

At Home

How do their gardens grow? Join the tour and find out

By DIANE GALE ANDREASSI

SPECIAL WRITER

Unexpected treasures and small slices of paradise packed with breathtaking scenery lie in front of, alongside and behind houses on three area garden walks.

East on Seven Mile Road and south of Inkster Road, there's a home on Indian Street that will be displayed during the Redford Garden Walk that will absolutely stun participants.

Redford's best

The home's 1.75 acres includes sloping hills overlooking a bubbling creek, raised beds, shade gardens, full-sun beds, a vegetable and herb garden, berry trees and a splash of perennial flowers. The hostas and ferns are stunning.

The owners' bat house on a tall tree near the creek attracts the nocturnal mammals. On the other end of the yard, near the house, two pet bunnies sit in a penned-in area.

The modest neighborhood belies a hidden glorious retreat that includes a patio with a wooden awning overlooking water in a cozy setting that



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY

Garden beauty: Zenobius Stelmach of Livonia sits near a garden in front of his home. The front yard showcases colorful flower beds that have been carefully planted for more than three decades.

Garden walks

■ Redford - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 10. Tickets \$4 in advance, \$5 day of walk, available at Redford Township Hall, 15145 Beech Daly (south of Five Mile Road); the Redford Community Center, 12121 Hemingway; Seven Mile Garden Center, 26348 West Seven Mile Road, and the Flower Station, 25801 Plymouth. For information, call Janet W. Warren at 248-259-1111.

■ Livonia - 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, June 23. Tickets \$9 in advance, \$10 day of walk, available at Greenmead, 20501 Newburgh (south of Eight Mile Road); Livonia public libraries, and the Department of Community Resources, fifth floor of Livonia City Hall, 33000 Civic Center Dr. (south of Five Mile and Farmington roads). Proceeds benefit Friends of the Developmental Center.

■ Plymouth - "Flowers are Forever" Garden Walk, sponsored by the Trailwood Garden Club, noon to 8 p.m., Tuesday, June 26, rain or shine. Tickets \$6 in advance, \$7 day of walk, available at Saxon's Garden Center, 587 W. Any Arbor Trail, Beech Daly, 827 S. Main; Plymouth Community Art Center, 774-1130; Shindell, and from George Randtini, president of the Trailwood Garden Club, cell (734) 459-7145. No strollers, please.

■ Canton - "Petals and Paths," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, July 14. Tickets \$8 in advance, \$7 day of walk, available after June 24, from Keller and Stein, 42158 Michigan Ave.; Green Valley Garden Center, 26348 Green Valley Dr. W. Ann Arbor Road; Mary's Farm Market, 47453 Farm Road. For information, call Judy Bloomquist, (734) 455-8283. No strollers, please.

■ Garden City - Walk hosted by the Garden City Garden Club, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 21. Tickets available after June 24, at 5201 Redford Center, 33000 Middlebelt; Rocky's Flower & Gift Shop, 32047 Ford Road, and Barron's Greenhouse, 6414 Merriman, Westland.



STAFF PHOTO BY TOM HAWLEY
Awesome: A hidden retreat awaits visitors to the Kathy LeClair home of Kathy LeClair and Christina Gassner. The 1.75 acre setting includes sloping hills that overlook a creek, raised beds, shade gardens, full-sun beds, a vegetable and herb garden, berry trees and a splash of perennial flowers.



MARTY FIGLEY

Propagating tips

Want to increase your stock of plants? Here's a book and many others to help you garden.

Garden Spot, Page 3



JOE GAONON

Costly efficiency

New government guidelines aim at efficiency, but new washers will probably cost a lot more money, says the Appliance Doctor.

See Home Work, Page 4

C1
Sunday Life Inside
Thursday, June 7, 2001



(4)



HOMETOWN LIFE:
Schools out:

Check out what to do with the kids in *HomeTown Life*.

HomeTown Life, Page 7

homeTownnewspapers.net *Ken Abramczyk, Editor, 734-953-2112* *cabramczyk@oe.homecomm.net*