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WINDSOR COURT HOTEL

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LIVING — THE — LINEN LIFESTYLE

THE CLASSIC FABRIC SAYS HOME,
SUMMER AND MORE

BY CHRIS BYNUM



WATER COLOR: VIETRI ITALIAN LINEN NAPKIN WITH
ABSTRACT FLOWER BEADED NAPKIN RING.
HAZELNUT | Napkin \$22 |
Napkin Ring \$29 | hazelnutneworleans.com

PHOTO BY JAMES GAFFNEY

New Orleanians love wrinkles. We find them comfortably reassuring, and we wear them proudly. We embrace our creases at any age. We even set aside a day to honor them.

Who doesn't love linen? One of the hottest nights of the year is set aside for a downtown stroll through the art galleries on White Linen Night. We adore the fabric so much we even follow up with Dirty Linen Night. But linen needn't be white or dingy. This season's offerings are colorful, from soft ocean hues to eye-popping prints.

Some linen devotees say the breathable fabric is practical; others say it's all about panache.

By all means, the fabric from the flax plant has endurance. One of the first textiles to be spun into cloth has earned heirloom status, from great-grandmother's monogrammed handkerchiefs to a multi-generational christening gown. Today's linen application is as au courant as a deconstructed vest-jacket seen on the Paris runways or a high-end striped campshirt worn on Rodeo Drive.

So pick a color, any color. Apply often. And anywhere.

HOT IS COOL: TORY BURCH'S LINEN ESPADRILLES WITH SANTA FE THEME APPLIQUES
TORY BURCH | \$195 | toryburch.com



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St. Charles VISION

stcharlesvision.com

STYLISH HOSTESS GIFTS

CHIC & MEMORABLE GIFTS FOR THE GRACIOUS TRAVELER

BY KATY DANOS

With summer weddings and beach get -aways right around the corner, it's time to look ahead for stylish hostess gifts that travel well. The best bread-and-butter gifts reflect your personality, thank your host for their generous hospitality and disappear soon after your arrival -- a compliment to your good taste. "Don't bring anything" does not include sweet surprises, thoughtful treats tailored to your friend's taste or amusing and slightly indulgent gifts of which one can never really have enough.

Here is a list of posh and clever hostess gifts that require only a few square inches of prime real estate in your luggage and will ensure a repeat invitation for next year!



LITTLE BUT LUXE -- FOUR BEAUTIFULLY FRAGRANCED CANDLES BOXED FOR TRAVEL
HAZELNUT | \$44 | hazelnutneworleans.com

PHOTO BY JAMES GAFFNEY



PRACTICAL AND PRETTY-BRASS
CRAWFISH BOTTLE OPENER
JADE | \$32 | jadenola.com



WITTY PUNS FOR COCKTAIL FUN BOX
OF FOUR EMBROIDERED NAPKINS
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hazelnutneworleans.com
Photo by James Gaffney

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THE SEASON'S HOTTEST JEWELRY TRENDS

LIGHT AND DELICATE
LOOKS TO
ELEVATE YOUR STYLE

BY CHRIS BYNUM

When it comes to adornment, is it more is more or less is more? Go for the bold? Or embrace the delicate?

“It’s personal,” say those who never leave home without their bijoux. Even fashion icons disagree. Coco Chanel, that legend of enduring style, would say take one thing off, and 94-year-old Iris Apfel, the queen of flea-market finds, would suggest you put one more on.

But just to make the choice easier, jewelry designers have made the bold bracelets more airy, the dangle earrings lighter. Delicate bracelets can stack or go solo.

And semi-precious stones provide brilliant color with earthbound elegance. Even CBS’ primetime “Madam Secretary” (Tea Leoni) never heads into a peace summit without multiple strands of delicate necklaces and her security detail.

The best thing about spring and summer style? Necks and arms are bare and ready to be adorned.



