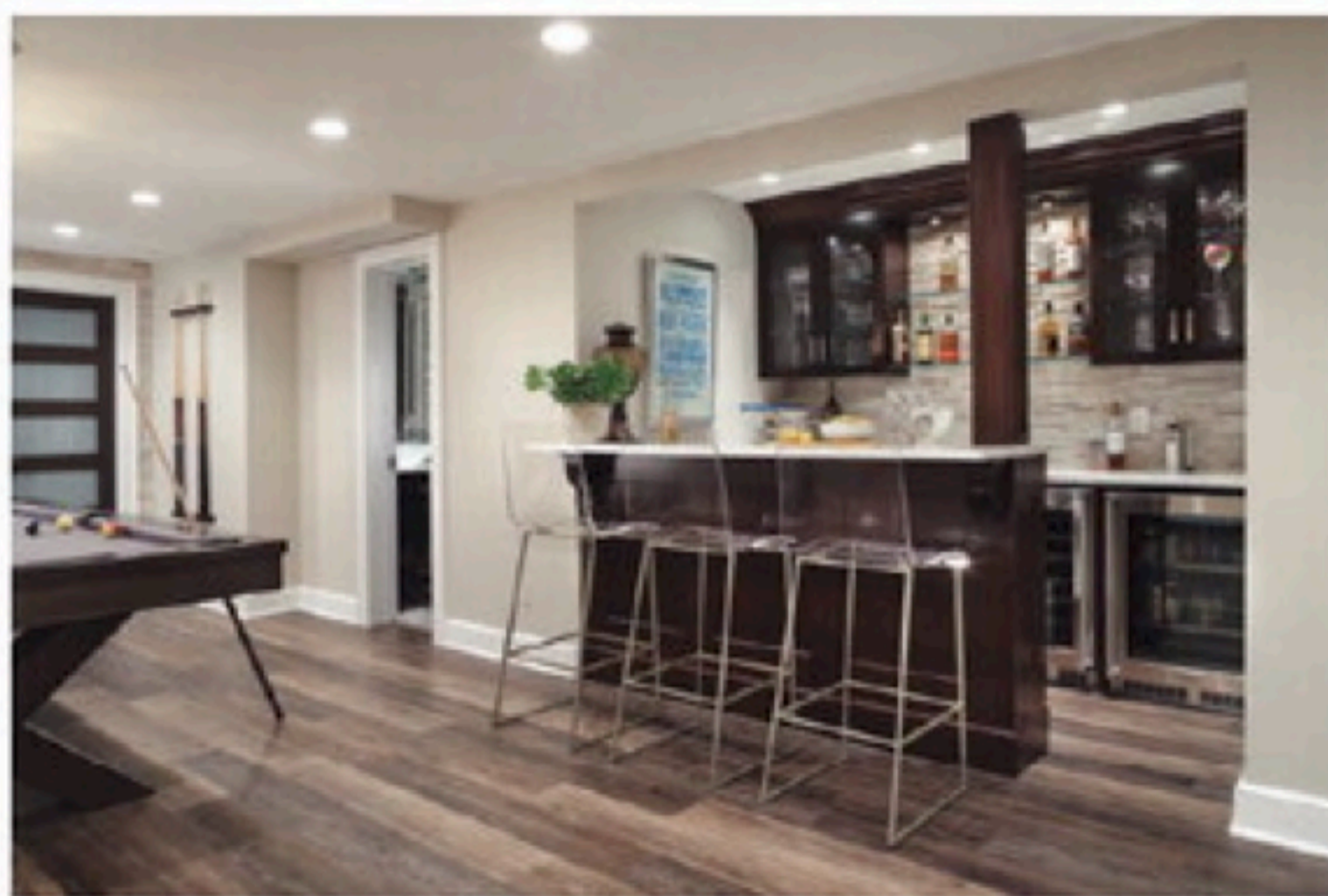


his and hers
**ME
 TIME**
 spaces

Kids aren't the only ones who love hideaways

WRITTEN BY CINDY SCHWEICH HANDLER

For a lot of us, sheltering at home during COVID-19 has let us spend much more quality time with our loved ones than we did pre-pandemic. And that's a good thing... though the togetherness can be that much sweeter when it's possible to slip away from it for a while for a little downtime. We asked area designers about recent work they've completed for clients who requested in-home retreats — man caves, reading nooks, irresistible bathrooms — where they could go and be by themselves (and in recreation rooms, with a few adult friends). We share their great escapes here.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PETER RYAN WOOD

