

lake norman

# WOMAN

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF WOMEN

“THE  
*doctor*  
IS IN”

MEET AN LKN PHYSICIAN  
INSPIRED BY THE PEANUTS GANG

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DON'T FORGET TO  
**CHECK IN...**  
with  
*yourself*  
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*dive in!*  
on in!

featuring  
NANCY HUCKS OF  
LAKE NORMAN REALTY



**IT'S TIME TO VOTE!**  
Help pick the cutest pet in LKN!  
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# it's our anniversary!

STARR MILLER'S 50TH COLUMN IN LKNW!

**IN FEBRUARY 2009, LAKE NORMAN WOMAN** gave me the opportunity to write a column about home design. (Please note: I never considered myself a writer. On the SATs, I did better in mathematics than English.) But I took the plunge and found that this was the start of a great new adventure.

Ten years later, and this is my 50th column. To commemorate this milestone, I thought I would provide a compilation of design considerations in the arrangement of anniversary gifts.



**1ST YEAR: PAPER** — Wallpaper. I have written over and over about wallpaper through the years. Every week we get new samples into our studio for our clients, and they just get better and better. Wallpaper transforms a room, adds texture and depth to the overall design, and gives a room a sense of grounding and focus.



**5TH YEAR: WOOD** — Wood floors have moved on from the honey, orangey yellow of the 1990s. Do not, however, opt for a super dark floor unless you enjoy cleaning them. They show everything! Instead consider a medium-tone balance between warmth (red/yellow) and the cooler walnut. In home furnishings, red cherry screams 1990s, and really dark finishes tell us that you like imports.

**10TH YEAR: TIN/ALUMINUM** — Let's just call this metal. Yes, while I do not practice Feng Shui, the basic need to balance a space with a variety of elements is a basic design principle.



**15TH YEAR: CRYSTAL** — Do not keep your crystal tucked away never to be used. There is nothing like coming home from a hard day of work and having a cocktail in a glittering crystal wine glass.

**20TH YEAR: CHINA** — The same with your fine china. Use it. Mix it up. Invite a few over for a wonderful evening meal or brunch with the girls. The elegance of life should not be thrown aside for easy clean up.

**25TH YEAR: SILVER** — Okay this is where I might not be the best advocate for the upkeep of silver. Yes, please use your sterling flatware and use it often. However, I must admit that polishing the hollowware is tedious. I have no advice except that if you keep your silver hollowware out on display, you have made the commitment to polish it, so get to it!

**50 ARTICLES and a MILLION THANKS to Starr Miller! Happy Anniversary, Starr!**



**30TH YEAR: PEARL** — To balance the natural woods we are seeing all over the design world, a shimmer of pearlescent is a luxurious addition. Try it in a pillow, small accessory, lamp, or tile backsplash.



**35TH YEAR:**

**CORAL** — One of the best color paints to use in an exercise room, a lady's dressing area, a powder room, or even a creative space. The reflection on the skin is kind and warm. We all need that in our lives. If you are like me and tend to the winter colors, make sure it is more to the cool, pink side of coral ... if you look best in spring colors, you may push the orange and yellow edge of coral.

**40TH YEAR:**

**RUBY** — Red has always been a wonderful color used in interiors. In the last century, it was a go-to dining room color. Today, a red-lacquered piece of furniture, red nail head, or red lamps can really bring a pop to a room design.

**45TH YEAR:**

**SAPPHIRE** — Blue remains the favorite color of most clients. Whether it is a clear, strong blue, a pastel blue, a grey/blue, or a blue/green, we find ourselves in the studio answering this need in the world. Ten years ago, everyone wanted teal, now we are in a cornflower blue state of mind. It all works! Blue calms and makes us all happy, end of story.

**50TH YEAR:**

**GOLD** — I love it when I hear, "I don't want to use gold because it is just going to go out of style again." This is true; however, every other finish will rise and fall the same way. We tire of seeing the same ol' thing and after about a 10-year run, we want what we haven't seen in a while. To push this, the industries that drive home goods, paint, and

fabric for your home plan ahead in order to show you the new and fresh, so that what you hang onto feels obsolete, and you crave the new and the forgotten. Think about jewelry and how you see the finishes change in the same way. You do too!

Happy Anniversary to all of you home enthusiasts!

Let me know what you would like to read about in upcoming articles at [smid.starmiller@gmail.com](mailto:smid.starmiller@gmail.com)



*Starr Miller is the president and principal designer at StarrMiller Interior Design, Inc. Contact her at 704.896.3321 or visit [www.starmiller.com](http://www.starmiller.com).*

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