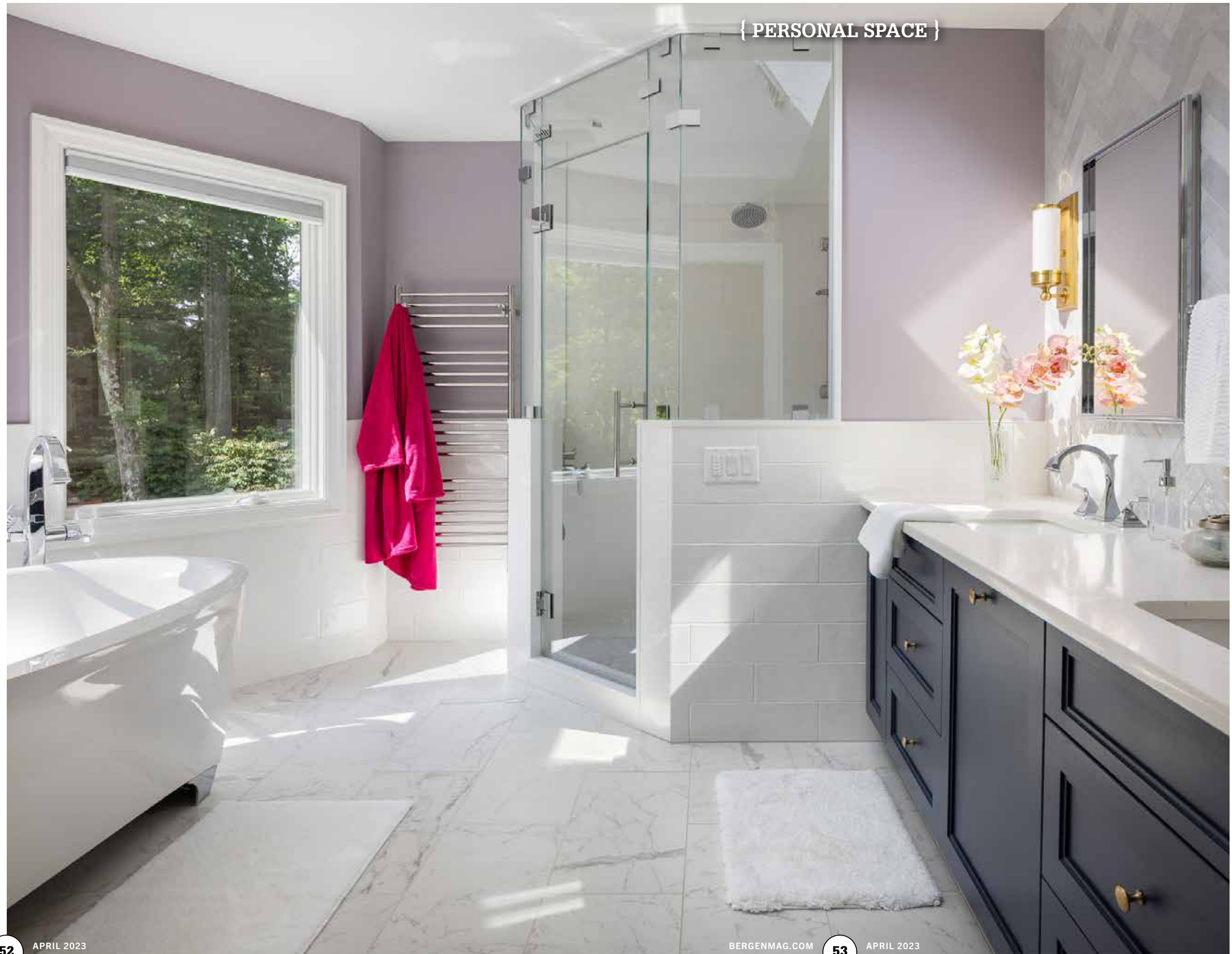


NO KIDS ALLOWED

The Wyckoff residents are devoted parents — really they are. But oh, for a sanctuary just for the grown-ups!

Design by **Sharon Sherman**
Photography by **Mike Van Tassell**
Text by **Haley Longman**

Perhaps more than anyone, busy, working parents with young children need to decompress at the end of a long day, and Parker and Kathleen of Wyckoff saw their primary bathroom as the place for that. Their existing bathroom was medium-sized, with good natural light and decent space. But they hired Sharon Sherman of Thyme & Place Design in Wyckoff to transform it into a spa-like retreat, one that would emphasize rejuvenation and wellness—and be off-limits to their three young children. “They explain to their kids that this is for Mommy and Daddy,” Sherman tells us. “Adults need time to



{ PERSONAL SPACE }



This page: Designer Sharon Sherman describes this Wyckoff bathroom's aesthetic as "a melding of classic with transitional, a modern take on what a bathroom should be." Classic touches such as the white and gray porcelain floor and the herringbone backsplash look right at home with the more modern color combination. Opposite: The shower is a sensory experience, says the designer, between the steam and the non-slip floor made of natural-cut marble that feels good on the feet.

decompress and wash the world away at the end of the day."

Parker, the man of the house, is six-foot-four, so a shower that could accommodate his stature was a must. A built-in bench, a recessed niche to hide the clutter of shampoo bottles and his-and-hers shower heads of varying heights (one of which is hand-held) are nice luxuries, sure. But the selling point here is that this is a steam shower—it was a surprise collab between Sherman and Parker for Parker's wife. "A steam shower helps reduce stress levels; it's great for your skin and is good for your respiratory system," says the designer. Next to the shower is a towel bar, which keeps towels toasty and free of bacteria and mold—they tend to fester in wet bathrooms.

The more petite Mrs. requested a soaking tub, placed deliberately under a big bay window, to ease the tension from her high-stress job; Sherman chose for the

occasion the Bain Ultra freestanding tub, which includes air massage, chromatherapy and a heated back rest. Ahh.

All-white-everything was not on the agenda for this project. Instead, the clients trusted their designer to choose the bold color palette and finishes. It was unanimous that Benjamin Moore's "Hale Navy" was a perfect choice for the custom vanity. "Navy is my neutral," Sherman says with a laugh. And the lavender "Sanctuary" on the walls from the same brand is inspired by the Zellige lavender tile from Wayne Tile in Ramsey, laid in a herringbone pattern. "It's a beautiful neutral tile but with a plum, amethyst undertone," Sherman notes. "They loved the color choices and trusted me." Like the unexpected palette pairing, the designer chose mixed metals such as honey bronze sconces and knobs to complement the nickel sink hardware. "I love combinations like that," says Sherman. "It makes it so

much more interesting to have different materials, metals and colors together."

Prettiness was paramount here, but Sherman didn't skimp on practicality. For example, the countertops are quartz, a low-maintenance stone. A middle drawer within the double vanity has a built-in hamper, the mirrors open up to medicine cabinets and there's a pull-out drawer to house all of Kathleen's Dyson hair tools and brushes. (Kathleen didn't feel a need for this at first, says the designer, but now she uses it daily.) A pocket door to the bedroom and a Toto toilet tucked around the corner maximize the space even more.

Truly, this bathroom has changed this couple's day-to-day routine. "They're so happy and use all of the bathroom's features," Sherman says. "It's organized, it's the right size for both of them, they have a place for everything and it's easy to get ready every morning." Easy, at least, until it's time to wake up the kids.