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Deliberate in Design

From Room Layout to Color to Copious Outdoor Spaces, Everything Works Together in This Golf Course Home

BY REBECCA L. RHOADES PHOTOGRAPHY BY ART HOLEMAN

When it comes to wow factor, this home delivers. The view from the front door continues out to a poolside ramada and the mountains beyond. On the right, alder-wood bar cabinets are finished with acrylic gesso mud and a four-color glaze. Also eye-catching are the variegated reclaimed pine floors, a favorite of the homeowners. This is their third house in which they've used them.

TUCKED INTO THE CANYONS OF THE McDowell Mountains in North Scottsdale is a luxury enclave that is renowned as much for its championship 18-hole golf course as it is for its breathtaking desert views. Its marketing materials tout incomparable features: "Nothing about Silverleaf is an accident, nothing is random. Around every corner is something to surprise and delight the eye." While these words aptly portray the exclusive neighborhood, they just as easily could be used to describe one of its homes.

Like its surroundings, nothing about the Spanish Colonial stunner is random. Overlooking the 17th hole, the 8,600-square-foot abode not only is aesthetically appealing and functional for everyday family living, but it's also situated to take advantage

of the views from every angle and to make the most of the Valley's outdoor lifestyle.

"The view is what really attracted us," says Phil Hildebrand, who with his wife, Wendy, purchased the land about four years ago. "It's hard to find views like this." To maximize those views, they chose to orient the house on a perfect north-south/east-west axis. To the south, across the green, is a beautiful rock outcropping on the side of the mountain; more mountain views are visible to the north. An enclosed courtyard is directly aligned with a mountain peak to the east. "There are homes on either side of us, but that's it," adds Phil. "No one can build behind us because we have the golf course there, and no one can build across from us. It allows us to have a lot of privacy."

OPPOSITE: Large glass doors in the breakfast nook open to a private, enclosed patio. A covered walkway that leads to guest quarters separates an intimate outdoor seating area for four from a green space topped with artificial turf. Beyond the courtyard are the soaring peaks of the McDowell Mountains.



An expansive cobblestone-covered drive leads to the north-facing front of the Spanish Colonial-style home of Phil and Wendy Hildebrand. The dwelling's unique creamsicle color was the result of a collaboration between the owners and builder Anthony Salcito. "We wanted to stay with something subtle, but at the same time, we wanted to be different" than the rest of the homes in the neighborhood, says Phil. Hedges and a pair of airy trees draw visitors to the entryway.



I really wanted to work with their art and incorporate that into the interiors so that everything—colors and materials—would flow from room to room.

—Rebecca Salcito, interior designer

The enclosed formal dining room was finished with rustic-red Venetian plaster. The rich hue was inspired by a pair of cowboy paintings that hangs above the buffet table. Striped drapes and a set of floral-print and leather dining chairs that came from the owners' previous home add a whimsical touch.



The symmetrical design is a signature of the home's architect, Erik Peterson, and its builder, Anthony Salcito. "There are a lot of axial relationships on the plans that [Salcito and I] do together as a team," says Peterson. "In some homes, you walk in, and everything is this way and that way. Nothing lines up. From the front door of this house, you see straight through to the backyard. The living room is aligned with the fire pit, which is aligned with a set of stairs to the pool, which is aligned with a trellised seating area. The breakfast nook aligns perfectly with a courtyard, which looks out onto the eastern peak. And then the front of the house faces north, so we can have all of that beautiful light coming into almost every room."

Inside, the dwelling's extended appearance transforms into a warm, family-friendly home with a floor plan that promotes movement between rooms as well as to the outdoor spaces, with just about every room opening to a private courtyard or patio. This flow, plus the fact that there are no upstairs rooms, was important to the homeowners. Native Arizonans, the Hildebrands have lived in and built many homes across the country, from New York to Texas, Connecticut to Utah. "Since we're getting older, we wanted to feel comfortable in the house. No upstairs at all," says Phil. "We also wanted it to be very open. We wanted hallways and things like that, but we wanted to make sure that it wasn't formal, because we're not."

In the living room, a pair of glass French doors open to a covered patio and fire pit. Doors on each end of the rectangular patio open to create a large indoor-outdoor entertaining area, with easy access to both wings of the house. Wendy had a large table specially made that runs the entire length of the patio; she serves Easter and Thanksgiving meals for 35 people at that table. And during Super Bowl 2015, the couple hosted a party for 125 people. "It felt like hardly anyone was here because people were in the living room, the theater, the family room," says Wendy. "We have TVs outside, too. So everyone had a great view of the game." Phil concurs. "That's how we wanted it to be designed," he adds. "The flow is something Anthony and Erik heavily considered."

