

CREATIVE LIVING
continues in
section E

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1995

CREATIVE LIVING

D

GARDEN SPOT



MARTY FIGLEY

Fennel adds spice to garden, dishes

National Herb Week is May 7-14, and Fennel (*Foeniculum* species) is the official plant this year. Its botanical name comes from the Latin word, *foenum*, which means hay, and the feathery foliage may be the reason why. There are several varieties of this herb, a relative of dill, coriander, caraway, cumin, anise, carrot and Queen Anne's lace, but we will talk about the two most popular ones — a variety called sweet fennel (*F.v. var. dulce*), which includes "Bronze," and Florence fennel (*F.v. var. azoricum*), also called finocchio and anise.

"The Cook's Garden," a free catalog — available from P.O. Box 525, Londonderry, Vt. 05148, (phone (802) 824-3400, fax (802) 824-3027) — carries seeds of the varieties Sweet fennel (*F. vulgare* — "Smoke"), "the true red-leaved form, much sought after both for its ornamental and its herbal qualities," and Zefa Fino (*F. vulgare*), "a Florence, or bulb-type fennel grown for its swollen leaf stalks."

They advise: Sow the seeds in midsummer for early fall harvest in rows eight to 12 inches apart, then thin plants to eight inches apart in rows. The seeds can also be sown in the fall for a spring harvest (best in zone 6 pockets). Fennel is a biennial herb and may self-sow. The plants need good drainage and like a humus-rich soil, full sun and not overly damp or wet conditions, although the seeds, when first sown, need to be kept moist for at least two weeks until first leaves appear. Fennel grows three to five feet tall and is nice in the herb garden as well as when used as a landscape plant.

See FIGLEY, 2E

Health House



By design: This library by designers from Gorman's Gallery-Studio of Interior Design in Southfield is featured in an environmentally friendly showcase home. The story is inside today's Creative Living section.

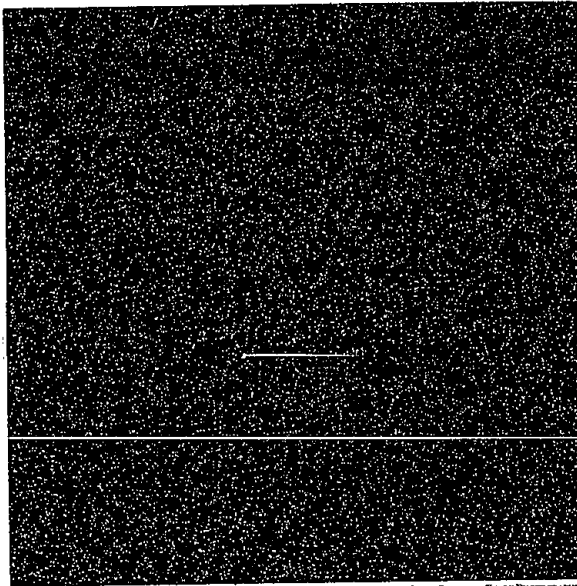
LOOKING AHEAD

What to watch for in Creative Living next week:
■ A preview of what area interior designers have in store at the Detroit Symphony Designers Showhouse.
■ Mary Klemic's Perspectives column.
■ Art gallery openings and events.

Your guide to Community Classified

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JERRY ZOLTEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Event to honor active artist



Lillian Hoppin of Bloomfield Hills "just loved art." Besides making a variety of art works, she was involved in the founding of the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association.

BY MARY KLEMIC
STAFF WRITER

In some of her art, Lillian Hoppin of Bloomfield Hills painted on plexiglas sheets that transmitted color in a way that gave the shades a special glow and energy.

In many ways, Hoppin was like these works — bright and active, with a quiet strength. She was involved in the Birmingham Society of Women Painters and was one of the artists who founded the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association. She died at age 78 in January.

Qualities of Hoppin's life and art

will be displayed 6-8 p.m. Saturday, May 27, at the BBAA, 1516 S. Cranbrook Road in Birmingham, part of a "celebration and remembrance party," in the words of friend and fellow artist Leslie Masters.

"We're going to have a nice show," Masters said.

"It's going to be a nice retrospective." The event will feature works loaned from family, friends and others. Photos of Hoppin, accompanied by two- or three-sentence comments from people who knew her, will be arranged in a "walk-through" of her

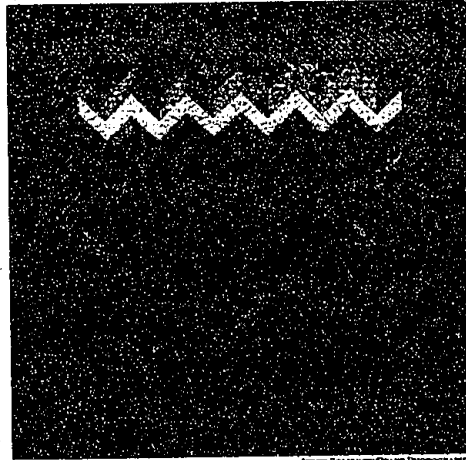
life. Anyone who would like to loan a piece by Hoppin or otherwise get involved should call Masters at the BBAA, (810) 644-0868.

