































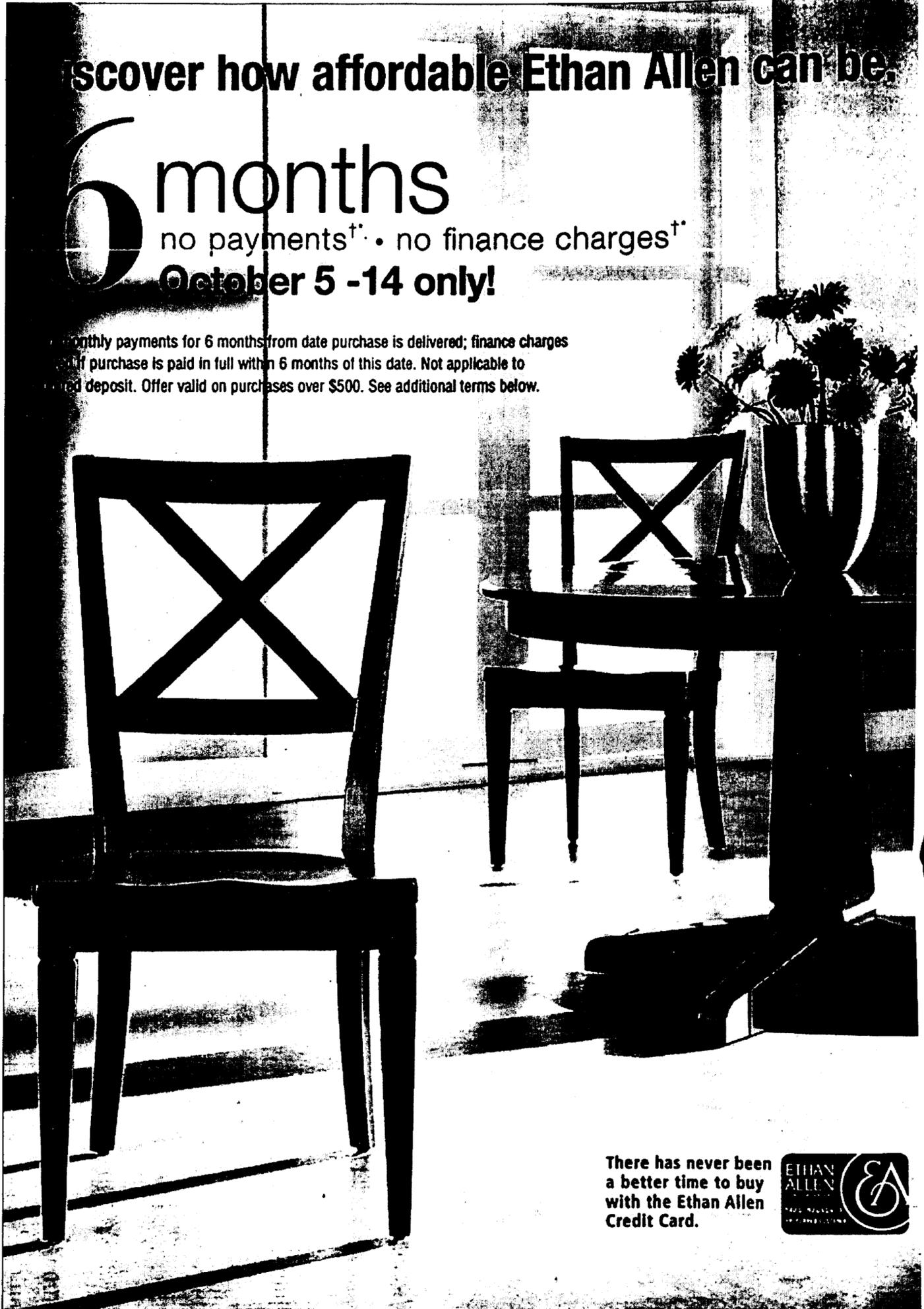


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Grosse Pointe News  
& CONNECTION  
October 11, 2001



