

HOME/GARDEN

Spring 2020



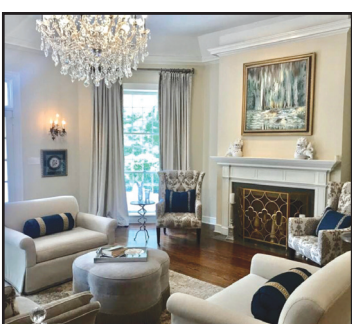
Living small

The Dukes family embraces the downsized life in a chic townhouse. Page 2.

Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

DECOR

Interior design trends that are taking off. Page 7.



RAE DUNN

The story behind these hot new housewares. Page 7.



GARDEN

Consider this before buying new plants for spring. Page 6.



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

The star of the dining room is the brass and lucite hanging light fixture. The window treatments are lined natural woven shades in white from Budget Blinds of Anniston.

living small

Debbie and Shon Dukes embrace the downsized life in a chic townhouse

BY LISA DAVIS

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Shon and Debbie Dukes have a 6,000-square-foot lake house in Lincoln. But last summer, with their daughter, Lexie, entering her senior year at The Donoho School in Anniston, they decided they also wanted a small place in town, more convenient to school.

nient to school.

They bought an 1,800-square-foot townhouse in an older neighborhood in Anniston — and they like the downsized life more than they expected.

“We stay here more than we thought we would, especially this winter. It’s easy, and very comfortable,” Debbie Dukes said. It’s convenient to school and to work for Shon

Dukes, who owns Riteway Auto Sales and Salvage in Munford.

Built in the 1980s, the townhouse was dark and dated when the Dukes bought it. Thanks to Scott Skinner of STS Decorating and Design in Anniston, the house is now fresh and bright. “We took it from very old-fashioned to modern chic,” Skinner said.

They could have gutted the two-story

townhouse, but chose instead to keep the layout essentially the same. The kitchen and bathrooms remain small by today’s standards, but they work.

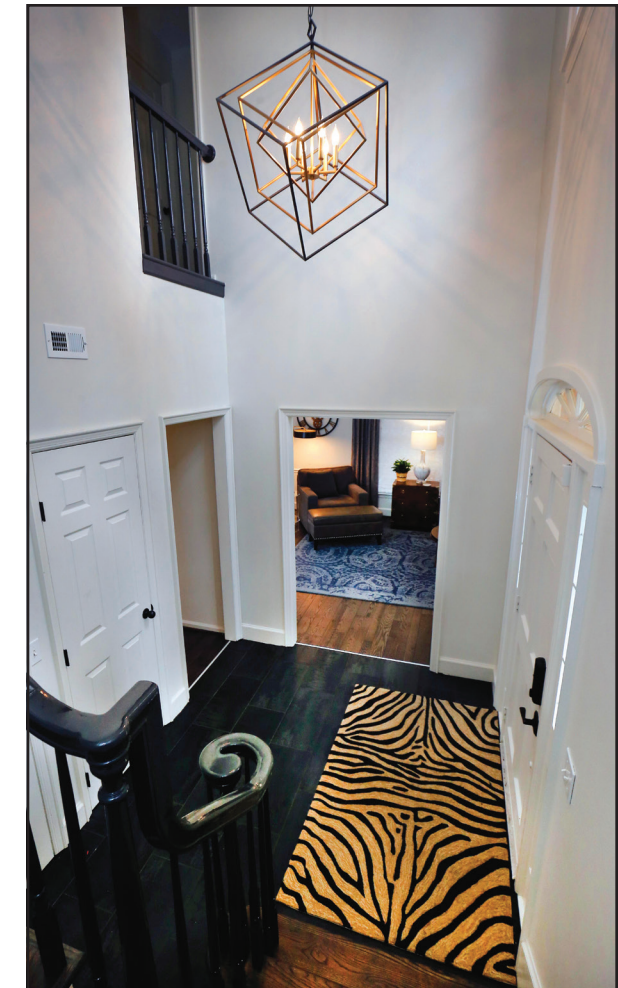
As Skinner said, “Downsizing doesn’t mean you have to give up style.”

Lisa Davis is Features Editor of The Anniston Star. Contact her at 256-235-3555 or ldavis@annistonstar.com.



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

ABOVE: In the living room, the original carpet was replaced with a prefinished hardwood floor in a dark brown. RIGHT: In the foyer, dark wallpaper was replaced with walls painted in Greek Villa by Sherwin Williams. “It’s not overly white. It reminds me of elegant wedding cake icing,” said designer Scott Skinner.



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

The master bedroom is a study in different textures, from the sleek lacquer nightstands to the leather bench. The lucite ceiling fan was a splurge.



