

## creative impressions

This column appears regularly. Send news items to: Creative Impressions, Creative Living, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

### VAAL RECEPTION

A reception for artists participating in the Visual Art Association of Livonia's spring show will be 2-4 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Drive (Farmington Road at Five Mile).

Betty Wood of the Livonia-Arts-Commission will present a ribbon and cash award to Eileen Bibby of Livonia, whose watercolor painting won Best of Show. Awards also will be given to first-, second- and third-place winners in the categories of oil, watercolor and mixed media. Two honorable mention ribbons will be awarded.

The art exhibit in the lobby of city hall is open to the public from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays through May 29. Admission is free. Paintings, ranging from \$65 to \$450, may be purchased by contacting the artist.

### PREVIEW PARTY

Forty business, community and civic leaders make up the honorary committee for the 1991 Center for Creative Studies-College of Art and Design preview party.

The group will support the efforts and accomplishments of the Detroit college's student artists and to help promote the party, which will be 6:30-10 p.m. Friday, May 17.

Said Josephine Kelsey, Center for Creative Studies president: "We are dedicated to nurturing a continuing dialogue and communication within the communities these members represent."

The preview party marks the opening of the 65th annual student exhibit and sale, which will open to the public May 19 and run through June 2.

The exhibit is the largest showing of freshman through senior works in the country.

Preview party tickets are \$35 per person. Proceeds benefit the visual arts program. Dollars obtained from the sale of student work go directly to the artist.

For tickets: 872-3118, Ext. 422.

### SPIRIT OF DETROIT

Spirit of Detroit Chapter won the chorus competition in Harmony International Border Lakes Region 2's annual barbershop-style harmony competition April 5-7 in Grand Rapids.

The chapter took first place in sound, showmanship and expression and second place in music to win the competition.

"Accolade" is the chapter's 1991 quartet champion. Members include Jeanne Lundberg, tenor, of Plymouth.

"Jamboree" is the second-place medalist quartet. Members include Margaret Morgan, tenor, of Garden City, and Linda Lupo, bass, of Canton Township.

Spirit of Detroit is dedicated to preserving barbershop-style harmony at its finest for women.

Fourteen choruses and 10 quartets competed for the honor of representing Border Lakes Region 2, which encompasses much of Michigan and western Ontario, at the international level in Baltimore next year.

**MUSIC FEST**

The University Musical Society's annual May Festival will offer concert goers four evenings of music at 8 p.m. through Sunday, May 4, in the University of Michigan's Hill Auditorium. For tickets: 764-2538.

The Gewandhaus Orchestra of Leipzig and its director, Kurt Masur, will perform at all four concerts, highlighted each evening by these internationally renowned soloists: violinist Midori.

Wednesday, violinist Christian Funke and cellist Jurnjakh Timm (Thursday-Friday); and pianist Elisabeth Leonskaja, mezzo-soprano Claudine Carlson and the musical society's festival chorus in Saturday night's all-Russian finale.

### JURIED SHOW

Fifty exhibitors will display fine art and crafts in the Community Living Centers Summer Potpourri '91 exhibit, Saturday-Sunday, May 4-5, in the Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main, Northville.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Proceeds benefit the developmentally disabled residents of the Farmington-based group homes.

Admission is \$2 adults, \$1.50 seniors and 50 cents for children younger than 12. No strollers. Free parking. Lunch is available.

### LAFAYETTE QUARTET

The farewell performance of the Lafayette String Quartet at 3 p.m. Sunday, May 5, at Varner Hall, Oakland University in Rochester Hills, will feature the Detroit premiere of two Shostakovich preludes and fugues.

The quartet, in residence at Oakland since 1986, begins a residency at the University of Victoria in British Columbia next fall.

The quartet will open the concert with Shostakovich's preludes and fugues, Nos. 1 and 15, arranged for string quartet. These works, originally written for piano, have been performed only once, 25 years ago in Moscow by the Borodin String Quartet in the presence of Shostakovich.

The music was arranged for strings by Rostislav Dubinsky, former first violin with the Borodin Dubinsky is a professor of chamber music at Indiana University and a mentor of the string quartet.

Also on the program is Shostakovich's Quartet No. 8 in C minor, Op. 110, which has become the signature piece of the string quartet. The program will conclude with Beethoven's Quartet in E flat Major, Op. 127.

Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$5 for students and senior citizens and \$4 for OU students. For information, call the Center for the Arts box office at 370-3013.

