

New England HOME

Celebrating Fine Design,
Architecture, and Building

TRADE SECRETS: Who's doing what, when, where and how in the New England design business.

Reprinted from the September/October 2014 issue of *New England Home*

Special Character

Unique looks create indelible impressions

Lose Yourself in a Lush
Seaside Landscape

New England's Most Inspired
Kitchens and Baths

PLUS: THE FIFTH
ANNUAL "5 UNDER 40"
AWARDS AND A POTTER
WITH A FOURTEEN-
GENERATION PEDIGREE

September–October 2014
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NEW AND NOTEWORTHY



► Every year since 2001, **Cape Associates** has built a playhouse any child would envy, donating it to a local charity that raffles it off to raise money. The annual project has raised more than \$97,000 for the community. This year, the Eastham, Massachusetts, company decided to take things a step further, enlisting the help of area architects by running a contest for the playhouse design. The winning design (voted on by visitors to Cape Associates's website) is this charming "Modern Cape Schoolhouse" from Boston-based **ZeroEnergy Design**. Cape Cod Community College's Educational Foundation is this year's beneficiary. Two additional playhouses, designed by Cape Associates staff, will be donated to the local Pop Warner football team and the Provincetown Fine Arts Work Center.

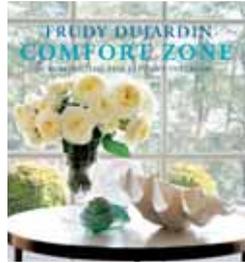
► "Made in America" is more than just a slogan to the folks at **Room & Board**. The Minneapolis-based retailer prides itself on the fact that more than 90 percent of the home products on its shelves are handcrafted by U.S. artisans. The company, known for its array



of good-looking, durable, and affordable furnishings and accessories for the home, arrived in New England early this summer, opening a four-story showroom in Boston's Back Bay, at the corner of Newbury Street and Massachusetts Avenue. For photos of the grand opening party, see *Design Life*, page 190.

► If you're like us, you can never get enough books about design, especially when they're as pretty—and inspiring—as **Trudy Dujardin's**

new *Comfort Zone: Creating the Eco-Elegant Interior*. The book, from Pointed Leaf Press, makes clear why the LEED-certified designer (who has offices in Westport, Connecticut, and Nantucket, Massachusetts) is considered a pioneer in the sustainable-design movement.



environmentally friendly materials and practices.

► As **Back Bay Shutter Company** turns twenty-five this year, the team there has plenty to celebrate—though, being the self-described neurotics they are, they'll probably mark the occasion by obsessing extra-hard about achieving perfection. The Woburn, Massachusetts-based shade and shutter company



BILL MORTON

recently introduced Bill Morton, "lead neurotic perfectionist, expert problem solver, and head of the sales department for the last fourteen years," as the company's newest full partner.

Morton takes on the title of vice president and assistant treasurer as the company embarks on its second quarter-century.

► Design professionals looking for illumination can find it at **Boston Lights Exposition 2014**, a daylong event at the Boston Marriott Copley Place Hotel on September 18. More than 100 of the country's leading companies will showcase the latest commercial and residential lighting products. Seminars include presentations by lighting designer (and *This Old House* contributor) Josh Feinstein and Edward Bartholomew, an award-winning lighting designer and commercial-lighting program manager with National Grid.



BOSTON LIGHTS EXPOSITION FACEBOOK

► **California Closets** celebrated the tenth anniversary of its Brighton, Massachusetts, showroom by giving the 4,500-square-foot space a top-to-bottom renovation. The company also



introduced a series of displays to show off its newest finish collections from Tesoro and Lago—closet systems that go far beyond the bedroom to include stylish ways to keep things organized

in the garage, home office, playroom, and entertainment area.

► The **Inn at Castle Hill**, on the historic Crane Estate in Ipswich, Massachusetts, is more beautiful than ever, thanks to design services donated by **Carpenter & MacNeille**. The Essex, Massachusetts, firm, which undertook the



MICHAEL J. LEE

cottage-turned-inn's renovation back in 2000, has given the ten-room inn a sophisticated, casually elegant new look that plays to its stunning seaside location and honors its turn-of-the-twentieth-century style.

► After years of working out of what she calls a "glorified garage bay," Audrey Sterk has



opened a new showroom. **Audrey Sterk Design** packs a lot into the not-quite-400-square-foot space on Broad Street in downtown Nantucket. That

includes displays of Sterk's murals and patterned wallpapers and a retail section with her fabrics and toss pillows, as well as decorative items from other artists. She also stocks samples of decorative finishes that homeowners can take home to try out. And, of course, the designer is available for design and color consultation.

—Paula M. Bodah