

upstate

HOME

LIVING REAL EASY

LEGENDS OF THE

FALL

CNY SHOPS

COMFY CHIC ACCENTS



GLASS ACT

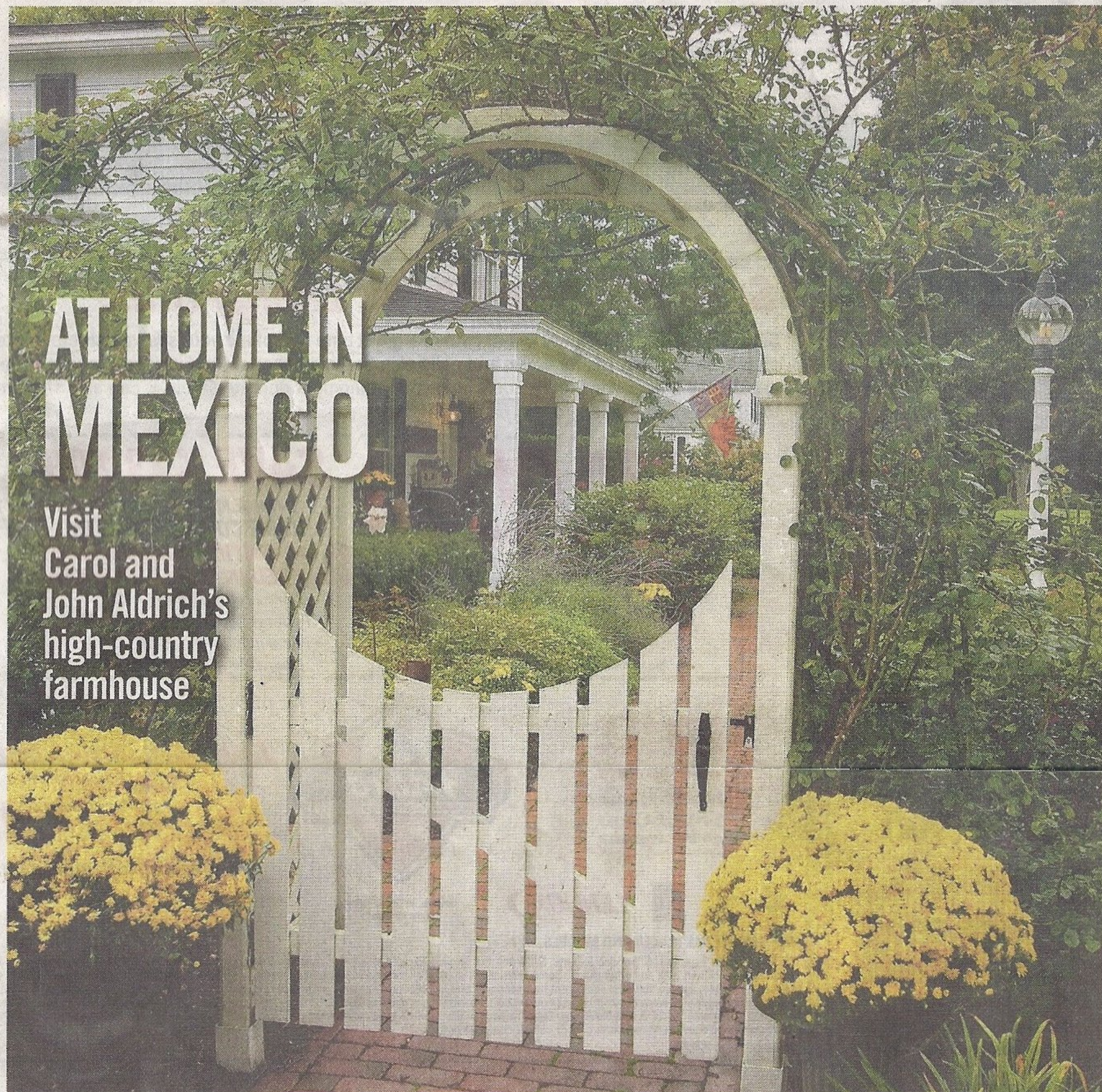
HOW TO FROST
A WINDOW

REALITY BITES

There's no white
sofa in your house

PLUS:

- GOOD BUYS
- CHEAP TRICKS
WITH BURLAP



AT HOME IN MEXICO

Visit
Carol and
John Aldrich's
high-country
farmhouse

GLASS ACT

Frosted windowpanes, mirrors, tabletops — you can do it yourself.