BRACELET AND NECKLACE FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

SO BO-HO:

Handmade necklace of wooden beads covered with sari silk and cotton and handmade in India, a fair trade and sustainable item

GAE-TANA'S | \$34 | gaetanas.com

GIRL PEARLS:

Vintage-style pearl-drop bracelet

HAZELNUT | \$22 | hazelnutneworleans.com

PICTURED BELOW

BEADS AND BAUBLES:

A stretch bracelet of gold or silver dipped druzy stones and beads by Wimberly, Wear solo or stacked

HAZELNUT | \$50 each | hazelnutneworleans.com



PHOTO BY CHRIS BYNUM

J A D E

interiors • art • design



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FRESH SUMMER STYLE

BY VICTOR ANDREWS

LEMLEM ALMAZ SLIP DRESS
HAUTE BOUTIQUE
\$420 | hautenola.com



FITZGERALD FIT
SEERSUCKER SUIT
BROOKS BROTHERS
AT CANAL PLACE
\$498 | brooksbrothers.com

There's method to the madness that higher temperatures bring to New Orleans when it comes to sartorial styling. Staying cool is not just a matter of "looking cool," one must also be "cool." Generations of well-dressed Orleanians have come to rely on a tried and true palette of fabrics, designs and construction keeps the wearer cool and "au courant" at the same time. And local clothiers, like A. Renée Boutique, are stepping up to the plate with fresh designs, colors and style to keep the thermometer from blowing its top.

One of the key elements to keep temperatures at a livable level is luxurious and lively linen. This natural fabric is a mainstay for men in the form of a crisp, white suit, but also quite acceptable in shorts and shirts in an array of colors and shades. The lady in linen can be positively perfect in just about any silhouette or aesthetic. It is easy to spy the woven wonder in suits, dresses, slack, shorts (even the culotte is making a return) and myriad blouses and tops – keeping cool and with a look guaranteed to rule. Cotton can't be forgotten, either. Natural, durable and breathable, the fabric from the snowy-white balls can be found in Crescent City lairs of style in any possible configuration of attire, any shade of the rainbow and in a host of weaves, from the mandatory seersucker and sateen to poplin and piqué.

VERA LUTTER INVERTED WORLDS



Vera Lutter, *Radio Telescope, Effelsberg*,
XV: *September 12, 2013*, 2013, unique
gelatin silver print, collection of the
artist, **courtesy of Gagosian Gallery**

APRIL 15 – JULY 17, 2016

This exhibition presents monumental photographs in a concise mid-career retrospective of this New York-based German photographer. The exhibition's dozen photographs include large single-panel images, diptychs, and one triptych made between 1998 and 2014 in Italy, Germany, and the United States.

Vera Lutter: Inverted Worlds is organized by the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, in association with the New Orleans Museum of Art. The New Orleans presentation is sponsored in part by Milly and George Denegre and Adrea Heebe and Dominick Russo. Additional support is provided by Dr. Siddharth K. Bhansali.

NOMA
New Orleans Museum of Art

HARD VS SOFT

A DEFT TOUCH FOR MOTHER'S DAY GIVING HELPS WITH HER TOUGH JOB

BY VICTOR ANDREWS

A mom's life can be a blend of hard and soft – a hard job raising children but the rewards can be tremendous, such as a soft hug at the end of the day. Gift-giving for the mom in your life can sometimes be a hard job unto itself. Finding just the right item or service can be challenging.

As any mother will tell you, however, the best things can happen when you think outside of the box. And sometimes the best gifts work that way as well. Taking mom to dinner, showering her with flowers and tempting her with luxurious candy are great ways to say, "Thanks."

But don't forget about some additional ways to make a unique statement for that unique woman in your life.



SWADDLING CLOTHES: Wrap mom up in a stunning piece of art in this Samantha Chang classic silk kimono. **BASICS UNDERNEATH FINE LINGERIE** | \$365 | Basicsunderneath.com

HARD



BOXED IN BEAUTY: A marble box candle does dual duty – beautiful fragrance and light, plus a lasting objet d'art. Louisiana-made by Nouvelle. **JADE** | \$280 | jadenola.com



HARD BAR: Monksoap from the brothers at St. Joseph Abbey on the north shore make this hard-working cleansing bar that yields soft skin. **SIMPLY SOUTHERN** | \$6 | simplysouthern.com



TOUGH AS NAILS: Smith and Cult's Nailed Lacquer has colors to make the most of a relaxing manicure or pedicure. **EMBODIMENT SALON** | \$25 signature manicure | \$50 signature pedicure | Embodymentsalon.com

SOFT



SUPPLE TO THE TOUCH: An Italian leather wallet by Gioia Chiarria helps stylishly and softly keep mom organized and fiscally fashionable.
HAZELNUT NEW ORLEANS | \$35-\$64



POWER POSH: The Spa at Windsor Court is the perfect indulgence. Featured by USA Today's 10 Best as the No. 1 spa in New Orleans, it's no surprise the spa at Windsor Court is an expert in the art of relaxation.
WINDSOR COURT HOTEL | Windsorcourthotel.com



