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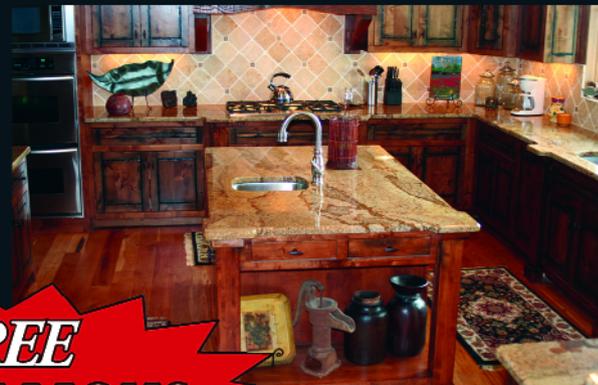
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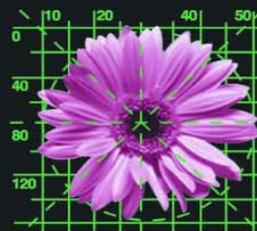
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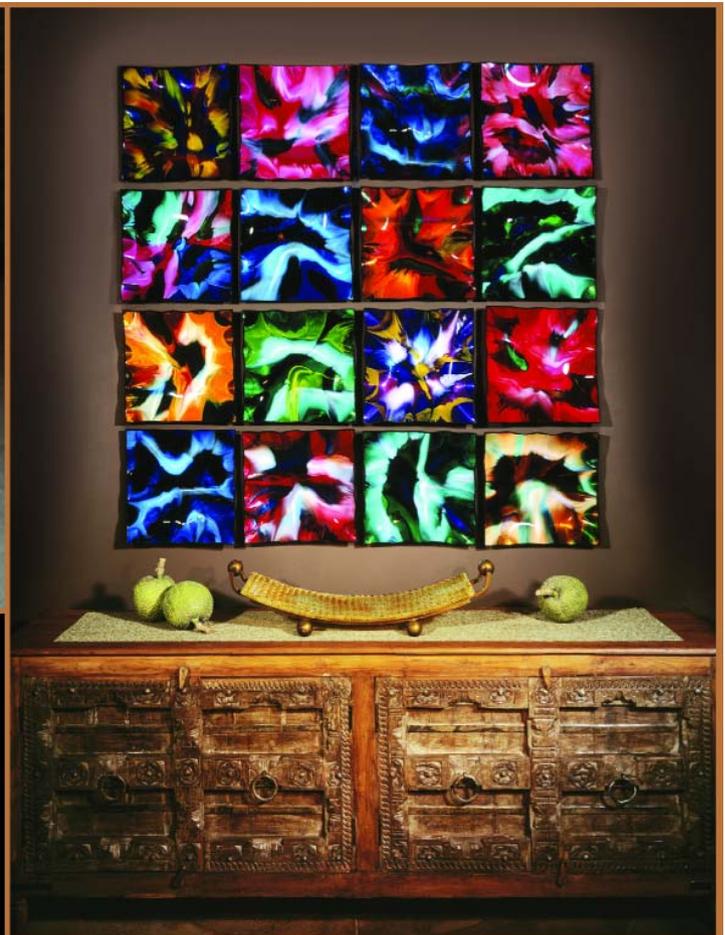
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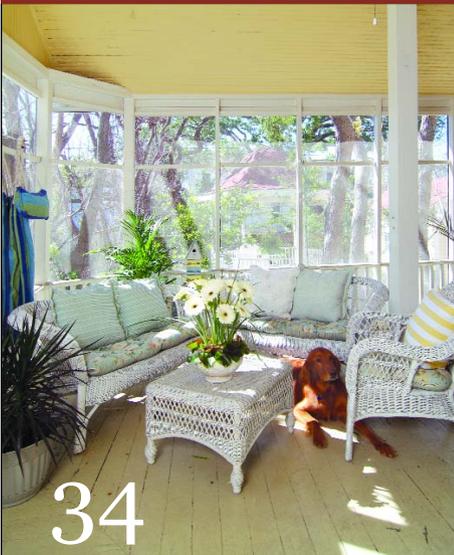
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Photography by Miro Dvorscak

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editor's note

"I'm over Ike. I don't want to think about it any more. I'm onto the next new thing,"

said my friend and favorite florist Aubrey Sellers about a month after Hurricane Ike caused a power outage that killed two coolers full of his gorgeous flowers and cost him several weeks of work and who knows how many thousands of dollars.

Aubrey, who lives and works in Houston, was comparatively lucky. His house survived the storm, he wasn't injured, his beloved dogs were OK and his gracious, ebullient spirit is always going to pull him through whatever challenges that life and the Texas Gulf Coast has to throw at him.

I second his emotion: I don't want to think about Ike any more either.

But some of us must, especially the people of Galveston who are still restoring and rebuilding their homes and businesses. You need only drive over the causeway bridge into Galveston in the morning to see the armada of contractors in their trucks and vans driving into the city to rebuild it. The sight and sound of their work cheers me.

This beautiful old city by the sea, so close to Houston, has the largest concentration of historic

buildings in Texas, and too many people love it too much to let the devil reduce it to a sandbar.

The 2009 Galveston Historic Homes Tour is a celebration of historic Galveston's rebirth, and we're proud to feature one of those houses, the John E. Bailey house at 1805 Broadway, as our cover story. The tour is May 2-3 and May 9-10. If you love Galveston and old houses, please go and support this wonderful city and the Galveston Historical Foundation, which has done a heroic job in the aftermath of Ike.

We also have a feature on hurricane preparedness this month. We'll be at the George R. Brown Convention Center on May 30 for the hurricane preparedness workshop, "Ready or Not...Remembering Ike."

Life in our current place and time calls for optimism. Color is a great way to bring an upbeat mood to your environment. Houston interior designer Edwina Vidosh has a true talent for using color without letting it overwhelm a house. On Page 42, see the fun things she's done for the joyful farmhouse of Becky and David Gochman near Magnolia.

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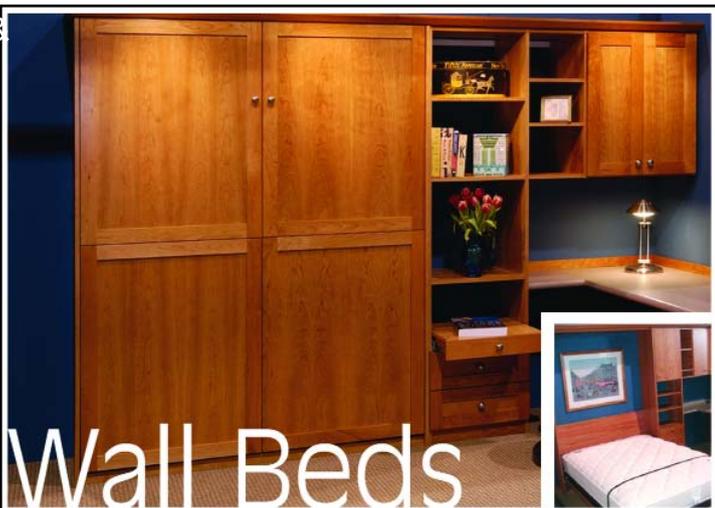
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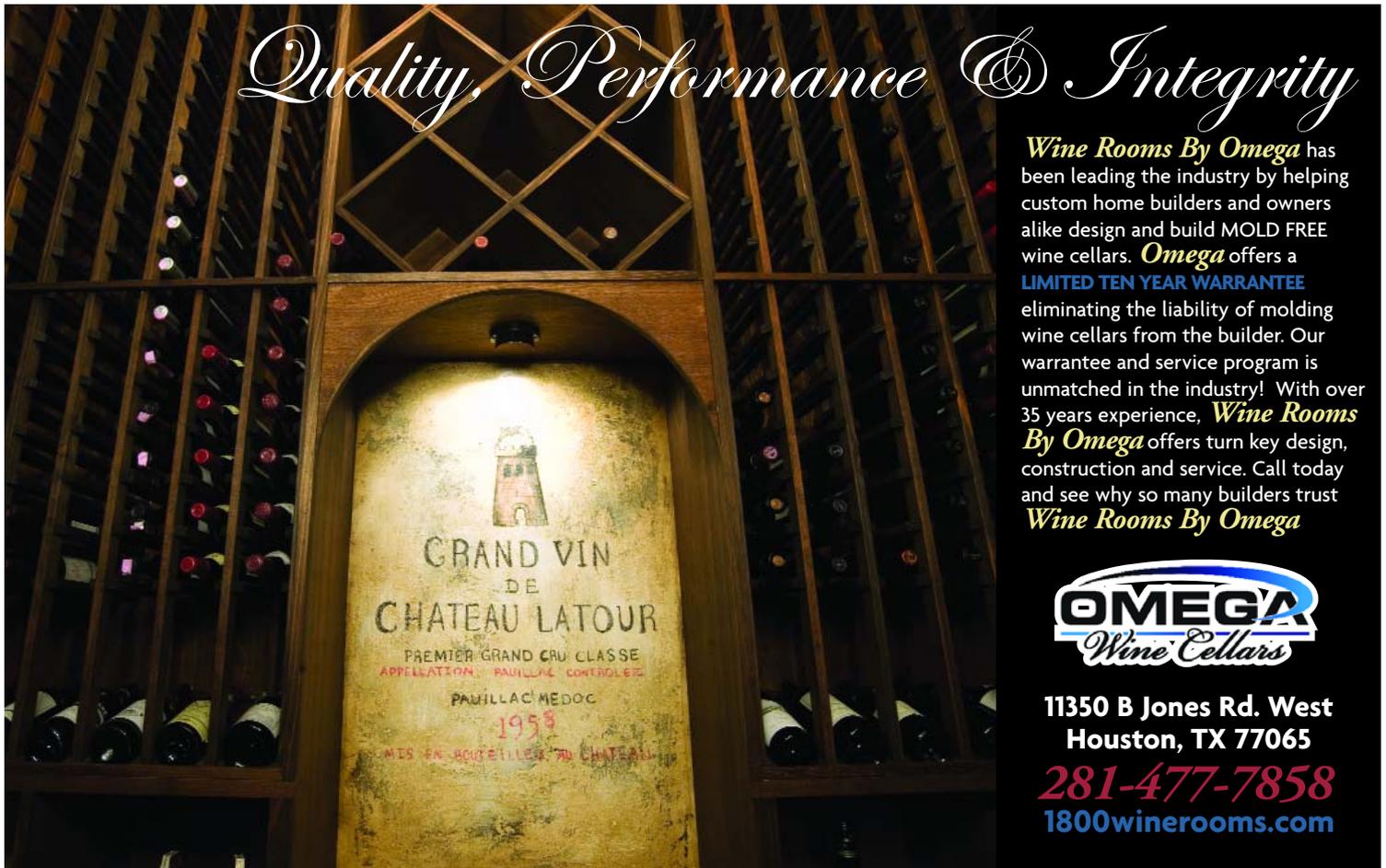
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The Coastal Living Idea House at Beachtown on tour weekends April through June

home shows and tours

The 2009 Galveston Historic Homes Tour May 2-3 and 9-10 features ten houses that have suffered a calamity to some degree or another. Some are survivors of the Great Storm of 1900, others of Hurricane Ike. All have great stories surrounding them. See Page 39 for details. Tickets are \$25. Information: 409.765.7834 or www.galvestonhistory.org.

