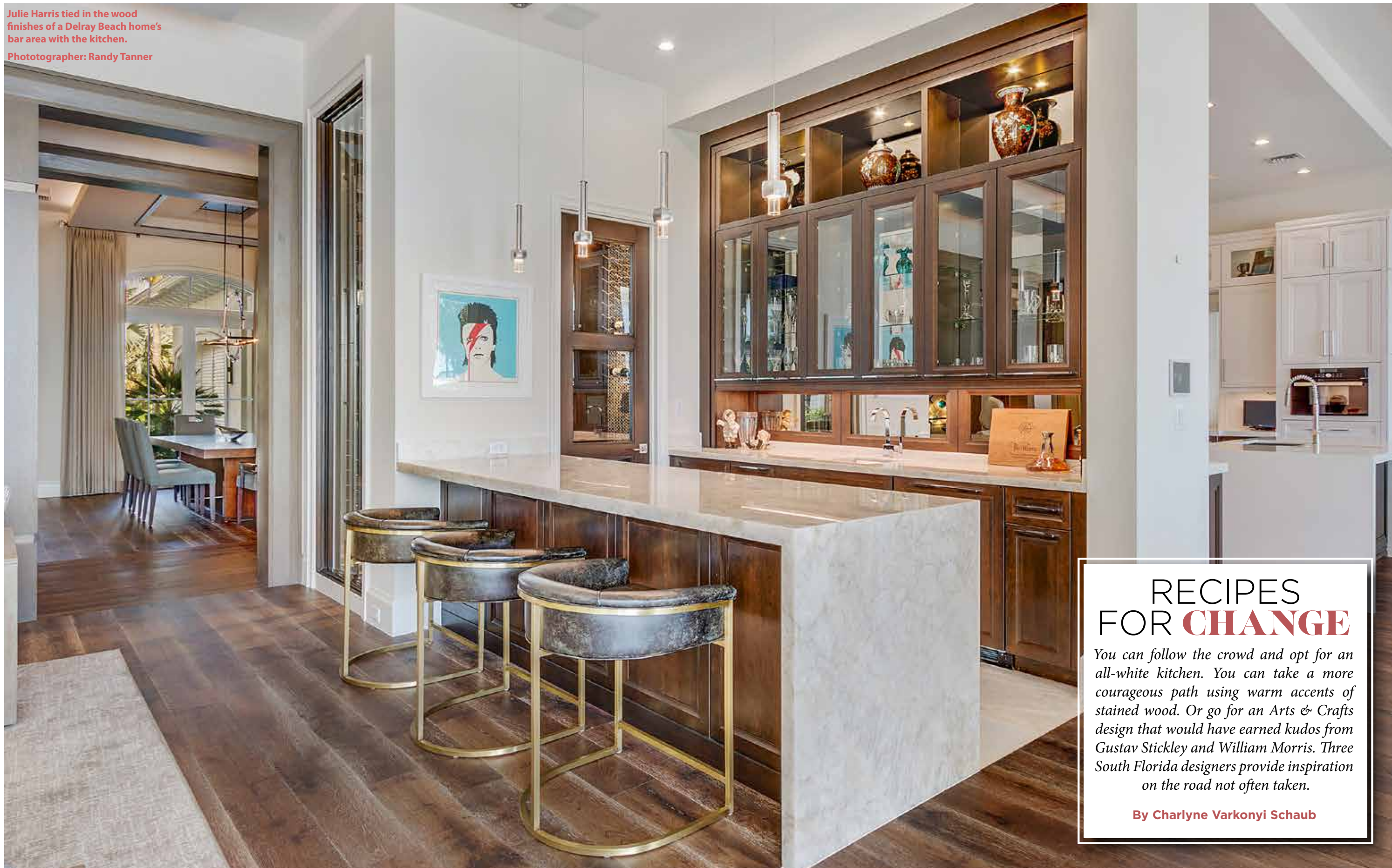


Julie Harris tied in the wood finishes of a Delray Beach home's bar area with the kitchen.
Photographer: Randy Tanner



RECIPES
FOR **CHANGE**

You can follow the crowd and opt for an all-white kitchen. You can take a more courageous path using warm accents of stained wood. Or go for an Arts & Crafts design that would have earned kudos from Gustav Stickley and William Morris. Three South Florida designers provide inspiration on the road not often taken.

By Charlyne Varkonyi Schaub



DESIGNER: JULIE HARRIS
PHOTOGRAPHER: RANDY TANNER

Snowbird clients from the United Kingdom requested a bright and light kitchen to reflect their home's waterfront view on AIA in Delray Beach. The challenge: Although they wanted contemporary design, they still yearned for transitional touches so the design wouldn't be too stark.

Julie Harris created a look between contemporary and transitional. Maple stained wood accents the front of the first island contrasting with its contemporary waterfall sides. The second island looks more like furniture in the same wood stain. The side of that island and door fronts under the cooktop feature contemporary stainless steel accents. Paneled door fronts also give a nod to contemporary. Countertops are Caesarstone in organic white.

Why two islands?

"If we did one island it would be too big to reach across and/or too small for the kitchen," she says. "Two islands help with the circulation of navigating the room and creates two work stations. The design makes the kitchen feel different."

The wall behind the kitchen features the same maple wood finishes, a mirrored backsplash and soft white Quartzite stone countertops with the contemporary waterfall edge. Modern stools are curved with bronze gold-tone legs.

"We wanted to create the warmth from the darker finish in the main kitchen to tie the two areas together," she says.

Julie Harris created two islands in this Delray Beach home because one island would have been too wide or a typical size would be too small for the space. Her design incorporates maple stained wood accents to add interest to the typical all-white kitchens.