

creative impressions

This column runs each Thursday. Send news items to: *Creative Impressions*, Creative Living, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia MI 48150. Allow at least three weeks for publication.

● AT MEADOW BROOK

Cleveland Orchestra resident conductor Jahja Ling comes to Rochester Hills to lead the Detroit Symphony Orchestra in two programs in the 1991 Chrysler concert series at Meadow Brook. The Friday, July 28 concert features 13-year-old violinist Lella Josefowicz performing Saint-Saens' Violin Concerto No. 3. The program includes pieces by Rossini and Berlioz.

The Sunday, July 29 concert will feature pianist Ivan Moravcevic performing Haydn's Piano Concerto in G major. Pieces by Beethoven and Elgar also are on the program.

Both concerts are at 8 p.m. at Baldwin Pavilion on the Oakland University campus. Call 377-2010.

● DIA FEE WAIVED

Visitors to the Detroit Institute of Arts will be admitted free next Wednesday, courtesy of the Ford Motor Co. and the United Auto Workers. The "Ford/UAW Free Days at the DIA" — July 17, 24 and 31 — are in conjunction with the Ford-sponsored Henry Ossawa Tanner exhibition featured at the DIA through Aug. 4.

This latest Ford/UAW partnership represents an innovative step with contributions from Ford's Community and Urban Affairs offices and the UAW National Ford Department, covering the cost of admission for all those attending "Free Days at the DIA."

"Ford's commitment to the Tanner exhibition has been exemplary," said Samuel Sachs II, DIA director.

"While most corporate sponsors limit their participation to check-writing and hand-shaking, Ford has been an active partner in all respects. Ford's participation also has enhanced our community relations."

Ford and the UAW initiated the free days to make the DIA more accessible to community groups and to young people who may not have considered attending because of the mandatory admission fee policy recently implemented at the DIA.

● DIA MASTERWORKS

The city of Southfield Department of Parks & Recreation Cultural Arts Division presents "Masterworks of the Detroit Institute of Arts" at 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 1, in the Southfield Public Library Marcotte Room, 26000 Evergreen Road.

Admission is \$5. The lecture and slide show offers an informative view of the most exceptional works of art in the DIA collection.

A discussion will follow the presentation. Refreshments will be available. For tickets: 354-4717.

● ART ON THE SQUARE

Food, entertainment and art and crafts will be offered at "Art on the Square," in Garden City Aug. 17.

The event will be 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at Sheridan Square on Ford Road, west of Middlebelt. Craft exhibitors are still needed.

For information, call 522-7020.

● HIGHLAND GAMES

The St. Andrew Society of Detroit will present its 142nd annual Highland Games 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 3 at Historic Fort Wayne, 6325 W. Jefferson, at Livernois, Detroit.

The games will feature the skill of bagpipes, massed bands, Highland dancing, sheepdog trials, clan tents, Scottish tartans and brawny, kilned Scotsmen tossing what appear to be telephone poles.

Highland Games were introduced to America by immigrant Scots. They originally were intended by clan chieftains as a way to identify the strongest, most agile clan members so athletics were prevalent. They later took on a festive air and other competitions were added such as dancing, piping and drumming.

Admission is \$7.

● HOME CRAFT SHOW

Days Inn Livonia will sponsor its second home craft show 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 4.

At its June 28 show, 28 area crafters took part. Tables range from \$20 to \$35. Along with an assortment of crafts, there were woodcarver's hot pads, floral arrangements, mop dolls, needlepoint and a straw witch.

The Inn is at 36655 Plymouth Road. Call 427-1300.

● OLD MAGAZINE

Rare early issues of "Curtis's Botanical Magazine" will be on display through August in the Rare Book Room of the Detroit Main Library, 5201 Woodward, in Detroit's Cultural Center.

Rare Book Room hours are 1-5 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday. Main Library hours are 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tuesday-Saturday, except Wednesday when the library is open 1-9 p.m.

First published in 1787, "Curtis's Botanical Magazine" is the oldest continuously published journal with color illustrations. Every color illustration in every copy of the magazine was painstakingly colored by hand until as recently as 1948, when color offset printing was finally adopted by the editors.

The Detroit Public Library's run of the magazine is complete through 1988, and is one of the few such runs in existence today. The magazine changed its name to "Kew Magazine" in 1984, taking its name from the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew.

During the late 18th century, an increasing number of exotic and decorative plants were reaching Britain from many parts of the world.

William Curtis, born in Alton, England in 1746, introduced the discoveries of the great worldwide botanical explorations originated by the Royal Horticultural Society at Kew to an admiring audi-

ence of amateur and professional botanists, gardeners, and nurserymen. Thus the magazine played a leading role in transforming British and American landscapes and sharpening the appreciation of flowering plants.

Also included in the exhibit is a complete set of William Curtis's landmark work, "Flora Londinensis," which appeared between 1777 and 1798.

● JURIED ART FEST

New Morning School will sponsor an annual juried art show 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 23 at Northville Community Center, 303 W. Main.

A \$1.50 admission will be collected at the door to benefit New Morning School.

Artists or crafts people interested in participating should call 420-3467 for further information.