While in Galveston for the historic homes tour, stay a little longer and visit **The Coastal Living Idea House at Beachtown** (not included in the tour, but its \$10 admission benefits Galveston Historic Foundation.) It's even worth a special trip to Galveston to see this house designed by architect Michael G. Imber in carpenter gothic style to honor the spirit of historic Galveston. Atlanta interior designer Susan Bozeman's interiors are swell—relaxed Southern traditional style meets high-tech modern-day aesthetic with phenomenal views of the Gulf. Beachtown houses, built of concrete and steel, survived Ike in tact. This house is a study in how to design and build a sturdy beach house on the Gulf Coast. To see how its deep porches frame the Gulf view is worth the drive. The house is open Friday, Saturday and Sundays 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. through June 2009. Ticket information: 877.772.5425, www.galvestonhistory.org or www.beachtowngalveston.com.

The Bellaire New Home Showcase May 30-31 and June 6-7 celebrates the 21st showcase of current trends in classic homebuilding.

Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at any of the addresses of the homes on tour: 4501 Elm, 518 S. Third, 5116 Valerie, 5208 Braeburn, 909 Mulberry and 4516 Oleander. Information: www.bellairehomeshow.com

events

The **22nd Annual Houston Art Car Parade** is whimsical Houston at its antic best. This year's parade on Saturday, May 9, starts 1 p.m. and runs down Allen Parkway between Taft and Downtown. Get a sneak peak at the new art cars on Friday, 6 p.m. at Discovery Green Park, 1500 McKinney. Live music and art car films on the main stage, too. Information: www.orangeshow.org

While in the art car groove, visit the **Great Texas Sculpture Roundup** show curated by Houston sculptor Lee Littlefield at the Art Car Museum, 140 Heights Blvd. The exhibit, which includes works by George Smith, Sharon Kopriva, Ed Wilson and Linda Ridgway, starts May 2. Information: 713.861.5526

Attend a free hurricane preparedness workshop, **"Ready or Not Remembering Ike,"** on May 30, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the George R. Brown Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A. The workshop is sponsored by the City of Houston and CenterPoint Energy. Representatives from the National Weather Service will be there, along with private vendors. See Page 18.

On May 6 at 6:30 p.m., **Lewis & Maese Auction Co.**, 2301 Sabine St., will auction several rare



In Beachtown, The new Coastal Living Idea House's carpenter gothic style is an homage to historic Galveston.



The Art Car Parade starts 1 p.m. on Saturday, May 9.

Warhol pieces owned by a Houston collector, along with works by other artists. Information: 713.880.0891 or www.lmauctionco.com

exhibits

Retablo: Art for the Masses starts May 5 at the Heritage Society, 1100 Bagby. Retablos, long associated with Mexico, are small paintings on tin, wood or copper used in home altars. They are windows into understanding traditions, sacred spaces and customs found throughout the Americas. Information: 713.655.1912 or www.heritagesociety.org

Amy Blakemore: Photographs 1988 – 2008, the first mid-career survey of this nationally recognized photographer, opens May 9 at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, with a carefully distilled selection of 36 works that offer a mysterious and psychologically penetrating view of the world we live in. Information: 713.639.7500 or www.mfah.org

This month is your last chance to see extraordinary artifacts uncovered in modern-day

Afghanistan, once the heart of the Silk Road. They were long thought stolen or destroyed during some 25 years of conflict. In 2003, however, a dramatic announcement was made of their existence. More than 200 of these objects are on view in **Afghanistan: Hidden Treasures from the National Museum, Kabul** at the MFAH, through May 17.

Marlene Dumas: Measuring Your Own Grave at The Menil Collection, 1515 Sul Ross, focuses on the artist's continual experiments with notions of portraiture. Information: 713.525.9400 or www.menil.org

classes

The Arbor Gate, 15635 FM 2920 Road in Tomball, offers these classes and events: Herbs Unplugged Two, herbal recipes and growing tips, 12 noon, May 3; Potpourri—Fragrance from the Garden, 10 a.m., May 5; Art in the Garden, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., May 9; Gingers for Houston, 10 a.m., May 16; Pink Ladies and Crimson Gents (book on old roses by Molly and Don Glentzer) rescheduled to 2 p.m., May 17; Gardening with Children, 10 a.m., May 23. Information: 281.351.8851 or www.arbortgate.com

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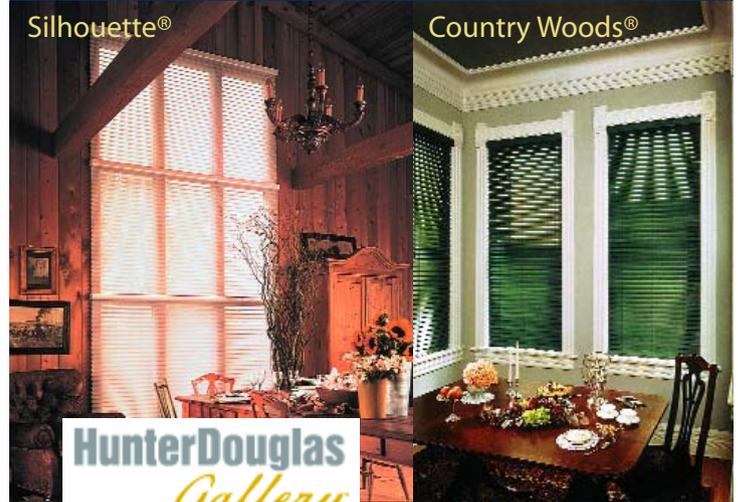
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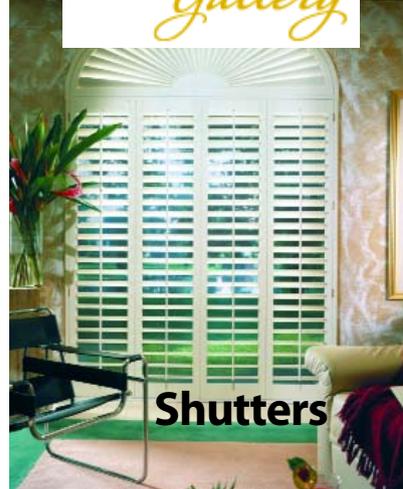


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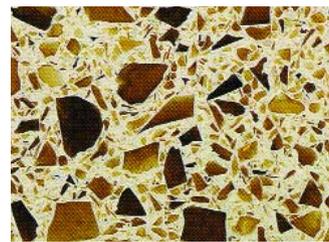
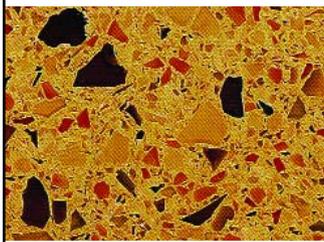
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& How Prepared Are You for Hurricane Season?

By LINDA BARTH

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FAMILY DISASTER PREPAREDNESS

Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge (see map on Page 18), rainfall, wind and tornadoes.

Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.

Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.

Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.

Make a plan now for what to do with your pets if you need to evacuate.

Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.

Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.

Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a Disaster Supply Kit (see below).

Use a NOAA weather radio. Remember to replace its battery every 6 months, as you do with your smoke detectors.

Take First Aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

We're not planning on having a hurricane this year, but we are definitely planning on being prepared. May 24-30th is Hurricane Preparedness Week in advance of the 2009 hurricane season which starts June 1. That means it's time to formulate a Family Disaster Preparedness plan and gather together a Disaster Supply Kit. Recent experience has taught us that the moment a storm appears to be heading toward the Houston/Galveston area, every battery in town and every bag of ice seems to be sold out as soon as you get to the store. Being prepared long before the storm turns toward our upper Texas Coast can help you stay more comfortable and may even save your life.

The City of Houston and CenterPoint Energy are sponsoring a free hurricane preparedness workshop, "Ready or Not...Remembering Ike," from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 30 at the George R. Brown Convention Center, Exhibit Hall A. The workshop is open to the public free of charge; local government authorities and various private vendors will discuss and demonstrate the various things you can do to secure your home and protect yourself and your family.

"We'll be discussing the new Saffir Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale," says Gene Hafele, meteorologist in charge of the Houston Galveston National Weather Service for the National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Hurricanes will be rated Force 1-5 according to their wind velocity, he says, but not according to rainfall or storm surge. For storm surge, NOAA will issue charts showing probable storm surge 36 to 48 hours before landfall with probability for the surge exceeding certain heights.

To learn more about hurricane preparedness and evacuation plans, attend "Ready or Not" at the George R. Brown Convention Center on May 30.

DISASTER SUPPLY KIT

Water - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days

Food - at least enough for 3 to 7 days — non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices — foods for infants or the elderly — snack foods — non-electric can opener — cooking tools / fuel — paper plates / plastic utensils

Blankets / Pillows

Clothing - seasonal / rain gear / sturdy shoes

First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs

Special Items - for babies and the elderly

Toiletries / Hygiene items / Moisture wipes

Flashlight / Batteries

Radio - Battery-operated radio and NOAA weather radio (*Editor's note: We like portable hand-crank radios in case batteries fail; many models come with built-in flashlight.*)

Telephones - Fully charged cell phone with extra battery and a traditional (not cordless) phone

Cash (with some small bills) and **Credit Cards** - Banks and ATMs may not be available for extended periods

Keys

Toys, Books and Games

Important Documents - in water-proof container or watertight resealable plastic bag — insurance, medical records,

bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc.

