

GARDEN

FROM PAGE C1

growing along with Star Gazer lilies with white centers and pink edges, other lilies in pale pink, yellow and orange, and rhododendrons. A new fern will add autumn color and texture in the fall to this shade garden. A variety of astilbes fit right into the design.

Low-growing lamium, White Nancy, adds a light note and dianthus is growing full and healthy; sedum Autumn Joy will also add color in the fall. Monkey plant and mimulus show their colors throughout the back bed. Mimulus comes in orange, yellow, and cream with light green leaves.

Chayka is trying a new plant this year, the annual millet with a tall spike flower that "will grow fat and big." Annual impatiens provides a coral color. Many wildflowers appear in the spring to begin the show.

Chayka also collects specialty geraniums, such as one with chartreuse foliage. A zonal geranium has a broad leaf, quite pretty. Thus her business name, The Scented Geranium.

HEIGHTS AND HYDRANGEAS

Some plants add height, such as the tall pine trees, viburnum, a cariesi which has extra fragrant blooms in early spring with soft pink flowers and are followed by red fruit in the fall. A leather-leaf viburnum has large white blooms and produces red fruit in the fall. Its leather-like,



MARTY FOGLEY

The colors in this container blend well.

wrinkled leaves give it its name. Several hydrangeas such as Annabelle are added to this delicious mix of plants. It has "big, white pom pom flowers." An oak-leaf hydrangea produces late-spring flowers; the

lobed leaves turn mahogany red in the fall.

A slope in the area caused a drainage problem. It has been converted into a dry river bed — the perfect solution. With her artistic bent, she even

What: Rochester Branch of the Women's National Farm and Garden Association annual Garden Walk

When: 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Thursday, June 19

Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$12 the day of the event. Lunch will be available at the Paint Creek Cider Mill in Goodson for an additional charge of \$15 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tickets may be purchased at the Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, 1005 Van Hoosen Road, off Trienken Road, one mile east of Rochester Road and one mile north of downtown Rochester. For additional information, contact the Museum at (248) 656-4663 or by e-mail: rhmuseum@rochesterhills.org or visit the Museum's Web site at www.rochesterhills.org/museum.htm. You may also contact Lee Peters, Garden Tour chairman, at (248) 656-8975.

Look inside today's At Home section for a schedule of garden walks in Oakland and Wayne counties.

Painted a drainage pipe to camouflage it.

A number of lovely containers are filled with a variety of flowers. One contains maroon Persian shield, a new geranium with chartreuse foliage with a pink bloom, mimulus, with velvety deep orange blooms, colerus with matching colors and a variegated vinca vine, yellow/green with a red stem. A yellow gazing ball is positioned above the plants. The pot gets afternoon sun, so it does fine in this location.

The home originally had a deck, but Linda and her husband wanted to open up the house to the yard. They had Miller Landscape of Birmingham install a charming two-level brick patio, which fits in perfectly with the landscaping. A twisted serviceberry tree with no limbs on one side was planted at one end of the patio. Its odd shape

adds character and permanence to this area.

Two gold-thread cypress trees stand at either side of a large picture window that looks out on the gardens. She uses the foliage for flower arrangements all year long, which, she believes, keeps it lush and healthy.

Chayka says, "I'm not a planner. It's not exciting if you have to draw a plan. I do it all by instinct." She believes garden-

ing is in her family, her grandmother grew African violets and she removed the spent blooms when she visited. Her mother's interest developed early in life. She learned her lessons well.

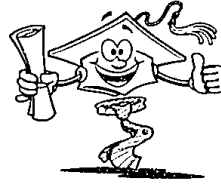
Garden art, (some of it hers) will be for sale during the day of the walk. Chayka is a painter. "I like to give paintings as gifts to family and friends," Chayka said. "I prefer watercolors because it is more spontaneous. I also do mosaic work on old furniture, including flower boxes. I work with broken dishes (breaks the dishes with a hammer in the garage under a towel)." All proceeds from the sale will go toward the Rochester Hills Museum.

Four tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 on the day of the event.

Master gardeners will be present at each garden; gardens will be staffed by branch members. The Van Hoosen Farm garden, maintained by members, is included in the walk.

Marty Fogley is an advanced master gardener and writes about gardening and plants for the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers.

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SINCE 1903

Bob Costas

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