



THE MICHIGAN NEWS

WOMAN'S NATIONAL FARM AND GARDEN ASSOCIATION, INC.

Volume 77, Issue 3 – ONLINE ONLY

Summer 2020

Happy Summer Solstice!

According to various dictionaries and Wikipedia, the word solstice traveled through Old French to Middle English, although the word's origin is Latin. *Sol* (sun) + *sistere* (to stand still) = *solstitium*, whose literal meaning is the (apparent) "standing still of the sun." On both annual solstices, the Sun - when viewed from the Earth - **appears** to pause and stand still at a northern or southern limit before reversing direction.

From dictionary.com: Solstice happens twice per year when the sun is at its greatest distance from the celestial equator.

On the first day of summer, the solstice occurs on or about June 21, when the Sun reaches its **northernmost point** on the celestial sphere. On the first day of winter, the solstice occurs on or about December 21, when the Sun reaches its **southernmost point** on the celestial sphere.

Many cultures have summer and winter solstice traditions. You may be familiar with summer solstice gatherings at England's Stonehenge. From HOUSE BEAUTIFUL magazine online:

"Every year, thousands of visitors flock to Wiltshire, England, and camp out overnight for Stonehenge's annual summer solstice event — which celebrates the official start of summer. However, this year's summer solstice, slated to begin at sunset on June 20, 2020, and conclude a little bit after sunrise on June 21, 2020, has been canceled... While this news might come as a disappointment to many, Stonehenge isn't letting the longest day of the year go unnoticed. For the first time ever, Stonehenge will be live-streaming its entire event." (Watch on Facebook.) - photo by Niklas Halle'n / Getty Images



Lonely Bouquets Brighten Days for Recipients



If you attended the 2019 Fall Council Meeting hosted by the Country Garden Club of Northville, you may remember their efforts to encourage other branches to embrace "The Lonely Bouquet" project.

Marcia Mandell, 1st VP of Michigan Division and president of CGC of Northville sends the following inspirational update:

Three Replies to Country Garden Club of Northville from Lonely Bouquet Recipients

Dear Gardeners,

Thank you so much for my beautiful bouquet of flowers. My cousin was at the Northville Post Office last Saturday and picked out one for me and dropped it off. It has brightened my living room and my spirits for six days now and is still healthy. The Gerber daisies are just the right color ... and the surprise was so appreciated. A wonderful and kind way of showing God's love and beauty. Blessings and be well. Jill



Dear Country Garden Club of Northville,

I was mailing two letters in the lobby of the Plymouth PO on Beck Road when I saw the flowers on the

..... continued on page 8

Michigan Division of the Woman's National Farm & Garden Association For Your Information

Executive Committee 2019 – 2021

President	Sheila Kneeshaw (Indian Village Branch) 313-821-7480 2474 Iroquois, Detroit 48214	kshaw2474@yahoo.com
First Vice President	Marcia Mandell (Country G.C. Northville) 248-478-3391 18894 Milburn Street, Livonia 48152	mjmandell2012@gmail.com
Second Vice President	Jo Sillanpaa (Country G.C. Northville) 248-513-6416 16625 Winchester Drive, Northville 48168	jcsillanpaa@gmail.com
Division Treasurer	Patricia Brown (Warren Branch) 586-268-0975 31616 Lexington Street, Warren 48092	patb501946@comcast.net
Charitable Treasurer	Lenore Treba (Troy Garden Club) 248-362-3738 859 Portsmouth Drive, Troy 48084	leetreba@att.net
Secretary	Vicki Guntenaar (Troy Garden Club) 303-807-4364 19425 Georgia Street, Roseville 48066	vguntenaar56@gmail.com
Representative to National Council	Cheryl Malin (Pontiac Branch) 248-421-6093 707 McDougal, Waterford 48327	cmalin09@gmail.com
Representative to National Council	Charlotte D. Westbrook (Rochester Br.) 586-781-3242 5563 Meadow Lane, Shelby Township 48316	cdwestbrook@comcast.net

Visit Michigan Division & the WNF&GA (national) organization online:

Michigan Division www.michdivwnfnga.weebly.com	WNF&GA(national) www.wnfga.org
Member Area NEW password: skneeshaw2021	Member Area Password: Farm100garden

Mary Schwark – newsletter editor
schwark@aol.com

What's Happening & When?

August 1 - 15, 2020	Submit info & photos for fall newsletter.
Not scheduled	Fall Council Meeting

Help us help you!

It's been nearly two years since Michigan Division began its serious effort to reduce the number of printed newsletters and increase the number of those members who read their newsletters online.

Please continue to help Michigan Division save resources and costs. Receive your newsletters electronically. If needed, you can easily access and print your own copy from MI DIV's website. (See access information above.) **YOU CAN VIEW ALL PHOTOS IN COLOR** when you read publications online or print your own.

Questions?

Contact Cheryl Malin:



VERY IMPORTANT

**Don't keep us in the DARK !
We won't know unless you tell us:**

**Please report all branch roster
CHANGES: member additions,
subtractions, changes of address,
phone numbers and email addresses.
Be sure to tell Registrar Cheryl Malin
that you want to access the newsletter
via the MI DIV website!**

**Cheryl Malin, MI DIV registrar
707 McDougal, Waterford, MI 48327
248-421-6093 cmalin09@gmail.com**

From your Michigan Division president ...

In my attempt to educate children about growing their own food, I have been passing out ***Grow and Learn*** seed pods to families with children in my neighborhood. It has been a very rewarding activity, and I can't wait to see the children's produce this summer.

NOW This is something to make you laugh. One of the biggest, or craziest, decisions that I have made in recent months is ... I CUT MY HAIR OFF to see how much gray hair I had, and I did it with a pair of scissors. Therefore, the cut was very blunt and my hair eventually stood up on my head like a crew cut. After the haircut, I was not happy with how my gray had mixed in with the black hair. There is more of a black patch going down the center of my head with gray on the sides. My thoughts were to have all white or silver hair and get a really pretty hairstyle. Now, it is so short that I cannot curl it.

As I stood holding my hair in my hands and looking in the mirror – wondering how to put it back on my head – I finally realized that I was not a barber or a hairstylist, and I came to the conclusion that I did not know what I was doing. The beauty salons and barber shops were closed and I couldn't even buy a wig! As the comedian Flip Wilson used to say, "The Devil Made Me Do It." I have no idea how I will make lemonade out of this lemon!

