

Have You Met?

Debbe Daley



by Karen Plumley

If you were to walk into the home of Interior Designer Debbe Daley of Pelham, you would immediately know where her talents lie. Gorgeous draperies that adorn the windows cascade perfectly to the floor. Glistening tiles with just the right amount of sheen will want to make you take your shoes off at the entrance. Bold and striking colors abound on the walls, as well as in artwork tastefully chosen and hung in just the right places. Going right home afterward may not be the best idea: that paint-by-numbers ocean scene hanging in the bedroom is going to look pretty shabby.

It's obvious that Daley is a woman of countless creative talents. She designs and sews window treatments, redecorates homes, and has been the owner of her own interior design company for several years. But many designers are talented and do well. It took a bit more than just talent for Daley to land in a California studio auditioning for *Decorating Cents*, an enormously successful show that airs weekly on HGTV.

Daley was born and raised in Dracut, Massachusetts, and moved to Pelham 5 1/2 years ago with her husband and daughter. She has worked as a designer for large firms in her time as a professional, but has found it personally rewarding owning her own business. "It was the customer service that I really wanted to provide, and felt the only way I could have the flexibility to offer the kind of service my clients deserve was to do it on my own," explained Daley.

Daley started modestly, designing and handcrafting window treatments from her home but quickly discovered that there was a huge demand for it and became overwhelmed. "I got nervous about how busy I was becoming, so I stopped for a while and went back to work in the corporate world," she explained. But, she knew that she would be working for herself again sooner or later. And she was right. Her business, which at one time was located in a showroom in Dracut, has evolved and grown over the years until now she handles every facet of the designing process. She no longer has to do her own sewing either. Daley has built relationships with tailors, flooring vendors, wallpaper and paint contractors, carpenters, furniture studios, and many others, and now works with her team successfully to achieve her all of her clients' visions for beautifully designed living spaces.

After attaining her interior redesign certification, Daley was invited to join Interior Redesign Industry Specialists, a highly regarded design society, and it was through this membership that she was chosen to audition for *Decorating Cents*. She is also a member of the Interior Design Society. These organizations have allowed her to make important contacts and this has boosted her career to the next level. After many years of persistence and hard work she has achieved her dream and finally has the professional recognition that she deserves.

Although her focus has been on her business, Daley also is kept quite busy at her church. She is a member of the Transfiguration Greek Orthodox Church in Lowell, Massachusetts, where she is currently Vice President of the Ladies Philoptochos (Friend of the Poor) Society. This organization works with various charitable groups such as the House of Hope in Lowell and the Greek Home in Brookline, donating time and money to their causes. She has also been very supportive of her husband's printing business for many years, handling all of his billing needs. Daley's daughter keeps her quite busy as well, and has apparently inherited her mother's creative gene. She is studying fashion merchandising in New York City and was recently approached by Warner Brothers to audition for them.

For most of us, just sewing a button back on an old shirt is an achievement. Daley has taken her skillful devotion to her work one step further; and her story is far from over. Daley sees many prospects on the horizon. "I see myself possibly doing some teaching, and focusing on redesign. And having my own series on HGTV," Daley enthused with a gleam in her eye. HGTV is currently auditioning designers from the IDS society to host a 13-week design show, and Daley is one of the designers who will be considered. If she has anything to do with it, soon a whole lot more will be heard about this talented, creative, and ambitious designer from the little town of Pelham. Have you met Debbe Daley?

