

# CREATIVE LIVING

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THURSDAY, JULY 8, 1993

**DOWN TO EARTH**



MARTY FIGLEY

## Hostas have host of reasons for popularity

New cultivars for hostas are being introduced as their popularity keeps growing. If you want to see them at their best, the Michigan Hosta Society Summer Tour will take place 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, July 11. There is no charge. The tour is self-guided and the nine garden locations are widespread. Some are in Bloomfield Hills, Metamora, Clarkston and Madison Heights.

Refreshments and plants will be available at selected gardens. For more information, call Linda Meadows at 394-0478 or Dan Attkisson at 642-4140.

**Variety**

Foliage shades of hostas vary from light yellow-green to deep green, and even a deep blue. Those with variegated foliage light up dark areas of the garden. Sizes run from very large to tiny ones suitable for rock gardens and patio plantings.

Hostas are excellent ground covers. They can hide unsightly views, be grown as specimen plants, soften the edges of a garden and more. Companion plants include ferns, astilbe, hemerocallis and polygonatum.

Flowers are borne on tall stems and are beautiful to some people and downright unattractive to others. They can be cut off without harming the plant. Colors vary from white to shades of pale lilac to purple. There are also some yellow ones.

A shady area in my garden has become a favorite with hostas and astilbes running a ribbon through it, accompanied by Japanese painted ferns, a dark green woodland fern and Purple Palace coral bells. In the spring, daffodils and then tulips put on their show, and as their foliage died down, the emerging foliage of the hostas and other plants effectively hid it.

**Hosta honoree**

I am sorry that I never met Pauline Banyal, dubbed the Michigan Hosta Lady by Betty Frankel. She was a breeder and plantwoman who introduced "Gold Standard" to the hosta world. This hosta grew in the gardens at the Chelsea Flower Show in 1992 and is also planted in the Queen Mother's garden.

New hosta cultivars are registered at the University of Minnesota, and when the balance of her introductions are made, there should be 30 cultivars credited to Banyal, said her sister, Daisy Bachik of Southfield.

For the next 15 years the American Hosta Society will honor her with the Pauline Banyal Award, given to the best "unregistered seedling" or "sport" brought to their recent national convention, Bachik said. She was also awarded the highest honor, the Alex Summers Award, for her great contribution to the hosta world.

Banyal's garden is included in the tour. The plants will then be moved to Delaware when her son runs a hosta nursery.

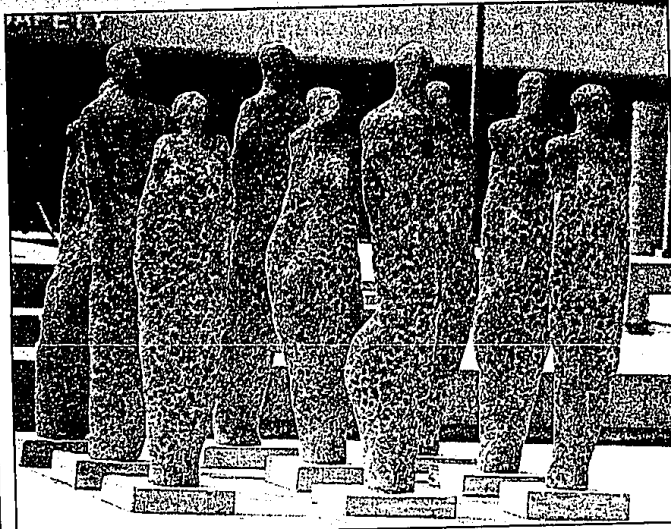
**Treasure trove**

The second edition of "The Hosta Book" by Paul Aden (Timber Press, \$29.94 hard, \$17.95 paper) contains a treasure of hosta information.

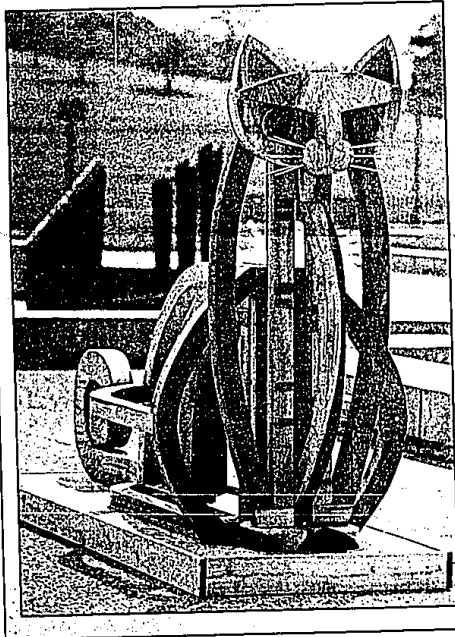
Aden lists desirable plants for landscaping and has gleaned information from other hosta experts for their advice — such as care, control of pests, hostas in Japan and propagation techniques. One chapter illustrates how they can be artfully incorporated in floral arrangements. Timber Press books can be ordered by calling 1-800-327-5660.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing 952-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859.

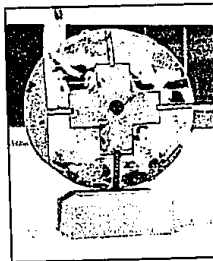
**Artistic environment**



STAFF PHOTOS BY JERRY ZOLNYSKY



On display: Among the works in Michigan Outdoor Sculpture IV at the Southfield Civic Center are "Human Monoliths" by Mark Chatterley (above), "Cat" by Arthur Schneider (left) and "Disc" by Tom Phardel. The exhibit runs through Oct. 15 at the center, on Evergreen between 10 and 11 Mile. A total of 20 Michigan artists have pieces in the show.



