



At Home

INTERIOR DESIGN ■ DIY ■ GARDENING

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Accents

At Home

What do you collect for the holidays? Ornaments? Teddy bears? Trains? Music boxes? We invite readers to share their holiday traditions for an upcoming story in our At Home section. Drop us a short note telling us about your collection, along with a daytime phone number where you can be reached. Enclose a picture if you can. The note must be received by Monday, Nov. 25. Send or e-mail to: Mary Klemic, Editor, At Home, Observer & Eccentric, Newspapers 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. mklemic@oe.homecomm.net

Designing Men

Do you know a guy who takes over the home when it comes time to decorate for the holidays? We're looking for those creative and confident men out there who love to deck the halls - and not just with lights - come the holiday season. We'd like to feature a few of these designing men in an upcoming story.

Let us know by contacting Nicole Stafford, At Home writer, by e-mail at nstafford@oe.homecomm.net, by mail at Observer & Eccentric, Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009, or by phone at (248) 901-2567.

Parking tips

The Twelve Oaks shopping center in Novi suggests the following public parking tips for the holidays:

If the light poles are numbered in the parking lot, note the number of the pole closest to your parking space and write down the name of the nearest store. If you do forget where you parked, contact mall security for assistance.

Make sure your windows are completely closed before you get out of your vehicle. Always lock your car when you leave it, even for a brief stop.

Never leave children or pets unattended in your vehicle.

Be alert to your surroundings. If you feel uncomfortable, return to the nearest store entrance and have the store call security to escort you to your car.

Home tour

A driving tour of six houses decorated for the holidays, to benefit the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra, will take place noon to 6 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 24. The houses are in Plymouth and Northville. Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$18 Sunday. For more information or to buy tickets, call (734) 451-2112.

Tickets are also available at Colonial Card & Camera, Gabriela's, Michigan Made and the Plymouth Symphony Society Office in Plymouth, and Gardenviews in Northville.



PHOTOS BY PAUL HURSHMAN/Observer

"Her kitchen" contains all the essentials for cooking plus a rounded countertop with stool seating in royal blue suede and brushed metal. The Plymouth kitchen was designed by interior designer Eileen Jewell of Studio Jewell in Royal Oak.

aquatic living

His and her 'kitchens' come with reminder of homeowners' ocean adventures

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

There's a familiar, comfortable buzz - the sound of tumbling water - inside the spacious, quintessential modern kitchen.

But the dishwasher is at rest, silent. And the sound is coming from elsewhere - a 10-foot high fish aquarium in the center of the kitchen.

That's right. The Plymouth homeowners, who wish to remain anonymous, have a fish aquarium in the kitchen. Unquestionably the room's focal point, the salt-water tank perfectly reflects their personalities, said the room's interior designer, Eileen Jewell, owner of Studio Jewell in Royal Oak.

"They have a place in the Caribbean, and they're big scuba divers," said Jewell, a graduate of Michigan State University's Human Environment and Design program. "So instead of a piece of artwork, I thought how about an aquarium?"

The homeowners, having always wanted an aquarium, embraced the idea without hesitation.

Home to three grouper and two stunning lion fish and visible from

the dining room, an informal eating space and the family room, the aquarium entertains visitors and residents alike.

"It does create a lot of conversation," said one of the homeowners. "The funny thing is people talk to the fish."



"His kitchen" is a bar with a beverage refrigerator, ice maker and built-in espresso maker.

SPACE FOR TWO

The placement of the rock-filled aquarium works to visually mark off two distinct areas in the kitchen, as well.

On the left is what Jewell calls "his kitchen," a bar with built-in espresso machine, ice maker and beverage refrigerator. To the right is "her kitchen," more expansive and equipped with all the essential appliances and a few extras, including pull-out refrigerator drawers built into a cooking island.

A countertop on the opposite side of the island accommodates a set of five brushed metal stools upholstered in royal blue ultrasuede. Above the countertop is an unusual and stylistically modern chandelier in white. Both shades contrast well with the island's surface of black patterned granite - the counter treatment used throughout the kitchen.

Again, Jewell made her color selections with the homeowners in mind.

"The royal blue represents them so well. They love color," she said. It also picks up the blue tones in the aquarium.

PLEASE SEE KITCHEN, C2



JERRY ZOLYNSKY/Observer

Interior designer Eileen Jewell reclines on a couch and ottoman in her store, Studio Jewell in Royal Oak. In addition to modern and contemporary furnishings, Jewell offers classes in interior design.

Passion for educating others is behind Studio Jewell

BY NICOLE STAFFORD
STAFF WRITER

For interior designer Eileen Jewell, meeting clients at the airport was becoming too frequent.

With limited availability of modern and contemporary furnishings in metro Detroit, she and her clients found it necessary to fly to Chicago to do their shopping.

Sure, selections can be made from catalogs, but there's no substitute for sitting in the couch you plan to

PLEASE SEE STUDIO, C2

Meadow Brook Hall decked to celebrate glamour of the '30s

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Glory and glamour could be found in the 1930s, with such larger-than-life personages as Garbo, Roosevelt and DiMaggio.

The 1930s also sparked in connection with the yuletide season. Santa Claus was depicted as human (instead of elf) size for the first time in 1931, in illustrations for Coca-Cola. The song *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town* was published in 1932. Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer debuted in 1939.

Holiday Walk 2002 at Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills, Nov. 29 through Dec. 22, celebrates

"The Glorious, Glamorous '30s."

The Hall will be decked with splendid decorations, including 34 exquisitely adorned trees. Personal Dodge-Wilson family treasures, many of them from the 1930s, will be on view as well.

Surprises and treats are also in store. Some areas of the 110-room mansion, which was built in the 1920s by Matilda Dodge Wilson, will be open to public tours for the first time. A variety of special activities offers something for every age (see related story). A shop will present holiday arrangements and swags.

"We've lived up the decor a bit," said acting director Sally Victor.

"The colors are a little bit brighter than they've been in the past."

Throughout the grand house, visitors will get a sense of the elegant social events and the warm family get-togethers that took place there.

Matilda Dodge Wilson's room features a tall tree decorated in pinks and silver, crowned with a cluster of ribbons. The mantel is draped with strings of pearls and topped with an arrangement that includes silver ferns.

It looks like something Matilda would have, Victor said of the decor. "I think this is something she would do ... very lush, very

PLEASE SEE HOLIDAY, C2



JOHN STORZANO/Observer & Eccentric

A tall tree decorated in pinks, silver and ribbons is among the decor in Matilda Dodge Wilson's room at Meadow Brook Hall. This year's Holiday Walk celebrates the glamour of the '30s.

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