

## Celebrating 10+ Years!



Laura and Becky work to refinish a mid-century modern desk at the Vintage 61 Storehouse located in Orwigsburg, PA. Vintage staff regularly refinish two to five pieces a week and have a warehouse of stock.

Walking into the Vintage 61 Storehouse, in Orwigsburg, is exciting. To put it mildly.

Over 20,000 square feet of re-purposed everything overwhelms and replaces the thought of whatever it was you thought you would go looking for, with trying to figure out how you're going to fit, this or that, into your home. Luckily, only so much will fit into your ride. Unless, you have a friend with a truck.

"When I was younger, my brother would take me auctions and things like that so (repurposing) has always been something I liked to do." Vintage 61 Storehouse owner Laura Lee Hughes says.

Hughes and an assistant work with a cashmere colored Fusion Mineral paint, as a mid-century modern desk is



transformed into something new. The pale creamy meadow colored paint will be accented with champagne painted hardware. The finished piece of furniture will eventually be on the showroom floor with other unique pieces.

"We've been here 11 years now. Back in 2013 we had just a small space upstairs. Downstairs was MRD Lumber. When they moved we decided that we wanted the space. So we started splitting it up into 15-20 individual vendor spaces so that we could take on

independent artist. Along with putting our items on display. A lot of the vendors have been here with us since the very beginning. And now we have KC Bistro here and they do all kinds of sandwiches, salads, and snacks."

KC Bistro is a great lunch spot that offers their homemade sandwiches, sweets, and treats. The creative food spot is also partnered with independents such as Swickerdoodles Cake Pops; Pottsville's The Maid's Quarters Bed, Breakfast, and Tearoom, to offer scones, and all kinds of homemade baked goods.

"We're looking for a winery, distillery, or brewery to join us here as well." Hughes said excitedly.

"People travel from hours away, to come here and visit our design space. I feel like when you think of an

antique mall or vintage mall, you think of those little cubbies that's full of glassware, etc. and we have a lot of those small things, but here, we design and set the scene where you can see it all put together for yourself. How it could work in your home. So I don't work like Vintage is your typical antique vintage place. I feel like it's evolved in to something that's much greater, that changes constantly with new merchandise. Visitors are seeing different things created and displayed every week."

"This place just keeps evolving into different things and getting better and better."

Laura and her staff refinish 2-5 furniture pieces a week to keep up with demand. There is never a short supply of furniture options. For DIYers, there is a large warehouse of unfinished furniture pieces that can be purchased for a great price and refinished.

Vintage 61 is considered a place of inspiration, and more, by its following. "We have a lot of people that buy things out of the warehouse, and we will walk them through how to use the paints. Then, they go home and do it themselves. A lot of customers will send us pictures of things that they've done

and they're super proud of that. It's just kind of design vibe between us and our customers. I feel like everybody feels super comfortable to come in here and ask us for design tips."

Another area of note is a room upstairs in the back.

Vintage staff jokingly refer to it as 'The Mens Section.' The large room is filled with frames, tools and signs, and all kinds of smaller items.



Story / Photos by Johnathan B. Paroby

"You really never know what you're going to find up there." Hughes says with a laugh.

As the holidays approach Laura and her staff have a trusted plan in place that creates a big holiday themed wow factor for visitors every year.

"We'll close down October 28 through November 1 and we empty out the entire space and redesign each individual vendor space. The front space is going to be a general store and have this really old store counter that we found. Kathy, our in house designer, has all these crazy ideas I gave her. And she just somehow makes it happen. Those pieces, like the store counter and an ornate oak mantle we found at an estate, are probably my favorite pieces to work on. I love doing every day stuff, but those showstoppers are my favorite. I can't wait to see the look on our customers faces when they walk in here and see them, and the entire place filled with Christmas decorations."

Continued on page 25

Left: Venture to the back of the first floor to find The Warehouse and the "Mens Dept."

Below: A finished bedroom scene full of details and interesting furniture pieces.



Above: With 20,000+ square feet of display space, over 25 vendors, and a warehouse full of unfinished raw furniture Vintage 61 Storehouse just might have you calling up a friend with a truck to help you get everything home.

Right: A piece found in the warehouse. Below: The after. A vibrant result using Fusion Mineral Paint products. Reminder: When refinishing be sure to keep all the hardware together.

## AFTER



Above: Fusion Mineral paint available in plenty of colors.

## BEFORE



In order to prepare for the event Vintage 61 Storehouse is closed October 30-November 1st.

## BROWSE, CREATE, LUNCH, & MORE!

Vintage 61 Storehouse  
1070 Centre Turnpike  
Rt. 61 (southbound side)  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

Phone: 1-570-968-4720  
vintagehisrepurposthat@gmail.com  
www.vintage61storehouse.com

Open Wed-Fri 10am-5pm &  
Saturday & Sunday 11am-4pm

CLOSED Monday & Tuesday