Until we see each other again, please enjoy the summer. - **Sheila Kneeshaw**

Editor's note: At the WNF&GA National Meeting via webinar on June 6, Sheila's hair looked very cute!



The following article by Paula Pasche was published in the OAKLAND PRESS, on Monday, April 6, 2020:

Keego Harbor florist lifts spirits, spreads hope

In these gloomy and uncertain days, flowers can lift the spirits if even for a few moments.

In the chain-link fence surrounding Roosevelt Elementary School in Keego Harbor, a floral message spells out the word "HOPE" in fresh-cut hydrangeas with a red heart of roses next to it.

In fact, fresh-cut flowers have been appearing around the neighborhoods in Sylvan Lake and Keego Harbor this week.

Meet official flower bomber, Erin Schoneman. She owns Sage Green Floral & Events in Keego Harbor, which has been open about six months.

"When I opened the shop I've always liked to cheer people up; that's always been my thing. I like to give gifts, I'm like a happiness ambassador. That was my goal with

the shop," Schoneman said. "With everything going on ... I'm going to use my platform that I started with to make people happy."

The flower warehouse she uses called and told her they had flowers they were going to have to throw away because nothing is open and weddings and social events are canceled.

"I said, 'Absolutely I'll take them. I can cheer people up with them,'" Schoneman said.

She and Angie Kempt, a part-time worker at her store who has been laid off, brainstormed about locations.

They decided on "HOPE" flower bomb so the Keego Harbor police could see it right across from their station.

"They're out there still dealing with the public, and they are putting

themselves at risk," Schoneman said.

She also placed one arrangement at Gino's restaurant in Keego Harbor.

"They're so involved in the community and people are doing take-out orders from there," Schoneman said.

She left several bouquets on a bench at Veterans Park in Sylvan Lake and another arrangement near the lake where walkers could see it.

While there are no signs or indications where the flowers originated, word got out.

"Everyone loves it. I've received messages of like 'Happy tears, thank you; this is so nice.' ... It's a little selfish of me because it uplifts me to see people uplifted."

..... continued on page 8, column 1



Daffodils4Detroit 2020 – Honor Roll

Below are the names of individuals, organizations and businesses who made generous donations to Daffodil Day for the purchase and planting of daffodil bulbs in the autumn of 2020. Some of the donations were made in advance of the event's cancellation. Many monetary gifts, however, resulted from the conversion of registration fees to donations. Thank you, all, for your extraordinary generosity!

<i>Sharon Adams</i>	<i>Theresa Davis</i>	<i>Dawn Johnson</i>
<i>Mary Lynn Baker-Hunter</i>	<i>Detroit Grand Prix</i>	<i>Sarah Karpinen</i>
<i>David Ballew</i>	<i>Ellen Devine</i>	<i>Sandra Kiernan-Baber</i>
<i>Margaret Bancroft</i>	<i>Elaine Dividock</i>	<i>Deborah Kitson</i>
<i>Billie Barton</i>	<i>Janice Ellison</i>	<i>Kathy Krasity</i>
<i>Cynthia Bauman</i>	<i>Judy Elsworth</i>	<i>Donna Kus</i>
<i>Brenda Birchman</i>	<i>Linda Fisher</i>	<i>Paula Labadie</i>
<i>Karen Blakeslee</i>	<i>Judith Flanz</i>	<i>Loretta Lang</i>
<i>Jeanne Bolcer</i>	<i>Linda Forrester</i>	<i>Luann Leahy</i>
<i>Doris Breniser</i>	<i>Julie Ann Foust</i>	<i>Georgeanne Leduc</i>
<i>Kristen Bros</i>	<i>Franklin Garden Club</i>	<i>Alice Lezotte</i>
<i>Patricia Brown</i>	<i>Erin Gianopoulos</i>	<i>Lillian Maley</i>
<i>Kathleen Bruggeman</i>	<i>Francis Grunow</i>	<i>Cheryl Malin</i>
<i>Kathy Brunner</i>	<i>Pat Guibord</i>	<i>Krista Malinczak</i>
<i>Richard Burkholder</i>	<i>Vicki Guntenaar</i>	<i>Kathleen Martin</i>
<i>Mary Bury</i>	<i>Diane Harris</i>	<i>Kimberley McBean</i>
<i>Karen Butler</i>	<i>Ann Hause</i>	<i>Joan McClelland</i>
<i>Nancy Cardon</i>	<i>Herb Society of America</i>	<i>Anne Miller</i>
<i>Karol Carter</i>	<i>Mary Higgins</i>	<i>Moonglow Garden Club</i>
<i>Arlene Cobau</i>	<i>Laura Huebner</i>	<i>Josephine Moskala</i>
<i>Dolores Coley</i>	<i>Mildred Hurley</i>	<i>Carolyn Nantroup</i>
<i>Kathryn Conner</i>	<i>Jeanne Hutko</i>	<i>Ann V. Nicholson</i>
<i>Heidi Cook</i>	<i>Beverly Hydo</i>	<i>Lambro Niforos</i>
<i>Judy Cornellier</i>	<i>Cynthia Idyle</i>	<i>Paula O'Brien</i>

Daffodils4Detroit 2020 – Honor Roll

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<i>Cecily O'Connor, in memory of James P. O'Connor, Jr.</i>	<i>Mary Schwark</i>	<i>Lenore Treba</i>
	<i>Claudia Scioly</i>	<i>Troy Garden Club</i>
<i>Sarah Ollison</i>	<i>Aislinn Scofield</i>	<i>Margy Truza</i>
<i>Carolyn Packard</i>	<i>Nancy Sergeant</i>	<i>Joanie Ugelow</i>
<i>Margot Parker</i>	<i>Bernadine Sherwood</i>	<i>Sue Vette</i>
<i>Cathryn Pennebaker</i>	<i>Susan Sonntag</i>	<i>Dennis Viellieu</i>
<i>Janet Peceny</i>	<i>Kathy Sprader</i>	<i>Sue Welcome</i>
<i>PGA Landscaping</i>	<i>Nancy Sutherland</i>	<i>Marilyn Wheaton</i>
<i>Roberta Polk</i>	<i>Candy Sweeney</i>	<i>Carol Whitehead</i>
<i>Georgia Randinitis</i>	<i>Stella Thelen</i>	<i>Bethine S. Whitney</i>
<i>Kathleen Rice</i>	<i>Patricia Thull O'Brien</i>	<i>Katie Wiese</i>
<i>Rochester Garden Club</i>	<i>Barbara Tobaben</i>	<i>Sally Wright</i>
<i>Romeo & Juliet Garden Club</i>	<i>Tricia Tompson</i>	<i>Cynthia Young</i>

Daffodils4Communities

Michigan Division's board of directors urges branches to establish daffodil projects in their own communities.



