

Lincoln Road gardens show care, skill

Over the years the Birmingham Branch of National Farm and Garden has plugged away at beautification projects within the city limits.

Years ago, the group declared that the flowering crab was "the tree" to characterize our town. In a couple of years, they had sold around 500 flowering crab trees for planting in Birmingham and environs.

Another of the group's projects was to design and install two benches in front of Baldwin Public Library, a place for the weary to rest and for children to wait to be picked up after studying at the library.

For several years the local members of National Farm and Garden have diligently cared for the flowers in front of



down to earth
Alice Burlingame

Allen House. The club had a garden tour in the Lincoln Road area to show off the elegant gardens, often compact in size.

THE TOUR BEGAN at the Charles Davison home, 1094 Lincoln Court. Here the owners have used excellent taste with flower placement. There's a vegetable garden tucked into a space at the rear of the home near a new bay

window, so the gardeners can check on the daily growth of the vegetables and see what's available for supper.

Davison built a square bird feeder, four bricks high. Over the top he built a roof with shingles with the wood painted a colonial blue. The problem, at the moment, is how to entice the birds to eat there.

The Reginald Fellows at 1070 Lincoln Court have carried out to a "v" the right degree to match their colonial home. The space is limited, but the plant material isn't overpowering in size. The placement of the picket fence, colonial lamp and old pump are each well balanced and in keeping with the atmosphere. The clematis is so right in leaf and flower volume.

The Howard Sumers, 1067 Lincoln Court, have an easy garden to maintain because of its simplicity along with good accents "to copy." The easy-to-maintain patio has pots of bright red geraniums and 6-foot benches on each side, made by Sumers. The benches were purchased as a package from a local nursery.

EACH END of the bench rests on a metal pipe and the seating surface of wood, with appropriate hardware, slips over pipes sunk in the ground. The seating surface can be removed in the winter easily by slipping it off the pipes at each end. The colorful beds of impatiens at each end of the boundary plantings perk up the well-kept lawn.

The David Vangraffs, 358 W. Lincoln, have a colorful garden which shows a knowledge of the light needs of plants. This young couple are to be congratulated.

THE GROVER CULLERS, 468 W. Lincoln, have cascading tomatoes along the street or south side of their garage. The tomatoes are in 20-foot row within planters. Those on tour were served peanut butter on small chips of cabbage leaves. Try it; it's delicious.

The total rear yard is a working vegetable garden with grass paths in a diagonal, cross-shaped pattern. The garden looks as though it had responded to a prayer before the guests arrived. The Cullers have created a private, raised, wood surface patio at the quiet side of the house, excellent for parents of a large family.

Your columnist just wants you to know that these interesting homes in the older part of town are occupied by many families who have colorful gardens.



m.m. memos
Margaret Miller

With family like mine, who needs enemies?

A friend of mine threw quite a bash a few years back for her "Big Six-O" birthday.

I remember that party was a good one. What I remember most was a card she received with sympathy and advice "as you enter your seventh decade."

Entering a seventh decade seems a lot older than being 60. I kept thinking about that phrase often and often as the significant birthday approached on my own calendar.

Best to ignore it, I decided. Not in the family, of course, with one like mine, but maybe I could get away with something like that in the workplace.

OF COURSE, I should have known better. The same family that I knew would be planning all sorts of craziness also was making sure that the Big Six-O would follow me even to my desk.

My daughter and son-in-law perpetuated the nonsense. They even included our sweet little granddaughter on the card that came with it. I know she's much too innocent to have had any part of it. But I don't hold innocent other family members who failed to exercise veto power.

Anyway, my Big Six-O reminder arrived at an appointed hour at the front desk of this newspaper in the form of a prancing-around birthday cake. A friend who watched the arrival told me later it was like watching a piper as the cake proceeded toward my desk. People just dropped what they were doing and followed.

So there was a goody crowd on hand by the time someone suggested that I end a telephone call because there was someone here to see me.

REALLY, THE next period of time is best forgotten. I'm working on not remembering the squeaky-voiced shenanigans. How long was the girl from the specialty service Eastern Orion there? My daughter wanted to know. Hours, I told her. That's how it seemed.

It ended finally, I think. And a few days later the family roasting was delightful by comparison. All they did for that one was produce skits on how I keep forgetting where I put my purse. People at the office have been asking if I have had my revenge. Not yet, too busy. But let's think about that big Three-O in the not too distant future.

Spirit of Scandinavia runs July 30 to Aug. 1

"The Spirit of Scandinavia," sponsored by the Scandinavian community of metropolitan Detroit, moves its festival from Hart Plaza to Dearborn Ice Area July 30 through Aug. 1. The area is located on Ford Road, east of Greenfield Road.

The festival offers authentic Danish, Finnish, Norwegian and Swedish foods,

beverages, imports, and a variety of handicrafts. There will be continuous craft demonstrations and Scandinavian entertainment.

Festival hours are from 11:30 a.m. to 11 p.m. Friday; from noon to midnight Saturday and from noon to 9 p.m. Sunday.

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