

Mother and son 'do it right' the first time

By ELIZABETH STEWART of The Herald Staff

Months before she started remodeling her first home Debbie Goforth searched through magazines and attended home shows to get new ideas.

"My son, Colt and I wanted our first home to be special and we think it is," said Goforth, a busy homemaker and mother of an active 10-year-old Grover School 5th grader.

It isn't unusual to hear Colt McAbee say that his room is the prettiest in the house nor for Debbie to say that her working kitchen is her favorite spot.

Contemporary styling and contemporary decor was chosen by Goforth when she started remodeling the former home of Sybil and Dathia Sanders on Dixon School Road four years ago.

The only structural change she made to the 43-year-old house was the addition of the large master bath but the kitchen was completely renovated and a quick look will tell you that the kitchen is one workhorse of a room. It deploys everything that the busy homemaker needs for convenience with built-ins and plenty of storage.

Cobalt blue ceramic tile and counter tops give the kitchen a bright look. A conversation piece is the garden window where Debbie uses a thinking bench or window seat in front of cobalt blue and white striped curtains. Parquet floors, brass accents on cabinets, and white walls add to the contemporary look she has created with the use of bright splashes of color in accent pieces. An enclosed area off the kitchen proper is for her washer and dryer.

Debbie says her cozy, colorful kitchen caters to the real-world needs of her family with her compact laundry room nearby and windows for her to enjoy the outdoors while she works.

Insulated glass invites the view but blocks out bad weather and gives her home new eye appeal.

Debbie made the draperies for the three-bedroom house and in each room her flair for decorating and creativity is evident. Accessories are matched perfectly, from the napkins to the floral pieces and pictures.

The dining room, decorated in teal and rose, has a parquet floor with mint area carpet.

Gray carpet is used throughout the house.

Peach and hunter green are com-

bined beautifully in the living room.

A contemporary low style, long cream couch is resplendent in one corner of the room.

A wicker chaise lounge is covered with peach and white striped cushions in front of the fireplace. Peach curtains and sheers are over the windows.

The living room walls are also white, giving the room a bigger look, and green marble and white enhance the fireplace.

Colt's bath is decorated in red and white tile with black accents and that look sets the decor for his bedroom where Colt has his favorite things and uses corkboards on the wall to display some of his hobbies.

A conversation piece in the guest bedroom is a display of four straw picture hats decorated with blue, purple, green and gold streamers that hang from the middle of the wall to the floor. The white lacquer bed is decorated with a fuchsia multi print comforter in tones to match the hats and matching pillows.

Debbie's master bedroom and bath used to be a single bedroom suite but was enlarged to accommodate a whirlpool with windows overlooking the back terrace. Goforth actually converted a back of the house patio to a master bath and wrapped a corner with windows.

Teal and white are featured in the decor of the white washed poster bed with its canopy of net and tulle and matching curtains. A brass chandelier accents the suite and silk flowers pick up the color scheme.

The luxurious whirlpool tub is enhanced by mirrors draped with shimmering pink and white. Pleated shades are available for privacy.

Pink and white ceramic tile decorate the shower with its teal and pink accessories.

The side entrance to the house is from the garage.

Off the garage is Debbie's sewing room in an enclosed area that once was a workshop. A tanning bed, exercise equipment and her sewing machine equal the perfect place to unwind after a busy day at Little Dan's, the family-operated business nearby.

Debbie has added vinyl windows, paneling and recessed lights throughout the house.

See Goforth, 6-B



Cobalt blue ceramic tile enhances the new kitchen, the favorite spot of young homemaker Debbie Goforth.

Debbie Goforth individualized each room of her home, using white paneling to create a much larger effect. Note the curtain accents in the bedroom.

County unemployment rate drops again

Cleveland County's unadjusted unemployment rate dropped to 6.4 percent in September, according to Ann Q. Duncan, chairman of the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina.

The county's August rate was 7.0 percent. Cleveland County had 2,860 people out of work in September compared to 3,130 in August. The county's potential labor force is 44,440.

The ESC reported that unemployment rates for September fell in 79 counties, rose in 15, and was

unchanged in six, just as in August.

The state had four counties will unemployment rate of 10 percent or above in September, compared to eight in August. Graham has the highest unemployment rate (17.9), followed by Hertford (13.3), Brunswick (12.8) and Bladen (11.5). Currituck County had the lowest unemployment rate in September, 2.5 percent.

The state seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for September was 5.9 percent. ESC analysts regard five percent as a near full-employment situation.

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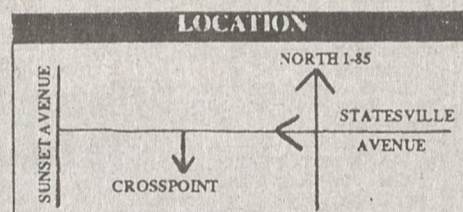
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Humphries attends state convention

Leigh Ann Humphries of Kings Mountain was one of 13 members of the Gaston College chapter to attend the Gamma Beta Phi National Honor Society state convention October 23-25.

Gaston College received two

honors at the convention. Member Bil Jones was elected the chapter's state vice-president for the 1993-94 school year and the college received a second place award in the scrapbook competition.

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