

Feature garden presents delights



MARTY FIDLEY

Although some of the ideas did not work well, others did.

First, my attempt at killing the grass by covering it was a learning experience. The wooden boards and the black plastic I used did a good job, but the areas where I used clear plastic just acted like a greenhouse, making the grass beneath grow positively.

In the end I removed this grass-spaced by shovel, turned it upside down on the driveway to dry before knocking off the dirt on the lines of a rake, before composting the no longer wanted grass. Interested neighbors wondered what in the world I was up to.

In-vinea-blo

A year prior to this new project, I had permission to remove a vine minor from an area where office buildings were being constructed, and planted that among the foundation plantings - getting a good case of poison ivy for my efforts.

I wanted to extend the vine into the new area and several friends gave me plants. When I planted it, I cut it back, leaving two sets of leaves; as a result the new growth was full and lush. I am grateful to those friends.

In the center of the bed a brass sundial sits atop a log and is surrounded by beautiful rose-pink hyacinths in the spring, keeping company with a large cement bunny. A path of round stepping stones leads through and around the sundial.

Although this year I have let the

aluminum reveal, and the white blooms are pretty, they have not been encouraged as I am letting the vine fill the complete area.

It's time now to trim the vine to encourage new side growth. Last fall, low garden lights were installed along the walk to guide visitors to the door. When the snow covered them last winter, they glowed through it and it was a lovely sight.

There are many ways to improve our gardens and properties and that is the "fun" of gardening. This year I have begun a "wild" area in the back with a whimsical theme - just for fun and to attract wildlife. Someday I'll share that experience with you.

Needling weeds

All of us are concerned with the chemicals used in our gardens. A new and innovative product that seems to work well is the Water Needle Weeder, made by the ABE Equipment Co.

The device attaches to the end of the hose and tapers down so that the water emits a very strong stream of water to dislodge even the toughest weeds. When you use it

manly water may splash, but it does the trick. This tool is being marketed by Plough and Hort and will be available in time for Christmas giving.

Mix and match

Many of you are putting in water gardens. Water gardens is the theme for TV's "Victory Garden" 1992 contest. If you are putting in a water garden, and you are an amateur, submit a photograph, diagram and list of plants used to The Victory Garden Contest 1992, 125 Western Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02134. Deadline is July 29, 1992.

Have you been watching "Victory Garden"? Some of the programs originate from America's, the huge horticultural and more extravagant in Columbus, Ohio, just four miles from this area. It would be a shame to miss it.

Special notice: My *Billylilious* and *Mus-tan-dilious* mixes are now available at Market Square, Saxon and Southfield roads, Birmingham, and Halls in Eastern Market, Detroit.

Marty Fidley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham.

Craft show slated July 11-12

Warren's 12th annual Art in the Park will take place Saturday-Sunday, July 11-12, in Halchuk Park, on 13 Mile between Ryan and Dequindre.

Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. July 11 and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. July 12. A supervised children's area will be available noon to 3 p.m. both days.

Food, entertainment and hourly drawings for \$20 gift certificates will be featured. Admission is free.

About 90 artists will participate in the juried show of fine arts and crafts. The entries will be judged by Dudley Smart of the Chrysler Design Center and Romeo sculptor John Mary Williams.

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Art class to examine scenic beauty of farm

"Painting at the Farm: An Artists' Workshop," will be presented by the Bloomfield Hills Schools Recreation-Community Services Division as a three-session class 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, July 21 and 28 and Aug. 4.

The sessions will focus on "the farm" as scenic subject. They will take place at the Bowers School Farm on W. Square Lake Road near Adams in Bloomfield Hills. The just-completed Activities Building on the property will house the indoor studio and critique segments of the program.

The cost is \$60. To register, or for more information, call the recreation office at 433-0885.

This instructional class is for both beginning and advanced students. Artists will work in the medium of their choice, such as oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, pencil and pen and ink.

Bloomfield Hills artist Karen Halpern will instruct the class. She will concentrate on selecting a subject, composition pointers, painting tips, color theory and using value effectively. Individual assistance, studio session and group critique will be featured. Her goal is to help students strengthen the creative aspects of their work while honing their technical skills.

Students should bring a picnic lunch so they can take a break from their work to socialize with other artists, exchanging ideas.

"Being surrounded by the beauty of the outdoors, painting as we are, on location, is an inspiration to any artist; you feel the picture, not only see it," Halpern said.

"Painting is accompanied by a sense of place that heightens the awareness, promoting a high-intensity painting experience. The work simply benefits by the immediacy of putting it all down on paper or canvas now."

The Bowers Farm, equipped with land-crope, barn, farm buildings, hay wagon, animals such as horses and sheep, gazelle, windmill and gardens, will offer each artist endless choices of subject, rich in color and full of stylistic possibilities.

Halpern is an award-winning artist with 30 years of experience as a painter and instructor. She was an instructor of art at Indiana State University.

Her works have been in numerous gallery exhibitions, one-person shows, institutional exhibits and museum shows. Her paintings are included in private collections throughout the United States and abroad.

In Michigan, Halpern's work has been exhibited at Temple Israel's invitation show in West Bloomfield, the Troy Gallery in Royal Oak, the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Bloomfield Hills, and the Belian Art Center in Troy. She has served as guest lecturer and juror of shows for art organizations.

Fest displays sought

The Southfield Parks and Recreation Division of Cultural Arts is now accepting applications for display space at the annual Autumnfest, taking place Sunday, Sept. 13, at the Mary Thompson Farm.

Cost is \$25 per booth, which includes a 10-by-10-foot covered space, display tables and chairs.

For applications or more information, call Molly or Carol at 351-9528.

The Mary Thompson Farm is at 2550 Evergreen between 10 Mile and Civic Center Drive in Southfield. One of the first working farms in the city of Southfield, the farm is one of Southfield's most unusual historical sites, featuring gardens and Mary Thompson's refurbished farmhouse.

It comes alive again Sept. 13, as the Autumnfest brings old-time games, crafts, food and music.

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| A Weekly Survey of Detroit Area Lenders | | | | | | | | | |
| TERM | RATES | PTS | DOWN % | LOCK | APR FEE | TERM | RATES | PTS | DOWN % |
| ADVANCE MORTGAGE CORP. 932-8600 | | | | | | MUTUAL FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC. 474-5470 | | | |
| 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
| Call for rates on 15 and 30 year loans. No cash back. | | | | | | Call for rates on 15 and 30 year loans. No cash back. | | | |
| ATLAS MORTGAGE CORP. 1-800-365-2200 | | | | | | OMEGA MORTGAGE CORP. 471-6000 | | | |
| 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| CORNERSTONE MORTGAGE CORP. 442-6505 | | | | | | PACIFIC WORLD MORTGAGE 642-1030 | | | |
| 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% |
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| THE MORTGAGE COMPANY OF MICHIGAN 375-9526 | | | | | | | | | |
| 30 yr | 7.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | | | | |
| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | | | | |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | | | | |
| Call for rates on 15 and 30 year loans. No cash back. | | | | | | | | | |
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| 15 yr | 7.25% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | | | | |
| 1 yr | 6.75% | 2.00 | 5% | 30 day | 0.00 | | | | |
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