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The Tingley family's remodeled kitchen, 2125 Waltham Rd., features a large granite-topped island often used for dining.

TOM DODGE | DISPATCH PHOTOS

## Island of refuge

Kitchen feature becomes gathering spot for informal dining and socializing

By Kevin Kidder  
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

**S**ometimes people just want to sit and eat. No formality. No setting a table. Just alight beside the granite island in the kitchen.

As life becomes more harried and informal, kitchen design has adapted and nowhere is that trend more obvious than in the islands seen in today's Kitchen Kapers 2007 tour.

The event features six remodeled kitchens in Upper Arlington and Grandview Heights.

This year is the 20th anniversary for Kitchen Kapers, which raises money for Riverside Methodist Hospital programs and services. The tour is organized by the hospital's Service Board VII, a volunteer group.

Money from this year's event will be used to renovate the dining room for cancer patients.

All of the kitchens on the tour employ

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White cabinetry offers a stark contrast with the dark island granite of J.C. Hank's kitchen, 2205 Tremont Rd.

## Designers share passion for creativity at fair

By Tim Feran  
THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH

The thrill of the hunt, the lure of the beautiful — interior designer Charlotte Moss and floral designer Ron Morgan both know the joys of shaping the look of indoor and outdoor spaces.

The two will share their experiences at the Franklin Park Conservatory's ninth annual Antiques & Gardens Fair, a three-day event that brings shopping, special events and expert speakers to Columbus.

Moss, a New York interior designer, will speak at Capital University's Mees Hall on Friday, the first time since opening her newest retail concept, the Charlotte Moss Townhouse, in

"Seeing it all come together is incredibly gratifying."

**CHARLOTTE MOSS**  
interior designer



"What I do is basically sculpture with plant material."

**ROB MORGAN**  
floral designer



Manhattan in April. Housed in a five-story landmark building, the Townhouse is similar to a designer showhouse and decorated as if it were Moss' own home, although all the merchandise within is for sale.

An interior designer for 22 years, Moss left an executive position on Wall Street to pursue her passion. "Seeing it all come together is incredibly gratifying," Moss said recently from her New York office. "I love the hunt. I love walking

down the Left Bank (in Paris) after dinner, looking in windows at night. I can't wait to get back the next day because that chandelier might be gone if I wait. I enjoy the whole process.

"There are so many wonderful people with so many beautiful houses with such gorgeous material. There are things I still can't wait to get my hands on. There's not enough time."

So far, visitors have responded to the new store in the way that her design clients often have during the unveiling of newly decorated spaces.

"When people walk in, . . . they feel invited; they just feel good," she said. "I think that's what good

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### THIS JUST OUT

Once a month, Home & Garden goes shopping in search of new products. Here's what we found recently.



#### Bottle bliss

► **STORVINO WINE STORAGE SYSTEM** (\$19.99, WWW.STORVINO.COM)

Wine enthusiast Bob Stornhaus invented this wine storage system after looking for something strong yet affordable to hold his collection of 250 bottles.

Stornhaus spent 2½ years designing a prototype, testing it and filing patents. His storage module is made of injection-molded plastic, weighs 2.6 pounds and measures 10¼ inches high, 11¼ inches wide and 8 inches deep.

Placed in a resting position, each unit will hold six bottles. The units connect to one another using wine corks (not included) to create a stack of shelves. Turned upright, the modules can be carried without removing any bottles.



#### Stand-up idea

► **OMEGA TREE STAND** (\$29.99, WWW.OMEGATREESTAND.COM)

The annual fight to put a Christmas tree into a finicky stand might be over, thanks to this fast and simple product.

Sue Eckenswiler and her husband, Grant, came up with the idea when their tree fell over in the middle of the night. As new parents, they were concerned about the safety of existing tree stands, so they set out to design a safe and easy-to-use stand. The Omega Tree Stand slides over any tree trunk while the tree is lying on the ground. Pinch-and-slide clamps made of engineering-grade nylon press firmly — and quickly — against the trunk to secure and automatically straighten the tree. The tree can then be raised upright.

The pot holds a gallon of water and is made of extra-thick plastic that won't rust or leak. The four-legged, high-density polyethylene base provides a 30-inch foundation to diminish the chance of the tree falling over.



#### Allergy relief

► **ARM & HAMMER PREMIUM ALLERGEN VACUUM BAGS** (STARTING AT \$2.63, WWW.ARMHAMMERVAC.COM)

Touted as "the first vacuum bags to be recommended for allergy sufferers," the Arm & Hammer premium allergen vacuum bags help rid the home of dust-mite debris, household fibers, grass and ragweed pollens, molds, bacteria and fungi, as well as particles 15 times smaller than the diameter of a human hair.

The bags use the natural power of baking soda. When dirty air passes through the vacuum bag or filter, Arm & Hammer baking-soda particles neutralize odor-bearing chemicals. The deodorizing ingredient is effective as long as the bag or filter is replaced as recommended: every one to two months for bags; and every six months for filters.

The line also includes regular and HEPA (high-efficiency particulate air) filters for bagless vacuums. The bags are available for most brands of vacuums, including Bissell, Black & Decker, Dirt Devil, Electro-Lux, Eureka, GE, Hoover, Kenmore and Panasonic.

— Tim Feran  
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