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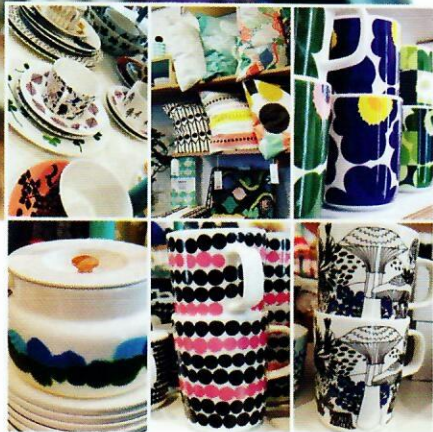
THE FIGHT OF THEIR LIFE

A Local Family Takes On ALS

the family ISSUE

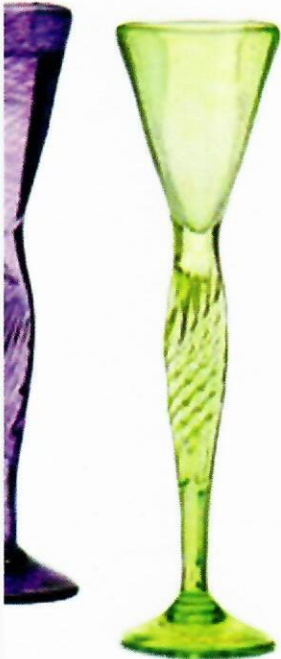
INCLUDING 9 LKN FAMILIES THAT WORK TOGETHER!





Bringing Family Home

By: Starr Miller



TYPICALLY I WRITE these articles while sitting at my desk, surrounded by architectural drawings, piles of fabric, and more paint swatches than I can count. Today I am writing from a ship out in the middle of the glistening Norwegian Sea—different inspiration for sure! As we contemplate family for this edition, I am compelled by my current surroundings to emphasize the importance of family, memories, and heart over the “stuff” that is often associated with interior design.

I have walked into many homes over the years and whether or not I like the current design choices, the items that catch my interest are those things that are collected from family,

travels, and memories. And, pardon me if I say so, but often the worst houses are those loaded down by “designer” staging items that add zero heart and have absolutely nothing to do with the homeowners. I have to tell you, you are more interesting than a stage and you have more heart than a hotel room.

I am the first to say that I love to travel and stay in nice hotels. I study how the designers of the hotels have chosen the finishes, how they connected those finishes, and how their choices make me feel. Today, as I sit on this lovely ship with 600 of my closest friends (ha), I notice how the design choices fit many needs and are not specific to any individual. The art is amazing, and the crew is extremely accommodating, but the point of the trip is the adventure my husband and I are on and the memories we will bring home with us. So, my design advice is as follows:

WALK AROUND YOUR HOME. If you spy something that has significance to you, your family, or just makes you happy, keep it. If it is just filling a space, take it to Habitat for Humanity and get a receipt.

LOOK THROUGH YOUR OLD PHOTOGRAPHS. Do you have one that could be blown up and made into a beautifully framed piece? Go frame it and replace that Home Goods “mass-produced” picture you placed on the wall because you thought it needed something. (I love Home Goods for small frames and mirrors!)

WHEN YOU TRAVEL, do not go to the souvenir store. **DO NOT GO!** Instead, only purchase truly significant items from local artisans or off-the-beaten-path stores. You will forever remember the artists, the purchases, and the stories.

IF IT IS A CHOICE OF RENOVATING a room or going on a trip, go on the trip!

IF IT IS A CHOICE OF JUST FILLING SPACE or waiting for the perfect piece, wait for the perfect piece.

IF YOU ARE RENOVATING YOUR HOME TO IMPRESS others, stop, stop now. Do it for yourself. You deserve to live well. But invest in great design that will turn out the way you want it.

IF YOU JUST CAME HOME from a great spa and decide to renovate your master bath, do it! But remember, if you have builder-grade finishes in your current bath and you want it to feel like a luxury spa, be prepared to invest more than a typical builder or what HGTV might suggest ... I assure you the spa did!



Starr Miller is the president and principal designer at StarrMiller Interior Design, Inc. Contact her at 704.896.3321 or visit www.starrmiller.com.