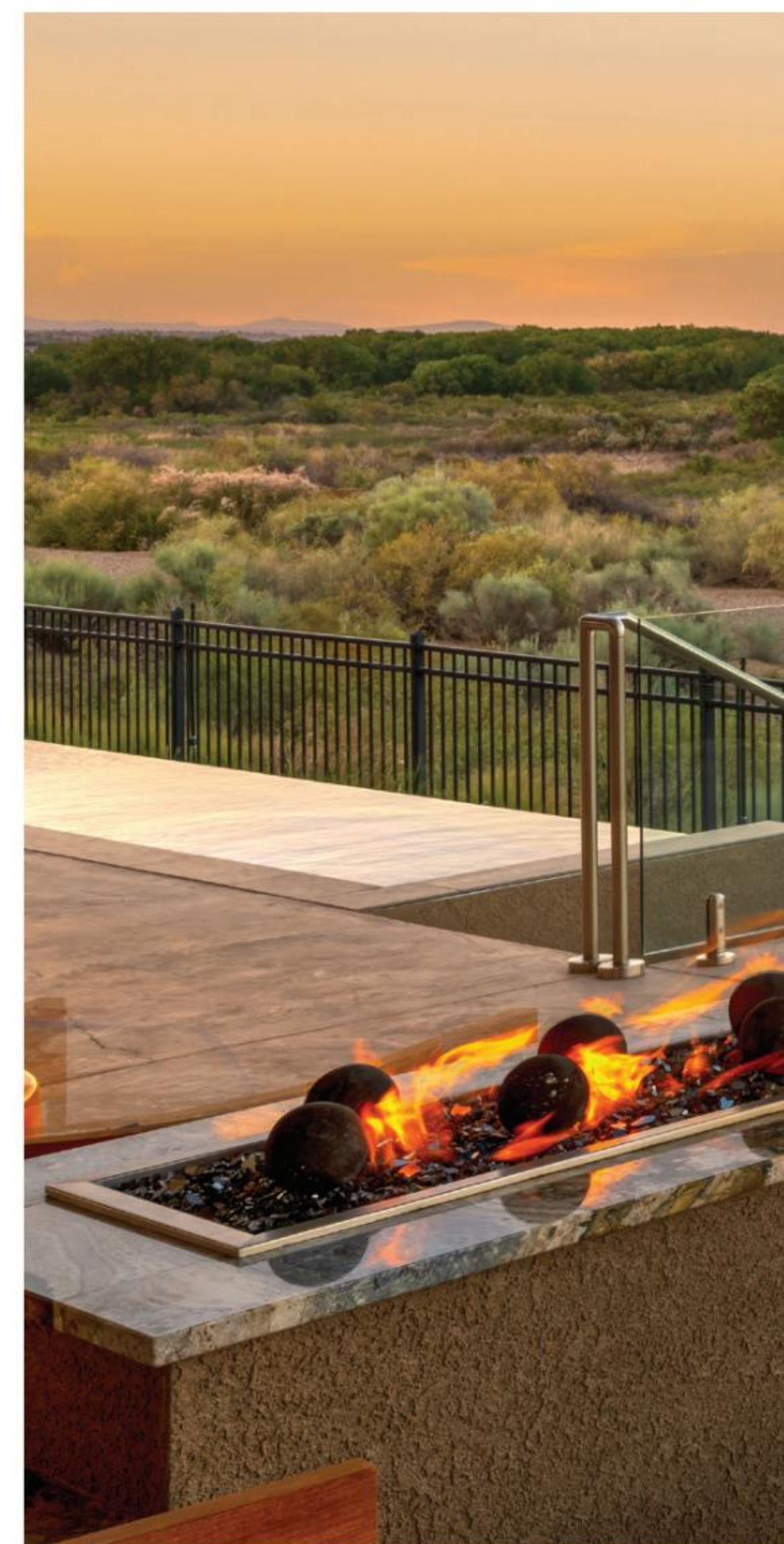
Although the home enjoys bountiful natural light, modern sculptural fixtures punctuate the dining and sitting areas. Where natural illumination was insufficient, gallery-style fixtures were positioned to cast soft light on books and artwork. A playful swing in the great room makes the most of a unique view. "It's different from a few feet up," the homeowner says, noting its placement beside the 30-foot-long window-way framing the east.

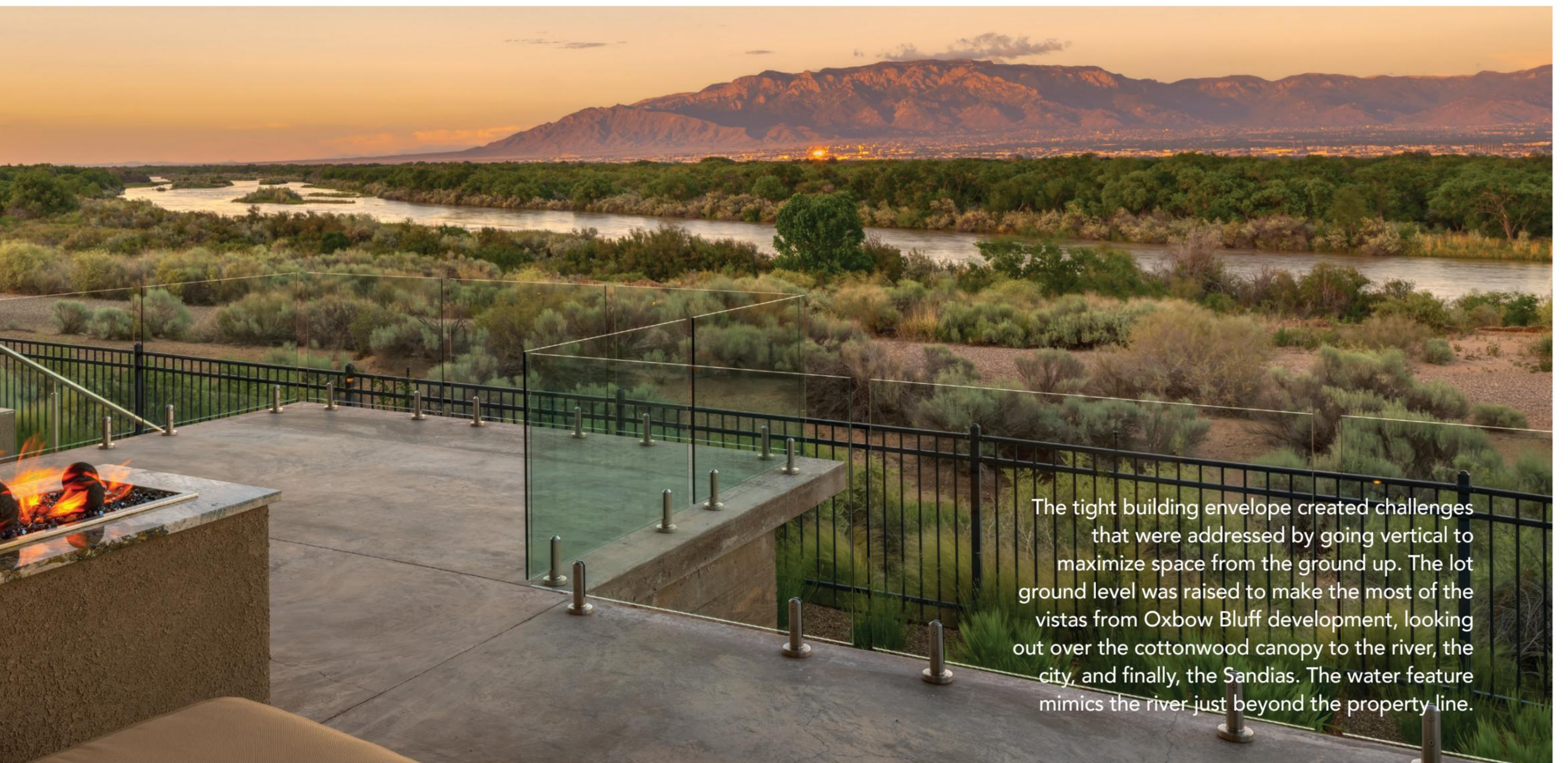
The entire east side of the house, facing the river, is part of the outdoor living space with a wall of windows that slide back and a cantilevered ceiling that extends over the portal. An infinity-edge reflecting pool, outdoor fireplace and three conversation areas make the outdoor living area as comfortable as the interior. "The outside space was part of the driving vision of the whole house," Blueher says. During optimal times—most of the year, thanks to New Mexico's agreeable climate—it's a single, cohesive space that flows seamlessly. Five boulders—four of which were posted on pedestals—were collected from the homesite by the homeowner and saved for just the right spot to contemplate.

Indoors, everything about the design reflects nature. "Patterns and rhythm were a priority," Schalk says. Five accent walls throughout the home feature a mix of materials. Each wall

is lit from above with a narrow skylight that casts down the length—highlighting the relief and texture of the various materials. Solar tubes and skylights are a prominent part of the lighting design, reducing glare while bathing spaces with natural light. One such space is the foyer niche, where walking through the door, the granite accent wall shimmers. "We tried out different combinations and configurations and arrived at the bookend arrangement of two slabs of 'azul fantasy' granite because the owner saw how it echoed the shape and flow of the Rio Grande and Bosque from above," Blueher says.

The kitchen includes ample space for entertaining. A lowered ceiling, generous island with a waterfall countertop, and warm, book-matched walnut cabinetry that echoes the woodwork in the family room were all designed with gatherings and intimacy in





The tight building envelope created challenges that were addressed by going vertical to maximize space from the ground up. The lot ground level was raised to make the most of the vistas from Oxbow Bluff development, looking out over the cottonwood canopy to the river, the city, and finally, the Sandias. The water feature mimics the river just beyond the property line.



The concrete floors and lack of nooks where dust can collect were selected for their ease and simplicity, allowing them to disappear into the background and keep the spotlight on the flourishes—the colorful furnishings and artwork.



A boulder acts as a connection to the surrounding natural scenery and as a step to access the large soaking tub.



Five boulders—four of which were posted on pedestals—were collected from the homesite by the homeowner.

mind. “It’s comfortable, which is hard to achieve in large, tall spaces,” Blueher says of the kitchen that opens directly to the media and family room with bookshelves that soar to the ceiling. A fireplace feature wall creates some separation between this space and the expansive living room, which has several seating areas. “It unites our family but still provides individual spaces for conversation and little groups to partake in activities,” says the homeowner.


While there is artwork throughout the home, it’s especially evident in this large entertaining area that includes a variety of wall-mounted art and also art-cum-furniture and a skull in a custom display case. “She wanted to see the things she treasures every day, to live with them, so we designed spaces for her artwork to be displayed properly,” Schalk says. The design team gave special consideration to proper display and integrated lighting while also being mindful of the textures and colors of the fixtures and surfaces to enhance some art pieces and make visual space for others.

The primary bedroom and bath were designed to be a secondary living area





with views of the mountains where the homeowner can watch the morning news and the flora and fauna outside. The vision was to look out and be part of the landscape. The bedroom combines plush, colorful upholstery with minimalist lines and white walls that complement the large abstract-impressionist canvases. The primary bathroom delivers on the indoor-outdoor connection. Built at counter level, the bathtub capitalizes on the eastern view. The homeowner insisted they use a granite boulder—that had to be installed before building the rest of the bathroom—instead of steps to get in. “It feels like you’re on the cliff of the Bosque, like taking a bath outside,” she says.

Even the guest suite with a kitchenette captures the views and offers a conversation area for taking it all in. Like the river it’s created to resonate, the home was designed for harmony and built to last. “I wasn’t building it just for me, but for people in the future,” the homeowner says. “I wanted it built to stand the test of time.” 

resources

Architecture

Richard Schalk, AIA

Home Builder

Blueher Abodes LTD

Interior Design

Jan Bernson Interior Design

Appliances

Builders Source Appliance Gallery
builderssource.com

Bathroom/Kitchen Fixtures

Doc Savage Supply

Bathroom Wall Tile

Stonewood Flooring, LLC
stonewoodnm.com

Cabinetry/Kitchen Hood

KJC Cabinetry, Inc.

Countertops/Backsplash/Granite

Rocky Mountain Stone

Fireplaces

Mountain West Sales
mountainwestsales.net

Front Door

Artisans of the Desert

Interior Doors

Moore Window & Door

Landscaping

Alana Markle Design

Lighting

Bright Ideas Lighting Design Center
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Lumber Package

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Lee-Sure Pools, Inc.
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in living color

using color psychology in interior design is central to shaping the atmosphere of a space

HAVE YOU EVER walked into a room and suddenly felt calm, excited or even hungry? The colors used in the space likely impacted your mood without your awareness. That's the art and impact of color psychology.

