

Garden combines vegetables, herbs, flowers

While measuring sunflowers for our contest last fall, I met Ed Orzel of Westland who has proof positive that you can grow flowers, vegetables and herbs together with great results.

As I walked to the front door I noticed green beans growing along the edge of the sidewalk adjacent to the garage, right along with marigolds, so...

GARDEN SPOT



MARTY FIGLEY

thought, this is something to look into! All around the house, with the exception of traditional landscape plants in the front, Ed grows flowers such as bright yellow and orange marigolds, plush pink petunias, a mum plant, and extraordinary daylilies with three to four times more petals than regular daylilies. Marigolds and petunias edge the gardens.

Two roses also have their spot as well as a history. Although the Orzels have only lived in their present house for four years, they have had the roses for 45 years and have moved them from previous homes three times. They were a Mother's Day present for Ed's wife, Marie. Nothing special is done to the roses except they are mulched with leaves and grass clippings in the fall. The mulch is removed in the spring.

Incredible edibles

Herbs that grow here include sorrel. Ed keeps it cut down so that it doesn't go to seed. It provides the main ingredient for sorrel soup each spring. Dill is grown to "keep bugs away," Ed says. He also grows mint, which is kept in a pot and sunk in the ground. Ed keeps it tidy by shearing it.

Large beefsteak tomatoes and others, and small grape and cherry tomatoes fill up some of the garden space. His grandsons and a dog invaded the little tomatoes, which at one time were so prolific and sent up so many seedlings they had to be dug out and thrown away.

Two varieties of cucumbers are enjoyed by all, and the large leaves of rhubarb add another texture and color to the garden as

well as provide good eating.

When preparing the sandy soil for the gardens, Ed first dug out the topsoil and added bags of humus before planting.

In the fall when tomatoes drop or rot, Ed leaves them where they land and in the spring the ground is turned. New tomato plants come up voluntarily.

Seeds of marigolds and other flowers are harvested in the fall and planted in the spring. As they begin to appear, they are weeded out so that the flowers will have plenty of room to grow.

No chemicals are used in the Orzel garden, and everything is healthy and inviting.

When you're planning this year's garden, think about adding vegetables and herbs to your flower beds, or flowers to your herb or vegetable garden. Following the Orzel example, you can have beauty as well as a "fix" for the tummy.

Guest speakers

Goldner Walsh Nursery Inc., 559 Orchard Lake Road in Pontiac, will transform one of its greenhouses into a French flower market that will set the stage for two outstanding speakers Friday-Saturday, April 26-27. You won't want to miss either one of them, so make your reservations promptly!

Carolyn Roehm will present From Fashion to Flowers at noon Friday, April 26. The cost is \$24.

Roehm has been viewed as one of this country's trendsetters in fashion, elegance, and now in flower design and entertaining. She felt the world of flowers would allow her to reach a wider audience than fashion allowed, so she switched her focus, and it has been a very successful career move. She is in great demand and this will be her first appearance in the area.

Roehm is also an accomplished author and will autograph her books at this event. Her latest book, *At Home with Carolyn Roehm*, is filled with tips on entertaining for many occasions.

Tovah Martin, garden editor for *Victoria* magazine and columnist for several publications, will present *Passing It Along* 2 p.m. Saturday, April 27. The cost is \$12.

Martin worked for many years, and was begonia manager at Logee's Greenhouse. She has also worked for White Flower Farm.



MARTY FIGLEY

Good combination: Vegetables, flowers and herbs grow in harmony at the Orzel home.

Martin is an avid indoor and outdoor gardener, professional photographer and greenhouse consultant, and has received many awards for her work.

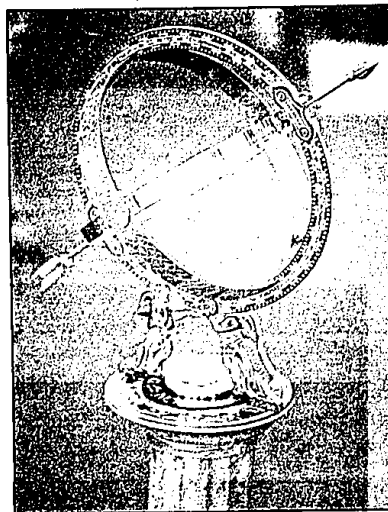
A prolific writer, she has authored many books. The most recent is *A Time to Blossom: Mothers, Daughters and Flowers*. Martin, too, will autograph her books.

Both programs will include a slide presentation and flower arranging demonstrations. Books will be available for purchase.

For information and/or to register, call Goldner Walsh at (248) 332-6430, Ext. 235.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (734) 953-2047 on a touch-tone phone. Her fax number is (248) 644-1314.

Marketplace



Adorning the garden: This Greenwich armillary on a short Grecian stand is a classic garden accessory. It's hand-finished with beautifully detailed castings and shows off a dramatic contrast of bronze, brass, copper and verdigris aluminum. Smithsonian Institute Quality, \$450, available at Backyard Birds of Plymouth, 627 Main Street, (734) 416-5213. Marketplace spotlights items available at retail stores in the Observer & Eccentric coverage areas. To submit an item for consideration for this feature, send a photo of it to "Marketplace," 805 East Maple Road, Birmingham 48009. Please include a contact phone number.

Classes at gardening school range from weeds to seeds

There is still time to register for April classes at the Michigan School of Gardening. Classes are held in Detroit, Livonia, and Pontiac.

Class locations are:
Livonia: 29429 Six Mile Road, just west of Middlebelt Road on the south side of Six Mile, across from Jimmy's Rustics in the Milo Shopping Plaza (248-4-GARDEN)

Detroit: The Historic Detroit Garden Center (Moros House), 1400 E. Jefferson Avenue, 1/2 mile east of the Renaissance Center (across from the Greening of Detroit park)

Pontiac: Goldner Walsh Nursery, 559 Orchard Lake Road, just south of M-59, north of Square Lake Road and east of Telegraph Road. To register for classes, complete a

registration form and mail it in along with a check for the registration fee. Download a registration form and a copy of the class schedule at www.michigangardening.com, or call 248-4-GARDEN (442-7336) for a class schedule and registration form.

Upcoming classes and descriptions are:

WEEDS: To Know Them is to Beat Them

How to know and eliminate the most troublesome weed species in the garden. Learn to identify and exploit the weaknesses of each new weed.

Pre-requisite: None
Registration fee: \$39.50
Pontiac, 6:30-9:30 p.m. April 16

INS AND OUTS OF PLANTS

Instructor Janet Macunovich

How plants grow -- why they respond as they do to pruning, fertilizer, growth hormones, flooding, drought and other environmental factors. Basics of plant propagation -- growing from seed, cutting and division. How gardeners can use basic botany to solve both common

and unusual problems. What gardeners need to make best use of reference books and catalogs -- plant anatomy, plant names, and basic plant identification.

Pre-requisite: None
Registration fee: \$92.50
Livonia, mornings 9 Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. 4/16, 4/23, 4/30
Livonia, 3 Tuesdays, 6:30-9:30 p.m. 4/16, 4/23, 4/30

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