



A pet for holidays? Think before giving

that might be something your family would like to do, call any of your local veterinarians to see if they might know of an animal that needs a loving home. The local vets should have a list of rescue leagues that hold animals until adopted.

If you know of someone who really wants a pet, give him or her a pet gift certificate from the Humane Society. You could wrap the certificate and a stuffed animal together in a gift package. That way he or she could pick the pet they want after the hustle and bustle of the holidays.

Make holidays a safe and fun time for our pets.

Keeping pets safe

This is the time of year we all enjoy the pretty holiday decorations, but how do we keep our pets safe? Here are some items that could be dangerous to your pet: ribbons, hooks, pins, wrapping paper and other decorations can cause choking, internal injuries or digestive problems if swallowed.

Glass and plastic ornaments can be broken or chewed if knocked off the tree and can cause major problems if ingested. On our tree the lower level ornaments are made out of cloth of different kinds. The

cats and Marbles can bat and play with them with no harm to themselves.

Do not put a ribbon or bow around your pet's neck. Your pet may try to eat it or choke trying to remove it.

Chocolate can be lethal

Chocolate - just 4 ounces of chocolate can be fatal to a dog weighing 5 pounds or less. Eight ounces can be fatal for a 10-pound dog. Chocolate should not be left at a level they can get to. Don't forget that dogs may jump to get at the chocolate.

Do not put wrapped food gifts under the tree, your pet will have a great time sniffing them out and then opening and eating them.

Be careful of the holiday plants that could cause illness to your pets. Some of the plants to be careful of include mistletoe, holly, poinsettias, ornamental pepper and Christmas rose. Chemicals used in water to preserve fresh flowers and trees are also poisonous. Chewing or drinking just a little can cause serious injury or death.

Bev Cornell will answer your pet questions through her e-mail address: bristol_dog@men.com

Victorian tea from page B1

not veils, atop the head, and hoop skirts that spanned eight feet in circumference.

"In fall, brides carried leaves or dried flowers as a bouquet," she said. "Fresh flowers were expensive and not available like they are today."

The average Victorian-era bride planned her wedding in three months.

Weddings were often performed in the morning to get to their honeymoon destination or new home in daylight hours.

Polish brides would shave their heads and keep them shorn until the birth of their first son.

Mary Todd wore a white lawn dress and bonnet for her 1840 wedding to Abraham Lincoln. The wedding was planned in only four hours on a June after-

noon and commenced before a mere six guests.

"Mary Todd spent the next three years living in a second-story hotel room with three babies while her husband traveled," Yockey added.

Cost of a dress in the war-torn Civil War-era South jumped from \$1.99 in 1861 to \$196 by 1863 because cloth was no longer available.

"Ladies turned their dresses inside out to get more wear out of them," she added.

Several gowns modeled Wednesday were more generous reproductions of original patterns, which often featured tiny 17-inch waists.

Masses of ruffles, wide bustles, and veils that trailed 20-feet behind the bride were also modeled.

Styles required covered necks

and arms for church services. In some cases, arm and neck coverings were detachable.

"A wealthy woman in Victorian times would wear her wedding gown for every formal occasion in her first year of marriage," Yockey said. "In the second year, she could add pink or blue colors. After the birth of her first child, she could add black and red."

Civil War widows were dressed in black, from the veil that covered their face, to long gloves and gown. Even their undergarments were dyed black, Yockey said. After six months, the grieving widow could lift the black veil off her face in public, but she remained dressed in black for 18 months.



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL SHANLEY

Here comes the bride: Meghan Blake models a wedding dress.



Viewing: Herta Moravcek and Nancy Owen enjoy the old-fashioned fashion show.

Tips for forcing bulbs to flower

These gardening tips on forcing bulbs for early flowering are offered by the Hill and Dale Garden Club of Farmington. The club, a member of the Federated Garden Clubs of Michigan, will meet tonight at 7 p.m. at the Twelve Mile branch library.

Bring the beauty of flowering bulbs into your home from January through April. The trowel and error study group did just that by planting their bulbs and accepting the challenge of success. The forcing of bulbs is a practice carried out by commercial growers the world over. With a little care and effort, anyone can have a steady supply of bulb flowers.

Always use the proper cultivars for the desired flowering periods. This is necessary because all cultivars are not suitable for all flowering periods. A table at the end of this article will show some cultivars which are best suited for forcing.

Give cold treatment

The bulbs must be planted and given a cold treatment with temperatures ranging from 35 to 48 degrees. This cold treatment can be provided in an unheated basement, refrigerator or garage. The bulbs must be rooted and stored for a minimum of 13 weeks. Make sure they don't freeze.

