

FREE Santa Barbara
Independent

MAY 20-27, 2021
VOL. 35 * NO. 801



HOME & GARDEN

ARCHITECTS, ANTIQUERS, AND OTHERS
CELEBRATE INDOORS & OUT

BY LESLIE DINABERG / PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERICK MADRID

ALSO INSIDE: WEED AND WINE COME TOGETHER IN THE VALLEY ♦ HUNTER HAWKINS: *PHASE EP*
LAST DAY AT BARAKI BARAK, A VETERAN'S STORY ♦ WINEMAKER JIM CLENDENEN DIES

Editor in Chief Marianne Partridge Publisher Brandi Rivera

Executive Editor Nick Welsh Senior Editors Tyler Hayden and Matt Kettmann
Associate Editor Jackson Friedman

Associate News Editor Delaney Smith Opinions Editor Jean Yamamura
Executive Arts Editor Charles Donelan Arts Writer Josef Woodard
Calendar Editor Terry Ortega Sports Editor John Zant Sports Writer Victor Bryant
Food Writer George Yatchisin

Copy Editor Tessa Reeg

Creative Director Caitlin Fitch Graphic Designers Ricky Barajas, Ben Greenberg
Production Designer Ava Talehakimi

Web Content Managers Celina Garcia, Saehee Jong

Columnists Dennis Allen, Gail Arnold, Sara Caputo, Christine S. Cowles, Roger Durling,
Marsha Gray, Betsy J. Green, Jerry Roberts, Starshine Roshell

Contributors Rob Brezsky, Melinda Burns, Ben Ciccati, John Dickson, Leslie Dinaberg,
Camille Garcia, Keith Hamm, Rebecca Horrigan, Eric Hvolboll, Tom Jacobs, Shannon Kelley,
Kevin McKiernan, Carolina Starin, Ethan Stewart, Tom Tomorrow, Maggie Yates

Director of Advertising Sarah Sinclair Marketing and Promotions Manager Emily Cosentino Lee
Advertising Representatives Camille Cimini Fruin, Suzanne Cloutier, Remzi Gokmen,
Tonea Songer Sales Administrator Graham Brown

Accounting Administrator Tobi Feldman Office Manager/Legal Advertising Tanya Spears Guiliacci
Distribution Scott Kaufman

Calendar Intern Sophie Lynd Editorial Interns Lily Hopwood, Katie Lydon,
Sunidhi Sridhar, Katherine Swartz

Columnist Emeritus Barney Brantingham Photography Editor Emeritus Paul Wellman
Founding Staff Emeriti Audrey Berman, George Delmerico, Richard Evans, Laszlo Hodosz
Honorary Consigliere Gary J. Hill

Indy Kids Bella and Max Brown, Elijah Lee Bryant, Henry and John Poett Campbell,
Emilia Imojean Friedman, Madeline Rose and Mason Carrington Kettmann,
Izzy and Maeve McKinley

Print subscriptions are available, paid in advance, for \$120 per year. Send subscription requests with name and address to subscriptions@independent.com. The contents of the *Independent* are copyrighted 2020 by the Santa Barbara Independent, Inc. No part may be reproduced without permission from the publisher. The publisher assumes no responsibility for unsolicited material. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany all submissions expected to be returned. The *Independent* is available on the internet at independent.com. Press run of the *Independent* is 40,000 copies. Audited certification of circulation is available on request. The *Independent* is a legal adjudicated newspaper — court decree no. 157386.

Contact information: 12 E. Figueroa St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101
PHONE (805) 965-5205; FAX (805) 965-5518

EMAIL news@independent.com, letters@independent.com, sales@independent.com

Staff email addresses can be found at independent.com/about-us



TABLE of CONTENTS

volume 35, # 801, May 20-27, 2021

COVER STORY 17

Home & Garden

Architects, Antiquers, and Others Celebrate Indoors & Out

by Leslie Dinaberg
photos by Erick Madrid

NEWS	6
OPINIONS	13
Voices	13
Letters	15
OBITUARIES	12
THE WEEK	32
LIVING	34
FOOD & DRINK	37
Restaurant Guy	39
ARTS LIFE	40
ASTROLOGY	43
CLASSIFIEDS	44

ON THE COVER: Design by Caitlin Fitch.

Photos: Left: Jeff Shelton and his Ablitt Tower Model. Right: Orchids from Ambriz Kingdom of Plants. By Erick Madrid.

SEQUOIA SKATERS TO S.B. SHOTS

Photographer Erick Madrid started shooting regularly for the *Santa Barbara Independent* earlier this year. This week, he manned the lens behind most of the Home & Garden special cover story, starting on page 17. He tells us a bit more about himself below.



COURTESY

Where are you from? I'm originally from rural Central Valley, 20 miles east of Visalia, right below Sequoia National Park. My parents were farmers, so I grew up and worked on 30 acres of oranges. I came to Santa Barbara in 1997, via Mammoth Lakes, to get a surgery on my shoulder and ended up staying here.

How'd you start as a photographer? My career started at 17 years old when I scored a freelance gig with an Australian skateboard magazine called *540*. I covered the Visalia YMCA skateboard camp at Sequoia Lake in the summer of '89. Shortly after moving to Santa Barbara, I took some classes at Brooks Institute to learn digital photography. Then I left early to be an assistant for two of *Sports Illustrated's* staff photographers. That was the best education in photography and life I could have ever asked for.

How is it being a photographer here? Santa Barbara is a great place to be a photographer. I shoot whatever moves me. I love the nuances of light and people. I currently have an ongoing project called *#thisisyourcitysb* and you can view my work on Instagram [@erickmadrid43](https://www.instagram.com/erickmadrid43).

