

At Home

INTERIOR DESIGN ■ DIY ■ GARDENING

Benefit
Chili bash aids
cause.
Life, C5



Accents

Antiques festival

A preview party begins the 13th Annual Community House Antiques Festival tonight with a strolling supper and silent auction to benefit The Community House.



The festival is scheduled 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday and Saturday, March 14-15, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, March 16, at The Community House, 380 Bates in downtown Birmingham. The preview party is 6-9 p.m. tonight.

Daily festival admission is \$10, while preview party tickets are priced \$55 to \$125. Call (248) 594-6403.

Composting

Worried about fertilizer and its effects on water quality of the Rouge River? Learn about composting, healthy lawn care, garden maintenance, soil and water quality through a master composting training class 7-8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 27, at the Bloomfield Township Public Library, 1099 Long Pine Road (at Telegraph). This training program geared toward promoting Rouge River water quality continues for five weeks. The \$30 registration fee includes a soil nutrient test. The class is sponsored by the Southeastern Oakland County Water Authority in cooperation with communities in the Rouge River watershed. For a program brochure and to register, call (248) 288-5150.

Garden antiques

Tired of the cold weather? Then think spring. The sixth annual Michigan Home and Garden Antiques Market is scheduled for Friday-Sunday, March 14-16, at the Southfield Municipal Complex, 26000 Evergreen (at Civic Center Drive, exit south on Evergreen from I-696).

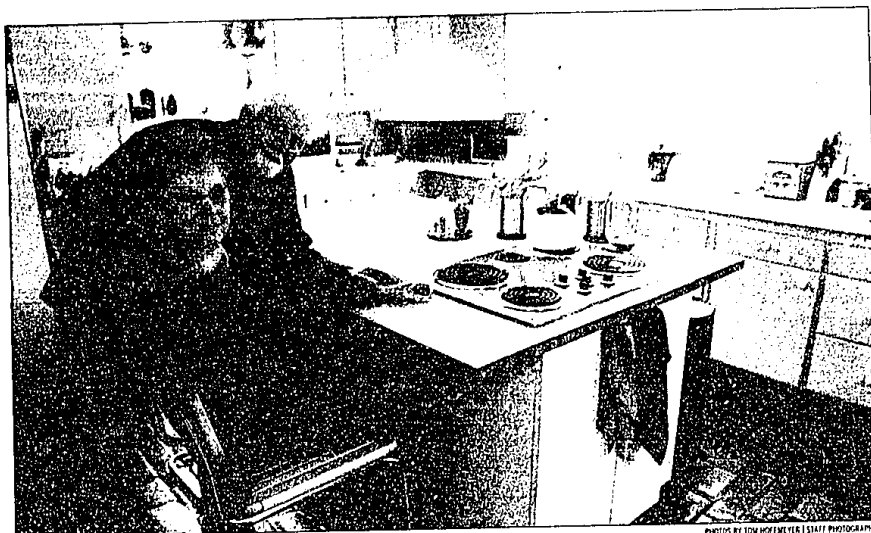


Antiques merchants will show and sell antiques and accessories for the home and the garden like the bench above by Wendy Lewis of Beverly Hills, or items to wear within an antique garden setting.

Selections include jewelry, furniture, garden and architectural pieces, birdbaths and benches, ornamental iron and garden gates, quilts, folk art, vintage clothing, purses, perfumes and more.

Admission is \$6 with any ad or listing, or \$7 regular admission.

One paid admission is good for all days of the show. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Show hours are 2-9 p.m. Friday, noon to 8 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.



Balhazar and Monica Korab enjoy their kitchen, which looks out on the landscaping that Mr. Korab calls their 'private theater.'

PHOTO BY TOM MOFFMEYER | STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Picture perfect

Distinctive and modernistic artistry focus of photographer's residence

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

Architecture has been the focus of Balhazar Korab's camera over the decades. All of his photography subjects have impact; some of them - including Frank Lloyd Wright and the World Trade Center - are icons.