The study of how color affects human mood and behavior, color psychology explores how different hues can influence emotional and physiological responses. Some colors increase blood pressure, stoking energy and activity, while others stimulate the parasympathetic nervous system, slowing heart and breathing rates.

How color affects us has long been philosophized—from German writer Johann Wolfgang von Goethe's 1810 book

"Theory of Colours" to Swiss psychiatrist Carl Jung's color theory in the 1920s. It even dates back to ancient Egypt, where every color had its own symbolism and was made from natural elements.

The use of color in interior design projects, then, is clearly not just for style or whimsy; it can significantly alter the feel of a space.

"In interior design, selecting colors influenced by psychology is crucial because it directly impacts the mood, emotions and even well-being of the occupants," says Jeannette Salazar, owner of Jeannette Salazar Interior Design. "The right colors can evoke specific feelings, enhance comfort,



Courtesy Violante & Rochford Interiors



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and ultimately contribute to creating a harmonious and purposeful living or working environment.”

Red, for example, is thought to increase energy, conjure passion and stimulate hunger, while blue is said to have a serene, stabilizing effect. Green, too, represents calm, as well as growth and renewal, while yellow is associated with happiness and optimism.

“Color is one of the most powerful decor aspects that helps to dictate how we will design any particular space,” says Michael Violante, principal designer at Violante & Rochford Interiors. “In our work, we use pops of yellow to wake up. A red dining room can make you feel happy; blue and green bring the sky and nature inside.”

Todd Stringer, lead building and remodeling designer for Dana Stringer




Interiors, says it's critical to understand clients' needs, wants and personalities to ascertain what colors—including black, white and neutral shades—will sculpt the character of a space and invoke desired qualities like intimacy, openness, drama or freshness.

"Humans have always used color to read our environment," Todd Stringer says. "These perceived qualities deeply affect our mood. Of course, people are highly idiosyncratic as to how these conditions, patterns and colors affect us individually."

Everyone responds to color differently; yellow, for example, may cause anxiety in some, so neutrals and lighter shades can help balance the use of more vibrant colors.

"People have colors that make them feel comfortable," Violante says. "For any project we work on, we are trying to find colors the client likes. Neutral colors give us flexibility in the house to use a number of colors that make the client feel good."

So, before you paint that accent wall fire-engine red, consider how the hue makes you feel—and whether that emotion is one you're happy to immerse in every day. 

resources

Jeannette Salazar Interior Design

Violante & Rochford Interiors

Dana Stringer Interiors

Courtesy Violante & Rochford Interiors



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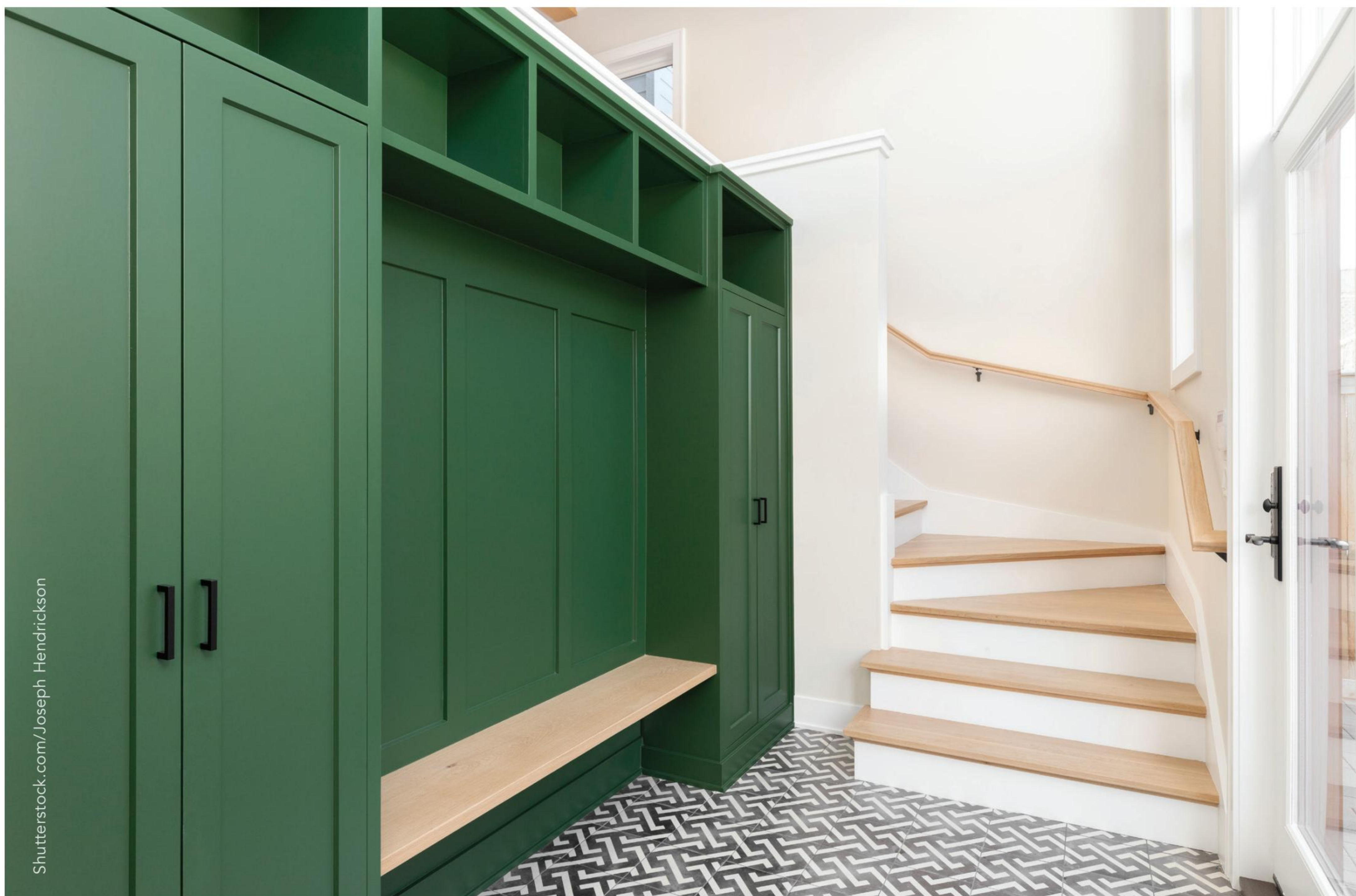
AS THE REPOSITORY of wet raincoats, dirty post-game cleats, things on their way in or out of the house, and maybe a dog dish or two, the mudroom often feels more like an extension of the garage than a part of the house. But what if it could be as beautiful as it is functional?

Imagine a subdued, serene look to juxtapose the multi-purposes this hardworking space entails. Soft color, natural textures, clean lines. As an alternative, treat it like a powder bath—a place to pack a design punch. Regardless, Miriam Ortiz y Pino, professional organizer and owner of More Than Organized, and Lisa Chavez, senior designer at California Closets Albuquerque, agree the space should

complement the style of your home even if it takes a wild design turn.

Must-haves for a mudroom include storage, of course, with hooks, cabinets, cubbies, and bins or baskets. A mix of open and closed shelving keeps the space tidy while offering functionality the whole family can use. If your mudroom doubles as the laundry room, Ortiz y Pino favors closed storage to minimize the inevitable lint that gets into the corners.

Hooks make hanging up coats a cinch, Chavez says, adding that they're also useful for car keys, so there's not an all-family hunt every time someone needs to run an errand or get a kid to dance class. Both pros also suggest a bench



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is necessary for this space as a place to sit for putting on and taking off shoes or sports gear.

Make the most of the space underneath the bench by including built-in cubbies or beautiful baskets to snare unwieldy shoes or other items that threaten to make the space look unkempt. When it comes to storage configurations, consider your kids' ages and their activities. "Little children might benefit from having baskets close to the ground," Chavez says. "That will give them easy access as well as the ownership of putting their own things away."

For good looks, Chavez says, install some pretty tile or wallpaper on the wall above the bench or at the backs of open shelves. These are perfect spots for employing a bold print or texture. Ortiz y Pino suggests hanging fun, colorful art that can be swapped out as your tastes change. Board and batten or shiplap wall treatments add visual interest. Consider a contrast of painted wood and natural finish.


And both pros say finishes and accents should match those elsewhere in the house. "Use the same hardware as in the kitchen, as well as complementary colors and cabinets to create a cohesive look and feel," Chavez says. Don't forget the flooring in this diligent domain. It should be durable, but it doesn't have to be boring. Stone, whitewashed brick—especially in a herringbone pattern—and even polished concrete can express a decidedly designer aesthetic while holding up to the wear and tear placed on a mudroom.

Ortiz y Pino also reminds homeowners not to forget furry family members. "If you have a dog, you'll need a place for hanging its leash," she notes. Chavez adds that the mudroom is an excellent spot to install a pull-out bin for pet food and a basket for chew toys. With a bit of thoughtful planning, your new mudroom will keep the whole family organized. 

resources

California Closets

More Than Organized



divine decor

Discover some heart for your home at The Marketplace at Poulin Design Center

SIP. SHOP. BE INSPIRED. That's the motto at the heart of The Marketplace at Poulin Design Center, a retail home decor business that opened in March 2021. Featuring a huge array of carefully selected items—everything from pillows, botanicals, picture frames and candle holders to vases, furniture and housewares—The Marketplace provides one-stop shopping for clients of Poulin Design Center's remodeling services and community members who want to find a wide range of home decor products under one roof.

"We're creating an experience at The Marketplace," says Stephanie Poulin Lawry, operations manager and the daughter of Poulin Design Center's founders Tom and Terrie Poulin. "We believe in home and all that it encompasses." Lawry credits her sister, Leslie Dunegan, with the idea for The Marketplace, noting that, "Albuquerque doesn't have anything else like it."

With its high ceilings and generous walkways, it's



easy to stroll through the more than 6,000-square-foot bright, airy space. Creatively curated collections not only display items for sale but also offer ideas on how to incorporate the unique items into your own home from inspiring tablescapes to marvelous mantels.

“Home is where we transform everyday moments into memories and cultivate our relationships with our family, friends and community,” Lawry says. “Home connects us all. It’s our sanctuary, a sacred space deserving attention and care. That’s why it was the next logical step here at Poulin, to build this wonderful space where that final task of creating a home, of filling it thoughtfully with the things that comfort, calm and inspire, can be accomplished.”

Creating community at its core, and so that patrons can sit and enjoy the homey atmosphere, The Marketplace contains a café offering craft coffee, loose leaf teas, burritos and homemade pastries. Customers are encouraged to make themselves comfortable and savor a fresh cup of java while surrounded by some of the country’s hottest trending items, seasonal treats, special holiday gifts and crafts made by local artisans.