INSTAGRAM | [@SBINDEPENDENT](https://www.instagram.com/sbindependent)

TWITTER | [@SBINDYNEWS](https://twitter.com/sbindynews)

FACEBOOK | [SANTA BARBARA INDEPENDENT](https://www.facebook.com/santa-barbara-independent)

NEWSLETTER | [INDEPENDENT.COM/NEWSLETTERS](http://independent.com/newsletters)

SUBSCRIBE | [INDEPENDENT.COM/SUBSCRIBE](http://independent.com/subscribe)

ADULT STUDIO ART WORKSHOPS

(VIA ZOOM)

Learn the basics of watercolor painting from SBMA Senior Teaching Artist Itoko Maeno. Focusing on still-life, these one-hour classes are inspired by John Frederick Peto's *Still-Life with Cake*. Study the artwork or set-up your own still-life as inspiration while you paint.

FREE | [TICKETS.SBMA.NET](https://tickets.sbma.net)

SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF ART    

John Frederick Peto, *Still-Life with Cake* (detail), n.d. Oil on board. SBMA, Gift of Charles C. and Elma Ralphs Shoemaker.

SANTA BARBARA
MUSEUM OF
ART

WATERCOLOR

TUESDAY, JUNE 22

5 – 6 PM

WATERCOLOR

SATURDAY, JUNE 26

10 – 11 AM



HAPPY HOMES & GLORIOUS GARDENS

ARCHITECTS, ANTIQUERS, NURSERY PROS, CHEFS, AND MORE
CELEBRATE INDOORS & OUT IN 2021

BY LESLIE DINABERG ♦ PHOTOGRAPHS BY ERICK MADRID

From private homes with public impact to public gardens offering private inspiration, our annual Home & Garden special issue for 2021 celebrates the many design and decorating options for residential life in Santa Barbara. We hope you find something that works in your living situation, whether that's a small tree to plant on your patio or a complete remodel of your mansion.

SHOW US YOUR GARDEN

Over the past year, some of us have been spending more time in our gardens than ever before. Whether you are growing flowers, vegetables, or gnomes, we want to see it. Share a photo of your garden in our online photo gallery at independent.com/gardens.

SHELTIFYING SANTA BARBARA

JOY oozes through the walls of every Jeff Shelton project—the delight is in the details. From the Moroccan tile carpets of Pistachio House to the Escher-like staircase of El Jardin, the Seussian shapes of Ablitt House, and the quirky art-covered Vera Cruz building, touches of his fairy dust are sprinkled around town. The artistry and zest for life infused in Jeff Shelton's buildings are hard to miss.

ARCHITECT JEFF SHELTON DELIGHTS IN THE DETAILS

While there's some debate about whether Pearl Chase, Bernhard Hoffmann, James Osborne Craig, and the other founding fellows of Santa Barbara's aesthetic would be toasting Shelton's evolution of the town's traditional style or tearing out their hair out by its Spanish-Mediterranean-Moorish roots, there's no doubt that this native son has made his mark on our town. After almost 30 years of "Sheltifying" Santa Barbara's cityscape, he shows no signs of slowing down.

Current projects in the works include residences in Mission Canyon, Carpinteria, and on Cota Street, as well as the State Street undercross-

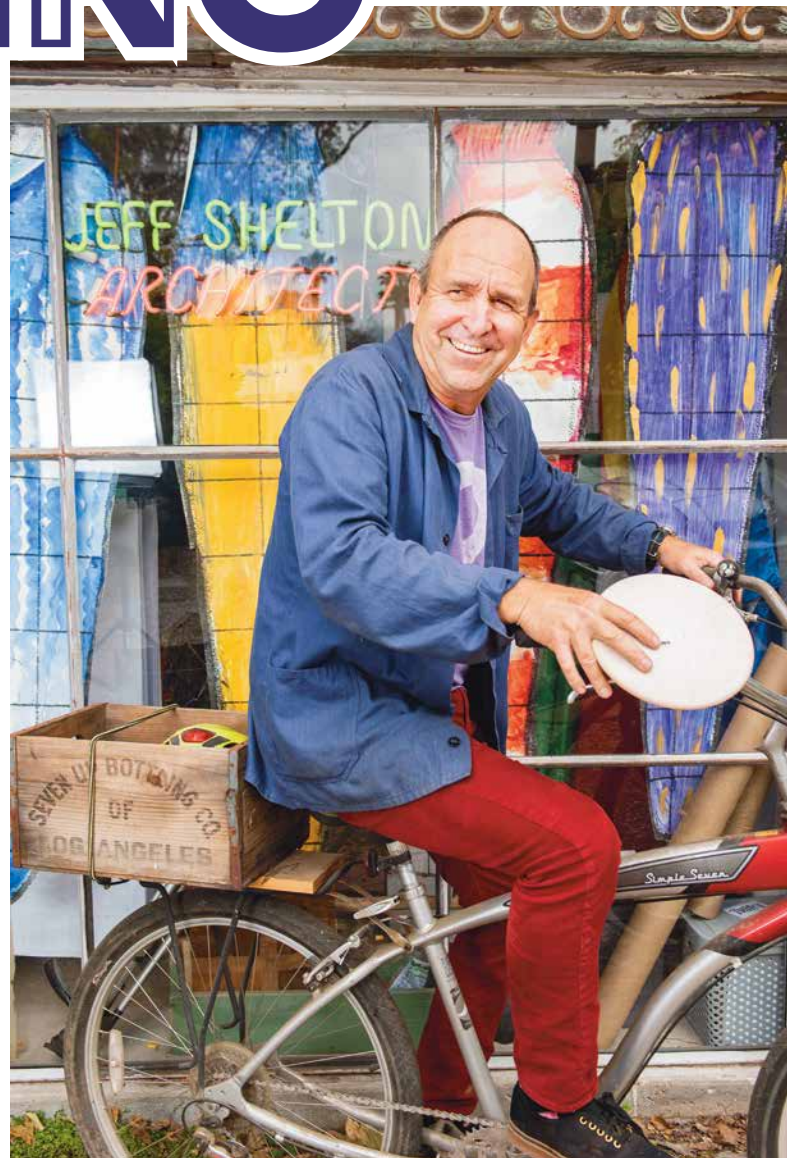
ing project (expect to see vibrantly tiled columns and fancifully loopy iron fences guiding pedestrians from the beach to downtown), and a tequila bar at the corner of Ortega and State.

