

Wrightsville

FREE

BEACH MAGAZINE

June 2007 | Volume 8 Issue 6

food faves

Our annual awards for the best of the best from soup to nuts

wild about blueberries

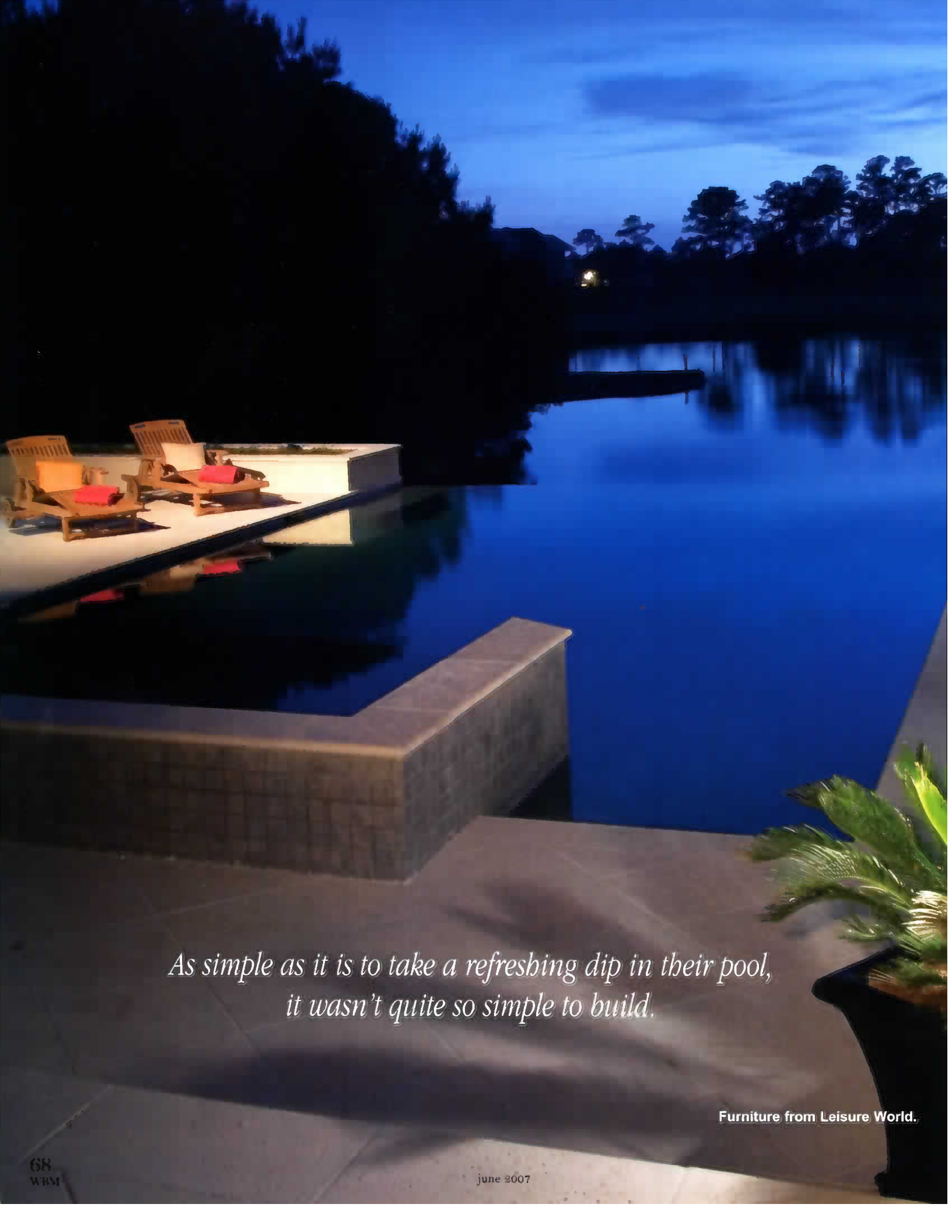
5 fabulous blue-ribbon blueberry recipes straight from the festival in Burgaw

bee alert

We've got the buzz on bees and honey, including a one-on-one with local beekeeper Tony Hardin and his 12 million bees!

Pools on the beach

Splash into summer fun
These pools combine fresh water with Wrightsville's salty air



*As simple as it is to take a refreshing dip in their pool,
it wasn't quite so simple to build.*

Furniture from Leisure World.

Gus and Linda Franklin • 2100 Stillwater Lane

Gus and Linda Franklin dreamed of owning a house with a pool. “I’ve always wanted the house built around the pool, in kind of a U-shape,” Linda says proudly, looking at her newly finished home in Landfall. Tom Hanna, the Franklins’ contractor, along with Price Carolina Aquatech pools, out of Florence, SC, helped her to reach her dream.



Bordered with a golf course on the right and with the lake directly behind them, the Franklins’ house was the perfect location for an infinity pool, a pool that creates a “falling off” effect, with the water from the pool seemingly falling into the lake itself. Worth Adams, of Price Carolina, knows how important setting is for an infinity pool.

“If you don’t have the perfect setting, the infinity pool isn’t nearly as striking, and the Franklins are lucky to have such a great site for this pool,” Adams says.

The Franklins’ infinity pool, which boasts a double negative edge from the spa, is constructed of steel-reinforced gunite and features custom-designed architectural cast stone materials by Architectural Stone Concepts of Fort Mill, SC. The striking interior finish is a mother-of-pearl Cayman exposed aggregate surface, which is accentuated by two multicolor underwater pool lights, great for the night-time entertaining Linda loves.

The pool and whirlpool have an Aquatech Caretaker in-floor cleaning system with an Aquatech leaf trapper that continually cleans. Not only is this cleaning method efficient, it also means less work for the owners, a big plus for the Franklins.

The pool is heated as well as cooled, a new concept and technology for the pool business. “A lot of pools being built now are made with darker surfaces that attract and hold heat more than normal, so heat pumps with reverse refrigerant to cool the water are becoming more and more necessary and common,” Hanna explains. The Aquatech gas heater has a separate Aquatech Icebreaker Heat Pump with reverse refrigerant that operates to both heat and cool the pool. This feature is quickly gaining popularity, especially in regions such as ours, which are known for hot and humid summer days.

As simple as it is to take a refreshing dip in their pool, it wasn’t quite so simple to build. “This thing is complex,” Hanna says. “It’s hard to describe how much plumbing goes into something like this.” It took eight months to complete, and in the heat of summer it was tough going. Linda saw firsthand just how complex her dream was to fulfill. “When we first started talking about this pool, I looked at Tom and said, ‘How hard could it be? Just dig a hole and put some water in it,’” Linda says, laughing. Nothing could have been further from the truth.

And now that it’s completed, will the Franklins get a lot of use out of it? Looking out over the lake, Linda answers with enthusiasm. “You’ll find us in the hot tub around 7 o’clock, watching the sun setting through the pines.”