

# A Home

INTERIOR DESIGN ■ DIY ■ GARDENING

## Creativity

Messes were more than welcome at Camp Invention, held at Dunckel Middle School in Farmington Hills. C4



## Accents

### Step lightly

Glow-in-the-dark stepping stones are an innovative way to add a little sizzle and light to the typical summer garden decor.

The stones retail for \$19.99 and are available at Thrifty.



Florist, 1088 E. Maple at Adams in Birmingham (phone (248) 203-2980) and 20939 Woodward at 11 Mile in Huntington Woods (phone (248) 544-4146).

### Flying free

Many people flying a flag have experienced the problem of how to keep it from wrapping around the pole. A new product, the Furl-Free Flag Accessory, offers a solution.

The Furl-Free Flag Accessory keeps any type, size and style of flag flying in even the strongest winds. It consists of an S-hook, a self-locking nylon tie, a furl-free rod and a bulldog clip. To install, fasten the S-hook to the flagpole, using the nylon tie, and trim off any excess. Use the clip to attach the rod to the flag.

The Furl-Free Flag Accessory is available for \$11.95 at Reindeer Hardware, Ullica Road and 14 Mile in Fraser, or by contacting the maker at furl-free@comcast.net.

### Great Shaperies

Shaperies® is a whole new concept in blinds and an ele-



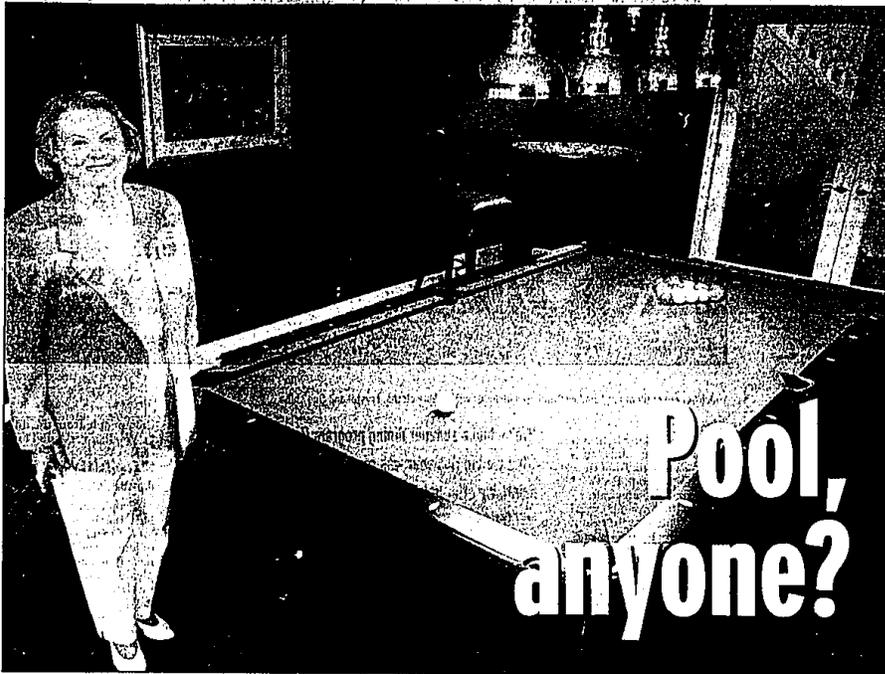
gant addition to the Hunter Douglas alternative wood blinds and shades offerings.

It features a gently contoured 2-1/2-inch slat with a textured linen finish and soft, flowing lines more reminiscent of a Roman shade than a typical blind.

Customers can have a softer look and still have the control and function of a horizontal blind.

Slat's open for light control and a wide view through, or shut tight for maximum light control and privacy. Shaperies is available in shades of white and neutral colors.

For more information, call Hunter Douglas at (800) 937-STYLE or visit www.hunterdouglas.com.



## Pool, anyone?

Colleen Mundell of CRM Designs combined the elegant and the inviting in creating a billiard room at a Bloomfield Hills residence.

## Billiard room gives design cue

BY MARY KLEMIC  
STAFF WRITER

With their children grown and out of the house, a Bloomfield Hills couple wanted to make some changes.

The couple considered moving to a condominium but decided to stay at the house, where the family lived for 14 years, and "have fun with it," in the words of interior designer Colleen Mundell.