# Your Home

M A G A Z I N E

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Sine & Monaghan GMAC Real Estate

**INSIDE:**

**Ask Mr. Hardware:**  
Using a flexible,  
waterproof filler  
to repair cracks!  
Page.....6

**Prime Location:**  
Every home needs  
Evergreen Home  
and Garden Center!  
Page.....14-15

**The Going Rate:**  
Interesting Rates  
that haven't been  
this low in 35 years!  
Page.....8

## Household Help

By **Samantha Mazzotta**

**Q.** My new fireplace was billed as "clean-burning" by the manufacturer. Does this mean I don't have to hire a chimney cleaner every year? — Charlotte L., Nashua, N.H.

**A.** No. You still need to have your fireplace, chimney and all related components checked every year — and twice per year if the fireplace is used throughout the winter.

By "clean-burning," I'll assume that you either purchased a fireplace that draws smoke and ash away efficiently, reducing buildup of creosote, or a gas-burning fireplace, in which heat-reflective materials, rather than wood, are used. (Many gas fireplaces can use either material.)

A clean-burning fireplace might reduce the amount of creosote buildup, but that buildup still occurs (especially if you use cheaper woods, like pine, rather than hardwoods). And damage to the fireplace or chimney can occur, thanks to extreme temperatures, weather and accidents.

Early fall is the best time to inspect the fireplace, before cold weather sets in and before you start the first fire of the season in your firebox. You can, of course, visually inspect parts of the fireplace and chimney yourself.

Inside the fireplace, check for cracks or breaks in the insulating bricks. Open and close the damper several times to make sure it operates smoothly (work it a couple of

times to dislodge settled ash, then take a look at it). Check the amount of creosote (a black, oily resin that results from burning wood) that lines the flue. Use a butter knife to gently scrape away a small area where black soot has collected. If the buildup is thicker than one-quarter inch, the chimney must be cleaned immediately.

Outside, look at the chimney stack — especially where it meets the roof, which is where the most damage can occur. Look for broken bricks and cracked or bent flashing.

The interior of the chimney is difficult to inspect; this is where the professional comes in. Today's chimney sweeps aren't the ragged urchins of yesteryear; they're knowledgeable businessmen with tools designed to check, clean and make repairs to every part of the fireplace and chimney. An annual inspection by a fireplace contractor can save thousands of dollars in repairs and prevent a tragedy like a house fire from occurring.

**Q.** We're remodeling our bathroom and are having a disagreement over what type of fixtures to install: porcelain, fiberglass or composite. Which would you recommend, and how do we care for them?

**A.** I don't want to recommend one type of material for bathroom

See **HOUSEHOLD HELP**, page 8

### Decorate for fall with flowers, plants

(NAPSI) — There's a new way to decorate outdoors for fall and to refresh your weary summer planters. In the past, fall decorations have been limited to ho-hum mums and pumpkins, but now the only limit is your imagination.

Horticultural advancements have led to a new breed of robust fall flowers and plants. Proven Winners' Fall Magic floral and plant collection offers resilient frost-fighters in vibrant autumn colors that can flourish until late fall, early winter. The collection's carefully selected hybrid perennials and cool-tolerant flowering plants create durable, long-lasting combinations.

"Fall Magic allows people to enjoy healthy, colorful planters throughout fall and into winter," said Marshall Dirks, marketing director for Proven Winners. "In many places, Fall Magic flowers

and plants will flourish well beyond the first snowfall."

Fall Magic is comprised of frost-resistant hybrids that are selected based on performance, color ranges, interesting textures and foliage changes as temperatures dip. They are low-maintenance, long-lasting and with proper care can thrive until the ground freezes. Used together, the plants and flowers form striking combinations in baskets and containers or blend well with shrubs in the landscaping.

"Fall is a celebration of new colors and the change of season," said Dirks. "The Fall Magic collection complements autumn's natural color theme and enhances Halloween and Thanksgiving outdoor decorations."