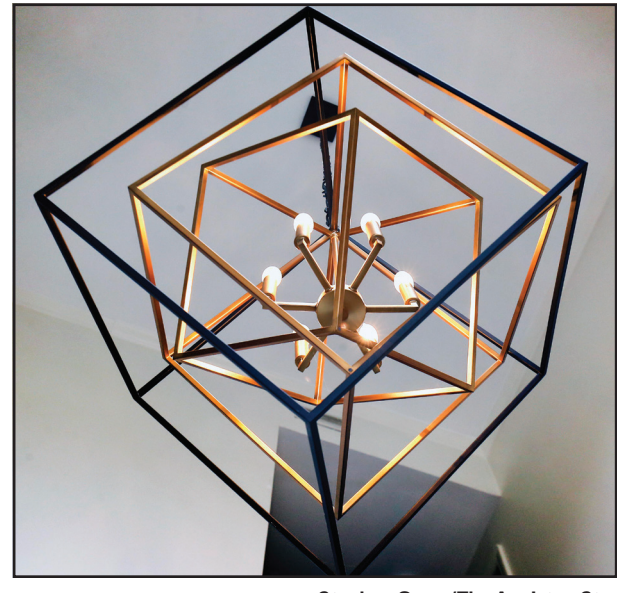
Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

In the den, the fireplace brick was painted white then accented with a black soapstone surround. Box beams were added to the ceiling. The drapes were custom made by Patsy Mann of Gadsden.



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

In the master bathroom, a spa tub was replaced with a spacious walk-in shower. The cabinetry here and in the kitchen is by Sanders Cabinetry of Anniston.



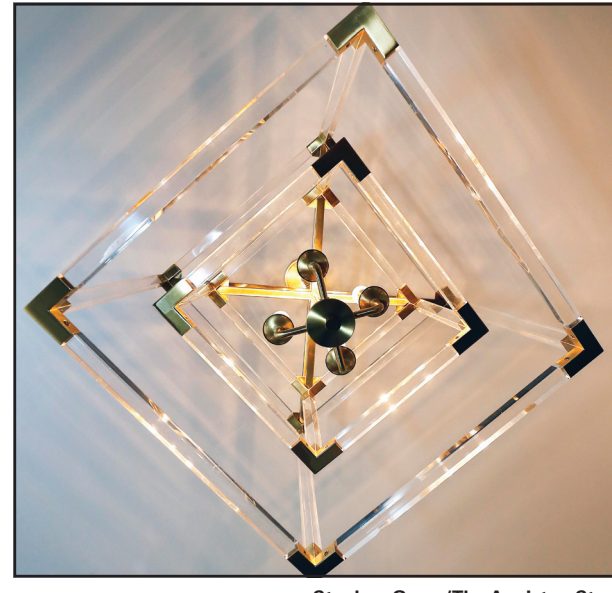
Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

A statement light fixture in the foyer.



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Debbie Dukes and Macie, a Maltese.



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A lucite and metal light fixture in the dining room.