You could say that Mundell, owner of CRM Designs, took a cue from the couple and transformed the living room into a billiard room.

Chalk it up to Mundell's creative combination of dramatic and inviting elements: The result is a look and feel both elegant and casual, both strong and comfortable.

"I love it. It's wonderful," said one resident, who asked not to be identified.

Mundell removed the drapes and floral valance from the windows at one end of the room, increasing the natural light that enters.

At the opposite end, at the

entrance off the foyer, she installed glass French doors from American Door Systems Inc. with creamy white frames. The design in the glass and the shape of the brass hardware feature gentle curves.

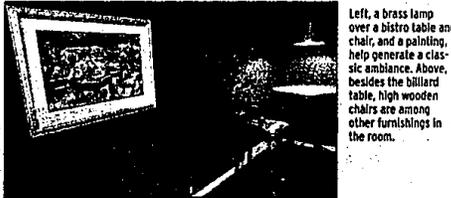
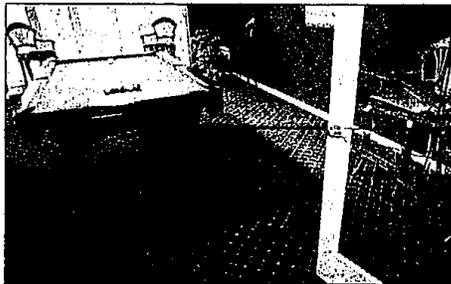
The French doors provide a break between the billiard room and the dining room across the foyer, which features reddish walls. The colors of these two rooms "would look too Christmasy" without the doors, Mundell said.

Covering the floor is a plaid carpet with a delicate design in white and a reddish tint similar to the cherry wood of the classic billiard table in the center of the room. The table, from Saffron, features small inlay along the sides.

The walls of the room are forest green, suggestive of the felt in the table. White trim runs along the perimeter. White shutters with wide slats, originally in the room, were kept.

The white makes the green turn out so beautifully," Mundell said.

Besides the billiard table, far-



Left, a brass lamp over a bistro table and chair, and a painting, help generate a classic ambience. Above, besides the billiard table, high wooden chairs are among other furnishings in the room.

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MATTHEW LAMPLINGER | ECCENTRIC

Art Deco is one of many styles represented in the interior of Meadow Brook Hall, a Tudor-Revival style mansion.

## Marvel at Meadow Brook Hall

Move over, classic cars - there's also a grand house to see

BY NICOLE STAFFORD  
STAFF WRITER

More likely to marvel at an early 20th century Tiffany lamp than a V-8 engine made in 1908?

Then you still have good reason to attend the 24th Annual Concours d'Elegance auto show, scheduled Sunday, Aug. 4, on the grounds of Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills.

The internationally renowned auto show features some of the world's finest collector cars, but it has more to

offer than rare roadsters and classic Cadillacs.

Meadow Brook Hall, the 110-room mansion lovingly built by Matilda Dodge Wilson as a tribute to her late husband, automobile pioneer John Dodge, will be open for public

view all day.

If there were more than one, you'd allow someone with a limited

interest in cars to stay in keeping with the spirit of Concours d'Elegance.

For instance, Pegasus, a bronze sculpture by Avard Fairbanks, who designed the

Dodge ram logo still in use today, sits in a garden adjacent to the house.

And, the grandness of the house, built in the 1920s, alone speaks to the great beginnings of automotive history.

"It's just this perfect statement of time and place, of the so-called 'Gatsby period' and of the life of the automobile barons," said Lisa Baylis Ashby, Meadow Brook Hall chief curator and executive director.

**GRAND STYLE**  
First impressions of Meadow Brook Hall revolve around the house's size - nearly 84 million - and size - 80,000 square feet with 39 brick chimneys serving 25 fireplaces.

A closer look reveals incomparability in its own time, as well as evidence of Matilda's fervent passion and vision for the Meadow Brook Hall.

The house, designed by William E. Kapp of the architectural firm Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, which remains in business today, was built in a Tudor-revival style. Yet, Matilda looked to a variety of design styles - French and Italian-revival, Art Deco and American Colonial-revival, to name a few - when it came to decor.

"These styles were not accepted in the United States, by the way," said Ashby.

So in respect to style, as well

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If you have one, they will come.

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