

Kiln Farm

Working in herb garden is a pleasure

By Olga Darcovich
"Working in the herb garden makes me feel better," Rachel McLeod is saying as she mixes dough for rosemary and thyme bread. "It sounds silly, but it's true. Perhaps it's the scent."
The bread is for her daughter in Saudi Arabia and would be sent with friends travelling to the Middle East.
Mrs. McLeod, herb grower, organic gardener, teacher and columnist, grows more than 100 varieties of herbs in her garden at Kiln Farm in Puslinch.
Twelve years ago the McLeods bought the farm

with a view to taking up farming. They tried "all sorts of things", including raising rabbits, on the 75-acre property which backs onto Beverly Swamp. But it was too much hard work with little reward.
Then Mrs. McLeod hit on the idea of making the farm a peaceful place where people could come to get back to their roots. Her thought was to create a kind of inter-pretive centre.
"I had visions of taking people on trails and showing them things. A lot of people look at this sort of country and see it as waste land."

She started giving herb lunches outdoors. Fifty people showed up for each sitting. "It was great fun, but you were in trouble if it rained."
She found many people were interested in herbs but were afraid to use them, so she began a series of courses to teach people about herbs and gardening. The herb lunches are now given in connection with classes in more manageable groups of 20 people.
A student of natural sciences at Cambridge University, Mrs. McLeod has had a lifelong interest in gardening and the outdoors. Her father was a good gardener.

When the McLeods came to Canada in the fifties from Yorkshire, England, they settled in Newfoundland. Later they moved to Burlington where Mrs. McLeod, the mother of four, worked as a volunteer at the Royal Botanical Gardens.
She's never liked convenience or "made up" foods and this dislike contributed to her start in growing herbs and developing recipes for their use.
An herb is an aromatic, useful plant, Mrs. McLeod explains. She pronounces the "h" in herb, but says leaving the "h" silent is also correct.
Herbs are used in cooking, medicines, dyes, cosmetics and potpourris. Most herbs grow in temperate areas. Spices, on the other hand, are products of the dried part of plants grown in tropical climates.
Currently, Mrs. McLeod is studying the medicinal properties of herbs. Aloe she applies to cool stings and burns. Sage tea is used to settle a troubled tummy.
She's also keen to make cosmetics using herbs and is looking for a suitable base material. "The idea of mixing the herbs into a pound of lard and putting it on my face doesn't appeal."

Organic gardening does take more time — composting, mulching, picking off the bugs. The labor involved probably accounts for the higher cost of produce grown organically, she says.
"I think taste is immaterial," Mrs. McLeod replies when asked whether organically-grown food tastes better. "It's safer. With other foods you haven't any idea what the additives are."
"Organically grown produce is more likely to have insect damage and a lot of people are turned off by that," she comments.
Growers in the United States are finding insects are getting immune to insecticides, and are returning to biological methods of insect control, she reports. One such method for home gardeners is the use of diatomaceous earth, a natural substance which gets rid of caterpillars.
Developing and maintaining an organic garden for teaching purposes is an expensive proposition and more work than Mrs. McLeod can handle herself. She's not planted one this year, but hopes to the next.
Taking a stroll through the farm we pass a small plot crammed with vegetables. This is her husband's garden. He's experimenting with a French method of growing vegetables. A very rich soil makes it possible to space plants close together in a small area.
We come to a selection of herbs growing in tall tile containers. This is an innovation of Mrs. McLeod's. She calls this her teaching garden.
Arranging the containers in clusters gives students access to the plants and the height allows them to sniff and inspect the plants without stooping.
Further along is a bed of herbs of historic interest.
Mrs. McLeod grows some of her herbs from seed. Other plants she imports from the United States. She also sells plants herself.
On the ground floor of the barn is the classroom. This day there are wild flowers, bullrushes and antique vases on the tables. Mrs. McLeod is making the floral decorations for a friend's wedding.
Upstairs flowers and weeds hang upside down to dry, while others are in containers, waiting to be used in arrangements and for teaching.
In a cool, airy shed, herbs are scattered thinly on screens to dry. These she bottles and sells.



GROWING herbs in tall tile containers makes it possible for visitors to get a close-up look at the plants, says Rachel McLeod. She has more than 100 different kinds of herbs in her garden at Kiln Farm.

74. AUCTION SALES

AUCTION SALE
SATURDAY AUG. 26 at 10:30 A.M.
FOR MRS. KERNIGHAN
TO BE SOLD IN MILTON at the fairgrounds in the AGRICULTURAL HALL on Robert St.

Merchandise removed from 191 Margaret St. residence, one of the first and oldest homes in Milton.
SALE CONSISTING OF: Almost all antique furniture, glass, china, collectables, appliances, large assortment of books, riding lawn mower, tools, bedding, linen, misc. etc.