In this newsletter's Branch News section, those garden clubs which have created community daffodil projects will continue to be recognized with daffodil icons next to their names. (See icon example above.)

All branches' efforts in their own locations complement Daffodils4Detroit.

Congratulations to members of the Saginaw Branch! They are now planning and preparing their own planting project: Daffodils4Saginaw!

2020 National WNF&GA Meeting Held on June 6 in Webinarville !

Yes, that's correct: Webinarville, not Louisville. Your newly elected 2020-2022 national officers are:

Christine Partch, New York – Corresponding Secretary

Phyllis Macke, Ohio – Recording Secretary

Suzanne Smith-Oscilowski, Pennsylvania – E & C Treasurer

Mary Lynne Moellering, Rochester Branch, Michigan
– A & O Treasurer

Patty Burnside, Saginaw Branch, Michigan – Vice President

Mary Schwark, Troy G.C. Branch, Michigan – President

Michigan Division News Briefs ...

Members-at-Large

For Michigan residents who are already members-at-large of the national WNF&GA, a change occurred three years ago. In the past, Michigan Division members-at-large of the WNF&GA automatically received MI DIV newsletters, notices of opportunities and other information.

In June 2017, the MI DIV board of directors added a membership category: **Michigan Division members-at-large**. The annual fee of \$6 must be paid separately to Michigan Division, in addition to the WNF&GA national member-at-large fee of \$15. To receive future MI DIV publications and information, current WNF&GA national members-at-large in Michigan should remit their \$6 state member-at-large checks yearly by December 1.

How to Become a Michigan Division Member-at-Large (MAL): (1) Be or become a WNF&GA member-at-large. (2) Send your name, full mailing address, email address and phone number(s), plus a check for \$6 payable to Michigan Division WNF&GA. Mail to Patricia Brown (mailing address on page 2.) **A MAL application is available on the MI DIV website.**



Branch Recognitions

Congratulations to the branches who applied for and received special recognitions by Michigan Division for their four exceptional projects. Although the 2020 Spring Council Meeting was cancelled, the recognition certificates will be presented in person when meetings resume.

The Rochester Garden Club Branch
Beautiful Tables; Beautiful Gardens
Submitted by Pat Hambleton,
Van Hoosen & Program Chairperson



Troy Garden Club
*Gardening at the Troy Historic Village
& the Troy Public Library*
Submitted by JoAnn Preston,
Community Outreach Chairperson

Troy Garden Club
Horticultural Therapy
Submitted by JoAnn Preston,
Community Outreach Chairperson

Warren Garden Club Branch
Plant-a-Seed – Warren Spring Carnival
Submitted by Paula O'Brien,
Warren Garden Club President

Tributes – Michigan Division announces the following tributes to longtime members whose branches wish to recognize them. Certificates will be presented to them in person when meetings resume.

Clarkston Farm & Garden Club Branch
Marian Emery – 30 years
Sue Lawyer – 25 years
Barbra Trueman – 30 years

Rochester Branch
Jill Greimel – 55 years
Joan Gunning – 35 years
Camilla Haertle – 40 years
Lee Peters – 30 years
Cricket Poland (100 YO) – 55 years
Cynthia Schwabel – 25 years
Rebecca Summerhays – 45 years

Romeo & Juliet
Wanda Rybak – 35 years

Country Garden Club of Northville
Kathryn Novak – 25 years



Troy Garden Club
Linda Chambers – 25 years
Mary Hrynik – 25 years
Irene Koziel – 45 years

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: The Troy Garden Club invites all Michigan Division members and guests to attend and participate after months of required hibernation and a long, hot summer.
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

THE TROY GARDEN CLUB INVITES YOU TO
the first Doris Schuchter Symposium:
to begin the organization's 50th year – October 6, 2020

** symposium – a conference or meeting to discuss a particular subject; a convivial discussion after a banquet*

2020 VISION

AN EXHIBIT OF INFORMAL FLORAL DESIGNS
PLUS
A FLORAL CELEBRATION & CONVERSATION
WITH THREE MICHIGAN HORTICULTURE ROCK STARS

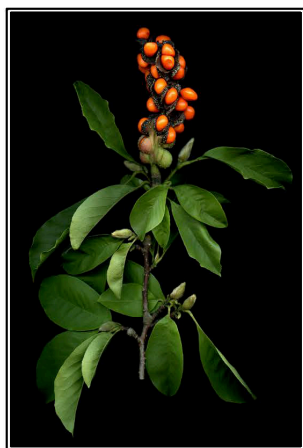
*Julia
Hofley*

*George
Papadelis*

*Laurie
Tennent*

MSU Management Education Center
811 W. Square Lake Road, Troy, MI 48098

*Sponsored in part by memorial contributions in honor of
philanthropist, friend & longtime Troy Garden Club member
Doris Schuchter, RN.
Doris loved flowers, gardens & accomplishing good things!*



**OPEN
TO THE
PUBLIC**

*Northern
Japanese Magnolia
Seed Pod,
2018
The Morton
Arboretum*

Image used with
the permission of
Laurie Tennent,
photographer.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Check-in & Informal Floral Exhibit Set-up: 9 – 10 am
NOTE: Set-up must be completed by 10 am.
- Brunch Buffet Banquet & Floral Exhibit: 10–11:15 am
- A Convivial Discussion: 11:15 am–12:45 pm
Includes a moderated Q & A with Julia Hofley, George Papadelis & Laurie Tennent.

