

Nature lovers recognize poisonous plants

The sure sign of summer is a home garden filled with flowering beauty. But in the mouths of loved ones that beauty can become a beast.

Each year an estimated 12,000 children find plants pretty enough to eat and poisonous enough to cause nausea, dizziness and in isolated cases, death.

Fortunately, according to the Oakland County Health Department and the poison control center at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital plant poisoning in this area is rare.

BUT THE threat remains. And in this age of Ewell Gibbons and eating nature's produce, the difference must be understood between healthy and harmful.

Many plants are commonly known for their poisonous characteristics. Yew and their red berries, poison ivy, sumac and hemlock

and certain mushrooms are widely publicized as harmful.

Consequently the dangers lie with plants identified only as beautiful and not hostile. And any backyard garden probably contains one or more of the 700 poisonous plants.

The rhubarb, whose stalks are frequent taste tingers in pies, also sprouts a poisonous leaf blade. John M. Kingery, author of "Poisonous Plants in the United States and Canada" sights an incident of death following ingestion of rhubarb leaves.

"A meal of fried rhubarb blades brought death to a Montana woman. Severe intermittent abdominal pains, vomiting and weakness were experienced," he reported. "Death occurred about 36 hours later."

THE TOMATO is another vegetable with edible fruits but dan-

gerous foliage. If the vine of the tomato is eaten, nervousness and stomach upset may follow.

Many common garden and household plants are potential killers. Lily-of-the-valley can be particularly harmful to individuals with heart problems. When eaten, it's toxic chemicals can produce irregular heartbeats and mental confusion. Daffodils, hyacinth and

narcissus may cause vomiting and nausea.

Severe nervousness and depression accompany the swallowing of larkspur, iris and star-of-Bethlehem.

Rhododendrons, oleas and laurels may cause vomiting, dizziness and eventually coma. And one leaf of a poinsettia plant can kill a youngster, as can the leaves of an

oleander bush.

BUT MERELY knowing the harmful plants in your garden isn't enough.

Wooded areas and fields net some dangerous beauties. Jack-in-the-pulpit, buttercup, moonseed, jimson and others contain toxins. The existence of poisonous plants in the backyard or lining

the road isn't cause to lock up the children and uproot the garden. The best poison prevention is precaution and parents should warn and instruct their children against putting any kind of plant in their mouth.

Bob Tyson of Bordines Better Homes in Rochester commented that any plant could cause problems.

World furnishes restaurants

By SUE ROSIEK
Al Tuller of World Equipment Co. Inc. feels the desk chair in his new office is more a decoration than a necessity.

"I think I can speak for my three partners when I say we don't often get a chance to sit down," said Tuller. "Since the corporation was formed last September we've been constantly on the go."

The company designs, consults and supplies equipment to the food service industry. And according to Tuller, secretary-treasurer of the company "business is booming."

In less than 10 months, we've managed to build a business that's taken other equipment suppliers four years," said Tuller. "The 'business' Tuller refers to are partners Walter Olaszewski, president, of Farmington; John Kwarwick, vice president, Garden City; and Mike Benson, executive vice-president, Farsar. Tuller lives in Westland.

"World Inc. is a turnkey operation," said Tuller. "We can build, design and fully equip our clients or offer any one of those services."

He listed the firm's 11 sites. The company has completed jobs in nine states including Michigan and recorded a profit of more than \$2 million.

THE COMPANY'S local clients include: Landmark, Starboard Tack restaurants and Sarah Fisher Home, all in Farmington; several Bonanza steak houses; H. Salt Fish and Chips; K of K Hall in Redford Township; and a number of churches, hospital cafeterias and nursing homes in the metropolitan area.

The company recently moved from Farmington into a new 100,000 house-office complex on 11966 Brookfield in Livonia. The new building provides 17,500 square feet of storage space, nine offices and a display showroom, which is open to the public.

The move wasn't even complete when the company started thinking of expanding the new headquarters. "Business is getting better and we need the space," said Tuller.

World Inc. began in September with seven employees, including the four partners. It now has 23 employees including two co-ops students from Bentley and Ladywood high schools.

Tuller said student help will probably increase after the company gets settled in its new offices.

Tuller added the idea behind student help is "they may like it and want to stay on after high school." "We're a young company and there's always room for advancement."

Even though business is good, the company's secret wasn't just luck. Tuller said the partners have each worked an average six day week of about 15 hours a day since the corporation was formed.

"THIS WAS a tough business to get started in," explained Tuller. "There were a lot of family-established businesses that have been in the area 30 and 40 years. They didn't welcome the competition."

"Many dealers and manufacturers took a chance selling their equipment and in fact their good name to us," he said. "But we've proven ourselves and we certainly haven't let them down."

Tuller estimated there are between 35 and 40 foot equipment companies in Michigan. "It's a lot of competition for one area," he said.

Tuller added that until recently World Inc. has operated without any salesman on the road.

"It takes a very special individual to sell, and when we were getting started, we couldn't find any qualified people," said Tuller.

"WE'VE BEEN fortunate how-

OU honors students

The following Farmington and Farmington Hills residents were among 1973 candidates for University honors during the winter term at Oakland University in Rochester.

Distinction—Denise Hurd, 30611 Quakerturn, James Moffet, 39050 Glenard, Freda Rutherford, 31701 13 Mile, Janet Smitherberg, 30043 Eastfield.

Great distinction—Gary Bush, 30789 Shiawasse, William Cline, 21594 Birchwood, Florence Dennis, 29225 Dresden, David Nor, 30290 Fiddlers Green, Susan Robbins, 27406 Hystron, Margaret Sutherland, 27623 Kingsgate Way

and Nellie Williams, 26238 Farmington.

Distinction—Dennis Mohr, 26280 Hidden Valley, Susan Zeidman, 32543 Sprucewood, William Butt, 34073 State, Mary Henige, 26120 Springland, Diane Krasnewich, 26659 Greythorne, Richard Lucas, 35935 14 Mile.

Theresa Miton, 30943 Clubhouse, Judith Perich, 23037 Hayden, John Poris, 29505 Sugar Spring, Robert Schaadt, 33800 Old Timber, Dale Sekerak, 23971 Beacontree, Susan Steiger, 23971 Beacontree, Tina Wolf, 24174 Twin Valley, Rhonda Douglas, 29534 Mullane.

Engineering display tours

John Stockell, a 1974 graduate in mechanical engineering from the University of Michigan and a Farmington resident, is part of a group operating a mobile home containing displays from the U-M College of Engineering.

The unit will be touring the state this summer giving demonstrations.

Among the displays are a full scale cutaway Wankel rotary engine, a lunar soft landing simulator and a spacecraft orbit simulator with a synchronized tracking map.

The yellow mobile unit's slide shows illustrates the U of M campus and the College of Engineering, and can be tailored to portray any specific area of engineering a student may be interested in.

The unit will visit the Tel-Twelve Mall in Southfield from July 8-14.

Farmington crime rate going up

FARMINGTON—The monthly crime statistics for the City of Farmington showed an increase in May, with a 53 percent increase in forced entries.

The burglaries jumped from 23 last year to 35 this year with 16 cases cleared, compared to three at the same time last year.

Bicycle thefts dropped, from 28 to 16, for the first time in several years.

Total "part I" offenses were up 17 percent. These include robbery, burglary and other serious offenses.

Juvenile offenses also increased, with the liquor law violations showing an increase from five to 21.

Fire losses, both in dollars and numbers, were up with 37 fires and a loss total of \$47,000 so far this year.

The department activities indicated a 33 percent increase in the number of complaints investigated. Also up was training time.

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