



TaconicArts

Kent Lakes

By Sara Dunn

Before the economy took a downward turn, Kent resident Jeff Green worked as a corporate trainer, going from place to place to help companies better function.

Cut to 2002, and the work to help improve corporations turned to home improvement, as Green took up house painting to help makes ends meet with his work updating websites and writing newsletters for various companies.

With satisfied customers and a growing demand for his services, in 2007 Green picked up the paint brush full-time for his company Taconic Arts.

"I enjoy it immensely, primarily because at the end of the job, I've completed something; I've made something better than it was and there is closure. Besides, there's immense satisfaction in driving by a house you've painted and being able to say, 'I did that!'" Green said.

While the primary focus of Taconic Arts is painting the interior and exterior of private homes, Green also does some commercial work, painting farm and out buildings, as well as exterior decks. He also does some furniture restoration.

"On occasion, and on older homes, I'll

do a full restoration where all of the paint is removed from the exterior of a home, down to the original planks and then have it repainted as if it were new," he said.

After he is contacted by a customer, Green said the first order of business is to draw up an estimate for the project they are requesting.

"I have to take a careful look at what the customer's goals are and what their budget is. Sometimes a customer just wants the walls painted and that's rather straightforward, sometimes they want more extensive work, repairing bumps and dings and other blemishes on walls and ceilings," Green said.

Green said the most frequent misconceptions about paint jobs are the amount of time they will take and they amount of mess they will make.

He said he can complete a basic room in as little as two days and he and his crew are meticulous when it comes to keeping things neat, leaving behind a spotless space at the end of every work day, that some times has produced a wonderful surprise for customers.

"When we're about to paint the floor molding or the base of walls, we'll be cleaning those spaces, removing dust and dirt, and in



Two examples of Jeff Green's painting projects.

the end that room will be cleaner than when we started. And yes, we will find that ring you lost in 2001 wedged in the floorboard behind the chest you thought you looked behind," Green said.

Even in this day and age of "do-it-yourselfers", Green said there are big benefits to employing his professional services, including providing all of the labor intensive work to properly prepare surfaces so that a paint job will last longer and retain vibrant color over time.

Green also has a wealth of design knowledge in addition to being able to professionally do the physical job of painting.

"Back in the day the standard was for people to use an 'eggshell' finish on walls and a gloss or semi-gloss on trim. But for light traffic areas, a matte finish on surfaces and a satin finish on trim has a nice, calming effect that gives a room warmer tones without

the shine," he said. "As well, there has been a successful movement towards painting walls and ceilings in bright rooms the same color which works well with soft tones, browns, tans and off-whites. This bathes the room in your chosen tone."

And beyond providing beautiful and long-lasting results, Green bringing him in to handle a paint job, allows customers to free up their time to be spent happily elsewhere.

"Your personal time has value and you get to choose how you want to spend that time. You could spend it painting your living room or you could spend that down-time with your family or in pursuit of recreation and relaxation," Green said.

Jeff Green can be reached by calling 845-554-5119 or 845-225-2104. Customers can also visit his website at www.TaconicArts.com.



Living Room



Family Room



Dining Room



Bathroom



Kitchen



Bright Sunny End Unit



Master Bedroom



Bedroom

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