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY
MARY GELLING-MERRITT

It's easy to add a dash of decor to your home without turning a weekend into work days. It's called frosting and according to Skaneateles interior decorative artist Heather Bruno-Sears, it adds style and functionality to glass surfaces.



"The best part about frosting a window," says Bruno-Sears, "is that it gives a degree of privacy while still allowing natural light to peek through. It's a great alternative to shades or blinds."

Bruno-Sears has created custom design



accents for homes in Central New York and the Finger Lakes. Her professional etched glass techniques are permanent and require sand-blasting or acidic treatments. But you

can try a temporary frosting technique at home. Here's how.

First, you'll need a spray can of frosted glass finish or semi-transparent paint for glass, a roll of painter's tape, drop cloths, a flat plastic or rubber spatula-like, burnishing tool and a pin

tool (sharp-pointed pick with a handle)

For the design, Bruno-Sears says the possibilities are limitless. You can create a checked, lattice or diamond pattern by laying down lines of painter's tape or you can purchase pre-cut adhesive stencils.

"You could even create your own custom stencil by cutting decorative patterns into vinyl and then applying a light layer of stencil adhesive to the back. Just keep in mind, whatever you 'mask off' (or cover up) will stay clear and what



is cut-out in the pattern will be frosted," she says. For a window in a first-floor bathroom, Bruno-Sears suggests a pattern that creates privacy but also enhances the design features in the room. For this treatment, she used a pre-cut adhesive stencil from Modello Designs.

How to:

1 The first step is to make sure your window is clean and dry. You'll also want to protect the molding with painter's tape. If you're creating your own design with painter's tape, be sure the pattern is uniform

and straight, she says. For a pre-cut design piece with adhesive, measure the window's surface, then cut the pattern to fit.

2 Once you're sure the pattern fits, gently peel off the backing, starting in one corner to reveal the adhesive side. Carefully place the adhesive to the window.

Next, smooth over the surface with your hand to make sure the pattern adheres to the window. With the flat burnishing tool, press the area gently to squeeze out any remaining air bubbles, says Bruno-Sears.

3 Once your design is secure, gently pull back the front paper to reveal the pattern. Use a slow and steady motion while making sure the design remains on the window.

4 After you've put down drop clothes (be sure to you have adequate ventilation), apply paint evenly, starting with a light coating.

5 "It is much better to apply several light layers to provide complete coverage than to heavily spray one layer. Too much paint applied at one time will drip," Bruno-Sears says.



FIX IT

6 Wait for each layer of paint to dry before applying another. When you're satisfied that the area is covered and dry, start peeling away the pattern. Use the pin tool to grasp the edges of the adhesive areas for an even, steady peel.

7 Once all the adhesive tape is cleared away, you're done. This technique works for mirrors and other glass surfaces, says Bruno-Sears.

To clean, Bruno-Sears suggests using a mild, multi-surface cleaner without ammonia and a soft cloth.



HEATHER BRUNO-SEARS IS AN INTERIOR DECORATIVE ARTIST RECENTLY FEATURED IN A NATIONAL PUBLICATION FOR THE INTERIOR DESIGN INDUSTRY. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HER DECORATIVE PAINTING TECHNIQUES, VISIT HEATHERBRUNOSEARS.COM.



Go on.
Scare the
knit out of
them.



6487 E Seneca Turnpike, Jamesville. 315 399 5148