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DOWN TO EARTH

Start A 'Wish List' For Future Gardens

By ALICE WESSELS BURLINGAME
Special Writer For The Birmingham Eccentric

Do hope you have enjoyed a visit to the Hanna garden in East Lansing since our column "meeting" last week. The garden is Pres. John A. Hanna's personal retreat on the busy Michigan State college campus.

Completely enclosed with the only entrance through a gate usually kept locked, the garden is a perfect setting for official hospitality. Young children share the life of the family. The garden is a place for normal play through the cycles of make-believe, and on into the adolescent years, offering privacy even though the site is in the center of a busy campus.



Mrs. Burlingame

Last week I described the very large bench, 30 feet long, which is the focal point in the garden. A frequent use of a variety of evergreens assured winter interest. Acid-soil loving, broad leaf evergreens such as azaleas and rhododendrons are there, each requiring careful cultural care.

THE GARDEN pattern is in the shape of a boot and projections of shrubs invite further strolling. Unusual varieties have been used in all plant categories. They have been clearly labeled so the many visitors from all parts of the world as well as the amateur plantmen will enjoy learning the names of new plants.

When plant material is correctly labeled, first with the Latin, then the common name, it is possible for a plant lover from a foreign country to at once identify the plant even though he might not know our language.

Once in a while, where the sun can penetrate this secret garden, you will see a well chosen perennial. In one location there is a border of violets from Mrs. Hanna's mother's garden.

EASY MAINTENANCE is the rule of the garden. Euonymus vibes give a vertical line occasionally and at other times is used as a ground cover for awkward locations. Euonymus alatus is used as a shrub for its flame coloring during the fall.

In the fall potted mums are brought in, having achieved their full flowering state in a more favorable location. Now, however, they are in place to accent borders at certain locations.

It isn't difficult for you and me to play "make believe" and be an invited guest on an autumn evening.

The evergreens have lights judiciously placed to stress the texture of the foliage and height of the tree.

We, too, can create gardens designed to our pattern of living. Start today to develop that "wish list" as you visit gardens and find about ideas you may use on your property.

THIS SUMMER the City of Birmingham is replacing sidewalks on an extensive basis. Broken sidewalk is free for the hauling away and I've seen many handsome retaining walls as well as walls bordering property made with this discard.

A fine job can be done by making a dry wall, carefully placing good size pieces on the bottom. These should be placed on a prepared level surface.

Even if you have shrubs planned to border your back garden, a foot-high dry wall will tend to discourage dog traffic. I use such a wall to hide my compost pile.

HAVE BEEN spending some time in the mountains of Quebec where in a home, at the end of the trail, is the hardworking wife of the farmer who ekes out a living on the cleared plateaus. For years I have been bringing her specimen leaves from choice house plants. On her porch, growing in tin cans, you can see the roll call of leaf cuttings over the years. As she passed from plant to plant, she patted each one and said, "When life gets mixed up I just begin to work among my plants."

When we pray for peace one's own garden is the ideal location to begin, for here one finds peace of mind.

Have You Met . . .

The James E. Lynch family? With their four children, James E., 11, Kenie L., 8, Deborah Ann, 4, and Terri Charissa, 3 months old, Mr. and Mrs. Lynch moved to 2588 Windemere road July 1. Their former home was in Saginaw, Mich. Lynch, a sales representative for Celotex Corporation of Chicago, is a member of the Masons and the Elks. He enjoys golf, hunting and fishing.



Redeemer Lutheran Is Zone Champion

An exciting 3 to 2 victory over Royal Oak last Sunday afternoon clinched the softball championship of the Eastern Zone for Redeemer Lutheran Valley League.

Chuck Gorman's double with the bases loaded in the bottom half of the sixth inning drove in all three runs. Duane Wuggasser pitched three-hit ball for the winners.

The district championship will be decided in a game with East Detroit on Sunday afternoon, August 2.

THE LOCAL Redeemer church team, coached by Bill Meiner and Charles Gorman Sr., compiled a record of seven wins, and only one loss.

Good Conduct Medal For 7th Div. Corporal

The Good Conduct Medal was recently awarded in Korea to Corporal Lloyd E. Wilson, whose wife and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Glenn F. Wilson reside at 2811 Tyler street, Route 5, Birmingham.

Wilson, who arrived in Korea in July 1952, is a cook with the 7th Infantry Division's 7th Medical Battalion and has been awarded the UN and Korean Service Ribbons in addition to the Good Conduct Medal.

Before entering the Army in November 1951, he attended Farmington high school and was employed by the Ex-Cell-O Corp. of Detroit.

The 7th Division, which made the famous Inchon landing in September 1950, has seen action in every sector of the Korean peninsula from the Pusan perimeter in the south to the Yalu River in the north.

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RALSTON W. SHULTZ, son of Mr. Stewart F. Shultz, 4755 Walnut Lake road, was awarded a certificate of service during commencement exercises climaxed the Air Force ROTC summer encampment held at Bryan Air Force Base, Texas. During the four weeks at Bryan Air Force Base, a jet training base located in southeastern Texas, Shultz observed operations of a typical base from the officer's point of view. The role he will play upon commissioning in the United States Air Force, Cadet Shultz, a student at the University of Michigan, will be commissioned a second lieutenant in the Air Force after he receives his degree.

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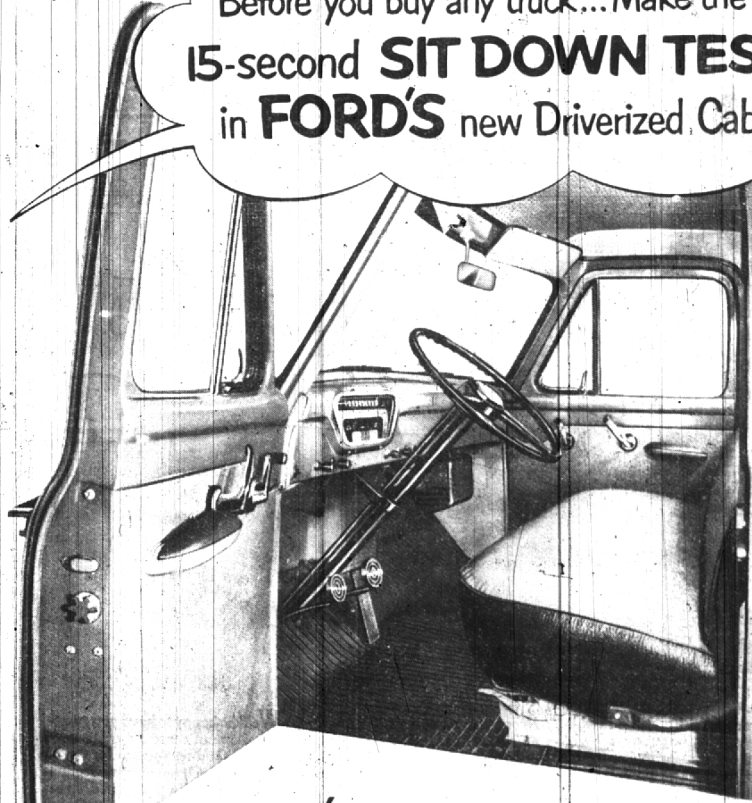
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