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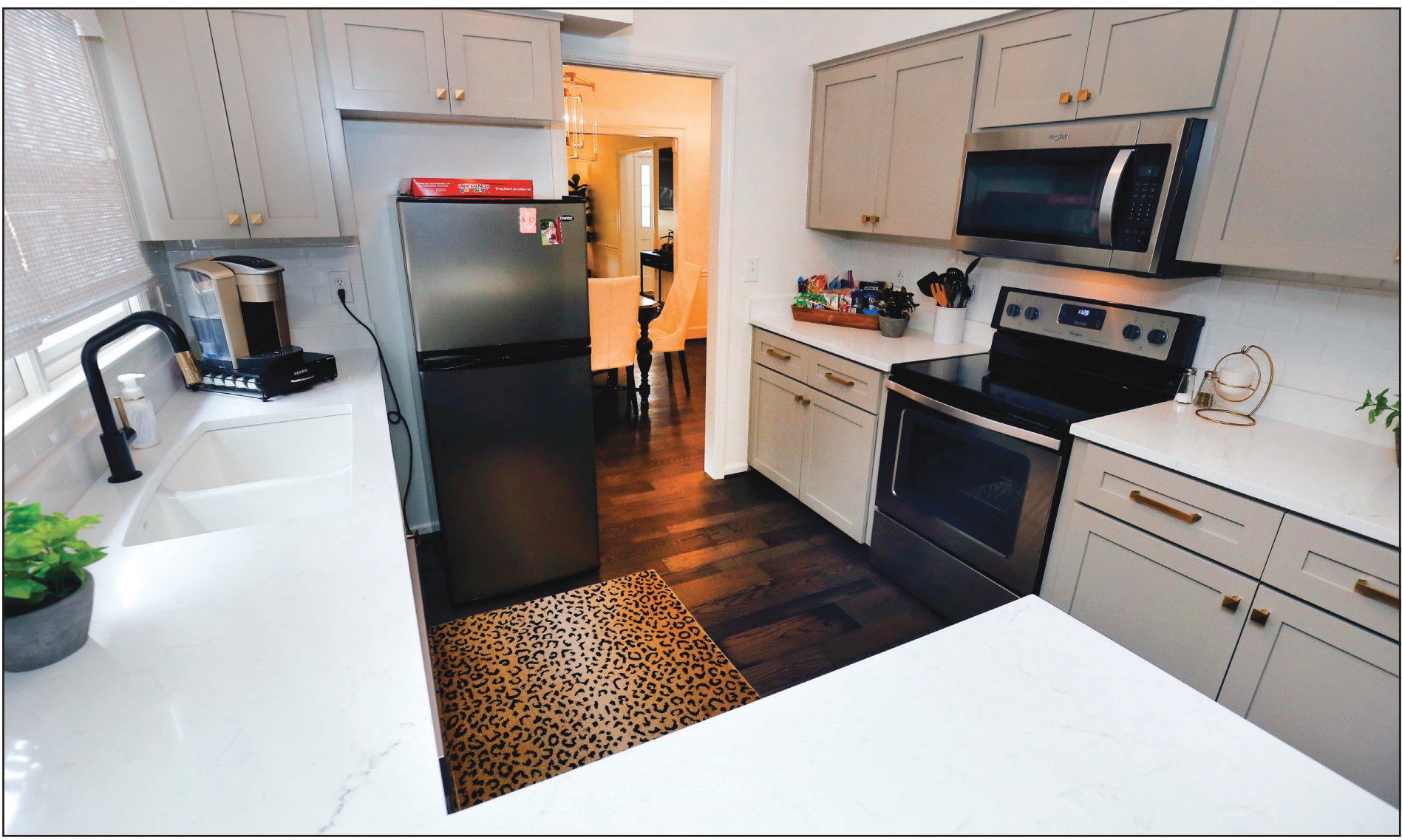
Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

The townhouse, tucked into a neighborhood of older homes, was built in the 1980s.



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

Upstairs are a guest bedroom and daughter Lexie Duker's bedroom and bathroom, with cabinets painted a glam shade of coral pink.



Stephen Gross/The Anniston Star

Rather than expand the kitchen, the homeowners decided to keep the existing footprint. They kept the original cabinets but updated the doors, drawer fronts, hardware and countertops. New appliances include a small refrigerator that suits the family's downsized lifestyle.

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Brilliant bulbs

Homeowners are stepping into the future with smart light bulbs

BY DANIELLE STALLWORTH

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Remember when the most exciting thing you could do with your lights was clap twice to turn them off and on? Remember having to invest in a lava lamp if you wanted some sort of colorful light presence in your bedroom? Nowadays, when there is a smart option for almost every appliance in your house (think refrigerators with touchscreens and washers that connect to your wifi), people are modernizing their home lighting experience with the help of smart light bulbs.

These high-tech LED bulbs come in many different shapes, sizes and brands. Not only are they more energy-efficient and long-lasting, but they have special features like dimming abilities, voice control and the ability to control them away from home.

Some smart bulbs can connect to your phone directly and be controlled through an app that you download. Others require a hub, which is a small console sold separately that serves as a middle man between your wifi router and your bulbs. They can also be paired with hubs you already have in place, like Google Home, Apple HomePod or Amazon Echo.

If this all sounds a little too “Black Mirror” for you, don’t worry. Smart bulbs definitely haven’t replaced regular ones yet. But whether you go for the ultra-trendy color-changing bulbs, or something crazier like bulbs that double as Bluetooth speakers, they’re an easy entryway into the world of home automation.

White bulbs

These standard white smart bulbs cannot change color, but they have the basic features of most smart bulbs: you can dim them, activate them by voice and control them while you’re away from the house. They can even be scheduled to turn off and on at specific times.

- Wyze 800 Lumens 60W Equivalent Tunable White Dimmable Wi-Fi LED A19 Smart Light Bulb, \$11.98, Home Depot
- Philips Hue White A19 Bluetooth Smart LED Bulb, \$14.99, Best Buy
- Globe Electric Smart Bulb LED White, 2 pack, \$26.99, Target

Color changing bulbs

Looking to splash some color on a room without the commitment of painting the walls? Color changing smart bulbs are the way to go. Some have a set amount of colors you can choose, while others have an open color selector that provides millions of options. If you’re in a partying mood, you can also set them to strobe.

