



2016 **Power
Women**
VTP EXCLUSIVE

“ I DON'T KNOW IF ONE SHOULD
EVER REACH THE POINT OF THINKING
THEY FINALLY ARE A SUCCESS;
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AND CHASING YOUR DREAMS.”

Q&A with
Martha
McGLOTHLIN

HOUSE DRESSING. OWNER

Photography by Nathan Mays

TELL US A LITTLE BIT ABOUT YOURSELF I'm the owner of House Dressing, an upscale consignment boutique in Bristol, Virginia. We carry home furnishings and ladies' clothing. I'm a non-practicing attorney and that education has helped me in all facets of my life. I love to write, so as a side job I am the editor of *The Olde Farm Magazine*. My number one job is being mom to three sons and one daughter, ages 11 through 12, and I'm getting married in May!

WHEN DID YOU CONSIDER YOURSELF A SUCCESS?

I don't know if one should ever reach the point of thinking they finally are a success; otherwise you'd stop setting goals and chasing your dreams. There's always another milestone to hit and it's never good to rest on your laurels.

WHAT ARE YOUR SUCCESS HABITS? I always strive to find a creative solution to problems and never say "it can't be done." I like to think outside the box. With four kids I have to be scheduled to the minute and I make lists and sub-lists constantly!

Beginning at an early age, I became a classically-trained pianist, which taught me discipline and the benefits of honing your skills for several hours each day. I'm lucky to have parents who told me that I could do anything I set my mind to and taught me to be confident. Don't let it show if you feel unconfident about a situation. Don't follow the crowd. Keep in contact with people throughout your life and create a big network of friends, co-workers, and contacts. You never know when you could be a help to each other. Most importantly, be friendly, treat everyone the same and remember names! Give back to your community as much as you can.

WHAT THREE WORDS BEST DESCRIBE YOU?

Creative.
Outgoing.
Musical.

TELL US ABOUT A PROJECT OR ACCOMPLISHMENT THAT YOU CONSIDER BEING THE MOST SIGNIFICANT OF YOUR CAREER I'm proud of the work I've done on *The Olde Farm Magazine*. It enables me to talk to many people, spend time in a

beautiful setting, and write almost a hundred pages of articles. Each issue takes about a year to complete, so the end result is particularly rewarding.

WHAT PUBLICATIONS DO YOU REGULARLY READ? I read all the shelter magazines: HGTV, Better Homes & Gardens, Southern Living, Coastal Living, Garden & Gun, Country Living (and of course, VIPSEEN!). I love to read the local paper of towns I visit. I watch Fox News and read various home décor and fashion blogs.

DO YOU HAVE ANY HOBBIES OR SPECIAL INTERESTS?

Where to start? I love antiquing, decorating, golf, piano, writing, tennis, pickle ball, and hanging out at the lake with our family.

WHAT KEEPS YOU AWAKE AT NIGHT? How to keep my children safe. Also everything I have to do the next day and I am always rearranging rooms of furniture in my head.

HOW AND WHY DID YOU BECOME AN ENTREPRENEUR? WAS IT SOMETHING YOU ALWAYS INTENDED FOR YOURSELF?

I've always loved selling things...particularly making items and selling them. When I was in fourth grade, I had a little business called the Pine Cone Shop. I sold crafts and painted pine cones to neighbors. From then on, I was always trying to sell something through yard sales, working retail, then building and owning a Bassett Furniture store, all prior to starting House Dressing. I love talking with people and the thrill of a sale.

WHAT'S YOUR SUPERPOWER? I think I'm pretty good at designing a room. I can visualize a space in my mind then bring in elements from various sources and tie them together even when there seems to be little in common between the pieces. I love helping people rework their space and use vintage items in new and different ways.

My motto is buy what you love and you will always be able to find a place for it. VIP