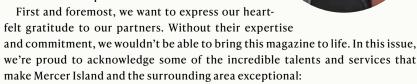


## At Home on Mercer Island: Design, Comfort, and Belonging

Dear Readers,

As the chill of winter begins to thaw and the promise of spring approaches, we are reminded that a home is more than just a place—it's a feeling, a sanctuary, and a reflection of who we are. This March, we celebrate the theme of homes in all their forms—those we build, those we transform, and those we escape to for a moment of solace.



- AOME Architects and Brandt Design Group, crafting timeless, sophisticated designs.
- Northwest Lifestyle Homes and Gallagher Co., whose builders create spaces where dreams are realized.
- $\bullet \ \ Hi\mbox{-}Tek\mbox{-}Group, harmonizing technology and life style through smarthome innovation.$
- Baklinski Home Improvement, bringing luxury results to even the smallest projects.
- Our all-star realtors— Sam Chapin, Dan Gottesman, Robyn Kimura, Rachel Schindler, Greg Rosenwald, Sharon Singh, and Kelly Weisfield—who help us discover Mercer Island's finest homes and expertly represent us when it's time to sell.

And let's not forget the Bellevue Club Hotel, which served as a haven during last winter's power outages. It reminds us that home can sometimes be found in unexpected places—a true "home away from home."

- This month, we're thrilled to bring you stories that inspire and connect:
- Tranquil Mercer Island Living, a glimpse into serene island life.
- The Negroni Sour by Northwest Spirits, a cocktail to bring warmth to any gathering.
- Mercer Island Voices featuring Diane Tien, whose perspective enriches our community. This time covering the unique past, present, and future of rowing off the Island shores.
- Specialized Home Services, spotlighting the experts who make your home dreams come true.
- Making Your Home Your Oasis, because everyone deserves a space to recharge and rejuvenate.

At Mercer Island City Lifestyle, we aim to be more than just a magazine—we strive to be a hub for what's great in our community, a source of positive energy, and a reminder of the incredible people and places that make this island feel like home.

Here's to finding inspiration, comfort, and joy in the spaces we call our own. Warm regards,

CHRIS ISHII & SHARON PEREZ
@MERCERISLANDCITYLIFESTYLE

P.S. Thank you Laura Ohata for refreshing our Lifestyle photo!



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#### Proverbs 3:5-6

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# inside the issue

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#### Featured

#### Negroni Sour

A cozy twist on the classic Negroni—where tart meets floral

Tranquil Mercer Island Living
Inspired by Nature: Thoughtful Design to Create Relaxing Homes

#### Mercer Island Voices Diane Tien

Connecting with the Water: Launching Mercer Island Rowing Club

 $\begin{array}{l} \textbf{Making Home an Oasis} \\ \textbf{Custom Comfort and Calm Inside and Out by AOME Architects} \end{array}$ 

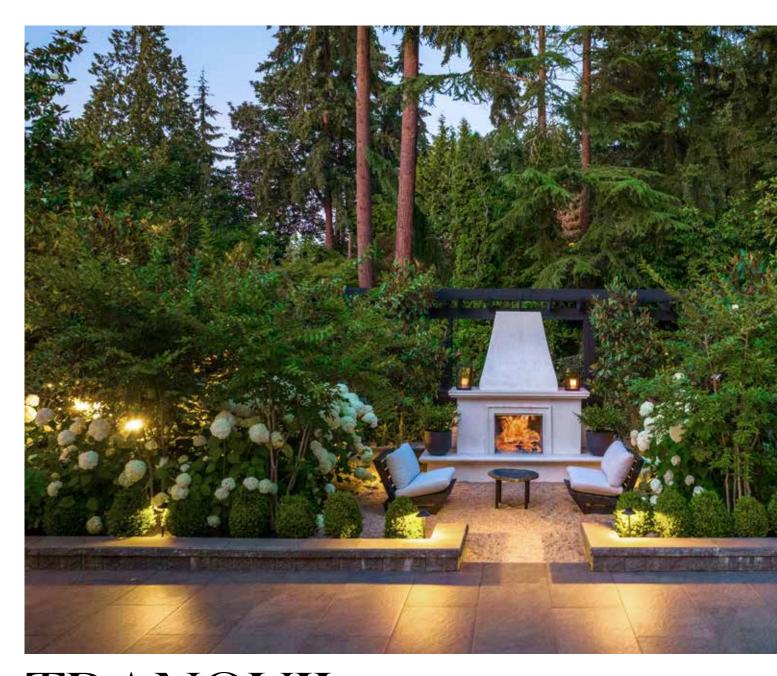
#### On the Cover

A gorgeous landscape design for Kara and Dan Gottesman's Mercer Island Home by Megan Atkinson and NW Lifestyle Homes.