- Xiaomi Mi E26 Smart Light Bulb, 60W Color LED, \$19.99, Walmart
- General Electric Full Color Smart LED Bulb BR30, \$34.99, Target
- LIFX Mini 800-Lumen LED Light Bulb Multi Colored, 9W, \$35.99, Amazon

Miscellaneous bulbs

There are also special types of smart lights that seem downright unnecessary, but very fun. These include smart LED light strips that are good for lining your floors or cabinets, and bulbs that double as speakers.

- Philips Hue White and Color Ambiance LED Dimmable Light Strip Plus Smart Wireless Light Extension (40”), \$24.97, Home Depot
- Sengled Pulse Solo Dimmable White Smart A19 Light Bulb + Bluetooth Speaker, 50W Equivalent, \$25.98, Walmart
- General Electric BR30 Speaker LED+ White Light Bulb, \$34.99, Target
- LIFX Z Wi-Fi Lightstrip Experience Kit 9.8’ - Multicolor, \$99.99, Best Buy

Cheaper options

If you’re looking to invest in a set of smart light bulbs with all the bells and whistles, you could easily end up spending over \$100. But it is possible to find individual smart bulbs for \$10 or less. While they may be lower quality than their pricier counterparts, they are a good starting point for practicing with the technology and seeing what kind of features you prefer.

- Mercury Innovations A19 Smart Light Bulb, 60W Dimmable LED, \$8.88, Walmart
- Feit Electric Smart WiFi 60-Watt EQ A19 Color-Enhancing Dimmable LED Light Bulb, \$9.98, Lowe’s
- Samsung SmartThings White A19 Smart LED Bulb, \$9.99, Best Buy
- GEMS Smart LED Color Changing Light Bulb, \$10, Target

Does your homeowner’s policy cover what it needs to?

BY KATE FLEMING

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When it comes to protecting your home and assets, David Glass, owner of Aligned Insurance Agency in Calhoun and Etowah counties, likes to think of things in a matter-of-fact way.

“Most people get homeowner’s insurance because their mortgage company makes them,” said Glass. “People should think about it as if it [a disaster] will happen to them and their home when they go to get insurance.”

Glass has been in the insurance business for more than two decades. Before owning his own business, he handled catastrophe claims for a State Farm agency. He joked and said home insurance is “kinda my thing.”

But what if home insurance isn’t really your thing?

First-time home-buyers can easily become overwhelmed when purchasing home insurance, but Glass had some answers for those who are new to this or who just don’t understand it as well as he does.

How do you know how much coverage you need?

“When someone asks how much coverage they need, I like to ask them how much would it cost to build [the house] back if it burned to the ground? Whatever that amount is, that is how much coverage you need.”

How do you find the right company to get insurance from?

“We are an independent agency and we shop around for you. We use software that we plug information into and it sends it to the companies we represent and we find the best option for you.”

What about people who just want to do it themselves and shop around online?

“You can do it online.

With online, you may find an agent who doesn’t know your area and what coverage you need. For example, a house in Atlanta costs more to build than in Jacksonville. So if that agent is based in Atlanta, they may try to sell you more coverage than you need. They may try to insure you in a way that is not conducive to your needs.”

Glass also provided some insight into how home insurance policies work. They are structured into five basic categories of coverage:

Dwelling coverage: This is what covers the actual structure of your home.

Other property: This is what covers any other structures on your property that aren’t attached to your home structure.

Personal property coverage: This is what covers the personal items and furniture within your home

Liability coverage: This is what covers you in case a visitor has an accident and suffers a serious injury and sues you.

Additional living expenses: This is what covers you in case your home is damaged and uninhabitable

and you need to live elsewhere until repairs or other arrangements can be made.

According to Glass, the industry and individual insurance providers dictate what amount of each coverage you and your home will need.

Glass also suggested bundling home and auto insurance policies together as a way of saving money on insurance premiums.

He also advised buyers to be wary of cheap insurance policies. Homeowner’s insurance is all about “protecting your financial assets,” he said. You “don’t want to save pennies now to spend dollars later.”

Glass said every home and case is different, and people will have different coverage needs.

“From my years in claims, I can’t stress enough how important it is to do your own needs analysis and not use a cookie-cutter approach to your coverages. You may miss something very specific to you that could have been protected if you had talked to an experienced, licensed independent insurance agent,” Glass said.



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FRESHEN UP

Boost your curb appeal with five easy projects

BY KATE FLEMING

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Most people think about boosting curb appeal when they are getting prepared to sell a home, but whether or not you’re selling shouldn’t stop you from making your home a beautiful place.

