



STONE & LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES

## Spring into Stone Trends

A warm winter seems to have led to a shift in stone design trends. Across the board, Estuardo Juarez, Stone Specialist at Gault Stone & Landscape Supplies, has seen a shift towards a more modern application of stone.

“Sawn stone is in demand this season. We’re seeing it applied to full bed building stone and stone veneer used in more linear patterns, particularly a modular ashler,” says Juarez. “Plank style walkways and patios, and oversized pool copings and wall caps are on a lot of design plans this year as well. And monolithic is everywhere: steps, lawn risers, firepits, curbing.”



Juarez also checked in with Neil Brunetti of Brunetti Design Group who suggested 2023 will see “cleaner, more simplified linear patterns using elongated stone sizes to create a softer hardscape look, incorporating lawn joints and combining complementary materials.”

Beyond these broader design trends, Juarez predicts he’ll see more integration of water features and modern interior kitchen elements applied outdoors such as waterfall countertops and islands.

For more information on these trends and to see how Gault Stone can help make your next project a reality, visit [Gault-Stone.com](http://Gault-Stone.com) or stop by our Westport Showroom.

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## Long Time Building Materials Supplier Torrington Lumber Company Is Closing



After one hundred and twenty years supplying quality building materials to Connecticut, Eastern New York State and Western Massachusetts, The Torrington Lumber Company is closing in the first quarter of 2023.

The company’s long history includes:

- ▶ Beginning as a lumber yard and builder of single-family homes;
- ▶ then as a general contractor and union carpenter shop, building small commercial buildings;
- ▶ changing the business model to a startup, manufacturing pre-hung doors;
- ▶ then assembling their own line of wood windows; becoming one of the largest distributors of Peachtree exterior doors and windows;
- ▶ then manufacturing their own line of vinyl windows; and finally, as a distributor of Jeld-Wen windows and Masonite doors;
- ▶ all the while continuing to make pre-hung interior doors of all shapes and sizes.

The business has helped generations of Farley’s prosper, and more recently provided the family of nine with a place to work during high school, college, and as a long-term career for several family members. Whether it was at Farley Place in the north end or on Church Street, the business location was a place to call home.

Although several generations of Farley’s have worked at the lumber yard, it is noteworthy that Dan Farley, after his graduation from Georgia Tech joined the family business and continually refined the business model over five decades, to achieve entrepreneurial success. It was his vision and work ethic that allowed the business to carry on for so many years.

Even to this day, TLC has done a lot of business with HBA members including T & M and Carrier.

Best wishes to the Farley family from all of us at the HBRA of CT.

## Universal Tile Has Over 1 Million SF of Tile in Stock at Its Hartford Location

Universal Ceramic Tile Distributors Inc.(UCTD), a family owned business in operation for 26 years, offers a huge selection of ceramic & porcelain floor tile, wall tile, and backsplash tile imported from Italy and Spain. The material is conveniently stocked in their 40,000 square foot warehouse.



UCTD's state of the art designer showroom is located at 301 Murphy Road on the outskirts of Hartford. Over 30 different floors have been laid in the showroom to help give customers a variety of design ideas. The showroom also features various tiled vignettes featuring many of the latest styles and trends.

## News from Viking Kitchens

Viking Kitchens is currently renovating their showroom to feature new displays, a bold new reception to highlight their in-house countertop fabrication, and a general makeover! They will be inviting all HBRA of Central CT members to celebrate their new space in the fall.

Here's a beautiful kitchen designed by Andy Pelletier of Viking Kitchens at Ryan Carrier/ By Carrier's single family development, Carson Woods in South Glastonbury. Andy worked closely with Ryan Carrier and the homeowners to achieve perfect symmetry. Coordination of window placement, ventilation, plumbing, electrical and cabinetry to 1/8" was key in providing the visual balance the homeowner was looking for.



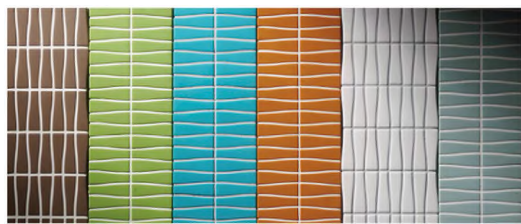
The island design was the main focus with both counter height and bar height surfaces to provide a contained functional space, plenty of seating, and symmetrical placement of decorative lighting. This home features a Siteline Cabinetry white kitchen with dramatic MSI Q quartz countertops and full height back-splash.

## Tile trends for 2023 and beyond.

By Lana Camera Tile America



**Undulated surfaces** are still holding strong! Think of the hand-made feel of Zellige tile that dominated backsplashes and showers in 2022 but in softer textures that replicate waves and sandy beaches. Also tile with slightly chipped or imperfect edges for a truly hand pressed or wire cut feel. This type of tile feels like it was made by a potter or artisan even though it is manufactured.



**Creamy Whites** are replacing the landscape of gray and bright whites as the next neutral. This neutral pairs perfectly with an accent or focal wall of nature inspired COLOR. See here a palette that can work within any decor.

**Powerful Exotic Stone** is the look for those who like to truly make a statement. It is a focal point that is not for the understated aesthetic. Shown is Thin Porcelain Panels that replicates the look of slab stone without the high price and maintenance.



**Mosaic Fireplaces** in interesting shapes. Sonoma Hustle featured here is a textural design element that steals the show.

## Warm Colors Are a Major Trend in 2023 Kitchens

According to Drew Petrizzo at CT Appliance & Fireplace Distributors (CAFD), “Warm colors are a major kitchen design trend for 2023, and for good reason. Adding earthy tones, vintage hues, or lively reds can bring coziness and energy to your space, while creating a striking contrast with your cabinets and countertops. Here at CAFD, we are seeing appliance manufacturers begin to incorporate custom finishes and hardware that will really allow your kitchen to stand out with a personality of its own. Monogram is a great example of a manufacturer that has embraced this new trend. Options like matte white, matte black, as well as brushed finishes in bronze, copper, brass, and black stainless steel can help you create a kitchen that reflects your unique style and preferences.



CAFD showroom

By incorporating warm colors into your kitchen design, you can create a space that is both inviting and energizing. Whether you're a seasoned cook or just starting out, this trend can make a big difference in how you feel when you're in your space. So don't be afraid to get creative and bring some warmth and personality to your next design.” ■