



Teresa Veach has painted many wall murals inside Johnson County homes.

PHOTO BY CORRESPONDENT MARK FREELAND

## Try brightening up your home with a wall mural

By Paul Hoffman  
Home editor

**H**ow would you like to have an Italian vineyard installed in your dining room to make dinner guests feel like they're enjoying a meal among the vines bursting with ripe bunches of grapes?

How about turning your child's bedroom into his favorite baseball and football stadium?

Wish you have a place on the ocean? How about bringing the beach to your bathroom, where you can imagine the sound of the waves and the feel of sand between your toes every time you enter?

Preposterous, you say? Not so.

You can have these things — and much more — by employing an artisan who specializes in wall murals and faux painting.

Faux painting is a technique in which a base coat of paint is mixed with glaze and then applied to the wall. Numerous other coats of other color paint are applied on top of the base coat to achieve the desired look.

### Vision becomes reality

Teresa Veach, owner of Artistic Designs by Teresa, has been using this process to paint wall murals and refinish furniture and cabinets in people's homes and businesses for the past six years.

The Shelbyville resident and former high school art teacher has done a lot of work in Johnson County homes, including several rooms in a surgeon's 17,000-square-foot home in the western part of the county last year.

She put a self portrait of their home on a dining room wall that they had recessed specifically for the mural. The son's room now looks like an

### What to look for in a faux painter

Teresa Veach, owner of Artistic Designs by Teresa, says that when looking for a faux painter/wall muralist, ask for the following items:

- Portfolio
- Web site
- Experience
- Referrals
- Prompt
- Businesslike
- Licensed
- Insured
- Good personality
- Respectful
- Trustworthy

Army tent with rips where you can see sky peeking through and tanks rolling into battle.

Pretty much anything you can think of, Veach has a way to make it happen.

"They usually know what they want; they don't think they can get it," Veach said of her clients. "So, I work really hard to give it to them."

"... I really thrive on seeing and hearing clients' voices say 'Oh my, this is even better than I thought.' It makes it worth it."

She will paint "anything to warm up a person's home, make it more inviting," she said. "People are spending more time at home and want to feel comfortable there."

### Possibilities are endless

Veach has painted the ceilings of a large Catholic church in Indianapolis, put Chicago's famed Wrigley Field baseball stadium in a boy's room, put a carousel in a baby's room, put chalkboards on walls with special paint that dries into a chalkboard, put plants behind sinks where there was no room for the real thing as well as made walls look as if they are made out of tile, marble or carpeting.

If you have a painting that you really like that seems to be

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