Tools - keep a set with you during the storm

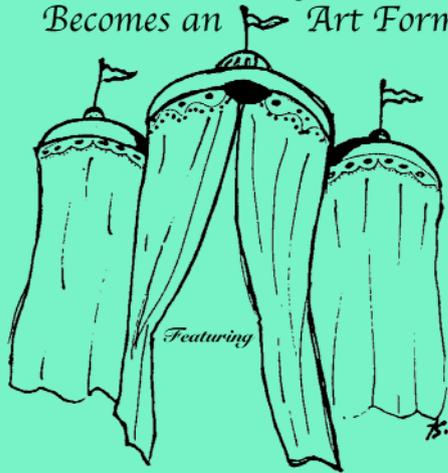
Vehicle fuel tanks filled

Pet Care Items — proper identification / immunization records / medications — ample supply of food and water — a carrier or cage — muzzle and leash

Family disaster preparedness and disaster supply kit information courtesy National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

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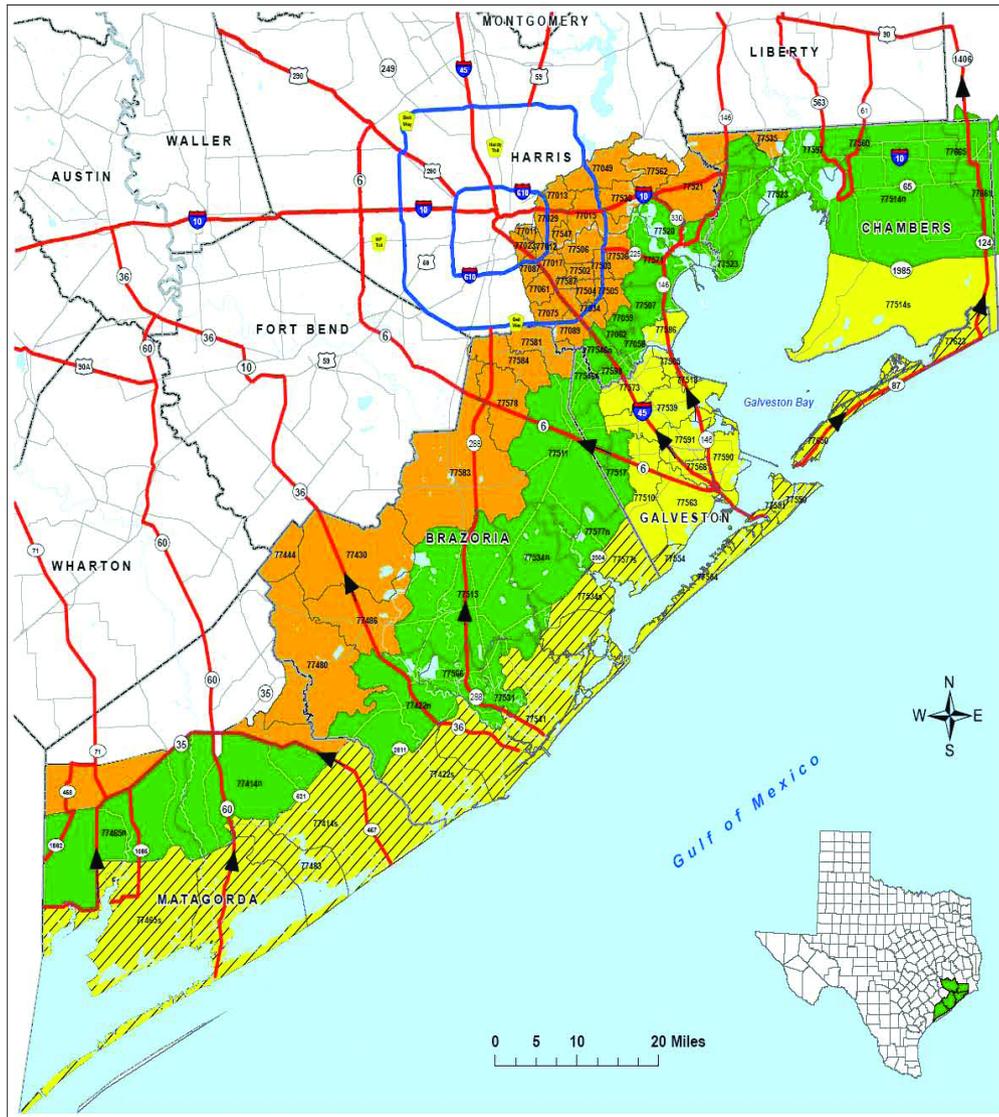
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As hurricanes Ike and Rita taught us, having an orderly plan for sheltering in place or evacuating is of utmost importance. If you live in a coastal storm surge zone, you should evacuate if a hurricane is approaching. Take a look at the storm surge map at right. If you live in a storm surge zone and a tropical storm or hurricane warning is issued for our Gulf Coast area, listen to TV, radio or NOAA weather radio reports for recommendations on the exact time to evacuate.

Evacuation times and maps will also be posted on the National Weather Service Web site at www.nws.noaa.gov. Guidelines for orderly evacuation by zip code are designed to help avoid traffic jams like those before Hurricane Rita in 2005.

“If you live inland in a mobile home or substandard structure, then you need to find a place of safety,” says Hafele. If you don’t live in a storm surge zone, shelter in place. The general rule of thumb is hide from the wind, flee from the water.



Brazoria, Chambers, Galveston, Harris and Matagorda Hurricane Evacuation Zip-Zones Coastal, A, B, C

Zip-Zone Coastal				
77414s	77483	77550	77577s	77650
77422s	77534s	77551	77617	
77485s	77541	77554	77623	
Zip-Zone A				
77510	77539	77568	77590	
77514s	77563	77573	77591	
77518	77565	77586		
Zip-Zone B				
77058	77507	77522	77560	77661
77059	77511	77523	77566	77665
77062	77514n	77531	77571	
77414n	77515	77534n	77577n	
77422n	77517	77540n	77587	
77485n	77520	77546n	77588	
Zip-Zone C				
77011	77034	77444	77505	77547
77012	77049	77463	77506	77562
77013	77061	77480	77520	77578
77015	77075	77486	77521	77581
77017	77087	77502	77530	77583
77023	77089	77503	77535	77584
77029	77430	77504	77536	77587

Route Designation

- Evacuation Corridors (Red arrow)
- Evacuation Connections (Blue line)
- Other Roads (Grey line)
- County Boundary (Dashed line)



Expiration Date December 2009
Map Created by:
Houston-Galveston Area Council

HOUSTONIANS CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT By Robert Coplin

Whether you hunker down at home in Houston or live in a flood surge zone and need to hit the road, this list should keep you sane for at least 72 hours. I'm a veteran of two hurricanes. Here's my list of things I want in my storm survival kit.

Food: Tex Mex food is a must-have for most Houstonians any day, time or place, especially during power outages or long drives to escape a major storm. I'd head straight to Mi Tienda in South Houston (H-E-B's Latino-focused supermarket) to load up on freshly made tortillas, queso cotija, bean dip, tortilla chips and homemade salsas. Don't forget the Cholula and Tabasco sauces to make the house

you're sitting in with no electricity feel a little cooler — peppers induce sweating, your body's natural cooling system.

Drink: No Texas family gathering takes place without giant 3 liter bottles of Dr. Pepper on the kitchen counter. If you're on a contra flow escape route and have decided to turn off the air conditioning to save fuel, you might try a watermelon or canteloupe agua fresca that you picked up while at Mi Tienda.

Music: Radio stations can fade to static or become talkfests during a storm, so remember to load your mp3 player with your favorite music, especially if you end up fleeing farther north

than the Texas border. Perhaps some Texas favorites such as Beyoncé, Chamillionaire, Buddy Holly, Janice Joplin, Roy Orbison, Lyle Lovett or El Orbits will remind you of home. The Rebirth Brass Band of New Orleans is appropriate because these guys “get” hurricane evacuation. They fled Katrina, stayed in Houston a while and played terrific, uplifting benefit concerts. If your musical tastes lean toward country music, don't leave home without Clint Black, Robert Earl Keen and George Strait.

Fun: Yes, it's possible to alleviate boredom while away from home or aimlessly staring at relatives in the dark at home with

no electricity. Pick up Hasbro's latest Houston-themed Monopoly board game. Houston's NASA Johnson Space Center occupies one square. Title price: \$1.8 million. There's also a Galveston Monopoly board game.

Cool: After Ike, I slept on my balcony, and I really craved a battery-powered fan. Also, long before the storm, buy and store ice in your freezer, then move it to an ice chest when the electricity goes out. It'll keep your perishable food cool for several days — long enough to join all the neighbors who'll be having barbecue block parties.



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By LINDA BARTH

Hurricane Ike rendered Houston and Galveston nearly powerless last Sept. 13. More than two million people were without electricity; many Houstonians went without power for two to three weeks. Portable generators sold out quickly, the constant hum of their engines a reminder of the fragile infrastructure that delivers—or fails to deliver—our energy.

“Got power?” became Houstonians’ standard greeting for a while.

Homes with automatic standby power generators had power instantly—enough to run lights, TVs, computers and air conditioners, coveted commodities in the storm’s aftermath. The permanently installed home generators, about the size of a central air conditioning unit, are usually placed in side yards or back yards on concrete slabs, like A.C. units. They typically run on natural gas or liquid propane vapor and automatically turn on in seconds when the power goes out. They’re much quieter than portable gasoline or diesel generators. And you needn’t be concerned about filling gas tanks, storing fuel or inhaling carbon dioxide exhaust. If maintained properly, home standby power generators are reliable.

“The [natural] gas infrastructure is all underground,” says Ron Childers, owner of Mr. Generator of Texas. “Hurricane Ike did not affect it. During Ike, nobody was without [natural] gas. All the generators in and around Houston running on natural gas did fine.”

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At www.lennox.com, a calculator lets you estimate which size Lennox generator you need for your home based on your home's size and number of appliances you want powered by the generator.

COST

"I don't think people realize how affordable and how low maintenance the machines are," says David Rosen, vice president of sales and marketing for Generator Supercenter, which carries Generac brand standby home generators. "A typical residential generator starts once a week for 10 to 15 minutes to make sure everything is lubricated and running properly. When you open a

screen on the right hand corner, it tells you whether anything is wrong. It's easier to maintain than a computer, lawnmower and certainly easier than a car. It's an affordable way to protect your family during an emergency. And it's a unique way to add a nonliquid asset to your property."

The size and power of your generator—and how many appliances you want to hook up to it—determines the cost of the generator. The average home requires a generator with 17 kilowatt to 20 kilowatt capacity. A 17 kilowatt unit can run a five-ton air conditioner, refrigerator, freezer, microwave, lights, home security and garage door opener, says Childers.

"If you just want to power an air conditioner, refrigerator and TV," says Paul Boartz, district manager for Lennox, "you can get away with a smaller 12 KW generator," he says, and it's less expensive. Lennox offers a calculator on its Web site at

www.lennox.com to determine which size unit you'll need depending on the size your home and which appliances you want to power.

The cost of a 17 KW generator installed ranges from about \$6,900 to \$9,500. Installation costs can vary the price, says Childers, depending on where your home's gas meter and electric panel box are located and whether a natural gas line needs to be run to the generator.

