In Fine Detail

Take a tour of our 2018 Idea House, an updated bungalow that showcases next-level craftsmanship at every turn



Climb the front steps, past the stone-clad porch piers, and the Craftsman-style architectural elements all around give the house a familiar, homey feel. But once inside, it's clear this is no standard bungalow home. A glass-framed entry ushers light into a cozy foyer with a herringbone oak floor. Just beyond, a hall accented with handcrafted cherry ceiling insets opens onto a living space that soars to double height.

Welcome to *TOH*'s newest Idea House, a 2,700-square-foot home located in Narragansett, Rhode Island, brimming with custom features inside and out. "The level of craftsmanship really gets your attention at this house," says *TOH* host Kevin O'Connor, who was particularly taken with the swooping roofline. "That curve took extra effort, and it's a beautiful flared detail."

It's also a defining element of the Craftsman-inspired

By **Jill Connors** • Photographs by **Nat Rea** Produced and styled by **Claudia Jepsen**

THESE PAGES
SHINGLE SIDING: SBC Cedar
EXTERIOR STAIN: Olympic's
Steely Sea
WESTERN RED CEDAR:
Real Cedar
RADIATA PINE CLAPBOARDS,
SOFFITS, AND TRIM: LIFESPAN
Solid Select
MANUFACTURED: STONE
VENEER: Eldorado Stone
COMPOSITE ROOF TILES:
DaVinci Roofscapes
WINDOWS AND PATIO DOORS:
Andersen
LAMPPOST: Walpole Outdoors
GARAGE DOORS: Haas Door
LAMDSCAPE PLANTS: Sodco,
Fast-Growing-Trees.com,
and Instant Hedge
IRRICATION: Orbit B-Hyve and
Orbit Irrigation
LOORING: Baird Brothers
Fine Hardwoods
SKYLIGHTS: VELUX
CHANDELIER: Clarkson
Lighting
LAMPS: Circa Lighting
FURNISHINGS: hayneedle.com
GREEN SETTEE: O&G Studio
STONEWARE: Cynthia
Brown Studio
WINDOW TREATMENTS:
Smith & Noble
FRAME TELEVISION: Samsung
GAS FIREPLACE: Ortal from





architectural design by Union Studio architect Christina Carlson, in collaboration with The House Designers. And executing that roof detail is just one example of the skill Sweenor Builders applied in making the plan on paper a reality. Each of the massive rafters had to be constructed in sections on the ground, then lifted into place. As builder Jeff Sweenor recalls with a smile, "It took three guys on the ground, three on ladders, and three on the roof—and a lot of rope and muscle."

Inside, the house's flexible layout includes two master suites, an additional two bedrooms and one and a half baths, first- and second-floor laundry rooms, a basement media room and gym, plus garage guest quarters and a raft of outdoor amenities. Interior designer Kristen Martone gave it all a fresh, modern look with clean-lined furnishings and a lively palette of blues and greens.

Best of all, the free-flowing plan offers lots of options for gathering with family and friends, from the open kitchen/dining/living area to the rear courtyard's outdoor kitchen and fire-pit patio. Between the open-air and interior spaces is the back sunporch, where skylights and south-facing windows allow the breezy summer hangout to morph into a cool-weather comfort zone. Indoors or out, this is a house crafted to enjoy life in.

THIS PAGE

/HITE OAK FLOORING AND BLACK WALNUT BORDER NSET CHERRY CEILING TRAYS, ENTRY AND INTERIOR DOORS, AND OAK AND POPLAR STAIR PARTS: Baird Brothers Fine Hardwoods ENTRY LIGHT: Circa Lighting INTERIOR DOOR HARDWAR House of Antique Hardware LIVING AREA BUILT-INS: Sweenor Builders Mill Shop WOOD GLUE: Gorilla Glue PAINT: Glidden's Swan White (walls) hayneedle.com ARTWORK: Jessica Hage Fine Art + Design

Warm and welcoming

- 1. Greeting visitors with custom elements right inside the front door makes it clear that this is a distinctive house. The fover features a hand-laid herringbone "rug" of white oak floorboards framed in black walnut. It leads to a hallway with a coffered ceiling that is accented with a series of stepped cherry inlays, creating a dramatic transition from the entry's 9-foot ceiling to the doubleheight great-room living area.
- 2. For convenient daily comings and goings, the back door connects to the freestanding garage via a covered walkway, offering protection from the elements. This secondary entry gets the first-class treatment with a small sitting porch that echoes the full-width porch out front, with a cedar floor and ceiling and tapered wood columns set on manufactured-stone-veneer bases. Also making everyday life easier: a smart-home system that allows for adjusting the lighting and setting its schedule by remote access.

