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Before . . .



When Myra and Marvin Wittlin downsized to their new place on the East End nearly two years ago, the two weren't sure what to do with the family room. "We spent a lot of time in there, but it just wasn't comfortable," says Myra, 71.

They turned to Caroline Wilkes of Caroline Wilkes

Interiors of Merrick, who came in with the intention of adding to what the couple already had and loved.

"We had the sofa recovered and had a console delivered," says Marvin, 79, who owned a street lighting company that helped light Central Park.

"I wanted to give the room a focal point," says Wilkes of

the decision to dress up the dreary fireplace in her clients' Eastport home. "We both fell in love with the basket-weave-pattern glass [\$35 a square foot] for the fireplace. We could afford to use it without breaking the budget because it was such a small space." The harder sell was the relatively inexpensive use of paint on the wall.

"They weren't ready to dive in and paint the entire room," Wilkes says. "So, I'm easing them into it with an accent wall. The subtle green works beautifully with the fireplace."

See more photos
of this makeover



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After . . .

A **SIDE TABLE, \$600**
From a designer-only source

B **ELEPHANT LAMP, \$130**
At first glance, this is an elegant lamp with a detailed base. A closer examination shows the whimsical nature of the dancing elephants. From a designer-only source

C **DECORATIVE BALLS, existing**

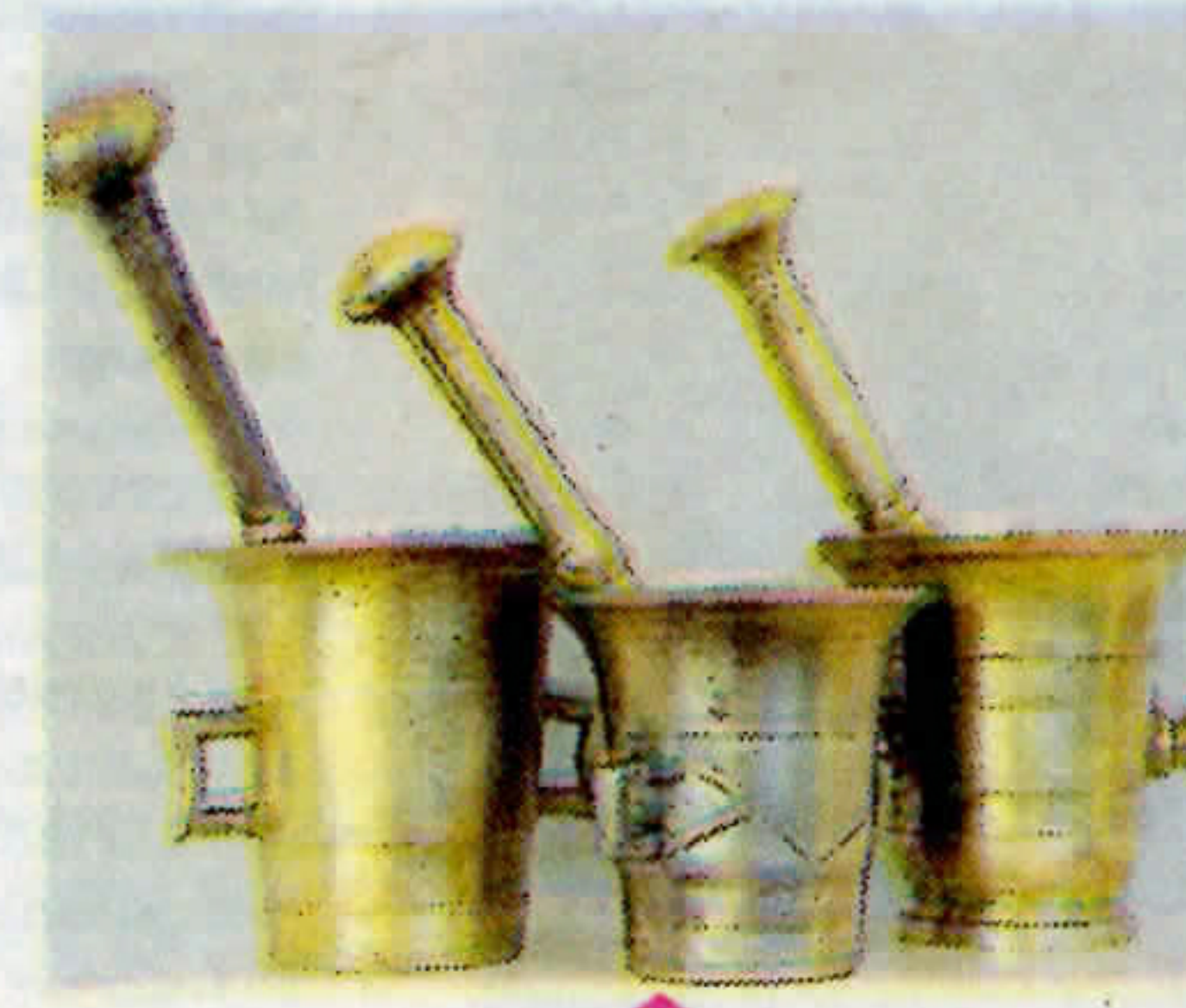
D **ANTIQUE SCALE, existing**

E **ACCENT PILLOWS, \$300 (for four)**
Fabric (\$200) from Kravet Fabrics and Home Furnishings, Bethpage. Fabrication (\$100) by a designer-only source.

F **SOFA, existing**

G **SHAG RUG, \$1,080**
While the gold color blends well with the new ottoman, Wilkes picked this wool rug for its luxurious feel. From a designer-only source

H **CUSTOM COCKTAIL OTTOMAN, \$1,296**
"We thought about a cocktail table, but this is a family room, and I wanted them to have a place to put their feet up and be comfortable," says Wilkes of



us when our fourth grandchild was born," Myra said. "It had to be in this room."

P **CERAMIC JAR and VASE, \$52**
From a designer-only source

Q **FIREPLACE SURROUND and HEARTH, \$1,513**

"It just looks different whenever you look at it."