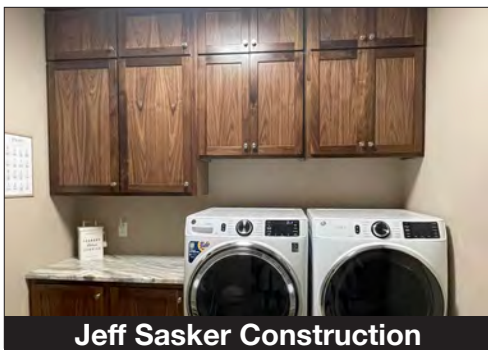




SPRING HOME & GARDEN

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2024

Jeff Saker Construction goes the extra mile to help client get back into the kitchen

Jill Meier
Journal editor

Jakki Lindsley was in tears as she happily washed and dried her dishes, and then put them away in the cupboard for the very first time.

It seems like a menial task for some, but for Lindsley, who has cerebral palsy, this was the first time in her 50 years of life that she could perform this simple housekeeping task all on her own.

And it's all thanks to Jeff Saker.

Saker, owner of Jeff Saker Construction, said in his near 20 years of business, Lindsley's request to outfit her kitchen with pulldown cabinets was a first.

"This is by far and wide the most satisfying job I've ever done. You



Submitted photo

Jeff Saker Construction outfitted Jakki Lindsley's kitchen cabinets with cabinets that lower and rise with the push of a button. Lindsley is wheelchair-bound, and this allows her to cook and wash the dishes once again.

know, just being able to really help somebody out," Saker said.

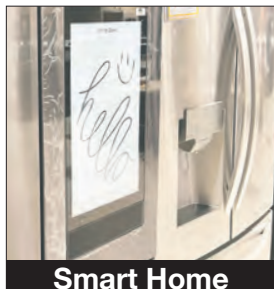
Until now, Lindsley said her wheelchair limited what she could do in the kitchen.

"I love to cook and I couldn't cook in my kitchen because I couldn't reach anything," Lindsley said. "For a long time, I hadn't been able to do anything, and I lost a lot of my independence because I have cerebral palsy."

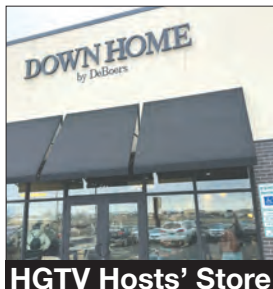
It was 10 years ago that Lindsley purchased her home in Luverne, Minn. She lives there with her two sons and friend, Jim. While much of the home had already been equipped with handicapped accessible amenities, the kitchen was the one room that was not wheelchair-friendly.

To gain her independence in the kitchen,

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Smart Home



HGTV Hosts' Store

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JEFF SASKER CONSTRUCTION cont. from page 1

Lindsley asked if the kitchen could be outfitted with a cooktop stove because the oven hindered her access to the stove-top. The social worker hinted at outfitting her kitchen with all new appliances.

"She thought it was a great idea, so she pitched it to her boss," who also agreed, but said the new appliances were no longer possible.

Lingley shared her disappointment with a friend, who said, "'You're not stopping this remodel.' She bought all of my appliances except for the refrigerator, and I am so grateful. I was really overwhelmed by that."

It was then that Lindsley was introduced to Saker in a round-about way. As the Brandon craftsman explains, he answered a call that was tagged to Duluth, Minn.

"It was a lady and she said she works with accessible home designs in Minnesota and said she got my name from someone named Alex who was looking to do some pulldown shelves for a house in Luverne," he said.

Alex, he soon learned, was the wife of a man who works for Saker's brother, and works in social services in Luverne. Saker agreed to learn more about the project at Lindsley's home and

this conversation led to a referral to Rev A Shelf, a company that he has worked with previously. But in his discussion with a Rev A Shelf rep, he learned the pulldown shelves would require too much effort for Lindsley.

That led Saker to the internet, where he discovered a Canadian-based source that has affiliations with a

anything, it automatically reverses."

To Saker's knowledge, the units he installed are the first ones ever sold in the United States.