Questions? Email: schwark@aol.com

FLORAL DESIGN GUIDELINES

1. Any registered symposium participant may also exhibit an informal floral arrangement. (separate exhibition registration NOT required)
2. Use any appropriate container & any combination of live plant materials.
3. All arrangements must arrive fully assembled.
4. Size is limited to an arrangement which can be carried in by one person. Each arrangement will be given a number. Designers' names will not be displayed.
4. The designer whose floral arrangement is awarded "Best of Show" will be honored with a \$100.00 contribution to the charity of his or her choice.
5. Remove arrangements between 12:45 & 1:00 pm.

Register: \$35 thru September 22, 2020; \$40 September 23 thru 29, 2020. Will you exhibit a floral arrangement? YES NO

Name (required) _____ MI DIV Branch (please) _____ OR guest _____

Street address, city, zip (required) _____ Best phone # (required) _____

Email address (please) _____ Enclosed is a check for \$ _____ for # _____ registration(s).

Make check payable to: Troy Garden Club. Mail to: Beverly Hydo, 1415 Wrenwood Dr., Troy, MI 48084

Florist..... continued from page 3

She seems so cheerful, but this hasn't been easy since she has a business to run with rent and bills to pay.

"I had a dark week kind of before I started the flower bombings. I needed to uplift myself," Schoneman said. "I've had all of my spring weddings postponed or canceled. I do a lot of wedding industry stuff."

She put out feelers on her Facebook page and some people are ordering porch drop-offs.

"I've had a few orders. If that continues to work out I'll continue to do that especially with Easter coming up. It's so sad people can't be with their families," Schoneman said.

She's not done flower bombing. More flowers are expected to arrive this week.

MI DIV editor's note: Not only an interesting idea – somewhat akin to the Lonely Bouquet project – but also a perfect example of how to make lemonade.

Michigan Division Speakers Bureau

Each year, branches search for program speakers. Are you and your branch looking for speakers for this fall or for 2021?

Please view the Speakers Bureau list on Michigan Division's website. See page 2 of this newsletter for details about website access. After signing on to the website, go to **Members Area** and then to **Resources** at the lower right side. There you will find the topic, **Speakers Bureau**, as well as contact information.

Speakers are added to the list periodically. I hope you will find interesting presenters and topics for your branch meetings.

Please email me to recommend good speakers. I will contact them and ask if we may share their information with our branches.

- Joette Kunse, Speakers Bureau Chairperson
jkhorses@comcast.net



Bouquets continued from page 1

table. The message was wonderful and touching! The flowers were given a new home at Chestwick Ct., Plymouth, MI. They so brighten my and my wife's days. Thank you for this selfless, thoughtful gift; we will pass the thoughts forward! Peace and safety to you all.

Jim & Janice



Sent from my iPad

I just returned home a little while ago from the Plymouth Post Office on Clipper Street. I saw a woman going in before me with a box of flowers. I thought – oh, how nice; they are giving them to the postal workers. As she came out, I told her what a lovely thing she was doing for the workers and she told me they were for everyone and to please take one to help brighten my day.

What an absolutely lovely thing to do! I just had to tell you that your organization has definitely brightened my day! I was mailing a package to my 5 year-old granddaughter in Colorado. My daughter who lives out there recently had a baby. I had my airline [ticket] purchased so was excited to go ... and meet my new grandson and help my daughter. But with the [current] situation, we all decided it would not be wise or safe for any of us for me to go there. It breaks my heart that I can't be there to hold my grandson in my arms and, worse still, I don't know when I will be able to see him. It could be 4-5 months before that happens. ...

I love fresh flowers and have had tulips in my house almost every week since February. However, with the [current] scare, I go as little as possible to the grocery store and have not had any fresh flowers. Sounds like a little thing but flowers bring me such joy, especially on a cold cloudy day. Living alone and having to deal with not being able to see my Colorado family has had me down. But today, the kindness and generosity of your members has truly made me smile.

Sorry for the long-winded note, but I just had to let you know how you've touched my heart.

God bless you and your organization, and please stay safe.
Elaine

Additional note from Marcia Mandell: I encourage other branches to try this worldwide activity in their communities and see what happens. Our branch was inspired to try it by the Clarkston Branch, which has been doing this for some time. Thank you, Clarkston Branch. It's been a very rewarding experience.

Branch News

Bloomfield Hills Garden Club Branch



We are pleased to announce that 12 new members have joined our branch this past year. We encouraged current members to reach out to family and friends and, in turn, encourage those interested to get involved and join our branch. We are thrilled with our energetic and dynamic class of new members.

We hosted a mini initiation for all the new members last fall, for them to meet one another and for us to welcome them to our branch. At that time, they were given an opportunity to share information about themselves, and a brief presentation of our 90-year history was shared with them. They were gifted with WNF&GA pins, and we know that each one of them will wear her pin proudly at our future meetings.

- submitted by Julie Beals, president



Left – L-R: Karen Caserio, membership chairperson; new members Sara Marshall & Ann Kraus



Right – L-R: new member Kathy Martin; Julie Beals, president; new member Pamela Gerber

Clarkston Farm & Garden Club Branch

While we all realize that the world has changed on a dime, we're finding ways to go forward and help however we can. The Clarkston Farm & Garden Club provides scholarships each year to students who reside in the Clarkston Community School district. The deadline for students to submit scholarship applications was March 16. Oh, but school closed on Friday, March 13. Well, we still received 21 applications.

Each member of the scholarship committee reads the applications, after which members meet under the leadership of Sue Lawyer to decide which students will be awarded scholarships and how much each recipient will receive. Having a meeting wasn't an option, so we all learned how to Zoom. We had a pre-meeting to discuss the applications and information, and then we had a Zoom decision meeting.

Who knew on March 1 what Zoom was, and who would have thought that we'd be Zooming in April and May? Now we are having our executive board meetings on Zoom and, in June, we'll have our club meeting on Zoom. Life changes, and we are a little stunned how things are happening, but everyone should be proud of being able to meet the challenge. Some of our members are having Happy Hour Zooms!

When asked what they were doing during the "shelter-in-place" mandate, some members replied:

Anna Thomas: "In the past, I have hired spring cleanup and rushed my planning and planting. This year I have cleaned, weeded, mulched and planned my gardens alone. I did a little at a time so as to not injure myself. It feels so good and makes me smile when I look at the gardens."

