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Unique designs

for modern families

by Kristin Selvala

On Thursday, May 13, six generous New Canaan homeowners will open their doors to reveal the best in current kitchen design. While these homes vary in size, style and setting, they all share a commitment to design and uncompromising quality.

The CARES Kitchen Tour will run from 10 to 3 and tickets may be purchased for \$50 from local merchants or from CARES beginning May 1 (patron tickets available several weeks prior). Each home is a must-see, offering a distinct and interesting experience. A gourmet boxed lunch, \$15 per person, will be available at our Boutique tour home (to reserve, call or e-mail the CARES office). Additionally, the Boutique home will feature fabulous vendors with a portion of proceeds to benefit CARES. We look forward to sharing the day with you.

Nestled in one of New Canaan's most distinguished neighborhoods, this historic residence is the perfect example of a timeless estate home updated for a modern family. The home's impressive new kitchen by V.A.S. Construction uses reclaimed wood details and dark wood floors to achieve warmth and offsets the kitchen's custom light-gray cabinets and Carrera marble countertops. Professional-grade stainless-steel appliances from REO Appliances round out the kitchen's modern amenities and provide superb functionality. Conveniently near the kitchen is a large laundry room, office and project room that provide ample storage and work space for this active family. Throughout the interior, sumptuous textures, including Belgian linens and natural grass cloth in neutral colors, work to complement classic antiques and give the house a fresh, modern aesthetic.

On a quiet street close to town sits this lovely stone and clapboard home. Newly constructed, this gentrified country home combines gracious European antiques with modern amenities in a state-of-the-art kitchen from Kitchens by Deane. At the heart of this country French kitchen, an oversized alderwood island provides a relaxing gathering place for the entire family. Custom details, such as the copper and brass pot rack above the sink, honey-toned island and eight-inch oak flooring create a feeling of Old World warmth. Custom off-white cabinets, Calcutta marble countertops and subway-tiled backsplash provide clean lines and balance the traditional wood and copper tones. Visitors will enjoy the "potting" area

in the garage, which also serves as a staging area for outdoor entertaining. Beautiful Dutch doors lead to the home's lovely grounds.

Set on a ridge, this classical shingle-style estate by Country Club Homes makes a grand impression. Detailed porches and turrets, as well as impressive amenities such as a free-form pool, spa, cooking area and fire pit provide an oasis of outdoor living. Inside, an elegant front-to-back hallway leads past gracious rooms filled with classical details and interesting ceiling treatments.

In the stunning custom kitchen, a highlight is an oversized island with a distressed black finish, which is paired exquisitely with a distressed cherry top, setting a tone of richness. Wideplank oak flooring complements the rich tones of the island and offsets the light-gray cabinets and Bianco Romano granite countertops. In the impressive butler's pantry, concrete countertops and quilted copper backsplash blend nicely with stained alderwood cabinetry. This is an estate house reinterpreted for today's living.

Our traditional Colonial on a quiet country drive features an extensive kitchen renovation by J. Lockwood Associates. The goal was to create a beautiful workspace that easily handles large gatherings of family and friends. The family room at the rear of the house was transformed into a beautiful new kitchen, while the former kitchen became a fabulous pantry and eating area. Custom-walnut and off-white cabinets by Quality Woodworks LLC and Carrera marble countertops exceeded

See Unique designs page 43