

style



A Taste of Nantucket

For a Glencoe family, whose home was featured on the May 6 “Designer Kitchens of the North Shore” tour, inspiration flowed from two unlikely places: Diane Keaton and an East Coast shoreline. By Elizabeth Smiley

Kitchen design — second only to choosing the right mate — is bound to be one of the most important decisions you’ll make in your lifetime. Why? Simply put, it’s where you live.

According to Kate Kligora, chairwoman of the Junior League of Evanston-North Shore’s recent “Designer Kitchens of the North Shore” tour, “Kitchens are one of the most expensive and com-

plex rooms of your house to build or renovate with a myriad of alternatives to consider such as new technologies, materials and trends.”

Needless to say, it’s imperative to get it done right. That’s where a clear vision, planning and experts come into play. As a working mom who is in the midst of redesigning and reconfiguring my own North Shore kitchen, I was eager to see



■ The space is a contemporary combination of classic materials with a clean profile that matches lines found on trim details throughout the home.



■ A massive island topped with dramatic Calcutta gold marble is perfect for preparing, serving, dining or just hanging out.

what the May 6 tour had to offer.

Hosted by the JLE-NS on the eve of Mother’s Day weekend, the tour included a total of seven kitchens, from a “green” kitchen in Northbrook to a rustic Provencal kitchen in Winnetka. But it was the kitchen of Andrea and David Goldman of Glencoe — an entertainer’s dream — that stole the show.

With a background in construction and design, Andrea knew exactly what she wanted as she tackled the formidable task of building the home of her most demanding clients to date — her own family.

“Because we may never own a second home, my husband and I wanted our family home to have a vacation-home feel, a place to relax after a day on the job,” says Andrea, principal of Andrea Goldman Design Ltd. As the mother of a young family who loves to entertain, Andrea required a space that allowed for an “easy transition between daily family meals and sophisticated evening cocktails.” Her game plan began by partnering with Bill Massey and David Hoffman (now of Massey Hoffman Architects) to create an airy and volumetric environment where her family and friends would clamor to casually linger.

It truly is the heart of their home. Open and airy, the kitchen was designed to connect “seamlessly” with adjacent rooms allowing for entertaining and family life, for dressing up or dressing down on the spur of the moment.

To achieve this end, every detail mattered. Andrea’s rough inspiration was drawn from summers in Nantucket and fine-tuned upon seeing the home of Diane Keaton’s character in the film, *Something’s Gotta Give*. At their initial meeting, “Andrea basically walked into the office, handed over the video and declared, ‘I want the feel of this house!’” recalls David.

The entire house design began and ended with the kitchen, which informed how the kitchen and family room would flow and connect with other rooms as well as with the surrounding outdoors.

But if you’re like most of us busy moms on the go, this comment by Andrea was the most priceless detail of all: The interior is drop-dead gorgeous, but “nothing is hands-off for the kids or even the dog.”

About The Tour

The May 6 “Designer Kitchens of the North Shore” tour also featured the designs of Christopher Peacock Home and Kitchen Classics, Orren Pickell, Airoom, Scott Simpson Builders, Neff of Chicago, and Hackley & Associates. Each designer sponsored a kitchen and was available to answer questions and educate tour attendees about everything from design trends to space utilization to work flow.

In addition to the kitchens, attendees also got to view the beautiful décor on the first floor of each home. Local retailers and florists donated their time and talents to provide “tablescapes” and floral designs for the kitchens and other areas of the homes, including such New Trier Township-area businesses as Peachtree Place, Maze Home, Sawbridge Studios, Pierre Deux, Artistica Italian Gallery, Ellen’s on Elm, Seagrass Home, Prufrock Floral Design, and Victor Hlavacek Florist.

The tour, billed as “the only home tour on the North Shore focused on kitchens,” raised \$30,000 for Junior League of Evanston-North Shore’s many community projects.

Founded in 1924, today the JLE-NS has 350 members across all North Shore communities. The non-profit organization reaches out to all women who demonstrate an interest in building better communities through volunteerism. In its 87-year history, the JLE-NS has contributed over \$1.6 million to the community through projects and programs. For more information, go to www.jle-ns.org/kitchen-tour or contact the Junior League of Evanston-North Shore office at jle-ns@sbcglobal.net.