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AFTER (ABOVE): A powerful Broan vent was added over the new gas cooktop. A new wall oven and built-in microwave add to the sleek look of the new kitchen. The cabinet-depth French door refrigerator takes up much less walkway space.

BEFORE (LEFT): Busy wallpaper, old cabinets, mismatched dated appliances, space-wasting furdowns and a too-long peninsula spoiled this kitchen.

CJ Yeoman was ready to remodel her 1960s-era kitchen.

"The kitchen floor was awful, the countertop was coming apart, the electric coil cooktop heated poorly, the microwave oven had died and the vent barely worked," she explains. Coupled with the fact the kitchen had not been touched since 1972, she had been waiting a long time for a big change.

Her husband, Lynn, really liked my ideas, and that was key. While he knew they had to do something about the kitchen, he was not thrilled with doing so much work and what it would cost.

"You always keep a smile on your face, even when you're telling clients things they don't really want to hear," CJ says. "This makes it bearable when we have to make difficult changes -- like turning our hall bathroom into a makeshift kitchen."

tip Kitchens and baths are like dominoes. You knock over one and that change makes the one next to it look tired. Suddenly, you have knocked down all the dominoes.

THE OPTIONS

I believe in giving clients options. In this kitchen, Option One was to remove furdowns where possible, resurface, install new window treatments, buy new appliances, and reface doors and hardware to their existing cabinet boxes. Option Two was to gut the kitchen and start over with new, taller cabinets with easy-glide drawers and pullouts—plus most of the above. After getting bids on putting a band-aid on their old cabinets, the couple decided to start over.

Since the existing kitchen had no pantry, I suggested she take an old built in glass-front china cabinet in the nearby hallway, add solid doors that match her new cabinets and create the much-needed pantry she desired.

tip Just because the builder gives you a built-in glass cabinet doesn't mean you cannot amend it to become a pantry you desperately need.

In their small breakfast room, they kept a huge dog crate for Cash, their large chocolate Labrador Retriever. I suggested moving the crate into the laundry room. To create space for the crate, the water heater was relocated to the garage. "We really liked that idea, which eliminated the danger of the water heater ever leaking into the house and the slobbery dog crate was out of our eating space," CJ explains.

I recommended they call contractor Tom Lammers of Houston Structural Inc. In addition to doing the remodeling, he suggested they line the lower walls of the laundry room around the dog crate with neutral plastic panels, a practical, good-looking solution for Cash's "dog slobber."

tip Contrast is the key to a beautiful kitchen—between cabinets, countertops, backsplash, walls and floor.

"You mentioned that we also needed contrast with the honey-colored paneling in the adjacent family room, which was staying as is," CJ says.

CABINETS & COUNTERTOPS

Because Cash is a large, dark-colored dog, and they wanted a rich look, they chose Integra cherry-finished cabinets by Kitchen Craft, which were an economical choice. CJ got stumped on the granite, so I met her at the granite yard to assist. "Because you knew the 'code word' for the price, we took a closer look at another granite we were considering, 'Kashmir Gold,' which cost us far less."

tip A granite yard will only give a granite installer the price. However, you can get around that by asking if this is a "popular" granite (an A or B price) or if it is a "rarified" granite (a D or E price).

Once that decision was made, the couple went to the tile store and checked out some selections. Frustrated, she asked me to meet her at DalTile on Richmond to select tile. "I know people who can turn over an entire

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AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER

BEFORE (ABOVE): The dated, angled bar counter, green laminate counters, busy wallpaper, vinyl flooring and clutter really aged this kitchen.

AFTER (ABOVE): A one-level granite counter tile backsplash, new diagonal tile floor and new cabinets modernized this bar counter. The saddle barstool is from Target.

AFTER (LEFT): The furdawn was not load bearing, so it was removed, and the peninsula was cut back. A cabinet-depth French door refrigerator and taller new cabinets were added to expand space. New white plantation shutters were purchased on sale from JC Penney.

project to a decorator, but that just isn't our style," CJ says. But, she adds, she knew they needed professional help on this project.

The couple decided on an 18- by 18-inch porcelain floor tile, "Gold Rush," in "Wheatland" and a 6- by 6-inch ceramic backsplash tile, "Salerno." Both were grouted in TexRite "Canvas" grout and sealed with a matte sealer.

RESEARCH APPLIANCES

CJ likes to gather and work with a lot of information before starting a project, so my lists of resources allowed her to start her search with companies that already had good reputations. The budget-saving ideas really came into play when they began making selections.

trade secrets

- **Think outside the box.** The perfect pantry may be disguised as a seldom-used, built-in china cupboard.
- **Know the proper lingo when shopping for granite** so if you're on a budget you don't fall in love with a "rarified" expensive granite.
- Sometimes the most effective strategy is to not add on to your house but first **rethink the footprint** under roof that is already paid for.

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tip Appliances can be an amazingly expensive part of your budget and they don't last as long as they used to.

"We did our research in *Consumer Reports*, and picked the best appliances we could for the best price," CJ says. They bought the KitchenAid refrigerator at the Sears Appliance Outlet and the other KitchenAid appliances at The Great Indoors (12 months, no interest, same as cash). They agreed on a Blanco sink and faucet from Kiva Kitchen & Bath and Colonial Bronze 4" pulls from Ferguson Enterprises. Walls were painted Sherwin Williams "Ivory Lace."

"While we didn't knock down any walls, we really did have to gut the kitchen because we had functional obsolescence in too many areas," CJ explains. "We are very pleased—because we took out the furdawns and installed recessed can lighting, we got all new insulation in the ceiling and walls and even installed hurricane clips in the attic to meet code."

And are they happy? "I have seen kitchens that I know cost a lot more than ours that are not this pretty," she says, smiling. "We love it."





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KEEP THE HEAT OUT

If you want to create full shade yet catch the breeze, a roofed patio cover may be your solution. "The problem we see in Houston homes are the big windows that get overheated," says Hugo Torres, president of Houston Home Improvement & Construction. Typically, the kitchen, master bedroom and family room are on the back of the house and, by shading these windows with a patio cover, he says you can enjoy some relief from your electrical bill, too.

Another practical consideration, according to Dale Ingalsbe, owner of Made in the Shade: Dangerous UV rays constantly bombard your windows and fade your furniture, art, family heirlooms and carpets. A patio cover helps extend the life and beauty of your belongings.

ATTRACTIVE ADDITIONS

Gosline says some people choose an open-style roof, sometimes called a pergola or lattice roof, because they want the benefit of natural light while still getting some shade. "A bare pergola with normal spacing blocks about 60 percent of the sunlight," he says.

A patio covered with solid roof offers more protection from sun and rain for those who want to take their parties outside.

Yet another option is a combination roof that gives you the best of both worlds. "Some of my customers like to put in a solid roof with a pergola trim along the outside edge," says Gosline.

Torres estimates the standard patio cover costs about \$35 per square foot. Enhancements are available and increase that cost factor. These ►

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add-ons include beaded ceiling planks and ceiling panels (although about 80 percent of his customers choose HardiPlank), ceiling fans and lights and special treatment for columns, such as rounded shape or stone covered. One of the side benefits is the ability to buy quality outdoor furniture without worrying about the weather beating it up.

MATERIAL OPTIONS

As for material, Ingalsbe is a big proponent of architectural aluminum, a wood-embossed aluminum product. Its initial financial outlay is about the same as for wood, but then the long-term benefits kick in, like low maintenance (no painting, splitting, warping or rotting — all common problems with wood) and no bug infestations.

Gosline uses another material called polycarbonate, a solid, rigid material available in clear, white or bronze, that is lightweight enough to work as a retractable roof. This engineered plastic, which is also used in greenhouses, lets the sunlight through while filtering harmful UV rays. Gosline most often uses it to enclose swimming pools, a covering that allows homeowners year-round enjoyment of this area without the unwanted elements of mosquitoes, flies and pool debris.

A patio covering can be both practical and beautiful, but the best reason to put up a patio cover? “We need shade,” says Ingalsbe. “This is Texas, after all.”

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OLD SPIRIT

The house's grand entry still sports its original fine woods, including cypress and curly pine wainscoting restored to a fine luster by the Heibergs.

YEARS OF HARD WORK HELP THIS OLD GALVESTON SPIRIT RISE AGAIN

By SARAH GANDY • Photography by MIRO DVORCAK



LEFT:
The entry before restoration.

OPPOSITE PAGE:
The Heibergs' 1893 Victorian house, with shingles reminiscent of New England houses of the era, is raised 8 feet off the ground. It escaped the 1900 Storm and Hurricane Ike with only minor damages.

Ghost stories are par for the course in Galveston.

With an abundance of homes well past the century mark, it seems every homeowner, and every residence, has a story to tell. Rick and Anny Heiberg, owners of the 1893 Thomas E. Bailey house on Galveston's famous Broadway Avenue, are no exception. Footsteps can be heard on the stairs periodically (though they always stop halfway up), an old fire alarm suddenly crackles with white noise even though every wire to it has been cut, and a closet door that the owners previously had not been able to keep shut suddenly slams with such force that it locks Anny inside.

Sure, many homeowners have ghost stories such as these, but Rick and Anny have something unusual when it comes to spirit sightings—legal documentation.

"The seller's disclosure that we got when we bought the house refers to it being haunted," says Rick. "In fact it says that the house was left vacant for several years in the 1960s because the residents believed it to be haunted."

Undeterred, Rick and Anny purchased the house not for any haunted spirits, but for the intangible spirit that it seemed to possess.

"When you walk in this house it feels like coming home. It feels comfortable like memories of your grandmother's house," says Rick. "It feels like you're reliving history."

Visitors may walk through the house May 2-3 and 9-10 during the Galveston Historic Homes Tour (see Page 39 for details).

The architecture of the house references a time that was at once simpler and more difficult than today. Double wrap-around screen porches face the gulf breezes, a valuable asset before air conditioning, and a series of walk-out windows on each floor allow the porches to open up to interior spaces.

"It must have been so wonderful for them to be able to open up all these windows. They create a fabulous breeze," says Anny. "Transoms (over all the interior doors) help pull the light and air throughout the house too."



1805



The fireplace in the entry has its own small cozy niche inside an arch. Through door, at right, is a glimpse of the kitchen.

