



THRESHOLDS OF RENEWAL

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PHOTOS BY MATT CORNELIUS

It's easy to imagine what drew Jeanie Conway to her home. Driving up to the front, the large wrap-around porch is warm and inviting. Large planters overflowing with life stand tall on either side of the front door. Each home reflects so many things about the lives of the inhabitants, and the most interesting parts of every house are the stories told by each carefully curated space.

The Conway house boasts a sense of growth and revival through its colorful pallet and inviting design. It has the location of fresh starts and a renewed focus on the joys of life. "This house came about as a change in life for me. My husband [Mike] died of

COVID three years ago," she explained. "We had lived in a nice house where we raised our family, and it was time for the renovation of that property. After he died, with everything else I was facing—the life changes— I thought 'I just don't have it in my heart to do the renovation.' One day, I made a joke to my niece Jeanna [Easley], who's a realtor, that maybe I wanted to move. She started sending me pictures of houses, and I was looking online. Then this house came up in the summer of 2021, and I moved in September of 2022."

Inside, classic details continue throughout. Fresh tones of blue, green, and white greet you upon entry. The staircase has a



multicolor basket-weave runner, and each spindle has been creatively accented at the base with Sherwin Williams Halcyon Green, which has become a bit of a signature tone throughout the house. In the dining room her designer, Jason Jones of Jase Jones and Associates of Dallas, continues the tranquil color scheme by using the Halcyon Green again, this time to accent the ceiling. He then pulled shades of blue and green throughout the space by using a variety of fabrics and wallpapers. The soothing pallet was the perfect choice for Conway's house because it allowed Jones to keep a lot of her existing furniture, while simultaneously making the pieces feel new.

The light and airy quality of the color scheme provides the perfect background to the dark case goods that Conway brought from her old house. Instead of ornate and moody, the pieces add visual grounding and warmth to each space. "I've worked with [Jones] over the past ten to twelve years. This is mostly furniture from my other house. He recovered everything and got me a new color scheme. That's not really what I thought I wanted. I really wanted to start fresh. I was just sad about so many things at the time, and I really didn't think it was





going to fit in this house. But I trusted him and thought I would start out with it and then, if I didn't like it, make changes. But it's been transformed."

Throughout the downstairs common areas, Jones repeated a beautiful blue and green chinoiserie fabric for the custom window treatments, allowing color to add life and whimsy to an otherwise very traditional pattern. The green textured sofas in the family room have tall backs and sides topped elegantly with finials. Whether it's lifesize statues or ornamental angels mounted gracefully on the wall, dimensional art pieces are found at every turn. These unusual pieces create interest, also adding depth and personality. In the front powder bath, you find colorful wallpaper and cross-shaped, evergreen floor tile. "When I was a little girl, my grandmother had



a small room underneath her stairs, and I knew my grandchildren would love this room. We picked out this wallpaper called Critters. Jones said, 'I think this is really fun,' and I said, 'I think so too.' And when Conway (Jeanie's granddaughter) was just walking, she'd come in here and point and we'd talk about the color or the insect. My grandchildren just love this little bathroom."

One area of the house that received a lot of updating was the kitchen. The previous owner had the space divided between a kitchen with a built-in banquette and a sunroom. Conway removed the wall that separated the two spaces to open it up into one large room. She also removed the peninsula and a small island, opting for a larger island in its place. The new island has also been painted Halcyon Green and features a beautiful quartzite countertop in varying shades of soft green. Above the island hangs three green lantern-shaped lights accented in gold. On the ceiling is a green and white trellis wallpaper that subtly brings the outside in and brightens up the space.



The second area that underwent significant updates was the primary suite. Previously, the walk-in closet was narrow and dark, making it feel congested. Jones created a design that opened the closet, master bathroom, and a small desk area that had originally been accessible through the adjacent laundry room and created one large, luxurious room. By thinking outside the box, Jones, along with Nashville, Arkansas based contractor Greg Furr, was able to give Conway ample hanging space and, overall, a more functional suite. The new configuration is spacious and easily accessible. It also allowed room for an oversized island. The island, topped in unique marble with streaks of purples and burgundies, accentuates the openness of the new bathroom and creates a stunning focal point.



In the backyard, Conway worked with Dana Cox to update the pool area. "The pool was already a pretty shape and had a waterfall, but I didn't want it more than five feet deep. So Dana drained it, made it more shallow, and resurfaced the inside. He also added some new coping and tile," she said. In addition to the pool changes, they freshened up the outside surfaces and





added a built-in grill area, and built-in stone planters and landscaping.

Through thoughtful design choices and collaborative efforts, Conway's home has evolved into a sanctuary of beauty and comfort. Each room tells the story of hope and new beginnings, reflecting Conway's journey of healing and rediscovery. As she welcomes guests into her vibrant and revitalized space, Conway not only shares her home but also shares her journey of growth and transformation, reminding guests that amidst life's challenges, there's always the possibility of renewed hope and joy. ①