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BUILDING THE PERFECT

Bar Cart

WITH BRYAN BATT & TOM CIANFICHI

BY BRYAN BATT AND KATY DANOS

It's easy to see why the bar cart trend continues to capture our imagination. Everything about it is cool. Few pieces of furniture are as functional, decorative and sexy all at the same time. Think back to classic mid century films when cocktails were an art. Marilyn Monroe sipping champagne in the *Seven Year Itch*, Grace Kelly and Ol' Blue Eyes in the boozy romp *High Society* and martini mad Auntie Mame pretty much sealed the fate of the drinks cart as the epitome of chic. With a little organization and a bit of style, you can easily create your own spot for housing the hooch while adding old school glamour to your decor.

Whether your bar cart comes from your granny's attic, an estate sale or is hot off the Ikea or West Elm shelves, the wheels, storage space and small size offer exceptional flexibility and design potential. This versatile accent piece is the perfect opportunity for rolling the vintage vibe into a room or bringing modern flair and pops of color to the mix. And the best part? Once you've stocked your cart with the essentials, you can easily change things up seasonally or for specific types of entertaining. A perfectly put together bar cart has a huge design payoff so let's get this party started--wheels up!

Bryan Batt and Tom Cianfichi, of Hazelnut, show us the art of styling a vintage bar cart in 5 easy steps.

1) Make a list of what you really drink or the ingredients needed for a signature cocktail. Hit the booze aisles of your favorite grocery store looking for spirits in pretty shaped

bottles, beautiful packaging and interesting colors. Keep your selections purposeful and simple. (No cramming everything you own on it-that's called a pantry!) Include a bottle of champagne or prosecco and arrange it all on a silver or lacquered tray for easy organization.

2) Presentation is everything! Gather the right shaped glassware for your libations. Feel free to mix fine crystal high balls and flea market coupes with silver julep cups and new goblets. An ice bucket or wine chiller will come in handy and a dapper decanter is always a nice touch.

3) Monogrammed cocktail napkins, unique bar tools and martini shakers bring your personality to the bar. Swizzle sticks, straws and recipe books are fun to collect and are great for a shot of color. Don't forget the basics like a really good corkscrew or strainer. The whole point is to be able to entertain effortlessly in any room without having to run back and forth to the kitchen.

4) Mixers get stored on the lower shelf. Have on hand the necessary tonics, sodas and juices and be sure to include a bottle or two of sparkling water and a citrusy non-alcoholic drink as a tasty alternative.

5) Bring the look alive with fresh flowers, a bowl of lemons or limes, a tumbler full of leafy celery or aromatic mint. Toss in a favorite treasure or something sentimental and decorative and you're ready to christen your bar cart. Cheers!

A Closer LOOK



PHOTOS BY JAMES GAFFNEY

CREATE YOUR OWN

FABULOUS CHOICES ARE OUT THERE FOR EVERY BUDGET AND SPACE

BY KATY DANOS



Sleek brass two-tier bar cart with mirrored shelves
 JADE | \$895 | jadenola.com




Love this angular art deco silhouette in antiqued pewter
 WEST ELM | \$499 | westelm.com



With its gleaming gallery rails, casters and mirrored shelf, this cart exhibits the sophisticated presence of mid-20th-century design.
 POTTERY BARN | \$399 | potterybarn.com

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ON THE ROCKS STARS



WARM WEATHER INSPIRES CREATIVE CRESCENT CITY COCKTAILS

Nowhere else on the planet can you find a city more appreciative of a good cocktail. Crescent City connoisseurs of lively libations know a good glass when they see one. When the temperatures rise, however, it makes thirsts go into overdrive.

A trio of New Orleans bartenders have come up with a heady selection of beverages that's certain to be music to your mouth.

ZACHERY VAUGHN THE COLUMNS HOTEL

Zachery has crafted a cocktail, "my own personal recipe" that he feels speaks to all the things that make this a unique city. "It's truly a New Orleans original summertime cocktail, inspired by the porch, the street car line and the oaks over St. Charles."

St. Charles Breeze

.75 oz Green Chartreuse

.75 oz Hendrick's Gin

1 slice of lime

1 slice of cucumber

2-3 mint leaves

In a small shaker combine mint, lime, cucumber and light ice. Muddle all ingredients. In a large shaker, combine liquor, muddle mash and ice. Shake until infused. Strain into a either a tumbler or Collins glass over ice. Finish with a combination of Sprite, tonic and soda to taste (use less tonic for less bitter or more Sprite for sweetness). Garnish with mint, lime and a slice of cucumber.