Telltale signs of past residents and events can be seen throughout the house as well:

- A mysterious stair descends from the second story in back of the house, but then truncates oddly, hovering above the backyard. In fact the stair had originally been a small exit stair (perhaps a response to the city-wide fires of the previous decades), but in 1932 the kidnapping of the Lindberg baby made well-to-do parents everywhere nervous. Fearing that an intruder would use the back stairs to access the nursery, the owner had the stairs cut off.
- Where there is now a charming gazebo in the backyard, there was once a rainwater harvesting cistern. Pre-1900 Storm this would have been a helpful item for running the household. In the days after the storm, the freshwater literally became a lifesaver for the family, allowing them to trade fresh water for rare cow's milk in order to feed their children.
- As owners of historical houses often learn, sometimes a passer-by on the street can tell you things about your house that you didn't know. Such was the case with Rick and Anny when a woman approached them claiming to have lived in the house many decades ago. "Do you know about the secret door in the fireplace?" she asked. They did not. Sure enough, the stranger was able to remove an intricate piece of the mantel molding to reveal a hidden compartment.

As warm as the memories are now, and as much fun as the stories are to tell, times weren't always so rosy for the house. In 1978 the house was condemned and on the fast track to the wrecking ball (in the 1970s Galveston Historical Foundation was not as influential as it is today). Luckily the condemnation spurred the owner to repair the house and in fact turn it into one of Galveston's first bed and breakfasts, The Golden Thistle. Hospitality reigned for the years following until the owner's deteriorating health again sent the house into disrepair. Enter the Heibergs.

Already owning a house on Galveston's West End, Rick and Anny had toyed with buying a historic house in town for years, but they never could find the right one. "This one was too much work, that one didn't have enough character..." recalls Rick. That was until an 'Estate Sale' sign lured them into the house on Broadway in 2005. Once they stepped through the front doors they were hooked. Despite the peeling wallpaper, dirty lace curtains, and shuttered windows, Rick





SARAH GANDY



THIS PAGE:

TOP OF PAGE:

Generous bay windows bring natural light into the living room. The fireplace is original to the house.

ABOVE:

Detail of entry fireplace under arch: 19th-century lasses barefoot at the beach.

RIGHT: Anny Heiberg and Buddy on the first floor's expansive screened porch. Gerbera daisies by Aubrey Sellers Florist.





In the back yard, a gazebo has replaced an old water cistern.

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RIGHT:
The “stairway to nowhere” off the upstairs porch originally extended to the ground, but after the famed Lindbergh baby kidnapping in 1932, then-owners of the house, Ben and Catherine Phillips, chopped off the stairs by their three little boys’ nursery to prevent a similar fate.

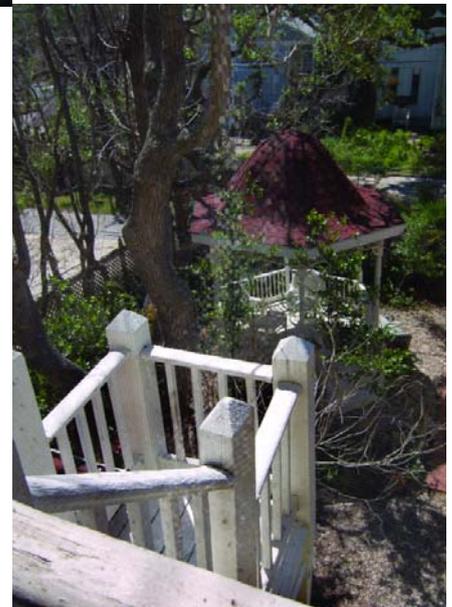
and Anny could see the house’s strong bones and architectural details were still intact. “All the woodwork was still there, the pocket doors, these huge windows...” says Anny, recounting her first impressions.

The deal was sealed (even signing off on that seller’s disclosure regarding the hauntings), and within hours of the closing Rick and Anny were on site in their best work clothes, flush with excitement over their new project. As Rick tackled items downstairs Anny attacked the peeling wallpaper upstairs. The loose bits came easily. Then it got a little harder. Then the vast walls got downright tedious. “After two hours Anny came to me, verging on tears,” says Rick. “We should never have bought this house’ she says. I told her ‘You’re two hours too late!’.” After a brief pep-talk Anny regained her gumption and the rest is, well, history.

The following year, after tenting the entire house for termites, personally rebuilding a chimney which was falling in on itself, remodeling the kitchen, adding central air and heat, replacing the roof, adding an elevator and a number of other “small” projects, Rick and Anny moved in.

Reflecting on their choice to embark on the adventure that is old-home-restoration, Anny says “It’s fun...We would do it again.”

Realizing that this home has had many lives before them and will likely continue on long after them, Anny is reflective of their role in the house’s history. “I used to read a lot of *This Old House* magazines and people in the articles would say ‘I don’t feel like I’m so much the owner of this house as I am the caretaker.’ I never got that concept until we owned this house. I feel like we’re taking care of this house and eventually we’ll pass it on. I’d actually like to see it turned into a bed and breakfast again someday.”





ABOVE:

Upstairs, a side porch off the study/library provides a sunny spot for reading.

BELOW:

A side porch is a fine place to park a fat-tired beach cruiser



TOUR THIS HOUSE AND 9 OTHERS

Tour the John E. Bailey house restored by the Heiberger at 1805 Broadway plus nine other houses during the 2009 Galveston Historic Homes Tour: a Celebration of Historic Galveston's Rebirth. The tours May 2-3 and May 9-10 are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Each of the ten houses on the tour has suffered a calamity to some degree or another. Some survived the Great Storm of 1900, others Hurricane Ike, still others fire and tornados. Day of tour tickets are \$25. For more information, call 409.765.7834 or visit www.galvestonhistory.org. In addition to the Bailey House, this year's lineup of historic homes includes:

1428 Church.

Captain Rufus Jameson House, 1882

GHF restored this two-story Victorian townhouse in 1995. Its first floor received more than 3 feet of floodwater from Hurricane Ike in September 2008.



1905 Avenue M 1/2.

William Pautsch Cottage, 1886

This raised cottage with mansard roof fell off its pier and beam foundation Valentine's Day, 2005. GHF purchased the house to save it from demolition and sold it to the current owners.



1512 Rosenberg. Alfred G. Youens' House, 1904

Mr. Youens survived the collapse of his home at 24th and Avenue P 1/2 during the 1900 Storm. He built this two-story, two-bedroom Victorian house as a replacement.



2701 Avenue O. Steffens-Drewa House, 1870, alterations 1907, 1912, 1914

This house listed in the National Register of Historic Places combines Queen Anne and Arts and Crafts architecture with Gulf Coast cottage vernacular.



1605 Avenue K.

Dr. Cary and Eliza Wilkenson House, 1891

Originally built at 613 19th Street, this house was purchased by GHF and moved to its current location in March 2007.



1528 Avenue K. Christopher Schmidt House, c. 1860, Restoration in Progress

This cottage burned in February 2008. GHF bought it in March 2008 and began its rehabilitation. It was relocated to its present lot from the corner of 16th and Avenue L after the 1900 Storm.



1821 Winnie & 1823 Winnie.

Henry M. Trueheart's Tenant Houses, 1893

These houses, possibly the work of architect Charles Bulger, were commissioned as mirrored twins after the city's 1885 fire. On Mother's Day, 2005, they were twisted from their foundations and blown into one another by a small tornado.



1709 Ball.

Dorothea Juneman Tenant Cottage, 1892

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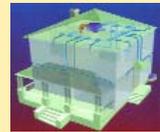


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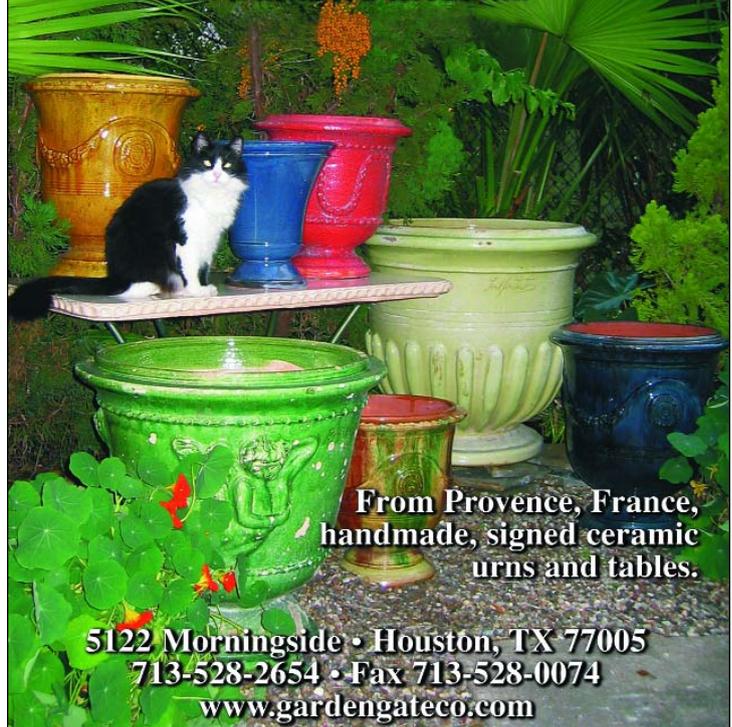
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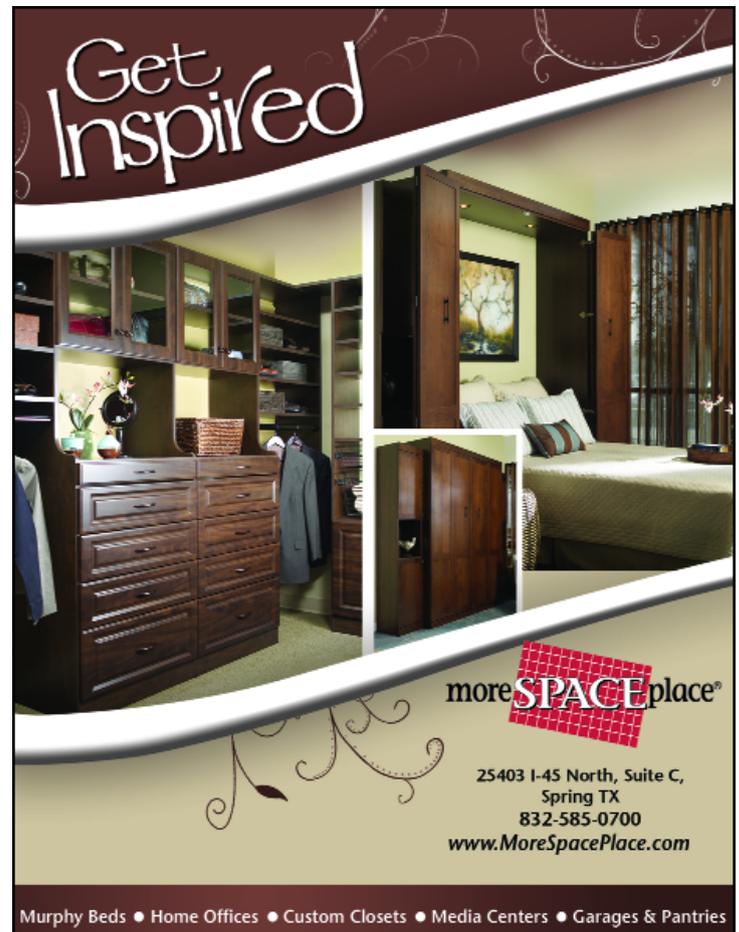
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FRESH FARMHOUSE

Architect Scott Ballard's crisp, clean design for the Gochmans' farmhouse and barn is inspired by simple Texas Farmhouse vernacular architecture. Siding is whitewashed cedar.