"I don't know how many they've (Canadian company) sold now, but he wanted to visit with me to find out more information on how it works, because he sold



Jakki Lindsley's kitchen before was not handicapped accessible. Jeff Saker Construction outfitted it with wheelchair-friendly amenities.

Sweden-located company who manufactures motorized units, which allow the cabinets to lower and/or rise to Lindsley's reach.

"They're all about safety," Saker said. "Underneath, it's got pans, so that if it touches

it, but didn't really know how it worked," Saker said.

The motorized mechanisms do come with a hefty price tag at \$5,000 each. Lindsley's kitchen has three.

"I think you almost have to have the govern-



Submitted photo

ment involved, if you will, because one of the mechanisms was \$5,000, and we put three of them in her house, so that little kitchen got \$15,000 (of the technology), and you haven't even started building the cabinets yet," Saker said. "The

expensive to be in assisted living. This gives people a chance to stay by themselves longer term."

The project in Luverne caught wind miles away in Foley, Minn., which is located north of St. Cloud. Saker was contacted to submit a bid for a similar project, which he is waiting to hear back on.

"As I was talking that

About Jeff Saker Construction

Owner: Jeff Saker

Phone: (605) 366-3651

Email: jsaker@alliancecom.net



Jeff Saker

guy up in Canada, he said that I need to get a website up and running, because there's so very few people that could even make the

cabinets like that. He actually talked about maybe making them here and then shipping them out. That would be my hope someday," Saker said.

Saker said the Lindsley project may be the start of future endeavors. He talked about connecting with organizations, such as former Minnesota Viking Jared Allen, who supports building homes for disabled veterans.

"And places like Bethany Meadows, this is something that could benefit people there, too," he said.

As for Lindsley, she's elated to be back in the kitchen.

"Washing the dishes is my new job in the house. My family's pretty excited because I can wash dishes now," she said.

Jeff Saker Construction

Jeff Saker is a craftsman. He builds custom cabinetry and furniture, including a crib for his grandson and a bedroom

continued on page 4



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JEFF SASKER CONSTRUCTION cont. from page 3

grandson and a bedroom set for he and his young bride after they married.

He said he thoroughly enjoys his trade.

"I haven't worked for years. I just really like what I do, honestly," he said.

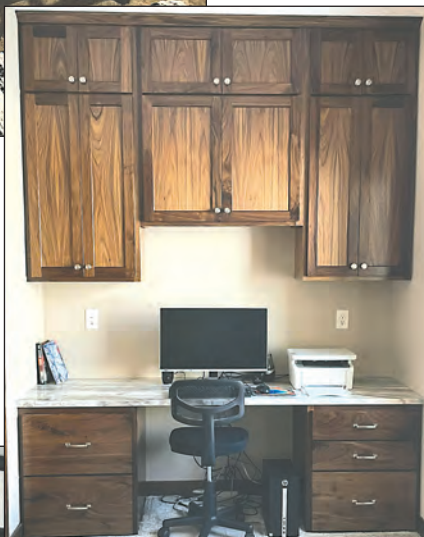
"When you get done and people are like, 'This is what I really was hoping for,' I guess it just makes my day."

"Every single job is different, it's not the same old, same old every day," he said. "The biggest thing I learned from BHI (a former employer) is if you do a good job for somebody, they maybe will tell one person, but if you do a bad job, they'll tell at least 20 people, so I always try to do my best every time."



Submitted photos

In August, Jeff Saker Construction will reach its milestone 20th year in business. Jeff Saker handcrafts custom cabinetry and furniture in his workshop located a few miles north of Beaver Creek, Minn. (Above) He constructed a crib for his grandson. (At right) A custom desk system. (Below) A mudroom wall coat and storage unit.



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‘The next best thing around the corner’

Smart Home technology continues to evolve in new home construction, remodels

Tom A. Savage
Contributing writer

Opening your garage door, or turning on your lights, or setting your thermostat, or any number of other activities around your house has been made much easier with the continued popularity of Smart Home technology installation.

