



Myrtle & Grace, Now Open in Highland Offers Practical, Thoughtful, Useful Gifts

By Tara L. Simmons

Maria Geppert has had a passion for gifts, decor and wellness her entire life and has wanted to open a store in Highland for as long as she can remember. She grew up shopping for special gifts at other specialty stores in Highland and dreamed one day she would have her own store to help people find the perfect gifts for those they love and care about.

Maria said, “A gift is more than something wrapped in a pretty package with a bow - it’s about the love that is inside and the difference it can make in one person’s day. It says ‘I care about you, I see you, and I appreciate you,’ in ways that words just can’t convey.”

On June 1st of this year, Maria realized her life long dream by opening her own gift shop in downtown Highland - Myrtle & Grace.

Maria’s hope for Myrtle & Grace is that you feel like you have just received a warm hug when you walk in. Where you are always greeted with kindness and compassion, and when you need a gift or just a little something for yourself, you

will find just the right thing.

Myrtle & Grace offers a plethora of thoughtfully sourced gifts and home accessories which encourage people to thrive and support each other through kindness and well-being.

And although I can’t give the back story of every product offered at the store, I do want to provide a few examples of the items you will find within, to illustrate the uniqueness of Myrtle & Grace.

Among the merchandise categories you will find are kitchen gifts and accessories and health and well-being products. Kicking off the roster is Enzo Olive Oil Company’s 100% estate-grown, award-winning organic extra virgin olive oils and organic balsamic vinegars. Produced by the Ricchiuti family since 1914 to bring premium products to their customers, Patrick and Richard Ricchiuti personally oversee the planting of each tree, harvesting of the crop and milling of the oil. Every drop of Enzo Olive Oil is milled from olives grown on the Ricchiuti’s 4th generation farm in

California. Enzo Olive Oil is certified organic and represents a commitment by the Ricchiuti family to make thoughtful, sustainable and environmentally friendly choices, including recycling byproducts and utilizing glass rather than plastic. Myrtle & Grace features recipes using Enzo products on their website and more can be found on Enzo’s Facebook page or at enzostable.com.

Forest & Meadow is a modern day herbal apothecary and wellness clinic in St. Louis. Their clinically trained herbalists formulate ethically wild crafted and naturally farmed herbal teas, extracts, syrups, salves, bitters, shrubs, tonics, bath soaks, essential oils and more. All of their products are handcrafted in house to support your health, well-being and vitality. Myrtle & Grace has partnered with them to carry their line.

When it comes to home accents and accessories, let’s start the highlights with Prairie Fire Candles - hand poured in the Flint Hills of Kansas. They use 100% American grown premium soy wax, which burns clean. The candles are renew-

able, biodegradable and recyclable and of course, they smell great too!

Myrtle & Grace also features their One-of-a-Kind Collection, thoughtfully sourced with design in mind, providing unique, limited quantity pieces that perfectly accent your home. Each item carries its own story and will add a distinctive charm to any space to help you create style and a flair for fun to your home. This collection is always changing and you never know what you will find!

My personal favorite at Myrtle & Grace are their HUGS. The HUG is a super soft shawl with almost a cashmere feel. Maria came up with this idea herself and originally made them by hand, but now they are manufactured exclusively for Myrtle & Grace.

“The idea of the HUG is a way of wrapping your love around someone, even when you are not there,” Maria explained.

Designed to keep you close to the heart of those you care about, even when the miles keep you apart, each comes with a specific sentiment

a Hug For you

Your hug is always with them, even when the miles keep you apart...



Myrtle & Grace offers practical, useful, thoughtful gifts like these shown here, and many more. Some items are already grouped together for gift giving like the kitchen basket bottom left and the fun gift idea bottom right that includes a tote bag, gift basket, cosmetic bag, sock and scrunchie set. Mix and match items within the store to create your own custom gift set, perfect for your intended recipient. Also below, the definitions of myrtle and grace, which embody the premise behind this lovely and unique gift store located in downtown Highland.



Myrtle:

(a symbol of love and abundance)

Myrtle encourages us to cherish relationships and approach life with optimism and gratitude.

Grace:

(embodies kindness, peace, and goodwill)

A reminder for us to extend compassion and understanding to ourselves and others, even in difficult circumstances.



card for the occasion, whether it be a warm hello, a get well wish or an expression of support, encouragement or sympathy. Choose your shawl style/color, your sentiment and they are wrapped and ready to go, or can be shipped to your desired destination to provide the warmth and comfort of your unending embrace!

Maria puts a lot of thought into all of the items she carries within the store. There are many items

prepacked for fun gift giving. Rest assured, if you are looking for gifts that are creative, practical, useful and thoughtful, look no further than Myrtle & Grace in downtown Highland. Call 618-541-1079 for more information, visit them at 1110 Washington Street, explore their Facebook page or go to myrtleandgrace.com. Myrtle & Grace is open Tuesday through Friday from 10 am to 5:30 pm and on Saturdays from 10-2. 🐝

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