Joan Harbaugh: "I'm being a good steward of my land. Margaret Horne and I are getting ready for planting at the Clarkston/Independence District Library by weeding, edging, etc., in the Peter Rabbit garden, as well as trimming and preparing roses for spring."

Anita Andes: "It's time for some spring housecleaning! I've been clearing out clutter from my garage and basement, and I've put some of my clutter on my driveway. I had quite a successful FREE SALE!"

Beth Kerr: "I redid all my photo albums to acid-free. I made scrapbook-like albums for each of my children (who are now 40 and 37). It was wonderful reliving all of those memories!"

Sue Sajdak: "I added plants to my new plant area near my deck. I used Florida natives and tropicals that were all new to me. And I am going to drive a couple of them back to Michigan to utilize this summer."

Marian Emery (who celebrated her 90th birthday in February): "I've been going through old papers and trying to get rid of them and I gave my dog a bath. I'm keeping in touch with people to see how they are doing and I'm getting my dandelions out of the flower beds."

Diane Putvin (new president of the Clarkston Farm & Garden Club): "At the beginning, most of my time was spent figuring out new ways to cook with what was in my pantry and fridge. Unfortunately, I started to experiment with baking (which is not something I normally do), which meant that my husband and I had to eat what I baked! It turned out to be good, but not necessarily very healthy!"

Mary Himburg: "I sorted and purged decades of photos and I remembered so many family and friends and good times. I also did drive-bys with kids and grandkids and struggled not to hug."

- continued on page 10

Clarkston.....continued from page 9

Mary Jane Scharfenkamp: “When virus reigns, winds curtail local woods walks, and and snow chills daffodils in my garden. I cut a few early blooms and branches to create my indoor ‘not-quite-fairy-garden’ (photo on right) with moss, lichen and rock-strewn landscape, replacing blooms as they faded away. It’s more fun than dusting, doing laundry and cleaning the garage.”



*Left:
Cooley Gardens,
Lansing -
wedding venue of
Clarkston member
Sue Lawyer*

Editor’s note: According to a City of Lansing parks employee, the Cooley Gardens, including the Scott Sunken Gardens, are now open again for visits after being closed during area renovations. Perhaps some garden clubs will consider visiting the gardens for a branch field trip?



Country Garden Club of Northville

The Country Garden Club of Northville thanks Kathryn Novak for her 26 years of membership and her invaluable contributions to our club. Kathryn was our garden walk coordinator for 22 years. During that time, she wore many hats, tackled any and all jobs, and helped our garden walk grow into the huge success it has become! She developed rapport with local Northville residents, community leaders and business owners. Kathryn now co-chairs publicity for our garden walk, and she is still involved in almost all aspects of our club.

One idea Kathryn initiated was to promote our club and our garden walk at our Northville District Library. In a display case just inside the entrance, she creates beautiful, natural vignettes and includes information about our branch. Each April, Kathryn heads to the library, toting bags overflowing with display materials. It’s a messy whirlwind as Kathryn’s creativity flows! Assisted by a fellow club member or two, the outcome is always delightful. Library patrons admire the work in progress, and everyone is eager to see the finished creation!

A couple of times we were not able to decorate the display case, as it was needed for a library display. Kathryn found another way to gain garden walk publicity by creating a lovely fresh flower arrangement for the library’s service desk, along with a sign with garden walk information. The library was delighted, and Kathryn has since provided a weekly fresh flower arrangement with whimsical touches.

The library is so impressed with Kathryn’s artistic talent that they have hired her to create seasonal displays on the fireplace mantel in the reading room lounge area. Kathryn’s decorating skill and inspiration are enjoyed by many library patrons.

Twenty years ago, our Country Garden Club took on a weekly project creating arrangements for hospice patients. Members use flowers donated by Busch’s Fresh Food Market. Kathryn was a driving force and shared her creativity during weeks when flower donations were scant. (*Hint: The cedar trees in the hospice’s parking lot “donated” some of their greens for arrangements.*) Many weeks, Kathryn & her committee created 20 or more arrangements, which were distributed by hospice nurses to brighten their patients’ lives.

We scouted other places for flower donations and were blessed when Trader Joe’s came onboard. They donate so many beautiful flowers that each week Kathryn, with assistance from club members, takes them to retirement centers, nursing homes, schools and churches. Our club also hosts a monthly flower arranging session at Oakmont Senior Living Facility. Flowers always bring smiles and unabashed joy. One time a resident said that the bouquet of white roses she received made her feel like a bride. Now how cool is that?

*- submitted by Barb Sturtz, member of
Country Garden Club of Northville*



*Right:
Clarkston
member Mary Jane
Scharfenkamp’s
not-quite-fairy-garden*

Sue Lawyer: “I was sorting old pictures and found some [photos] of the Cooley Gardens in Lansing.” (See photo on left). Sue was married there, as were many of her relatives. Her great grandfather Eugene F. Cooley, an early industrialist, “donated land to the City of Lansing for the Cooley Gardens and dedicated it for ‘the horticultural education and pleasure of garden lovers.’” The gardens were designed by noted landscape architect, Edward H. Laird. According to Sue, “Many Oldsmobile employees used to eat lunch in the gardens,” which are near the river at 213 W. Malcolm X Street in Lansing.

- submitted by Joette Kunse, Clarkston member



*Above: Country Garden Club of
Northville members assist retire-
ment center residents as they
arrange donated flowers.*

*Left: Kathryn Novak & Lizzie
Sturtz, daughter of member Barb
Sturtz*

Franklin Garden Club

The Franklin Garden Club had to cancel our beloved garden walk for this year, but we will look into the future for June 2021, to resume that tradition. The garden walk is always such a fun time for those who love gardens and who love to get great ideas for gardening. I am confident that the gardens for our 2021 garden walk will be spectacular.

Some of the things we look forward to – as soon as we are able to gather again – are small groups meeting in individuals' gardens and using safe practices. We will also stay in communication with each member, perhaps gardening together in very small groups of three or four in our Broughton Garden.

The Broughton Garden is a small flower garden that our club maintains through the year. It is enclosed with a split-rail fence and is located on the grounds of the Franklin Village Offices and Police Department. Maintenance usually requires several work-days during the year, including spring cleanup. Last fall, one of our members, Cindy Chelovich, planted spring blooming bulbs in the garden. Often, one of us has to be on hand to water during dry times in the summer.