But one thing has become abundantly clear since the introduction of smart technology in homes: don't lose your phone or tablet.

That's because all of that power of being able to manage your home separately is controlled on your phone through various apps. Smart Home technology is a trend that's been hot for several years, and adding bells and whistles to new homes or remodels continues, despite a bit of a slow down due to high interest rates and a slower economy.

"I'm actually not kidding if you lose your phone," said Jason Seykora of Skykora Remodeling. "Not that you can't still manually control these items that are in your home, but if you lose your phone, the next thing you know, life becomes a little more difficult because you're actually going to have to get up and hit your light switches instead of your phone."

From doorbells to thermostats to light bulbs to ovens to refrigerators and even an outdoor grill, almost any appliance can be controlled from a handheld phone or tablet. According to statista.com, more than 57 percent of households in the United States will own a Smart Home device in 2025, the third highest forecast worldwide. Smart Home sales are also estimated to reach almost \$44 billion by 2025, which would be approximately twice the amount of revenue in 2020.



Tom A. Savage/BV Journal

Smart Refrigerators, like these on display at Karl's TV, Audio & Appliances in Sioux Falls. Smart Refrigerators are available in various shapes and sizes and sometimes include a white board for messages. Brandon gains an appliance store June 1 when Heartland Appliance opens its doors in the Brandon 90 Plaza.

"It's darn near in every appliance anymore, and now it's starting to become

more into the central nervous system of the home, which starts with your furnace and controls everything," said Seykora, who specializes in older home remodels. "Obviously it's much easier

“Everybody wants cameras, or at least wired for cameras. Or generator wiring, or electric car wiring in the garage. Those are on people's wants and then it comes down to the budget.

- Tommy Hall
Thunder Creek Custom Homes

things can be done with a remodel." In older homes, Seykora said one technology they've been seeing become more popular are sensors in basements that can alert a homeowner on their

to do the technology in new construction compared to remodeling, but a lot of those

phone or tablet if a part of the basement has become wet from flooding or a broken appliance.

"If they're out of town, they can contact a neighbor or friends in town to go take a look before it becomes a serious issue," Seykora said.

Brad Maier of A-Plus Construction focuses on new construction. He said they have access to all of the technology as well, but he said he's seen it slow a bit because of the current higher interest rates on new home construction.

Maier said because the cost of lumber and building material continues to remain high, new homebuilders are focusing on necessities rather than over-the-top Smart Home technology.

It seems as the economy goes, so goes the interest in adding additional Smart Home technology.

"Things go in waves," he said. "We're not seeing an overwhelming demand for a lot of it. Anymore it's your thermostats and your doorbells and your garage door openers. People have to determine what is worth what to them."

Because costs and interest rates remain high, many homebuilders like Tommy Hall of Thunder Creek Custom Homes build the infrastructure for the Smart Home technology giving homeowners the opportunity to install it later.

Hall said they set everything up for the future should the homeowner decide to move forward with the technology down the road.

"Everybody wants cameras, or at least wired for cameras," he said. "Or generator wiring, or electric car wiring in the garage. Those are on people's wants and then it comes down to the budget. Down the road, if they want to add something and we've already wired for it, they don't have to take out sheet-rock or do additional construction."

continued on page 8

HGTV hosts' home store now open in Tea

Story originally published by www.SiouxFalls.business & reprinted with permission

Down Home by DeBoers, a home furnishings business from HGTV hosts Cole and Chelsea DeBoer, has opened in Tea.

It's located at 108 Venture St. in the Bakker Landing development in the same retail center as Starbucks — just west of the Tea exit on Interstate 29.

When shoppers walk in the store, "I want them to feel cozy, welcomed, at home," Chelsea DeBoer said.

The merchandise mix draws on a similar aesthetic as many of the DeBoers' renovations featured on their HGTV series, "Down Home Fab," which premiered the second season last week. Eight episodes will be showing home projects in Sioux Falls and Tea.

For the store's location, Tea was an easy choice, Chelsea DeBoer said.