It’s important to have a well-kept home for yourself and your family. Having a welcoming front yard and entrance can help boost your mood and calm your stress — and it just might make your neighbors a little envious.

There are many ways to improve the outward appearance of your home, but the most important ones, and some of the most cost effective ones, at least according to HGTV.com, are:

Clean the exterior of your home

Removing mildew and dirt from the foundation and sides of your home will instantly give it a fresh feeling. The best way to do this type of cleaning is with

a pressure washer, and while you’re at it, go ahead and pressure wash those sidewalks and retaining walls too. If you don’t own a pressure washer, you can rent one from your local home improvement store for the day.

Freshen up the paint

If, after cleaning the exterior walls of your home, it still needs something to help it out, try a fresh coat of paint. Pick a bright color like white, yellow, light blue or any other color you like and get to work. Painting the exterior walls will help tremendously, but don’t overlook the trim around the windows, doors and roof.

Brighten up walkways and the front entrance

Add some solar-powered lights to walkways and some light fixtures near the front door. The idea here is that a lit pathway and entrance makes the home more inviting.

Add potted plants and flower boxes to the porch

Flowers and greenery by the front door say to visitors that this home is welcoming. By adding plants and flowers, you are bringing attention to the entrance of your home. There are several colors and varieties of plants to choose from, but most experts agree that the more colorful the flower, the happier the home appears.

Bring in some new plants and trim existing ones.

Never underestimate the visual power of a well-trimmed shrub. Whether you trim it symmetrically or find yourself feeling artsy and trim your shrubs into the shape of an elephant, a cared-for shrub shows that you care for your home. If you don’t have much in the way of shrubs, add some! While you’re at it, go ahead and add some brightly colored flowers around walkways, walls and trees.

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THE SOUTHERN GARDENER



Sherry Blanton/Special to the Star

GARDEN PARTY

Before you buy new plants for spring, stop and think

BY SHERRY BLANTON
Special to the Star

In just a matter of weeks there are going to be plants galore everywhere, one more alluring than the next. Gardeners (and others) will be wide-eyed from the choices. Try to be rational about your purchases before plant lust takes over. (In truth, do you need 15 more hosta plants?)

Ask yourself the following as you make your purchases:

What is the amount of space necessary for this plant to thrive?

Plants have requirements for space (height and width) at maturity. A 6-inch plant can become 6 feet in no time. Will it still fit your spot then? Like a puppy, it was really cute when it was small, but all puppies grow.

What does the plant need to grow happily?

Is your spot sunny or shady? Plants that worship the sun will not flourish in the shade. A poor shade plant living in the sun will be wilted and unhappy.

Do you know a plant's soil requirements?

Is your soil acid, alkaline or neutral? Every plant has a preference. One cannot fit a square plant into a round hole.

Is the soil boggy, clay, sandy, or full of rocks? Know your soil and act from there.

Can you provide adequate moisture (or do you dislike watering)?

New plants require lots of water those first years when temperatures soar and rain is non-existent. What if we have one of those pesky watering bans?

Is that new purchase a water hog? Save the plants that require lots of water

to be beautiful for special places. A couple of water lovers is nice; two dozen is not.

Is your new purchase tough or wimpy? Be honest with yourself; will you love it — or let it die if it is too needy?

Does the plant make my garden healthier and happier?

Natives fit in so well with our gardens, they are adjusted to our soil, our climate and our rainfall. They provide shelter and food for our birds.

Is it (heaven forbid) plant spam?

Stay away from aggressively spreading plants that require hours of weeding or, even worse, spraying. Find out how it performs in the giver's garden. I am trying to get rid of a plant I was gifted 30 years ago.

Is it a plus for the pollinators?

Plan a hospitable home for the bees, the butterflies, the moths and other pollinators. They make all good things possible. Nourish and protect them.

Is that sweet plant invasive?

Invasive plants are still being sold online, at plant sales and at nurseries. Some are deceptively beautiful. Avoid common nandina, leatherleaf mahonia, elaeagnus and dozens of others. If it has earned the adjective "invasive," walk away as fast as you can.

Once you have answered these questions and are satisfied you will be a good plant parent, buy as much as your car can hold! Spring is a plant party — celebrate!

Sherry Blanton, "The Southern Gardener," writes about gardening for The Anniston Star. Contact her at sblanton@annistonstar.com. Follow her on Facebook at Southern Gardener-Anniston Star.

What's bugging you?