The event is sponsored by the Center for the Arts and the department of music, theater and dance.

### FIBERARTS GUILD

Ann Arbor Fiberarts Guild will host its annual spring sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 11-12 at Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 N. Dixie, Ann Arbor.

Items for sale include clothing, wallhangings, fiber sculptures, jewelry, pillows, rugs, baskets, bells, placemats, scarves, toys and handspun yarn.

There will be demonstrations daily of weaving, spinning, basketmaking or jewelry creation.

No admission charge.

### CRAFT SHOW

The Craft Gallery Mother's Day Show will be Sunday, May 12, at Roma's of Garden City, 32550 Cherry Hill, between Merriman and Venoy. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sixth displays will feature country folk art, Victorian crafts, early Americana, French country folk and Sades of the Southwest.

Local exhibitors include:

From Livonia — Cheryl Young (country fabric hearts), Tina Adams (silk floral arrangements), Linda Dietrich (wood shelves and fabric hanging accents), Donna Spurre (baskets).

From Westland — Ann Kovarik (vintage Victorian), Jeanne Schmidt (soft sculpture).

From Redford Township — Kay Vincent (country cross stitch).

From Canton Township — Gene Busse (oak clocks).

Each event will offer a different lineup of Michigan talent.

Admission is \$2. Children younger than 12 are admitted free. Lunches and refreshments will be available. No strollers or cameras are allowed.

**ART AUCTION**

The Scarab Club annual art auction will be Sunday, May 19.

The silent auction will be 5-7 p.m. The live auction starts at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 per person (a \$10 rebate may be applied to any art purchase). Contributions to the auction will be accepted 1-6 p.m. Tuesdays-Fridays, May 4-18, or by special arrangement.

The Scarab Club, at 217 Farnsworth in Detroit's Cultural Center, was founded in 1910 as a fellowship of the arts. It receives no government funding. The annual art auction is the primary fundraiser.

## Call Us Now!

...to place your Observer & Eccentric Classified ad.

**WAYNE**  
591-0900

**OAKLAND**  
644-1070

**ROCHESTER**  
852-3222

## Michigan's Largest Real Estate Company



Call Real Estate One to put Michigan's most successful seller of homes to work for you.

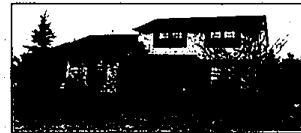
\*Real Estate One Inc. 1001.



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**COLONIAL WITH CONTEMPORARY FLARE.** Four bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining room, family room, library, fireplace, neutral decor, skylights, garden room. \$219,900 477-1111



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**UPDATED CAPE COD** on spacious lot. Open floor plan with 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, family room, large living room with fireplace, first floor laundry and more! \$138,500 477-1111



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**ON COMMONS** overlooking pond, this spacious 3 bedroom is solidly built and well-maintained. Central air, sprinkler system, side entry garage. \$159,900 477-1111



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**OPEN SUNDAY, 30610 Ambeth Brand** now home on large lot. Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths including master bath. Attached garage on treed lot. Ready for occupancy. \$119,000 477-1111



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**SPACIOUS AND UNIQUE** Ranch on large treed lot. Open floor plan, newer carpeting and kitchen floor. Formal dining room. Alarm system. Farmington schools. \$144,900 (GRE) 851-1900



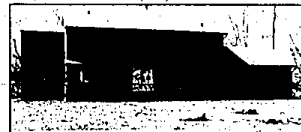
**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**PERFECT NEXT HOME** Open and airy, fresh neutral decor, this is the house for you! First floor den-bedroom with full bath. \$149,900 (ARD) 851-1900



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**STUNNING RANCH CONDO** Move right into this neutral 2 bedroom/2 bath end unit. Lovely great room with marble-tiled fireplace. 2 car attached garage. \$105,500 (LAU) 851-1900



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**PRIVATE PROPERTY** Overlooking hills and trees, full walk-out, lower level. Great in-law suite with bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, full kitchen, living room plus family room. \$308,000 (BRA) 851-1900



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**FOUR BEDROOM CONTEMPORARY** Spacious Colonial backing to wooded area. Almost 1 acre lot with plenty of privacy. Unique floor plan, library and wet bar. \$212,000 (MAR) 851-1900



**FARMINGTON HILLS**  
**OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 30724 Ransdowne Club** Detached Condo, 3 bedrooms with walk-in closets, first floor master suite, Jennaire island kitchen, library, deck, balcony. \$204,900 (RAM) 851-1900