BUILD THIS DREAM HOME!

To buy a complete set of blueprints for TOH's 2018 Idea House, go to houseplans.thisoldhouse.com



Easy living

- 3. Inside the back door, custom mudroom cubbies and a built-in bench offer a convenient drop spot for outerwear and grocery bags. Poplar shiplap is installed with a nickel gap reminiscent of wall cladding found in older beach cottages in the area. For a high-contrast look, the walls' crisp white paint is accented by deep green on the built-ins and trim. Durable black ceramic tile underfoot stands up to wet umbrellas and sandy feet with ease.
- 4. The adjacent powder room repeats the same blackand-green color scheme and gets its vintage charm from vertical shiplap wainscoting, old-school penny-round floor tile, and a dresser-turned-vanity finished with a washstand-style top in glossy marble-look quartz and a simple vessel sink. Malachite-patterned wallpaper makes the ceiling a focal point and is repeated in a trim for the round mirror. Modern wall lights update the idea of classic candle-style sconces.





CLAPBOARDS, WINDOW

LIFESPAN Solid Select

TRIM. AND SOFFITS:

WESTERN RED CEDAR

Real Cedar EXTERIOR SEALER (ON CEDAR ELEMENTS): Olympic WALKWAY PAVERS: Unilock BACK DOOR AND INTERIOR SHIPLAP: Baird Brothers Fine Hardwoods PORCH FURNISHINGS: hayneedle.com OUTDOOR SCONCES Circa Lighting SMART LIGHTING CON Leviton PAINT: Glidden's Swan White (mudroom and powder room walls), Hunte Green (mudroom built-ins and trim), and Black Magic (powder room trim)
FLOOR TILE: Merola Tile INTERIOR LIGHTING Clarkson Lighting HARDWARE: House of Antique Hardware MUDROOM BUILT-INS: Sweenor Builders Mill Shop BENCH CUSHION AND WINDOW TREATMENT Smith & Noble WALLPAPER (ON CEILING)
Malachite by York VESSEL SINK: American

FAUCET: DXV

TOHIdea House 2018







Stylish hub

- 5. Natural wood elements carry the Craftsman aesthetic into the open-plan kitchen, which features quartersawn white oak floors, a black walnut island top, walnut open shelves and vegetable drawers, and wood-seat barstools. Around the perimeter, quartz counters with a soapstone look offer an easy-care alternative to natural stone. To anchor the space, the island base is painted graphite, while perimeter cabinets and backsplash tile are a fresh white. The sleek stainless-steel appliances and vent hood add a contemporary touch. Layered lighting helps the space work hard and feel good, with a carriage-house-style pendant over the island, task library lights above the sink, recessed ceiling cans, and LEDs set into channels in the open shelves. Sink windows look out onto the driveway's custom pergola.
- **6.** Off the kitchen, the butler's pantry meets modern-day storage needs in classic early-20th-century style. Painted floor-to-ceiling cabinets feature glass doors, a built-in rack for platters, open shelves, shallow drawers (easier to keep orderly!), bin pulls, and glass knobs. The walnut shelf and countertops warm up the space even more.
- **7.** Around the corner is a convenient first-floor laundry, where all the essentials are given a style upgrade: a stackable washer and dryer, a vintage-style apron sink and wall-mount faucet, and mosaic-tile walls. A hanging rod, space for folding—or ironing on a countertop board—and laundry bins that roll out of the way pack a lot of efficiency into the compact space.

