



BY DUSK, THE AIR SWEET WITH THE INTERMINGLING  
OF FOOD AND FLORA, **IT WAS TIME TO  
MOVE TO THE TENTED TABLE FOR DINNER.**



Though the party has an Italian theme, Johnstone says the tent reminds her of Morocco, India and even Palm Beach. Opposite: Shelley Johnstone in her North Shore home with sons Hunter, 11, and Ford, 8.

"EVERYONE JUST SAT AT THE TABLE AND TALKED. **IT WAS LIKE SITTING ON THE PATIO IN CAPRI WHERE NO ONE IS RUSHING ANYWHERE.**"

—SHELLEY JOHNSTONE



## For Chicago decorator Shelley Johnstone,

there's a lot more to Capri than short pants. ■ The craggy, beautiful island on Italy's western coast is where Johnstone met her husband some 19 years ago while competing in a sailing regatta. So when she was looking for creative inspiration for a summer dinner party, it was a natural for her to draw on her warm memories of Capri. Johnstone says she simply tried to capture the "effortless, easy, casual quality of life there." ■ Voted one of House Beautiful's best young American decorators for 2005, Johnstone has a reputation for creating comfortable, witty spaces that transport her clients and friends far from the cares of "real life."

Although the breeze on this evening was blowing off Lake Michigan rather than the Neapolitan sea, Johnstone managed to conjure up a most un-Midwestern scene for her guests