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Plantation

An exclusive magazine featuring the residents of Plantation Bay,
Halifax Plantation, Fairchild Oaks and Sugarmill Plantation

LIVING

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Meet the
KARGAR HOMES TEAM



Best Version Media

COVER PHOTO BY
DON HOWARD



BY KIM SHEETER | PHOTOGRAPH BY DON HOWARD

It is easy to be house-proud if you live in Plantation Bay. It boasts some of the most striking custom homes in Ormond Beach.

Imagine how Mike and Marjan Kargar feel.

Not only has their family lived in one of these homes since 2001, Kargar Homes has built luxury homes for friends, family and neighbors throughout the community. The Kargars are personally invested in making Plantation Bay a beautiful place for their three children, Keanu, Kayla and Dana (and Labrador Kobe) to grow up.

Kargar Homes is a small company that takes on big projects. The in-house team does framing, cabinets, closets, summer kitchens, pools, waterfalls, interior design and staging. "It takes an experienced team, synergy and collaboration to bring Mike's designs to reality," says sales manager Wendy Messner. "Mike is a visionary and he always applies the latest trends and technology in his homes."

We caught up with key members of the team to ask about their work and the home design trends that make Plantation Bay so distinctive.

Wendy Messner, Sales Manager and Selections Manager

Wendy grew up in the area and has worked with the Kargar team for almost three years. She meets with families to help them choose everything from tile, plumbing fixtures to countertops, lighting and paint. "It's not easy coordinating everything to get it exactly right. We have to consider personal taste, functionality and budget. When you see the finished home come together, and you see how thrilled the family is, it is worth all the time and effort it takes."

Pasquale Galba, Director, Vice President, Extreme Cabinets

Pasquale has been a part of the Kargar team for almost eight years and is now VP of Operations of Extreme Cabinets. The "extreme" is

no empty adjective. "At Kargar, we keep out in front, beyond standard cabinets and kitchens. I get to go outside the box and express my creativity. My favorite moment is when the customer sees what we have produced, and they are just in awe." All custom cabinets are built locally, allowing the highest quality at exceptional prices. Builders and other customers can see cabinetry options at a new showroom that Kargar is opening.

Darin Gay, Project Manager

People expect project managers to spend all their time scheduling subcontractors, but Darin spends most of his time on-site, ensuring quality control. An Ormond Beach native, he has been in construction in this the area for almost 35 years and with Kargar for almost four years. "We also work hard to help customers visualize the final product – so they can get a good idea of what something looks like before it is framed, sheet-rocked and finished. We do multiple walk-throughs to make sure customers have a home that looks exactly the way they imagined it and functions exactly the way they want it to."

Kyle Kelly, Framing Manager

Kyle has been with the Kargar team for about four years. His team frames homes and adds custom trim work. The materials he works with deliver safety, durability and energy efficiency, even in Florida's punishing heat and rain. His crews use moisture-resistant, wind-resistant, high-performance roof sheathing, and cost-efficient and energy-efficient spray foam insulation. "I'm satisfied when I can step back from a finished home and say: We built that. Even after 20 years in the business, it makes me happy to see something go from a pile of dirt to a custom home."



KYLE KELLY



WENDY MESSNER

John Crick, President, Extreme Pools

New technology is driving more creative pool design and making pool maintenance and operation much easier, and that makes the job more fun for John Crick. He points to the use of complete automation and saltwater pools as popular choices. "The salt systems pay for themselves by generating pure chlorine. The water is softer and maintains a lower chlorine residual. These pools are as low-maintenance as the floors in your home." John loves the hydraulics and design challenge, designing systems with water features as well as consistently delivering proper filtration without overpowering the system. He also enjoys coming up with inexpensive design extras, such as distinctive tile designs and water features, advanced LED lighting, or something as simple as a hole to anchor a beach umbrella in over a built-in sun shelf lounge area in the pool. "The best feeling is using the space available to give the customer something they will love for years to come." The downside to his job? "Not being able to swim around in and enjoy the final product." Extreme Pools also builds pools and waterfalls for other customers and builders.

Casey Talley, Office Manager and Estimator

Casey has been with Kargar six years and is still learning on the job. "As a small team, we all have to be cross-trained and ready to help each other." In a given day, she could be working with customers to select finishes and hardware, going over their landscaping plan or sourcing materials to find the best combination of quality and value. She loves seeing the work come together at the final walk-through. "Mike is a genius at what he does. The results are always stunning. The kitchens and baths are so amazing that you just want to redo your own house!"



PASQUALE GALBA

What's New in the Neighborhood?

One of the big advantages of building a custom home is collaborating on something that is a perfect reflection of your taste and lifestyle. Here are a few popular trends in Plantation Bay, according to the Kargar Homes team.

- Neutral palettes and warmer earth tones.
- Quartz countertops
- Viking appliances
- Large, glossy porcelain tiles (24" x 48") used floor-to-ceiling
- Chrome and brushed nickel fixtures and hardware
- Statement lighting that adds style to functionality
- Foam insulation in all interior walls
- Modern interior trims, with square stock, no detail, and a big base with 90-degree edges.
- Custom all-wood cabinets with self-closing doors
- Floating shelving
- Customization that serves personal preferences, such as tucked away, built-in coffee bars.
- Conveniences integrated into the kitchen design, such as touchless trash cans.
- Saltwater pools with water features, LED lighting, creative tile designs, lounging shelves and more durable travertine or limestone decks.
- "Green" design and energy-efficiency, including whole-house generators.
- Whole house automation
- Whole house water filtration systems