Proven Winners Fall Magic is available at fine garden centers.



ON THE COVER...

#### 1212 THREE MILE ROAD GROSSE POINTE PARK

The flavor of Europe, quality craftsmanship, dramatic and spacious-all describe this lovely center hall Colonial. Renovated kitchen and butler's pantry with cherry cabinets, plaster moldings and medallions. Lovely private patio and park like yard. Impressive grape arbor with stone floor.

**\$618,000**

#### 1010 BALFOUR GROSSE POINTE PARK

Slate roof English Colonial featuring new kitchen with commercial appliances and granite countertops. All new baths, natural woodwork and detailed crown moldings throughout. Finished basement with wet bar and natural fireplace. Heated Florida room overlooks patio and large yard.

**\$550,000**

#### 21473 GOETHE GROSSE POINTE WOODS

Hard to find five bedroom newer construction in the Woods. First floor bedroom with bath and walk through to living room makes moth-in-law apartment. Tremendous second floor master. Finished basement with full bath.

**\$519,900**

#### 475 FISHER GROSSE POINTE CITY

Charming formal living room and dining room with carved fireplace and French doors leading to the Library. Family room with skylights adjoins the kitchen and pantry for informal living. Second floor hosts a master suite with cathedral ceiling and beautiful Pella windows with a wonderful view of the backyard landscaping.

**\$520,000**

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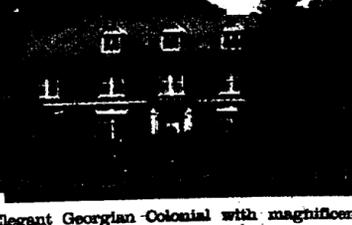
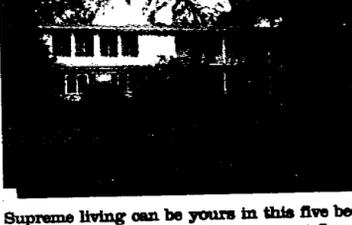










