



Local home builders create an urban oasis

BY ANNE SEEBALDT | SPECIAL TO OAKLAND LAKEFRONT

The Petruccis turned their custom-built home into a Metro Detroit up north style getaway. It all started when a friend told them a small ranch on Wing Lake in Bloomfield Hills was up for sale.

“We really wanted to have lake access,” she said. “We felt like it was a dream come true. We wanted a house to raise our kids in.”

COMPLETE TEAR-DOWN

The original house was torn down, aside from the basement which was retained and added onto. Construction began in spring 2016 and took 18

months to complete, explained Kim Petrucci, partner of Petrucci Homes in Birmingham. She, her husband, Mike, and their five kids, ranging from 13-23, moved in during the fall of 2017.

“It had great views of the lake,” she added.

The planning involved really thinking intentionally about their everyday life and how they wanted to live.

FROM THE GROUND UP

Kim and her husband Mike increased the ceiling height of the original home’s basement and finished the space to

include a bedroom, bathroom, exercise room, TV area and game room. The platform of the existing foundation was used to build the much larger home, keeping the garage in place and the house to that footprint.

When designing the exterior, the Petruccis had an “a-ha” moment. Originally, they planned on a creamy white cedar shake until they came across an inspiration photo with a dark stain.

“To me, it was so warm and inviting,” she said. “It felt like it had been there forever. That decision, I feel, made our house.”



A HAMPTONS HOME

The Petruccis explain their exterior as a mix between a New England and coastal design style, which was primarily influenced by their appreciation of the Hamptons. The 4,800-square-foot home faces a large oak tree.

“It’s very peaceful,” Petrucci explained. “It’s modern, but feels as though it’s timeless. I love the charming character of old homes.”

The main floor has great flow and was designed for entertaining. The result, is very cozy to make its residents and guests comfortable. Arched entryways, including on the porch, give it a classic spin. Kim enjoys hosting her girlfriends in the front “lake room” which not only boasts a beautiful lake view, but a fireplace and French doors that can be shut to outside noise. Lake views are maximized with several windows, door walls, and a large, covered porch.

Due to the home’s proximity to the beach, the family has a first-floor mudroom and laundry off the side door in which swimsuits, and beach towels are washed. It also serves as the main entrance for the kids’ friends. Their second-floor laundry is strictly for clothing and bedding.

Inside, added warmth came from items including ceiling details, such as planks which run across the kitchen and TV room as well as wood beams in the lake room. There’s trim detail throughout, both inside and out.



The bedrooms are set up as individual suites with walk-in closets and adjacent bathrooms.

CARE AND CONSIDERATION

The finished home incorporates not only ideas from members of the family but lessons learned from working with their clients. Throughout the process, Petrucci said, her husband Mike’s experience as a builder was essential to the successful design.

“He had built a lot of homes at that point. It was fun to build this house together,” she says.

They always approach each client’s project with the type of care they would

if it were their own home, so that process stayed the same. As is typical for custom home building, which is all Petrucci Homes does, the design did change over time.

“If the scale didn’t seem quite right, we changed it. Organically, the house evolved as we built it,” Kim said.

The Petruccis bounced ideas off of architect Tom Lyons, and interior architect and interior designer Richard Daniels. Collaborating with these experts improved the layout and functionality of the home.

“It’s so peaceful here,” Kim said. “We feel like we’re up north, but we’re in Bloomfield Hills.”