"I love Tea, I love a small town," she said. "I always have. I've lived in Tea, and I really like the feel. It's something Tea doesn't have, and Tea is growing, and I just wanted to be part of the community."

For inventory, "I really just went with what I liked," she said. "We've kind of got it all."

continued on page 7



Down Home by DeBoers opened for business on Friday in Tea.

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DOWN HOME

cont. from page 6

There's everything from furniture and rugs to lighting, decor and accessories.

While they're staffed up for the store, the DeBoers also plan to work there.

"We'll be here as much as we can be," Cole DeBoer said. "If we get another season, we'll be doing both."

Shoppers began filing in as soon as the doors opened Friday, reflecting the brand and relationships the couple have built through their various businesses.

Chelsea DeBoer originally gained national attention when she appeared on MTV's "Teen Mom" as a 16-year-old more than a decade ago.

"I would have never thought I would be here," she said. "But I wasn't afraid to take risks and believe in yourself."

Store hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday.

A grand opening will be coming sometime this summer.



Cole and Chelsea DeBoer (left) pose for a photo with customers on the opening day of Down JHome by DeBoers in Tea.



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Photos courtesy of www.SiouxFalls.business

HGTV hosts Cole and Chelsea DeBoer opened Down Home by DeBoers, a home furnishings retail store in the Bakker Landing development in Tea. The store officially opened for business on Friday and offers merchandise that has a “cozy” and “welcomed” feel. Last week, the DeBoer’s HGTV show, “Down Home Fab” began its second season. There are seven more episodes to air, showcasing home projects in Sioux Falls and Tea.



DOWN HOME

cont. from page 7

“I really just went with what I liked. We’ve kind of got it all.

- **Chelsea DeBoer**
Co-owner of
Down Home Fab
by DeBoers

SMART HOMES

cont. from page 5

But like anything else in the technological world, things get outdated in a hurry. Seykora said something that was installed even just three years ago is still functional today, but there’s obviously new technology on the market that’s more efficient.

“The interesting thing with tech is that it changes so fast,” he said. “That’s the tricky thing. There’s always the next best thing around the corner.”

Hall said it’s difficult to say where Smart Home tech is heading. Because of the ever-changing technology, he said it’s likely at some point that an entire home’s functions will be centralized on one device.

“There’s almost too many possibilities that it’s hard to dial in what the future might look like,” he said. “We live in a world of what’s easiest. The less that people have to do, that’s where everything is trending.”

“The interesting thing with tech is that it changes so fast. That’s the tricky thing. There’s always the next best thing around the corner.

- **Tommy Hall**
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Four trends to take muted interiors from drab to dreamy

StatePoint Media

From adding dramatic style to the kitchen to giving an unexpected space a splash of color, these ideas—inspired by the 2024 FrogTape Design Trends, as identified by celebrity interior designer Taniya Nayak—will make areas around your home pop in 2024.

Colorful Kitchens. Make the kitchen a focal point by painting the cabinets or panels on the island a vivid color. Calming blue will ensure a relaxed and laid-back feeling, while fuchsia will energize the design. Nayak recommends using FrogTape Delicate Surface Painter's Tape to prevent paint bleed and achieve crisp paint lines. The low-adhesion

tape is designed to prevent damage on surfaces like cabinets, freshly painted walls, wallpaper and more.

Dynamic Décor. If painting projects aren't in the plan for this year, revive a living room or bedroom by adding a collection of brightly colored pillows and throws, bohemian-style macramé, wall art and a rug with geometric patterns. As long as the colors are complementary to each other, the blend of styles and textures will catch the eye and make the room feel refreshed with little effort.

Nourishing Green. A simple, but effective, way to boost the mood of a space is to fill it with large blooms. Place a modern plant stand in an empty corner or between rooms as a divider,



StatePoint Media

Dramatic style, splashes of color are among 2024 interior design trends.

and layer in green houseplants or ones with colorful leaves on the shelves. Accentuate the greenery with pops of the same color throughout the room to create a sense of cohesion.

