Tradition $_{from\ page\ C1}$

glass of wine or a cup of tea and watch the fish and the frogs," she said. "The music of nature is what I like – the echoes at night are so pretty." Gitulli has worked for 12 years to estab-lish the kind of wildlife haven her family and neighbors now enjoy every spring and

summer.
"But I didn't start off like this," said Gitul-

"But I didn't start off like this," said Gituli, explaining that gardening for her has been a process of experimentation.

"Each year I add something new and try to change the color scheme. Sometimes I buy a flower because of color — sometimes it'll downled around the start invade the whole around the strain and error."

Gitulli's advice for other gardeners is to start small and try new things.

"My theory is to take a little section of your yard, cut it out and start a garden. Don't start off too big — you plant something and you learn from it."

About the walk

The Farmington Garden Walk is presented by the Farmington Garden Club, It has taken place for more than 30 years.

Lazy dalsies: Even these daisies are warming up to the weath-er as the last of the buds blossom in Kitty Gitul-





Plants from page C1

including the grass." Hughes said.

The bulk of her labor is in spring, praparing the gardens and planting annuals. Weeding is limited by ground cover and spring, the said of the distribution of the said of the

fish to school every year sometime in November, The students enjoy them for the school year and Gloria takes them back for her pond over the sum-

mer.
"Last year we had a calamity," Hughes said. "The day
before I was going to take them to his school, the fish

Livonia.

were gone."

Whatever got to the 10 large fish didn't even leave car-

wintever goe to the state of the consense of the consense of the fish will be another expense this year. Hughes helps cut down on gardening expenses for friends by giving them pieces of her perennials.

For Mother's Day, Michael knows he'll definitely make a hit with a load of dirt or boulders for her flower beds. When her three children were young, Hughes paid 10

cents for every wagonload of stones they collected from a field across the street.
Gardeners learn not expect fish or plants to last forevernot even the perennials that usually fade with time, Hughes said. She learned the adage from her mom, she said.
While begonias and inpatienta are always on Hughes' shopping list, geraniums are her favorite annual flower.
Whatever looks good is what I use, but it has to be in the right colors, whe said. 'I'm fusay about my colors and I like the real different things – not the run of the mill.
Hughes mentioned more than

Hughes mentioned more than a dozen area nurseries and large

a dozen area nurseries and large home improvement stores where she looks for plants every year. "My husband enjoys them as much as I do," she said. "He's off in the summer and we call it our little park."

Special features

sing rooms and advanced in the control of the forms on the garden walk forms another has a water garden, Farabaugh said.

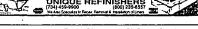
"We attract visitors from all over, she said. She said that well over 500 people visit Livonia's Garden Walk cach year.

The flower pots that will be sold during the walk were donated by Steinkopf Gardening Center and Landscaping in Furmington Hills. Proceeds will go to the preservation projects at Greenmend.

Currently, Friends for the Development of Greenmead are in the midst of a project to preserve and restore the Alexander Blue House, which will be used as a center for weedings and other activities.

For more information, call Farabaugh at (734) 522-7819.







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Figley

from page C1

Purple Loosestrife, Lythrum salicaria, long, showy spikes of purple flowers in wet-lands between June and September. mans between oune and September.
Replaces native vegetation, threatens endangered plant species and reduces the availability of food and shelter for wildlife. Quite a problem in this state.

■ Vines

■ Vines
Japanese Honeysuckle, Lonicera japonica, a woody plant; fragrant white tubular
flowers in pairs; turn yellow as they age.
Semi-evergreen. Easily distinguished from
native honeysuckle vines by its upper leaves
that are distinctly separate, berries are black

to purple. Leaves of the native vine are joined together around the stem; berries are red to orange.

Eye for Irls: A variegated leaf iris in the front yard of Gloria Hughes in

Spreads rapidly, smothering surrounding small trees and shrubs. May form a ground layer on shady floor of forests, will grow quickly if area gets more light.

■ Shrubs
Multiflora Rose, Rosa multiflora, large Multiflora Rose, Rosa multiflora, large vigorous shrub to 10 feet tall, arching stems. White flower clusters in June; red hips in August. Often forms dense thickets damaging pasture lands, overtaking them. Has replaced vast areas of native plant habitat. Wintercreeper, Euonymus fortunei ever-

green shrub with leathery opposite leaves. Spreads to form dense groundcover that seldom flowers or fruits; climbing stems flower in June followed by smooth capsules; split in the fall to reveal scarlet berries. Smothers and kills wildflowers as well as small trees. For additional information contact Nancy Walker of The Nature Conservancy, phone (617) 332-1741, or visit www.the.ore.

(517) 332-1741, or visit www.the.org.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gar-dener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

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