- submitted by Margaret Bancroft, co-president

See *In Memoriam*, page 16.

Right: Franklin Garden Club's festive Labor Day roundup float

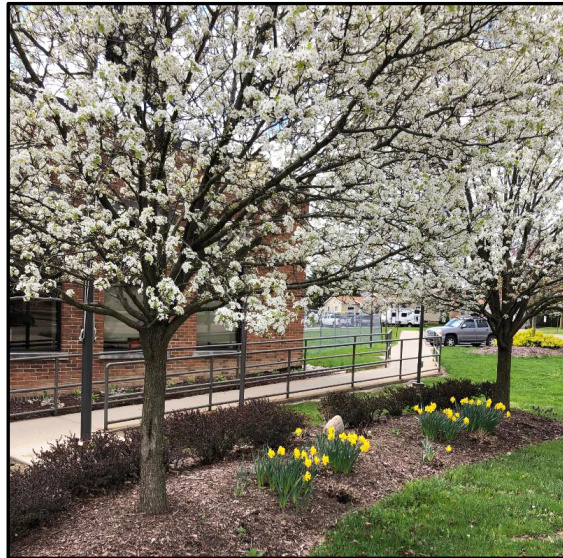


Lapeer Wildflowers



The Lapeer Wildflowers have been busy in our off-season. In February, we gathered for a luncheon where we discussed future projects and caught up with members we hadn't seen since before the holidays.

Despite the cancellation of in-person meetings from March forward, we have managed to remain active. In April we convened a committee via mail and email to consider applications for our annual scholarship. This year's recipient is Sarah Hubbard, a senior from Imlay City High School. She will attend Michigan State University in the fall to pursue a degree in Environmental Studies and Sustainability. Sarah's application was very strong, and many of her extracurricular activities are related to environmental stewardship.



Above: One of the Lapeer Wildflowers' beds at the Lapeer Post Office

Although we're not meeting face-to-face, we are making plans. In May, member Sandy Vukonich became manager of our Facebook page, adding and updating all content on the site. In addition, we have been busy planning our new project: Daffodils for Schools. The project is scheduled to run for three years and aims to plant one daffodil bulb for every child in the Lapeer School District.

On a more personal note, our members have commented that this spring has provided each of us a greater opportunity to appreciate and work in our own gardens. Members have reported having time for various neglected activities such as pruning and getting ahead of weeding. Almost all have remarked on how beautiful the daffodils have been this year with the long stretch of cool weather.

While we may not be holding in-person meetings, thanks to Barb Reehl, we had an opportunity to socialize via Zoom in early May. Our virtual get-together provided time to share stories about our gardens and to swap planting tips. Kay Buszek provided information about how to preserve peony buds in the refrigerator for use in late summer arrangements.

We continue to look forward to working on community projects and, as you can see from our photo, we are keeping our gardening skills sharp.

- submitted by Kim Augustine, Lapeer Wildflowers member

Milford Garden Club

The Milford Garden Club had a Zoom general membership meeting in May. Cheryl English was our speaker. She gave a wonderful presentation on *Birds in the Garden*. We learned what adult and baby birds eat and the kind of habitat they prefer. She shared information regarding the decline of native bird populations and what we can do to help our native birds flourish. Cheryl provided many suggestions of trees and plants to incorporate into our gardens to create welcoming environments for birds and the insects they dine on.

In June, we are excited to hold our first Trunk Plant Exchange for members. The plan: roar to the parking lot at the appointed time, pop our trunks, and go from trunk to trunk to discover garden gems ready for adoption. What a great time to see each other and what a great opportunity to share our plants with fellow members. Leftover plants will be saved for our plant sale in May of next year. Definitely a win, win, win event!

- submitted by Linda Smith, president



- photo courtesy of the Internet



Northville Garden Club

The Northville Garden Club has been planting daffodil bulbs for years in Garden Club Park, near the Northville District Library. With an addition to the library completed in 2018, members of the Civic Service Committee, under the direction of Sue Woodsum and Liliana Miyahara, planted 150 Giant King Alfred bulbs – in groups of five – in the new garden. In 2019, another 100 bulbs were added to the older garden. Tall grasses are a backdrop to the daffodils, and hostas come up to cover the spent daffodil foliage in June. The spring display from the street is spectacular, with a sea of bright yellow all across the building! The Northville Beautification Commission declared the garden “Best in Town” for 2019.

- submitted by Claire Kreher, Northville Garden Club member



Left: Young gardener – To pick or not to pick

Above: Masses of Giant King Alfred daffodils at the Northville District Library

Right: Detail of Giant King Alfred daffodil
– photo courtesy of Holland Bulb Farms

Plymouth Garden Club

Enjoy the great *garden clippings* of advice, humor, wisdom, quotes and heart-warming sentiments from Plymouth Garden Club’s own seasoned gardeners. Please feel free to take the thoughts and spread them around your garden too.

– submitted by Mary Prouty, Plymouth Garden Club publicity

My garden is my happy place. Housework can wait. – Marilyn Norgrove

“And now my heart fills and dances with the daffodils.” – Judy Krieman (a favorite quote)

Spring has sprung, and so have my perennials! – Fran Niemiec

My garden never stops surprising me – and always in the best of ways. – Denise Burrows

I love this verse: “To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow.” I feel gardening is a spiritual thing. Watching something you have planted grow and blossom is truly a gift from God. – Mary Bagnasco

“Gardening is my Zen.” – Margi Bake (a favorite quote)

My flower gardens are calming and comforting! – Billie Barton

Tough little buggers those snowdrops. Peeking out of the snow, reaching for the sun, suffering whack after whack, more snow, ice, freezing temperatures. Forever smiling. Fortitude. – Mary Lu Stone

I plan to plant a victory garden. – Jan Anderson

I usually count on tulips and daffodils to announce spring, but with the chipmunks and rabbits destroying most bulbs this year, I turned my attention to the gentle white flower of my serviceberries. They are abundant with the warming weather. It pays to have a backup plan. – Marilyn Kokoszka