SUNNY COLORS POP IN NEUTRAL SURROUNDINGS

By **SANDRA COOK** • Photography by **JERRY POWERS**

Who says a Texas farmhouse has to be furnished solely with hand-me-downs from a hundred years ago? David and Becky Gochman, who share a passion for horses and whimsical art, worked with color enthusiast Edwina Vidosh of Edwina Alexis Interiors and residential architect Scott Ballard to create a playful farmhouse on their horse acreage near Magnolia.

Mixing neutral walls and clean-lined fixtures with plentiful pops of ultra-bright color provides the foundation for this home. Color provides delightful punch in expected and unexpected spots, such as backs of cabinets, pillows, artwork, ceiling treatments and closet interiors.

OPPOSITE:

Living room windows extend almost to the floor to lead the eye to the wrap-around porch. Exposed trusses provide structure for lighting yet hide wiring. Colorful butterfly dining chairs are from Moss Gallery in New York City, as is the Multidao Rag Doll chair by the Campana Brothers (portion of chair seen in lower left corner).

"Becky and David wanted a fun retro farmhouse," says Vidosh, who has worked with the couple on multiple projects. "After working with [Becky] for so long, I knew I could be creative with color, but I didn't want it to become overwhelming."

The Gochmans' ideas for their farmhouse inspired Vidosh to contrast old and new, traditional and modern, classic and retro. "Becky is extremely creative and an artist herself," says Vidosh. "It allowed her to share in my vision. I have done several homes for them so the trust and experience of working with each other certainly shows in this unusual mix. I listen to my clients and make each one of my projects unique to their desires."

Part of the inspiration for the house came from Becky's passion for Arabian horses. With the property adjacent to her horse trainer, she can easily work in a workout or simply keep an eye on her steed. The multi-functional "barndominium" behind the house provides a garage, horse stable, art studio and small apartment.

MODERN TAKE ON TEXAS FARMHOUSE

The Gochmans consulted Houston architect Scott Ballard to design the structure and layout of their farmhouse. Ballard, who excels at modern home design, took some of the essential elements of the Texas Farmhouse vernacular and updated the style to fit his clients' needs and the characteristics of the property. He employed a high-pitched metal roof and wrap-around porch, along with white-washed cedar siding and a limestone chimney, to evoke the traditional farmhouse feel. The roofline does not feature the full double-slope of a traditional farmhouse, but it certainly echoes the style. ▶



ABOVE: An upstairs play area with a sectional Mah-Jong sofa from Roche Bobois is an inviting place for fun and games. Vidosh custom ordered the fabrics to create this colorful combination of patterns. License plate map is by Austin artist Aaron Foster.

LEFT: The transition from first to second floor becomes more fun with a stainless steel slide and sunny yellow wall punctuated with whimsical bird sculptures from Anthropologie.



“I try to include lots of windows,” Ballard says. “Natural light is more important than any particular architectural style. I am always thinking about the northern or southern exposures for light. I incorporated the clerestory to bring in more light to the living area.”

Ballard chose to have the windows in the first-floor kitchen/living room stretch down to within 6 inches of the floor. This allows the eye to continue out to the wrap-around porch, which expands the feel of the space by bringing the outdoors in. A pair of triangular transom windows above the porch also funnels light into the space. The multitude of windows helps to spotlight Vidosh’s colorful décor by spotlighting various elements throughout the day as the light changes.

A signature of Ballard’s residential designs is the exposed beams in the main living area. “I’m a big believer in having one big living space,” says Ballard. “This strategy is an attractive way to open up a large space to take advantage of natural light. Ballard also points out that the beams also provide an advantageous surface for installing lighting, allowing wiring and connections to be obscured.

FUN WITH FURNISHINGS

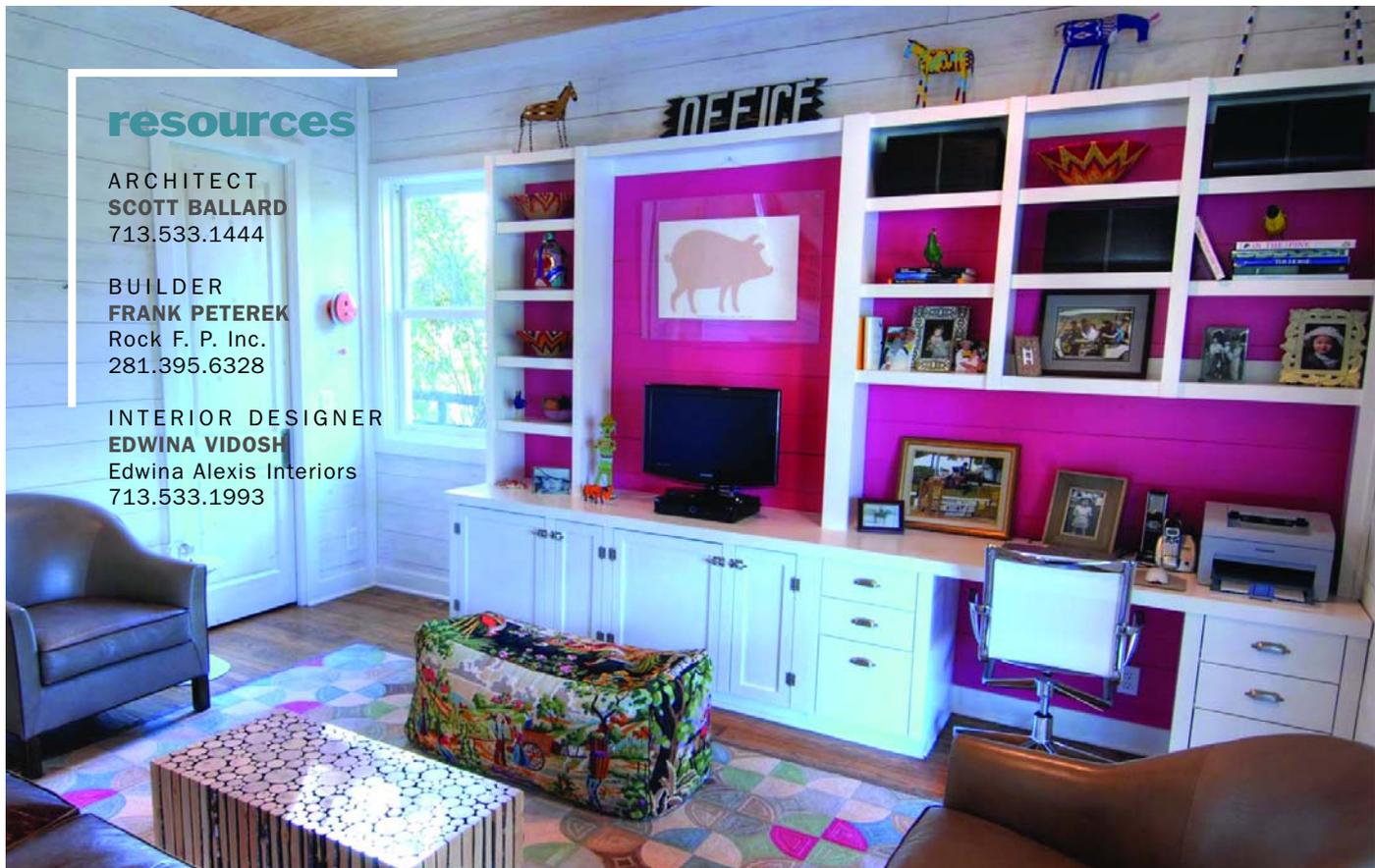
One of the most eye-popping features of the house is the staircase. It may be a straight shot between two walls, but there is nothing typical about this transition from floor to floor. It’s tough to say which is more fun: the sunny yellow wall color or the stainless steel slide that parallels the staircase. ▶



ABOVE: A woodsy screened porch/dog trot comes to life with lighted cowboy and Indian folk art the homeowners found in Austin.

BELOW Off the kitchen, a utility room with vintage '50s dinette set doubles as work space for children's art projects. The kitchen's aqua refrigerator is from www.bigchillfridge.com.





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The back wall of the office's bookcase is painted Benjamin Moore's "Peony." The log block coffee table from is from Kuhl-Linscomb; rug is from The Rug Company.



Even closets get fun colors. Wallpaper in the master closet, left, is an Anichow print by Designer's Guild. In the guest bedroom closet, the paper is Lindenzweig/Turquoise by Studio Printworks.

Also hard-to-miss is the fruit festooned chandelier over the dining table. Vidosh explains she and Becky saw a similar chandelier that was not for sale, so Becky created this one, which serves as conversation piece and nutritional inspiration.

