

ORLANDO

# HOME<sup>TM</sup> design

## Marvelous Makeovers

Why remodeling may  
be better than moving

## Décor Galore

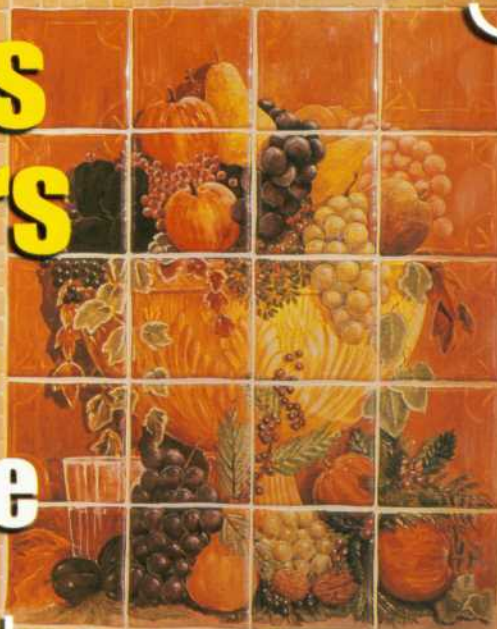
Find fabulous home  
accents in Winter Park

## Splashdown

Reinvent an ordinary  
bathroom into a personal spa

## Seasonal Soirees

Capture fall's spirit in  
sunny Florida



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If you've passed by American Antiques on Formosa Avenue near College Park, you've noticed the extensive array of wrought iron outside the store. Gates, railings, garden arches, planters and more are crammed into every available inch of space—there's even an elaborate headboard crafted from an old garden gate.

While the jumble may not look like much, there's real artistry within the iron curlicues, spikes and scrolls. The man behind the craftsmanship is Tom Winterer, who can forge wrought-iron masterpieces to order. Need a decorative balcony added to a window? No problem. A custom-made gate for your new stucco wall? Ditto. If it can be crafted of metal, Winterer is the man for the job. "I create each piece like I'm making it for myself," he says.

Creating each piece in his Apopka studio, Winterer

eschews cookie-cutter formulas when making his wrought-iron pieces, preferring instead to approach each job with a fresh perspective. "I do one-of-a-kind pieces," he says. And his work runs the gamut, from coffee tables, wine racks and barstools to gates, grill-work and sculptures. He also crafts home décor items, such as curtain rods and tiebacks, as well as candelabra. His most unusual piece to date? A four-foot iron spider web with a giant spider as its centerpiece. "I can make just about anything," Winterer says. "I really get into my work." Prices range from \$175 for a simple garden gate to \$1,500 and up for more complex jobs.

*1500 Formosa Avenue, Winter Park; 407-647-2260.*



Interior designer Pam Niemann is known among her industry peers as a top-flight

designer whose signature is her ability to listen to her clients' needs and create spaces that

work for them. If you ask Niemann herself what special skills she brings to the drafting table, her answer is quick and confident: "First of all, I have children. And I think that adds a perspective, because most people have children and it's important to work with a designer who has that frame of reference and understands that lifestyle and how an interior needs to work." Niemann's 1982 design degree from Purdue University also works in her favor, she adds, citing the school's heavy focus on architectural skills. Thus, Niemann graduated with the ability to do detailed

schematic drawings, from floor plans to electrical notes. Another one of Niemann's strengths is her versatility. "I can do very contemporary, very traditional, very period—and everything in between. It's what that client wants—they may not know how to put it together, but they know what they want. It's my job to find out what excites and inspires them, and to create an interior that reflects that."

No matter what their design preferences, notes Niemann, "I want my clients to have fun in this process. It's got to be interactive and personal in order to develop a good design together." *Pam Niemann Interiors, 1015 S. Orlando Avenue, Winter Park; 407-644-4402.*

