

# 425

INSIDE. OUTSIDE. EASTSIDE.

**The Bravern Unveiled**  
Catch Up with **John Curley**  
Tailgate in Style

Readers Voted!

# BEST

of 425

Seahawks Coach **Jim Mora**

**Insider's Guide** to Hawaii

Stunning **Idea House**



# INSIDE.

This is  
425 magazine's  
Idea House!

## Mid-Century Modern MASTERPIECE

Inside the 425 Idea House

This is a story about a couple who found something very special at a yard sale.

Two years ago, Scott and Sandra Gjesdahl, owners of Bristol Design and Construction, were looking for items for their clients when they came across an old home in Bothell that had seen better days. Just like finding a Picasso in a pile of paint-by-numbers, when the Gjesdahls saw it, they knew it was one-of-a-kind — even with the overgrown blackberry bushes, shag carpet and outdated kitchen. »

BY LISA PATTERSON AND ETHAN CHUNG | PHOTOS BY JEFF HOBSON

See It Live!  
See this 425 Idea  
House live on the Great  
Kitchen & Bath Tour,  
Sept. 19-20. Details:  
[nkbapugetsound.org](http://nkbapugetsound.org)



*A Rocking Yard — The Gjesdahls used more than 240 tons of rock in their landscape. One of the heaviest rocks weighs more than 7 tons.*

« "The estate had been left to the kids who had grown up here (now all over 40 years old)," Sandra said. "But it was in such a depressed condition that it was more than any of them could take on."

Built in 1961, the mid-century modern home had once been the talk of the neighborhood with its remarkably organic design. The Gjesdahls were immediately drawn to the architecture and saw infinite potential.

"We bought it the next day," she added. Then they rolled up their sleeves and got to work on the 5,200-square-foot home that sits atop a 3-acre wooded site in a quiet neighborhood.

"We literally gutted the interior of house so that we could include state-of-the-art systems and technology, retaining the main structure for the most part, but reconfiguring the rooms and circulation," Sandra said. Extensive exterior work was done, as well.

Much of the furniture, cabinetry and millwork was custom-made by the couple. "Building for ourselves is easier overall than

for our clients. Scott and I are really aligned on aesthetics and function, so making decisions on materials and space happens quickly," Sandra said. "We were so excited about every aspect of this house. Since we plan on staying put we didn't hold back on material selections, fabrics or furnishings — most of which we designed and built.

"That said, we still experienced the pain of expanding our budget on many occasions, just as our clients do," she added.

Some highlights include a stunning dining room table and chairs, a sofa with a wood-woven back, and a unique transition from the top floor to the bottom — thanks to the custom spiral staircase leading down to an 800-bottle wine cellar below. In every room of this home, the architecture is also the art.

### Outside Oasis

One of the aspects that excited Scott and Sandra most was the large, mature plant life at the front of the house. The fauna provided character to go along with the natural textured surfaces »



### Home Highlights

- There are five bedrooms and four-and-a-half bathrooms.
- The modern kitchen has a separate adjacent pantry which has its own sink and dishwasher and built-in coffeemaker and entrance (great for kicking off dirty shoes).
- On the main floor, there's a family room, dining room, living room, office with a partner's desk, guest suite which includes two guest bedrooms and full bath and the master suite, which has a stacking washer and dryer.
- Down the spiral staircase, there's a wine cellar, a 600-square-foot shop, the garden suite, the spa suite, a media room, loggia (outdoor kitchen), gym, laundry room and two mechanical rooms.
- The new three-car garage has 400 square-feet of enclosed storage below it.
- A free-form, in-ground spa is nestled in a man-made rock cave complete with waterfalls and a koi pond.



*Unique Roof — The roof is made of metal cut in horizontal strips — from Taylor Metal Products. Details: [taylormetal.com](http://taylormetal.com)*

*Smart Lights — All the lights inside and out can be controlled with the touch of a finger on a keypad mounted to the wall, thanks to the Lutron Homeworks system available at Seattle Lighting. The Lutron system was installed by E Tech NW and Interbuy Electric. Wayside Landscape installed the exterior garden lights. Details: [seattlelighting.com](http://seattlelighting.com)*



<< of the home. Before the Gjesdahls bought the home, there was no driveway or garage. The couple created a beautiful landscape and driveway that welcomes visitors onto the property. Their three-car garage is essentially an extension of the home in terms of design. "We went to Sultan to a cedar shake mill to find siding to match the exterior of the home. They don't make cedar cuts like this, so you have to take care of it on your own — so we split it ourselves. It was actually lots of fun," Scott said.

Observant visitors (it helps if you know a thing or two about architecture) will notice something different about the roof. Most metal roofs run vertically, and are usually small pieces of aluminum or are commonly shingles. But this roof is horizontal, specifically Pacific Pattern horizontal roofing. The Gjesdahls visited Pennsylvania to experience Fallingwater, architect Frank Lloyd Wright's crown jewel masterpiece. "We are so inspired by his work,

*High-Tech Safety System — The entire home is wired. The alarm has motion sensors, heat sensors, smoke detectors, breaking glass sensors and a camera monitoring system, all by Geneva Electric.*



*Concrete? — The upper-deck is made of 3-inch poured concrete.*

and we really loved what he did with one of his roofs. We chose ours based on his design of a horizontal copper roof," Scott said.