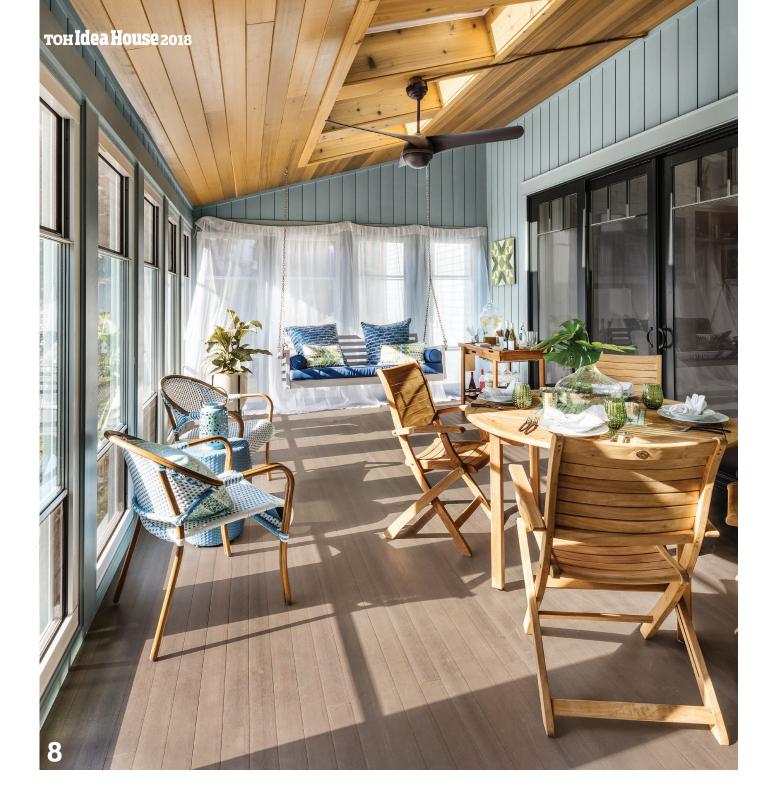
THESE PAGES

Cabinetry
QUARTZ COUNTERTOPS:
Cosentino
WOOD COUNTERTOPS AND
FLOATING SHELVES: Grothouse
LIGHT FIXTURES: Clarkson
Lighting
APPLIANCES: Miele
YENT HOOD: Panasonic
FLOOR AND BACKSPLASH TILE:
Marcia Tile

ISLAND BASE, AND VEGETABLE DRAWERS: Signature Custom

LIGHT FIXTURES: Clarkson
Lighting
APPLIANCES: Miele
VENT HOOD: Panasonic
FLOOR AND BACKSPLASH TILE:
Merola Tile
STOOLS: hayneedle.com
KITCHEN SINK: DXV
KITCHEN FAUCET: GROHE
LAUNDRY SINK AND FAUCET:
American Standard
LAUNDRY CABINETS: Sweenor

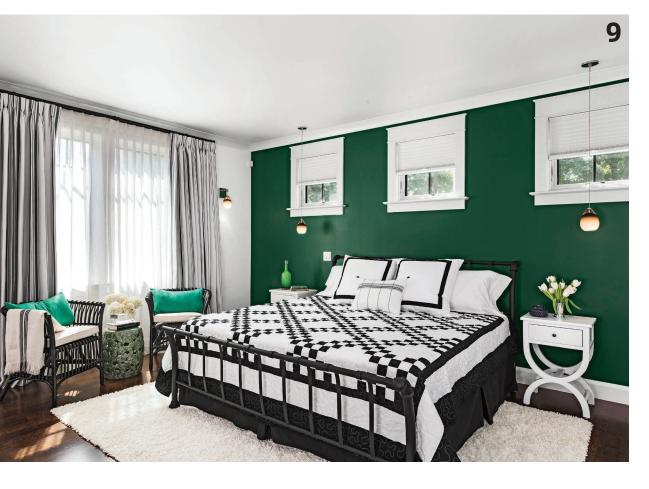
American Standard
LAUNDRY CABINETS: Sweenor
Builders Mill Shop
WASHER AND DRYER: Electrolux
TANKLESS WATER HEATERS (not
shown): Rinnai
WINDOWS: Andersen