The rooted bulbs should be carried into the house for flowering after the 13-week period. On the average, it takes about three to four weeks for the bulbs to flower. During this time, you will be able to enjoy a growing plant.

The potting soil must be well drained. The purpose of the planting medium is to anchor the bulbs and to serve as a supply of moisture. A good mixture would be one part loamy soil, one part peat and one part sand. Fertilizer should not be added to the mixture.

Use only clean pots with draining holes. If they have been used, scrub them and rinse thoroughly. Plastic pots may be used as long as they have adequate holes. When clay pots are used, soak them overnight so they will not draw moisture from the planting medium.

It is extremely important that all bulbs be handled with care at all times. They are living plants and should not be dropped or subjected to extreme temperatures. After purchasing, make sure the bulbs are kept well ventilated. If possible, store them on open trays. Keep the bulbs in a room with a temperature between 45 and 55 degrees. Bulbs

can be stored for several weeks at these temperatures. Temperatures above 63 degrees should be avoided at all times.

Two month window for planting

Planting can take place anytime from Oct. 1 to Dec. 1, depending on the desired date of flowering, the type of storage used and the prevailing weather. As a general rule, for late flowering, March and April, plant late and for early flowering, January and February, plant early. Remember the minimum length of the total cold treatment should be 13 to 14 weeks.

If the bulbs were held at 45 to 50 degrees prior to planting be sure to count this time in the total weeks of cold given. Thus, if bulbs were pre-cooled for three weeks they only need 10 weeks more after planting.

For flowering in late January, the planting must be done around Oct. 1. For February flowering, the bulbs should be planted in mid-October and for March and April, in mid-November.

Plant the bulbs so that the top of the bulbs will be even with the top of the pot. A six inch pot will hold either six tulips, three hyacinth, six daffodils or 15 crocus. Plant the flat side of the bulb facing the outside of the pot so that the first big leaf of the plant will face outward and an attractive pot will be obtained after flowering.

When covering the bulbs, do not fill the pot entirely. Fill only to one-fourth inch of the top so the plants can be watered easily. Remember to label each pot with the name of the cultivar, the date of planting, and the date to be placed in the home.

After 13 weeks of cold, the potted bulbs can be brought inside to a temperature of about 60 degrees. Longer cold storage will result in taller flowers. If you planted your bulbs Oct. 1, the first plants can be brought in the house right after Christmas. For best results, place them in the direct sunlight.

It is not necessary to fertilize, as the bulbs contain most of the food it needs. Bulbs that have been forced indoors usually do not do too well for outdoor plantings. But it's worth a try, as I've had success with some forced bulbs.

Cultivars recommended for forcing: tulip, hyacinth, daffodil, crocus, muscar and iris. Happy planting!

Waltonwood
Redefining Retirement Living

Experience the pleasure of independent living

Take comfort in this elegant community that offers the ultimate in independent living. Choose from one or two-bedroom luxury apartments with kitchens and patios or balconies. Enjoy our fitness center, hair salon, activities, transportation and more. We offer everything you need to live in style with extras such as prepared meals, housekeeping and laundry. Just minutes away from shopping, dining, golf and other pleasures. Call today for more information about our exciting new community or visit our website at www.waltonwood.com.

Waltonwood at Twelve Oaks
Visit our new center at:
27475 Huron Circle
(248) 735-1500
adjacent to Twelve Oaks Mall

Waltonwood communities offer the finest in independent living and assisted living. Call today for a personal tour:
Rochester Hills (248) 375-2500
3250 Walton Blvd.
Royal Oak (248) 549-6400
3450 W. Thirteen Mile Rd.
Canton (734) 844-3060
2000 N. Canton Center Rd.

ASK ABOUT OUR SUMMER LEASE

The Waltonwood communities in Rochester Hills, Royal Oak and Canton are licensed homes for the aged. See entry fee or deposit required.

Old World Canterbury Village
2349 Judys Ct., Lake Orion, Michigan 48060

HUGE SAVINGS!

Don't miss out on the best prices of the season on:

Light Sets	Wreaths
Floral	Garland
Baskets	Santas
Gifts	Angels
Tree Toppers	And More!

1/2 Off Christmas

*Select merchandise in participating stores. See stores for details.

Canton Center Mall
Open 361 Days A Year
Mon. - Sat.,
10 AM - 9 PM
Sun., 10 AM - 7 PM
*Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas,
New Year's Day and Easter Sunday
(248) 391-5700 or
(800) 442-XMAS
www.cantoncentermall.com

Take I-75 to Exit 461, North.
Locate just 3 miles north of
Canton Center Mall on
Judys Rd.