Elevated Exteriors. It's

not just the interiors of the home that should speak to personal style, the outside should, too! Give the front door a facelift by painting it a daring color. Don't be afraid to choose one hue for the outside of the door

and another for the inside. For this project, apply FrogTape Multi-Surface Painter's Tape before painting, so that trim around the door and doorknob is protected from paint bleed.

For more decor ideas

and design tips, visit FrogTape.com. Whether you choose one or all of these trends, they can be tackled by DIYers with a range of skillsets to transform dull living spaces into the home of your dreams.



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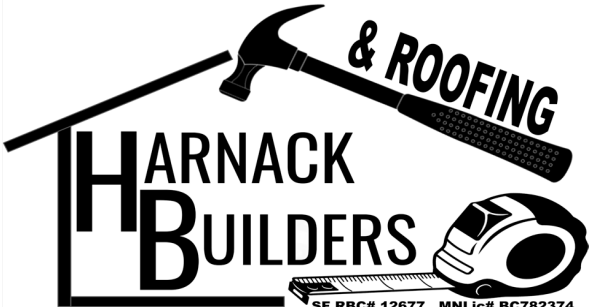
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Color tips to make your home exterior pop

StatePoint Media

Home exteriors make a first impression, setting the tone for neighbors, guests, and if a property is on the market --prospective home buyers. So how do you boost your curb appeal and make your exterior pop? According to those in the know, a lot of it has to do with color.

"Choosing deep, bold colors for your door or siding can provide eye-catching focal points and dramatically increase curb appeal," says Jon Lapp, vinyl siding product manager at ProVia.

To help you make selections that work best for your home and vision, ProVia is offering the following insights:

Siding

Color and texture play significant roles in the overall look and style of a home, so consider pairing your vinyl siding with other materials, such as manufactured stone, decorative

shake, or board and batten. Whether you go for soft earth tones or deep hues of primary colors, color retention technologies will maintain the look through the years. To that end, here are a few qualities to look for in your siding:

- UV protection: Think of it as sunscreen for your house. This layer of protection helps shield your siding from the destructive effects of the sun's UV rays.

- Weather barrier shield: Anti-weathering materials on the siding's surface can help ensure long-lasting color fidelity and low-maintenance freedom for your home's exterior.

- Heat resistance: Heat-resistant inorganic pigments ensure exacting deep colors, reflect heat from exterior walls, and deflect solar rays to reduce solar heat build-up and unsightly weathering.

- Anti-fade protection: A strong molecular chain, found in super polymer vinyl siding, is engineered for superior color retention.

tion.

"At first, it might be difficult to tell the difference between a good vinyl siding panel and an outstanding one. But over time, the true strength and quality of each panel will be revealed," says Lapp.

It's for this reason that ProVia's entire lineup of super polymer vinyl siding is formulated with Tri-Pigment Reflective Technology, Color Keeper Anti-Fade Protection, Weather Barrier Shield and SPX-2000 UV Blocker. These components work together to combat fade and increase weather resistance.

The Entry Door

The entry door is an amazing place to make a color statement. However, if you buy an exterior replacement door and try to finish it yourself, achieving the flawless finish you're hoping for is easier said than done. Then there's the trim, and possibly sidelights and a transom that

also need to be painted to match or coordinate with the door color.

From classic hues, such as rustic bronze or forest green, to trending colors like avocado or burnt orange, you can ensure a consistent, beautiful and lasting finish by having your manufacturer paint the door before it leaves the factory floor. Bonus: the color will also be under warranty. Look for a manufacturer that crafts custom doors, allowing you to choose different interior and exterior colors and other specifications tailored to your taste.

To get inspired for your home exterior project, visit provia.com. In addition to photo galleries of finished projects, the site's home designer tools allow you to visualize how various elements will look on your home.

By selecting professional-quality exterior products, you can ensure long-lasting durability and a big boost in curb appeal.



StatePoint Media

Choosing deep, bold colors for your door or siding can provide eye-catching focal points and dramatically increase the curb appeal.