Light and airy

8. "The back of this house is all about entertaining, and the sunroom provides a connection from indoors to outdoors," says architect Christina Carlson. With windowed walls and skylights overhead, the bright, inviting space connects to the main living area through sliding patio doors. A vaulted V-groove cedar ceiling, stained tongue-and-groove poplar walls, and wood-look PVC flooring give the room a breezy porch feel. The nearly floor-to-ceiling windows' innovative system of sliding glass panels and retractable screens at top and bottom preserves views while channeling fresh air—and makes the room comfortable spring through fall. A teak dining set, synthetic-wicker chairs, and a painted porch swing give it comfortable and practical beach-house style.

THIS PAGE SKYLIGHTS: VELUX PVC PORCH FLOOR: Aeratis WESTERN RED CEDAR: Real Cedar STAIN: Olympic's Steely Sea PATIO DOORS: Andersen PORCH WINDOWS WITH RETRACTABLE SCREENS: Scenix by Larson CEILING FAN: Clarkson Lighting FURNISHINGS: hayneedle.com

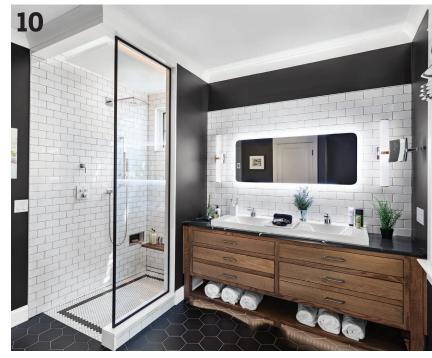


THIS PAGE PAINT: Glidden's Brunswick

(bedroom accent wall) and Black Magic (bath walls) LIGHTING: Clarkson Lighting KING BED, SHEETS, AND BED PILLOWS: Sleep Number QUILT: Barn Red Quiltworks ACCENT PILLOWS: Malabar WINDOW TREATMENTS AND BED SHAMS: Smith & Noble GARDEN STOOL havneedle.com VANITY AND BUILT-INS: Sweenor Builders Mill Shop BATH SINK AND FAUCETS DXV SHOWER FITTINGS: GROHE
TILE: Merola Tile SHOWER WATERPROOFING SYSTEM AND BATHROOM ELECTRIC IN-FLOOR HEATING: Schluter-Systems' KERDI Waterproofing Membranes and DITRA-HEAT Electric Floor Warming GLASS SHOWER

Suite flexibility

- 9. A first-floor master bedroom with bath offers homeowners the option of moving into it now—or later. It would be just as welcoming as a guest or in-law suite. The bedroom looks sharp with a bold black, white, and green color scheme. Simply trimmed clerestory windows below the curved cove crown molding usher in light while blocking views of the neighbors; tall tri-muntin casement windows look out over the deep backyard.
- 10. The high-contrast theme continues in the adjoining black-and-white bath. The custom vanity maximizes storage with drawers as well as an open shelf; toe-kick LED lighting alleviates having to fumble around in the dark. The shower is more than just a glistening tile-andglass attraction: It features a curbless design and a drop-down bench to make it ultra-functional for users of every age and ability.



TOH Idea House 2018

Custom touches

- 11. Upstairs, a gallery-style hallway puts a spotlight on special features, making it more of a showpiece than a pass-through. Decorative cedar trusses accent the ceiling vault above the open railing. A nook for a library/home office is defined by a bright-blue bookcase built-in that incorporates salvaged glass panels. Under the front gable is a built-in desk sized to fit right below the windows, making the most of natural light for daytime work.
- 12. The second-floor master suite's bath is a spa-like retreat with a soaking tub and tiled shower, in calming beige, white, and wood tones. The custom vanity is flanked by tall storage cabinets; toe-kick lighting is both pretty and practical. Iridescent seashell mosaic tile forms a shimmery frame for the mirror; the tile is also used as an accent in the wood wall niche, which has built-in LED lighting.
- 13. The upstairs master bedroom's simple, streamlined furnishings and earth-toned color palette set the scene for relaxation. A glossy, white-painted tongue-and-groove ceiling adds a textural contrast to the natural wood surfaces in the room. A built-in niche above the headboard provides a place to display collected objects or tuck a few extra books.