> Photography: J Garner Photography

#### Departments

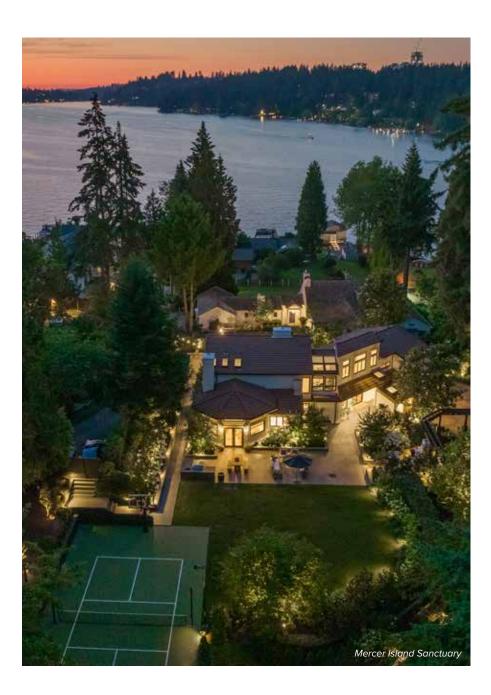
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# TRANQUIL MERCER ISLAND LIVING

**ARTICLE BY SHARON PEREZ** PHOTOGRAPHY BY J GARNER COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY





Inspired by Nature: Home Landscape Design for Rest and Renewal

For over 20 years, NW Lifestyle Homes has been specializing in transforming Mercer Island properties into stunning home oases inspired by the beauty of the Pacific Northwest. As a design-build firm, they take projects from the kernel of an idea all the way to move-in day, ensuring a seamless experience for clients. With a dedicated team of experts in architecture and landscape architecture, they handle everything from remodels to new construction, crafting spaces that harmonize with the natural environment while enhancing modern living.

Mercer Islander and CEO, Megan Atkinson says, "Just ask our clients-our commitment to effective communication and attention to detail results in landscapes that not only look breathtaking but also function beautifully for daily living and entertaining. Look for our work around the island; we currently have projects in progress on the waterfront, near Homestead Park, on the south end, and on the east side."

#### DESIGNING OUTDOOR SPACES FOR EVERY SEASON

A NW Lifestyle home is more than just a beautiful landscape; it's about creating a connection with nature that evolves throughout the year. Our approach focuses on designing a series of outdoor rooms that allow homeowners to enjoy their surroundings in every season.

As Tara and Dan Gottesman (of the Gottesman Chapin Group) share:

"Megan Atkinson at NW Lifestyle Homes created the most magical landscape for our Mercer Island home. We entertain regularly, and our guests consistently remark on the beauty of our gardens—Megan designed a series of outdoor rooms for us. We love the way something special blooms every season, and each year the landscape becomes more lovely."

By thoughtfully incorporating plantings that bloom in different seasons, outdoor spaces remain vibrant and inviting year-round. Whether it's delicate spring blossoms, lush summer foliage, or the warm hues of autumn, our designs bring nature's beauty to your doorstep.

## SPACES FOR RECREATION AND ENTERTAINMENT

Outdoor living on Mercer Island is all about creating spaces that cater to both relaxation and activity. A well-designed landscape can include features such as:

- A pickleball court for family fun and friendly competition.
- Built-in BBQ and beverage stations for effortless outdoor entertaining.
- Expansive patios and porches designed to take advantage of lake views and natural surroundings.
- Intimate garden retreats with wood-burning fireplaces for cozy evenings.
- Casual fire pit areas with seating for groups
- Productive vegetable gardens that offer both beauty and functionality.

As Tara and Dan Gottesman note:

"Our outdoor living areas are focused around different outdoor rooms: our pickleball court, the built-in BBQ/beverage station and large entertaining patio, an intimate garden with a wood-burning fireplace, our lake view north porch, the casual fire pit hangout with espaliered apple trees and blueberry beds, and our veggie gardens."

#### **BRINGING YOUR VISION TO LIFE**

Whether you're dreaming of a serene retreat filled with lush greenery and soothing water features or a lively entertainment space with fireplaces and outdoor kitchens, NW Lifestyle Homes can bring your vision to life. Their expertise in creating personalized, functional, and sustainable landscapes ensures that your Mercer Island home becomes the perfect oasis.

Design an outdoor living experience that reflects your lifestyle and embraces the natural beauty of the Pacific Northwest.