Additionally, The Marketplace offers classes, workshops and special events. Lawry says plans are in the works to offer interior design services and expand online shopping. ☺



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Hakes Brothers	\$528,515	2	Twilight Homes of New Mexico	\$1,200,000	14
Abrazo Homes	\$556,910	12	Twilight Homes of New Mexico	\$2,600,000	16
Amreston Homes, LLC	\$570,715	6	Alliance General Contracting	\$3,500,000	8
Richmond American Homes	\$576,842	3	Diego Handcrafted Homes	N/A	11
Richmond American Homes	\$621,230	4	ECOTerra, LLC	N/A	7
Westway Homes	\$649,000	1	LOWE-BO Homes, LLC	N/A	18
Pulte Homes	\$675,990	9	Waszak Design Build	N/A	15
Abrazo Homes	\$837,640	17			

COLOR CODE KEY FOR ENTRY NUMBERS

Northeast Heights Valley Placitas Rio Rancho Los Lunas Moriarty
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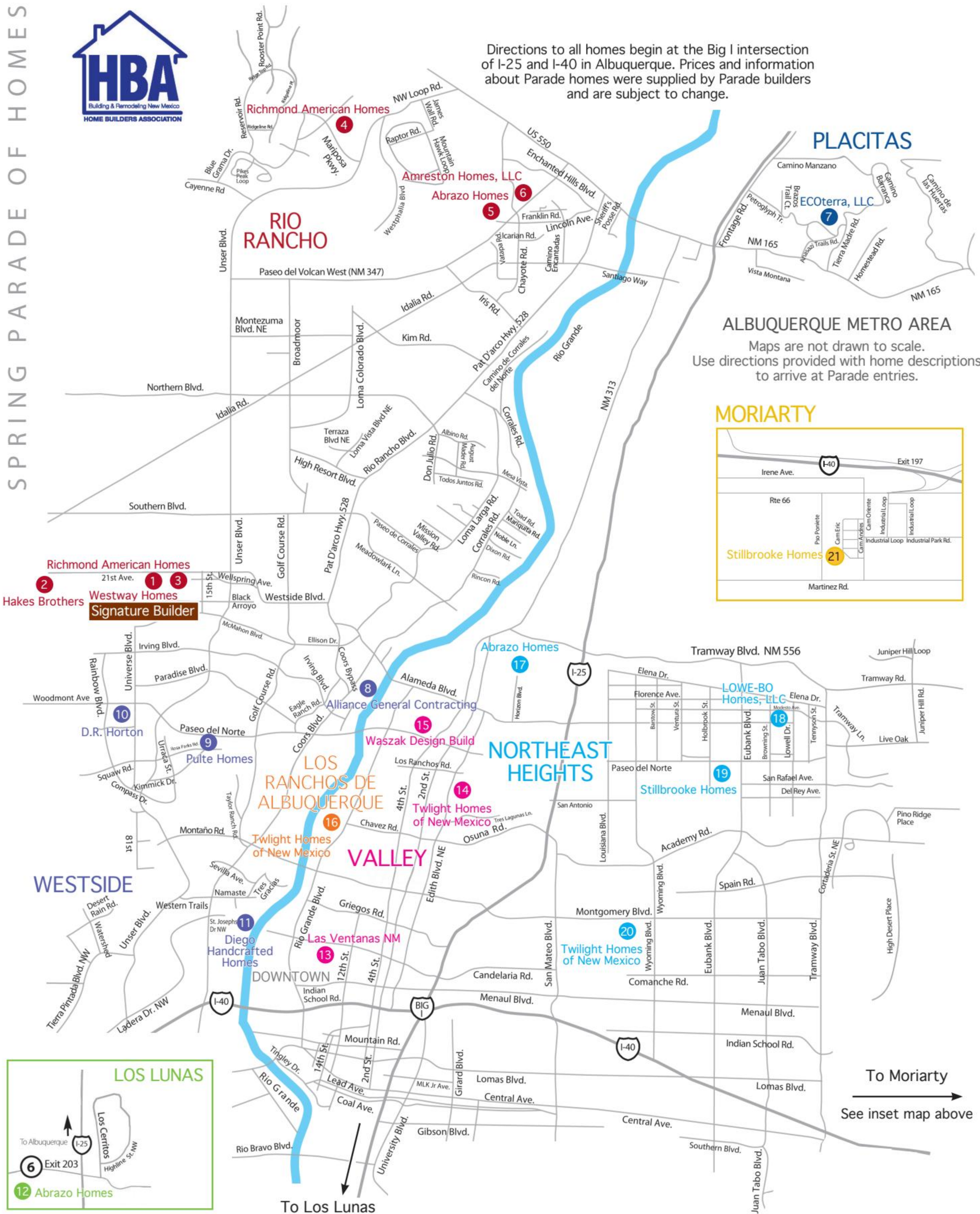
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ALBUQUERQUE METRO AREA
Maps are not drawn to scale. Use directions provided with home descriptions to arrive at Parade entries.



BUILDERS

Abrazo Homes	5	Pulte Homes	9
Abrazo Homes	12	Richmond American Homes	3
Abrazo Homes	17	Richmond American Homes	4
Alliance General Contracting	8	Stillbrooke Homes	19
Amreston Homes, LLC	6	Stillbrooke Homes	21
Diego Handcrafted Homes	11	Twilight Homes of New Mexico	16
D.R. Horton	10	Twilight Homes of New Mexico	20
ECOterra, LLC	7	Twilight Homes of New Mexico	14
Hakes Brothers	2	Waszak Build Design	15
Las Ventanas NM	13	Westway Homes	1
LOWE-BO Homes, LLC	18		

COLOR CODE KEY FOR ENTRY NUMBERS

- Northeast Heights Valley
- Placitas Los Ranchos de Albuquerque
- Rio Rancho
- Los Lunas
- Moriarty
- Westside

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To Moriarty
See inset map above

To Los Lunas

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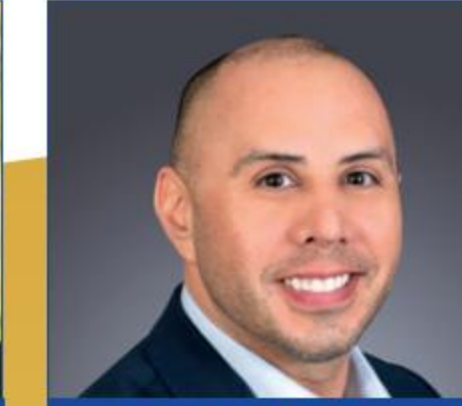
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Upgrades Around Every Corner

Westway Homes, built on a tradition of innovation, redefines standard new home amenities

Photography by Fotovan

In the bustling Albuquerque metro area, where tradition intertwines with innovation, Westway Homes stands tall as a leader in the production home industry. Founded by Michael Fietz, Westway Homes embodies the values and principles instilled by the Fietz family, rooted in a legacy of integrity and excellence.

Fietz's journey into the realm of home-building was influenced by his upbringing in the banking industry, under the guidance of his father who owned Western Bank. It was here that the seeds of Westway's philosophy were sown—a commitment to treating people with



Signature Builder

respect and conducting business with integrity. Fietz embraced these teachings, shaping Westway Homes with the ethos of doing things “the right way, the Westway.”

Since its inception in January 2018, Westway Homes has soared to the forefront of the Albuquerque home-building landscape. The company’s rapid ascent can be attributed to its unwavering dedication to quality, customer satisfaction and innovative practices.

With a keen eye on the evolving needs of homeowners, Westway Homes offers a diverse range of floor plans across six local developments. From Mesa Del Sol to Sage Ranch in Albuquerque, Vista Entrada, Oeste and Estrella Vista in Rio Rancho to Tesoro in Los Lunas, Westway Homes presents an array of options tailored to meet the discerning preferences of today’s homebuyers.

Westway recently escalated its commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship. The introduction of the Eco Series of homes underscores the company’s proactive approach to minimizing its ecological footprint. These homes integrate eco-friendly features such as

solar panels, pre-wired electric vehicle charging stations, energy-efficient appliances and upgraded insulation, reflecting Westway’s dedication to building responsibly for future generations.

In an era where technology plays an increasingly pivotal role, Westway Homes embraces innovation to enhance the homebuying experience. Prospective buyers can explore community model homes after hours on self-guided tours or embark on interactive 3D tours of specific floor plans through Westway’s user-friendly website. Whether seeking single-family or multi-generational living, Westway Homes offers a diverse selection of one- and two-story homes designed to accommodate varying lifestyle needs.

What truly sets Westway Homes apart is its trademarked All-Inclusive, highly amenitized homes, which redefine the standard for modern living. From 8-foot doors and 10-foot ceilings to gourmet kitchen appliances and designer cabinetry, Westway’s homes boast an array of premium features that come standard, ensuring homeowners enjoy luxury without compromise.

“When people buy a Westway, their home





looks like our model home," says Fietz. "What we call standard features, the other guys call upgrades. Because our models are highly amenitized, they require very few paid upgrades. With other builders, it can cost upwards of one hundred thousand additional dollars to achieve a home that looks like the model."

As Westway Homes continues to shape the landscape of Albuquerque's home industry, its unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation and customer satisfaction remains steadfast. With a legacy built on integrity and a vision focused on the future, Westway Homes stands as a beacon of quality and craftsmanship in a dynamic and ever-evolving market.

Westway Homes
thewestway.com



Westway Homes

3209 Matador Street SE Oeste at Vista Montebella

SIGNATURE BUILDER

4 bedrooms
3.5 baths
2,659 sq. ft.
\$599,900 (base price)
\$649,000 (base price
+ all upgrades)

J.P. Rael
(505) 463-4305
jp@thewestway.com
thewestway.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north to Paseo Del Norte Blvd NE. Head west on Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE to Unser Blvd. NW. Take Unser Blvd. NW north to Westside Blvd. Turn left (west) on Westside Blvd. Turn left (south) on 10th to Raider St. SE. Turn left (east) on Raider St. SE to Matador St. The home is on the corner of Matador St. and Raider St. SE.



Rio Rancho's hottest community is Oeste. This home features a modern, open living space designed for today's lifestyle. This floor plan is 2,659 square feet of modern living at its fin-

est. The home features 4 bedrooms and 2 living areas! Oeste is located in the fastest growing part of Rio Rancho. Luxurious and efficient, this home is Built a Better Way, The Westway.

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Hakes Brothers

3055 Opalo Drive SE Los Diamantes

2



HOME CLOSED ON SUNDAY

4 bedrooms
3 baths
2,127 sq. ft.
\$459,990 (base price)
\$528,515 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Cody Luther
(505) 350-8964
cody.luther@hakesbrothers.com
hakesbrothers.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north to Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE. Head west on Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE to Unser Blvd. NW. Take Unser Blvd. NW north to Westside Blvd. Turn west on Westside Blvd. Turn left on Los Diamantes Dr. SE. Turn right on Topacio Way SE, then continue to the traffic circle onto Espinela. Turn right on Amatista Loop SE and then turn right onto Opalo Dr. SE.

Nestled in a location that delivers elegance and convenience, Los Diamantes offers access to restaurants, parks and employment. The 2127 offers an open-concept and flexible liv-

ing space. With a spacious great room, generous primary suite, Jack and Jill bath, and four walk-in closets, the innovative design includes something for everyone.

Richmond American Homes

1018 Teena Road SE Vista Montebella

3



4 bedrooms
2 baths
1,970 sq. ft.
\$576,842 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Vista Montebella sales office
(505) 510-6642
richmondamerican.com/
vistamontebella

From the Big I, take I-25 north to Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE. Head west on Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE to Unser Blvd. NW. Take Unser Blvd. NW north to Westside Blvd. Turn west on Westside Blvd. Turn left on 10th St., left on Raider St., followed by a quick right on Matador St. which turns into Teena Rd. The home is on the right.

A must see! This Augusta home offers spacious single-story living with amenities everyone will love. The gourmet kitchen with center island is perfect for entertaining as it opens to the bright and open great room. A stunning corner-meet,

stacking glass door allows the entire indoor living to flow right outside to the spacious covered patio and outdoors. The owner's suite features a deluxe private bath with an oversized walk-in shower that feels like a spa.

Richmond American Homes

4

3249 Wolf Tail Loop NE Seasons at Monarch



3 bedrooms
2 baths
1,950 sq. ft.
\$621,230 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Seasons at Monarch sales office
 (505) 510-6641
richmondamerican.com/seasonsatmonarch

From the Big I, take I-25 north. Exit 242 onto HWY 550 west. Continue to NW Loop Rd. Turn left on NW Loop Rd., then right on Mariposa Pkwy. Continue to Monarch Way NE and turn right, then another right on Blazing Star St. NE. The model will be on your right.

Welcome to this eye-catching Copper model home! Included features are a covered entry, a beautiful kitchen boasting a center island, a large walk-in pantry, an open dining nook and an inviting great room. There's also a secluded primary suite showcasing a patio door, a

roomy walk-in closet and a private bath; a spacious flex room; two secondary bedrooms with a full shared bath; a central laundry; a covered patio; a 2-car garage; and an attached RV garage. This home offers ceramic plank flooring, white cabinetry and matte black fixtures.

Abrazo Homes

5

6695 Sydney Road Lomas Encantadas



3 bedrooms
2.5 baths
2,102 sq. ft.
\$447,385 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Blair Bidwell-Duran
 (505) 226-0102
blair@abrazohomes.com
abrazohomes.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north, Exit 242 onto HWY 550 west. Turn left onto HWY 528. Turn right onto Enchanted Hills Blvd. NE. Turn left onto Lincoln Ave. NE. Turn right onto Camino Venada NE. Then turn right onto Camino Encantadas NE. Turn left onto Zachary Rd. NE. Turn left on Sydney Dr. NE. The home is on the right.