"I just try to find good clients," said Shelton. "It's no fun with clients that don't understand the process. I've been pretty lucky. Clients are the ones who make it work. They pay for everything, but they also have to have faith in this crazy bunch of people they're getting into working with."

Mary Beth Myers, whose Tower House was the first to be rebuilt in Montecito after the 2018 mudslides, had nothing but raves about Shelton and his team. "Jeff's just a peach—he's so creative, he has such minimal ego, and is so cooperative," she said. "After all is said and done, the building process was an absolute joy. They're just like a group of happy elves."

Chief among the Shelton collaborative team—they call themselves a "guild" but have no financial connection—is Dan Upton, the contractor who (with Leon Olson) offered Shelton a project at 1021 Laguna Street in 1994. They've worked together ever since.

"We are problem solvers," said Upton. "Jeff comes up with these optimistic, fun ways of thinking and fun ways of building and ... we are just happy to do the fun things. He sketches, and we say, 'Make it as fun and interesting as you want, and we'll figure out how to build it.'"



JEFF SHELTON

CONT'D FROM P. 17

For a man who specializes in creating the curvy and colorful, Shelton's a pretty straight shooter. He loves his town, his team, and his work — and it shows. As for his method of staying true to his artistic vision and navigating his way through Santa Barbara's notoriously complicated approval process, "I just do what I think is best for each building and each lot," he explained. "My palette is the code and the site and the city and the people around the neighborhood. It's an art, but ultimately nobody cares about all those details in the end. They just want to be able to have a glass of wine comfortably and happily in their house."

A GUIDE TO THE GUILD

"First the tractors come in, and they grade the site," explained Shelton of how one client described the work of his guild, "and then this merry band of artisans show up, and they laugh and they enjoy the work, and it's like that until they leave."

It certainly sounds like a joyful process. The **Upton Construction** team has played a huge part in Shelton's work, with Matt Metcalfe recently taking over the day-to-day business as founder Dan Upton is mostly retired.

Jeff's brother's architectural ironwork, lamps, and other elements from **David Shelton Studios** are an integral part of Jeff's buildings. "I just say, 'Dave, I'm going to do a balcony.' I don't even need to draw, and he knows what to do," laughed Shelton.



CREATIVE CAVERN: Here's a look inside Jeff Shelton's wild office above, and a miniature model of the Ablitt Tower at left.



Jeff's wife, **Karin Shelton**, an accomplished fine artist in her own right, wields her brush on various architectural projects and also helps with the Shelton line of fabrics, tiles, and books. Their daughter Mattie Shelton is part of the team as well, working on the fabrics, tiles, and her own line of unique shelters called **Shelton Huts**. (Their other

daughter, Elena Shelton, works as a doula.)

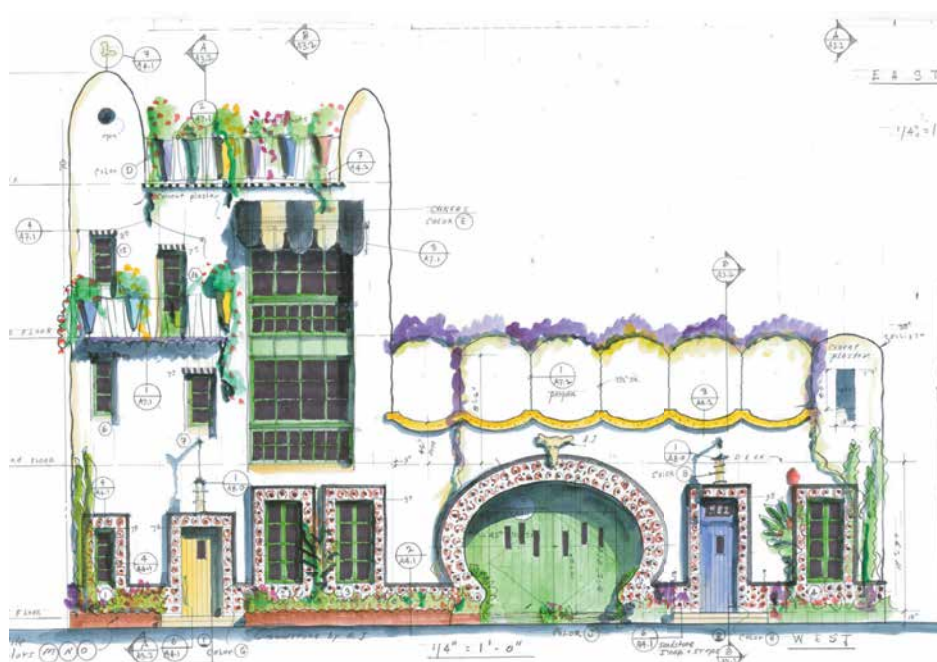
The "merry band" also includes sculptor/mason **Andy Johnson**; woodworker **David Moseley**; window and door specialist **Royce Woodbury**; lamp shades by Saul Alcaraz of

Santa Barbara Art Glass; ceramicist **Linda Hail Godlis**; **California Pottery & Tile Works**; **Villa Lagoon Tile**; **Specialty Team Plastering**; and artists **Richard Wilke**, **Court Johnson**, **Katie Upton**, and **Ben Ciccati**, among others.

