

**Figley**  
from page D9

I have found it very easy to set the plants in a bucket or a brown paper bag so that the heads can gracefully fall over the edges. The plants will dry with a curved look and work especially well in wreaths.

You may dry some both ways, then have a choice as you make the arrangement.

Other flowers from your garden can also be dried this way. Monardas, silver king, flower stems of lamb's ears, globe thistle, grasses, tansy and lavender. Try all you can find and experiment. When the flowers have faded from our gardens, you can still enjoy their beauty for some time.

**Helpful products**

This spring I used a new organic weed control that stops weeds from growing by inhibiting growth in the earliest stages of germination.

It is WeedzSTOP, which contains a corn gluten, a by-product of the milling process that makes corn starch or corn syrup. It can be worked into the soil in the spring or late summer when seeds establish their first true leaves, then reapplied if new weeds rear their ugly heads. There's no danger to people or pets.

Available from Gardener's Supply Company, (800) 955-3370. Ask for their

free "Gardener's Best Solutions" catalog.

I have been using a most unusual and successful product on my hands before working in the garden (and doing housework).

It is called Gloves in a Bottle, and contains a barrier that protects against many kinds of irritants such as solvents, poison ivy and oak, herbicides and pesticides. It also eliminates irritation caused from wearing latex gloves.

There is no greasy feel; you can't tell you have it on. It lasts four hours and I have noticed that the soil on my hands washes off more readily after I use it.

People who work in construction and repair shops, health care professionals, florists and people who work in many other fields will find it beneficial. Sally Beauty Supply in Southfield and Troy carries it. To order, call (800) 600-1881.

**GOOD GARDEN TIPS**

- Divide peonies and phlox, lilies if crowded or blooming has dwindled.
- Sow lawn seed between Aug. 15 and Sept. 15.
- Keep soil moist around tomatoes and peppers to prevent blossom-end rot.
- Some perennials can be planted now, shield from sun for a few days. Check with your nurseryman.
- Harvest flowers to dry as they mature.

**ADOPT-A-PET**



**Magie:** This large, Maine Coon cat has tons of personality. He loves to cuddle and will snuggle as close as he can if given the chance. This 6-year-old neutered cat has been declawed and is good with children. Magie and other pets are at the Michigan Humane Society Rochester Hills Shelter, (810)852-7420.

**at home calendar**

■ Hudson's Interior Design Studio presents "Design 101: Accessorizing Your Home With a Personal Touch," 7 p.m. Monday, Aug. 11, at Oakland in Troy (call (248) 597-2200) and Northland in Southfield (call (248) 443-6000), with speakers Barbara Flournoy at Oakland and Pamela Edwards at Northland.

■ Six 19th and early 20th century homes and a special preservation-related slide presentation will be featured when the Ypsilanti Heritage Foundation celebrates the 20th anniversary of its Historic Home Tour noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 17. Advance tickets are \$7 for adults, \$6 for seniors and \$4 for children under 12, and available at Saxton's Garden Center in Plymouth and businesses in Ypsilanti and Ann Arbor. Call (313) 482-8666 for information.

■ JS Willow, a network marketing company based in Brighton that sells home and garden products through the home party plan, will have a garage sale 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 9, at the Carousel Crafts and Antique Mall in Canton. The mall is at 41677 Ford. Call (810) 229-6183 or (313) 981-3080.

■ A seminar, "Arranging Garden Flowers" by English Gardens floral designers, will take place 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 13, at English Gardens, 6370 Orchard Lake Road. Call (248) 851-7506.

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