THIS PAGE

KNOTTY WESTERN RED CEDAR (TRUSSES): Real Cedar
PAINT: Glidden's Celestial Blue (library built-in) and White on White (library/ office walls, trim, and desk), Colonial White (master suite walls) and White on White (master suite trim) CUSTOM BUILT-INS AND VANITY: Sweenor Builders Mill Shop TUB AND FIXTURES: DXV COUNTERTOP AND ACCENTS: Cosentino BATH TILE: Merola Tile TILE EDGING AND TRIM PROFILES: Schluter-Systems LIGHTING: Clarkson Lighting TABLE LAMP: Circa Lighting KING BED, SHEETS, AND BED PILLOWS: Sleep Number FURNISHINGS AND BED QUILT: hayneedle.com HARDWARE: House of Antique Hardware





It's a colorful life

- 14. "There's a coziness to having living space tucked under the roofline," says architect Carlson. In the second-floor bunk room, gray-blue paint with a hint of green covers the ceiling as well as angled walls that reflect the roof's steep pitch, creating a perfect room for cocooning. A patterned rug, polka-dot bed linens, even a pop-up teepee, continue the color theme.
- 15. Throughout the house, shades of blue brighten a predominantly neutral backdrop. Here, aqua blues mix with teal greens in the second-floor guest bedroom, designed to be a serene retreat. The ivory-linenupholstered headboard provides plush comfort, setting off the floral-themed textiles. Custom valances give curtains an architectural framework with a scaled-up version of the curved cove crown molding that appears in most of the rooms.
- **16.** A high-gloss floating vanity lends a vivid look in the second-floor shared bathroom, where the walls and countertop provide bright-white contrast. The laminate cabinetry's dazzling hue picks up the shower's accent tile (reflected in the mirror), which suggests a waterfall cascading down the wall.



THIS PAGE PAINT: Glidden's Mountain Stream (bunk room walls and ceiling), Morning Song (guest room walls), and White on White (bath) BUNK BEDS AND BEDROOM FURNISHINGS: hayneedle.com QUEEN BED, SHEETS, AND BED PILLOWS: Sleep Number LIGHTING: Clarkson Lighting LAMPS: Circa Lighting CUSTOM VANITY: Sween Builders Mill Shop BATH FIXTURES AND FITTINGS: American Standard BATH TILE: Merola Tile WINDOW TREATMENTS: Smith & Noble

> TAKE A 3-D TOUR! Do a virtual walk-through of the 2018 Idea House at thisoldhouse .com/3D-tour





Outdoor oasis

17. Come summer, the courtyard is the prime activity zone. "The idea was to not just create one huge rectangle," says landscape designer Jon Zeyl of the area between the back of the house and a garage sidewall. "We wanted welcoming spaces, logically broken up by geometry, that people would want to use." An outdoor kitchen and dining area set the stage for alfresco meals; off the sunroom, a seating area complete with sectional sofa invites lounging. And when the mercury climbs, the plunge pool is prime territory for a cooling soak. Uniting all the areas are concrete pavers in a variety of sizes and patterns.

18. Both fun and functional, an outdoor shower is a sought-after amenity at any house near the beach. Sweenor Builders went all out creating this one, with a door decorated with laser-cut schooling fish (see Photo 17), chevron-pattern cutouts on the privacy panels, and a pergola-style roof. Inside, the curved seat and plumbing wall got a natural accent with moisture-resistant knotty western red cedar.

19. On evenings when there's a chill in the air, the gas fire bowl has a magnetic attraction. Casual Adirondack-style seating, including a bench swing hung from an angled pergola—echoed in the circular paving design—offers plenty of options for gathering around into the wee hours.