Making it all beautiful was the job of interior designer Rebecca Salcito, who notes that the couple wanted a house that felt like Arizona. From the unique flooring to the cushy furnishings to the fun pops of color seen throughout, she succeeded in creating a Southwest feel that's luxurious yet casual, perfect for the active couple with four grown children and a new grandchild.



ABOVE: The focal point of the living room is a large Native American landscape painting that hangs above the grand cantera fireplace. "When we started building, I said that we had to design around this piece," says Phil. To the right, an arched doorway leads to the kitchen/family room.

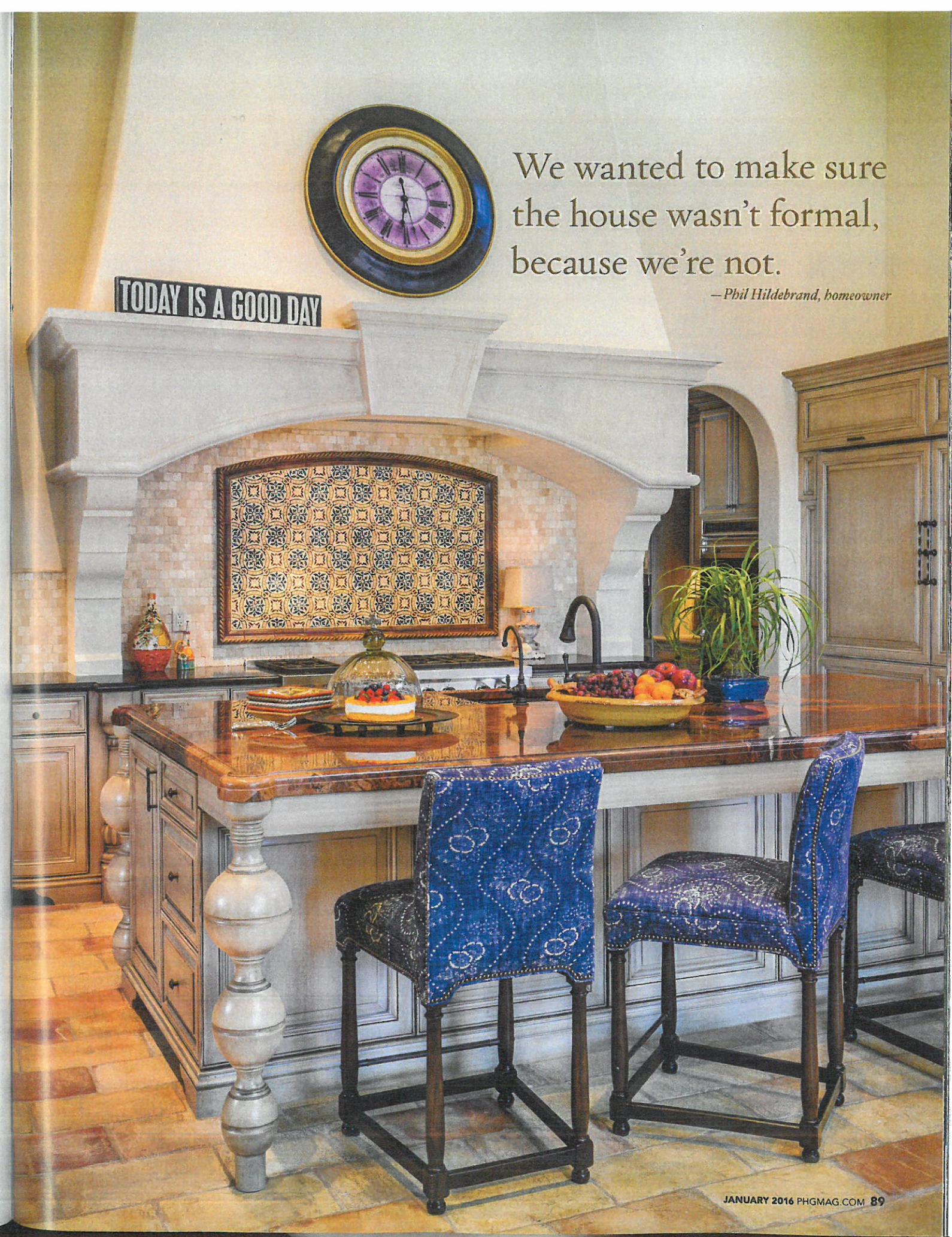


LEFT: Interior designer Rebecca Salcito helped the Hildebrands create a home that's elegant and family-friendly.



