

AN OMAHA WORLD-HERALD PUBLICATION

INSPIRED

Living OMAHA

ENDLESS
SUMMER

HOT PATIOS + COOL POOLS
GRAVEL ROADS + CASHMERE GOATS
GARDEN FRESH + SAND HILLS SWEET

JULY/AUGUST 2014
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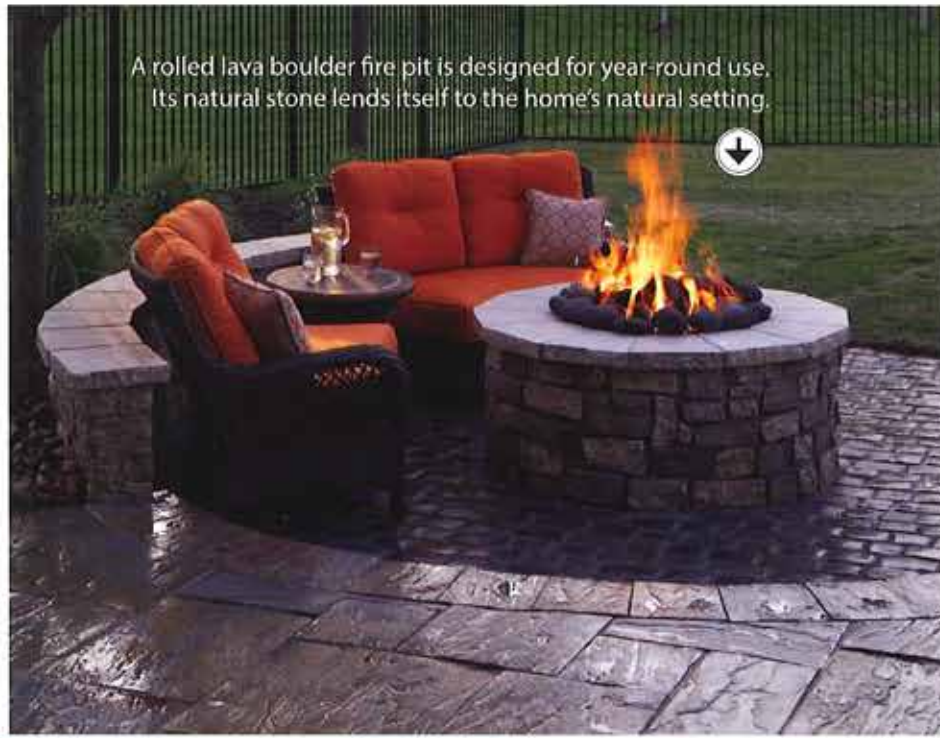
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MODEL: Hope Dendinger
STYLING: Cora Coppock
PHOTO: Hooton Images



A rolled lava boulder fire pit is designed for year-round use. Its natural stone lends itself to the home's natural setting.