**SOUTHFIELD**  
**LOVELY SPRAWLING RANCH** Offers 2000 sq. ft. 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths. Master bedroom with bath. Family room with fireplace, finished basement with wet bar. \$183,000 559-2300



**OAK PARK**  
**SMASHING VALUE** The time to buy is now. 4.5 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, formal dining room, large home for the growing family. Near shopping and transportation. \$64,900 559-2300



**NOVI**  
**TRADITIONAL ELEGANCE.** Features 4 large bedrooms, 2 full and 2 half baths, formal dining and living rooms, family room, fireplace, deck, finished basement. \$210,000 644-4700



**SOUTHFIELD**  
**WELLINGTON FIRST FLOOR RANCH** Gas fireplace, all appliances, security system, first floor laundry room, cedar closet. Move in condition. Home Owners Warranty. \$87,000 (WEL) 851-5000

Bloomfield Hills 644-4700 • Farmington 477-1111 • Lathrup Village-Southfield 559-2300  
Farmington Hills 851-1900 • Northville/Novi 348-6430 • Royal Oak 548-9100 • West Bloomfield 681-5700  
Michigan's Largest Real Estate Company

## Edibles

## Try these vegetable garden tips

**Good Garden Tip:** Fertilizer applied around plantings will give them a good boost for the growing season.

Although many gardeners begin with flowers, vegetables soon creep into our gardens. The reasons are varied: some want to try unusual vegetables, other want the "just picked" flavors, while many want the satisfaction of seeing the complete cycle, from seed to edible vegetable.

Perhaps this is your first time growing vegetables. Here are some tips to make this venture a success.

Seeds hold the life cycle of a plant whether large or small. They store the food and embryo of a new plant. After the seed is ripe and planted in soil, it will germinate and then become a plant. Mother Nature knows what she is doing.

Most seeds require light for germination, but some don't. Soil temperature requirements are different, too. Some have a hard coating and need to be scarified (scraped, nicked or soaked in water) before germination will occur. A good garden book will help in this regard and will also give germination times and spacing directions. There is also a wealth of information on the seed packets.

**SEEDS HAVE** one need in common: good soil and plenty of moisture to bring them to life. When planting seeds, use only as many as you think is necessary. The extras can be saved in a moisture-proof package in a cool place to be used another year or to sow at a later date for continued harvest.

After you have carefully prepared the seed bed, make planting rows with a stick, hoe or rake. If the rows run in a north-south direction, the plants will receive equal amounts of sunlight on both sides of the row. Mark each row with the name and date for good record keeping.

Some kind of path between the rows, such as wood chips or stepping stones, will enable you to walk between them and not compact the soil around the plants.

Before sowing, wet the soil. If you wish to fertilize, put it in the bottom of the row and cover it with soil. The seed must not touch the fertilizer. If seeds are dust-like fine, they can be mixed with fine sand or talcum powder (which will clearly mark the rows) and sprinkled from a salt shaker or tapped from the corner of a folded paper, then tapped gently into the soil. Since light does travel a short distance through the soil, these fine seeds

can be covered with just a sprinkling of compost or soil.

Medium-sized seeds need to be planted just below the surface, a light dusting with soil will be sufficient covering, while larger seeds need a little more. Generally, seeds are planted at a depth of 2-3 times their greatest diameter, but the methods just described work well. If covered too thickly a crust may form and make it hard for the young shoots to break through, especially if the weather is hot and dry.

**CAREFULLY WATER** these furrows with a controlled stream. A sprinkling can with the head removed works well. Don't let soil dry out. One good way to help in this regard is to carefully position boards above the seed beds so that they are shaded, until the first sprouts appear. Plastic row covers are also available commercially.

After the second set of leaves appear, thin the plants. Be sure you know the difference between the seedling and a weed. Either sprinkle the ground first or do this after a shower or on a "drizzly" day.

These thinnings can be put in a bucket with approximately four inches of water to which has been added one tablespoon of a complete soluble fertilizer and later set in another area of the garden. They'll keep for a day or two in this water solution.

Early starters for outdoor seeding are considered "cool crops." These include carrots, peas, beets, cabbage and lettuce families, radish, onions, and Swiss chard. When the ground becomes warmer, such things as beans, spinach, squash, corn, and tomatoes can be planted.

Good luck with this new vegetable adventure and happy eating.

Marty Figley is a certified master gardener based in Birmingham. Her column runs the first, second and fourth Thursdays of each month.



down to earth

Marty Figley