For about the past 15 years, the group has been meeting at the James Joyce on Tuesday afternoons. "Jeff keeps a really accurate tally of who shows up at James Joyce and when they come," said Upton. "And at the end of the year, you get a medal if you were there the most frequently or least frequently."

"I'm a big believer in pubs," said Shelton. "They should be every half mile, like a community living room that's a place where people of all ages can meet and hang out."

Added Upton, "It's been one of the great pleasures of my life to have this collaboration with Jeff to build the buildings that we have built."



SKETCHY SCENES: These are working sketches that Shelton made of the Pistachio House, El Andaluz, and the Ablitt Tower.

FRUIT-TREE WISDOM

FRUIT trees are an easy way to grow your own food, while providing shade, bird habitat, and seasonal visuals to your property. My modest-sized suburban yard is packed with lime, orange, fig, apple, mandarin, kumquat, avocado, Meyer lemon, finger lime, and apricot trees—all of which find their way into various salsas, sauces, juices, marinades, and salads throughout the year—and I'm on the lookout for one or two more.

So I called Mike Tully, the owner and operator of Terra Sol Garden Center for advice on what to plant next. But our conversation actually started with what I couldn't plant—or, as he put it, "Say goodbye to backyard citrus," because there just aren't that many more trees left for residential planting across Southern California.

"The nursery industry has been absolutely slammed blindingly like we've never seen before due to increased demand," said Tully of what's happened during COVID. "People have more time on their hands and are returning to their roots and trying to grow their own edibles."

As to lemons, limes, oranges, and their brethren, most of the suppliers in this region are exhausted, and the dominant forces seem to not have planned correctly for planting in advance. "I cannot even order a citrus if you wanted me to," said Tully. "They have completely sold out of products. Citrus is almost nonexistent for the first time in my life as a professional." He doesn't expect it to come back until at least 2022.

Raised in the Pacific Palisades, Tully first came to Santa Barbara for City College in 1981, then got his degree in ornamental horticulture at Cal Poly. He began working in nurseries here in 1986 and, in April 2000, he bought the old Katashi Landscape Nursery from the Moris, a Japanese family who'd owned the business off Patterson Avenue since the 1960s.

He turned that into Terra Sol, which is a full-service nursery, with everything from vegetables to statuary. But, as Tully explained, "We focus more on unusual succulents and cacti, and the whole edible world."

Citrus crisis aside, Tully still has plenty of everything else: avocado, stone fruit, mulberry, fig, guava, loquat, apple, and so on. "Anything I'm talking about is going to work well as long as you're not in extreme heat or extreme frost zone," he said of the South Coast growing region. "Some might be harder



CITRUS CRISIS: Oranges like these are hard to come by in SoCal right now due to an ongoing shortage of citrus.

for the Santa Ynez Valley," which has harder frosts and higher heats.

"Semi-dwarf"—sized trees work best for backyards, but if you want to go big, opt for a mulberry. "We have mulberries that can get upward of 20 feet," said Tully, who also loves the Fuerte breed of avocado for sizable trees and green-skinned fruit. "The flavor profile is really awesome."

Drought-tolerant options include fig, guava, pomegranate, or loquat. "These are all plants that will integrate well into a low-water landscape," he said.

He suggested passionfruit as an easy edible option that doesn't take up much space. "That's super easy and very fun for families to grow and watch the fruit turn into little purple egg-shaped flavor bombs," said Tully, who recommended pineapple guava in the same vein.

I wanted weirder, so he mentioned self-fertile kiwi, which is a rarity for a species that usually requires mating pairs, as well as goji berry and yerba mate, though he didn't recommend that I try turning the latter into my own tea. And then he went off about jaboticaba, a Seussian tree from South America that looks as unique as it tastes. "It blooms right on the woody trunk," said Tully. "Those flowers grow black cannonball fruit that's so delicious."

I spent the rest of the weekend dazzling friends with pictures of those bizarre, ball-covered trees, and have been wandering around my yard ever since, trying to locate the ideal place to showcase my very own jaboticaba.

—Matt Kettmann

5320 Overpass Rd.; (805) 964-7811; terrasolgardencenter.com

national
Karastan
month

24 MONTHS NO INTEREST FINANCING
Hurry!
24mo. Financing
Ends May 31st

LOWEST
PRICES
of the season

Now is the time to save on gorgeous carpet during **National Karastan Month**.

Special financing available.
See store for details.