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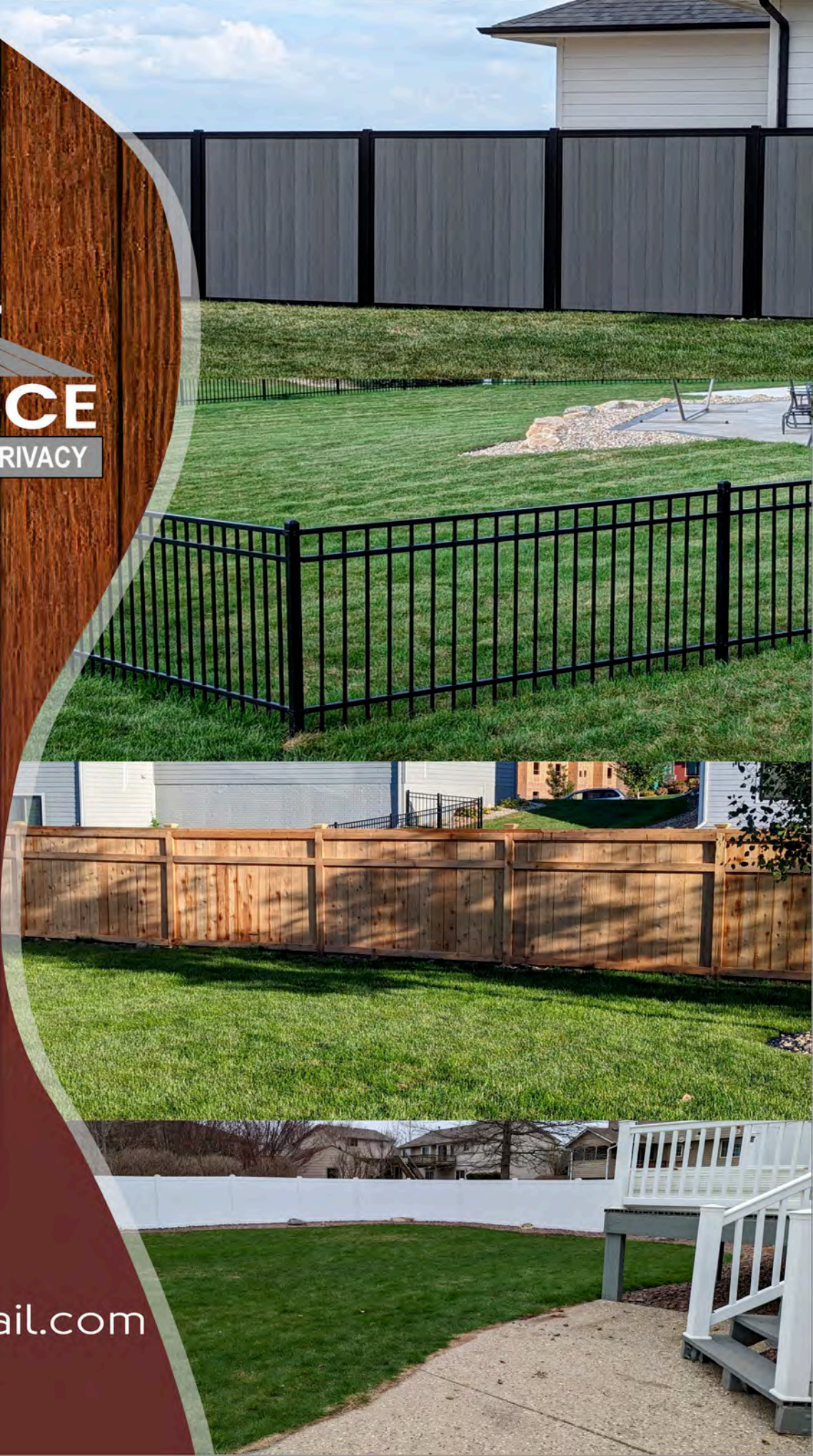
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At VanOverschelde Custom Homes, it's all in the details. From your front porch to your back patio and everything in between, we pour over every last fixture and finish to make sure your dream home springs to life. Check out some of our most popular custom models below for some added inspiration about what our team of dedicated builders and craftsman can create for you and your family.

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