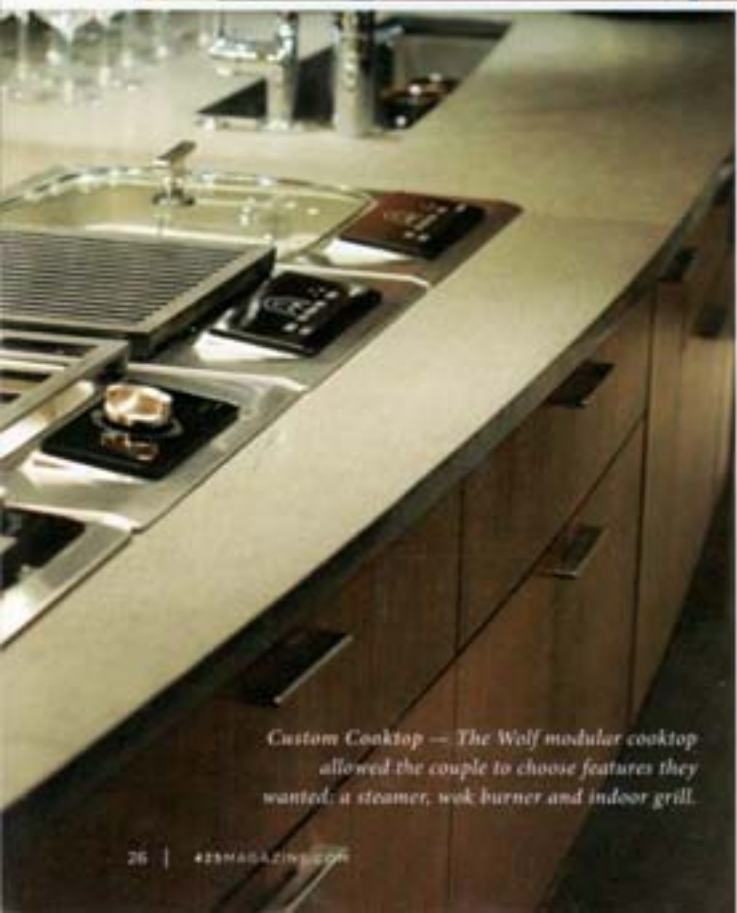
One of the more-stunning aspects of the front exterior is the bubbling reflection pond. Glen Mulvey of Mulvey Design installed this beautiful and tranquil addition. The idea is that people are directed to cross this little pond if they want to follow the path that leads to the back of the house. The entire front of the home, from the new circular driveway that surrounds large trees, to the pathway that leads over the pond, gives visitors a flow and sense of direction. All signs point to the back of the house where the Gjesdahls designed a true Northwest oasis.

"Before we started building, this whole backyard was just full of blackberries and weeds. We couldn't tell what the contour was back here. We didn't even know there was a hill," explained Scott. The focal point of the backyard is the hill, or the "volcano," as the Gjesdahls call it. The light gray-stones are granite from the Cascades and the large flat stones come from Montana. The largest stone at the front of the koi pond weighs in at 7 tons. "We needed two machines to get it in here, and we got 10 guys >>

*All Hands on Deck — On the main floor, the deck was expanded to create an outdoor dining area. An additional deck was added and is made from Ipe wood and helped create the loggia below.*



*Made For Them* — Scott and Sandra custom made all the cabinetry and millwork. They used Aframosia and Anigre wood they got from Edensaw Woods. They also made all the interior doors from Anigre. *Details: edensaw.com*



*Custom Cooktop* — The Wolf modular cooktop allowed the couple to choose features they wanted: a steamer, wok burner and indoor grill.

<< to stand on it to make sure it was safely in place. We didn't want it to topple over into the pond," Scott said with a chuckle.

The koi pond and water cave are on two different systems. The pond is fed by a 15-foot, man-made stream and the tub is kept at a constant 101 degrees. The wading area has a little nook, or cave, and the push of a button adds a waterfall feature that cascades over the open mouth of the cave to massage shoulders. At the top of the volcano is a fire pit, perfect for roasting marshmallows and telling stories. Off to the side is a large Ipe wood deck. "We plan to throw some futons and pillows out here so we can spend the night under the moon and the stars," Scott said.

The courtyard in front of the loggia actually used to be a swimming pool. The Gjesdahls filled it in and replaced it with gorgeous variegated blue flagstone, then planted different types of groundcover to add nice pops of color.