Discover contemporary living in Moderno at Lomas Encantadas, Abrazo's latest phase, where this home stands out with a fresh unique design. Embrace affordability paired with style. Delight

in beautiful views, a roomy open deck attached to the primary suite, a versatile loft for work or leisure, and a covered patio for outdoor enjoyment. Your ideal home is ready for you!

Amreston Homes, LLC

6700 Zachary Road NE Lomas Encantadas



4 bedrooms
3 baths
2,580 sq. ft.
\$517,990 (base price)
\$570,715 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Amreston Homes
 (505) 738-6008
 info@amreston.com
 amreston.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north. Exit 242 onto HWY 550 west. Turn left on HWY 528. Turn right onto Enchanted Hills Blvd. NE, then left on Lincoln Ave. NE. Turn right onto Camino Venada NE. Turn right on Camino Encantadas NE then left on Zachary Rd. NE. The home is at the corner of Zachary and Emerson.

Discover luxury living in our stunning Turquoise plan! This exquisite four-bedroom three-bath home features a spacious downstairs primary suite, an expansive loft for versatile

living, an elegant gourmet kitchen perfect for entertaining, and a grand patio for outdoor gatherings. Experience elegance at its finest in this meticulously crafted residence.

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 info@aquaticpoolsus.com | www.aquaticpoolsinc.com



ECOterra, LLC

8 Petroglyph Trail Anasazi Meadows



4 bedrooms
5 baths
3,260 sq. ft.

Michael Cecchini
 (505) 918-8476
mike@ecoterrallc.com
ecoterrallc.com

Nestled in the Anasazi Meadows subdivision this Kaye Marshall–designed ECOterra custom home has all the amenities to entertain. The gourmet kitchen and service pantry open into a cozy great room with mountain views. The outdoor kitchen

and gathering firepit welcome you to take in the views. Advanced building techniques and renewable energy provides a sustainable and healthy net-zero electric energy home. Innovative thinking, innovative design ECOterra Design/Build.

From the Big I, take I-25 north to exit 242 Bernalillo/Placitas. Proceed east on NM 165 to Trails Rd East. Turn left on Trails Rd East which turns into Anasazi Trails Rd. Turn left on Anasazi Trails Loop. Turn left on Petroglyph Trail. Home is on the corner of Petroglyph Trail and Petroglyph Place.

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9515 Riverdale Lane NW

4 bedrooms
5 baths
5,893 sq. ft.
\$3,500,000

Joseph M. Cruz
(505) 991-2467
joseph@allianceconinc.com
allianceconinc.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north to Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE. Exit left on Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE to Coors Blvd. Head north on Coors Blvd. to Westside Dr. NW and turn right (east). Westside Dr. NW turns slightly right and becomes Riverfront Rd. NW. Turn right on Lyndale Ln. NW and stay to the left. Turn left on Riverdale Ln. NW. The home will be on the left.



This modern home has an open floor plan with a large kitchen and living room and an incredible primary bedroom. The primary closet is designed with extensive cabinetry and shelves for extra storage. The theatre room has a bar and island, which connects to

a grand recreational room and exercise room with both wet and dry saunas. High-end finishes include plaster walls, stone and wood floors, granite, marble and quartzite countertops. Two oversized garages include a workshop, storage area and RV space.



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JOSEPH CRUZ
 505 991 2467 | joseph@allianceconinc.com
allianceconinc.com

Pulte Homes

6314 Tolkien Lane NW Estates at La Cuentista



4 bedrooms
3.5 baths
2,759 sq. ft.
\$513,990 (base price)
\$675,990 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Michelle Roark
 michelle.roark@pulte.com

Patty Johnston
 patty.johnston@pulte.com
 (505) 302-3681
 pulte.com/nm

The Parklane home features an open gathering room accented with a corner fireplace plus a well-appointed kitchen with quartz countertops, stainless-steel appliances and a large center sliding glass door for an easy

transition to outdoor living. The den serves as the perfect work-from-home or children's space. The guest suite with private bathroom functions as a space for overnight guests or a flexible room to create a home gym or office.

From the Big I, take I-25 north. Exit left (west) onto Paseo del Norte Blvd. NE. Turn left on Kimmick Rd. Turn right on Rosa Parks. Turn right on Twain Way and make an immediate left on Tolkien Lane NW. The home is located on the left.



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D.R. Horton

6812 Atherstone Lane Volcano Mesa

10



4 bedrooms
2.5 baths
1,883 sq. ft.
\$437,990 (base price)
\$501,470 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Miguel Peña
(505) 750-1209
infoabq@drhorton.com
drhorton.com/new-mexico

From the Big I take I-40 west to Unser Blvd. NW. Turn right and proceed on Unser Blvd. NW for approximately 5 miles, then turn left onto Rainbow Blvd. From Rainbow Blvd., turn right onto Universe Blvd. Continue on Universe Blvd. for 1 mile then turn left onto Oak Ridge St. NW. Then make your first right into the subdivision. The home will be the first on your left.

The Stella is a comfortable open-concept, 2-story home. The spacious living area downstairs features a gourmet kitchen, dining room and family room. Also downstairs, the primary

suite gets plenty of natural light through two large windows and includes a walk-in shower and garden tub. Other home features include an upstairs loft and an outside covered patio.



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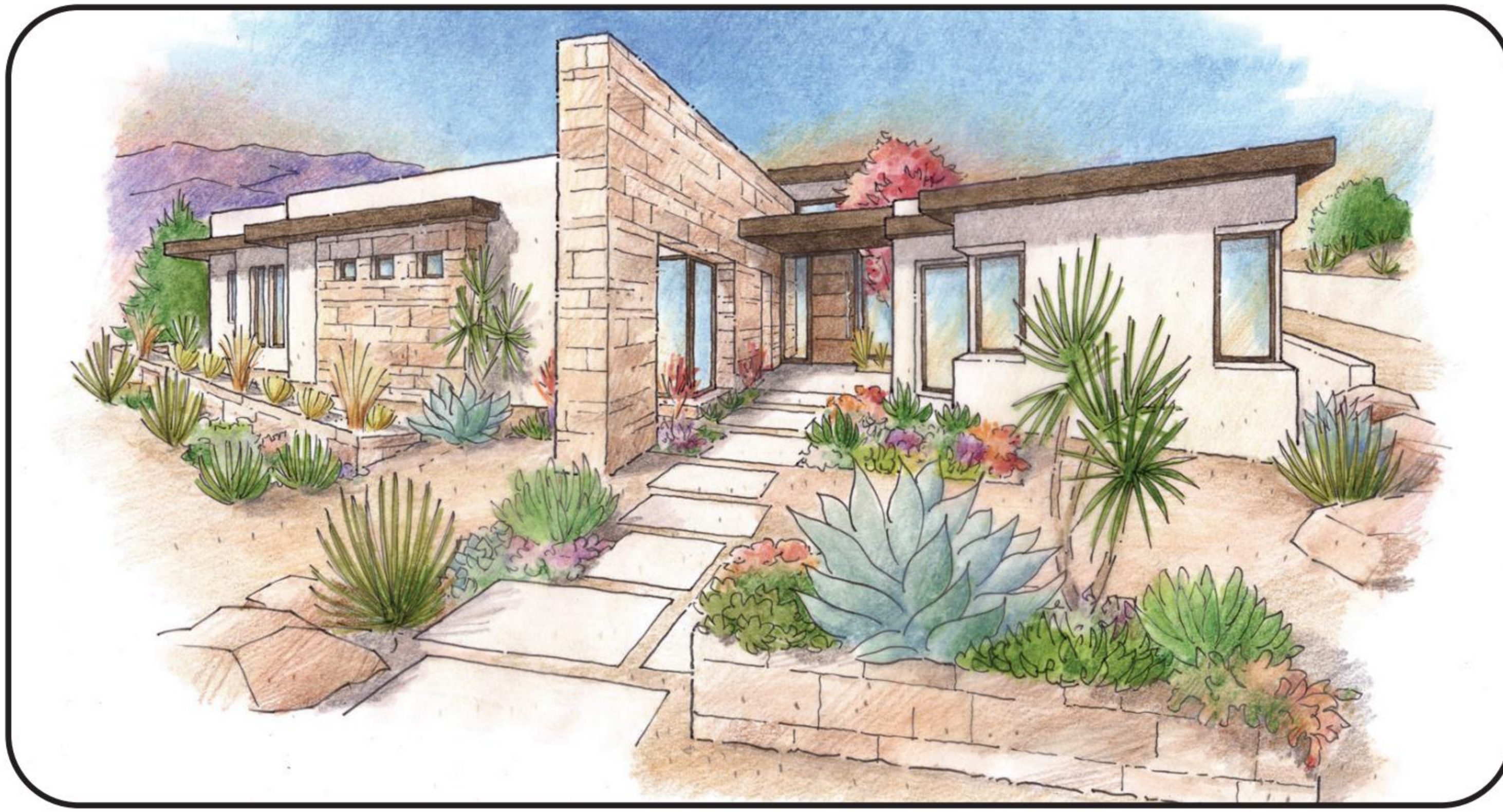
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Albuquerque, NM 87113

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Monday Thru Friday - 9AM-5PM
Saturday 10AM-2PM

Diego Handcrafted Homes

5004 Sand Piper Court NW Oxbow



5 bedrooms
5.5 baths
4,928 sq. ft.

Diego Ruiz
(505) 999-8686
diegohandcraftedhomes@gmail.com
diegohandcraftedhomes.com

A uniquely crafted Desert Modern home combines a harmony of natural stone, iron and wood, with dramatic clerestory natural light, proportion and scale, to accentuate the sleek

elegance of modern architecture. Fusing interior and exterior living, this high performance, Gold Certified Green Home also provides aging-in-place and Universal Design principles.

From the Big I, take I-40 West, turn right (north) onto Coors Blvd., turn right (east) onto St. Joseph's Dr. Turn right onto Morning Dove Pl., turn left onto Waterwillow Pl., turn right onto Sand Piper Ct.



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DIEGO M. RUIZ
505.573.8888
DiegoHandcraftedHomes.com

Abrazo Homes

4784 Manzano Peak Street Vista Manzano

12



3 bedrooms + flex
2.5 baths
2,481 sq. ft.
\$556,910 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Blair Bidwell-Duran
(505) 226-0102
blair@abrazohomes.com
abrazohomes.com

From the Big I, head south on I-25 and take exit 203 (right) onto NM-6 towards Los Lunas. Turn right onto NM-6 W/Main St. NW. Turn left onto Emily Ave. SW (Tank Rd SW). Turn left onto Abby St. SW then turn right onto Manzano Peak St. SW. The model home is on the right.

Experience the epitome of comfort and style in this stunning single-story, ranch-style home. Entertain in the gourmet kitchen with a sprawling island, while the spacious great room invites relaxation. Embrace

the New Mexico weather on the expansive covered patio. Flexible spaces cater to your needs and the redesigned primary suite seamlessly combines functionality and luxury. Your dream home awaits.

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Las Ventanas NM

2213 Matthew Avenue NW



3 bedrooms
2 baths
2,354 sq. ft.
\$895,000

Missy Ashcraft
 (505) 362-6823
missy@missyashcraft.com
lasventanasnm.com

From the Big I head west on I-40 and exit at Rio Grande Blvd. Head north on Rio Grande Blvd. Turn right (east) on Matthew Ave. NW. The home is 1/2-mile east on Matthew on the right (north) side of the street.

A beautiful North Valley home with a huge 3-car garage and an abundance of outdoor space. There are 12-foot ceilings in the great room and large windows throughout to make

you feel as if you are living inside and outside. The beautiful tile accents, European cabinetry and thoughtful design are standards for a Las Ventanas home.

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 BY LAS VENTANAS

505-362-6824
Lasventanasnm.com

Twilight Homes of New Mexico 14

212 Lavender Place NE Lavender Estates



5 bedrooms
3 baths
3,051 sq. ft.
\$1,200,000

Pauline Hansen
(505) 917-1387
pauline@twilighthomes.com
twilightluxuryhomes.com

This spacious one-story, soft contemporary with an open floor plan sits on a 1/3-acre lot in a delightful, gated enclave in the North Val-

ley. There is plenty of room to enjoy the peace and beauty of the Valley with friends and family on the huge covered back patio.

From the Big I, take I-25 north. Take exit 227 for Comanche Rd./Griegos Rd. Turn left onto Comanche Rd. NE. Turn right onto Edith Blvd. NE and turn right onto Lavender Ct. The home will be on the right.