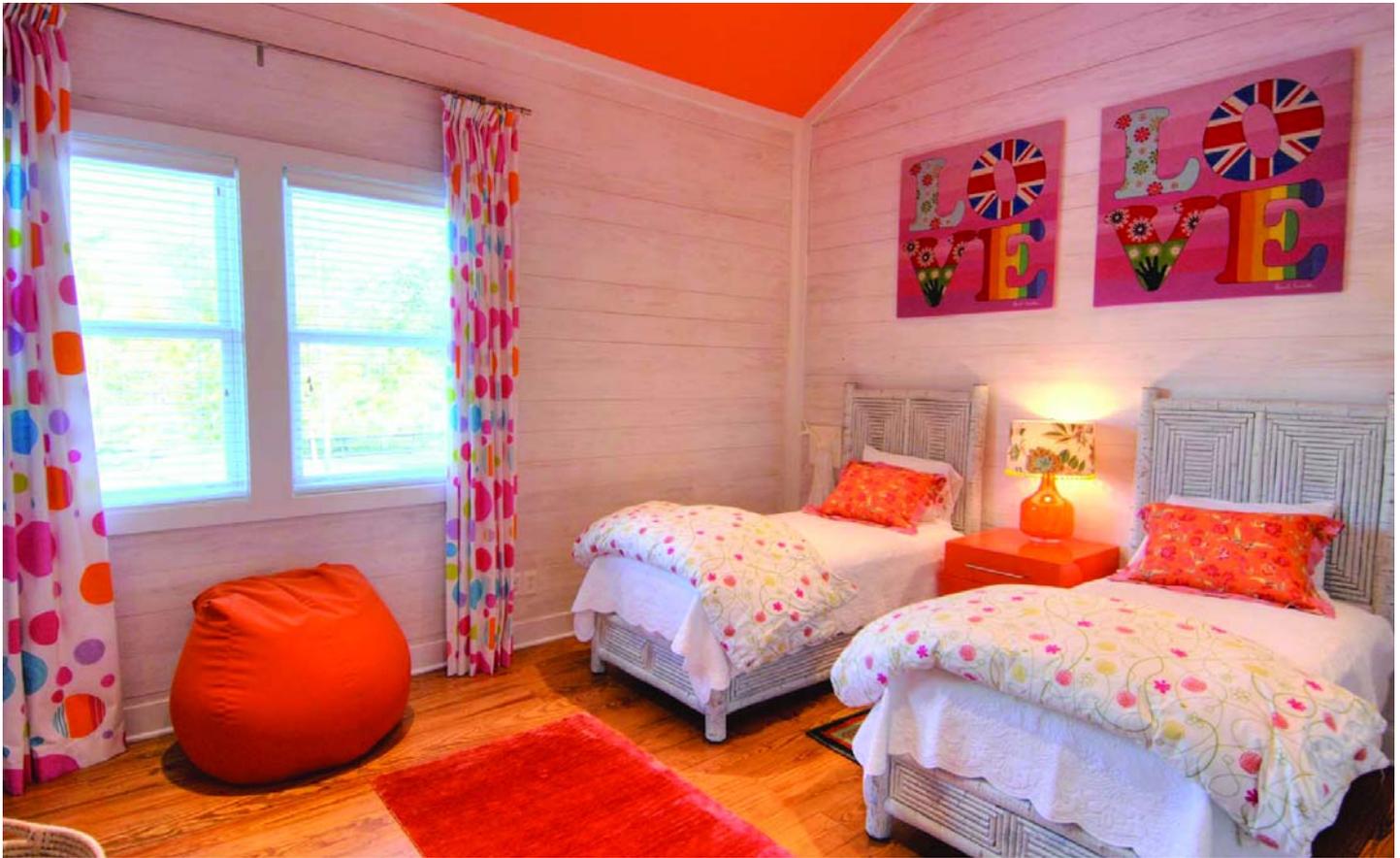
COLOR INSPIRATIONS

"A splash of color can be so fun in any space," says Vidosh. "I find a favorite fabric, then play off those colors. I am very inspired by the colors of nature — like how a flower bed has neutral colors with bright colors thrown in. It always seems to be the perfect balance between the two."

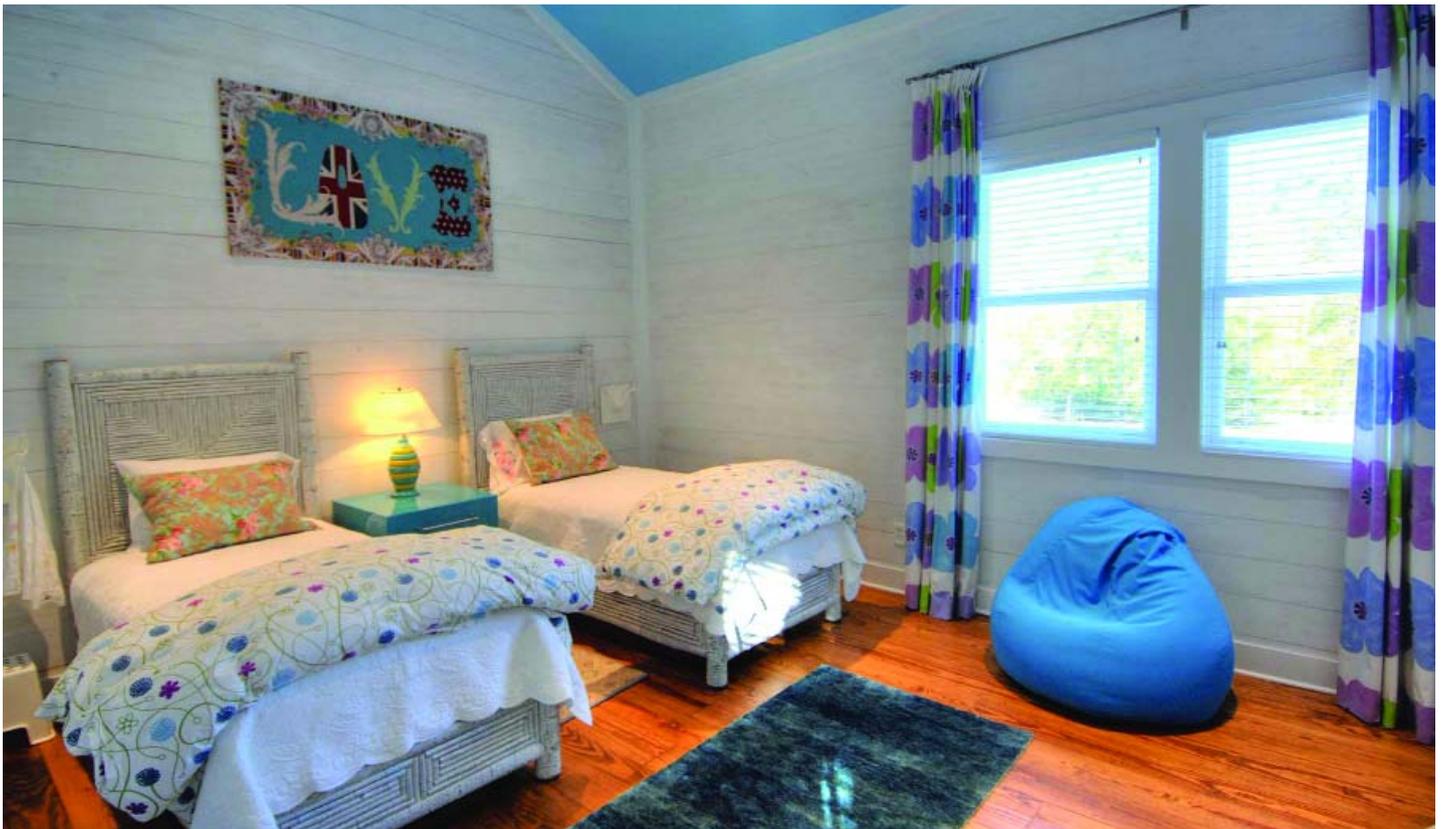
If she uses several colors throughout a house, she always tries to stay with the same tone of the different colors. "It makes them all hang together better," she says.

Using bright colors without overdoing them, though, is an art. "I like doing an accent wall if it's a really bold color, then place that same tone and color around the room so it all works together and is interesting without being too much."





The ceiling of one daughter's orange and pink bedroom is Sherwin Williams' "Navel"; another daughter's bedroom ceiling is Sherwin Williams' "Candid Blue." The "LOVE" artworks in the girls' rooms are by Paul Smith. Hand-crafted poplar beds are by LaLune Collection.



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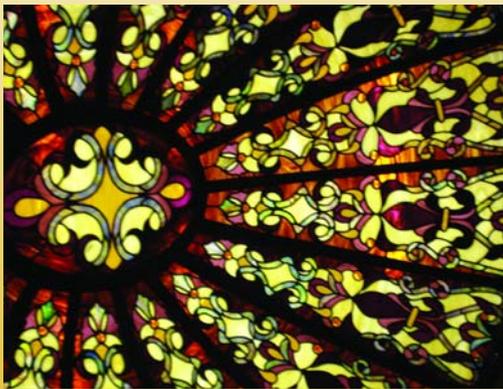
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Pantone's Mimosa, Color of the Year 2009

COLOR OF THE YEAR

Every year, Pantone, the world's leading authority on color, issues color forecasts, a reading of the zeitgeist based on popular culture, fashion, politics, contemporary art and any number of factors that influence the collective mood of our times. Pantone's color of the year for 2009 is Pantone 14-0848 Mimosa, a warm, engaging yellow. In a time of economic uncertainty and political change, optimism is paramount, Pantone asserts, and no other color expresses hope and reassurance more than yellow.

"The color yellow exemplifies the warmth and nurturing quality of the sun, properties we as humans are naturally drawn to for reassurance," explains Leatrice Eiseman, executive director of the Pantone Color Institute. "Mimosa also speaks to enlightenment, as it is a hue that sparks imagination and innovation."

A versatile color best illustrated by the abundant flowers of the Mimosa tree and the sparkle of the brilliantly hued cocktail, Mimosa

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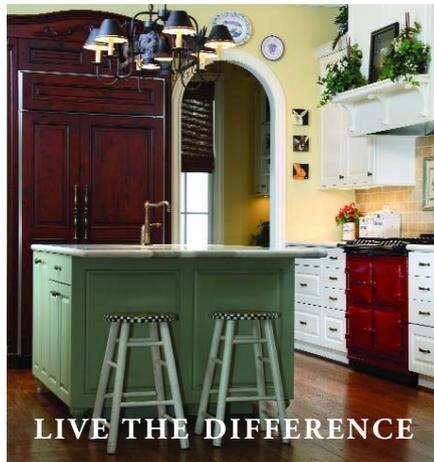
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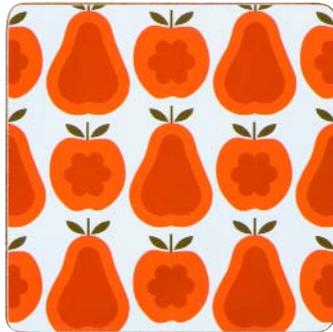
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With these wall colors by Pittsburgh Paints, a giant frame painted Black Forrest becomes a headboard. Its green inset is Lichen; the blue wall is Cool Lagoon.



British artist Orla Kiely reinvents '70s comfort colors for The Noughts in her delightfully cheery collection of housewares for Target. Coasters shown here are \$3.99 for a two-pack.

appeals to both women and men and works well with other colors. Look for this shade to appear in home interiors and clothing fashions.

TODAY'S TREND LINE

Keying off optimistic hues, citron and persimmon are popular selling colors at High Fashion Home. "These colors really pop when paired with neutrals like ecru, gray and silver. They can punch up a room without overwhelming it," says High Fashion's merchandising director Cynthia Bogart. "We're seeing it with modern, mid-century and traditional looks." With fabrics, she sees these colors in solids and prints and with textured fabric such as mohair.

