

CALENDARS

Does your garden club have an upcoming event or meeting you want publicized? Send items for consideration in *Gardening Calendar* to Ken Abramczyk, *Observer Newspapers*, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia, MI 48150 or e-mail kabramczyk@oe.com. To send a fax, call (734) 591-7279.

GARDEN WALKS

YPSILANTI
The Ypsilanti Garden Club's third annual Heritage Garden Tour is scheduled 1-5 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 18, during the Ypsilanti Heritage Festival. View six local gardens, plus a bonus garden, the newly planted recreation of what might have been planted from 1837-1880 at Ypsilanti's Historic Towner House. Tickets are \$7 per person, available in Depot Town and at each garden on the day of the event. For information, call (734) 485-7339 or visit <http://community.milve.com/jcc/ypsigardenclub>

OPEN HOUSE

POND

A pond designer will be at a recently completed pond in the yard of a home at 18914 Aspen in Livonia noon-4 p.m. Sunday, July 29. Casey Wright, owner of Splashy Designs in Novi, will be on hand to answer questions on water gardening. The home is located in the Whispering Pines subdivision, on the south side of Seven Mile between Wayne Road and Gary. For information, call (248) 477-7482.

BACK TO CLASS

MORE GARDENING
The Michigan School of Gardening, 29429 Six Mile, in Livonia offers classes on a variety of subjects. Register in advance. Classes are limited in size. Weekly classes usually are scheduled for 9:30 a.m., while evening courses begin at 6:30 p.m. Classes listed here will be taught at the Livonia facility. Here is a list of some of the classes, some of which require prerequisite courses or experience, and the dates each class start: Vegetable Garden Pests, Aug. 1; Flower Garden Pests, Aug. 7; and Landscape Design, Aug. 8. For information on spring classes, times and costs or click on www.michiganingschool.com for class information or for classes at other locations in Detroit, Pontiac and Macomb Township. Call (248) 4-GARDEN.

TOLLADE
An Evening In The Gardens, a series of educational workshops at the Michigan State University Tollgate Education Center in

Novi, features practical knowledge every gardener or homeowner can use. The next workshop is A Season of Perennial Color, 9:30-11:30 a.m. Aug. 21 (\$15). It will discuss the methods gardeners can use to maintain color in their gardens throughout the growing season. Instructor is Kathy Israel, an advanced master gardener with 25 years of experience. The sessions may include outdoor demonstrations in the MSU Tollgate Education Center gardens, so participants should dress comfortably for outdoor activities (bug repellent and rain gear recommended). The workshops fill quickly. Classes will close when registration reaches capacity. Phone reservations won't be accepted. For more information, call (248) 858-1639.

FIELD TRIPS

OJIBWAY PRAIRIE TOUR

Join the Detroit Garden Center for a naturalist guided tour of the Ojibway Tallgrass Prairie Provincial Park in Windsor at 10 a.m. Friday, July 27. Ojibway contains more rare plants per acre than any other park in Ontario. The tour costs \$8 for Detroit Garden Center members and \$10 for non-members. The tour will begin at the Ojibway Nature Center, 5200 Matchette Road. A catered lunch is available afterward for \$8.50. Call the Detroit Garden Center at (313) 259-6363 or fax (313) 259-0107 or e-mail detroitgardencent@yahoo.com for reservations and directions.

BOTANICAL GARDENS

Members of the Detroit Garden Center also will be visiting three botanical gardens at Michigan State University from 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 15. Lunch and transportation on an air-conditioned coach, from an east and west side pickup point, are included in the \$48 charge for Detroit Garden Club members and \$52 for non-members. Call the Detroit Garden Club for reservations at (313) 259-6363.

Enter our sunflower contest

Growing sunflowers this summer? Keep nurturing them, give them plenty of sunshine and water and you just may have a winner next month.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and English Gardens are sponsoring their second annual High Hopes Sunflower Contest. First-, second- and third-place finishers for the tallest plant and widest

seed head categories will be awarded.

Winners will receive \$75, \$50 or \$25 gift certificates from English Gardens. Check the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers for entry forms. Please enclose information on how you cared for the plant or any other details or circumstances about the plant.

The deadline for entries is Monday, Aug. 27. The top

entries in length and seed head for the 2001 season will be verified by judges.

Prizes will be awarded Sunday, Sept. 16, at English Gardens, 6370 Orchard Lake Road, West Bloomfield. Winners must appear at the awards to claim their prize.

Sponsored by English Gardens

HIGH HOPES CONTEST

Submit your entries as follows:

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE NEWSPAPER. Use the entry form below (or a facsimile) printed in this newspaper. Entries must be postmarked by Monday, Aug. 27, 2001. Fill in all the blanks. Clearly print or type the information. Include area code with your telephone number and the best time of day to call if we wish to take photographs. Children should include their ages. Your comments about how you care for the plants can also be sent along with the entry. This information may be passed on to our readers when we announce the winners. There are two categories of winners in this High Hopes Sunflower Contest: The tallest sunflower and the one with the largest seed head (not including the rays of the flower), grown in the 2001 season through Aug. 27.

1. Sunflower measurement must be taken from soil level to the base of the head where the stem attaches to the flower.
2. Seed head measurement must be taken diagonally across the seed head (not including the rays of the flower).
3. Participants must send the official entry form (or a facsimile) to: High Hopes Sunflower Contest, The Eccentric Newspapers, 805 East Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. To fax call (248) 644-1314. Judges will notify contest finalists to verify height and size.
4. Winners will be announced in the newspaper in September.
5. Employees and families of the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers are not eligible.
6. Decisions of the judges are final.
7. Entrants must live in Oakland or Wayne County to be eligible.
8. Gift certificates from English Gardens will be awarded to the winners — \$75 first place, \$50 second place and \$25 third place. Prizes will be awarded 1 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16 at English Gardens, 6370 Orchard Lake Rd., West Bloomfield, MI 48105.

Winners must appear at awards to claim their prize.

My sunflower height is:

My sunflower's seed head is:

Name:

If Child, include age:

Community:

Phone number:

Best time of day to call:

Plant-care comments:



FARMERS MARKETS

WILSON BARN

The Friends of Wilson Barn will host the 12th annual Farmers Market from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. every Saturday until Sept. 30 at the Wilson Barn on the northeast corner of West Chicago and Middlebelt in Livonia. The market offers fresh produce, honey and a variety of crafts. Vendors pay \$10 a week for a 10-foot by 20-foot space. WIC Fresh Start coupons accepted. For information, call (734) 427-4311 or (734) 522-5039.

PLYMOUTH

Produce is available 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Saturdays through October at The Gathering on Penniman Avenue at Main Street

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CALL AHEAD

Tree identification book available from foundation

What Tree Is That?, a pocket guide for identifying trees, is available from The National Arbor Day Foundation.

The 72-page guide will help you identify 135 different trees found in the eastern and central United States.

Well-known trees are included: oaks, maples, spruces and pines.

Also included are species such as horsechestnut and mockernut hickory, aspen and shadblow, persimmon and pawpaw and pagodatree and pecan.

Dozens of drawings illustrate the trees' leaves or needles and their acorns, berries, seed pods, cones and other identifying features. What Tree Is That? is

organized to make it easy to identify trees in a simple, step-by-step fashion.

To obtain your tree ID guide, send your name and address and \$3 to What Tree Is That?, The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, NE 68410.

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