Protect your property from spring pests

BY DANIELLE STALLWORTH
dstallworth@annistonstar.com

Spring is on the horizon, which means warmer weather, longer days and, best of all, our favorite pests waking back up for the year and preparing to wreak havoc on our precious homes and gardens. If you're ready to head into battle and defend your turf, check out these tips from local pest control specialists on how to get rid of the peskiest insects and critters of the season.

Tracy Rice, Rice Pest Control, Anniston

What we'll see in a couple of weeks is an uptick in termite activity. We're still coming out of winter, but as it gets warmer and the rain continues, they'll begin swarming.

We're seeing a huge amount of bed-bug activity in people's homes right now. It's hard to gauge why, but we usually have an uptick two times a year — in the spring and fall — for those.

Maintain your property. Repair or replace any rotten wood around your house so you won't have ongoing problems with insect entry. Check all the entry points and seal up any cracks in the foundation. Also, a good rule of thumb is to keep leaf debris and mulch cleaned up around the home. Cut your bushes and tree limbs back so they're not touching your home or hanging over it. Clean your gutters out to prevent ant problems. General maintenance and a basic cleanup of your home after the winter months is the best thing you can do.

Ray Milstead, Superior Pest Control, Inc., Oxford

This time of year you have termites beginning to swarm already. Once it warms up, you'll have wasps and carpenter bees and things like that.

People call about squirrels all the time. Those and mice and rats are pret-

ty much around 12 months out the year. What we normally do for squirrels and wildlife is live trap them and then relocate them.

You should do an exclusion (a preventative measure that involves sealing areas of the structure where pests are likely to enter) at your house to keep pests from getting inside. They'll chew the electrical wires and the alarm system, so they can be a hazard. We do exclusions, but if it's something big that requires a carpenter, they'll have to do that themselves. The main thing is just doing a good visual inspection. Most people are so busy that they don't have time to do something like that. That's why they call us.

Tony Brown, Havard Pest Control, Jacksonville

Early in the spring like this, our biggest thing is going to be ants. If you have shrubs growing against your house, that gives them easier access in. Otherwise they have to crawl up the wall and that takes longer. Try to keep the bushes cut back from your house, and keep your kitchen counters wiped down. Just like us, they're coming looking for something to eat.

We'll have a lot of calls about squirrels this time of year. They're starting to move around more as the temperature warms up. If they can get access into your attic, they'll nest in there and have their offspring. You want to make sure you keep the vents at the end of your attic sealed with a wire screen on the inside to keep them out. Also, keep the tree limbs cut back from your home so the squirrels can't run out on the limbs, jump on your roof and find a way in.

Just be aware of how you keep the outside of your home. American roaches (the big ones that people call wood roaches) like to live in mulch and pine straw that people put in their flower beds. Try to keep that stuff back about 6 inches from your house.

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A kitchen area designed by Scott Skinner.

WHAT'S IN FOR SPRING

Local designer breaks down 2020's top color and decor trends

BY DANIELLE STALLWORTH
dstallworth@annistonstar.com

Between schools closing and jobs encouraging employees to work from home due to coronavirus concerns, you may find yourself spending more time around the house now a days. If you get bored while practicing social distancing, here's an activity that everyone can enjoy: agonizing over the way your house is decorated and planning all the different ways you want to redesign your space.

According to Scott Skinner, an Anniston-based decorating consultant who has been doing residential and commercial design work for over 18 years, the best first step is to give him a call.

"I say call me and 'let's talk,'" Skinner said. "Most people have an idea of what they like. Working with a client, it's my job to create an environment that represents what they want but with collaborated ideas."

Not sure what you like? Feel free to gather some inspiration from the current interior design trends. Here's what Skinner had to say about the colors and decor styles that are taking off right now.

What colors are you seeing in interior design lately?

We are seeing and will see warm pastels, things that showcase warmth and earth. Warmer neutrals to bold monochromatics. Rich colors especially blues, greens (think olive to kelly), dusty teals, blushes, corals and apricots. You will see

browns being worked back into design. That doesn't mean throw out all of your grays, just that browns are making a comeback.

Are people choosing bolder color schemes, or going for more of a minimal look?

I go with color schemes that fit the project areas and the client's personality. I'm doing a lot of warm whites with pops of color in artworks, fabrics and textiles. However, I have painted bold stately colors like navies and greens with accents in brushed gold — which is HUGE right now. It's not the '80s gold, but a true timeless statement.

Pantone's 2020 Color of the Year is Classic Blue. Have you seen this color being used?

Anything blue and navy is hot! Some people follow the trend colors, and there are many ways to use them without painting walls, like painted ceilings, fabrics or accessories. Paint your walls and trim the same. Not all room trims have to match, but blend them. Interior doors can be painted not just white or a trim color, but accent them (i.e., an off white room with a coral door).