## Jeweler makes history

Birmingham jeweler Link Wachler struck gold with his design for the 21st annual International Pearl Design Contest. He became the first American to win first place in the event, called the "Rolls Royce competition of the industry."

By MARY KLEMIG  
STAFF WRITER



The phrase "sticks and stones" has a new meaning, thanks to Birmingham jewelry designer Link Wachler.

"Sticks and Stones" is the name of Wachler's winning design in the 21st annual International Pearl Design Contest in Tokyo. Wachler, vice president of David Wachler and Sons Jewelers in Birmingham, is the first American ever to win first place in the prestigious event. The Troy resident was presented with the award at a special tea at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham June 30.

Devin Macnow, U.S. agent for the IPDC, who came from New York to present the prize, called the contest "the Rolls Royce competition of the industry," attracting "hundreds of designs from around the world."

(Wachler) is the first designer (to win) that did not come from a major manufacturing center," Macnow said. Wachler's design is going on tour, including stops in Japan, Germany, France, New York and California.

When it returns to the Birmingham store in February, he will donate pro-

See PEARL, 6D



JERRY ZOLNYSKY/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pearl prize: Link Wachler, vice president of David Wachler and Sons Jewelers in Birmingham, holds the trophy he received for first place in the International Pearl Design Contest.

## Artist finds inspiration in Guatemala

By LINDA ANN CHOMIN  
SPECIAL WRITER

As Impressionist Paul Gauguin sought stimulation from the primitives of the Polynesian islands in the late 19th century, pastel artist Bruce Migdal seeks inspiration 100 years later from the people and culture of Guatemala.

Migdal has spent the last eight years painting daily life in this land where orchidee grow wild and iguana sells as a delicacy at market. Art lovers as well as those simply intrigued by the Central American country can view his work at the 23rd annual Royal Oak Art Fair 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, July 10-11, in Memorial Park, Woodward and 13 Mile.

Migdal initially visited Guatemala, a place where philodendrons climb trees, as a tourist 12 years ago. The Georgia O'Keefe-size hibiscus eventually lured him to stay and paint the people and land "where the sun shines every day."

"I fell in love with the place. Guatemala's a magical sort of place. As an artist it's so foreign and exotic, there's a fascination with the culture of the people and the land itself," Migdal said.

"I'd spent 1 1/2 years traveling to Europe and North Africa. What at-

See MIGDAL, 6D

## Private gardens to be setting for art class

"Painting in Private Gardens," a Cranbrook Educational Community summer art program, offers high school and adult students the unusual opportunity to draw, paint or watercolor in the private gardens of members of Cranbrook Gardens Auxiliary.

Classes begin Tuesday, July 13, and continue 1-3 p.m. Tuesdays through Aug. 24. The program, offered by the Enrichment at Cranbrook Summer Art Program, costs \$70. For registration information, call 645-3678. To register by mail, send a check payable to Cranbrook Schools to Cranbrook Summer Programs, Box 801, Bloomfield Hills 48303-0801.

Each class session will meet at a different garden. Themes include a rose garden, a lakefront garden and various perennial gardens. A list of locations and information about the class will be sent upon receipt of registration.

Artboat features various happenings in the suburban arts world. Send news leads to: Creative Living, Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham 48009, or fax them by calling 644-1314.

For information and reviews of musical performances, turn to the Entertainment section.

**EXHIBITION**

Recent watercolor paintings by Judy Ross, a cum laude graduate of the University of Michigan School of Art, and owner of Art Directions, a Southfield-based advertising and graphic design business, are exhibited through Aug. 7 at Matrix Gallery, 212 Miller, 1 1/4 blocks west of Main in Ann Arbor. A reception for the artist will take place 6-9 p.m. Friday. Fifty percent of all proceeds from the show will be donated to Interstitial Cystitis Research, Urology Laboratories at

the U-M. For more information, call the gallery at 663-7775.

**ORIENTAL ART**

An Oriental brush painting exhibit continuing through July 29 at the Oakland County Galleria highlights works from three generations of the Liang family. More than 100 paintings by 35 artists feature landscapes, figures, animals and still lifes capturing the true essence of Chinese art. The display also includes traditional calligraphy. The exhibit is part of an established partnership with the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association to enhance the cultural exchange and public awareness of Oriental arts and philosophy. An opening reception 2-5 p.m. Saturday will feature guest speaker Kenneth Gross of the

BBAA and a demonstration. The County Galleria is in the Executive Office Building at 1200 N. Telegraph in Pontiac. Call 859-6416.

**SCULPTURE SHOW**

The Sculptors Guild of Michigan presents a juried summer exhibit at the Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1616 S. Cranbrook Road in Birmingham, July 8-23. This is a benefit show sponsored by the BBAA to help with its building fund drive. Reception to meet the artists 8-8 p.m. tomorrow. Hours are 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

**LATEST EDITIONS**

Printer/publisher Stewart and Stewart, 5571 Wing Lake Road in Bloomfield Hills, announces that six new screenprint editions are available: "Walmea" by Janet Fish; "Stolen Glances" by Lowell Ruess; "Juggler" and "Juggler on Stage" by John Himmelfarb; and "Two Play" by Norman Stewart. Call 626-5248.

## Art Beat