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HOME FRONT NOW!



Coup de Grâce bed.

SHIMMER TIME

Talk about precious metals! Metallic fabrics can add sparkle to any setting. Consider Natuzzi's new Fashion chaise in bronze or silver leather, which dazzles with a fearless aesthetic. John Hutton Textiles, meanwhile, just launched its Drama Queen fabrics in four shimmering colorways. The weave blends viscose, polyester, linen and cotton and is available at David Sutherland. We loved it on the awesome new Coup de Grâce bed.

Then there's Sudden, 100-percent polyurethane by Maharam Design Studio. See it up close at Bolla in The Stoneleigh, which showcases four different shades. "The material gives that sudden hint of glamour," says designer Amber Lewis, who worked on the restaurant's design.

Interior designer Cheryl Van Dwyne says she loves using metallic fabrics and leathers, but in small doses. You have to be careful how you use them. Start with a pillow rather than doing a whole room." —LM.



Model home at Drexel Park hollow.

NESTING INSTINCTS

The new Drexel Park Hollow community of North Dallas is billed as the ultimate empty nest, but 50-somethings and up may find some young chicks as neighbors after all. Techno-savvy 20- and 30-somethings are snapping up units at the series of 10 renovated buildings on Bandera between Edgemere and Hillcrest. According to developer Robert Edelman, the 2,000-4,000-square-foot condos average around \$325 a square foot. "Our initial profile was empty nesters looking to downsize," he says, "but we're finding great interest on the part of young professionals who don't have kids and who don't want to spend \$2 million on a house."

All 135 units boast Wolf cook tops, Sub-Zero fridges, Bosch dishwashers, limestone or wood floors, granite countertops and European tubs. They also feature the Drexel's proprietary Smart Line, a system that includes all of the audio, video and data lines. You can set your a/c via your BlackBerry. Now how cool is that? —LM.



Walkway at Bird of Paradise villa.

IT TAKES A VILLA

A stay at the Anguilla, West Indies, Bird of Paradise villa allows you to get away from it all—with just the right combination of familiarity and luxury to remind you of home. Dallas-based Wilson & Associates architect Guy Courtney designed the villa. Owners and inveterate travelers Jon and Melody Dill of Wisconsin had stayed in Wilson Associates-designed properties and wanted the firm's distinctive look and feel interpreted for their island getaway. Decorated in an Asian tropical style, the home is distinguished by lagoons that weave among the four buildings of the compound. The property boasts an unobscured view of St. Maarten's and St. Bart's islands across the bay. The basic package includes concierge services and staff. Additional staff include chef, butler, baby-sitter and secretary. Rates start at \$2,100 per day for the entire compound in the low season, April 15-Dec. 14. For information, 414.791.9461 or www.anguillabird.com. —Doty Griffith



The Merritt Residence.

PAST FORWARD

Modern mavens, time to get on the invite list for the super cool, members-only outings sponsored by the Modern Committee of Preservation Dallas. This year's outings are focused mostly on the building and landscape work of late architects O'Neil Ford and Howard Meyer, with landscape designers Arthur and Marie Berger. Committee members and guests visited the Merritt residence on Hillcrest, designed by Ford and now owned (and restored) by designer John Janik, in January. On April 24, the committee will be visiting Howard Meyer's luxury apartment building at 3525 Turtle Creek, which turns 50 this year and was recently listed in the National Register of Historic Places. www.preservationdallas.org. —C.D

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