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**BLUE**

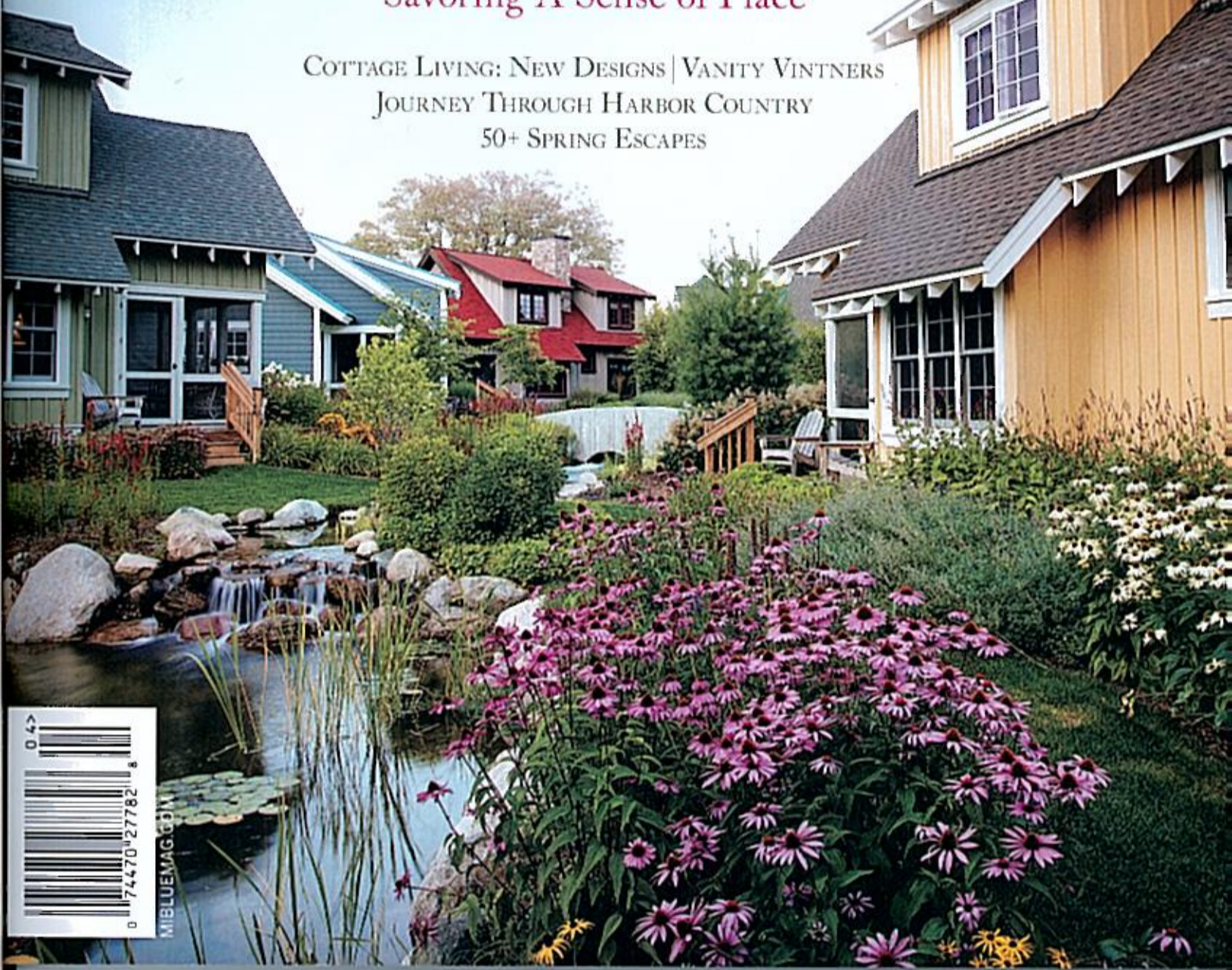
MICHIGAN'S LAKESTYLE MAGAZINE

SPRING ISSUE

**Into the Garden**

Savoring A Sense of Place

COTTAGE LIVING: NEW DESIGNS | VANITY VINTNERS  
JOURNEY THROUGH HARBOR COUNTRY  
50+ SPRING ESCAPES



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## On the Horizon

With so many changes, it's hard not to wonder what's next. Rob Mossburg, owner of the trend-setting Cottage Company in Harbor Springs, noted their firm's new cottage communities have generated interest (and imitations) around the country.

"I think we may have defined the upscale cottage to some degree," he said. "We've been able to demonstrate that a casual, cottage lifestyle and fine materials and workmanship are not mutually exclusive." He expects current classic cottage features — extensive



(but not fussy) trim and millwork, rubbed and distressed finishes, lots of light, bright colors and surprising nooks and crannies — to continue their popularity.

"A certain amount of imperfection — or quirkiness — is good too," he added.

Outside, spacious porches and decks, natural materials such as cedar shingles and vintage-style siding, Dutch doors and other details including corbels and brackets "say cottage to me," Mossburg shared. "Our Bay Street Cottages project, in particular, has reminded us that we don't really need that much space to be comfortable, especially in a second home. Cottage living to us is about ease."

That said, he and his wife, interior designer Vee Mossburg, have seen the industry embracing a more eclectic cottage style inside and out. "Folks are willing to throw in a little contemporary, retro or mountain into their cottages," he illustrated. "We also seem to be blending more stain with paint and putting together finishes that you wouldn't traditionally say were compatible."



"It's so much better to keep the original materials and not have it all go to waste in a dump. More people are looking to use what they have, are trying to find ways to turn their current property into their dream house."

## Going Green

Not surprisingly, both Klement and Adeline-Supernault have seen a rise in request for "green" products and practices in their new and remodeled homes. Klement, however, cautioned that consumers should look below the surface.

"Sustainability is more than just using low VOC paint and bamboo floors," he said. "It's looking at projects in a whole new way ... being more intelligent with how you allocate space and what you do with the materials you're using."

He considers smaller homes and the burgeoning green movement a return to sanity. "We've been building big mainly because we could," he explained. "There's nothing like a global economic and financial crisis to help people re-center."

A leader in sustainable building practices and champion of energy-efficient building, Klement offers a presentation called "Creating The Green Home" to help clients navigate green's new and swiftly-changing



**Top:** In this year-round, cottage-inspired home designed by Mary Burns of Gallery Interiors/Rockford Kitchen Design, kitchen and family room open to one another beneath spacious triple arches.

**Bottom:** Outside, stained board and baton cedar shutters pair with simple stucco to lend classic European cottage allure.