COREY TREAS

GALATOIRE'S 33 BAR & STEAK

The Strawberry Lemonade was created to showcase Louisiana's famous, beautiful strawberries and, when mixed with Galatoire's homemade sour mix, perfectly represents a favorite summertime drink.

Strawberry Lemonade

2 oz Rougaroux Sugarshine Rum
.25 oz simple syrup
.25 oz sour mix
2 strawberries
Lemon slice

Muddle the strawberries in simple syrup in a mixing glass. Add sour mix, rum and ice. Shake and serve over ice in a rocks glass. Garnish with a lemon slice.

DRÉ GLASS

PEARL WINE CO.

"I wanted to make something packed full of flavor that's still refreshing" to combat the city's sometime stifling heat. Her goal was a drink that "wasn't too sweet, served on the rocks."

Off the Clock

1 oz Ayesbury Duck Vodka
1 oz vognier wine
.5 oz Luxardo Marashino liqueur
.5 oz ginger simple syrup, made in house
.5 oz fresh-squeezed lemon juice

Combine in a shaker with ice, shake and serve on the rocks with a Luxardo maraschino cherry.

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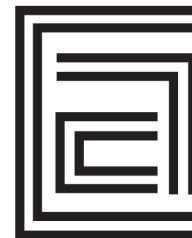
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SCENE SETTER

LIGHTEN THE MOOD
IN THE HOME WITH
SUMMER SPLASHES

BY CHRIS BYNUM



CABRERA NAVY
THIBAUT WALLPAPER
thibautdesign.com

WEST ELM
westelm.com



Nights get longer, music gets louder, water gets warmer, drinks get colder. Life gets better in summer, and the living gets easier in the Big Easy – and beyond. You've done the spring cleaning, planted the garden, and now your attention turns to lightening up the house. It's time to reboot – and decorate!

"I love to pull in nice, crisp and refreshing colors for summer," says Susan Currie, a New Orleans and Atlanta interior designer whose use of bold, vibrant color is her trademark. "I start with subtle shades of neutral hues as a backdrop. I identify the color that a client is most attracted to and then introduce pops of that color through artwork and accessories to create focal points in a room." Vibrant colors like yellow, red, green, orange and blue are back, she says, after a few seasons of soft neutrals.

Wallpaper is also in and trendy. "Wallpaper is back and so fun. There's so much you can do with one accent wall, or papering all the walls in a powder room." Currie suggests Thibaut, Wallquest and Sanderson, which are available at local stores and specialty shops.

Here are some of Currie's other ideas and product choices to freshen up a home for summer:

Make a room more peaceful with fewer pieces – "edit things" and reorganize placement of furniture and accessories. Repainting a room alone can add to freshness. Go green with a low VOC paint (volatile organic compounds) that works well with white. Or simply paint a piece of furniture such as a cocktail table in a vibrant color as a focal point.

Currie also suggests Sherwin Williams and its mobile app ColorSnap Visualizer for iPhones and Androids as a tool

to help you find the right color.

Bookcases: Rearrange books and accessories (less is more), and consider covering some books with white craft paper that can be found at most craft stores to brighten up an otherwise traditional bookish look.

Pillows are an easy and relatively inexpensive way to make a room pop with color. They are everywhere – Katie Koch Home, The Shops at 2011 (Magazine Street, uptown), West Elm and Pier 1.

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DE-STRESS THE TRESSES

BY KATY DANOS

Sun, chlorine and salt wreak havoc on your hair, not to mention how heat and humidity bring on the frizz. Don't wig out – look to the experts for advice on summer cuts, styles and care.

Emma Shankle, owner and master stylist at Embodiment Salon and Spa suggests you keep it simple and relaxed. "Long layers are always easy when you use the right Oribe summer products. *Après Beach Wave* and *Shine Spray* moisturizes and enhances sheen. And I love their *Dry Texturing Spray*. Part dry shampoo and part texturizer, it soaks up oils and amps up the volume—an ultimate quick fix product."

Master stylist, Thomas Centanni, at the salon, recommends you welcome the season by wearing tousled, beach blown hair on weekends and chic pony tails for work. "Braids are another on-trend look that can easily transition from day into night."

As far as shampoo and styling products, Thomas also includes Oribe as his go-to brand. "The *Signature Shampoo* and *Conditioner* once a week and *Ultra Gentle Shampoo* for the rest of the week provides incredible softness and shine."

