

44 Marketplace

By Catherine Dean

If you are looking for a unique gift or just adding a piece of one-of-a-kind art to your home, the 44 Marketplace located in Harmony Crossing Shopping Center, is the place to visit. Hosting over 22 artists, the store is known about town for their spectacular glass and metal art collection as well as a custom painting of furniture. However, it also offers a wide variety of handmade items, antiques, bridal gifts, handbags, and home and holiday décor.

“The quality of artists we have at the Marketplace is simply unparalleled,” says owner Pam Haskins. “One would be hard-pressed to find another store with such a varied collection of creative artists.”

Haskins says that 44 Marketplace is a venue that supports local artists while being an asset to the community by fulfilling gift giving and home décor needs. She firmly believes in nurturing artists’ talents and providing space to showcase their works.

“Our artists create beautiful designs from glass and metal as well as handmade soy candles with personal messages attached,” said Haskins. “The repurposed and upcycled pieces, including furniture, are exquisite and make fabulous additions to anyone’s home.”

On many days, Haskins can be found painting furniture for clients and sharing the experience online on the 44 Marketplace Facebook page. She wants to give people the tools to do it themselves if they so choose. “I love sharing how-to tips and tricks and problem-solving in repurposing cabinets and furniture as well as decorating,” she said.

Moreover, she does it all with a sweet southern drawl that would charm anyone into taking up a paintbrush. Available videos include demonstrations on how to use chalk paint, creating unique and rustic gifts, and a paint blending workshop-just to name a few.

Learning from Haskins and her staff is not limited to online. Classes are offered at the Marketplace throughout the year for adults and children. A list of upcoming classes and workshops can be found on their website.

Haskins says that being surrounded by such talented artists inspires her to create. The furniture painting business she operates has been so successful this year that she is booked several months out and is not currently taking any additional orders.

“It is so flattering to have clients give me the freedom to decide how a piece of furniture should be upcycled,” she said. “They bring in the furniture they want refurbished and simply tell me to do what I do. And, I do!”

With the summer upon us in Lake Country, it's time to plan for picnics, grilling, and holiday celebrations-44 Marketplace will help you find the perfect entertainment pieces for your outdoor spaces.

“Summertime is always fun for us at the Marketplace,” said Haskins. “We are filled with summer and holiday décor-both useful and decorative pieces. We will also be open on July 4, and Labor Day for those who want to do a bit of shopping.”

Haskins would like everyone to put the first Saturday in November on their schedule as the Marketplace's Christmas open house. She adds, “We will be the place to find that special gift and décor to make your season bright and happy.”

For all your unique gift and décor needs, stop by 44 Marketplace at Harmony Crossing Shopping Center, and go online to see upcoming classes and how-to videos at www.44marketplace.com.