

m.m.memos

A note on my desk indicated my publisher would like to see a regular column on gardening in our newspapers.

He notes that care of home, lawn and garden takes up a major portion of the life style of folks in these parts, and he thinks we should be in there offering advice.

He's right, of course, so we'll begin forthwith a hunt for a knowledgeable and articulate gardener who wants to impart some wisdom.

But I have grave reservations whether the expert we locate will be much help to me in my gardening efforts.

Lawn and garden care is indeed big in my lifestyle as the warm months roll around, but it's a way of life somewhat forced by all the stuff that keeps growing out there.

Our old house came equipped with an expanse of lawn, a couple of rock gardens and a back slope that keeps turning into a tangle of vegetation. Add a few flower spaces begun in the days when energy and time were more and common sense was less, and you have plenty of work to occupy a soil-loving family.

Trouble is, our clan includes only one green thumb, and its owner moved west, so the rest of us just keep trying to hold back the tide of vegetation and give the place a reasonably kempt look.

Our grass cutter fits her forays with

By MARGARET MILLER



the lawnmower between exams, and the worst weeds always spring when someone is leaving for camp. Each job that needs doing seems to wait until it's almost too late.

So the advice I want, dear garden columnist, whoever you may be, is how do I get the grass to fill the bare spots but stay out the gardens? How do I encourage the myrtle to spread on the slope while convincing the old honeysuckle bushes that spreading is a no-no?

How do I tell the barberry to slow down? How do I get a grow-fast message through to the yews we planted to fill in an ex-garden?

How do I persuade the birds I'd like to taste one cherry this year from my little tree.

And, especially, when the tulips come into bloom and the daffodils surround our old stump, how do I get the weeds to stop growing long enough so I can sit down on one of our old lawn chairs and enjoy it all?

I don't really need an expert to answer that last. This year I'll do it.

Art fair space on sale now

Reservations for table space at the Northwest YWCA Fall Arts and Crafts Fair are now being taken in the Y building, 23949 Grand River.

The fair, to be held Oct. 16, will offer handmade articles for sale to the public in all media.

Exhibitors pay \$15 for a space in the fair, and keep all proceeds from sales.

Those wishing to rent outside space for flea market or garage sale items, may do so for a \$5 fee. Inquiries will be taken by calling Ruth Duey, at 537-8509.

Lorraine Beebe to address LWV

Former state senator Lorraine Beebe will be the guest speaker for the annual luncheon of the West Bloomfield-Farmington League of Women Voters (LWV).

The luncheon and election of officers will be held beginning at 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 20, at Pine Lake Country Club on Pine Lake Road, West Bloomfield.

Mrs. Beebe is the third woman to have been elected to the state senate.

As chairwoman of the speaker's bureau of the Michigan Equal Rights America, she will be speaking on ERA at the LWV luncheon.

Mrs. Beebe is also visiting professor at Olivet College, a member of Michigan Women's Commission and a board member of the Michigan Society for Mental Health. She was appointed by former President Gerald Ford to the President's Commission on Mental Retardation.

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Macrame a la carte

Mildred Webb, one of the first teachers of macrame in the Detroit area, and a member of Oakland University's Continuum Center, offers Macrame a la Carte for students in classes that begin April 21 in Farmington Community Center. Classes continue for five Tuesdays, from 1-3 p.m. Pre-registration is necessary, through the center, by calling 477-8404.

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