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Waszak Design Build

1016 Guadalupe Villa NW

15



4+ bedrooms
4 baths
4,100 sq. ft.

David Waszak
(505) 250-7888
waszakbuilds@msn.com
waszakbuilds.com

Dynamic contemporary architecture beautifully frames views of the Sandia Mountains from this lush North Valley homesite. Features include an attached casita, furniture-grade doors and cabinetry, and clean

sophisticated finishes. Expansive outdoor living areas feature multiple covered patios for enjoying the wonderful weather. Enjoy the tranquility of this beautiful setting nestled in the heart of the North Valley.

From the Big I, take I-25 north to Alameda Blvd NW. Head west on Alameda Blvd NW. Turn left (south) at the stop light at S Guadalupe Trail NW. Follow the road around to Guadalupe Villa NW, turn right and the home is on the left.



DAVID WASZAK + 505 250 7888



www.waszakbuilds.com

Photo: josh@fotovan

Twilight Homes of New Mexico 16

1018 Cottonwood Drive NW



5 bedrooms
4.5 baths
5,914 sq. ft.
\$2,600,000

Pauline Hansen
(505) 917-1387
pauline@twilightluxuryhomes.com
twilightluxuryhomes.com

A stunning storefront entry welcomes you to this custom contemporary in the North Valley. Tasteful, one-of-a-kind exterior finishes and carefully curated interior finishes highlight the

pool and hot tub and the spectacular attached casita. Terraced theater room, back kitchen and pantry, custom cabinets, and custom tilework complete this masterpiece.

From the Big I take I-40 West. Exit at I57A/Rio Grande Blvd. NW. Turn right onto Rio Grande Blvd. NW. At the traffic circle, continue straight to stay on Rio Grande Blvd. NW. Turn left onto Cottonwood Dr. NW. The home is on the left.

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Abrazo Homes

4000 Gondola Way NE Ascension

17



3 bedrooms
2.5 baths
2,847 sq. ft.
\$837,640 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Blair Bidwell-Duran
 (505) 226-0102
blair@abrazohomes.com
abrazohomes.com

Indulge in the essence of modern elegance in this exquisite home with captivating architecture. Nestled in the gated community of Ascension, it boasts an unrivaled location backing up to the Balloon Fiesta grounds. Revel in the annual spectacle

from the comfort of your own home, featuring high ceilings and a deck with panoramic views stretching from the Sandia Mountains to Santa Fe and beyond. Welcome to a life of unparalleled luxury and breathtaking views.

From the Big I, take I-25 north and take exit 233 towards Alameda Blvd. Turn left onto Alameda Blvd., then turn right at the light onto Horizon Blvd. Proceed straight past the business area to the gate entrance of the community. The home is on the right.



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the art of living well

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5 bedrooms
4 baths
4,849 sq. ft.

Ted Lowe
 (505) 991-2555
 ted@lowe-bohomes.com
 lowe-bohomes.com

LOWE-BO Homes presents this exquisite modern English Tudor home. Characterized by its dynamic gabled rooflines and bay windows, it offers its inhabitants a stylish and inviting home

for entertaining. Materials include white oak, limestone, marble and quartzite. This home features an English Country kitchen with a 10-foot waterfall island and floor-to-ceiling cabinetry.

From the Big I, take I-25 north. Take exit 232. Turn right, east onto Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE. Turn left on Browning St. NE and then right onto Oakland Ave. NE.



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LOWE-BO Homes

© Darrell Devantier

Stillbrooke Homes

9719 Blue Dove Place NE Palomas Meadows



5 bedrooms
3 baths
3,342 sq. ft.
\$939,755 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Mike Davis & Teresa Sterling
(505) 839-2043
sbh@stillbrooke.com
stillbrooke.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north. Take exit 232 to Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE. Turn right onto Paseo Del Norte Blvd. NE. Turn right onto Holbrook St. NE, then turn left on Palomas Ave. NE. Then turn left onto Paseo Del Norte frontage Rd. Turn right on Marquesan Pl. NE and left on Blue Dove Pl. NE.

This model highlights many choices including a gourmet kitchen with quartz waterfall island, tall custom cabinetry, built-in appliances and a large pantry. The home is suitable for flexible multi-generational living with 2 bedrooms downstairs and 3 bedrooms

upstairs. Also upstairs has a large loft and laundry room with abundant cabinets. The owner's suite boasts quartz countertops, two sinks, corner soaking tub, separate shower, and a private deck. The front bedrooms share a deck for enjoying the views.

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takes care
of you too



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Twilight Homes of New Mexico 20

4300 Wymont Circle NE La Mirada



4 bedrooms
3 baths
3,508 sq. ft.
\$815,990 (base price)
\$1,100,000 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Pauline Hansen
 (505) 917-1387
pauline@twilightluxuryhomes.com
twilighthomesnm.com

From the Big I, take I-25 north to exit 228 Montgomery Blvd./Montano Rd. Turn right onto Montgomery Blvd. NE. Turn right onto Wyoming Blvd. NE. Then turn right onto La Mirada PL. NE. Turn right onto Wymont Circle NE. The home will be on the right.

Enjoy city living in the Northeast Heights. This unique 3-story townhome with private elevator will inspire and delight you with its upscale finishes and furnishings. It's conve-

niently located in a new gated community on the corner of Wyoming and Montgomery with urban mountain views.



THE MORGAN

nova
series

2,100 sqft
 3 Bedroom
 3 Bath



THE TATE

nova
series

3,376-3,706 sqft
 4-5 Bedrooms
 4 Bathrooms



THE WHITNEY

Signature
series

3,376 sqft
 5 Bedroom
 4 Bath
 Elevator



LA MIRADA

Located near the base of the Sandia Mountains, this new home community in Albuquerque's Northeast Heights offers nearby schools, shopping, and dining.



Stillbrooke Homes

614 Camino Eric Villa Encantada



2 bedrooms
2 baths
1,262 sq. ft.
\$249,945 (base price
+ all upgrades)

Stillbrooke Homes sales office
 (505) 839-2043
 sbh@stillbrooke.com
 stillbrooke.com

Our cottage home designs have some exciting features at remarkable prices. The features include quality synthetic stucco and covered front porch exteriors, Greensmart energy savings, open floor

plans, 9-foot ceilings, kitchen island, abundant cabinets with soft close drawers and doors, GE appliances, detached garages, fun colors and more! Ask about our 1%-down financing.

From the Big I take I-40 east. Then take exit 196 and turn right on NM-41 S. Turn left on Central Ave/U.S. Rt. 66. Turn right on Camino Oriente and then right on Camino Eric.



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SuCasa *says ...*

Love your rock beds, but hate weeding them all spring and summer? A preemergent herbicide can keep your yard weed-free so you can just relax and enjoy it. Local companies offer eco-friendly products, and they come and do the dirty work for you. An autumn dousing will keep spring weeds at bay, then have them come again in the spring to maintain a weed-free zone throughout the summer. Preemergents work by inhibiting the germination of weed seeds, preventing them from sprouting and establishing, and they work best if your rock beds have permeable membranes that allow water to pass through and penetrate the soil beneath. Of course, be sure your weed control specialist verifies the product is compatible with nearby plantings.



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High Performance
Net-Zero Homes

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Beautifully Designed
and Crafted Homes

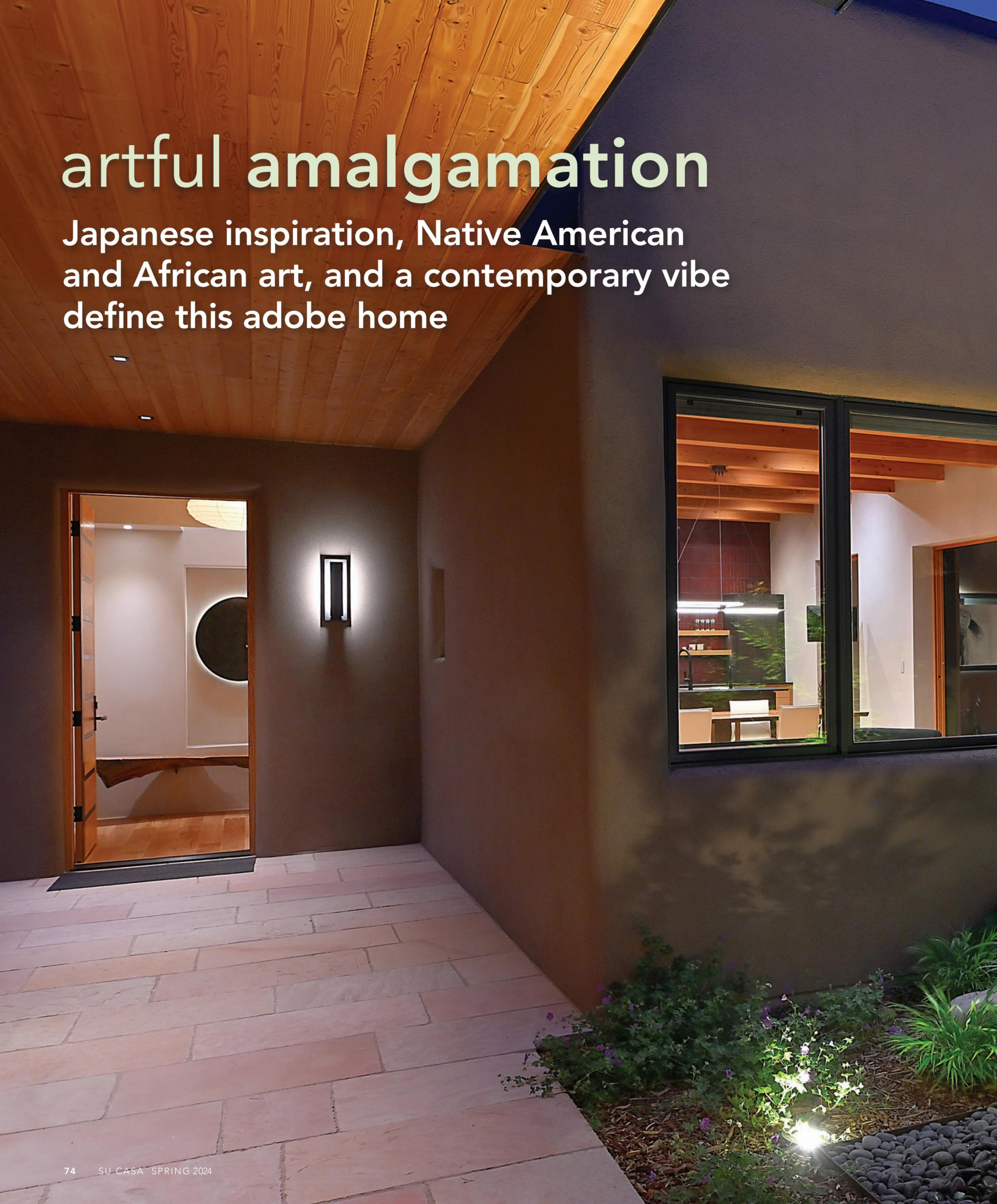


Evan Kinsley . PRESIDENT

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artful amalgamation

Japanese inspiration, Native American and African art, and a contemporary vibe define this adobe home





by Kastle Wasserman
photographs by Daniel Nadelbach

Juxtaposition is a much-used word as part of the home and design vernacular. Because the beauty of great design is often found lurking in the gray intersection between the ying and the yang—smooth and textured, light and dark, old and new, simple and ornate. And it guided the design of a Santa Fe home for homeowners with different aesthetics, a variety of artwork styles and a contemporary-leaning look in a historic area of town that governs the exterior design of the home.

To tackle this tall order, the homeowners engaged a builder they've known for more than two decades, Jesse Gries of Green Star Builders. To round out what they called their "dream team," the homeowners brought residential building designer Stephen Beili of Studio Beili and interior designer Steffany Hollingsworth of PARE to the drafting table.

For the home's exterior, and to meet the historic regulations for blending into the surrounding neighborhood, the team gave the traditional adobe Pueblo-style home a flat roof and rounded corners for a soft feel of natural erosion. They incorporated the homeowners' aesthetic through subtle, blackened steel features. Inside, they were able to let the eclectic styles truly amalgamate.

Peace and comfort were important to the homeowners. "We didn't want a house that was grand," the wife says. "We wanted to have the feeling we were in a spa." The team balanced minimalism and warmth with lots of natural light and strategically placed windows to bring the outdoors in.