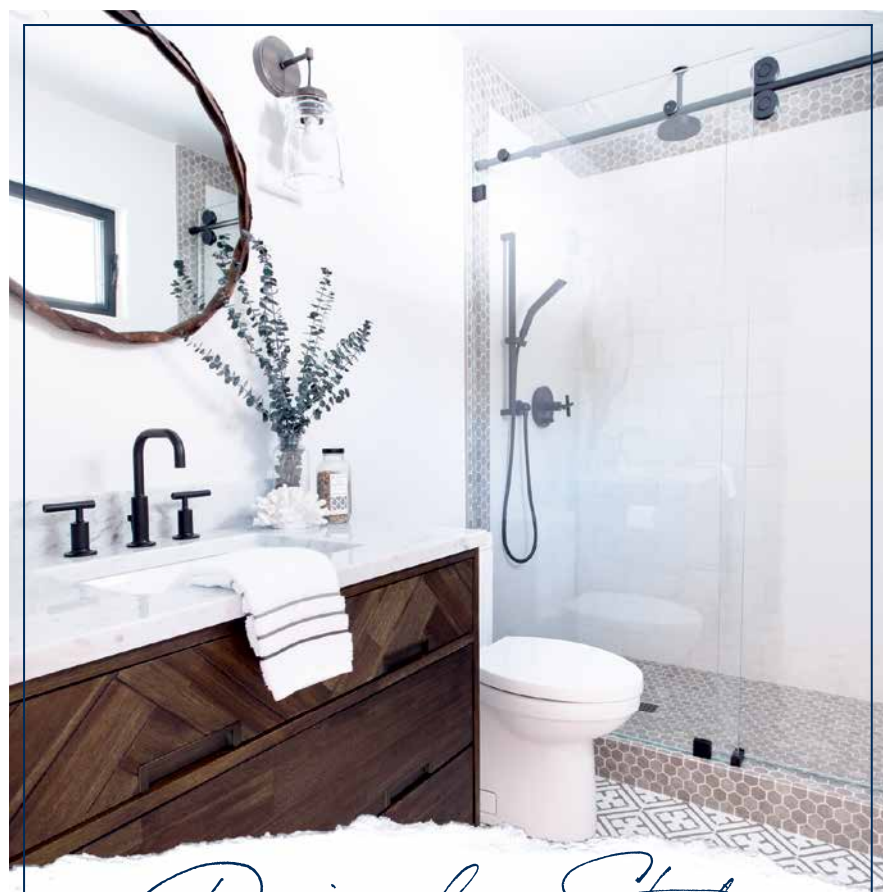
SALE ENDS JUNE 22, 2021

FLOORING 101
Since 1971

Celebrating
50 Years

Flooring101.com | 5970 Daley St, Goleta | (805) 692-4900

*Show credit card issued by Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., an Equal Housing Lender. Special terms apply to qualifying purchases of \$1,000 or more charged w/ approved credit. /Min. monthly payments required during promotional (special terms) period. Interest is charged to your account from purchase date at the APR for Purchases if purchase balance is not paid in full within promotional period. Paying only min. monthly payment will not pay off purchase balance before end of the promotional period. New accounts APR for Purchases, 28.99%. If you're charged interest in any billing cycle, min. interest charge will be \$1.00. Info accurate as of 12/01/18. Subject to change. Current info: 1-800-431-5921. Expires 5/31/21. floors101.com



Designology Studio

Kitchen + Bath | Styling + Decor
New Construction | Remodels
Drafting + 3D Modeling | Renderings

Follow us on Social Media



@designologystudio

DESIGNOLOGYSTUDIO.COM | 805.765.4781

TIPS FROM A VETERAN VINTAGE SHOPPER

UNLIKE many of today's cheaply manufactured products, antiques were built to last a lifetime. These high-quality items can be a chic, unique, and eco-conscious way to furnish your home. But you need to know what to look for.

Antiques dealer Anne Luther founded Raggedy Anneteques at age 14, selling her wares at flea markets and swap meets. She shared some tips during a recent walk through the Antique Center Mall on Hollister Avenue, where her collections are on display (she also has space at the Summerland Antique Collective).

DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER:

"Don't think because you see a rack of Hawaiian shirts when you walk in that there won't be anything in the store for you," said Luther. "Multi-dealer collectives often have a mix of dealers with a range of items to offer. Shopping at these kinds of places saves you time and helps you develop your own style. Dealers will sometimes have to buy an entire estate or box at auction to get the items they really want. So make sure to look closely. That Asian art dealer may also have a small box of English china in the corner. You never know." This is also a good way to find bargains, she said.



ANNE-TIQUES: Anne Luther's collection can be found at the Antique Center Mall on Hollister Avenue.

LOOK CLOSELY: You may be surprised by what you spot. "Make sure to look both up and down when you're in an antique collective," she said. "Real estate is expensive, and dealers take advantage of every inch of space, hanging things from the ceiling and tucking them under tables."

TOUCH THINGS: "You're not in a museum," said Luther. "Feel an item and its weight. The heavier the piece of fur-

niture — specifically chairs — the more likely that it's a period piece from the 18th century." Her pro tip: If you reach your hand underneath the front of a chair, you can feel the raw wood. If it's smooth, it's been machine-cut, and the chair was made after 1860. If it's rough, then it's hand-cut, and the piece is likely much older. For china, pottery, and glassware, she advised, "Check for chips and cracks with your fingers as well as your eyes. Run your finger over all of the edges."

DISCRIMINATE, BUT DON'T HOARD:

"It takes three of something to make a collection," said Luther. If you have tabletop items, like lion figurines for example, "when you display them at home, you want to put them on a tray to give them a little more presence and interest. And you don't want to buy every single lion you

ever see: This is how hoarders get started. Be discriminating, buy the best quality you can afford, signed pieces or pieces manufactured by well-known names. Keep refining your collection, replacing inferior pieces with better quality ones."