<p><b>GROSSE POINTE FARMS</b></p>  <p>Historic waterfront estate offers a glimpse of life in another era. This Queen Ann style residence has over 250 feet of sublime Lake St. Clair frontage. A rare opportunity. Brochure available upon request.</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE CITY</b></p>  <p>Picture book loveliness. Outstanding design, quality and décor throughout this four bedroom Colonial. Stunning kitchen with granite counters and Mexican tile floor, crown moldings, chair rail, hardwood floors in entry and foyer are a few of the wonderful features. \$995,000. <a href="http://tours.ipixmedia.com/ALFRFFQH.htm">http://tours.ipixmedia.com/ALFRFFQH.htm</a></p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTESHORES</b></p>  <p>The opportunity of a lifetime is here to own a brand new mansion on Lake St. Clair in Grosse Pointe Shores. Built to the highest specifications, this elegant French style home is in a totally secluded and tranquil environment with one hundred feet of lakefront.</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTESHORES</b></p>  <p>Elegant Georgian-Colonial with magnificent views of Lake St. Clair. Fine architectural details and quality construction throughout. The exquisite grounds, inground pool and stunning interior will bring joy for years to come. \$3,900,000</p>
<p><b>VIEW OF LAKE ST. CLAIR</b></p>  <p>Enjoy the spectacular view of Lake St. Clair from most rooms in this gracious and significant lakefront estate. English sunken gardens and peaceful patios provide a tranquil setting. A dream come true. \$3,850,000</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE FARMS</b></p>  <p>Contemporary quad-level on over 4/10 of an acre in the Farms. Four bedrooms, three and one half baths, five fireplaces. Inground pool with pool house in secluded yard with beautiful gardens. \$859,000 <a href="http://tours.ipixmedia.com/AC9MER9T.htm">http://tours.ipixmedia.com/AC9MER9T.htm</a></p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE FARMS</b></p>  <p>Offering total seclusion and privacy this home embraces a rich architectural tradition while providing the finest modern amenities and more. Set on a gracious site of over two acres of beautiful park-like grounds.</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE PARK</b></p>  <p>Supreme living can be yours in this five bedroom Colonial. Hardwood and parquet floors, four fireplaces and views of the Lake. A Beautification Award Winner! \$729,000</p>
<p><b>GROSSE POINTE FARMS</b></p>  <p>Mt. Vernon Colonial has been completely updated. Four bedrooms, three and one half baths, family room and den. Master bedroom with dressing room and private bath. Flexible floor plan and large closets throughout. \$895,000 <a href="http://tours.ipixmedia.com/AH2W35M6.htm">http://tours.ipixmedia.com/AH2W35M6.htm</a></p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE PARK</b></p>  <p>Gorgeous newer construction offers four bedrooms, three and one half baths with neutral décor, two story foyer, paneled library and gourmet kitchen. Quality appointments throughout. \$795,000</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE FARMS</b></p>  <p>Beautiful Lakeshore home is ready for purchase or lease. Four bedrooms, three and one half baths, inviting entrance hall with fireplace and a large updated kitchen. \$599,500 or lease \$3,500 per month. <a href="http://tours.ipixmedia.com/CHNUR5M6.htm">http://tours.ipixmedia.com/CHNUR5M6.htm</a></p>	<p><b>SPECTACULAR CONDOMINIUM</b></p>  <p>Like new condo on Montague Lane in the Woods. Two story great room and foyer, library with cathedral ceiling, master bath with jacuzzi and stall shower. Carpeted basement, private patio and more. Please call for a list of additional amenities. \$559,500</p>
<p><b>GROSSE POINTE PARK</b></p>  <p>Very desirable ranch located on a quiet lane that leads to Lake St. Clair. Beautiful step-down living room with fireplace. Dining room with refinished oak floors. \$475,000 <a href="http://tours.ipixmedia.com/AZ36CBLW.htm">http://tours.ipixmedia.com/AZ36CBLW.htm</a></p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE PARK</b></p>  <p>Stunning four bedroom Park Colonial boasts multiple fireplaces, beveled and leaded glass and numerous updates including décor. Master bedroom with full bath and shower. \$549,500 or lease \$3,500 per month.</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE SHORES</b></p>  <p>Excellent traffic pattern. Three bedroom home on an 80 foot lot. Family room, library, plus Florida room, three fireplaces, covered porch and circular drive. \$479,900.</p>	<p><b>GROSSE POINTE WOODS</b></p>  <p>Easy to maintain three bedroom, two full bath ranch. Newer carpeting. Updated kitchen, family room, finished basement with kitchen facilities and half bath. Two and one half car garage. \$339,000</p>

