



AVOCET EDITION

November / December 2023

PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

NO NEED TO MOVE WEST!



Our client spotlight is focused on the Hill/West family. Mary Hill and her husband purchased their home off Eastwood Road in 1974. They raised their two daughters there and watched Wilmington change over the years, although they never got around to changing their home until recently. Unfortunately Mr. West is no longer with us, but Mary, her daughter Audra and her husband Kenny, recently had Avocet Design Build complete a lifelong dream to renovate the house. It was a first-floor renovation to include the main living area, kitchen, laundry room, hall and the addition of a deck. The goal was to remove an old fireplace, add a slider and deck, and open up the smaller spaces to an open-air plan which modernized the kitchen and laundry area. Our design aesthetic was a clean, Swedish feel incorporating a blue and white color palette while drawing in outdoor elements by choosing natural materials for lighting and two beautiful Sapele wooden slat walls to section off the spaces of the eating area and entryway and utilizing wallpaper to bring everything together. Audra's tendency toward excellent organization added to the finished project with neatly stacked and labeled items inside the cabinets and a lovely sense of adding family heirlooms to the finished space to create an amazing end product. Avocet didn't forget the furry friends in their lives either and installed doggie doors, a doggie ramp on the deck, and a special cabinet just for feeding bowls and supplies. Many thanks to this fun family for allowing us into their lives!



Sometimes local can be across the oceans to help others. We were recently in Lovey’s Market in the Landfall shopping center grabbing a healthy lunch and came across a display of African Market Baskets. In relation to our support of the Plastic Oceans Project here in Wilmington, we’ve tried, as many others are doing, to reduce our daily use of plastic when shopping in stores. I was pleased to see these hand woven baskets in all different shapes and sizes to help with this goal. Every basket is hand-woven in village co-ops in Ghana, West Africa. . The purchase of these baskets helps provide healthcare and school supplies in support of the weavers, their families and villages. They can be reshaped very easily by wetting them and shaping to your liking. This is a Fair Trade product that brings hope to entire villages. Consider giving your holiday gifts in a basket instead of using boxes & paper as well as into grocery stores!



TURTLEY AWESOME AT AIRLIE GARDENS



Sometimes when we live in a tourist destination we forget to visit the beauty right under our noses. As the weather cools a bit it’s a great time to visit Airlie Gardens for their “Turtley Awesome” event that runs between now and December 31st. There are 10 fiberglass turtles that have been individually painted by 10 artists (all women) who won a spot in this year’s contest. These turtles will be auctioned off beginning on December 1st. If you’re looking for an interesting gift for the holidays, this could be it! A few of my grandchildren headed that way in August but somehow we only got a frog photo. You can also grab a Discovery Kit on your way in and discover something new. The second Wednesday of each month is a scheduled Bird Hike, just register online.

Celebrating 11 years of art exhibits, this year’s exhibit, Turtley Awesome!, will feature ten oversized fiberglass turtles! Each turtle will be uniquely decorated, painted, or otherwise adorned by a select group of artists and placed on display throughout the grounds for guests to enjoy as part of their garden experience. Turtley Awesome! will be on display July 14th through December 31st 2023!

Designer's Corner: Scandinavian Design



Avocet Reads



I've been waiting and waiting ever since my new client, Elizabeth, told me this book was coming out and I pre-ordered my copy. Well, last week it finally arrived! *Blue and White Done Right: The Classic Color Combination for Every Decorating Style* by Hudson Moore and Mario Lopez-Cordero, published by Monacelli Press. This book is an exploration by the iconic Schumacher Design House to explore the legendary color scheme which has roots in Chinese and Dutch heritage. It also features products that are rated best-in-class from fabrics, to tabletops and wallcoverings. It's been divided into chapters by style; modern, charming, boho, traditional, etc and is 132 pages long. It gives inspiration to interior design with the transformative view of blue & white.





The best part of making a frittata surrounding the holidays is that it's a different way to utilize leftovers of any combo for cheese, meats and veggies. The choices are endless as the base stays the same. Create a turkey and sweet potato one with caramelized onions or a Christmas one with ham, asparagus and a touch of stuffing on the side.

Preheat the oven to 375
A cast iron skillet that is 10" or 12"



- 8 eggs
- ¼ cup sour cream
- ¼ cup water
- ¾ cup finely grated cheddar cheese
- Chopped onion
- Finely chopped sweet potato
- Tomato
- Chopped basil

Place the skillet on top of the stove and turn the burner to medium-low. Whisk together eggs, sour cream & water, and most of the cheese in a large bowl, set aside. Saute onion and potatoes for 5 minutes. Add tomato and basil, and saute another 5 minutes. Pour egg mixture over top and place in oven for 20 minutes. Take out of the oven, sprinkle remaining cheese on top, and let rest for 10 minutes before serving.

TO CELEBRATE THE SEASON WE ARE COLLECTING SOCKS,
TOOTHBRUSHES, TOOTHPASTE, AND NON-PERISABLE CANNED ITEMS.
ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE. DROP OFF AT OUR OFFICE NOW
THROUGH DECEMBER 20TH!

"Form follows function-that has been misunderstood. Form and function should be one, joined in a spiritual union." -Frank Lloyd Wright

CONTACT US

hello@avocetdesignbuild.com

910-769-2277

avocetdesignbuild.com