● ARTS AND CRAFTS

The North Farmington High School Band and Orchestra Boosters will hold their annual winter arts and crafts fair Nov. 23 at North Farmington High School.

Quality artists and crafters are needed for this juried show. For applications or information, call 553-6699.

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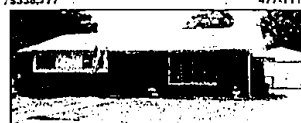
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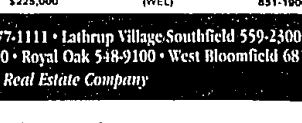
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In Bloom

Daylilies become a way of life

Howard Hite, who lives on Lake Angelus, has been growing daylilies for 20 years. Hite has been hybridizing them for the last 15.

He has created more than 100 new tetraploids — classified because they generally have more vigor, dense foliage and larger flowers of brighter colors than other groups. Daylilies open in the morning and close at night, hence the name, displaying fresh blooms every day.

Hite said, "I used to have roses — not many bloom in July. I saw an ad in a magazine showing Shriners Daylilies blooming in July. . . aha. So I sent away for five or six and planted them. Then I met Francis Hughes (Hughes Gardens of Southfield), who took me to his friend Mr. Janovac, who had some beautiful daylilies and I bought two or three. One was Fleeta, a beautiful red and when I saw that I said, 'For heaven's sake, look at this, and so that was the start of it.'"

Each of his daylilies is carefully labeled. When he crosses pollinates the flowers, he keeps a list. Then the information is transferred to tags which are attached to each flower, identifying the two plants involved. Each daylily has six stamens and the yellow pollen is gently tapped or rubbed on the tip of the pistil (each flower has one) of another flower.

THE FERTILIZED flower is never plucked. In about a week, a seed pod will start forming where the flower was attached to the plant, then the flower drops to the ground. There are 2-20 seeds in each pod, which ripens in two months. When the pods start cracking open, Hite gathers them and takes the seeds out and spreads them on sheets of paper to dry for a couple days.

The next step is to put them in a cellophane sack, with the labels so he knows what the percentage is, then they are stored in the refrigerator all winter. In early, early spring, the seeds are put into sphagnum moss and set 15 inches under Gro-Lux fluorescent lights for 18 hours each day, either in his den or in the loft of the barn.

This moss must be kept moist for if the seeds start to sprout and they dry out, they're dead. Hite sprinkles them each day with an old-fashioned shaker sprinkler (the kind we used to use in the 1950s).

WHEN THE plants grow to 5-6 inches, they are transferred to 2 1/2 inch peat pots, set in a water-filled tray and placed under the lights until early May when they are planted in the ground.

"Every seed gives a slightly different flower, like a family of children," Hite said.

It's fascinating to see the various plants and one has to look closely to see the subtle differences. Two full rows along the driveway are his creations, and several rows of plants are adjacent. Then the garden continues with the seedlings, 25 rows of plants ranging from 6 to 12 inches tall. Next year, they will be two and a half feet tall and blooming.

THE FLOWERS are grown in average rich garden soil. A 5-10-5 powder fertilizer is applied in May, June and July on the seedlings and once in May on the established plants. To supplement rain, traveling sprinklers are run all night (he doesn't want to boil the plants in the hot sun).

Gardeners' book nook



Marty Figley

"I saw an ad in a magazine showing Shriners Daylilies blooming in July. . . aha."

— Howard Hite, daylily fancier

using water from the lake, every 5-6 days if necessary.

Each day, Hite walks in the gardens to see what is blooming. In the 2-year-old bed, he picks out 50 of the choice bloomers, assigns a number to each one and from these he may register only 2 or 3 with the American Hemerocallis Society.

He is particularly fond of the white and nearly blue daylily (both his creations). He's been working on a blue one for years. Another of his, named for his wife Eleanor, is his favorite. It has a clear yellow color and green underneath in the petals. The edges are ruffled.

WHAT SHOULD gardeners do when they want daylilies? "Buy some, go to a garden and see something you like and then buy it, plant it and it gets bigger every year and it blooms nicely; they start blooming in late June, all during July and part of August."

Daylilies prefer at least half a day of sun and need to be planted in mud so that they get plenty of water to start with. They don't need spraying at all.

This 87-year-old gentleman said, "It's wonderful for me. I might take the pollen from a flower and walk to the end of the garden to cross it then take pollen from another and walk another distance. It is great exercise, really valuable, and keeps me going. When you create seeds and plant them you have to live a couple of years to see them bloom. . . you don't dare die!"

To see some of Hite's daylilies, plan to attend the annual Daylily Specimen Bloom Show 2-6 p.m. Saturday, July 27, at the Congregational Church, Woodward and Cranbrook roads, Bloomfield Hills. Free admission. If you wish to have a lily judged, take it to the church by 10 a.m. Plants will be available for purchase.

An interesting book from Garden Way, "Daylilies, The Perfect Perennial," Lewis and Nancy Hill (\$14.95 paper) will help you learn more about these flowers, how to propagate them, how to grow them. Color photos and an extensive list of the flowers will help in selection.

Another treat for the family is the "Taste of Festivals" being held on July 27-28 at Greenfield Village. Foods representing the time period of each house will be offered to visitors.

Marty Figley is certified master gardener based in Birmingham.