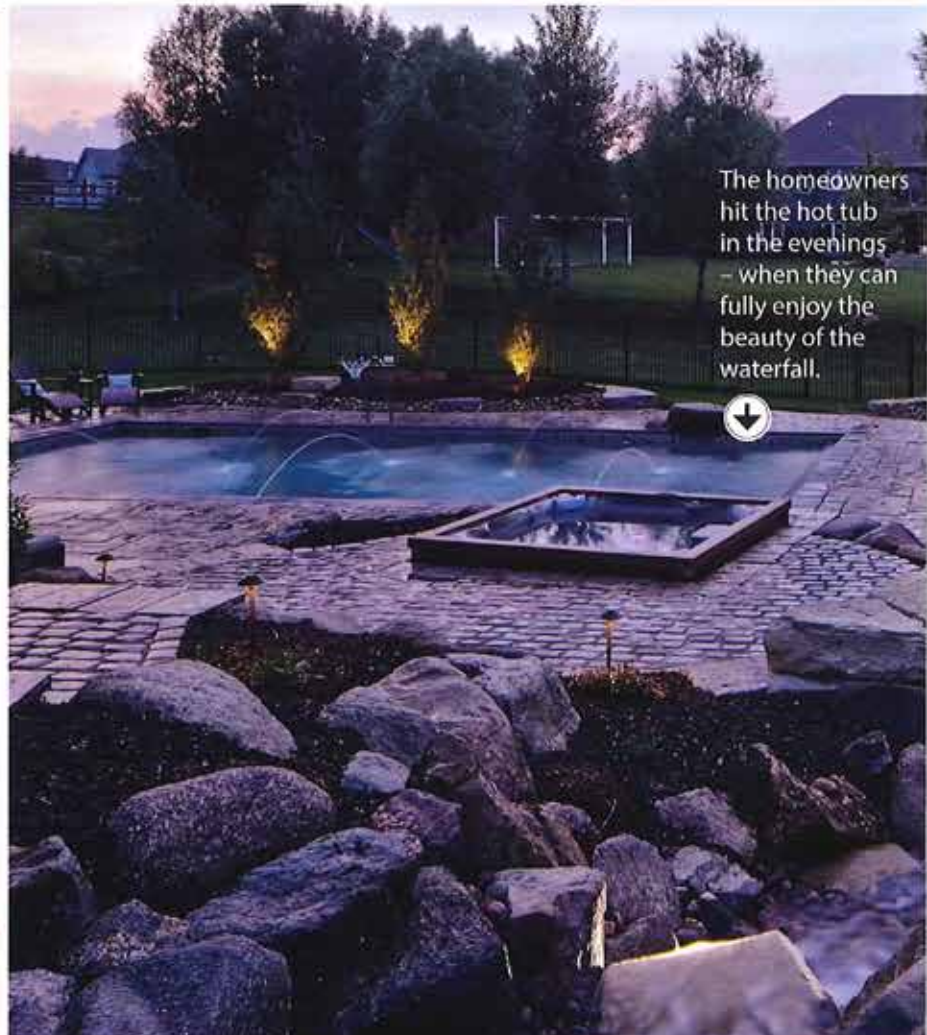


Add-ons to concrete pools are limitless, says Darcy Schatz of New Wave Pools & Spas. This pool features an automatic cover, arch jets and water lights in magenta, red, blue, green and white.

NEIGHBORHOOD | West Omaha

LANDSCAPE | Elite Landscaping

POOL | New Wave Pools & Spas Inc.



The homeowners hit the hot tub in the evenings – when they can fully enjoy the beauty of the waterfall.





JOINT EFFORT GOES 'SWIMMINGLY'

What happens when next-door neighbors decide to install backyard living spaces at the same time? Less mess, fewer complaints – and the opportunity to throw a party together.

The collaboration began last May when the two families hired the same landscape designer and pool company for their spaces. This family's must-haves: A cover for the pool and a fire pit. The family is thrilled that the space offers so much more, hardly resembling what it looked like just a year ago.

"The kids were not happy" with the formerly boring backyard space, the homeowner says.

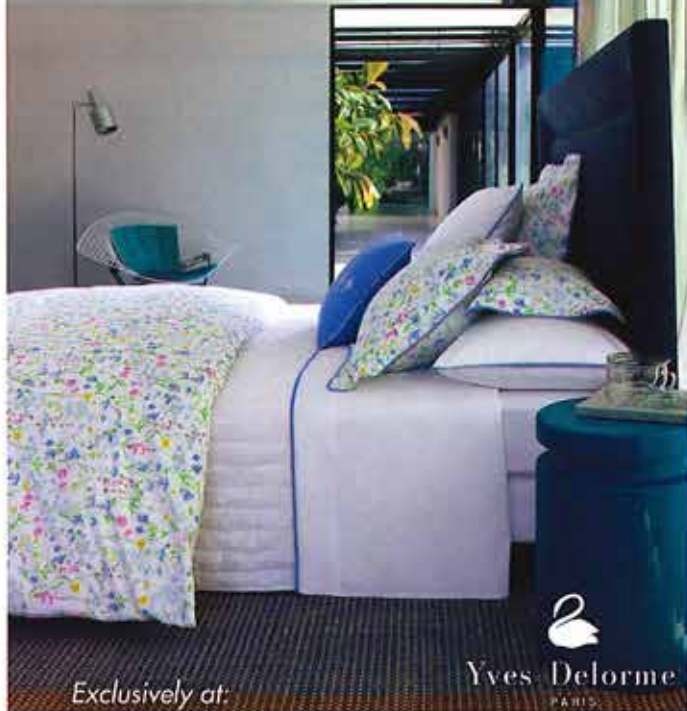
This summer, there are plenty of smiles to go around. The baseball team declared the pool a hit.

An island was recently installed in the cabana to add seating and additional space for preparing and serving food. A TV will be added in the fall.

Football, anyone?



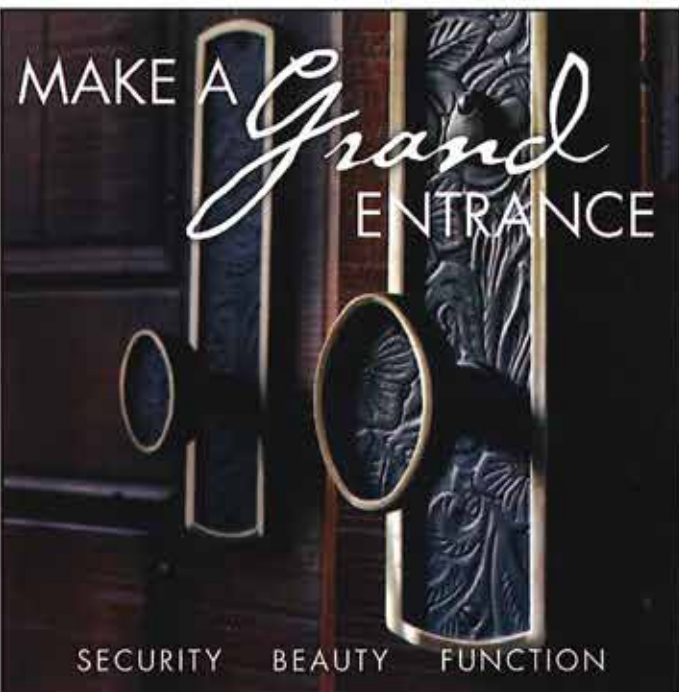
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'HUNKERED IN,' AND LOVING IT

