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using chargers beneath their dinner plates when they lived in Italy, so they have continued the tradition here. The owner paints charming wooden chargers that coordinate with her everyday dishes as well as a blue and white set for Christmas. She also paints wooden trays, one of which is on display in the sitting room off the kitchen.

“My kids joke that we have more places to sit here than any other house,” she said. “It’s true, but I love creating areas where people can visit.”

Another terrace leads to a garden off the kitchen, completing the circle of nature surrounding this cozy home.

“This house is all about our family, and we’re a happy family,” the owner said. “We are very involved and active, and we enjoy being here with each other. That’s what home is all about.”

A broadcast and print journalist for more than 25 years, Kathleen Leighton’s articles have appeared in The New York Times, Better Homes & Gardens, Newsweek and many regional and local magazines and newspapers. She writes most often about design, lifestyle, food, travel, profiles of interesting people and business.

Portfolio Kitchen & Home

Portfolio Kitchen & Home to move to ‘vintage’ location

Portfolio Kitchen & Home has built a reputation as a premier kitchen, bath and home design resource in the Midwest. This summer, Kansas City will have an even better opportunity to experience all that Portfolio has to offer when it opens its Flagship Store in the historic Pershing Building, 215 W. Pershing, near Union Station in Kansas City, Mo.

An innovative store design, exclusive merchandise and one-of-a-kind client experience will be the hallmarks of Portfolio’s new destination Flagship Store.

This dynamic location will showcase the entire collection of Portfolio’s custom cabinetry and value-conscious Studio PKH brands as well as its extensive array of services, including space planning, design/lifestyle consultation, product specification and design trend analytics. New and unique products not found elsewhere in Kansas City will also be added to the exclusive Portfolio collection of brands.

A year in the making, the 7,000-square-foot Flagship Store will be the setting for a variety of activities, such as gallerias, cooking demonstrations, lifestyle seminars, charitable events, book signings and more.