Blending a couple's varying tastes in a new build and interior design project can be challenging enough. So many factors come into play. One key requirement was the Japanese aesthetic derived from the homeowners' travels to Japan and their love for a local spa, Ten Thousand Waves. Plus, Hollingsworth was responsible for weaving in the couple's vast collection of Native American and African art while finding harmony between the wife's love of color and the husband's more reserved approach. She said they found common ground: "They're so loving and respectful of each other."



The streamlined kitchen design allows the materials to shine, including the brick-look Ann Sacks tile backsplash and mixed woods.





It was also important to the homeowners to be environmentally conscious in the build, a Green Star specialty. “We wanted to use environmentally friendly products and few materials that would off-gas,” the husband says. “The walls are from an eighty-five percent recycled material. The wood for the ceiling came from a company that plants a tree for every tree it cuts.”

As a result of the blending of styles and environmental considerations, the ceilings in the great room are coffered in a simple Japanese style made with sustainably harvested and sealed Douglas fir wood beams crossed with purlins to create a calm airiness, while the ceilings in the bedrooms and office were inspired by tatami mats.

Another request from the homeowners was a kitchen that breaks from a traditional layout to accommodate how they like to cook. The homeowners are petite and needed to ensure everything was accessible. They also cook mostly Mediterranean style and



In keeping with the homeowners' desire against a "grand" floor plan, the living room is a cozy space designed for conversation. Described by the interior designer as "Santa Fe is Adobe Zen," the room blends Japanese aesthetics and Native American art.



This spa-like primary bathroom includes a stool made from two reclaimed driftwood tree stumps found near Cochiti Lake, where the owner once lived.



Located off a hallway to create a calm, quiet, simple space, the primary bedroom features a grasscloth accent wall and more of the homeowners' beloved works of art.

wanted vents tucked out of sight in the ceiling rather than a large hood over the stove. "The wife told me she's not cooking steaks and greasy fried things, so smoke isn't an issue," Hollingsworth says. "But it was important for them to have a galley sink and shelving that gave access to pots and pans."

The couple labored over sourcing beautiful, flamed granite countertops—rare, especially for interior countertops. "We went to great lengths to get exactly what we wanted," said the wife. "There were constraints on getting materials, but my husband is very perseverant! He found a place to get the stone and finish we wanted."

One of the most striking rule breakers is the

absence of a refrigerator. Hiding it in an adjacent service pantry gave the kitchen clean lines and plenty of meal prep space. "I was a little skeptical at first," Gries said of the homeowners' request, "but the biggest advantage is not having this gigantic eyesore appliance in the kitchen, which simplifies the room and makes it look more beautiful as it flows to the living room."

The primary bathroom combines the Japanese aesthetic and spa feeling with a large, open, tiled space with two stools, a vanity area and cedar buckets in the shower to keep with the tradition of bathing by sitting down and pouring buckets of water over the body. There is also a rain shower and an opening to the outdoor hot tub.



A complete outdoor kitchen and dining area are perfect for New Mexico-style outdoor living. And the blend of stone pavers with rock brings the spa aesthetic outdoors.



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Keeping with the Japanese style, the outdoor space features a koi pond and what Gries refers to as “pocket courtyards” that surround the house and also make space for windows from two angles in the rooms to provide optimal light. There is an outdoor barbeque area with a metal privacy screen loosely inspired by the famous Japanese print “The Great Wave off Kanagawa.”

“We did everything we could to make it feel connected to the outdoors while still being private from the nearby neighbors,” Beili says. “We created a U-shape around the outdoor area leading into the back garden. The great room is in the middle of the house with glass on four sides to make the indoors feel connected to the outdoors from many different directions.”

With Green Star Builders, the homeowners not only got a custom home but also custom furniture, including the entryway bench sculpted from a black locust tree salvaged from nearby Rose Park. They later learned of the tree’s connection to the family. “Their kids played around that tree, and the daughter remembered kissing a boy under it!” Gries says.

The dining room table came from a historic dead standing walnut tree on Palace Avenue. Gries reclaimed the wood and accented it with a bronze insert and legs. The powder room also uses a portion of the tree for a vanity counter.

Ultimately, the homeowners were pleased with how the Grand Hacienda Award-winning home turned out. “We’ve both built before, and, usually, you look back and realize you missed something,” the husband says. “But there’s nothing we would change. We say to ourselves, ‘We can’t believe we actually get to live in this house!’” 





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outdoor art

add a little personality
and visual interest to your yard

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR—time to head outdoors, immerse yourself in your yard. Wouldn't it be wonderful if not only the yard looked manicured and lovingly landscaped but also if there was alluring yard art to capture your attention? Something that is not only beautiful and charming but also reflects your personal aesthetic—the outdoor space can become an extension of your indoor living space, providing an additional area for relaxation, entertainment and socializing.

When selecting or making art for your yard, consider the overall theme of your spaces, your personal style and the existing landscape. Ensure the

materials are suitable for outdoor exposure to withstand weather conditions or note what you should bring indoors or out of the sun for unseasonal conditions. Additionally, placement is critical to ensure that the art complements the surrounding elements and landscaping so that it becomes an integral part of the overall design.

Well-chosen decorative elements such as water features can contribute to a calming, relaxing atmosphere in your yard, enhancing the ambience. Drown out ambient noise with the calming sound of trickling water from a freestanding or wall-mounted fountain. Sand art or Zen gardens promote reduced



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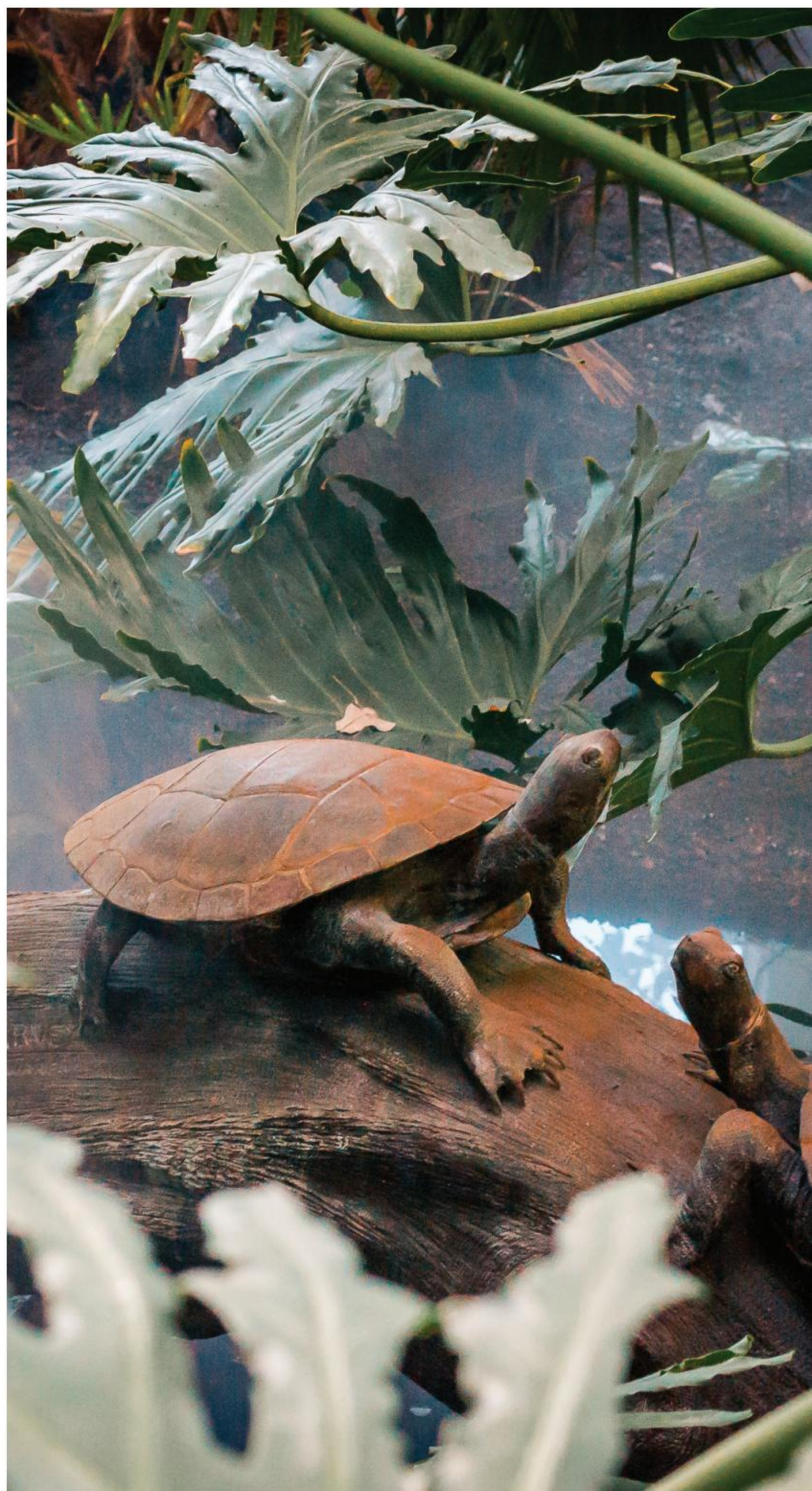
stress levels while offering an interactive art element to a garden space.

Decorative items such as garden statues, sculptures or outdoor art can add beauty and visual interest to your yard, making it a more enjoyable space. Maybe you work directly with an artist to design a sculpture from metal, stone, wood or another material. A muralist could spruce up the side of a garage or shed to add color and whimsy to your view. Additionally, certain decorative items, like birdhouses, birdbaths or butterfly gardens, can attract wildlife to your yard.

Upcycled yard art is a wonderful way to turn dated or unused items into fantastic focal points. An old metal wheelbarrow becomes a funky planter for a burst of colorful flowers, blending old with new. A mixture of hydrogen peroxide and vinegar can give the metal a perfect patina.



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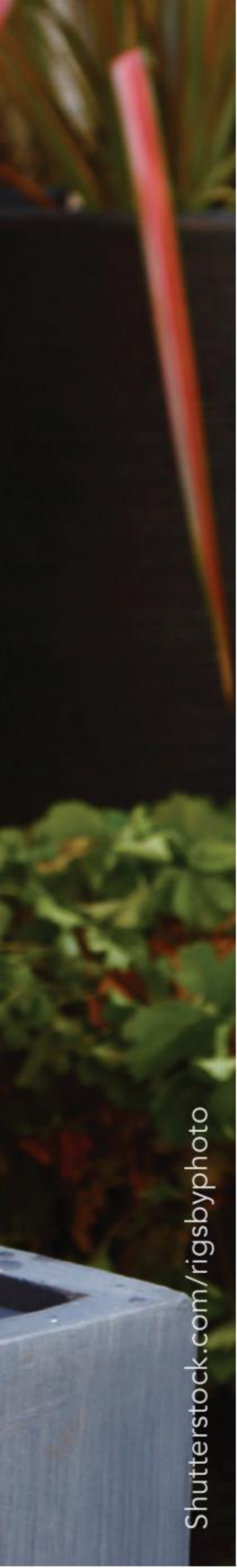
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A well-loved bicycle or a discarded wooden chair is an ideal holder for baskets loaded down with spring blooms. Past-its-prime pottery, dishware or tiles can make intriguing mosaic designs on pots, benches or other outdoor furnishings.

Spending time outdoors, creating art and arranging decorative elements can have therapeutic benefits of reducing stress and promoting well-being. You get a beautiful outdoor space, relaxation, and happiness from looking at the space and creating it. Remember to balance decorative items with practical considerations, such as the size of your yard, maintenance requirements and the fickle New Mexico climate. Then, kick up your heels and enjoy the fruits of your yard-enhancing labor. ☒



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go to the Grand Canyon

**there are many
ways to experience
America's geological
wonder**

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN to that giant hole in northern Arizona? The Grand Canyon is a spectacular sight to behold. Of course, the striking vistas are just small portions of this massive canyon—it averages 10 miles wide and a mile deep for the entirety of its 277 miles in length, engulfing the Colorado River. While it's not the largest canyon in the world, it's at the top of the list. The entire national park by the same name, which was established on February 26, 1919, is greater than 1.2 million acres and sits on the ancestral lands of 11 indigenous tribes—the Puebloan, Havasupai and Navajo have lived in and around the Grand Canyon for thousands of years.

