

# Hints for container gardeners

At the recent Ann Arbor Flower and Garden Show, Golden Wishes Nursery, Pontiac, received the Matthei Botanical Gardens' Horticultural Excellence Award with their display "Dreaming in an English Countryside."

A keyhole pattern flagstone terrace set the tone and led the visitor into this cozy garden. Trees such as Red Jewel crabapple, Autumn Gold ginkgo and river birch were strategically placed and set off by begonia, primrose, grape hyacinth and daffodils, surrounded by various ground covers.

The forms and textures, as well as the color, added to the appeal of the display. Congratulations to Jim Siz-

inski senior designer, and to the staff. Sizinski is a partner in the business.

This nursery has recently instituted a plastics recycling program. Landscape professionals and home owners are urged to remove excess soil from plastic pots, flats and cellophane and deposit them in the dumpster at the back of the nursery so that they can be recycled.

A gypsy moth packet for homeowners is now available from the Cooperative Extension Service, 1200 N. Telegraph, Pontiac, 48053. Included are bulletins: "The Gypsy Moth in Michigan: A Guide for Homeowners and Small Woodlot Owners" and "Gypsy Moth," hand-

and shrubs, after bloom. Deadhead lilacs, rhododendrons and perennials.

**GOOD GARDEN TIP FOR JUNE:** Prune deciduous and evergreen hedges and spring-flowering trees



**down to earth**  
**Marty Figley**

outs "Gypsy Moth Suppression Spray Program," "Problems Solver" and "The Gypsy Moth in Michigan: Tips for Protecting Your Trees." The packet is \$1.50 if picked up in the CES office or \$2 if ordered by mail.

Many readers will find that using containers fits the bill. A growing mix that is light enough to provide good circulation in the soil and heavy enough to support the plants and promote good root development, is necessary. Drainage is also to be considered, as well as the location, sun or shade. Many containers are available in a variety of materials and sizes so choice can be the homeowners as to type, style and portability.

Since plants in pots are contained, nutrients can leach through in short time, therefore a regular feeding program is necessary. Always read the directions on package labels. The same is true if the plants are bothered by pests.

Flower boxes can be used indoors and out. In this regard, I'd like to offer a booklet to you about Flower Box Gardening, which has specific directions and includes lists of plants and herbs that will grow successfully in containers.

It is published by the Novelty Mfg. Co., of Lancaster, Pa. To receive a free copy (valued at \$2), send a stamped, self-addressed business envelope to Marty Figley, 2380 Fairway, Birmingham, 48009.

## Call for entertainers and artists goes out

The call has just gone out across the state for artists and entertainers who are interested in performing during First Night/Birmingham, the city's first New Year's Eve celebration, sponsored by the Cultural Council of Birmingham/Bloomfield.

This eight-hour long, family-oriented celebration will be in the streets, parks and buildings of downtown Birmingham. The Artist/Performers Review Committee, headed by Kathy Walgren, sent out application forms last week to visual artists, musicians, dancers, mime, theater and film performers.

All forms of each of these arts

will be considered including participatory, interdisciplinary, environmental and performance arts, murals, installations, constructions and assemblages. Events and performances appropriate for children, teens, seniors and the general public will be considered. Quality will be judged on resumes of key participants, reviews, slides or tapes and/or auditions. Jurors have been appointed for each category and July 1 is the deadline for responses to the call.

For application forms, call or write First Night/Birmingham, 30400 Telegraph, Suite 375, Birmingham, 48010, 540-6688.

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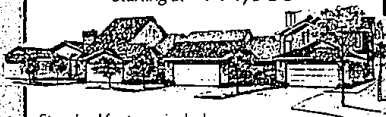


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