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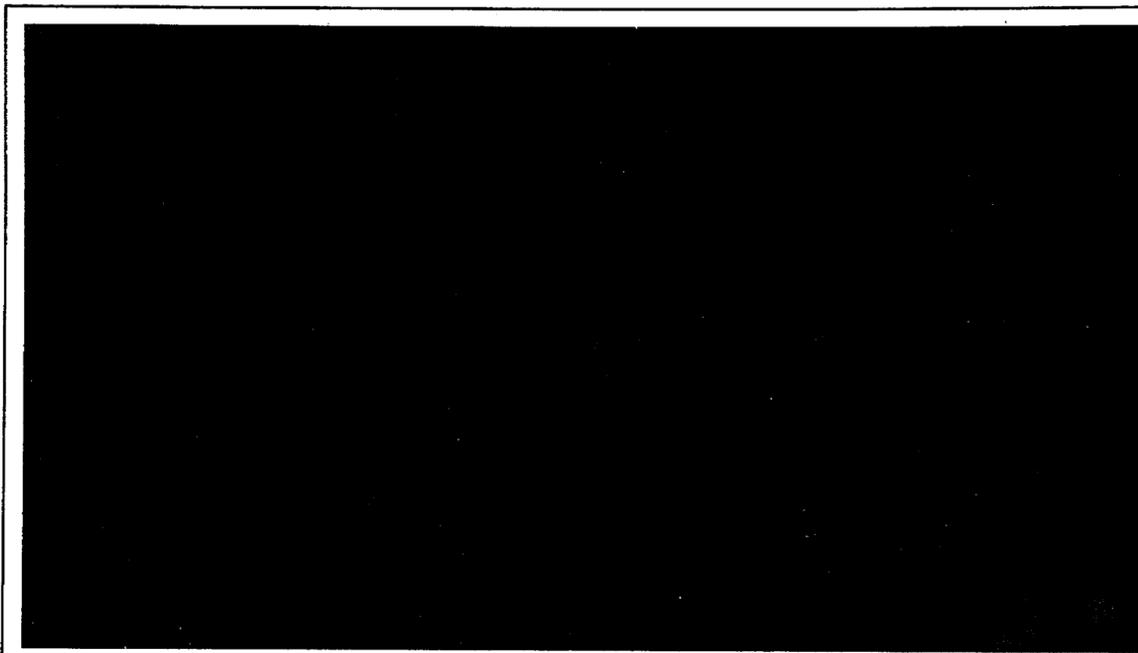












## Grains: Harvest the energy

Art celebrates harvest, health benefits of grains

During the harvest season, crop artist Stan Herd and the Wheat Foods Council add a slice of life to a wheat field near Kansas City. "Grains: Harvest the Energy" represents the link between amber waves of grain and healthful eating.

As grain foods support the base of the Food Guide Pyramid, they also provide a simple way to add more energy to your day. As a guideline, about 55 percent of total daily calories should come from carbohydrates, with higher levels (up to 70 percent) recommended for athletes.

## Economical preparations for winter: use color

(ARA) — Autumn is here, which means winter is not far behind. No matter what part of the country you live in, the winter season is colder, slower and darker. It's a time for "hibernating" in your house.

But the lack of sunshine and activity can sometimes have a more negative effect than a relaxing one. When the colors of the flowers, trees, and sky fade, our moods and energy often fade as well. Short of taking a monthly vacation to a bright, tropical paradise, one way we can keep energy in our lives is with the creative use of color. Winter is the perfect time to spruce up the interior of your home. There are simple, economical ways to add color to your home to improve your outlook during the winter and year-round.

One of the best ways is to use paint. Even if you think you don't have the energy or talent to repaint all of your rooms, don't worry. You can add splashes of color by painting just one wall in a room a vibrant hue.

Here are some easy techniques to paint that wall in new and different ways.

First, decide which wall to paint. Every room has its strongest feature. Ask yourself, "What's the most important element, or what do I want people to notice in the room?" When you answer, you have found the focal point. It may be a fireplace, a view, or even a favorite

piece of artwork. The wall around that focal point is the wall you want to paint. Bold colors work well on these walls because they tend to be broken by the window or fireplace, so there really isn't that much area to tackle.

Now, which color? Before you pick your color, remind yourself what kind of room you want to design. To add more energy, pick a stronger, bolder hue that corresponds with your existing wall color. It may be a deeper shade of the current color, or a completely different complementary color. Bright colors may not be right for sleepy bedrooms or calm bathrooms, but they can work well in lively family rooms, busy kitchens, and cheery entryways.

Whether you've selected hot yellow, warm orange, crayon blue or bright green, the choices for painting techniques are the same: traditional, sponging, or stippling.

Traditional painting techniques use standard brushes and rollers. But you may not realize how many unique brush and roller products are available to make your project easier. Visit your local paint store and ask. For example, The Wooster Brush Co. offers a brush called the Shortcut. While the brush head is full-sized, the handle is only two-inches long and made from a flexible, elastomeric material. The handle is soft and easy to control, making painting a snap along the ceiling line, in corners, or on trim.