In addition to being a subject of ongoing scientific research and exploration, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a place of geological and ecological significance, it's jaw-dropping gorgeous! Numerous viewpoints along its rim provide breathtaking panoramic views, highlighting the canyon's buttes, spires and mesas, plus its striated colors ranging from deep oranges and reds to browns and soft yellows.

The sheer size ensures you won't see it all, but there are many ways to enjoy Grand Canyon National Park from the top rim to the depths below.

Camping and hiking are two popular ways to enjoy it. There are developed camping areas on the north and south rims, with the south rim offering year-round camping while the north rim is seasonal only. Backcountry camping is also available with a permit. Both rims have day-hike trails—some are even paved—offering spectacular vistas of the inner canyon. Only experienced and prepared hikers should attempt the longer rim-to-river hikes or a rim-to-rim hike—more than 250 people are rescued from the canyon each year. The most popular hiking trail is the Bright Angel Trail. It's well-maintained and starts downhill, which means the return trip is all uphill, so be prepared and watch the time, as it will likely take you twice as long to return. Other popular hiking trails include the South Rim Trail and the South Kaibab Trail.

Another way to take in the sights on foot is to visit the Skywalk at Eagle Point—a cantilevered

glass bridge in Grand Canyon West. The 10-foot-wide, horseshoe-shaped bridge extends out 70 feet over the rim and 4,000 feet above the canyon floor below. This attraction is on the Hualapai Reservation and is not affiliated with Grand Canyon National Park. Off-site parking and shuttle service is available, and you can purchase tickets online ahead of time.

It's possible to enjoy the views from a different perspective—on a mule. Mules are selected for their gentle temperament and sure-footedness on the trails. Various ride options are available, from one-hour to multi-night trips, plus wagon rides based on the outfitter. These unique experiences attract many people, so they can be booked more than a year in advance—plan ahead to create this special memory.

Perhaps you prefer to experience the canyon from the bottom—in the river itself. Rafting trips are a popular tourist adventure. The Colorado



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River offers both white-water rafting and calm-water trips. Various rafting companies provide guided tours that range from one-day to multi-day excursions.

Another option is to get a bird's-eye view. Soar above the canyon in a helicopter for a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Tour companies offer canyon-based flights from 25 to 50 minutes long, or you can catch a flight starting in Las Vegas lasting up to 4 ½ hours. Larger aircrafts can accommodate a family trip with up to six passengers.

Regardless of how you choose to experience it, you're sure to spend much of your trip in wonder and awe over the astounding vistas and remarkable rock formations. In addition, you'll surely go home with stunning photos, exceptional memories and tall tales to tell friends and family about your Grand Canyon adventure. 📸



Numerous viewpoints along the Grand Canyon's rim provide breathtaking panoramic views. The buttes, spires and mesas, plus its striated colors ranging from deep oranges and reds to browns and soft yellows have long inspired visitors, painters and photographers, including Ansel Adams.

SuCasa says ...

Stainless steel sinks are beautiful when they're first installed but keeping them looking spectacular can be a challenge. Top tips include avoiding harsh chemicals and abrasive cleaning materials—never use steel wool! Warm soap and water, mild detergents and a vinegar solution are your best tools to keep your sink sparkling. Mix equal parts vinegar and water to help with tough stains and mineral deposits, while a lemon juice and salt paste can clean up hard water spots in a jiffy. Wipe in the direction of the grain to eliminate streaks, rinse the sink thoroughly after cleaning and towel dry for a spot-free finish.



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South American influence

breakfast and lunch fare with a twist

CORRALES IS ON ITS WAY to becoming a culinary destination. For the last year, a one-stop dining experience with multiple concepts at 4940 Corrales has attracted hungry and curious customers from near and far. During the day, patrons stop into Fancies Bakery, Market and Cafe for strong coffee, stellar bakery items, unique breakfast and lunch options, epicurean goodies, and a collection of well-curated gifts. These same customers and others then return for an elevated dining experience in the main restaurant, Forty-Nine Forty, at night.

Erin Williams, the visionary behind Fancies and Forty-Nine Forty, realized she was no longer passionate about building custom homes—her previous career—after her mother and business partner retired. But Erin knew she had a knack for

traveling well and finding the best shops and stores with the best merchandise. Couple that with her love for good food and a background in design and architecture, and why wouldn't she partner with a stellar baker from Argentina, Paola Savastano, and building owner, Scott Norman, and his son, Jace, to open a hospitality business with a smart, approachable style, a celebrated menu and various revenue streams in the town where she lives?

With “bakery” in the name, it must be smashing—and it is. The scones are beautiful, the muffins are mighty and the croissants are crispy, buttery perfection. Known also for her desserts, Savastano hails from Argentina, attended culinary school in Paraguay and brings a vivid South American influence. This means the creations aren't too sweet, and





Courtesy of Fancies Bakery, Market and Cafe



Courtesy of Fancies Bakery, Market and Cafe

customers enjoy the different flavors and options, like guava and mango, burnt Basque cheesecake and *alfajores*, a traditional confection typically made of flour, honey and nuts.

The Fancies baked goods menu intentionally offers something for everyone—gluten-free, vegan and omnivore. “Paola will continue to develop gluten-free and dairy-free items because it is important to us,” Williams says.

Though the bakery is a draw, the breakfast and lunch dishes are alluring, fresh, healthy and satisfying, from avocado toast to huevos rancheros. “I have heard people say we have the best breakfast burrito in town,” says Williams. “Chef Javier uses the trimmings off the dry-aged meat in the breakfast burrito, taking the burrito to a whole other level.” The chef takes a similar approach with the ranch-style beans—his preference over refried beans—where he uses Lone Mountain Wagyu beef sausage.

The lunch menu features a salad called The Runner-Up that pays homage to chef Javier’s attempt on “Chopped,” a Food Network show, where he was the runner-up. This Italian “chopped” salad includes *guanciale* (Italian cured pork), smoked burrata, fried capers, pickled onions and a rosemary vinaigrette with chicken. Heartier diners will flock to two dishes that are becoming fan favorites—the classic Cubano sandwich and the 4940 burger, which also uses dry-aged meat trimmings.

Whether you come for a coffee meet-up and stay for lunch, need a fabulous gift to grab for a friend’s birthday or want an assortment of baked goods to inspire your team at work, Fancies Bakery, Market and Cafe is calling your name. ☒





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Neptune's Garden in the Loire Valley

the grapes that make Muscadet wine flourish thanks to the coastal climate

MUSCADET, wine considered an incomparable match for seafood, has an image problem. For one, don't confuse it with Muscatel, a generic name for sweet wine, or with Muscat and Muscadine grapes. Muscadet (*mus-kah-day*) isn't a grape at all, it's a geographical area in the lower Loire Valley bordering the Atlantic Ocean. Like most great wine of France, it's labeled for the region. The grape, Melon de Bourgogne or Melon, was originally grown in Burgundy, hence the name, but 18th century farmers in Loire discovered it thrived in their coastal countryside.

Stereotypically, Muscadet is an inexpensive, buoyant

wine. However, from today's progressive winemakers, what's in savvy wine shops and restaurants is more complex and exotic while remaining a value. Unlike ubiquitous chardonnay or sauvignon blanc, Muscadet won't have its own section on the shelf or a list. Look for it among French whites and Loire Valley offerings from the better subzones of Muscadet Sèvre-et-Maine, Muscadet Côtes de Grandlieu or Anjou-Coteaux-de-la-Loire. Also, seek bottles with "Sur Lie" embossed on the neck, which certifies an aging technique that keeps wine in contact with yeast cells adding flavor and texture.



The rural French village of Château-Thébaud is surrounded by a broad expanse of vineyards.



Courtesy Martine's Wine

If I were to suggest a pairing for oysters or ceviche, Muscadet would be it—but its taste profile is broader than that. With shades of ripe pear, lime, a savory salinity and lusciously fresh, it's a fine partner for tart cheeses like chevre, aged Asiago, manchego, ham and cheese sandwiches or a pan bagnat (think salade niçoise between bread), pulled pork and fried chicken. ☒

Top Muscadet Choices

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so. many. birds.

great local spots to get your spring birding fix

BIRDS, BEING BIRDS, are more keenly aware of the coming of spring than humans. As early as late February or early March, migratory birds begin their journeys to far-away breeding grounds and more comfortable summer climates. Meanwhile, New Mexico birders go into a tizzy, eagerly awaiting glimpses of these fleeting visitors as they pass through wildlife preserves and sanctuaries.

Two of my favorite places to birdwatch in the spring are easy to get to and offer expert-led birding walks to boot.

In Santa Fe, the **Randall Davey Audubon Center (RDAC)** sits at the very top of Upper Canyon Road, opposite the 525-acre Santa Fe Canyon Preserve, home to more than 140 species of birds. Visitors to the RDAC are welcome to wander the grounds on their

own or take advantage of the center's free Saturday morning birding walks, led by an Audubon volunteer. The guided walks, which begin at 8:30 a.m., meander through a bird-filled courtyard, then continue across the grounds, and finally into the Canyon Preserve itself. If you're not up for the entire three-hour experience, you can bow out early, but if you're new to birding or looking to add some lifers to your list, you owe it to yourself to do the entire walk at least once. Keep your eyes peeled for spring visitors such as Wilson's warblers, sage thrashers, cedar waxwings, evening grosbeaks and even early hummingbirds.

Albuquerque's **Rio Grande Nature Center State Park (RGNC)**, located along the Rio Grande Flyway and the Bosque, is a magnet



for feathered visitors. I like to joke that there are so many birds that all you have to do is point your binoculars somewhere, and birds will obligingly fly right into your view—and it's not much of an exaggeration. Expert birders lead walks every Saturday and Sunday at 8:30 a.m. The walks are free, but space is limited to a dozen or so birders, so call the office at 505-344-7240 to reserve a space and bring \$3 in exact change or a check to cover the park's daily entrance fee. At the central pond, you'll see ducks, geese and other water birds, then walk along trails and into wooded areas for glimpses of migrating warblers, tanagers and orioles, as well as the RGNC's regular contingent of year-round birds.

Clean up those binoculars. The birds are coming! 📷

Amy Gross is a birder and the organizer of Santa Fe Birdbrains, a Northern New Mexico-based Meetup group.

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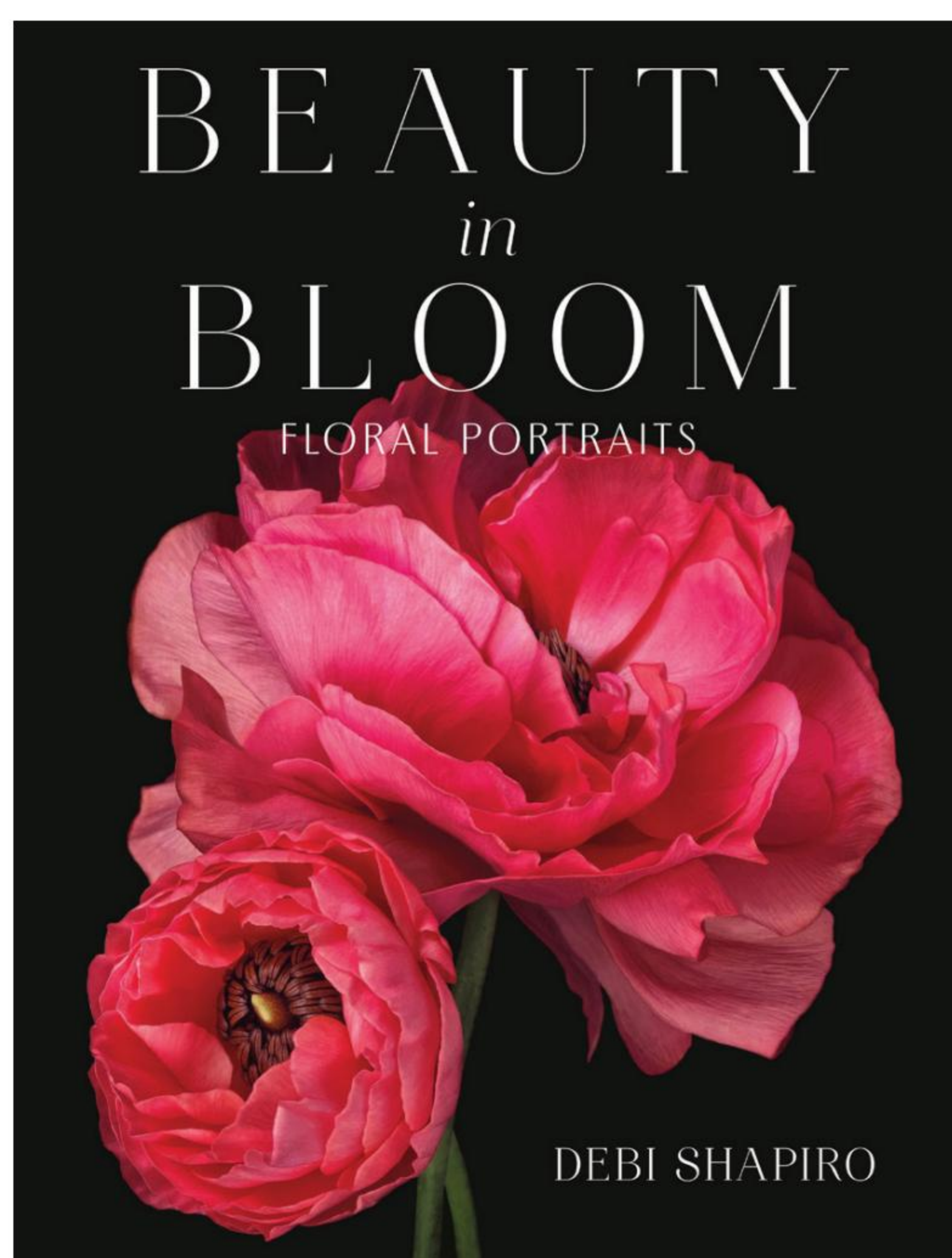
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bountiful blossoms

striking floral photos make the perfect coffee table book




Beauty in Bloom: Floral Portraits by Debi Shapiro, published by and photography courtesy of Black Dog & Leventhal, hardcover \$35.