Antique Center Mall, 4434 Hollister Ave., (805) 967-5700, antiquecentermall.com; Summerland Antique Collective, 2192 Ortega Hill Rd., Summerland, (805) 565-3189, summerlandantiquecollective.com

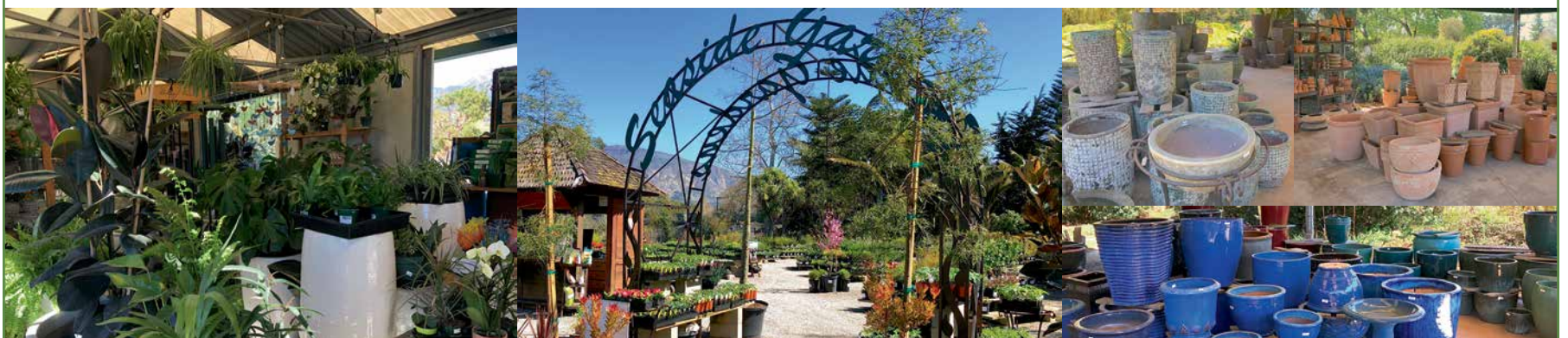


SEASIDE GARDENS

BOTANICAL GARDEN AND RETAIL NURSERY

3700 VIA REAL IN CARPINTERIA, (805)684-6001

www.seaside-gardens.com



CONFINED TO QUARTERS, NOT TO CANVAS

WHEN the pandemic stuck Maryvonne LaParlière in her new Solvang home last spring, the white walls and unfinished surfaces didn't stand a chance against the artist's love of color. The French-born, École des Beaux-Arts-educated artist has specialized in decorative art for decades but focused primarily on commissions — like the three vibrant murals that grace the walls of Goleta Valley Cottage Hospital — and work for sale in galleries.

"When COVID arrived, it was not even like fight or flight, because we didn't know what to fight exactly and we couldn't fly anywhere," said LaParlière, who closed her gallery in Amherst, Virginia, with the shutdown. "I had to figure out what to do."

She looked around the house and spotted two nightstands in the bedroom that "were good quality but kind of blah." So she painted them to match the botanical design on her bedspread. Then it was on to faux painting a frieze of tiles in trompe l'oeil style, inspired by antique Spanish/Portuguese ceramic tiles.

Staying with Mediterranean-inspired vernacular, she hand-painted her patio and did an entire outdoor barbecue area. "I decided to do the wall near my iron gate and a little barbecue sink, which I did painted in blue and white in the azulejos Portuguese style," says the artist, whose work can be found in the collections of celebrities such as Priscilla Pres-

ley, Larry Hagman, Fannie Flagg, Julia Roberts, and Susan Sarandon, as well as the Orient Express Hotels chain, University of Virginia, and Alliance Française of Washington, D.C. In 2010, after a solo exhibition at the French Embassy, she was even decorated by the French Ambassador as a Knight in the Order of the Palms in recognition of her talent and for bringing French culture to so many in America.

Painting her way through the pandemic kept LaParlière's spirits high, as did living in such a beautiful place. She transformed the steps leading up to her house into a colorful entryway, painting images of the nearby mission and gathering inspiration from all the local flora and fauna; "boring furniture" pieces like chests, trunks, and tables were transformed into colorful works of art; and borders around her windows became showcases for more hand-painted tilework.

Now that things are starting to open up, she is eager to work with new clients, as well as in her own home — if she can find an empty surface. Said LaParlière, "I will never stop."

See laparriere.com.



Maryvonne LaParlière



The best selection of:

Landscape Plants

Bedding Plants

Roses

Vegetables and Herbs

Fruit Trees

Houseplants

Succulents

Color Baskets

Pottery

Soil Amendments

Fertilizers

Garden Supplies

165 S. Patterson Ave. Santa Barbara 805-9649944 www.lasumida.com

EXPLORING THE AMBRIZ KINGDOM OF PLANTS

THERE'S no signage outside his unassuming digs, but an urban rainforest's worth of living treasures is tucked into Joe Ambriz's Carpinteria greenhouses. Everything from orchids (he specializes in *Laelia anceps* and *Cattleya*) to air plants, as well as a tempting variety of succulents, flowering cacti, and caudiciforms lines the aisles of Ambriz Kingdom of Plants, many of which have been raised from seed by the man himself.

"I have a love that spreads across the whole plant world," says Ambriz, showing off a tableful of exotic pot arrangements, some of which he's been cultivating for almost a decade. "I try to do as much as I can from seed because a lot of the oddball, rare stuff isn't easy to find in abundance, so by seed I'm able to create a whole bunch of rare plants."

Ambriz got his start with orchids — a friend gifted him with a cymbidium, and when it died a year later, he was determined to learn how to keep it alive. That sent him into a deep dive into the world of horticulture: first as a hobbyist — at the time he was working as the percussion director for Santa Barbara High, his alma mater — and then working for 7 Day Nursery, with a small area for cultivation at Island View Nursery. When that property sold,

his current spot became available, and he leaped at the opportunity for a kingdom of his own about five years ago.