Korab, whose awards and honors include an American Institute of Architects medal, has often presented expressions of modernism in his photographs. Eero Saarinen and Le Corbusier are among his past employers. Wright invited him to join Taliesin, his estate in Wisconsin, in 1958.

"I am an architect with a passion for nature's lessons and man's interventions," Korab has said.

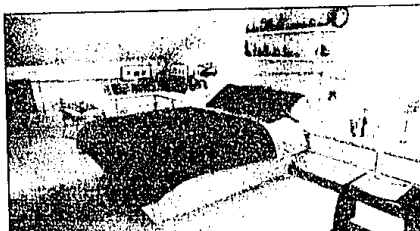
The renowned photographer and his wife, Monica, live in a residence in Troy that seems appropriate for them, with its distinctive structure and modernistic-style furnishings. Like the Korabs, it conveys a cordiality as well.

The property, on 3.7 acres, features a two-story barn, circa 1850, and a 1 1/2-story house, built around 1915. The Korabs have redone the structures and the surrounding landscape in the 30 years they have lived there.

"He wanted this barn as a studio," Monica Korab said. "That was the main deciding thing."

AT HOME with...

At Home With... is an occasional feature visiting reader's home or a special room. To have your home featured write At Home Editor Ken Abramczyk at 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or e-mail him at kabramczyk@oe.hometown.net.



An upstairs bedroom contains Bertola chairs with cushions featuring needlepoint by Monica Korab.

"(It's) the motive of not going far to work so when I'm at home, I'm really at home," Balhazar Korab said. The Korabs made the barn into his office, studio and lab. It's a smooth blend of an earlier century and modern technology and style, a place of stone walls and heavy timber beams housing photographs, equipment, filing cabinets and mementos.

PLEASE SEE KORAB, C2

Meadow Brook Hall comes 'Out of the Closet' with new tour

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

The closet is often targeted - sometimes with sighs or shudders - when thoughts of spring cleaning appear, or when "to do" lists are compiled.

But a visit to Meadow Brook Hall in Rochester Hills could change that.

A new tour, Out of the Closet, debuts this week at Meadow Brook Hall. The tour will grant access to many areas of the mansion that had been off limits to the public, such as closets, bathrooms, secret vaults and staircases.

Meadow Brook Hall's magnificent artworks and furnishings have been on view for tourists since 1971.

But Out of the Closet is an opportunity for visitors to see more personal, everyday details of the Dodge and Wilson family life.

"It's a lot of fun," said Sally Victor, interim director of Meadow Brook Hall.

To celebrate the new tour, and officially launch Meadow Brook Hall's local featured artist series, a gallery opening and reception will take place Thursday, March 13 (see related article).

TOUR

Victor said the new tour came about when a group of Meadow Brook Hall staffers walked

through the mansion, looking in closets and opening doors. Some of the areas hadn't been opened in 10 or 15 years.

"We started to really get talking about the idea that what people are most interested in is to see how (the residents) lived," Victor said.

PLEASE SEE MALL, C3

MARKET PLACE

Submissions

Do you have a special item you'd like to showcase in Market Place on the front of At Home? We'd like to feature it! Send a photo or slide of the piece, along with information, to: Ken Abramczyk, At Home editor, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009.



A real trophy

Your guests might think you've won a regatta - until they see you switch on this elegant trophy fixture. The Fut-ed trophy urn table lamp lists for \$449 at Ethan Allen, which has stores in Livonia, Novi and Birmingham.



Comforting craft

Woven woods are crafted from the highest quality yarns and beautiful woods with unique grain and color variation. Conserve energy and help keep a room comfortable all year long. Matching 3-inch sculpted valance is included. For information, call or visit American Blinds, Wallpaper & More, 909 N. Shelden in Plymouth, at (800) 525-3292 or visit www.decoratetoday.com.

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