What decor styles are you noticing a trend in?

Classic and classicism is big! To me, classic means a look that will stand the test of time. It might not be "trendy" at the moment, but it's a look that one will not get tired of. You can pair this with a contemporary edge.

There are also many resources that offer "classics with a twist:" Rattan and wicker accents and

chairs are trendy. Performance fabrics are making a huge hit, especially with people that want light-colored furniture, but functional for daily lives and family use.

Wallpaper is classic and is coming back strong. It's not the wallpaper from the '80s — the newer ones will be much easier to remove — but everything from bold print elements to classic trellis. You are seeing a hint of the classic '70s and '80s filtering in, but really, in the right design, they never go out. It's all about how you put it together.

Any themes specific to springtime?

My big thing for springtime is to "bring the outside in." Get with your florist and check out fun plants that create interior garden-scapes in those beautiful porcelain urns and planters. Or plant them in grandmother's antique teacups to create a nice table centerpiece. Have fun in small porch areas; use those pops of colors with pots and planters. Throw that colorful (but tasteful) mat down. Springtime can be an excellent way to use materials that make you think of happy times and to create memories with family and friends.

Do you encourage people to follow trends or rely on their taste?

I tell clients that design can be affordable and needs to be functional — not only in a practical use but a visual one as well. It's always nice to add a touch of trend, but they come and go. That trend might not reflect the person, and they can get expensive. You need to feel comfortable in your home and space.

HOT POTTERY

Rae Dunn's simple pieces are all the rage

BY KATE FLEMING
kfleming@annistonstar.com

"It's just so simple and pretty." That's what Sara McGinnis, 54, said when asked what she likes about Rae Dunn pottery pieces.

Sara was shopping at T.J. Maxx at Oxford Exchange. She recently retired from her longtime job as a bank teller in Georgia and moved to Calhoun County with her sister Sheila, a woman she describes as a "Rae Dunn nutjob."

"I like the dishes, but my sister loves it all," said Sara as she looked at her shopping cart with a few pieces of Rae Dunn inside. "I really just buy it for her. It lifts her mood on her bad days."

Sheila was diagnosed with Alzheimer's a little over a year ago. Sara said the disease is progressing quickly, but Rae Dunn pottery usually makes Sheila happy — so long as Sara gets the right kind.

"We both like the white dishes with the big black letters on them. I just don't like the black dishes. They look too young for me," Sara said while laughing.

Most shoppers and collectors of Rae Dunn are interested in the same pottery as Sara and Sheila — white pieces with words written in large, skinny, black letters. The words on the dishes are usually along the lines of "EAT," "SIP" or "DINE."

So, what exactly is Rae Dunn and why do people scurry down aisles in T.J. Maxx and HomeGoods hoping to find a piece of it?

Rae Dunn, the widely popular pottery brand, started with just one woman: Rae Dunn.

The California native resides in the San Francisco Bay Area and currently has a line of wares that is sold nationwide. According to her website, her work is strongly influenced by the Japanese aesthetic of wabi-sabi, "the beauty of things imperfect, impermanent and incomplete."

After looking at pieces of her work, one could easily argue that they are imperfect and incomplete. The dishes are often misshapen and lumpy, the mugs are not quite perfectly round, and the lettering isn't perfect either.

But like Sara, many people love the simplistic design. A Google search of "Rae Dunn" turns up results like, "What is special about Rae Dunn," "Where to buy Rae Dunn" and "Rae Dunn Facebook groups."

Yes, there are entire groups dedicated to Rae Dunn, with information regarding where and when new items will be hitting

the shelves.

The somewhat inexpensive pieces are usually wiped from shelves by collectors and those who hope to resell the items on Ebay or other websites. According to a few testimonies online, some women have befriended staff at local retailers and had items set aside for them prior to the store opening on new item release day.

But don't get any bright ideas. Corporate offices became aware of these sorts of arrangements and put an end to them. T.J. Maxx has a policy in place now that states workers cannot give out any information about Rae Dunn over the phone. If you want Rae Dunn, you must wait your turn and walk down aisles to find the pieces you desire.

If in-person shopping isn't for you, there are ample online stores selling Rae Dunn. Try Amazon, Magenta, Ebay and others. But if online shopping spooks you, you are in good company. When asked if she joined any Facebook groups to help her find Rae Dunn or if she tried shopping online, Sara said she would "never be that person" and that online shopping was "dangerous."