What about style? Thomas explains that your stylist can help you create day and night looks. "Reserve heat tools

for special summer occasions; your hair is already thirsty from sun exposure and *Sculpting Cream* is perfect for loose curls, waves and sleek uncomplicated buns." These products are available at Embodiment Salon and Spa.

Which brings us to the dreaded word -- chlorine. It's best to have a strategy that can take you from Memorial Day through Labor Day without your hair getting brassy and parched. At Paris Parker, master stylist Tatum Neill spells out a three product line of defense. "Chlorine strips your hair of natural protective oils and moisture. It causes your color to fade and leaves tresses thirsty and dry. *Sun Care Hair Veil*, *Sun Care After Sun* and *Sun Care Hair and Body Cleanser* – all Aveda Products – will screen your hair from intense rays, restore moisture and remove salt and oily build-up."

And his one final inside tip: "Thoroughly wet your hair with clean water before jumping in a pool or knot it up in a bun with leave in conditioner so it absorbs less chlorine. Protect and hydrate is the name of the game."

The pros suggest you refresh your summer cut mid-season to trim dry, frizzy split ends and lay off the heat tools in Aveda products are available at Paris Parker.

SUMMER HAIR CARE



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\$33 | embodimentsalon.com



AVEDA AFTER SUN HAIR MASQUE
PARIS PARKER
\$27 | parisarker.com



ORIBE DRY TEXTURIZING SPRAY
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\$44 | embodimentsalon.com



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ANIMAL INSTINCTS

SUMMERIZED SELECTIONS MAKE SEASON SUPER FOR PETS

BY VICTOR ANDREWS

Welcome summer and the great outdoors, a chance to get out of the house, enjoy nature, soak up some sun and bring the pets along for fun – maybe.

Summer heat can do a number on pets, not to mention the increase in the flea and tick traffic while in those great outdoors.

Fear not: the fashionable pet will have a good deal to celebrate if their companion humans opt for some handy and easy things to keep them cool, calm, properly hydrated and looking smart.

Pet experts note a few issues owners should keep in mind with pets.

During the summer months, pets that frolic at the park can often overheat. Cooling beds, cooling bandanas and other cooling products can help lower the pooch's temperature during playtime or just fun in the sun.

Warm weather can also be extra difficult for long-haired and thick-coated pets. For cats and dogs, a grooming device that eliminates extra hair will also stimulate the pet's skin and keep them healthy.

While the cat's away, they generally know how to keep cool and find something to drink. Fideaux, on the other hand, often needs a bit of help with a refreshing beverage. Travel with liquids for the hound, whether it be across town or across state lines.

And for those distressed by summer fireworks (think July 4th), there are compression shirts and apparel that often look smart and soothe the nerves.

Pet enthusiasts might also find some unwanted passengers (fleas and ticks) at this time of year. Local pet supply houses offer a variety of tools to combat the issue, from natural-based topicals to beds and mats that fight the unwanted livestock as well.

Dry skin doesn't just affect humans. Pets can suffer during the warm-weather months as well. Fish oils and other items help combat the condition and keep pets looking purrrfect.



FASHION AND FUNCTION:
The Insect Shield Bandana is a defense in the battle against bugs. This comes in either blue or green.
LOUISIANA SPCA | \$5 |
La-spc.org

PEST PROTECTED:

Insect Shield Ultra Beds provide comfort and protection with a cushy inner bed and treated fabric.

CANINE CULTURE | \$89-\$116 | canineconnectionnola.com



KEEPING THEIR COOL:

Freeze water or no-sodium broth in Cool Pup treats so dogs can enjoy the cool and flavor.

LOUISIANA SPCA | \$7 | La-spc.org



SHAVE AND A HAIRCUT: The Furminator line helps owners by keeping cats and dogs trimmed, which helps them stay cooler during the warmer months. JEFFERSON FEED PET & GARDEN CENTER | \$38-\$72 | Jeffersonfeed.com



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GLOBAL GOOD

GIVENOLA PUTS LOCAL SPIN ON PHILANTHROPY

BY VICTOR ANDREWS

Hospitality with style has put New Orleans on the map, as a destination for fun, history and cuisine. Indeed, the local hospitality industry is one of the mainstays of the economy. But that hospitality isn't reserved just for the visitors to the banks of the Mississippi River.

New Orleans and the surrounding parishes have a strong sense of philanthropy for their fellow residents and that comes to a prominent position in just a few days.