THESE PAGES PLUNGE POOL: Soake Pools

PLUNGE PUOL: SOAKE POOLS
BASEMENT EGRESS: The
BILCO Company
SHOWER AND PERGOLA:
Sweenor Builders Mill Shop
SHOWER FITTINGS: DXV
PATIO PAVERS: Unilock OUTDOOR FURNISHINGS AND APPLIANCES: hayneedle.com MANUFACTURED-STONE VENEER, KITCHEN ISLAND, AND FIRE BOWL: Eldorado Stone

DEKTON COUNTERTOP: Cosentino LIGHTING: Clarkson Lighting HOUSE HYDRANT (not sh Aquor Water Systems GENERATOR (not shown):

Champion Power Equipment
KNOTTY WESTERN RED CEDAR Real Cedar ROOFING: DaVinci Roofscapes SKYLIGHTS: VELUX



TOH Idea House 2018





SEE IT ALL! Explore every inch of the Idea House at thisoldhouse .com/idea-house

VIP treatment

20. Shiplap walls, plantation shutters, a coral-hued accent in the dormered ceiling, and pickled oak floors add up to a luxurious beach-house look in the guest suite above the garage. There are glam touches, too, from the beaded chandelier to the starburst mirror. "I call this my 'she shed,' a separate living space off the main house that functions as a guesthouse or weekend retreat," says interior designer Kristen Martone. Operated by remote control, the retractable queen-size Murphy bed slides up into the back of the cabinetry, leaving just the bookcase and flat-screen TV to be enjoyed from the comfort of the sofa.

21. The garage repeats many of the house's Craftsmanstyle details: a curved roof, a central gable, exposed brackets, and a textural mix of siding materials, with cedar shingles above manufactured-stone veneer. An exposed aggregate concrete driveway provides an aesthetically pleasing (and snow-removal-friendlier) alternative to gravel. The covered walkway connects the two structures and offers protection from the weather.

22. The basement in the main house holds more amenities fit for company—or just more extras for the family who lives there—with a media room and a home gym, complete with sauna. Although nestled below grade, the rooms gain natural light from a deep window-well system that doubles as egress from the basement space.

HIS PAGE

PAINT: Glidden's Warm White (guest suite walls), Coral Blush (ceiling accent), and Fog (media room walls)

(media room walls)
GUEST SUITE FURNISHINGS: Cabot House
RETRACTABLE MURPHY BED: Zoom-Room
BUILT-INS: Signature Custom Cabinetry
GARAGE DOORS: Haas Door

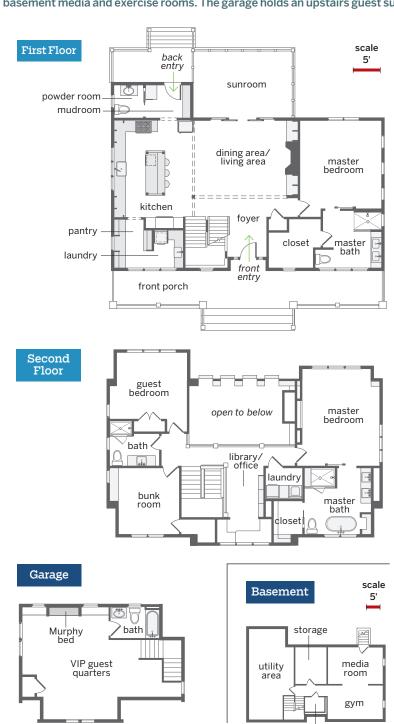
MEDIA ROOM FURNISHINGS: Article EGRESS WINDOWS: The BILCO Company BASEMENT GYM EQUIPMENT: hayneedle.com LOCKERS: Jorgenson Lockers LOAD CENTER (not shown): Leviton SAUNA: Finlandia Sauna from Country Saunas by Design





FLOOR PLANS

The 2,700-square-foot layout offers free-flowing gathering space on the first floor with open kitchen/dining/living areas. Sliding doors to the adjoining sunroom encourage passage through it to the rear courtyard's entertaining space. With four bedrooms and three and a half baths, the house features upstairs and downstairs master suites, two laundry rooms, a library/office, and basement media and exercise rooms. The garage holds an upstairs guest suite.







