

premiere issue

Fortitude

Holiday 2003

\$3.95

A New Home For The Holidays

Heron Preserve is offering residents the 'good life' in Fort Wayne's first and only **gated** community

Also in this issue:

The very best in dining out

Melissa Long at home

Working for the holidays

Calendar of local events

Supplement to
Business People

Creative Collaboration

Photography by David Kirk



Interior designer Jean Chappell, of Design Interiors, and finishing-techniques specialist Rick Fischer, of Deco Illusions, have worked together on many interesting projects, and, in the home of Barry and Carol LaBov, their creative collaboration is most evident.

From the first glimpse of the home's exterior front door, with its high-gloss automotive finish, to the sophisticated interior furnishings, accessories and wall finishes, the still-in-progress transformation of this Sycamore Hills home is immediately apparent.

When the couple bought the home in 1989, the traditional-style residence, located on a quiet cul-de-sac, was just the right place to raise a fam-

ily. After a decade had passed, they decided it was time to remodel and redecorate.

Chris Chapman of Chapman Construction Inc., a 10-year-old construction business, was called to add a sitting room to the master suite and a solarium to the main level. Chapman, a specialist in building room additions and other home remodeling projects, has the ability, Carol says, "to visualize and execute what we want in the finished project."

Wanting design help with the new additions, Carol took a friend's advice and called Jean Chappell, a 28-year interior design veteran, to help coordinate the old look with the new.

While working on these projects, Jean

noticed Carol's true style emerge. "What she liked was a little more contemporary," Jean notes. "She wanted to head in an entirely different direction — a more transitional, contemporary look. In our many design discussions, it was only those moments that her interest really perked."

As the addition followed Carol's new style direction, Jean resolved to continue the new look throughout the house. Great room updates became the topic of conversation. Faced with dark stained wainscoting, Jean suggested involving Rick Fischer of Deco Illusions to help address the issue of the dark wood and walls. They wanted Rick to change them to an exciting, contemporary tone. "I had worked with

Business Profile

Lauri Massoth
Cambray & Associates / 260.424.4845
Wholesale and retail flooring

Chris Chapman
Chapman Construction / 260.486.2428
Custom home remodeling

Richard Fischer
Deco Illusions / 260.341.3326 / 1.877.849.5700
European influenced faux artistry

Rick many times," Jean states. "I knew his many talents and that we communicate well."

Jean and Carol wanted a look of high impact throughout the home, starting with the great room. "This area, with its high ceilings," Rick emphasizes, "gave me the opportunity for a lot of visual interest that was to complement the planned jewel tones of the furniture and their vivid original art. I envisioned a post-industrial, high-rise look with great lighting."

In keeping with Jean's design scheme, Rick painted the dark-stained wood panels with a Venetian plaster glazed with mother-of-pearl, along with an antique stria trim. The walls, handcrafted with a textured stone effect dusted with metallic undertones, highlight the fireplace brick, and fit the grand scale of the cathedral ceiling. "The paint effects set the tone for the entire room," Jean explains. "It was a complement to the entire design that was to follow."

Lauri Massoth of Cambay Associates, a family-owned business started in 1933, offers a complete source of flooring options for consumers and professionals. She was asked to help select new carpeting for the LaBov home. The choice recommended by Lauri was a textured frieze, both durable and easily stain resistant, in a color that accents the new walls and wainscoting paint effects, and the fireplace as well.

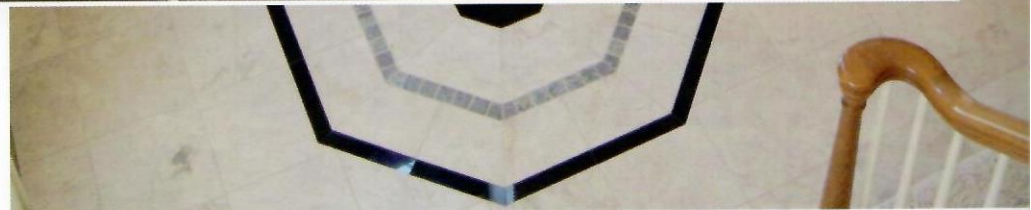
With the addition of the new teal green nova suede sectional, the mulberry ultra suede dramatic curved back chair, its matching ottoman accented with black, high-styled turned feet, and the black Art Deco entertainment center, as well as the high-style accessories that were to follow, a new lighting system was needed.

Irving Thomas and his crew from Mr. Electric were called to join the design team. Irving's company specializes in low voltage lighting that requires custom installation, as well as in retrofitting the monorail lighting systems that



hold the high hanging pendant halo lights that are used to illuminate specific areas. His company also installed the Lutron Radio RA system that operates the lights throughout.

Steve Armstrong, the owner of Sound Strong, who specializes in custom design and installation of media electronics and security systems for both residential and commercial use, was retained by the LaBovs to install the solarium's media components. Steve came up with a way to mount the large plasma screen TV over the bar, and he also designed and installed a wall-mounted glass shelf to house its components. In keeping with his trademark, the wires were hidden from view, while keeping the look unobtrusive and contemporary.



In the foyer and dining room, a honed marble floor — which replaces the old dark parquet floor — features black granite and grey mica slate inlays and was specially designed by Jean to distinctly define the two areas. Rick painted the area with a contemporary interpretation of Venetian plaster — beige in the foyer and mulberry in the

dining room. A gilded silver wall frieze design complements the existing Chinese Chippendale dining room furniture. The ceiling is treated with an aged industrial metal look.

Susan Zimmerman of Stain Glass Overlay was selected by Jean to add color, interest and style to the front door and side lights. Her exclusive

Business Profile

Jean Chappell
Design Interiors / 260.432.4730
Residential and commercial interior design

Jon Maraldo and Tim Hinrichsen
F & M Tile & Terrazzo Co. Inc. / 260.483.6389
Supplies and installs ceramic, marble and granite tile

Irving Thomas
Mr. Electric / 260.442.7749
Specializing in custom electrical work