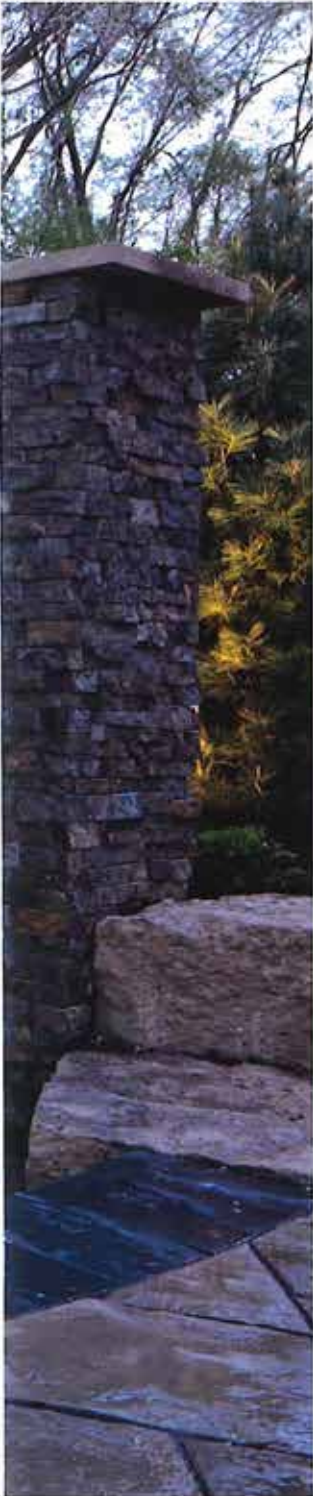
This backyard space with a wooded backdrop is full of activity on warm summer nights. The kids play basketball or volleyball in the pool while the adults relax in the hot tub, by the pool or near the grill.

"It's a place to hang out and have the kids over," the homeowner says. "The whole thing just flows."

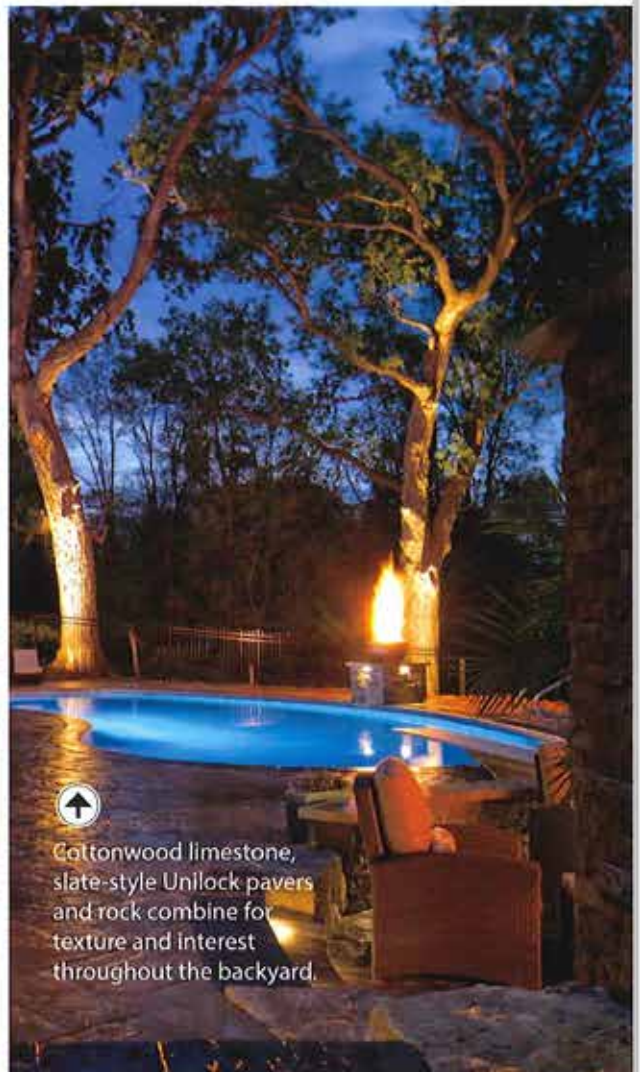
The highlight is a stone fire wall that creates not only privacy, but ambiance. You can lose track of time watching the fire dance. In turn, the homeowner has fallen in love with the space's "hunkered-in" feeling.

A fire wall at the downtown Hilton Omaha inspired the setting. Smitten by the wall, the homeowner asked Jason Decker of Elite Landscaping to design something similar. Decker couldn't wait to get started on the custom feature.

You can't beat the coloring of the fireplace's natural stone, he says. "It's the real thing."



The lagoon entry sun shelf (with the option of an umbrella), is a fresh trend in pool design. The steps feature iridescent glass tiles that coordinate with the tiles on the pool deck.



Cottonwood limestone, slate-style Unilock pavers and rock combine for texture and interest throughout the backyard.