

■ BEAUTIFUL BATHS

■ HOT NEW RESTAURANTS

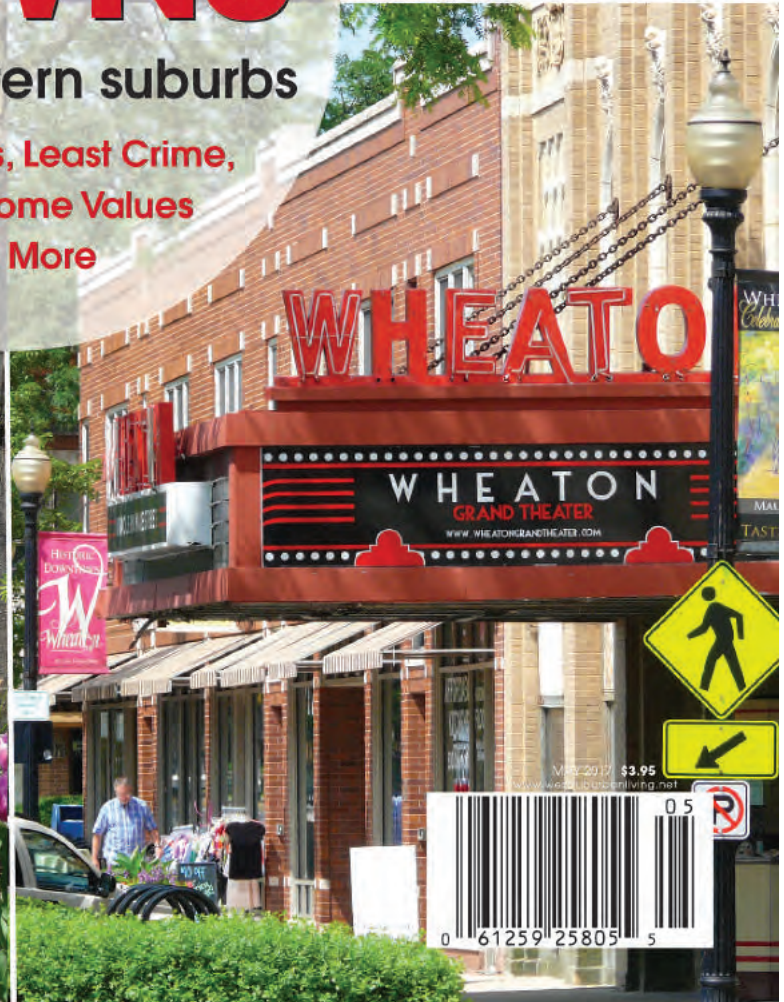
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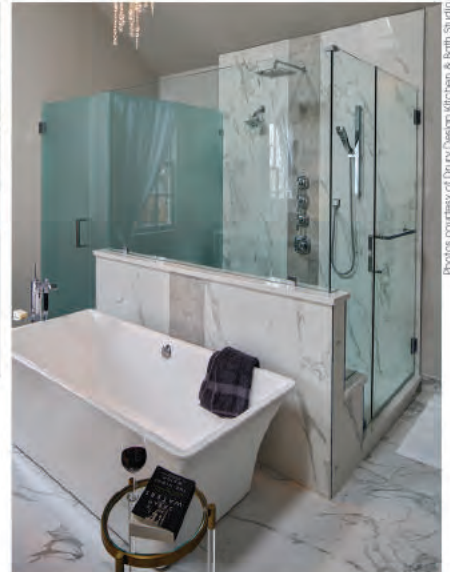
Beautiful Baths

Five shining examples of stylish and soothing retreats

By Lisa Sloan

Bathroom projects are among the most sought-after home improvements. And it's no wonder — creating a visually pleasing and highly functional bath with updated amenities not only increases the value of your home, but also pays dividends in terms of your well-being. It's in the bathroom, after all, where you prepare for and unwind from the stresses of the day.

Today's top trends in bathroom remodeling include wet rooms, freestanding bathtubs, clean minimalist cabinetry, mixed metals, decorative tiles and unique mirrors and lighting. Here, five contemporary bathrooms highlight the partnerships between designers and homeowners while incorporating some of those trends.



Photos courtesy of Drury Design Kitchen & Bath Studio

Easy Elegance

Homeowners: Dave & Susan Reedy, Glen Ellyn
Design: Drury Design Kitchen & Bath Studio, Glen Ellyn

What They Wanted

Susan Reedy of Glen Ellyn was ready for a change in her master bath. It had several issues, including an oversized whirlpool tub, cold floors and an outmoded appearance. “Our goal was to update the look while still keeping the natural light and vaulted ceilings,” says Susan. “We also wanted to upgrade the plumbing and put radiant heat in the floors.”

How They Achieved It

“The room was very compartmentalized,” says designer Gail Drury of Drury Design

Kitchen & Bath Studio in Glen Ellyn, who worked with the couple. The small, high-ceilinged space had included a shower stall and enclosed commode as well as vanities on two walls. Removing interior walls and replacing the tub with a freestanding unit positioned in the center of the room, with a glass-encased shower and commode area behind it, freed up space for dual vanities on the opposite wall.

Marble-look porcelain tile on the walls and floor, along with textured thermofoil cabinets topped with waterfall-edge

countertops and vessel sinks, give the room a simple, sophisticated look. Storage needs are served with drawers and open shelving as well as a countertop drawer.

Susan finds it difficult to settle on just one thing she enjoys most about the bathroom, but the shower design, which accommodates the vaulted ceiling, and the lighting are near the top of her list.

“The lighting is amazing,” she says, noting the under-cabinet lighting as well as the crystal fixture above the tub. “When left dimly lit, it makes for a very pretty, elegant room.”