Until the pandemic hit, Ambriz made the bulk of his sales exhibiting at orchid shows, including the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show, which was shut down for the past two years. Since then, he's pivoted his efforts toward retail sales, and that loss is a gain for local plant lovers. While there are certainly plenty of colorful orchids on hand, the oddball assortment of agaves, aloes, bromeliads, tillandsia, and multitudes more are all equally exciting.

4998 Foothill Rd., Carpinteria, open by appointment, (805) 570-5792



Joe Ambriz



KEEPING INTERIORS
Samantha Keeping

A FULL-SERVICE INTERIOR DESIGN STUDIO

805.563.6307

www.keepinginteriors.com

@@keeping_interiors



The Great House Detective

column appears monthly in the *Independent* written by local historian **Betsy J. Green**

Do you have an older home in Santa Barbara with an interesting history? Betsy would love to hear from you.

The Oldest House on the Block

History from Near and Far

a Pioneer Family

Message her through the Contact page of her website: **betsyjgreen.com**

Santa Barbara Independent

INDIAN PINK PILLOW POWER

A passion for exotic textiles and a yearning for travel — fed by her time as a flight attendant for American Airlines — propelled Montecito-based Tamara Cajuste into the world of home decor. **Indian Pink Pillows**, which Tamara and her husband, JP Cajuste, founded in 2007, specializes in vibrant, one-of-a-kind pillows and bolsters that incorporate vintage textiles from around the world.

“I think of pillows as the jewelry of the house, and they are such a great way to accessorize and accent your home,” said Tamara. “They tie everything together: They can tie a rug



COURTESY PHOTOS

together with a painting or the rest of your furniture.”

These decorative pillows are also a simple way to switch up your decor. “You can change with the seasons with pillows — do a heavier fabric and tones in winter and then a fresh, lighter summer color,” said Tamara, who designs from textiles across Asia and Africa, while JP handles sales and operations. “There are so many different ways to use pillows to do an update.”

Indian Pink Pillows has a pop-up shop at Folly (3823 Santa Claus Ln., Carpinteria), and its pillows are also available at Rooms & Gardens (924 State St.). See indianpinkpillows.com.



BRINGING BRASS RING TO HOME DECOR

A new line of luxury accessories by designer Joel Chauran melds his years as a professional horse trainer with his longtime career as a home furnishings product developer for brands such as Pottery Barn, Pier 1, Target, Neiman Marcus, and Williams Sonoma.

In addition to horse-inspired bags, jewelry, and accessories, Urban-Equestrian's line of feather pillows embraces the sturdy yet elegant materials of contemporary riders. Coronado suede, Coronado cowhide, and Adagio cowhide leather pillows are

available in a variety of colors, shapes, and styles, all of which are designed to work together with an emphasis on both style and comfort.

“I like to layer pillows together,” said Chauran, working from his studio in the hills near the Santa Barbara Bowl. “Refreshing your pillows and even rearranging the ones that you have really is a quick fix to give new life to an old room. I’m always thinking about how I could put this one together with that one; I always have different combinations in my head when I’m designing.”

Events by

JUST4FUN

party rentals

SANTA BARBARA

805-680-5484

Est. 2007

Birthdays - Weddings - Backyard Parties

THE INDY A PODCAST

independent.com/theindy

STAY CONNECTED



@sb-independent

Independent

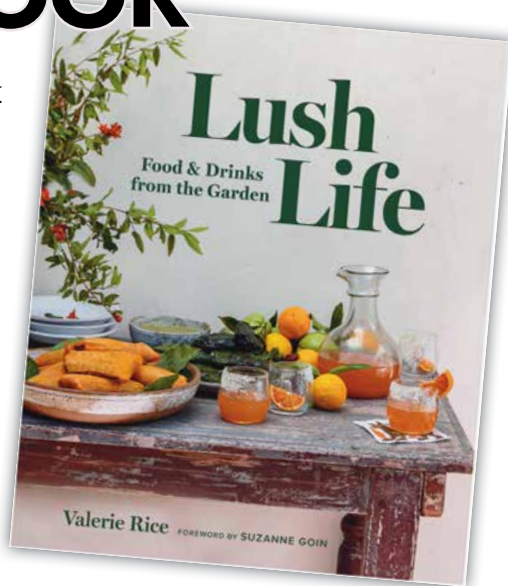
SEASONS STAR IN *LUSH LIFE* COOKBOOK

VALERIE RICE brings a seasonal symphony of gardening, cooking, and entertaining to *Lush Life*, a glossy new cookbook from the author of *eatdrinkgarden.com*. “We’re so lucky that you can grow year-round gardens here,” said Rice, who populated her first book with 150 seasonal recipes, including cocktails, entertaining tips, wine pairing advice from renowned expert Rajat Parr, and gorgeous photography by Gemma and Andrew Ingalls. “It’s kind of a handbook for life here in Santa Barbara,” said Rice, who believes the key to deliciousness all starts in the garden. “When you grow in season, it not only tastes better and works better but also is great for palate fatigue.”

She suggests starting “with a sunny spot in your garden and make sure you have great soil” and then mixing compost and organic potting soil together and calendaring at least two days a week to work in the dirt. Keep the garden where you can see it from the kitchen. “Grow something that you really love to eat so you’re excited to go out there and harvest it,” she said. “And grow what is appropriate for the season.”

