

# Get Vocare sweatshirt at Paint Creek Center

The gift gallery of Paint Creek Center for the Arts of Rochester has a sweat shirt in stock that was designed and produced by students at Paint Creek's Vocare Center.

Proceeds from the project will benefit the non-profit Center for the Arts and the Vocare training center for developmentally disabled young people.

The one-size black sweat shirt has a block print of an imaginary animal entitled "My Creature," designed by Matt Miller, 18, of Avondale.

"Matt likes to use his imagination," said Veronica Schaden of Rochester, artist-in-residence, "and animals are his specialty."

Miller's design is printed on the sweat shirts in a three-step process involving a rainbow bleed with

black and white overlays. Anthony Grandberry, 22, of Pontiac is responsible for printing the design on the sweat shirts under the guidance of instructor Arrol Cutrell of Clarkston.

"Anthony has the technical skill to come out with a consistently good product every time," Schaden said.

Other Vocare students help with drying, folding and tagging sweat shirts in the school's commercial silk-screening facility. The center's gift gallery also sells pins and collage note cards made by Vocare students.

For information, call Paint Creek Center for the Arts, 651-4110, or stop in at 407 Pine, Rochester. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday.

# Popular iris can be divided now

Mid-July is the time to begin planting, dividing and moving bearded iris, since they have just finished their show. This chore can be continued until new growth develops, around Sept. 10. If an early winter is forecast, mid-August should be the cut-off date to insure early root development.

If the iris clump is 3-4 years old, it is time to dig up and divide it. To do this, discard the old central parts of the rhizomes and replant the younger outer parts. To plant, dig a deep hole and make a mound of soil (level with the surrounding soil) in the center, set the rhizome horizontally on top of the mound and spread the roots down over it.

Fill with soil, firm around the roots and water thoroughly. Unless we have another dry spell, no additional water will be needed. Space tall bearded irises 2-2 1/2 inches apart, standard dwarfs 1 foot apart, and miniature dwarfs 8 inches apart. These lovely plants, which have

played an important part in the world of gardeners and artists for centuries, have two requirements — sun at least six hours per day and good drainage. Although they do like a rich organic soil, they will perform with moderate fertility.

Tall bearded irises are the best known and most widely grown, but there are others you may wish to grow. Irises are divided into classes: bearded, beardless, intermedial, Dutch, dwarf, Spuria, Siberian, or Japanese types, with Spuria and Siberian being the hardest.

If you are familiar with the nomenclature of irises, the task of choosing them for your garden will be easier. The innermost petal-like structures are called "style branches." The upright petals are "standards." The three outer parts of the flower, the sepals are "falls," which usually curve or droop downward. The bearded or pogon section (a strip of hairy growth on the "fall") gives this particular iris its name.



## down to earth

**Marty Figley**

The American Iris Society, 6518 Beachy Ave., Wichita, Kas. 67206, publishes books and brochures, and can answer individual questions regarding these flowers and/or membership.

Ornamental grasses are becoming quite popular with many gardeners, with good reason. They can add interest to the garden all year long with their foliage, seedheads and fall color, and can be grown in many garden situations, from rock gardens to an area which can accommodate the large varieties.

The first ornamental grass in my garden was ribbon grass — I have learned that there are at least two grasses classified as ribbon grass. I believe I have Phalaris arundinacea picta, or the one called gardener's garter, as it grows well in zones 4-

9. These grasses, and there are so many, make stunning statements in a bouquet, as well as adding interest out-of-doors.

If you would like to find out more about these plants, and bamboos, the Brooklyn Botanic Garden has just published "Ornamental Grasses" (\$4.95 plus 80 cents postage).

I have been getting requests for speaking engagements for the coming season and would like to suggest that your organization or school might be interested in obtaining an excellent video, "Romancing the Seed" (\$19.95, plus \$3 postage) written and directed by Elvin McDonald, of BBG.

Either of the above can be ordered from BBG, 1000 Washington Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11225.

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