

Grow veggies on the balcony

Your columnist is endeavoring to sell you on the habit of taking at least one walk a day. It is refreshing to vary your walking pattern. After all, you are using this exercise to increase your perception along with building stamina and good health.

Play a personal game and not only observe the plant material, but note if you approve of various landscape designs and catalog them in your mind.

So many people go through life with their eyes focused straight ahead and don't take time to "smell the flowers." By increasing your observations and having them become a part of your knowledge, you will be increasing your experience.

It has become popular for the old and the young to seek apartments for simpler living. Most of these apartments have a balcony or a small area where flowers may be planted.

NEXT-TO-RAILING boxes can be interesting for flower displays or vegetable patches where lettuce, onions, herbs and other small plants can "be king."

If the occupant is going away for a few days, a nylon wick can be secured from a garden supply store. If one end is in a container with water and the other end in the soil, the planter box will benefit by osmosis. I think you might want to use more than one wick. This choice is dependant upon the size of the box.

Fast-growing vines can be grown in flower pots on a balcony. Some ideas for you would be morning glories, nasturtiums, scarlet runner beans, moon flower, cup and saucer vine.

Lighting your balcony at night will give it an entertaining magic. Use low voltage. In some parts of the country the occupants of apartments have a portable greenhouse which they use in the wintertime for cool growing plants. Most gardeners in our area consider wintertime a vacation period from outdoor responsibilities.

MICHIGAN STATE University did some research on the value of electric bug zappers. Their conclusion was that bug killers that use black light to attract insects on an electrified grid to



down to earth

Alice Burlingame

kill them; are most effective when used in a screened porch. If this type of a fastener is applied to a post in the backyard, it can't meet the consumer's expectations.

No gadget can eliminate all the pesky insects and keep them out of a yard. Other insects will fly in to occupy the space. Some advertisers claim bug zappers will control biting insects. Biting insects detect humans or animals by carbon dioxide.

Mosquitoes in search of a blood meal will pass up the light in favor of a warm body. Horse flies and most biting flies are day-flying insects.

Most insects attracted to black light aren't pests, but are night-flying moths, beetles, gnats, mayflies, etc.

The authorities point out that the insecticides available to home owners are generally not very toxic, but very effective for temporary control of mosquitoes and biting insects.

Festival goers exercise in 2-day charity benefit

Men, women and children are invited to start their get-in-shape-for-summer routines during Novi Gala Days and at the same time benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Novi Gala Days, sponsored by Novi Jaycees, are set for Friday and Saturday in downtown Novi.

"Aerobicize for MS" is headed by Lark Samouelian. The exercise sessions will begin every hour on the hour from 5-9 p.m. Friday and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday in Novi High School Commons Building, 10 Mile and Taft roads.

Participants will be asked to donate \$1 for each 40 minute session. Spectators will be asked a \$2 donation for the society.

The event will be cablecast and aired at a later date on Community Access Channel 12.

Aerobics teachers from throughout the metro area's northwest suburbs will be leading the sessions. Among the teachers will be Elaine Powers, and some of her assistants: Samouelian and Pam Clark, both Farmington Hills residents.

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