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Ultimate Views

Capozzi Design Group

VIEWS OF LAKE ERIE pour into the windows of this Mentor timber-framed home, with characteristic pine post-and-beam ceilings. The family living there wanted to lighten up the space, which felt a bit dark and closed in with its previous French country style. They needed to improve the functionality of key living spaces: the kitchen and adjoining living room and dining area.

“The pine woodwork was lovely, and what we did was accentuate the beams and bring that woodwork to life while opening up the space,” says Ruthann Capozzi, a third-generation custom kitchen specialist and certified kitchen designer at Chagrin Falls-based Capozzi Design Group.

The first task: removing a wall between the kitchen and dining room and enlarging a kitchen window to unlock the views and create a flow between these two spaces.

In the kitchen, custom Shaker-style Ayr cabinetry painted crisp white provides an appealing visual contrast to the pine structure. Upgraded French dovetail drawers and finished interiors blend with the exteriors for a more furniture-grade look. “The custom cabinet line is very much like furniture, so if

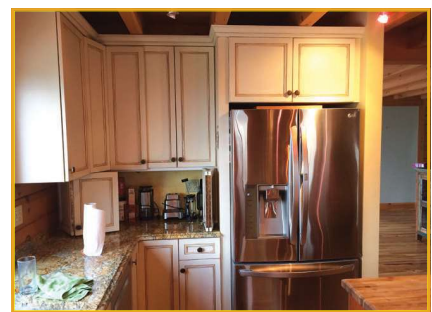
you open a cabinet you’ll find the interior is painted to blend with the exterior,” Capozzi describes.

The kitchen also features a 5-foot Galley workstation — a line of functional sink-prepare-cleanup stations that feature double faucets. “The lower profile Galley allows us to add workstation storage and functionality to the space below,” Capozzi says, noting that Capozzi Design Group was one of the first Northeast Ohio firms to carry the Galley line, which was designed as a multi-tasking, efficient hub for the kitchen.

Light fixtures above the sink are a nautically inspired lantern-style that bring a touch of rustic-modern and suit the lake house theme. Navy chairs by Emeco that are situated around the island carry out that look, as well.

Wrapping cabinetry into the dining room creates a convenient landing space for an extra overflow buffet and guests in the dining room. Additionally, two existing closets were redesigned with the kitchen cabinetry style to bring that airy, white into the space — and build out two functional units that the family can use for stowing away belongings.

Natural hardwood floors



were refinished, warming up the space. These complement the pine beam ceilings.

“Knowing that we were designing the spaces for a growing family with two young children, it was important that we created a place that not only functioned well, but also incorporated what made the house — and that’s the fact that it is a house on the lake with beautiful architectural beams,” Capozzi says.

“Because of the extended kitchen window and open space, there is now a panoramic view of the lake when you walk into the home,” she adds. “The design opened up the space and truly transformed it.” — KH

NUTS & BOLTS

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PROJECT FOCUS:
 Kitchen

