



Lynn Lourie is the owner of Mum 117 in Barrington.

One of a Kind

MUM 117 CARRIES AN ECLECTIC VARIETY OF MERCHANDISE EXCLUSIVE TO THE STORE

TUCKED AWAY in downtown Barrington is a sophisticated boutique that sells unique home accessories, fine art, books, and women's clothing not carried by other stores in the area or even online. Every item for sale at Mum 117 has been thoughtfully selected by artist and owner Lynn Lourie. From the graphics on packaging to fabrics and textures, she takes it all into consideration before bringing it into her shop at 117 East Station Street.

"I think that every decision I make is formed by my sense of art and design," said Lourie, who retired from her position as chair of the art department at McHenry County College after a 26-year career. "Even a dish towel can be a design statement." Lourie designed the shop with her

husband, Rudolph Magnani, owner of sister company, Mum Modern Landscapes, in Crystal Lake.

Art greets customers before they enter the store, to the soothing sounds of instrumental music and the faint smell of potpourri. Lourie spends a good day designing the shop's window, switching up the scene each month with art that doesn't always hint at the merchandise inside. In June, when the store's manager, Lane Richards, was getting married, she went with a kitschy wedding theme and incorporated Richards' invitation into the display.

Most of the merchandise is made of earth-friendly materials, like soy-based candles from London with cotton wicks, esoteric, letterpress cards for all occasions on recycled paper, and

hand-lotion from Canada that is not tested on animals. Popular with customers at the moment is artwork sculpted from mixed metals, linen throw pillows with whimsical, hand-embroidered designs, and pink Himalayan salt for cooking that comes packaged with a mini grater. Antique chairs, lamps, candelabrum, and other vintage décor is found throughout the store. Whatever is not available on hand, Lourie can find by making a few phone calls. She takes custom orders from customers seeking specialty gift items or distinct pieces for themselves and is happy to fulfill any last-minute requests.

Lourie travels to New York on buying excursions and attends industry trade shows when business slows down in January and February. She



works on a consignment basis with a number of local artists and a couple from out of state. Her son Eric Huebsch and his girlfriend Kathy Gray, both Los Angeles-based artists, supply her with artwork. For sale right now is a jagged-edged piece of wall art, containing colorful swirls of graffiti that Huebsch sandblasted off a building near his L.A. home. In the same display is Gray's work, an artfully designed bowl, made of blown glass that stands alone in its beauty. Gray happens to be among the top 50 glass blowers in the country.

One of Lourie's favorite accessories is a tabletop mirror with chrome "duck feet." To her, the design is intricate and simplistic. A big reader, she is thrilled with how well the books about art, cooking and such general interest topics as green living, sell at the store.

Mum 117, which opened in 2015, is not Lourie's first business called Mum. She owned Mum Floral & Design in Crystal Lake from 2006 through 2009, carrying similar merchandise with one exception: the focus was on artistic floral design for weddings and other upscale events. "It was like running a restaurant," she said. "I was working six days a week, 12 hours a day." After working late one Christmas Eve and eating take-out, she thought, "This is not the way I want my life to go," and decided to close the business.

This Mum has brought her into new territory, selling clothing, a life-long interest of hers. She intuitively uses her aesthetic sensibilities and sources only the highest quality garments. Lourie is proud of carrying soft, fine fabrics with hand-stitched, impeccable finishes that customers are not likely to find anywhere else. She said sales of clothing have increased steadily since the store opened a year ago. The category, combined with home accessories, makes up 80 percent of sales. Lourie looks to the future of her business with optimism and finds her time working in the shop serene.

Mum 117 is open Mondays through Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call 847-387-4225 or visit www.mum117.com

Melanie Kalmar is a freelance writer, specializing in human interest and business features. When she's not writing, she enjoys spending time with her family.



awaken the glow within you

Take a moment for your skin and self, and try **NEW tulasāra™** skin care. Our pure facial oils, ultra-soft facial brush and highly concentrated treatments instantly reveal radiance and visibly transform your skin.

EXPERIENCE TULASĀRĀ™ | 97% naturally derived* advanced science. ayurvedic wisdom. proven results.

* From plants, non-petroleum minerals or water. Learn more at aveda.com.

an Aveda lifestyle salon
**BEN E
SALON SPA**

Hair • Skin • Massage • Nails • Make Up
Waxing • Extensions • Gift Cards

ENJOY...

