



GARDENING | HOME IMPROVEMENT | DECORATING

INSIDE | OUT

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SECTION G

FROM CINDER BLOCKS TO A COOL CRIB



PHOTOS BY DAVID PERRY | STAFF

Kate Clemons of Hazard will be a sophomore at Centre College in Danville this fall, and she shares a room with sophomore Kate Smiley of Louisville. Their room is based around a central color and spiced up with coordinates, including an area rug, bedding and fabric for the walls.

Dress up your dorm digs

Make over any room cheaply and easily

By Cheryl Truman

HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

When you get your first look at a dorm room, your instinct might be to run away.

You'll probably have four grim walls, most likely concrete block painted in a color suggesting that you've been involuntarily committed; two twin beds that might give off the faintest air of mustiness; and a set of battered desks and chairs.



Kate Clemons glued pink feathers on a table lamp shade to stick to her color scheme.

And from this, you're expected to concoct a cozy little nest that's so alluring you never want to return to Mom and Dad's?

"Pretty much it's a nightmare when you first walk into a dorm room," says Jeff Gawronski of the online retailer DormBuys.com, which offers everything from space-saving gadgets to combina-

tion packs of bedding or cleaning supplies for the college student who wants it all selected, collected and ready to go.

Even so, prettifying a dorm room can be a daunting task.

Fortunately, hundreds of thousands of students have done it before you.

Consider the finalists at Centre College's 2006 dorm room decor contest. From silky pink



Decorating tips for the 'quasi-adult'
Find easy themes and cheap ways to do them.
Page G6

stripes to clean bright corals and limes to an inflatable Tiki doll and matchstick bamboo wall covering, Centre students showed that they can decorate with a lot of imagination — who would think to showcase an inflatable Tiki doll? — and not a lot of money.

Those students take the same steps that any homeowner would when redecorating: Pick your colors, your accessories and your theme. Then try to figure out a way to tie it all together.

Lexington decorator Beth Harper, aka "The Lone Rearranger," says it's all about covering up the room features you don't like and making a

See DORMS, G6



Jeremy Ware's tropical-themed dorm room won Centre College's best-decorated room award. He'll be a senior in the fall. At left, a Tiki doll and some pirates share Ware's living space.

POP!

A daily look at entertainment news

● PEOPLE

Shakira shares with U.S. Latinos

Shakira dedicated her seven MTV Video Music Awards nominations to Latinos in the United States. "I too am one of them," she said Thursday in Mexico City during her "Oral Fixation" world tour.



Shakira

Shakira, 27, a native of Colombia, is up for seven awards for the video of her smash single *Hips Don't Lie*, tying the **Red Hot Chili Peppers** for the most nominations. She won six Billboard Latin Music Awards this year and is the first Latina to be nominated for seven MTV awards.

The awards program is scheduled to air at 8 p.m. Aug. 31 on MTV.

Garth Brooks' ex-wife possible kidnap target

A judge in Oklahoma has ordered a man accused of abducting and trying to extort money from **Garth Brooks'** former wife to stand trial.

Quintine Cornelius Harper, 28, faces arraignment Aug. 17 on a charge of kidnapping for extortion. He also is charged with pointing a gun at a bounty hunter and a bondsman.

Prosecutors said Harper tried to extort \$16,000 from Sandy Brooks, his former girlfriend, to pay off a bondsman after he jumped bond on an embezzlement charge.

Sandy and Garth Brooks were married for 15 years and have three daughters. They divorced in 2001.

Alexander on 'Chris'

Jason Alexander will guest-star on *Everybody Hates Chris* next season.

Alexander, who starred in *Seinfeld* and *Listen Up*, is to play the principal of Corleone Junior High on two episodes and will direct a third, CBS Paramount Network Television said Thursday.

In one episode, Alexander makes **Chris (Tyler Williams)** confront a bully. In another, he and Chris bond while they wait out a snowstorm at school.

Whoopi Goldberg previously was announced as a guest star.

Catching up, bit by bit

Barry Manilow had so much success with music from the 1950s, he's taking on another decade.

Manilow said he'll release *The Greatest Songs of the Sixties* on Oct. 31, a follow-up to *The Greatest Songs of the Fifties*, which debuted at No. 1 earlier this year and sold more than 1 million copies.

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HOW OLD?!



Clark

Actress **Cammie King** (Bonnie Blue Butler in *Gone With the Wind*) is 72. Actresses **Erica Slezak** and **Loni Anderson** are 60. Singer **Rick Derringer** is 59. Actress **Maureen McCormick** is 50. Actress **Tawny Kitaen** and country fiddler **Mark O'Connor** are 45. Actor **Jonathan Silverman** is 40. Country singer **Terri Clark** is 38.

HOMES HATE HUMID AIR, TOO

Dehumidifier is best way to get rid of excess moisture

MAINTENANCE — G6

Picnic With Pops will share the stage, the wealth

By Rich Copley

HERALD-LEADER CULTURE WRITER

Picnic With the Pops, the annual summer soiree featuring the Lexington Philharmonic at the Kentucky Horse Park, has upped the ante on entertainment and the event's table decorating contest this year.

Little Anthony and the Imperials, the 1950s and '60s hit makers that brought us *Earth Angel* and *Shimmy, Shimmy, Ko-Ko-Bop*, will perform with the Philharmonic on the last two num-

bers of the first half of the concert, then have the stage to themselves for the second half.

Picnic With the Pops was inspired by Atlanta Symphony Orchestra outdoor summertime pops concerts that boasted big-name recording artists. But the Lexington event's previous foray into star time was a bit of a disaster when two scheduled performances by Dinah Shore in 1983 were rained out.

After that, organizers were reluctant to import marquee artists again. But

with increased competition from other events, Picnic with the Pops publicist Mary Ellen Slone said the event needed to give it another shot.

She also said the effort Picnic-goers put into decorating their tables made it seem only right to offer a bigger prize. The prize, which will go to a winning table each night, is dinner for eight at Malone's with round-trip limousine service from Gold Shield. Slone said the package is valued at \$750, which, "should cover a lot of crepe paper."

IF YOU GO

Picnic With the Pops

When: Aug. 25, 26. Gates open at 5:30 p.m. and music starts at 8.

Where: Kentucky Horse Park, 4089 Ironworks Pkwy.

Tickets: \$200 preferred table for 8, \$160 standard table, \$10 each blanket seating.

Phone: (859) 233-3535.

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INDEX

Comics G4-5
Crossword G5
Dear Abby G5
Heloise G2
Horoscope G4
Sensible Home G2

