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Business

Interior Excellence marks a milestone

Bridgewater designer makes homes come alive

By TINA PERROTTA
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BRIDGEWATER — For 25 years, Myles Albert has transformed dull and dreary dwellings into vibrant, warm homes.

The interior designer is a perfectionist at heart, but his most difficult job isn't aligning wallpaper — it's maintaining his home as a showcase with two young children.

"Oh, it's not always this clean — we had the kids put away their toys earlier today," said Albert's wife, Caryn. "We usually encourage them to keep their toys in the basement, but once in a while they come up here."

The children's rooms in the Alberts' 11 room two-story home are usually included as part of the designer's showcase. The walls are covered in textured Ralph Lauren wallpaper and every room,

including the bathroom, has matching accessories to accentuate a Mediterranean look.

Even the floor of the children's rooms is pristine and not one nick-knock is out of place.

"We have a philosophy with the children," Albert's said. "We go through their closets every year and if they haven't worn it, then it goes to charity. But most of the time they're playing in the basement with their friends."

Albert encourages his children's creativity and his wife, Caryn, encourages his artistic power.

"She's very supportive in everything I do," he said.

Albert met his wife through a personal ad while living in California. The two have been inseparable ever since and recently brought their Killarney Street home. Both

prefer the Mediterranean look for the interior of their home so they added fixtures to the front entranceway along with Italian porcelain tiles to minimize the appearance of dirt.

Prior to moving, the Alberts lived in a townhouse and later fell in love with the Bridgewater neighborhood. But everything didn't come easily — the inside of their new home was a vintage nightmare.

"The previous owner had wood paneling and orange carpet on the stairs in the front entranceway. There was blue wallpaper all over the house. Albert said.

"We pretty much had to gut the whole house."

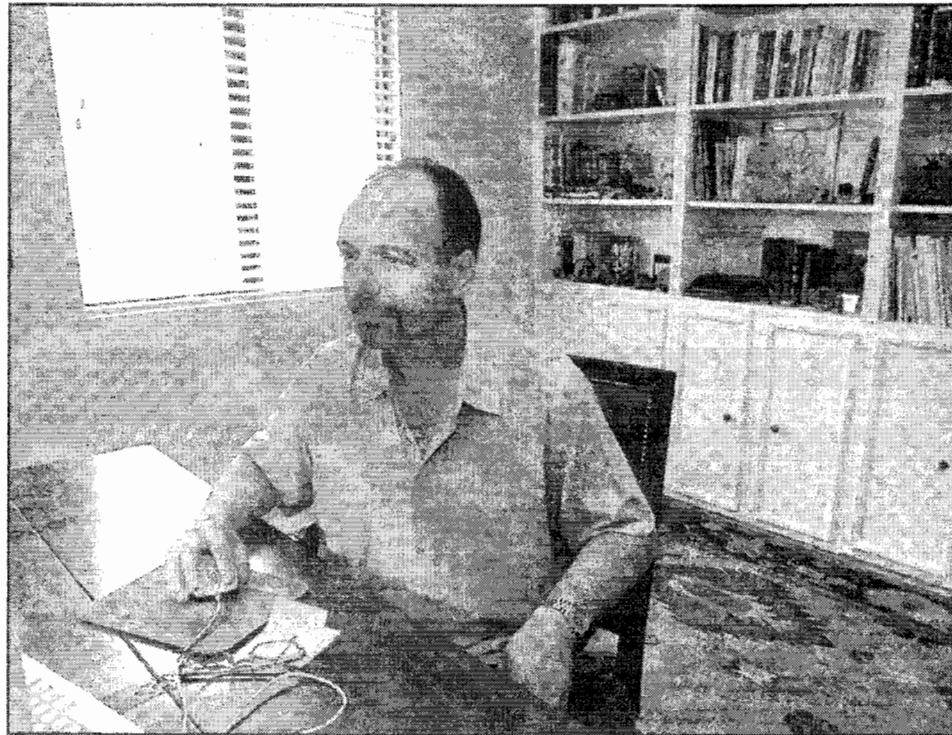
Albert and his wife transformed their home using Benjamin Moore paints and Ralph Lauren wallpaper. The walls in Albert's office are covered with grass cloth wallpaper and tumbled marble in their master bathroom. There is not one wall within the home which does not have a textural feel.

"We really wanted the house to give a nice warm feeling," Albert said.

Gutting his own home was easy, he explained, because he was able to express his creativity with various mediums. He also likes working with his clients to express their creativity.

"My job is really driven and usually people don't want advice — they know what they want," he said.

His interior design and reno-



Interior designer Myles Albert works in his Bridgewater home.

NICOLE DIMELLA/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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Myles Albert
owner Interior Excellence

vation company, Interior Excellence, will be celebrating its 25th anniversary. His company has seen a rise in middle-class clients and Albert welcomes them.

"Since real estate profit speculations are close to a standstill, people are thinking twice about selling their homes. They are learning to keep and nurture what they already have," he said. "You would be surprised at how a new fresh look inside and outside your home could change your whole perspective on life."

Each client is offered samples of wallpaper, tile, faux paint, and stain charts; Albert always tests the paint on little areas to see how his clients like the color.

"It is hard for the average person to visualize these things," he said. "The end result is that people are happy."

For more information, call Albert at (908) 218-0200.