

Recycle waste with compost

With the cost of groceries going up everyday, I can hardly wait to put in my own garden. I need some information on composting. Is it a truly effective way of fertilizing a garden? Will it save me money? I really would like to grow as much of my own food as possible.

Mrs. V. P. Redford

Obviously, no one person can single handedly alter the gigantic complex industrialized food system. But there are things individuals can do which can help.

Putting together a compost pile is one of them. This will recycle organic wastes and at the same time provide your garden with a constant supply of natural fertilizer.

You can save money in growing vegetables and flowers by making your own fertilizer. You can improve your environment by avoiding pollution from chemical fertilizers and you

can save energy, since the production of artificial fertilizers takes great amounts of energy and chemicals made from petroleum.

An outside compost pile is best.

1. Select a shaded spot, if possible, to minimize evaporation. If digging is easy, go down as much as two or three feet. Keep the soil in a pile next to the compost, you'll need it. If the soil is rocky, use fencing or build a box above ground to keep the materials from getting scattered.
2. Mix different kinds of materials in layers—five or six inches of leaves, a thin layer of garden scraps and table scraps, a thin layer of dirt, a thin layer of grass clippings, and so on. Everytime you add a layer, moisten with the hose (but do not soak). Add materials and dirt every day.
3. Every six or seven weeks turn the pile with a pitchfork to mix up the

materials. The purpose is to aerate, for air is necessary to help the compost materials to decompose (rot). Make sure that the materials which were on the outside wind up inside, where the heat of decomposition "cooks" the mass. Again, moistening with the hose (but not soaking) will help "cook" it.

Additional information on environmental and consumer-related issues can be obtained from Concern Inc. Detroit, One Northfield Plaza, Troy 48068.

Festival coming to Y

Northwest YWCA will hold its annual strawberry festival 6-9 p.m. Thursday, June 27 at the branch building, 25940 Grand River, Redford Township.

Designed as an old-fashioned ice cream social, the festival is a free family event that features a band concert, dance band and straw-berry sundries for sale.

The Pierson Junior High School band will provide the concert under the direction of David Bonameci, and the Redford Union High School band, directed by Lincoln Naumoff, will provide the music for dancing.

Frances Hensley of Li-

"Careers in Transition" for Men and Women, is a course designed for people who are considering changing their careers or re-defining their educational or vocational goals.

Offered by Oakland University's Continuum Center, the course will be held from 7:30-10:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 8 and July 13 in the University Presbyterian

vonja is chairman of this festive event and Geri Hanson of Livonia is assisting her.

Church, Adams Road near Butler in Rochester.

The fee is \$55 and advance registration is required.

The goal of the course is to help participants become more self-directed in exploring and planning their careers.

More information about the course is available from the Continuum Center, 377-3033.

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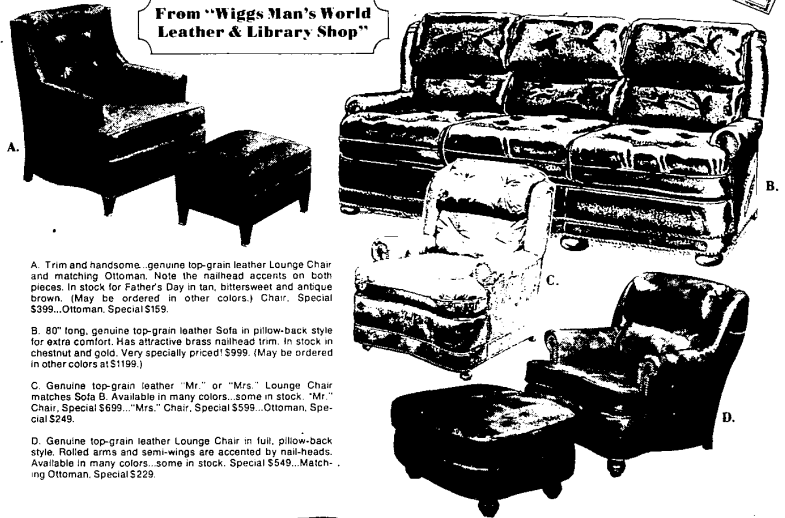
Vic Caputo, above, joins Ken Ford in "Strike Against Leukemia," bowling benefit for the Children's Leukemia Foundation, beginning at 10 a.m. June 5 in Hartfield Lanes at 3490 Twelve Mile, Berkley. Guests may join any time during the day for \$1 per game, but group reservations must be made with Marilyn Silverman, at 547-2329. She is also taking pledges, per game, or per frame, for the marathon game to be played by Barney Buckles the Clown. Local celebrities will be on hand all day to match their bowling skill against all comers. (Photo by Jack Margolis)

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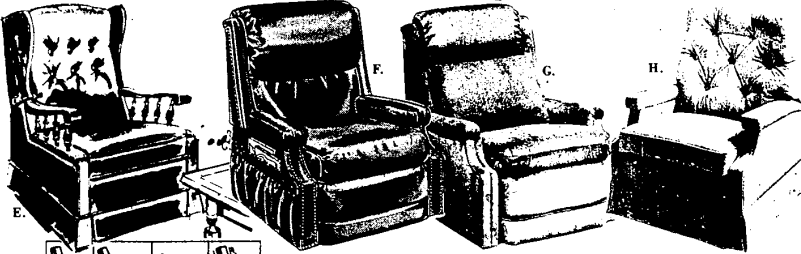
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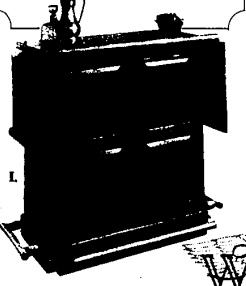
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