My thoughts: I look forward to seeing fresh sweet signs of spring poking up in the garden colorfully. It is such a wonderful visual of life going on. – Dorothy Simescu

I am so glad I put in the extra time to plant all those tulips and daffodils in the autumn. It brings a lot of joy to see God’s beauty in the garden. – Linda Coughlin

I am looking forward to seeing my girls this summer: Lily, Daisy, Rose, Annabelle, Iris, Roxanne and Marigold. I cannot think of any others and hope I have not forgotten anyone! – Jan Lopata

“A real gardener will take any amount of trouble over a plant that flowers for five minutes at two in the morning every third year, if they love it enough.” Frank Ronan, *Gardens Illustrated* magazine. What a good idea. I could not throw this magazine away when I had finished it, simply because of the last sentence. – Lynn Sweetnam

Looking at my beautiful red tulips brings such a sense of calm and serenity. – Shirley Zaetta

..... continued from page 12

A walk in my backyard is like meeting with old friends. One little section has a clump of allium from Judy Krieman, a new clump of checkered lilies from Ron and Dave, a daylily from Dr. Yates, and river oats grass from Kansas. (I stole the seeds from a park.)

– Maureen Armstrong

Such a joy it is to watch the spectacular display of flowering spring bulbs appear year after year. – Jan Evans

My garden gives me peace and energy. I love gardening. – Justina McNamara

Plymouth Garden Club is where my circle of friends reside. – Mary Prouty



Above: I just love to listen to the wind chime. It is so peaceful.

– Nancy Earle

Below: How can a name like double bloodroot belong to such a beautiful plant?

– photo from Marilyn Norgrove's garden



Above: Checkered lilies

– photo from Marilyn Norgrove's garden

Below: Life is good in my garden. – Pat Bierzynski



Port Huron Garden Club

The Port Huron Garden Club has been hunkered down and obeying the rules. Everyone has been healthy through the pandemic. We hope all other Michigan Division branch members have also been well.

Of course, the programs we scheduled for the summer months have been cancelled, but we are looking forward to fall activities. We did lose two of our lovely members: Marilyn Telfer and Marie Erd. They will be greatly missed. See *In Memoriam*, page 16.

– submitted by Sandy Sharpe, recently elected Port Huron Garden Club president



Rochester Garden Club

Heading into our gardens has helped make our lives more normal in these far-from-normal times. Feeling the warmth of the sun has a healing effect and can transport us to memories of picnics, days on the beach and afternoons watching children and grandchildren play baseball or soccer. With less noise from traffic or airplanes, nature's sounds have been more noticeable – hawks calling above the trees, bees visiting the zinnias, leaves rustling in the breeze.

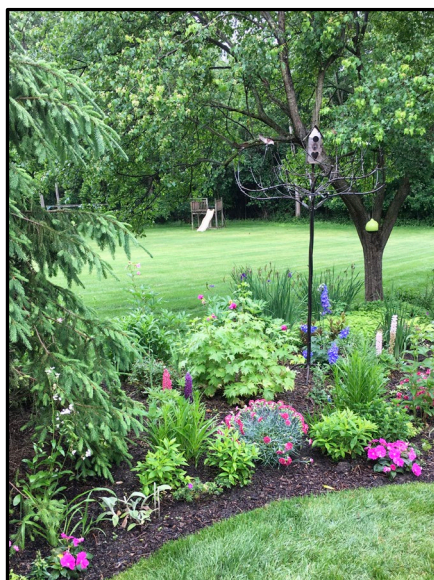
The members of Rochester Branch, though we cannot enjoy the comradeship of our nursery crawls, workshops and other events, still come together – correctly spaced – to work in the gardens of the Van Hoosen Farm at the Rochester Hills Museum. We work in the soil first cultivated by the Van Hoosen and Jones families more than 200 years ago. How can we not feel healed when we see new green life

and color sprouting in the shadows of barns and homes built by families who labored and dreamed toward a richer life?

Like all gardeners, while taking note and learning from the past, the future is always in the back of our minds. What to plant in place of the perennial that is not thriving, or how to spice up the color scheme of a particular bed. Our thoughts and hopes bend to the future – next month, next year. The Rochester Branch looks forward to future times when we will again be together, maybe not in the same way as in the past, but still as a powerful force - working, improving and helping the world to be a prettier, better place.

– submitted by Sally Edwards, Rochester Garden Club member

See *In Memoriam*, page 16.



Above: Summer scene from a Rochester member's garden

Left: Memories of Rochester Garden Club's 2019 garden walk

Saginaw Garden Club Branch



The Saginaw Branch is planning to deliver as many cards as possible to three of our long-serving members who all had important birthdays this year. Elly Wilson turned 98 in February. Addie Heilbronn turned 96 in April, and Jean King turned 98 on May 28. In an effort to recognize Jean, we realized that we wanted to recognize all three of them. So we asked our members to send three cards to me or to Cinda Schantz, and we made arrangements to deliver the cards on or before May 28.

Also, despite the pandemic, we planned to do our annual planting at two locations in late May. One planting venue is Community Village, a senior living center where we have planted for many years. The other is Saginaw’s well-known art center, the Andersen Enrichment Center, where we have also planted annuals for many years. It is a favorite place for weddings, other parties, or just to walk among the roses.

- submitted by Stella Thelen,
president of Saginaw Branch



Above: Saginaw members gathered for planting day at the Andersen Enrichment Center

Back row, L – R: Mary Jo McInerney, Yvonne Becker, Ginny Darnell, Holly Furlo, Penny Butterfield, Jan Devers

Front row, L – R: Joyce Coe, Andrea Fischer, Kim Vance, Renee Foote

Troy Garden Club



The Troy Garden Club began 2020 with a bang! Overflow meetings of both members and guests came to hear speakers Janet Macunovich (January) and George Papadelis of Telly’s (February). The atmosphere was relaxed and there was a lot of mingling. The meetings were very informative and we gained some new members! At the January meeting, we also celebrated the 106th anniversary of the founding of the Woman’s National Farm & Garden Association.