OPPOSITE: Two of the first materials the homeowners selected when planning their home's interiors were the antique French terra-cotta pavers seen in the kitchen and the island's granite countertop. "It looks like the rocks of the Grand Canyon," Salcito says of the stone. A tile backsplash brings together the blues and golds of the space.

LEFT: The bold blues of the kitchen continue into the family room, where jewel-tone furnishings sit on a sumptuous hair-on-hide area rug with a graphic geometric pattern. While contemporary in design, the rug's warm beige color scheme complements the large, traditional Southwest landscape painting.



We wanted to make sure the house wasn't formal, because we're not.

—Phil Hildebrand, homeowner



"I wanted as much turquoise as possible while keeping it subtle," Wendy says of the master bedroom's colorful accents. Linen drapes with floral crewelwork that incorporates all of the room's hues draw the eye out to the view.

While the homeowners were open to design suggestions, one thing they knew they wanted was variegated reclaimed pine flooring. They used the same material in their Park City, Utah, house, as well as in a previous Valley home. "We just keep using it," notes Wendy. "It has all of our favorite shades in it, and guests always comment on it." She relates a story of a former pro football player who stayed in one of their previous homes during Super Bowl 2008. He loved the many-hued wood so much that when he built his own house, he installed the same flooring.

Another must that Salcito needed to incorporate was Phil's art collection. His mostly Western and Southwestern pieces helped determined individual rooms' looks. In the living room, a large landscape painting hangs above the fireplace. Phil had originally purchased the painting for a previous home, but he knew that it had to have a place of honor in this house. "When the sun comes in, you can see so much detail in it," he says of the work by an unknown artist, which he purchased because it reminded him of times he spent hiking

and exploring the American Indian reservations in northern Arizona and New Mexico. "It's a little bit of what I grew up with," he adds.

In the enclosed dining room, a pair of stylized cowboy paintings inspired the strong rustic-red wall color. The classic Venetian plaster finish, combined with the variegated reclaimed flooring and a heavy wood buffet table and round dining table, brings a masculine character to the room, while playful striped draperies and peppy floral chairs add a cheerful, contemporary twist.



In the master bathroom, a freestanding tub separates his-and-hers vanities. For a fun pop of color, and to create a seamless look with the bedroom, Salcito added a stripe of turquoise to the inside edge of the sheer drapery.



“They like to have fun, and they love color,” Salcito says of the homeowners. “I really wanted to work with their art and incorporate that into the interiors so that everything—colors and materials—would flow from room to room.”

Like the architecture, the flow of colors from room to room and from inside to out, while appearing effortless, was purely calculated. The chocolate browns and earthy oranges of the living room continue outside in patio furnishings of the same shades. In the kitchen and family room, deep blues dominate the upholstered pieces and combine with gold tones on a tile backsplash. In the master suite, turquoise accessories and accent pieces pop against the calm, neutral background. The same vivid hue is

picked up in crewelwork on the linen draperies in the bedroom and on window sheers in the bathroom, as well as in Wendy’s home office.

Outside, looking toward the house from a ramada at the edge of the property, the vibrant turquoise glass tiles of the pool are balanced by the equally vibrant green landscaping as well as the home’s dark blue awnings and creamsicle-colored exterior. “It was such a fun house to work on, to be able to use so much color,” notes Salcito.

Add in the consideration of layout and room flow, and the home is equally fun to live in. It’s the physical representation of its community, as described on the neighborhood’s website: “Elegant. Comfortable. Inviting. Pure enjoyment.”

ABOVE: Looking back toward the house from the ramada, guests can admire the turquoise glass-tiled pool and terraced landscaping.

TOP RIGHT: Just off the lawn is a cabana with banco seating, a fireplace and a swing. “Wendy had seen a picture of a similar swing, and she loved it,” says Salcito.

BOTTOM RIGHT: Overlooking the 17th hole, a ramada beyond the pool offers another area for entertaining or relaxing. A large curved banco and freestanding seating surround a fire pit.

See Sources.

