



It is spring and Milton has exploded with color. Our area's yards and businesses are looking wonderful and the Milton Garden Club has begun its *Community Pride Award* season.

Blackwater Folk Art at 5863 Stewart Street, Milton has been selected for its cheerful and thoroughly delightful *business* entry. The path leading to the front door curves around a wooden wheelbarrow overflowing with colorful flowers. A rustic fence outlines the area along with flowering shrubs, ornamental grasses and annuals.

Blackwater Folk Art is owned by Jerry and Pam Mitchell. The Garden Club was not surprised that this business is well landscaped because the Mitchell home received the Community Pride Award for their lovely home landscaping a number of years ago.

Blackwater Folk Art is a business that creates art out of weathered tin reclaimed from old warehouses. As it is wholesale, Milton residents generally don't visit the business. This is why we are especially gratified to see such a lovely landscape. The Mitchell's don't have to beautify the building but they want to. Pam Mitchell says, "I'm all about pride of ownership."

Recycling tin to create works of art, they make "a silk purse out of a sow's ear." The Mitchell's have done the same thing with the formerly barren storefront. In addition, a wisteria-covered arbor is planned for the near future.

The Mitchell's have been in this business for 25 years. Presently they employ 15 people. Some readers may remember when their business was located by the old Nichol's Seafood restaurant.

If you are curious about the artwork and the Mitchell's business story, visit their website at: [blackwaterfolkart.com](http://blackwaterfolkart.com).

King and Janine Lee's *home* on Happy Hollow Drive, Milton has also received the Community Pride Award.

Being new to Milton, and from Wisconsin, Mr. Lee said that everything they planted the first year died. However they have got it right now. Their very large property has a manicured lawn surrounded by a great number of both white and pink loropetalum shrubs. As new Florida residents, the Lee's knew they wanted palm trees and they are trying their hand at growing some tropicals like bromeliads.

Their front door has two gorgeous three-tiered planters filled with mixed flowering annuals. A water feature in the perennial bed is in the works. The Milton Garden Club is happy to welcome the Lee's to our community.

If you know of a special home or business landscape that you would like to nominate for an award, please call the Milton Garden Club (626-2003). Leave a message naming the address of your nominee.