Transitional furniture in lively colors was all the rage at a recent Italian market in Verona, says Kathy Anderson, principal designer at eklektik Interiors. "Transitional furnishings are chic and high design. It's good quality and you can see it," she says. Her clients like the dressy casual look and are choosing upholstery fabrics in solid linens and cottons—"soft and user-friendly fabrics," she says.

Janie Ellis, ASID, master artisan and owner of Anything But Plain School of Decorative Finishes, notes the use of perky colors like orange and green. "The body and mind seek a balance," she points out. "To combat any current blue mood, people are drawn to happy colors that will balance them out."

THE BACKDROP

To work well, color needs a good backdrop. Dave Allum, owner of Traditional Designs, says Houstonians are still going with classic neutral colors such as taupe and beige for flooring and countertops. ►

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Ikea's ULDUM rug, \$249, brings playful squares of bright color to modern floors.

"For kitchen countertops, our customers are choosing dark colors like Cream of Bordeaux (a burgundy shade), Giallo Vicenza (an earthy golden brown) and Cosmos Brown," he says. "When people want to use a trendy color in the kitchen, they tend to use it for backsplashes or on the walls."

Anderson believes strong color works well for accent pieces or an accent wall. "It can change the feel of a room with the least expense," she says. "We're seeing people use soft, warm yellow, clean green and robin's egg blue. For myself, I recently updated three rooms. In one room, I chose a chocolate brown with creamy wood trim. It can go neutral or work with any color. In another room, I went with smoky raisin. For the kitchen, I used a soft green, almost a neutral, that looks really crisp."



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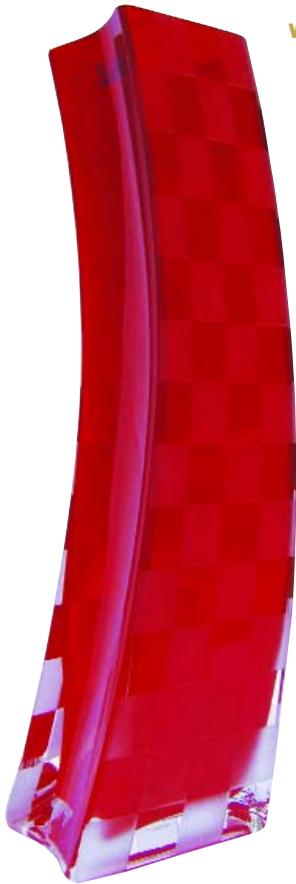
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WHICH COLORS TO USE?

“When we meet with clients, we look at what they wear, including spot color,” says Ellis. “It tells us something important about their preferences.” Become aware of your favorite colors, she advises, and then use them in different proportion and scale throughout the house to coordinate your theme.

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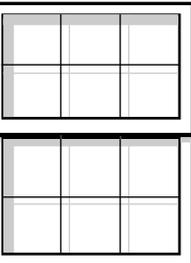
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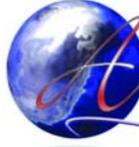
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Every two years in Austin, for a five-month limited-time engagement, the Texas State Legislature rolls into town for a policymaking hoedown under the big pink dome. Because our lawmakers only convene January through May every other year, the session is an exercise in controlled chaos as women and men in suits churn at breakneck speed through initiatives ranging from the simple resolution congratulating Jane Smith on the occasion of her retirement

Environmental Policy Hoedown

LEGISLATION AFFECTING TEXAS HOMEOWNERS

to the complex omnibus bill crafted to fundamentally restructure the Texas energy economy. This session, a steady stream of smart, innovative and pragmatic environmental legislation is pouring in from both sides of the aisle. Many of these bills have the potential to affect homeowners directly: incentives for rooftop solar installations, cost-saving energy efficiency standards for appliances, free and convenient TV recycling, tax exemptions for water conservation and energy-efficient products, in-store recycling for disposable plastic bags, tighter limits on asthma-inducing toxic air emissions, and the list goes on. The smorgasbord below may look like alphabet-numbers soup, but, taken together, the bills on Texas legislators' collective plate have the potential to make a profound impact on the environment for years to come.

GREEN YOUR SPENDING WHEN SPENDING YOUR GREEN

While photovoltaic cells and solar thermal water heaters may seem like an Al Gore meets George Jetson pipe dream for some, the simple decisions that you make with your wallet really do change the system. Last session, the legislature created a statewide sales tax holiday for purchases of energy-efficient products such as washing machines, refrigerators, ceiling fans, dishwashers, dehumidifiers and programmable thermostats during Memorial Day weekend. This time around, H.B. 791 would extend the tax holiday to include Fourth of July weekend while H.B. 1902 expands the tax break to purchases of Energy Star certified personal computers. The list of efficient products also expands significantly under S.B. 437, which would raise energy efficiency requirements for consumer goods like DVD players, compact audio products, hot tubs and pool pumps, bottle-type water dispensers and incandescent lamps.

If you're looking to remodel, you might want to wait for that visit to

Home Depot until S.B. 1716, H.B. 346 or H.B. 2338 goes into effect because you could receive a refund on taxes paid for repair costs or remodeling services designed to earn your house the U.S. Energy Star rating. Speaking of Home Depot, did you know they (along with IKEA) will accept for recycling your mercury-containing compact fluorescent lights? Unfortunately, not all companies exercise such environmental responsibility, so H.B. 3422 would create a statewide recycling program for used CFLs and other fluorescent tubes. In this drought-sensitive area, water conservation is often as important as conserving energy; you can add rainwater harvesting equipment to your home to literally catch the rain ... and get a tax write-off via H.B. 1818. Leaving the store, the sales clerk at big box retailers will have to offer an affordable reusable bag as well as recycling bins for disposable plastic bags if S.B. 338 or H.B. 1867 makes its way into law.

DO IT FOR THE KIDS, OR KEEP YOUR TOXINS TO YOURSELF

Children are among the most vulnerable to toxins in the air and water. Legislation is under consideration that would curb asthma-causing air pollutants, heavy metals related to autism and neurological disorders as well as potentially harmful hormone-disrupters. The Senate already passed S.B. 16, an omnibus air quality bill that would reduce mercury emissions — a neurotoxin linked to autism — by 95 percent and smog-forming sulfur dioxide — a prime contributor to asthma — by 99 percent. With the upcoming switch to digital television on June 12, millions of old TVs, which contain lead, mercury and other toxins, are destined for Texas landfills without the kind of environmentally responsible recycling program that H.B. 821, S.B. 761 and H.B. 1355 provide. H.B. 4084 would ban e-waste from landfills altogether.

Bisphenol-A (BPA), used to make baby bottles and other hard plastics, has been linked with reproductive problems and endocrine disruption following even low-level exposure; H.B. 792 would require labeling for products containing BPA. By filing legislation to reduce exposure to potentially harmful pollutants and increase the citizens' right to know about the chemicals that go into our bodies (and those of our children), the Texas House and Senate have shown that they're thinking about the environment. However, only when they pass these bills will they have shown that they're serious about doing something.

THAT'S GREAT, BUT WHAT CAN I DO?

More than 7,000 bills were filed this session, but only a fraction will pass. You can make a difference for the state of the environment in Texas by contacting your legislators in Austin to let them know that you support a cleaner, greener planet. Write to your State Senator at P.O. Box 12068, Austin, TX 78711 and your State Representative at P.O. Box 2910, Austin, TX 78768. To read about these bills and more, go to www.capitol.state.tx.us. To find out who represents you in the State Legislature, go to www.fyi.legis.state.tx.us. Remember, democracy works when the people participate.

Jeffrey Jacoby is program director for Texas Campaign for the Environment, a grassroots nonprofit working locally and statewide to press for sustainable waste and recycling policies. Visit www.texasenvironment.org.

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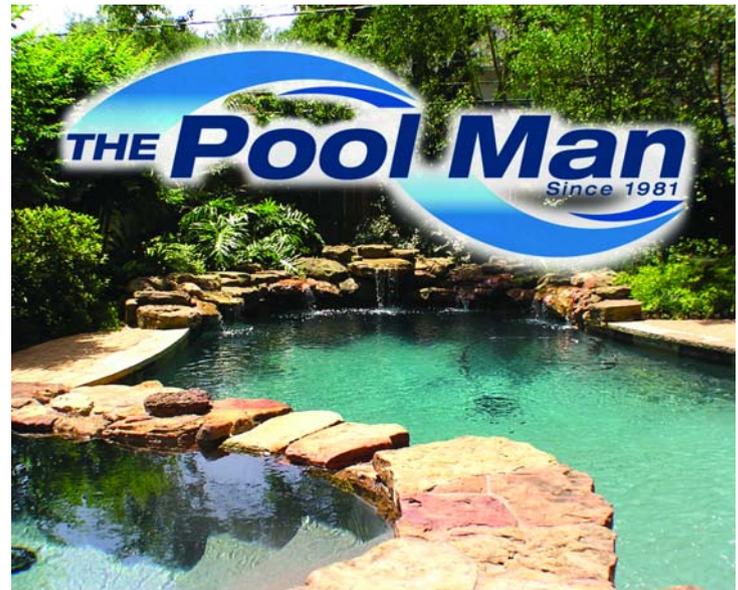
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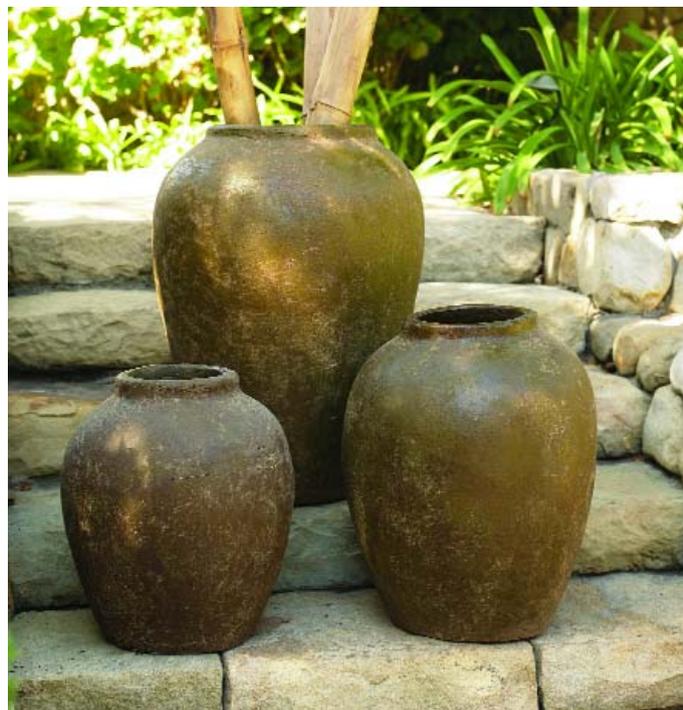
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