"I would love to have more." Both Masters and Hoppin were in the BSWP and rented a studio together in Beverly Hills. They had a show of plexiglas paintings at the Rubiner Gallery in Royal Oak in 1977.

"She was generous. She didn't push herself. She just loved art." Hoppin's other art included silkscreen, serigraph and portraits of her children and grandchildren. She had some of her geometric paintings made into rugs. She and her friend Kathy Smith started The Art Gallery in Northport, and Hoppin made a poster every year for the gallery.

"She was one of those quiet people,"

See HOPPIN, 2E



JERRY ZOLTEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Colossal quilt: Visitors to "Paradigm Quilters — Contemporary and Traditional Quilts," the sixth quilt annual show of the Birmingham Area Seniors Coordinating Council, will see such beautiful pieces as this.

Artsfest features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Mary Klemic, Creative Living, Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax them by calling (810) 644-1314.

IN SCULPTURE TO SPEAK

Sculptor, gallery owner and instructor Varsha Milhal of Romania will discuss the current art scene in Romania at the next presentation of the Brown Bag Lecture series, noon Thursday, May 18, in the auditorium of the Information Technology Building on the west side of the County Service Drive on North Telegraph in Pontiac. For more information, call (810) 865-0415.

Art Beat

IN ARTPATH

ArtPATH, an evening of fine music, fine art and fine food 6-8 p.m. Thursday, May 18, will benefit PATH, a program that provides traditional housing for 22 homeless mothers and their children.

ARTPATH will take place at the Habitat/Show Galleries inside the Oakland Art Center on Baginaw in downtown Pontiac and feature a walking tour of the other galleries in Pontiac's arts and entertainment district. The

evening includes complimentary wine and hors d'oeuvres from the Piko Street and Allegro restaurants, a cash bar, live musical entertainment, a children's art exhibit and a silent auction of art objects from various artists.

Tickets are \$35 in advance, \$40 at the door. Visa, MasterCard and checks are accepted. For tickets, call Sarah Bannister at (810) 335-1950 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. After 5 p.m., call (810) 263-3279 and leave a message.

IN CRYSTAL DESIGNER

Orofino designer Erika Lagerblom will visit Neiman Marcus at the Somerset Collection, Big Beaver Road and Coolidge in Troy, today. Lagerblom will visit 4-8:30 p.m.

Cranbrook plant sale scheduled

BY MARY FIGLEY
STAFF WRITER

It's once again time for the Cranbrook Garden Auxiliary Spring Plant Sale, so make a list and check it twice so you'll be ready to beautify your garden for the season.

Auxiliary members will be ready to serve you 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 17, and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Thursday, May 18. The entrance to the gardens is 380 Lane Fine Road in Bloomfield Hills. Park in the Christ Church parking lot and shuttle buses will transport you to and from the sale.

A large variety of wildflowers, annuals, perennials, herbs, miniature roses and begonias is waiting for you to buy so you can add beauty to your outdoor gardens. The greenhouse offerings will include ferns, orchids, live topiary and other choice plants. In addition, garden sculpture and a selection of beautiful items will be available.

Glorious gardens

After your shopping spree, you may stroll the gardens at no charge. Enjoy the famous wildflower garden, daffodil hill and the beautiful sunken garden, which will be filled with a glorious array of tulips, the sight of which is breathtaking!

The Oriental Garden is a serene place to visit. Restoration of this garden has been ongoing since 1973. Around 1958 spring floods broke over the dam and canal and washed much soil and rocks into the garden, which was overgrown with trees and brush, wild daylilies, grapevines and thorny briars. Walks and walls had to be restored after the overgrowth was removed.

Rudy Fedus was a much-loved volunteer who spent long, hard hours reclaiming the overgrown area. While the shape of the garden was present, the rocks had all fallen into the water and had to be repositioned. Gravel was used for path material and Rudy built a small bridge to replace one that had been lost. He also dug a stream coming from a lake (Mill Race) and lined it with stones as had been done previously.

Many Cranbrook Auxiliary members helped in the reconstruction of the garden and donated plants. At

See CRANBROOK, 2E

Birmingham Art Fair set

The 1995 Birmingham Art Fair, presented by the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, will take place 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, May 13-14, at Shain Park, south of Maple at Bates and Merrill in Birmingham.

The event, part of Celebrate Birmingham Week, will feature pieces in fine art, sculpture, ceramics, glass, jewelry, fibers, photography, wood work and other media by 178 artists. Admission is free.

Teachers and friends of the BBAA will conduct a variety of art activities for children to enjoy and experience for a nominal charge. The activities will take place at the south end of the park on Merrill 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Youngsters can participate in face painting, T-shirt painting, visor painting, making birdhouse ornaments and pottery, and see demonstrations on the old pottery kick wheel.

Proceeds support the BBAA. For more information, call the BBAA at (810) 644-0868.