

Shopping » JOY'S PICKS

Silver star for Grainger's

I'd almost forgotten about the little shack by the riverbank in Bellevue where Covington and Newport rehabbing pioneers in the late '70s and '80s turned for brass mailboxes, missing chandelier arms, lamp rewiring and refurbished metalwork to fit their meager budgets. So packed then with antiques in various states of disrepair was George Grainger's dim little shop, one had to shuffle in and out sideways to find a treasure, usually under a layer of dust.

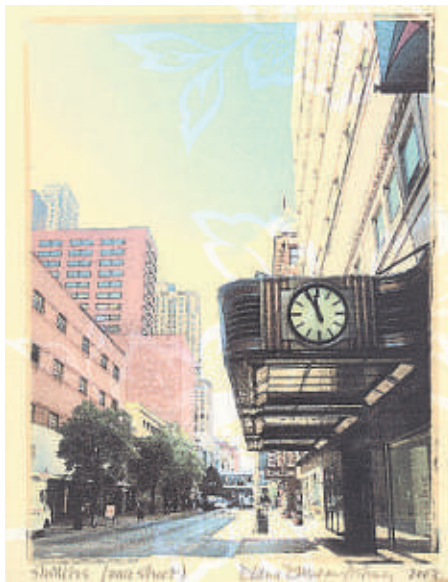
Today's store, manned by his son Tony, and a stone's throw away in Dayton, Ky., begs for browsing. It stands on a prominent corner, full of candlesticks, glassware, lamps and silver catching the sun in the big windows. A third-generation artisan, he continues the work started by his grandfather – also a George – in his Mariemont basement in 1916.

After several steep repair estimates, I took a long-damaged 1940s silver teapot with a broken beadball base and damaged lid to discover, happily, that Grainger's was still a bargain. It took a couple of months, but he made the mold for the missing piece and damaged my checkbook only half as much as anyone else consulted.

Coat racks, sconces, alabaster lamps, dozens of globes and shades: Grainger's remains the go-to spot for rehab and repairs. 501 Sixth Ave., Dayton, Ky. 859-261-2345.

Art & jewelry

Fine art and jewelry go hand-in-hand as galleries add one-of-a-kind creations – often in pre-



"Shillito's" by Diana Duncan Holmes.

cious metals and gems – to their shows. Boris Litwin Jeweler on Hyde Park Square gives the trend a reverse twist adding the work of Diana Duncan Holmes to the walls and windows above their cases of wearable art. Called "Cincinnati Gems," they depict architecture and urban landscapes in downtown Cincinnati, manipulated by computer and printed on neutral floral print wallpaper.

"There's nothing nostalgic here, just a luminous new view of the familiar that catapults it to a new level," says B.J. Foreman, president of Litwin's. Each piece is unique and priced at \$275, unframed. Check out www.litwins.com.

Riverside Antique Mall

Fans of Ferguson's Antique Mall, a longtime Columbia Tusculum landmark (now in Price Hill) and the attached Country House Restaurant, should be heartened by the newest rendition of the long-time favorites that faded after an unsuccessful rebirth in 2004 as Cincinnati Antique Collective. A recent visit

to the building that is now called Riverside Antique Mall, resurrected by Bob Ware in 2007, found about 40 dealers in the ramshackle barn-side building.

We missed the wonderful architectural salvage of Gary Neltner in the outside space, but inside found aisles stocked with collectibles, antiques and classics that browsers have come to expect. We whiled away a Saturday afternoon finding brass beds, fireplace mantles, milk glass, jewelry, silver, toys, antique wood shutters, clothes, beer signs, upholstered and wood furniture and a strong selection of stained glass throughout the building. There are antiques aplenty but also enough flea market finds to satisfy stingy budgets.

Check out the antique space with yesteryear's tools and the Country Tea Garden room with the wall of church-lady hats and white gloves.

Kellogg Country House Restaurant: 8 a.m.-3 p.m. every day with dinner 5-9 p.m. Thursday-Saturday. 513-617-7008.

Riverside Antique Mall: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday. 3742 Kellogg Ave., Columbia Tusculum. 513-321-3181.

Joy Kraft



E.L. Hubbard for The Enquirer

"She's able to really lead somebody into doing something," 17-year-old Rob Broome says of his 80something dance partner, Tillie Long.

Teen and Tillie are two who tango

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She dances, sings or plays the kazoo seven nights a week, and she spends her days exercising, meditating and writing.

"I can teach anybody to dance from scratch," says Long, who has been dancing since childhood. "If they can't feel the beat, I give them the beat."

In Broome's case, it wasn't that hard. He says playing the trombone in Lakota East's marching band has taught him how to listen for the beat and memorize steps, and Long says he already had the posture that's required for dancing.

Thanks to instruction from Long and A-Marika Dance Co. owner Mary Ramirez Cook, Broome now knows more than seven dances. He dances at least three nights a week and is thinking about minoring in dance in college and majoring in high school education.

He even practices moves during down times at his cashier job at Kroger, much to the amusement of his co-workers, who ask him if he's moving his feet to beats in his head.

If you go

What: Dancing with the Stars: The Tour

When: 7:30 p.m. Thursday

Where: U.S. Bank Arena, downtown

Tickets: \$52.50-\$168.

513-562-4949, www.ticketmaster.com

"They'll go, 'What are you doing? Are you gonna go dance with Millie?'" he says.

"And I'll go: 'Her name is Tillie. And that's who I'm gonna go dance with tonight.'"

Ramirez Cook says she rarely sees someone Broome's age so interested in ballroom dancing. But this doesn't bother Broome, who dances and socializes easily with partners of all ages, from girls his own age to Tillie to his mother.

"I'm really proud of him, and it makes me happy because I can see the joy in his face and the happiness," says Williamson. "(Long has) taught him a lot of things that only experience could have taught her, so she passes it on to him and it adds a little spice to his dancing."

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