GiveNOLA Day, May 3, is a 24-hour opportunity for the Crescent City and the surrounding parishes to put their dollars on the line – or rather, online.

Hosted by the Greater New Orleans Foundation, GiveNOLA Day is the community's one-day, online giving event to inspire people to give generously to the nonprofit organizations that are making our region stronger, creating a thriving community for all.

"New Orleans is one of many cities that competes on this giving day," said Martha Landrum, vice president for marketing and communications with GNOF. "It is staggering how well we do against other cities," she said.

Last year, 12 participating parishes in the New Orleans area raised \$4 million with more than 34,000 gifts, the third-highest number in the nation. This year, 713 non-

profits will be on the list for contributions from donors.

Individuals can contribute as little as \$10 dollars, with GNOF providing a bit of "lagniappe" to the amount, hoping to top \$4.5 million this year. The impact is staggering, said Landrum. "Our heart and our reputation are global," she said.

Some of the local non-profits that benefitted last year are looking forward to this year, mostly for what the funds allow them to accomplish.

The Herman-Grima + Gallier Historic House Museums use the funds generated on GiveNOLA Day to bring the city's history to life. "It is a wonderful opportunity to bring our 19th-Century founding families into the 21st

century," said Mamie Sterkx Gasperecz, the executive director. "Daily, we share the stories of why we live in our beloved city."

The top small organization last year with the most funds raised, the Jewish Federation of Greater New Orleans finds the 24-hour philanthropy event helps bring the city

together. "For more than 100 years, we've been proud to collaborate with so many other area organizations, to help make New Orleans stronger and more vibrant," said Caitrin Gladow, marketing director for the federation. "GiveNOLA Day offers the opportunity to make an impact on our community at any level, Jewish and non-Jewish, and we believe in celebrating that."



For the Green Project, GiveNOLA Day helps focus attention on the work they do. "It spreads awareness throughout the city," said Christal White. "It heightens the collaborative mood of giving" and helps the organization with its mission of putting building materials back into use instead of into landfills. The additional funds will help the group move forward on particular projects, said White.



Landrum said more than half of the participating organizations drew between one and 20 new donors, boosting the awareness of the organizations and their efforts.

Second Harvest CEO and President Natalie Jayroe says GiveNola Day is especially important to her organization, as it happens at a time of year when monetary donations are typically down. "Every dollar we raise means three more meals for neighbors in need," she said. "We're very grateful for the very generous support we've received on GiveNola Day, and are honored to participate in such a positive community-wide event."



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GARDENING IN THE CRESCENT CITY

CREATIVE & COLORFUL IDEAS FOR EYE-CATCHING CONTAINER GARDENS

BY VICTOR ANDREWS

One of the great pleasures of gardening is working with containers. Any kind. Fancy. Simple. Large or Small. All it takes is a little thought about which container works in what space.

First of all, when planning a container garden, it is important to note how sunshine plays in the landscape. Have a bright sunny spot? Then vibrant zinnias and geraniums will work well, and roses love being in containers in nice sunny locations.

Lots of shade? Then look to impatiens, hostas or ferns. Containers filled with ferns work particularly well for those dark spots. Get three or four large terra cotta pots in varying sizes and fill with small pebbles for drainage, add good soil and ferns. Local favorites include maidenhair ferns, the old reliable Boston fern, staghorn or bird's nest. Or think hostas. Hostas now come in so many colors, shapes and sizes that the gardener has a painter's pallet filled with dazzling choices.

Wanda Bardwell, assistant garden manager at Jefferson Feed and Seed, says that container gardens can add a pop of color to any porch or small space. "When designing your container garden keep a few things in mind," she said. "First choose the right container for your setting. Choices range from inexpensive nursery pots to decorative plastic pots, terracotta pots or glazed pots."

Top of the line planters include molded concrete planters and window baskets. Or choose something as basic as an old watering can or a coffee can. "But whatever you choose be sure it has proper drain holes," she said. "Then play around with your plants and color schemes."

Looking for a little help, then Bardwell suggests calling a local garden center or the experts at the Louisiana State University Agriculture Center.

Some gardeners go for themed gardens, ranging from group plantings of succulents, herbs or butterfly-loving plants, said Bardwell. Or consider concentrating on one type of planting. Citrus trees are known for their love of being grown in containers and so do many vegetable plants. But nothing is more spectacular than any alleyway of orange or lemon trees planted in large terra cotta containers.





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