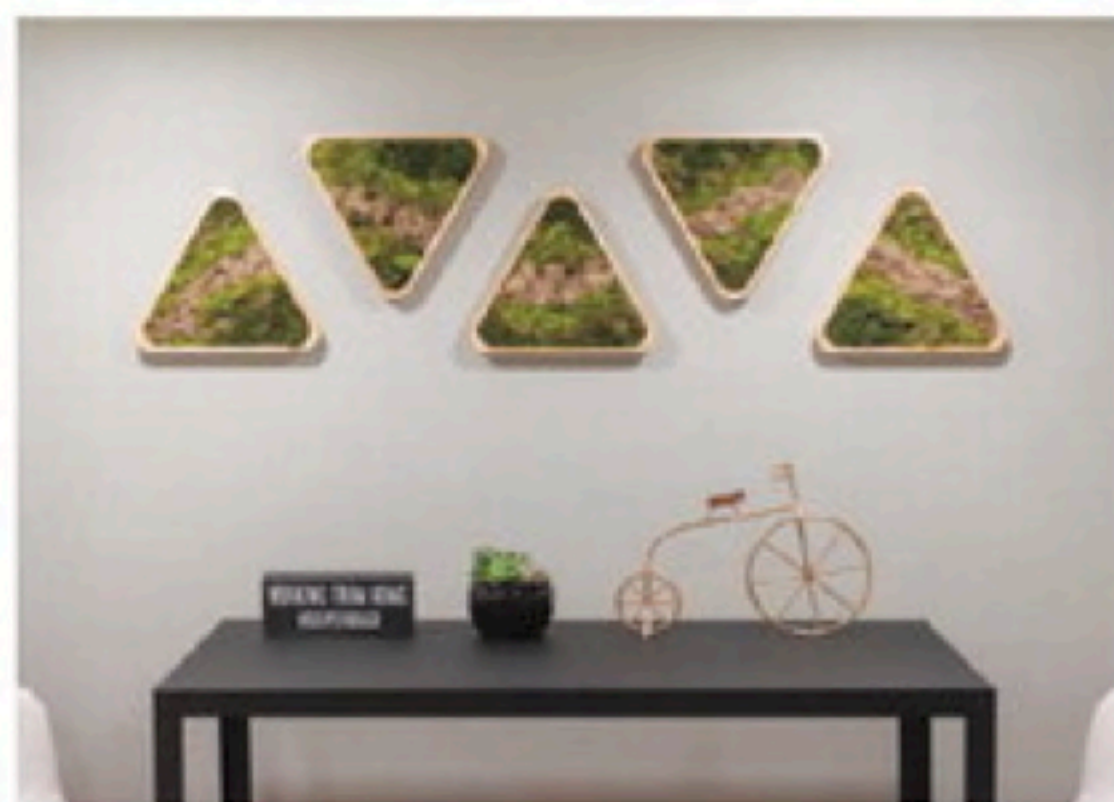
PHOTOS COURTESY OF PLAN ARCHITECTURE

HAWORTH MAN CAVE

JENNIFER PACCA INTERIORS

This bar, billiard room and seating area houses two TVs for dual sports-watching. Pieces of textural stone, each one a different depth, create an interesting backdrop; the room also features a reclaimed wood coffee table and vinyl flooring that resembles wood but is easier to clean. The man cave is next to a kids' playroom, so adults don't need to go far if they want to check in on the 5- and 7-year-olds of the house.





PHOTOS COURTESY OF ENCA MORRITT/ENCA STUDIOS

BERGEN HOME GYM/ OFFICE/BILLIARD SPACE

MARINA V DESIGN STUDIO

"This is sort of a man cave, but lighter and brighter," says Marina V. Umali, who specializes in feng shui interior design. Her goal was to turn an unused basement storage space into a home gym that was close to an office space, should work needs arise during workouts, and a nearby play area for kids. The chalk paint on the door and door wall allows the homeowners to record workout goals; snake plants and the preserved moss custom artwork support the theme of wellness. A custom 3-D printed weight plate gym clock helps personalize the area.

SADDLE RIVER LOWER LEVEL

PLAN ARCHITECTURE

"Our clients wanted their basement to be their escape from their everyday lives," says Plan Architecture's Gianna Pepe. The space includes a putting green, golf simulator, gym steam room, kitchenette, powder room and living area. "The soft color palette and materials create the perfect place to unwind during this ongoing pandemic," she says.