

# Line stepping stones with flowers

Thursday, May 15, 1988 O&E

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Your garden will be inviting to visitors if you use patio blocks as stepping stones in a wide flower bed. Guests are like children, they like to hop from patio block to patio block in a deep bed of flowers.

Here are some ideas for low growing plants, which you can plant beside this path to make it picturesque. For instance, plant a package of thyme around the circumference of

a patio block. Another stone could have parsley.

The following ideas for adorning stepping stones would put new style into a flower garden with wide depth. You could use dwarf pink, crystal palace labele, ageratum, dwarf iris, forget-me-nots, primroses or moss roses. English daisies would also upgrade a path.

To carry out the idea of adorning

patio stones in your garden whether it is where flowers are planted or vegetables you should use a size of stone to accommodate either a man or a woman's foot length. Cast patio stones give a formal look, while irregular shaped flat stones used in this manner could be interesting for an informal setting.

There are many varieties of annuals and perennials to select as you plan on a vivid, joyful flower garden. Here are a few annuals to consider: aster, bells of Ireland, calendula, carnation, chrysanthemum, cornflower, dianthus, globe amaranth, hellebore, larkspur (small), marigold and nasturtium.

Still others are: phlox, poppy, salvia, snapdragon, stock and zinnia. Be on your guard as some annuals require full sun, so know your light exposures in your garden.

You will enjoy perennials in your garden because they greet you year after year and are generally sturdy. Some you will enjoy are: chrysanthemum, coral bells, columbine, coreopsis, daisy (and all its varieties), and delphinium.

Some more to consider are: dianthus, gallardia, gypsophila, Iceland poppy, penstemon and sweet William.

As the season progresses you may find that your flower beds get very



down to earth  
**Alice Burlingame**

dry and often we have a shortage of water in August. The wise gardener has peat moss available on the property to be shoveled to top dress areas that seem to be suffering from dryness. Peat moss helps the gardener conserve water. Canadian peat is a favorite of most gardeners.

smile on your good luck and congratulate yourself upon your horticultural achievements. Enjoy. You have earned a tribute from Mother Nature.

Alice Wessels Burlingame has degrees in horticulture and landscape architecture from Michigan State University. Considered a pioneer in horticultural therapy, she has been writing "Down to Earth" since 1949.

## Appearing at book store

Susan and Stephen Pyle, authors of "Michigan's Town and Country Inns," will be at Borders Book Shop, 31150 Southfield Road, Beverly Hills, 1-3 p.m. Saturday.

Their paperback, \$12.95, published by University of Michigan Press, is

an illustrated guide to more than 50 historic and interesting overnight lodgings in the state. The descriptions include historical information about the structures, rates, house rules and some profiles of the innkeepers.

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**LOVELY TRI-LEVEL** in super shape. 3 bedrooms, 2 nice baths, fireplace family room with walk-out. Great yard, Bloomfield Hills schools. Excellent proximity to shopping. \$138,000 OV-76930. EKR/MAPLE 642-6500

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**HURRY - NEW LISTING.** Farmington Hills. Huge 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath colonial offers family room with fireplace, spacious living room, formal dining room, country kitchen, attached garage, basement and terrific family subdivision. Hurry! EKR/MIDWEST, INC. 477-0880

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