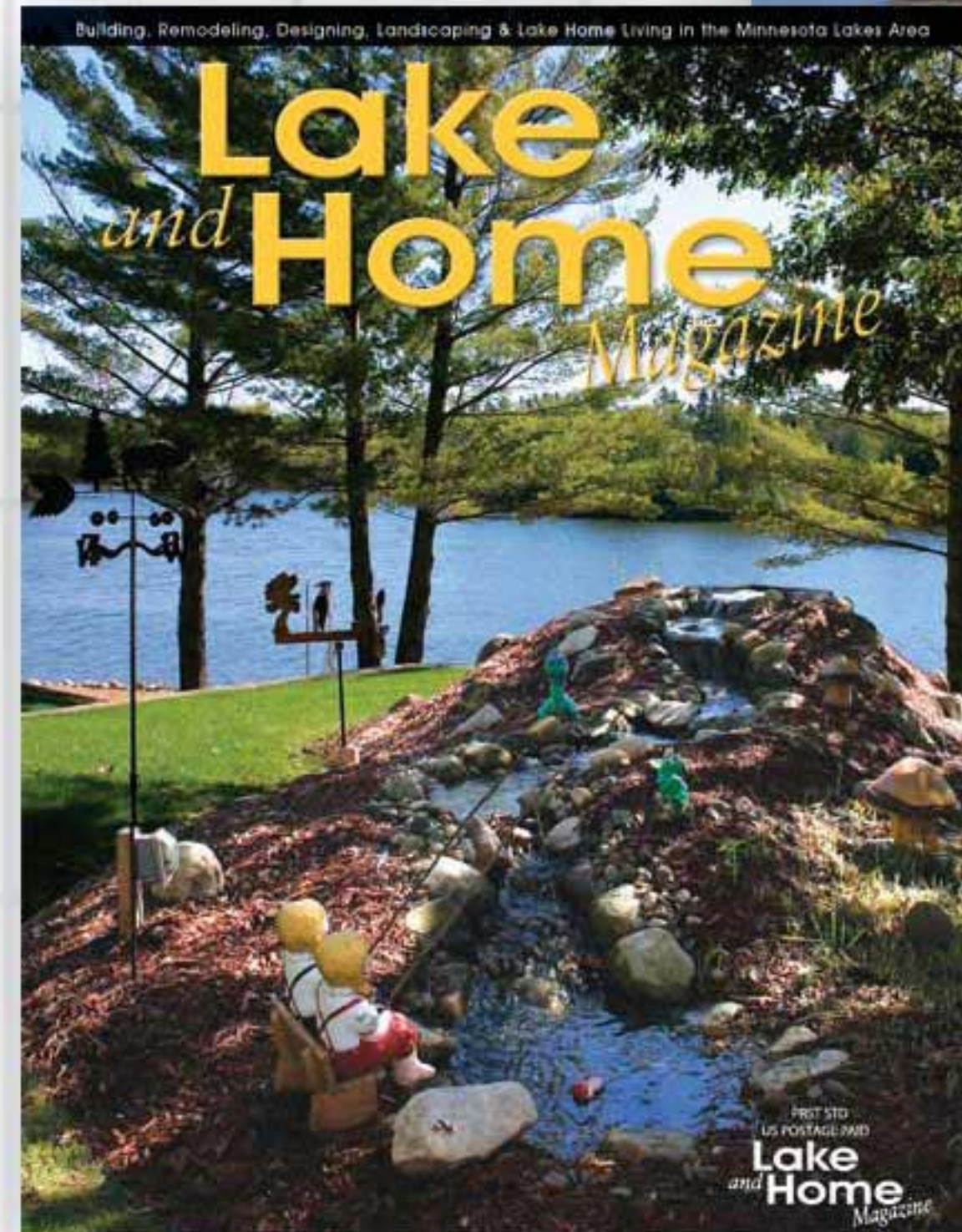


At Home on Toad Lake

Home radiates warmth, natural beauty



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Large windows in the great room will draw attention to the beautiful lake.
Also in the great room is the Tulikivi soapstone fireplace.

Staff like people by comparing his job to putting together a puzzle. "For us, designing a lake building is a puzzle, and we get all the pieces from the owners," says Stoll.

And that is exactly what the Kangas did. Arlen knew that he wanted an energy-efficient house, and Yvonne knew that she wanted the focus of the house to be on the main floor.

Having an energy-efficient house meant so much to them that they paid more money for the heating and cooling system in their dream home than they paid for their last house.

The floors are treated with a radon floor heating

system that uses a boiler to heat up glycol and a pump to circulate the heated glycol through pipes installed in a concrete slab. Along with the radon test, the Kangases have three air conditioning units and three furnaces to maintain a comfortable temperature in their home. The three heating and cooling units are necessary due to the length of the house. The great room, kitchen, dining area, breakfast room, three master bedrooms, main floor bathroom, master bedroom, master bath and the deck are all located on the main floor.

In addition to the beautiful lake view and the beach, having Tulikivi soapstone fireplaces, the highlights of the main floor include a sauna in the main floor bathroom



A beautiful oak staircase leads to the second floor. Beyond the kitchen and dining area is the patio where guests can sit and watch lake activities.
The walk-in sauna is a mainstay in any Finnish home.

and the master bathroom with its tub, walk-in glass block shower and a separate water heater.

A beautiful oak staircase leads to the second floor, which consists of two bedrooms, a TV room with track lighting and a nightstand, and a full bath that also has a skylight.

A recreation room, complete with four enclosed storage areas, is located above the three-stall garage for their two college-aged sons. It also comes in handy when children come out in the summer months. Arlen and Yvonne both came from large families, Arlen has 11 siblings, and Yvonne has five.

The traditional exterior design will make any guest comfortable. The wall colors vary from off-white to beige to earthy reds. Yvonne described the interior as soft and used a number of furniture pieces that she purchased at auctions around the area.

The kitchen has simple wood cabinets with decorative hardware that matches the block appliances. "We went with the decorative hardware because the cabinets were so simple that we could get away with it," says Yvonne.

Outside of the dining area, there is a decorative cement patio complete with built-in furniture where guests

The perfect home isn't just the perfect house; it is the perfect house on the perfect piece of land designed by an architect who listens to what the owners want. After 18 months of construction, Yvonne and Arlen Kangas moved into their perfect home in November 2003.

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