



ANDIE BRYMER / HERALD

Joyce Posey painted these apple tree murals in her dining room. Her mother made the ceramic apples in the bowl on the table.

# Posey pretties home with paint

BY ANDIE L. BRYMER  
Staff Writer

Sit still too long at Joyce Posey's house and you might end up with flowers and ivy painted all over you.

After discovering painting teacher Donna Dewberry three years ago, Posey has taken her brush to most of the walls of her home. The only thing she hasn't painted is the cream colored Corvette her husband Jim Posey gave her for the couple's 20th anniversary.

In November she traveled to Orlando, Fla. for certification as an instructor in the One Stroke method Dewberry pioneered.

Now she is opening Posey's Pretties school and studio.

"I love it (painting.) I just want to share it," she said.

Posey believes God led her to Dewberry. Three years ago she caught the last few minutes of a PBS special featuring Dewberry. Watching the art teacher paint a candle, Posey was struck by how serene the woman looked.

"I was drawn to her," she said.

Before long, Posey bought paint and a sketch pad. Then she discovered Dewberry's books and videos.

Three months later, Posey was diagnosed with breast

cancer. As she healed from surgery and underwent 33 radiation treatments, Posey used painting as therapy. It kept her mind off her health. The stretching to paint borders and a fence helped her stay limber after surgery.

At the end of radiation therapy, Posey's doctor discovered another lump. When he telephoned with the results - the lump was benign - Posey painted faux rugs on her bathroom floor to celebrate.

Since then Posey has continued to paint. A wheelbarrow of flowers appears on the hallway wall. On the inside door of her laundry closet is a dress and hat on a clothesline. Another closet door opens to reveal a painted scarecrow.

While her now deceased mother painted ceramics and used the Bob Ross method for years, Posey never picked up a brush, though watching the woman paint may have sown the seeds of interest.

In Posey's dining room, apples hang from a mural. On the center of the wooden table is a bowl of bright red ceramic apples her mother painted. In a sense, mother and daughter decorated the room together.

Posey sells painted trays, glasses, ornaments, trashcans and other household items. In addition to teaching, she hopes to paint murals in clients' homes.

Posey recently left her job as an assistant supervisor at Honeywell to open the studio and school. She says the company was good to work for but she knew it was time to go in another direction.

"I never hesitated about quitting," she said.

Before encountering Donna Dewberry, Posey only doodled. Three years later she is convinced if she can learn to paint anyone can.

"It's all in how you hold the brush and if you really want to," she said.

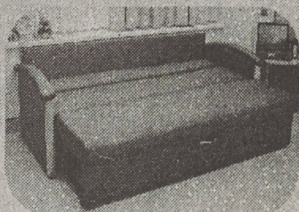
The One Stroke method can be used on almost all surfaces including plastic, glass, cloth, paper and rocks.

Morning and evening weekday classes begin March 1. For more information, call 704-739-1276 or 704-813-5217.

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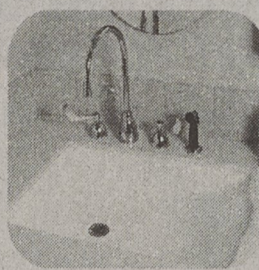
In the neonatal intensive care unit, parents suggested a sleeping sofa, a place to shower, a laundry room and a resource center with Internet access to learn about caring for their new baby and send pictures to their friends.



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## Lifestyles deadlines

The Herald welcomes your lifestyles news for publication in each Thursday's paper. Lifestyles items include weddings, engagements, anniversaries, birthdays, club news, church news and community news.

Deadline for information and articles is 12 noon on Monday. Items received after deadline may run in other parts of the paper if time and space permit.

When holidays or other reasons make it necessary for the paper to publish a day early the deadline is Friday at 12 noon.

There is a \$10 fee for birthdays for ages 0-5. Forms, which must be signed by the parents, are available at the receptionist's desk. Regular advertising rates apply for birthday articles for persons ages 6 and above.

There is a \$20 fee for weddings, anniversaries and engagements. Wedding forms are also available at the receptionist's desk. Only the information requested on the form will be published.

Information and articles may be mailed to The Herald, P.O. Box 769, Kings Mountain, NC 28086, brought by the office at 824-1 East King Street, or sent by fax to 739-0611. All articles and information are subject to editing for clarity, spelling and/or length.