In the 1960s, it was the grandest on the block, the talk of the neighborhood. And now, thanks to the Gjesdahls, it's the focal point once again. **282**

# RETREAT TO LUXURY



AT THE  
BELLEVUE CLUB HOTEL

*The World's Best Hotels*  
T+L 500



*The Bellevue Club Hotel features award-winning design, service and prestige. Experience our beautifully appointed guestrooms, world-class athletic facilities, dining and full-service spa.*



Reservations: 800.579.1110 Phone: 425.454.4424 Fax: 425.688.3101  
11200 SE 6TH ST. BELLEVUE, WA 98004 • WWW.BELLEVUECLUB.COM

*Stylish Hardware — The hardware on the doors is white bronze by Sun Valley Bronze. Each turn piece features a custom accent. Hardware was purchased from Builder's Hardware and Supply. Details: sunvalleybronze.com*



**Hide Me**  
The custom cabinets conceal the two Sub-Zero refrigerators, in-drawer Fisher-Paykel dishwashers — and even the garbage!



*Better H2O — The Delphi Faucet by Ion Ways turns ordinary tap water into antioxidant- and oxygen-rich alkaline water. The result is silky smooth ionized water that the company says is up to six times more hydrating than regular tap water, and better for your body. Details: ionways.com*

*Sliding Privacy —* Barn doors that slide, complete with privacy glass, help segment spaces.



*Cool in Heat —* The Unico System high-pressure forced air heating and air conditioning system has dual zones. It also has a heat pump that's connected to the on-demand water heater, so if it gets really cold outside, the system will pull heat from the hot water for the house. Details: [unicosystem.com](http://unicosystem.com)



*Turn It Up —* There are two complete surround sound systems: one in the media room and one in the family room. Audio also is distributed to almost every room throughout the house, thanks to Definitive Audio, which did the work. Details: [definitive.com](http://definitive.com)

## Wine Time

The cellar holds about 800 bottles of wine and includes a wine-tasting area and display shelves.



*Time to Entertain — The custom-made spiral staircase leads to the wine cellar, media room, gym and spa suite.*





### Never-Ending Hot Water

Tankless on-demand hot water heaters take up less space and use less energy than traditional hot water tanks. This home has two 8-gallon Noritz on-demand water heaters. **Details:** [noritz.com](http://noritz.com)



*Water Art —  
This tub faucet  
is both beautiful  
and functional.*





*Bigger's Better* — Huge 2-by-4-foot porcelain tiles were imported from Italy and cover most of the common floors in the home. Handmade glass and porcelain accent tiles are used throughout, in addition to some natural stone. Most of the countertops are honed Basaltina slabs (yes, real basalt!). All tile and stone is by Pentel. Details: pentelonline.com



*TV Go-Round* — This custom TV cabinet rotates: watch a program in bed, or turn it around to watch from the tub!



*Pretty Powder Room* — A vessel sink, pendant lights and a custom-curved counter help make the most of this small space.



*A Toast to Good Taste* — Scott and Sandra Gjesdahl enjoy their outdoor entertaining area with friends.

For More  
Information  
Contact Scott and  
Sandra Gjesdahl of  
Bristol Design and  
Construction at  
425.820.1540  
or [bristoldc.com](http://bristoldc.com).



## Resources

**Landscape Planning and Plant Selection** Artful Garden Design, [artful-garden-design.com](http://artful-garden-design.com)

**Water Features, Rockery Design and Backyard Landscaping** Mulvey Design, 425.422.6439

**Audio and Video** Geneva Electric, 425.999.9883

**Tile and Stone** Pental Granite & Marble, [pentalonline.com](http://pentalonline.com)

**Wine Cellar Provisions** 12th & Olive Wine Co., [12thandolive.com](http://12thandolive.com)

**Plumbing Fittings and Trim** Best Plumbing (products by Hans Grohe), [bestplumbing.com](http://bestplumbing.com)

**Door Hardware** Builder's Hardware (products by Sun Valley Bronze), [builders-hardware.com](http://builders-hardware.com)

**Windows** Windsor Windows, [windsorwindows.com](http://windsorwindows.com)

**Roof** Taylor Metal Products, [taylormetal.com](http://taylormetal.com)

**Masonry** Masonry Specialists, 425.750.5093

**Lighting System** Seattle Lighting, (product Lutron HomeWorks), [seattlelighting.com](http://seattlelighting.com)

**Gym Equipment** Precor Home Fitness, [precorhomefitness.com](http://precorhomefitness.com)

**Appliances** All Sub Zero and Wolf brands, from Bradlee Distributing, [bradlee.net](http://bradlee.net) and Arnold's Appliance, [arnoldsappliance.com](http://arnoldsappliance.com)

**Wood** Edensaw, [edensaw.com](http://edensaw.com)

**Exterior Rock** Mutual Materials, [mutualmaterials.com](http://mutualmaterials.com)

**Irrigation & Exterior Lighting** Wayside Landscaping (product, FX Luminaire), [waysidelandscaping.net](http://waysidelandscaping.net)

**Driveway and Fireplace Hearths** Woods Concrete, 206.714.6642

**Garage Doors** Better Built Door, [betterbuiltdoor.com](http://betterbuiltdoor.com)

**Interior Furnishings** Trammell Gagne, [tgshowroom.com](http://tgshowroom.com)  
Masins, [masins.com](http://masins.com) and Bristol Design, [bristoldc.com](http://bristoldc.com)

**Exterior Furnishings** Terris Draheim, [terrisdraheim.com](http://terrisdraheim.com)

**Alkaline Water Ion Ways**, [ionways.com](http://ionways.com)