



HOME FURNISHINGS AND
INTERIOR DESIGN SPECIALISTS

HarborTown Interiors

Stephanie Grill, Mary Kay Hylton and Kerry Cressler, Partners

Serendipity may have played a role in the career paths of three creatives who joined forces to form the enchanting HarborTown Interiors. Here, in the heart of downtown St. Joseph, a popular destination for tourists and locals alike, everyone has come to expect the unexpected, whether perusing their handpicked selection of distinctive furniture and accents or enlisting their interior design services.

It was 2010 when Stephanie Grill, Mary Kay Hylton and Kerry Cressler decided to merge after working together in the field for many years. "Our business is unique because we have a limited amount of retail space with unlimited resources," says Hylton. "We show a little, but we have access to a lot – and the imagination and expertise to make it work."

Their devoted clients will tell you the same:

"Every time I walk into my great room I smile as I take in what a beautiful room you created. Thank you



Above left: Prized possessions, such as Mary's collection of antique birdcages, work with new finds like a light fixture in the living room with a birdcage base that contributes to the overall charm.

Above: Existing furniture blends effortlessly with new pieces like a sectional that lets everyone settle in to watch TV in the colorful living room of this 4,000-square-foot cottage on the edge of Holland.



so much for your kindness, your time, your expertise and your friendship. You are terrific. I love it!" says Claudia, one of Grill's clients.

EYE CANDY

Their stylish storefront is easy on the eyes. "Customers often stop by to see what's new. Clients return because most have become friends and their projects can be ongoing," Hylton explains. In addition to their natural rapport with clients, the store continues to be a big draw. "Customers come in like kids in a candy store. The unique thing about HarborTown Interiors is how we present our products," says Cressler.

The partners are not limited by their niche. "We're much more than coastal living, cottage or shabby chic designs. We're everything from classic to casual, contemporary to traditional," Cressler says. "We can help bring a cherished keepsake to life again and make it fit in with your new furnishings. We can take a sow's ear and turn it into a fabulous sectional."

His clients concur:

"Just wanted to let you know how much we are enjoying the living room, etc.; watched the Bears game down there the other night. It was so warm and relaxing and inviting. It's just beautiful, can't thank you

Above left: A sizable island makes the kitchen especially user-friendly in this open floor plan that was exactly what was lacking in their previous home.

Above right: The first floor of the newly built home of John and Mary Amell in Macatawa is dedicated to visiting children and grandchildren. The built in banquette's cushion is covered in a stain resistant indoor/outdoor fabric to be extra family friendly. The color palette is a classic red white and blue and the pillows add to the nautical flavor and nod to the view of the marina that is just outside the window.



Above: Traditional elements like this built-in window seat topped with a colorful cushion and other personal touches are among the distinctive details throughout the house that make life as easy and breezy as it should be in a coastal environment.

Right: The third floor of the home is dedicated to relaxing. In addition to a welcoming guest suite, is this, the Master suite. Soft colors and casual window treatments compliment the fireplace and it's carved carrera marble mantle.



enough for all your beautiful selections of furniture and color. You are fantastic! I think we shall have a long relationship, as I can always come up with another project for you to do," says Vickie Combs.

JOINT EFFORT

At the edge of Holland, John and Mary Amell live in a newly constructed home in the historic community of Macatawa. "John is very hands on and Mary has an amazing eye," says Hylton who worked on the interiors of the four-story residence that features an open floor plan with a neutral palette embellished with brighter hues like red.

"A designer can actually save you money, come up with a plan and keep you from making a buying mistake," says Hylton, who helped them blend their favorite furniture and keepsakes, such as Mary's antique birdcage collection, with new pieces, like a cushy sectional. "This gave us the opportunity to get creative."

In the hands of HarborTown Interiors, the transformation from house to home is smooth sailing. "When we knew we were going to build, we called Mary Kay because we had a great working relationship with her. We worked with her previously on a major remodel. She has the ability to help us synthesize our thoughts. It was a very easy and natural process," says John.

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Participating companies:

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