In March, we welcomed Lisa Jaroch, owner of Cold Frame Organic Farm. Lisa took a six-month class with an internship at MSU to prepare herself to establish a sustainable organic farm. She is certified by the State of Michigan as a Green Garden. Through photos, we traversed her Romeo farm and learned about the process. Lisa now sells “shares” in the garden, guaranteeing weekly produce to shareholders. In addition, she provides fresh produce to select restaurants and chefs, including Selden Standard, an award-winning restaurant in Detroit. Cold Frame Organic Farm is open to the public, but tours may be limited, especially during the peak growing season.

We also began our gardening season at the Troy Historic Village on May 3 with a large group of volunteers. Using facemasks and gloves, and practicing social distancing were the orders of the day. One week later, five Herb Study Group members spruced up the Village’s Log Cabin herb garden. It was great to be out again in the gardens!

- submitted by Bev Hydo, Troy Garden Club advisor

Below: Log Cabin at the Troy Historic Village, surrounded by an herb garden tended by the Troy Garden Club’s Herb Study Group

Right: Entrance to the Troy Historic Village, where all gardens are maintained by Troy Garden Club members



Warren Garden Club



The temperature took a serious dip for Mother's Day weekend, but we were still surrounded by the eye-popping beauty of spring in bloom. More smiles, more energy and more activity welcomed fellow Farm and Garden members to another season of gardening, projects and friendship.

Many organizations are blessed to have a member who is a steady force in the club's operation and success. For Warren Branch, that person would be Pat Brown. Since joining in 1999, Pat has served as vice president, president, secretary, and she is currently our treasurer. She participates in every meeting, board meeting and activity (unless she is away on her favorite vacation pastime – a cruise!) Not only is she a terrific asset to us, but Pat also serves as the Michigan Division treasurer and the WNF&GA's National Awards chairperson. She is a member of Michigan Division's Daffodils4Detroit committee as well. Thank you, Pat, for all you do for us. Warren Branch is blessed to have you in our midst.

We have an unusual and exciting adventure planned for fall. We are going "back to school!" Warren's Historical Society maintains Bunert School, an original one-room schoolhouse dating back to 1875. We have graciously been invited to plan a meeting there, and we will also have a history lesson. Meanwhile, we will savor the days of summer, just as students do.

All the best to all Michigan Division members for a safe season.

- submitted by Paula O'Brien, president of Warren Branch



The Warren Garden Club salutes Pat Brown for more than 20 years of dedication to the branch, as well as to Michigan Division and the WNF&GA.

Waterford Garden Club

The Waterford Garden Club is disappointed that we had to cancel hosting the 2020 Spring Council Meeting. We will be back, however, most likely for the 2021 Spring Council Meeting. We also decided to cancel our Spring Plant Sale that was scheduled for May 30. We will wait to see the progression of reopenings before determining if we will have a plant sale later in the year.

Meanwhile, we plan to still work in gardens at the Senior Center and Drayton Plains Nature Center, where there is plenty of room to perform tasks safely with social distancing.

In the Serenity Garden at the Senior Center, Scout Dean Fiddler has almost finished his work as part of his Eagle Scout project. He removed some wood structures that were used for raised gardening and he built a new smaller structure that can be easily reached from a wheelchair. He also removed unwanted vegetation and an old picnic table. He put pea gravel in one area, wood-chipped the pathway and installed a mailbox that will hold small gardening tools.

The club conducted our first Zoom meeting in May with nine attendees. The meeting proved to be so successful that we have scheduled another one in June.

Some members have used this "Stay-at-Home" time to take virtual tours of museums and other worthwhile venues, as well as to take classes online to learn new and interesting things. Now that the weather has improved, many of us have been busy in our own gardens.

- submitted by Sue Malone, president of Waterford Garden Club



Ongoing progress at the Senior Center's Serenity Garden.



Eagle Scout's project includes wheelchair accessible raised gardening area

In Memoriam

With sadness, the **Franklin Garden Club** would like to mark the passing of **Lisa Ochoa** on February 9, 2020. Lisa was one of our newer members of just one year. During that time, Lisa was active with the club, serving on the art design committee for our garden walk. She had also committed to serving as secretary for the garden club for the coming year. Lisa died unexpectedly and suddenly and she will be missed.

The Franklin Garden Club is also sad to mark the passing of another member, **Nancy Kern**.

Port Huron Garden Club has lost two members since the beginning of the year. They are **Marie Erd** and **Marilyn A, “Mitzie” Telfer**.

Marie Guske Erd was born in Flint in 1921. She died on January 5, 2020 at the age of 98. She lived in Lapeer through high school, before moving to Port Huron. Her first husband Bill McGill, with whom she had a daughter, perished in Italy during WW II. She married her second husband, Harry Erd, in 1946. He preceded her in death in 1990. They had a daughter and a son. She is survived by her three children, three grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. Marie loved to play bridge and she was an eager crafter. Memorial contributions were designated to charitable organizations, including the Port Huron Garden Club.

Marilyn A. Mortimer Telfer was born in 1929. She died on March 31, 2020 at the age of 90. Marilyn (“Mitzie”) graduated from Port Huron High School in 1948 and married her high school sweetheart, John H. Telfer in 1952. They had a daughter and two sons. John preceded Marilyn in death in 2009, after nearly 57 years of marriage. She is survived by her three children, five grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Marilyn was active in several organizations, and she was a longtime volunteer. Like Marie Erd, her memorial contributions were designated to charitable organizations, including the Port Huron Garden Club.

The **Rochester Garden Club** is sad to report the quiet passing of **June Hansen Rosvold** on April 15, 2020. She was born in 1930, on Long Island in New York. She graduated from Malverne High School in New York, attended St. Olaf College in Minnesota and Hofstra University in New York, where she earned a Master’s Degree in education. Both New Yorkers, June married Fred Rosvold in 1956 and they were proud of their Norwegian roots. Fred’s 10-year work assignment took their family of five to England and Belgium in 1972. They returned stateside in 1982 with a new work assignment in Michigan, where they remained as residents ever since. June joined the Rochester Garden Club in 1983. She was a consistent asset to the club throughout her membership. A great card-player and excellent at Mahjong, she was also a volunteer extraordinaire for various organizations. June is survived by her husband, one daughter, two sons and seven grandchildren. The family requested memorial contributions to the Rochester Garden Club.



Marie Erd
Port Huron Garden Club



Marilyn Telfer
Port Huron Garden Club



June Rosvold
Rochester Garden Club

+



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