PREPARE TO BE STUNNED speechless at the depth of color, texture and detail captured by flower photographer Debi Shapiro in “Beauty in Bloom: Floral Portraits.” Using simple black backgrounds and angelic lighting, Shapiro’s approach honors the individuality and ephemeral nature of every bloom, often capturing the same flowers from different angles or at different stages of their development.

One of the most stunning bouquets in the collection, in fact, is a spread showing a bunch of Iceland poppies curled in their fetal buds and then bursting to messy life, their petals thin as tissue and a riot of colors. While she sources flowers from many places, Shapiro admits that she most enjoys capturing those she grows in her own garden, including poppies, dahlias, hydrangeas, hellebores, tuberose and more.

Some featured flower varieties are so gorgeous and their photos so bright and clear—sharp down to the texture of each stem and even grains of pollen—they appear manmade. For instance, tulips “Tinted Blue” and double tulips “Tinted Violet” have petals covered in blue lines as thin as any from an ultra-fine-tip pen. Other petals are vivid enough to resemble wet oil paint, and a passionflower is almost certainly a jellyfish in disguise.

However, Shapiro’s flowers are not all delicate blooms. She gives ranunculus flowers that resemble cabbages and artichokes the same star treatment that she does for delicate roses and peonies.

While certain to be a favorite of any gardener of flowers, “Beauty in Bloom” will also likely appeal to artists and people who love art. Prepare to meander in and revisit the book’s beautiful pages as you would an art museum, savoring the short, sweet lives of flowers captured in exquisite bloom. 



design for the mind

Bobby Berk, of "Queer Eye" fame, says good design is good for mental health



"Right at Home: How Good Design is Good for the Mind" by Bobby Berk, published by Clarkson Potter, hardcover \$35.


RADIATING INCLUSIVITY AND KINDNESS, fans of the hit Netflix series "Queer Eye" will instantly recognize the spirit of Bobby Berk, interior design specialist for the show and founder of Bobby Berk Design, in his new book, "Right at Home: How Good Design is Good for the Mind." Explaining that our homes both affect and are reflections of our state of mind, Berk focuses on functional design suited for each unique person or family in the belief that good design promotes good mental health.

Insisting design is for everyone, he writes, "Your design style is literally Anything That Makes You Happy. And coincidentally—or not so coincidentally—things that make you happy are simply, profoundly (and scientifically) awesome for your mental health."



And alongside tons of inspirational photos—some including Berk and his fluffy dog—he backs up such claims with science about how color affects emotion, how line-of-sight items can trigger memories and how grief can freeze your life (and home) in place. While, of course, no substitute for professional mental health care, design can help reprioritize your life, make you more productive or help you cast off past versions of yourself that no longer suit.

"What you see with your eyes gets on an express train straight to your nervous system and your brain (aka your body's HQ). What you see is literally what your mind gets," Berk writes. "So, you *must* be ruthless about what you allow into it ... (or) you're basically letting cortisol (your stress hormone) live rent-free in your head, body and soul."

Along with the life coaching, of course, the book is an extensive and photo-filled guide that covers design basics and some unique deep dives on houseplants and sunlight. ("And the best thing about light? It's free.") The included worksheets are fun and helpful and build confidence. Berk shows how even entertaining can be integral for your wellness, writing: "When your home isn't guest-ready on a very basic level, it's just way too easy to stay isolated." 





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escape allergies

simple ideas to help reduce pollen in your home

Spring is here, and it's the perfect time to welcome the fresh air and beautiful blooming flowers! But beware; the pollen surge during this season can trigger those pesky seasonal allergies. Fortunately, allergy sufferers can easily create an allergy-free haven at home—just follow these simple steps.

Eliminate Sources

Upon entering your home, slip off your shoes and quickly wipe the soles. Lay a mat at the front door for a convenient shoe cleaning if preferred. Remember your pets, too. Wipe their paws when they come in, bathe and groom them regularly. Consider setting up no-pet zones such as sofas and your bed.

Regularly clean and dust surfaces. Dust from top to bottom to prevent spreading pollen on just cleaned surfaces. Opt for a damp microfiber cloth to effectively trap pollen instead of merely moving it around. Pay special attention to curtains and upholstered furniture, and don't forget to include the top of ceiling fans and vent covers.

Keep the floors clean, too. Solid surfaces like hardwood or tile only require a quick wet mopping. Carpets and rugs act as pollen filters, needing more frequent cleaning. Choose low-pile carpets and vacuum consistently with a quality bagless vacuum featuring a HEPA filter. Simplify your daily routine with robotic vacuums and mops for effortless cleaning.

Ventilate to Dilute Contaminants

Provide continuous fresh air flow in the house with the mechanical system. Refrigerated air conditioning recirculates air, keeping pollens outside. Keep windows closed to ensure efficient system operation and to prevent pollen from entering.

Evaporative cooling (swamp coolers) draws fresh air from the outside, needing open windows for airflow through the house but potentially allowing pollen in. However, the cooler's wet pads act as filters, capturing pollen, which gets washed down by circulating water into the sump pump. Before activating the blower, turn on the pump to saturate the pads. On high pollen days, keep windows closed and turn on bathroom and range hood fans instead to pull cool air through the house.

Filter for Clean Indoor Air

Ensure the filters in the mechanical system are clean and in good condition, using the highest-rated filters approved for it. Consider employing energy recovery ventilation (ERV) or air purifiers with HEPA and carbon filters to diminish airborne allergens.

Lastly, stay informed about local allergen seasons and take precautions during peak pollen levels. Many weather apps offer detailed forecasts for nearby pollen conditions. ☒



Carol Orona holds a master's degree in architecture and is passionate about building science. She is nationally recognized for her work and dedication to high-performance, sustainable buildings, and she enjoys sharing her knowledge.

Plant lovers rejoice! Sign up for a plant subscription service and receive a new plant delivered to your doorstep each month. Not only is this a great way to fill your sunroom or windowsills, but it's also perfect for collecting new plants you might not select on your own, as some services offer rare or hard-to-find plant varieties that may not be readily available at local nurseries. They offer different packages, including an orchid subscription, pet-friendly, easy-care, faux plants and more. Some offer fresh-cut flower delivery as well and will provide information and care instructions along with each plant delivery, making it easy even for novice gardeners. Give yourself—or someone else—the gift of surprise and delight each month when a new plant arrives.





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The approximate 6,100 square feet of living space in this Los Poblanos estate includes a dream kitchen with luxury brand appliances such as a 6-burner, 60-inch dual-fuel range with a grill and griddle, and two 30" ovens. An oversize refrigerator/freezer, two dishwashers and a microwave drawer are all built into beautiful alder wood custom cabinetry. Additionally, the owner's suite has a spacious bathroom with separate vanities, slipper tub and a walk-in shower with dual shower heads. The custom designed his/her closet features multiple shelves, built-in



See what we're cooking up this summer...
SuCasa's kitchen inspiration, coming in hot!



SuCasaMagazine.com



drawers, mirrors and ample space for hanging clothes. Adjacent to the owner's suite is a sitting room/study with a cozy kiva fireplace and a built-in desk with bookcases. A thoughtfully placed exterior door off the suite offers access to the backyard patios, pool, hot tub and cabana. The home also includes three private and separate ensuite bedrooms plus a casita, outdoor kitchen, outdoor fireplace, putting green, barn, pasture and a 4-car garage.

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refined fusion

When Jennifer Ashton took on a Showhouse Santa Fe project to redesign a casita, she was paired with local chef Sean Sinclair as part of the "World of Taste" theme for the event. She also worked with a local artist to create the hand-painted design on the kiva. The combination of creative energies resulted in a design Ashton calls "art of the mix." It's her interpretation of Santa Fe meets farmhouse with the whitewashed interior and a modern, earthy style defined by a natural linen sofa, woven Navajo blankets, wooden elements, plus texture and pattern galore. "I like projects where I can identify a region even if it's a mix—I love mixing style and elements," she says. "This is a play on the love of our region and the idea of a country farm. It takes my breath away; it's so homey and relaxing."

Jennifer Ashton Interiors, jenniferashtoninteriors.com





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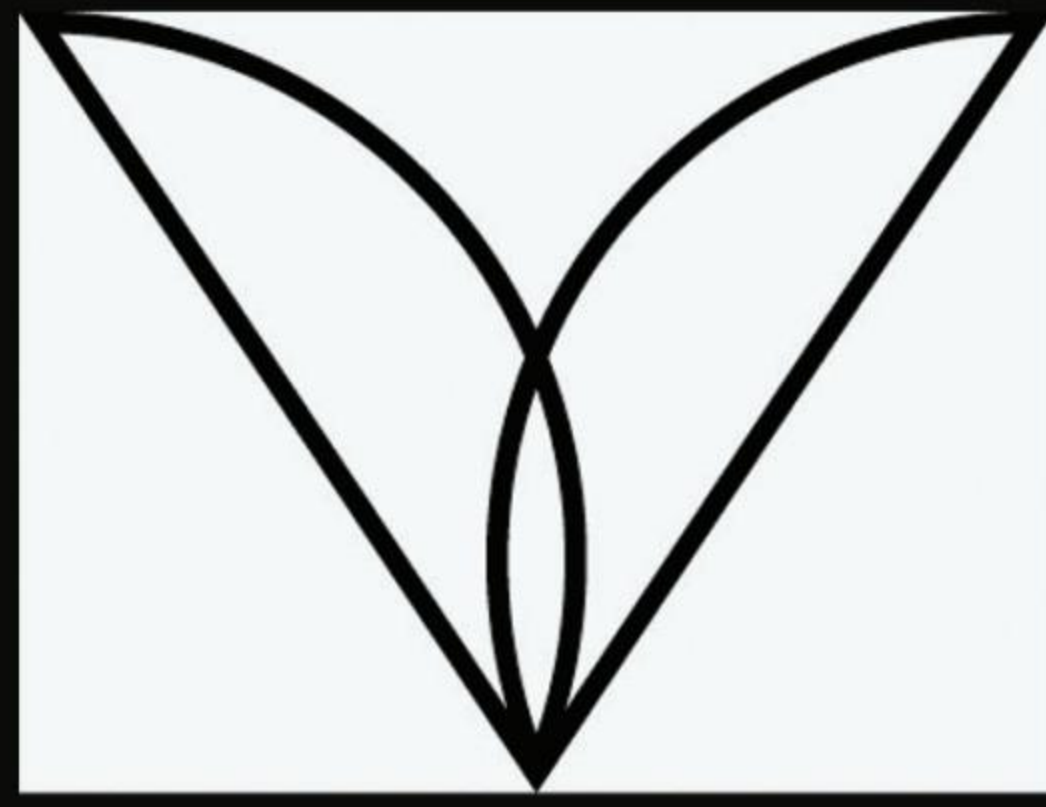
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