Special Thanks to Our Sponsors



Subflooring AdvanTech CustomHomeResource.com



PVC Porch Floor Aeratis aeratis.com



Plumbing Fixtures American Standard americanstandard.com



Windows & Patio Doors Andersen andersenwindows.com



Outdoor Water Systems Aquor aquorwatersystems.com



Hardwoods **Baird Brothers** Fine Hardwoods bairdbrothers.com



Basement Egress The BILCO Company www.bilco.com



HVAC **Bryant Heating** & Cooling bryant.com



Generator Champion championpowerequipment.com



Lamps & Floor Lamps Circa Lighting circalighting.com



Lighting Fixtures Composite Roof Tiles Clarkson Lighting DaVinci Roofscapes davinciroofscapes.com clarksonlighting.com



Financial Sponsor Discover **Personal Loans** discover.com/remodel-loan



Plumbing Fixtures DXV dxv.com



Stone Veneer Eldorado Stone eldoradostone.com



House Wrap GCP Applied Technologies gcpat.com/solutions



Interior Paint Glidden glidden.com



Glues & Adhesives Gorilla Glue gorillatough.com



Plumbing Fixtures GROHE grohe.us



Wood Countertops Grothouse glumber.com



Garage Doors Haas Door haasdoor.com



Clapboard Siding LIFESPAN Solid Select timbertrading.com/lifespan



Ventilation **Panasonic** us.panasonic.com/ventfans



Stone Wool Insulation ROCKWOOL rockwool.com



Skylights VELUX whyskylights.com



Cedar Elements

Real Cedar

realcedar.com

Hardware

House of Antique

Hardware

houseofantiquehardware.com

Tile

Merola Tile

homedepot.com

Floor Warming & **Shower Systems Schluter-Systems**



Light Posts Walpole Outdoors

walpoleoutdoors.com



Lighting Controls Leviton leviton.com



Exterior Stain Olympic olympic.com



Hot Water Heaters Rinnai rinnai.us/sensei



Beds & Bedding Sleep Number sleepnumber.com



Sheathing & Tape ZIP System InsulateYourBuild.com

Contributors

Arnold Lumber Building Materials arnoldlumber.com

Article Furnishings article.com

Cabot House Furnishings cabothouse.com

> Cosentino Countertops

Cynthia Brown Studio Pottery & Artwork

SBC Cedar Cedar Shingles cynthiabrownstudio.com sbccedar.com

Fast-Growing-**Scenix by Larson** Trees.com Trees, Shrubs & Perennials **Retractable Screens** larsondoors.com fast-growing-trees.com

O&G Studio

oandgstudio.com

Orbit B-Hyve

& Orbit Irrigation

Irrigation System orbitonline.com

Furnishings

Ortal Fireplace

ortalheat.com

cabinetry.com **Smith & Noble**

Window Treatments

smithandnoble.com

Soake Pools

soakepools.com

Microclover Sod

Superior Walls

Concrete Wall Panels superiorwalls.com

Plunge Pool

Sodco

sodco.net

Unilock

Hardscape

unilock.com

Samsung

Frame TV samsung.com/frame

Finlandia Sauna Signature Custom Cabinetry, Inc. by Country Saunas by Design Cabinetry signaturecustom

finlandiasauna.com

hayneedle.com Furnishings hayneedle.com

InstantHedge Hicks Yew Hedges instanthedge.com

Jessica Hagen Fine Art + Design Artwork & Sculpture jessicahagen.com

Jorgenson Lockers Lockers jorgensonlockers.com

Malabar Select Accent Pillows

malabarfabrics.com **Zoom-Room** Murphy Bed **Appliances** zoom-room.com

Building Team

Jeff Sweenor President Sweenor Builders

mieleusa.com

Miele

Mario Porcayo Project Manager Sweenor Builders

Doug Blaine Project Manager Sweenor Builders

Lori Foley Architectural Designer Sweenor Builders

Christina Carlson Project Architect Union Studio Architecture & Community Design

Kristen Martone Interior Designer Graceke Design

Jon Zeyl Landscape Contractor Landscape Creations of RI