Sponging and stippling add an interesting texture to a painted surface. In the first method, you use a painting sponge to dab a diluted paint or glaze over your solid base coat, resulting in a finish that resembles the sheen of velvet fabric or artfully crumpled paper, depending on your touch. The Faux Sea Sponge from Wooster is an economically priced synthetic sponge that has the perfect texture for producing those effects. It works from every angle and is clean, soft, and completely reusable.



Stippling generates a texture finish with a flecked or dotted look, almost like specs of color in water. It is quickly done with an unusual paint roller from Wooster. The Stippler roller is as easy to use as a regular roller; it just has carpet-like twists instead of flat fabric. For a subtle finish, use it with standard paints (latex, acrylic, or oil-based). Beyond a full wall, you can add color to a room by painting smaller surfaces. How about the baseboards? Try a contrasting, bold shade on just this area. The baseboards will function like a ribbon on a gift, adding a happy, finishing touch to the room. You could also paint the top of a dresser or table a different color from the rest of the piece. Or just the door leading into a room.

To quickly paint baseboards, doors, furniture, inside cupboards or drawers and behind radiators, look for a trim roller. These long,

thin rollers are excellent for projects like these. They are easier and faster to use than traditional paintbrushes, and they have multiple rollers with different fabrics to match any type of paint.

Finally, you may just want to try stenciling. Many home improvement departments and craft stores carry stencils in a wide variety of designs, from ivy and flowers to graphic flourishes. Add these designs around windows, doorways or focal points.

The use of color is limited only by your imagination. Don't be afraid to express your personality and raise the energy level of your home by using your favorite shades on key areas as well as unexpected places. Look around the interior of your home for creative ways to add color and lift your mood — through winter and year-round.













### New Offering



Beautiful Tudor in Grosse Pointe Park with slate roof, wet plaster, leaded windows and doors and original lighting fixtures. Five bedrooms, three full baths, finished basement and library. Kitchen with breakfast nook, living room with natural fireplace and formal dining room with leaded glass French doors. Large deck with garden gazebo.

### Grosse Pointe Farms



Classic three bedroom brick Colonial on favorite Grosse Pointe Farms street. Newer tear-off roof, central air and landscape. Large updated kitchen with eating space and wet bar, generous room sizes, circular floor plan, cove ceilings and hardwood floors throughout.

### Grosse Pointe Park



Newer brick Colonial two-family in Grosse Pointe Park. Upper and lower units consisting of: two bedrooms, living room, dining room and kitchen. Great income property.

### Harper Woods



Well maintained three bedroom ranch in Harper Woods. All the updates have been made: new windows, new roof and new siding. Finished basement with additional full bath. Move in condition.

### Grosse Pointe Farms



Beautiful three bedroom, two and one half bath, center entrance Colonial. Family room, kitchen with breakfast nook and new windows. Master bedroom with bath, neutral décor and finished basement. Move in condition.

### Grosse Pointe Farms



Classic bungalow with two full baths and a third full bath in basement. New ceramic floor in kitchen, newer windows, hardwood floors and finished basement. Walking distance to schools and shops. Immediate occupancy.

### Harper Woods



Nice three bedroom brick Ranch in Harper Woods, east of I-94. Large updated kitchen with eating space, newer furnace, all new copper plumbing and natural fireplace.

### Grosse Pointe Farms



Cozy three bedroom bungalow with master bedroom upstairs with full bath. Freshly painted throughout, finished basement with recreation room and large living/dining area. Immediate occupancy. FOR SALE OR FOR LEASE.

### Grosse Pointe Park



Five bedroom, two full bath Colonial in move in condition. New roof, new windows, new plumbing... move in condition. To many updates to list them all... call for a list of improvements!

### Grosse Pointe Farms



Priced to sell! Fantastic three bedroom, one and one half bath ranch with family room, large eat in kitchen and two car attached garage. Open floor plan with large living room with natural fireplace and open dining room. Close to schools and shopping on quiet Farms street. Immediate occupancy.

For Additional Information Please Call:

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