

st. louis

GREEN GIANTS

Pedro McMillan
HAS THE WORLD
IN HIS HANDS—
AND ON HIS MIND

They're
**RECYCLING,
REUSING**—and
RENEWING
our faith
in humanity

THE
GREENEST
HOUSE
IN ST. LOUIS
A MONTH
OF LIVING
SUSTAINABLY

DERAILED!
The Larry Salci
Exit Interview



unveiled:
63 PAGES OF
Bridal Bliss

we live in," he says. "I am now perfectly positioned to help."

Dave Stine, Owner, Stine Woodworking

On a 40-acre farm across the river in Dow, Ill., former lawyer Dave Stine is felling his own wood (from trees past their prime, dead or damaged; from forests that have been responsibly maintained for sustainable growth), milling his own boards and making beautiful, one-of-a-kind furniture (stinewoodworking.com) smoothed with natural, eco-friendly finishes. We're as impressed as his clients, who include architect Hugh Newell Jacobsen and writer Andrew Sullivan. "I take stewardship of our family's forests very seriously and spend as much time in the woods as I do in the shop," Stine says. "I love the idea of going to the woods that you care for and being able to harvest interesting and valuable trees for generations to come." Stine and his wife, Stephanie, are both sustainability advocates, and they live it every step of the way—raising their own beef and chickens, using raw milk from the farm next door and honey from another set of neighbors. "It's a lifestyle choice," he says, "both in terms of what I create and how I live."

Richelle White and Larbi Belkouch, Owners, Herb'n Maid

Plagued by asthma that was aggravated by her housekeeping service's cleaning solutions, Richelle White searched for a cleaner cleaner. After failing to find an eco-friendly cleaning service in the area, White had an "Aha!" moment and started her own. She also discovered that her boyfriend, chemist Larbi Belkouch, once owned a janitorial service. Belkouch mixed cleaning supplies using essential oils and other natural cleaners, while coaching White on the cleaning business. Herb'n Maid (herbnmaid.com) was born last year. "I'm out every day meeting with people who have one thing in common with me—we all care about the environment," she says.



Terry Winkelmann, Co-Owner, Home Eco

Shocked that she couldn't find an eco-friendly home store in St. Louis, former journalist Terry Winkelmann decided to open one herself along with partner Phil Judd. Now the two co-owners spend their days at Home Eco (home-eco.com), peddling organic cotton and hemp apparel, home furnishings, housewares, art, composting supplies, solar ovens and just about anything else renewable. "When we launched in 2005, we couldn't believe there were no green stores in St. Louis, but we suspected and hoped that wouldn't last much longer," Winkelmann says. "I'm glad we can always look back and know that we were on the leading edge and maybe contributed a little to the growing green movement in St. Louis."

Two area dry cleaners, PLEATS FINEST CLEANERS (pleatscleaners.com) and CHESTERFIELD CLEANERS (636-536-7995), are doing their part to press our clothes but leave a smaller impact on the earth. Nimish Shah, owner of Chesterfield Cleaners, converted in May to silicone-based cleaning, saying that the cost has been worth it. "The traditional dry cleaning solvent is pretty toxic," he says. "I was looking for something that would provide equal to or better cleaning. The customers love it. It's odor-free, and clothes are brighter and softer."

