

MY STORY...My name is Jan Biddlecombe. I am the mother of two grown boys and retired, after 30 years, from the City of Berea.

During those years I was a professional cake decorator on weekends, doing hundreds of all-occasion and wedding cakes over 25 years, and teaching for Wilton. I served as the secretary of the International Cake Exploration Societe (ICES) for the State of Ohio, and exhibited my cake decorating techniques for the Ohio State convention in Columbus.

For many years during my administrative career I also volunteered as a floral designer for Southwest General Health Center's gift shop, and I arranged for the Cleveland Home and Flower Show at the IX Center. I have also enjoyed needlework, stained glass, knitting, crochet, baking, gardening, scrapbooking, photography and membership in the Red Hat Society.

STAGING A CITY...In 2003 and again in 2005 I was honored to chair the America in Bloom competition for the City of Berea. This involved partnering with local residents, garden clubs, civic organizations, businesses, schools, and Baldwin-Wallace College, to stage the City for judging in the categories of Heritage and Architectural Preservation, Landscaping, Tidiness, Floral Displays, Urban Forestry, Turf and Open Spaces, Environmental Awareness and Community Involvement .

We hosted national judges for two days, providing lodging and transportation, luncheons, dinners, tours of the City's gardens, and media events.

In preparation for the judging I organized Citywide planting parties, competitions and contests for school children, appeared on local TV and radio, spoke before civic organizations, raised funds to cover the judges' visit and the national awards convention which I attended with the Mayor in Chicago.

When the City of Berea took first place in its category, I was honored with a Resolution from the State of Ohio presented by State Representative Tom Patton.

HOME STAGING... In 2009 when I retired from the City of Berea, I prepared my home for sale to move closer to my children. To my surprise, it sold in one day. My husband and I then sold our vacation home without ever having to advertise it. After a year of retirement in Medina, I decided to pursue my lifelong passion for decorating by becoming a professional home stager. After graduating from the Decorating and Staging Academy, I am now in the process of building my own business, **Stage It Right, LLC**. You can find me on the web at HomeStagingMedina.com, and check out many more photos on my facebook page.



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