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Cortez Trio



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Photos by Brittany Gaines

Kathy Bee has been making stained-glass lamps for the last seven years.

# Making stained glass out of bottles

Kathy Bee, owner of Soul Journey Designs, creates stained-glass lamps out of old bottles.



**BY BRITTANY GAINES**  
STAFF WRITER

**WINTER GARDEN** As Kathy Bee would say, her life has been a series of detours all leading to the art of creating stained-glass lamps.

Bee had never considered herself to be artistic — she left that

Initially, creating stained-glass lamps was just a hobby. Bee would make them and give them to friends and family. She never imagined how quickly her lamp business would grow.

“When you don’t consider yourself an artist, when you do something, you don’t think anybody will like it,” Bee said.

“For me, it’s more than making lamps,” she said. “It’s transferring positive energy between people.”

Every lamp starts with a blank bottle or vase, and Bee is always on the lookout for interesting and unique bottles to transform. Friends and neighbors often drop off odd-shaped bottles, and a friend who works at The Tasting

Kathy Bee, owner of Soul Journey Designs, sells her stained-glass lamps in Winter Garden and Clermont.