"Facebook? I won't ever be on that monster. I wonder where those poor people find time to be on Facebook looking for dishes. I guess everyone needs a hobby, but I just need to finish running errands and show Sheila her new dishes," Sara said as she took one last look at the shelves and decided she was satisfied with her findings.



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Lime \$4.39



The Country's #1 Provider of Commercial Landscaping Services

LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE
We specialize in commercial landscape maintenance and grounds management plans.

LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS
Let us make your place of business look more inviting with seasonal flowers and plants.

IRRIGATION
Our professionals will service your irrigation systems to make your landscape healthier.

LAWN CARE
Partner with us, and we'll take care of your lawn regularly.

SNOW & ICE MANAGEMENT
Our snow and ice management services will keep your property safe during winter.

HARDSCAPE
We install hardscapes to create seating areas, walk paths, or gathering areas to enhance your grounds.

MULTI-LOCATION
We provide consistent commercial grounds care services for owners and managers of multiple properties.

TREE CARE
Trees are one of your biggest landscape investments. We provide proper care and trimming to protect your trees' longevity.



Spring Start-up: Benefits of Mulch... There are many...

Mulch creates distinct lines that separate plant beds from turf areas. It also provides a dramatic backdrop for bright, vibrant blooms. Fresh mulch gives an entire property a well-established, expertly maintained appearance. The visual benefits alone make mulch a wise landscape choice.

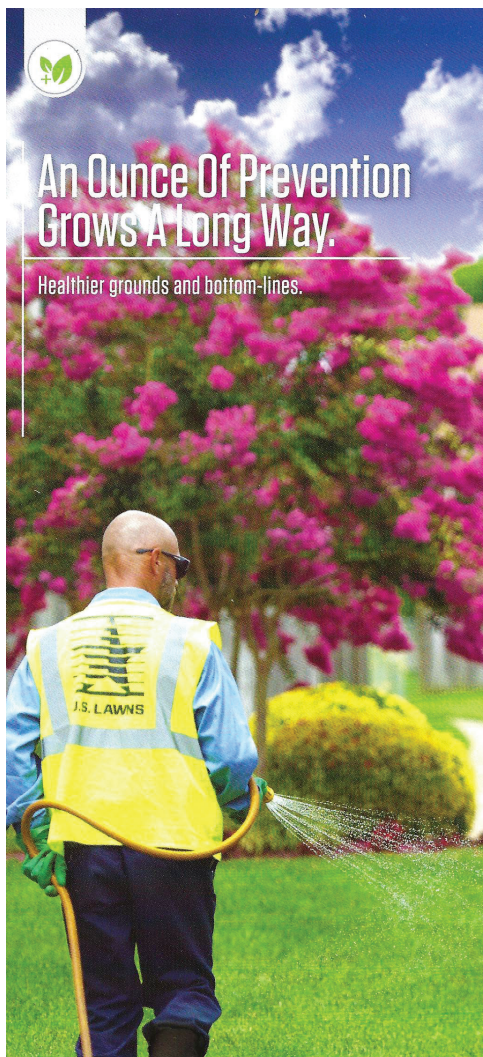
Helps Promote Health. Helps Prevent Weeds.

Mulch helps a landscape become healthier while making maintenance more efficient. A great way that mulch adds to landscape health is by preventing weeds.

A layer of mulch prevents would-be weeds from receiving sunlight and air. Mulching drastically decreases the maintenance hours needed to keep plant beds weed free.

Mulch also helps regulate soil temperature by acting as an insulator. Summer can be a stressful time for plants. Mulch provides a buffer that shields the soil from intense sunlight, which prevents soil from becoming overheated during the hottest parts of the day.

In a similar way, mulch helps conserve water and aids in irrigation. Mulch immediately soaks up irrigated water and then slowly and evenly transfers it into the ground. This prevents runoff during drought conditions and ensures that water is properly delivered to the plants' roots. Other services include affordable weed control and irrigation management.



Plant Health Services



THE REAL ROOTS OF GROUNDS CARE
Our fertilizer, pest control, weed and disease management programs prevent unsightly problems from impacting your grounds and your bottom-line.

RESPONSIVE VS. REACTIVE
A responsive plant management approach is less expensive and yields better results as we only treat problem areas before they have grown out of control.

YOUR TURF. OUR LAWN.
Experience the passion and capabilities local ownership and national resources bring to your commercial turf and landscape.

We're here to provide our customers with first-rate commercial landscape management services at competitive prices, through a national network of dedicated local owner-operators and their employees.



LAWN MAINTENANCE & GROUNDS CARE
Tony Diaz - ANNISTON-TEAM 388
(256) 435-2792

Serving Anniston, Gadsden, Etowah County, Calhoun County, Talladega County, Cherokee County
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