# Welcome Mat

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## Find a gift for all occasions



SUSAN R. **POLLACK Detroit News** Design Writer

Tis the season for spring gift-giving, whether you need one for Mother's Day, a housewarming, bridal shower, anniversary or birthday. This cast stone welcome plaque, "Sunshine Birds," caught my eye this week as I longed for the rain and cold to end. From a collection called "Garden Smiles" by an artist in Waterville, Ohio, it's available for \$37 at www.bighugllc.com under "All Occasion Gifts." You could even justify giving one to yourself since it's a

great way to welcome friends to your house.

## **Furniture** fundraiser

Guests at Wine, Dine & Design, a fundraiser Thursday at Home Interior Warehouse in Walled Lake, will have a chance to win a custom sofa from Norwalk Furniture, valued at \$2,000, or a complete bedroom set with a dresser and two night stands from Magnussen Home. The fundraiser will benefit the Michigan chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Team Alex. Founded in memory of Alex Graham, a West Bloomfield Township teen who died of bone cancer in 1999, Team Alex participates in Wish-A-Mile, a 300-mile bike race that benefits Make-A-Wish of Michigan, an organization that



grants the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions. Thursday's fundraiser, from 6-9 p.m., is the kickoff to Home Interior Warehouse's spring sale, where everything in the 17,000-square-foot showroom is 30 percent off, including special-order sofas and chairs. Admission to Wine, Dine & Design is \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door, 1017 E. Maple Road. Owner Jackie Schwartz will donate a portion of the sale's proceeds to the charity, plus all ticket sales. Call (248) 624-6700 for tickets or information.

# Bedding overstock sale in Birmingham

Bec & Sam's in Birmingham is bulging with bedding in preparation for its annual overstock bedding event, May 3-29. Just in time for (delayed) spring, the store, at 146 W. Maple Road, is stocking up on more than



150 pieces from three manufacturers - Bella Notte (machinewashable, made in the U.S. luxury linens), Elizabeth Allen (100 percent cotton and nontoxic dyes) and Chandler Collection (100 percent cotton percale, quilted and nonquilted). Bedding sizes range from twin- to king-size, and include shams, duvets, coverlets, pillowcases and throw pillows. All the overstock pieces will be sold at 25-40 percent off. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon-4 p.m. Sunday. Check www.becandsams.com or call (248) 593-8650.

# Five designers show model apartments at former Omni

Five Metro Detroit designers will show off "model apartments" at a fundraiser Saturday for the new Roberts Riverwalk Hotel & Residence opening in the former Omni Hotel in Detroit. The \$125 per person event, from 6:30 p.m.-midnight, is sponsored by the Junior League of Detroit. Proceeds will benefit the group's Project Literacy that provides literacy programming in the 48215 ZIP code neighborhood. Tickets include a "Taste of Detroit" strolling supper, free bar, entertainment and valet parking, as well as tours led by Renea Lewis of Design by Choice in Troy; Jan McCollum of J. Parker McCollum, Troy; Michelle Segue of Designs with Flair, Detroit; Cathy Walker of Arkay Walker, St. Clair Shores; and Barbara A. Wauldron of Wauldron Design Associates, Beverly Hills. The designers donated their time and talent to transform the former 108-room Omni Hotel at 1000 River Place Drive into a boutique-style facility that offers a unique combination of hotel rooms and upscale adult living. Tickets to the gala may be purchased by credit card at www.ildetroit.org. Call (313) 881-0040 for information.

#### **Grandmont and Rosedale** open house on Sunday

Up to 20 homes for sale in Detroit's Rosedale Park and Grandmont will star in the neighborhoods' sixth annual open house from 1-5 p.m. Sunday. First stop is the Welcome Center in the North



Rosedale Park Community House, 18445 Scarsdale, where participants may pick up a list of the open homes and learn from a city of Detroit assessor about the tax abatement available to new buyers. Shuttle bus tours will showcase the homes for sale, ranging from a 1,700-square-foot, 3-bedroom bungalow to a 3,200-square-foot, 4-bedroom Arts & Craft cobblestone. Prices range from \$65,000 to \$140,000. "Potential home buyers will see a wide variety of homes, some in move-in condition and others needing some TLC," says Marsha Bruhn, chairwoman. Five fully renovated houses will be open. Two homes are being shown "as is." For home listings, visit www.grandmontrosedale.com.

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#### on the cover

Makeover of Orchard Lake home includes the dining room with its art and candlestick collection. 10H