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At Home

INTERIOR DESIGN ■ DIY ■ GARDENING

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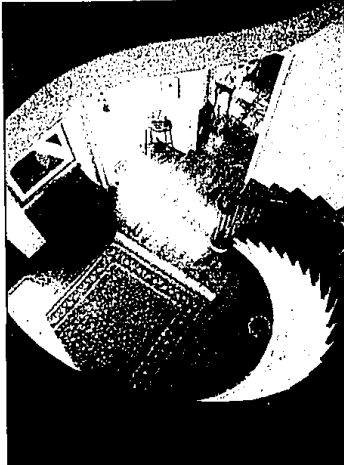
Accents

Sharing plants
Donations of perennials are wanted for a new garden in Manistee to beautify a vacation retreat for chronically or terminally ill children.
STARS, a parents group of Children's Hospital in Detroit that raises money for shunt research, will plant the flowers. There will be no charge for the youngsters.
Call Dianne at (313) 255-1302 if you have plants to share.
Curtains up
You don't have to be confined by traditional ideas of what's "proper" for kitchen curtains. The Great Indoors' exclusive new kitchen curtain collection features 12 different cafe-length designs and coordinating valances in a variety of styles, fabrics and prices. Shown here are



curtains in a European-inspired red toile pattern and in a more contemporary sheer blue fabric. The selection includes 24- or 36-inch panels. Prices range from \$13 for a panel pair to nearly \$40 for a package of panels and valances. Among the hottest looks for the kitchen are matte, sheer voile fabrics that blend well with both traditional and contemporary decors, according to Dan Goss, senior merchant for window treatments for The Great Indoors. Toile patterns are also making their way into the kitchen.
The Great Indoors stores are at 44075 W. 12 Mile in Novi (phone (248) 679-1000) and 14453 Hall in Shelby Township (phone (586) 799-1000).

Cutting remarks
Carolyn Faught started Omena Cut Flowers U-Pick farm with several flats under lights in her basement. Five years later, the business is going - and growing - strong. Faught would know a good spot, as she was managing editor for Traverse, Northern Michigan's Magazine, when she started the business. It is 4 miles north of Suttons Bay in Leelanau County on M-22, on the site of a picturesque, century-old farmhouse. Visitors to the 1-acre farm have 26 beds, and more than 60 varieties of flowers, from which to choose. Scissors, jars of water and floral preservative are available in a self-service shed. Most blooms range between 10 and 30 cents per stem. Customers include brides who make wedding bouquets, husbands who gather anniversary arrangements, and families who romp around filling jars with blooms for their cottages. Omena Cut Flowers is open dawn to dusk daily. Call (231) 271-6432.



Charming, gracious elements of house reflect its residents

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

At HOME with...

The graciousness Nick and Ros Scheele extend to visitors is reflected in their Birmingham residence. The house, built in 1995 by an architect for himself, has a stately feel and the Scheeles have added charming elements in the year they have lived there. Nick Scheele is president

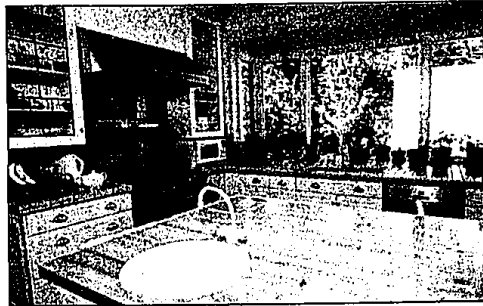
Previously he was Ford North America group vice president and Ford of Europe chairman. Scheele is active in many charity, business and community support projects. He was voted a lifetime member of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children after chairing fund-raising for a new child care center in Coventry, England. He is a past president of BEN, the British motor industry benevolent fund. Scheele, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth last year, is chairman of the fourth annual Rev'n' with Ford, part of the Woodward



PHOTOS BY ROSI SALLARS
Ros and Nick Scheele pose by their 2002 Thunderbird, the color of which Nick describes as "Grace Kelly turquoise."

Dream Cruise weekend. The Scheeles have lived in Germany and England. The Scheeles removed the 7-foot yew hedge that was in front of the house in Birmingham, and put in new landscaping in the front and back. They painted the house a lighter color.

and chief operating officer of Ford Motor Company, and on the board of directors. He is responsible for the global automotive business.



Top left, the foyer features a curving staircase, and a corner where a sculpture by Eric Gill is displayed. Above, the Scheeles' yellow and white kitchen is sunny and spacious. Left, the cozy library in the Scheele home features a partners' desk and built-in bookshelves, along which model cars are parked.

Many rooms have high ceilings, and maple flooring is throughout the residence. A large round window on the second floor is among the distinctive features; it was an ideal place to hang a Christmas wreath. The foyer features a curving stairway, lined with a wrought-iron railing. Prints of cricket players are arranged along the wall. A chandelier from Spain in similar wrought-iron crowns the area. It replaced a chandelier that was in a Chinese lantern style. Ros refers to a corner of the hallway as the "Eric Gill corner." Here a sculpture by the artist and a book about

him are displayed on a little table. The living room contains groupings of slender windows. Lladro figures stand on the mantel above the tile fireplace. On one wall is a drawing of London from the Royal Academy; the scene includes the apartment where the Scheeles lived. The Scheeles had the coffee table in the room made. It features a glass top and shelf each 1/2-inch thick in a wooden frame. The spacious kitchen is dressed in yellow and includes a wide tile counter

PLEASE SEE HOME, C3



BILL BRISLER / OBSERVER & ECCENTRIC
Paul Wingert holds Aechmea fasciata and Vriesea "Eva" hybrid, members of the bromeliad family.

Bromeliads take many different enchanting forms

BY BRENDA DOMINICK
STAFF WRITER

Just beyond a long, windy, feathery grass pathway are various shapes, sizes and species of bromeliad flowers nicely blooming and nestled in a Farmington Hills shade garden. Paul Wingert, former president of the Bromeliad Society, has been growing bromeliads for about 25 years, and still admires the enchanting allure of these species. There is about 3,000 different species (of bromeliads) and countless hybrids in here," he said. Wingert will feature some of his bromeliads in the Southeastern Michigan Bromeliad Society Show Saturday-Sunday, Aug. 17-18 (see accompanying story).

Bromeliads are members of the plant family Bromeliaceae (bro-mee-lay-AY-say-say), containing approximately 56 genera. Though some bromeliad fanciers like Wingert keep their plants outdoors, some use them as houseplants because of their exotic form and color, and adaptability to the temperature and humidity of the typical home. Bromeliads are relatively cheap, and don't get easily bothered by pests and other things, such as fungus. The most recognized bromeliad is the pineapple, but many resemble aloes and yuccas and some resemble green, leafy grasses. Bromeliads are as functional as they are aesthetic. Pineapple stems are a source of the protein-digesting enzyme

PLEASE SEE BROMELIADS, C2

Bromeliad advice

From Paul Wingert, Mary Lore and Kandy Korona
Wingert's Wisdom:
■ If the red part or reddish cast of a leaf gets too much nitrogen from fertilizer, more green will appear. "A lot of the red-leaf types don't want too much nitrogen."
■ There's a lot that you can control just by the culture you give them. "Some will do well in North exposure, but a lot more will be happier in South exposure in the winter."
■ Use a synthetic, fairly sun-proof shade cloth screen cover to protect most bromeliads.

PLEASE SEE ADVICE, C2

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