

A-LIST ISSUE athome

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ROBERT A. CARDELLO ARCHITECTS

GAME ON

This spectacular recreation space encompasses nearly 5,000 square feet in the lower level of this home. The clients were looking for an inviting atmosphere, which would serve as an entertaining space for family and friends, as their kids transitioned from high school to college and beyond. With no shortage of games and activities, there is something for everyone: ping-pong, foosball, vintage arcade video games, a card/poker table and a cozy seating area. Billiard enthusiasts can also make their way to the special-edition 100-year-old Amaranth pool table by Brunswick.

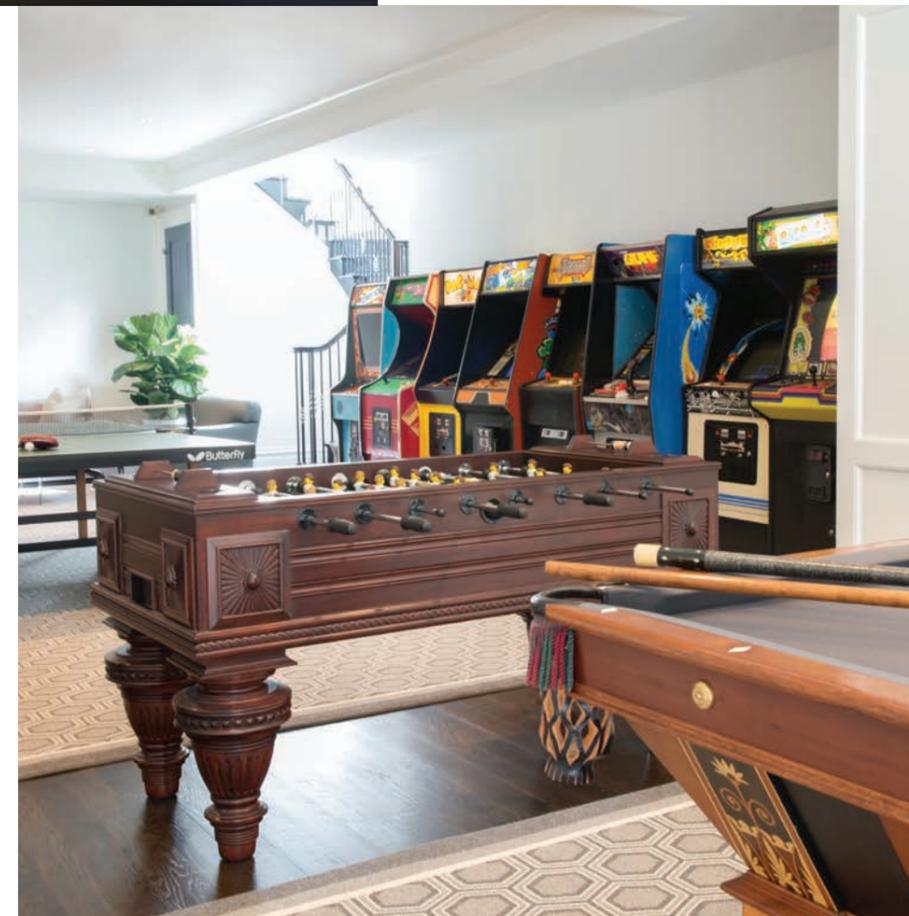
Creating a feeling of nostalgia and old-fashioned family fun was the goal, explains David LaPierre, a partner at Robert A. Cardello Architects. The custom-designed ice cream bar, which occupies an entire corner, is undoubtedly the focal point of the space. With black mahogany wood trim and a white onyx marble countertop, the bar features an authentic milk-

shake machine, candy jars and storage for a variety of ice cream flavors. The area is accented by a lighted, domed ceiling that maximizes the ceiling height and adds to the nostalgic atmosphere.

The Cardello team paid close attention to ensuring that the room didn't at all resemble a basement. Raised coffers were added as architectural treatments to designate independent spaces over each of the gaming tables, and the flooring is stained wide-plank white oak, accented with durable area rugs from Stark Carpet. Adjacent to the spacious rec room is a media room, a golf-simulator room and a giant window offering views of the underground six-car garage, showcasing the clients' car collection. LaPierre says that due to the enormous amount of space available, this was a unique project. "We don't often have the secondary square footage to create these entertaining spaces for fun and recreation." —RG



above and opposite: Guests can stop in for a scoop at the nostalgic ice cream bar with a front-row view of the clients' car collection. **top right:** Raised coffers, white oak flooring and Stark carpeting ensure this is no ordinary basement area. **right:** Name your game: There is something fun for everyone in this rec space.



ARCHITECT
 Robert A. Cardello
 Architects
 Norwalk
 203-853-2524
 cardelloarchitects.com

BUILDER
 Rob and Tom Fischetti
 Peerless Construction
 Old Greenwich

INTERIOR DESIGNER
 Bruce Bierman
 Design
 New York City

212-243-1935
 biermandesign.com

AUDIO/VISUAL CONSULTANT
 Adam Pesko
 Litehouse Associates
 Stamford
 203-327-7157
 lighthouseav.com

GOLF SIMULATOR
 Innovations Golf
 800-883-8301
 innovationsgolf.com

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