**\$20.00 Off your customized
Tulasāra™ Facial during January and February**

*Coupon must be presented at time of service. Not valid for gratuity.
No cash value. No cash back. Can not be combined with any other offer.*

847.381.2160

benesalon.com

Routes 14 & 59 Barrington, IL





An army of volunteers does everything from staging, to moving furniture, vacuuming, and more.

Hope Ministries' Dedicated Volunteers

HOUSE OF HOPE RESALE SHOP, PROJECT HOPE, AND GIFTS OF HOPE TO THOSE IN NEED

TODAY, MORE THAN 2,000 customers walk through the doors of the House of Hope Resale Shop in Lake Zurich each week, but the store began in 1981 as a humble series of garage sales behind Saint Anne Catholic Church in Barrington. “Although the operation has drastically changed over the years, the mission has remained the same: to help our neighbors in crisis in the Northwest Suburbs with food and financial assistance,” Mary Howard, its director says.

The front of the store where people shop is approximately 15,000 sq. ft., and the entire back of the facility is where volunteers sort, tag, and clean up everything from furniture to sporting goods, which is another 8-10,000 sq. ft. House of Hope offers everyday items—clothing, furniture, books, home goods, and more—for incredible prices.

The donations that are sorted, priced, shelved, and sold by the dedicated volunteers at the House of Hope provide the fuel, in the form of funding,

for the outreach work that is done through the Project Hope office in Barrington. The activity at the House of Hope also funds an annual program entitled Gifts of Hope that extends the reach of the ministry through grants to local nonprofits.

If you are interested in volunteering or have any other questions, contact Mary Howard, Dir., at email mhoward@stannebarrington.org or 847-381-5721.





SERVPRO®
Fire & Water - Cleanup & Restoration™



SERVPRO® of Barrington/
North Schaumburg
847-526-0090
servprobarringtonnorthschaumburg.com
Independently Owned and Operated

CLEANUP & RESTORATION

- Commercial and Residential
- Trained, Uniformed Professionals
- Restore Versus Replace
- Free Estimates



Like it never even happened.®



WHATEVER YOUR FAVORITE CAR IS, WE CAN GET YOU BACK ON THE ROAD.



Our ASE certified and I-CAR/Factory trained technicians have served the Barrington area for over 22 years. That means countless fender benders, rust repair projects, or the errant shopping cart mishap. All of our repairs are guaranteed. How can we help you?

**Belknap
Auto Body, Inc.**

847-382-9433 **belknapautobodyinc.com**
27W982 Commercial Avenue, Barrington, IL 60010



BACOA Hosts “You Matter Too” in November The Barrington Area Council on Aging (BACOA) designed and initiated a caregiver support program with The Garlands of Barrington, where the event was held. Presenting at the event were (from left) Marsha Werner, Raymond James & Associates; Joyce Palmquist, BACOA; David Buckley, Kelleher & Buckley; Linda Fine, Kelleher & Buckley; and Mary Helen Ekstam, a Life Learning Advocate for JourneyCare. The speakers provided insights, information, and support to a crowd of 50 people who serve in the role of caregiver, both for seniors, or in caring for people of any age. Topics included self-care, and practical legal and financial advice.



Chamber Ribbon-Cutting at Co-Optim The Barrington Area Chamber of Commerce celebrated the opening of Co-Optim, 21660 W. Field Parkway, Deer Park, with an official ribbon cutting ceremony. Co-Optim provides shared office and coworking space, private offices coupled with high-end amenities, and spectacular networking events. The innovative coworking space provides affordable luxury, private offices, and a range of workspace memberships to fit the needs of any business, professional, or organization. Attendees (from left) are Victoria Cook, The Center For Guilt-Free Success; Alan Wiscomb, Town Square Publications; Tom Cramer, Wintrust Mortgage; Ed Tobias, Tobias Family Dentistry; Patty Jacobsen, Jensen, Jacobsen & Associates; Kelly Myers, Highmark Restoration; Joseph Elias, Co-Optim; Cristina Elias, Co-Optim; Kelsey Burnell, Co-Optim; Julie Robinson, Co-Optim; Alicia Hutzler, Co-Optim; Martha Goodman-Stack, Wells Fargo Advisors; Steve Pease, ServiceMaster Quik Restore; and Suzanne Corr, BACC President/CEO.