With this in mind, each section of *Lush Life* starts with tips on what to eat for that season and what to plant for the next season. “What grows together goes together,” advised Rice, “so whether you’re pulling it from your garden or walking around the Tuesday Farmers’ Market, a lot of the stuff that’s offered is just delicious together.”

Here is a streamlined version of her spring



recipe for Golden Beets & Blood Oranges with Citrus Vinaigrette.

CITRUS VINAIGRETTE: In a mason jar, shake ½ cup extra-virgin olive oil, 2 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar, 2 tablespoons fresh blood orange juice, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1 teaspoon Diamond Crystal kosher salt, and ½ teaspoon freshly ground pepper.

SALAD: Boil 6 to 8 medium golden beets and cool. Slice 6 blood oranges into ½-inch-thick slices, and place in a bowl with any reserved juices from the cutting board. Toss the beets with 2 cups of lightly packed watercress or mâche, arrange in a shallow bowl or platter, and tuck in the orange slices. Taste for seasoning and add more dressing, if needed. Season with salt and pepper, and sprinkle with mint.

See eatdrinkgarden.com.

Though he designs all sorts of items, textiles are particularly dear to his heart. “I’m just drawn to all of the different techniques that you can do with fabric to customize things, and so it becomes this playground of different embroideries and different stitches and different folding and ruching and what-not,” said Chauran. “I just can’t seem to get enough of it.”



COURTESY

Urban-Equestrian pillows are available at Lily in Montecito (lilyinmontecito.com), Cercana in Ojai (cercanaojai.com), and online at urban-equestrian.com, where 2 percent of online sales are donated to Love This Horse Equine Rescue.



ENCAUSTIC CEMENT

TILE

DESIGNED BY
JEFF SHELTON ARCHITECT

AVAILABLE AT VILLALAGOONTILE.COM



The Art of Consignment

**CONSIGN AND FIND FINE FURNITURE,
DISHES, ARTWORK AND GIFTS.**



The Art of Consignment is the leading Consignment store in Santa Barbara specializing in hand-selected, top-quality, previously owned Furniture, Home Goods, and Decor. Our inventory features designer quality pieces from well-known brands such as Henredon, Baker, Palecek, and others.

Please check in with us frequently as our inventory is always being updated.

Store Hours: Tue - Sun 11am - 4pm
FB: [@theartofconsignment](https://www.facebook.com/theartofconsignment) | **IG:** [@theartofconsignmentsb](https://www.instagram.com/theartofconsignmentsb)

805.755.9115 | 617 E. Gutierrez St, Santa Barbara
shop@theartofconsignment.com | theartofconsignment.com

PUBLIC GARDENS FOR PRIVATE INSPIRATION

NATIVE PLANTS AND WATER WISDOM

If you're looking for ways to be water savvy at home, **Santa Barbara Botanic Garden's** Water Wise Home Garden section (sbbg.org) is the place to go. This small-scale, realistic setting shows off easy-growing, beautiful California native trees, shrubs, and plants that are drought-tolerant wildlife habitats. An excellent selection of natives is available for purchase at the on-site Nursery, which helps to support the work of this valuable nonprofit.

1212 Mission Canyon Rd.



PAUL WELLMAN FILE PHOTOS

CHUMASH INSPIRATION

The **Chumash Point Ethnobotanical Preserve** on Santa Barbara City College's East Campus (sbcc.edu/environmentalhorticulture) is a practical lab for the school's environmental horticulture students, as well as a great resource for locals to get a peek at a garden that emphasizes native plants that have medicinal, nutritional, and spiritual importance to the Chumash.

721 Cliff Dr.

COMING UP ROSES

If you're looking to create your own rose garden, the **A.C. Postel Memorial Rose Garden** across from the Santa Barbara Mission is a wonderful source of inspiration. More than 1,500 rose plants in every possible hue are usually in bloom between April and November, making these carefully tended flowerbeds a favorite spot for a stroll.

420 Plaza Rubio



SUPERB SUCCULENTS

The 37 acres of horticultural wonders at **Lotusland** (lotusland.org) showcase a number of rare species and exotic specimens, including an impressive array of drought-friendly plants in the succulent garden. A sweeping collection of cacti is also on display in another themed area, along with the oft-photographed euphorbia, cactus, and succulent plantings in front of Ganna Walska's iconic pink residence, designed with the help of respected landscape architect Lockwood de Forest.

Reservations required. Call (805) 969-9990.

ORNAMENTAL EXCELLENCE

Considered a true masterpiece of Spanish Colonial Revival architecture, **Casa del Herrero's** grounds (casadelherrero.com) were designed in an eclectic mix of Moorish style and Country Place Era by noted landscape architects Ralph Stevens, Lockwood de Forest, and Francis T. Underhill. Included on the National Register of Historic Places, this estate features intricate pebbled pavings and a long watercourse that leads to colorfully tiled fountains, with charming spaces for flower beds, arcades, rose gardens, and a number of orchards.

1387 E. Valley Rd. Reservations required. Call (805) 565-5653.

We sell
AUTHENTIC MEXICAN & TALavera STYLE GOODS
 DIRECT FROM FAMILY ARTISANS IN MEXICO.

2915 DE LA VINA ST
 805-679-5529

Facebook @ALEBRIJEHOMWARES
 Instagram @ALEBRIJEHOMWARES

Go Green With
DANIS PAINTING Co.
"Honest New England Quality"

*Residential * Commercial*
*Pressure Wash * Reliable & Insured*

MARK DANIS
 805.403.8727 * mdanispainting.com
danispainting@gmail.com
 LIC #662554