FURNITURE—9 pc. Walnut (solid) dining room suite, (by Andrew Malcom), including ext. table, china cabinet, buffet, 6 chairs, Gibraltar walnut tea wagon w/glass tray, large wardrobe, walnut finish w/sliding doors, small walnut buffet, carved oak rocking chair (70 yrs. old), Boston rocker, 4 sectional walnut bookcase, oak pigeon hole desk (dowelled), with brass fittings, bevelled framed hall mirror w/hooks, 7 drawer large desk (walnut finish), 2 nursing rockers, 1 w/needle point seat, early Victorian red upholstered settee and chair on porcelain casters, oval table to match settee, 2 Windsor chairs, slightly carved Windsor chair, small cane arm chair, (Jacques and Hayes), side chair, small walnut gateleg table, walnut magazine table, several pine tables, different sizes, 2 door oak cupboard w/drawer at top, 2 fern stands - 1 wicker, 1 walnut, tapestry covered footstool, walnut hall table, hall tree, walnut claw and ball feet, needle point stool, hump back trunk, plus 3 other trunks, small wicker chair (70 yrs. old), walnut finish dresser and chest of drawers to match (Vilas), red maple twin beds, complete mahogany bedroom suite, incl. double bed, dresser and chiffonier (70 yrs. old), family size clothes hamper, doll carriage, crib, high chair, stroller, wardrobe, roll-away bed, mahogany glass door display cabinet, ironing board, 2 bedsprings on legs, Thor glad iron.
APPLIANCES INCL. LRG. UPRIGHT WESTINGHOUSE DEEP FREEZER, LIKE NEW, GLASS, CHINA, SILVER, BRASS, COLLECTABLES, BOOKS, PRIMITIVES, ETC. ETC.—Satin glass pink and white fluted edge bridal basket, Cranberry water glass, porcelain case for small clock, 2 small opalescent hobnail vases, small amethyst vase, covered compote w/frosted lion head, Wedgewood, Royal Doulton, Royal Albert, china pcs., Cherry Blossom Royal Winton breakfast set, musical small cabinet w/bevelled mirror, blue and white jardiniere, very old glass paper weight, Noritake bon-bon basket, 2 Eaton beauty dolls w/porcelain heads, Bisc bodies (to be put together again), various pcs. of Cornflower glass, satin glass pink vase, set of Orrefors, (Ingrid pattern), juice glasses, sherberts with plates, water goblets, with teardrops in the stem, pcs. of Nippon, 4 pcs. of blue Milkglass, early Canadian Maple Leaf pattern, Majolica bud vase, tall glass pitcher (80 yrs. old), brass jardiniere, brass tea kettle, brass basket, quantity of cut glass, collection of good salt & peppers, old glass hat pin holder, asst. of silver pcs., small 3 legged iron pot, (came to Canada from Ireland on sailing vessel early 1800), ebony hand mirror, brush and other pcs., asst. of sealer jars, very old small typewriter in case, metal sock stretchers (small, med. lg.) set of good as new snooker ball & 4 cues, hand embroidered cotton bedspread, done by all different families of the community, over 70 yrs. ago, hand hooked rug & others, 2 cotton chenille rug, size bedsprings (rose pattern), quantity of linen incl. hand embroidered tea sets, towels, etc., several handmade quilts, brass trumpet (Mother of Pearl) inlaid buttons, elect. train set, (by Loui Marks), 2 old violins in cases, very lg. asst. of books, incl. set of Britannia Encyclopedias (in case), children's books, Readers Digest, National Geographic, Scientific, America, McLeans, Popular Electronics, etc., 2 frame water colors, by Canadian artist E. South, 1920, some studies in oil by Mrs. Kernighan, mostly landscapes, plus others, some lawn, garden and hand tools, cheese box, old tins, old 78' records, RIDING LAWNMOWER, HAND ECLIPSE NO. 200 w/5 H.P. Briggs & Stratton engine.
AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: This is only a partial listing, it's impossible for a house this size to list everything. PLEASE NOTE EARLY START OF SALE. This is a large sale, with something for everyone. Please come early. Lunch available.
Terms are cash or cheque with I.D. Preview 9 a.m. sale day.
The Kernighan property is purchased by the Town of Milton and Mrs. Kernighan is moving to a smaller home.
Owner, Hallboard or Auctioneer not responsible for accidents.

74. AUCTION SALES

AUCTION SALE

I have received instructions to sell by public auction the household effects, antique furniture etc. misc. items etc.

FOR
MR. AND MRS. ROBERT TURNER
95 CRESCENT ST., ACTON
ON

THURSDAY AUGUST 24, 1978 at 6.00 p.m.

APPLIANCES—Simplicity wringer washer (like new), Electrolux floor and rug conditioner (new), electric kettle, and a number of other small appliances.
FURNITURE—Plant stand, old Victrola and good collection of records (working cond.), corner and end tables, 4 high back press back chairs and table (good), wood smoking stand, hall tree rack, old antique table, 2 beautiful old mirrored wardrobes, old vanity and dresser with complete bed set (good), old dresser and mirror, old chest of drawers and bed set antique rocker, wood tables, wicker settee (good) wicker chair rocker (good), wicker fernery, brown chesterfield and chair, swivel rocker, 4 chrome chairs and table, metal bed, and much more, everything has been well cared for and in good condition.
MISCELLANEOUS—Cups and saucers, dishes, glass items, pots and pans, lamps, trunk, luggage, copper kettle and lid, old tin, rugs, buttons, bushel baskets, other baskets, radio, garbage cans, electric door chime (new), feather pillows, quilt, boot and shoe last, pictures and frames, utility cabinet, pails, barrels, and much more.
TOOLS—Step ladder, Black and Decker electric hedge trimmer, shovels, rake, hoes, ext. cord hoses, step ladder, wheel barrow, nails, nuts and bolts, garden tools, electric G.E. lawnmower, hand tools, weed sprayer, cabinets, and a whole lot more, saws, paint brushes some new, weed sprayer, cabinets, and a whole lot more.
TERMS: Cash or cheque with I.D. day of sale.

AUCTIONEERS
RON LAMB BELWOOD 843-3839
MIKE KELLY R.R. 1, GUELPH 822-2179
074amg

CREDIT VALLEY AUCTIONS

AUCTION SALE
THURSDAY AUGUST 24th, 6.30 p.m.
MAIN STREET, GLEN WILLIAMS
(2 mls N.E. Georgetown)

We have been instructed to sell the following items which have been removed from a local home as the owner is moving into an apartment.
PHILCO 25" colour T.V. (good working order); excellent chesterfield suite: Gibson 15 cu. ft. refrigerator; electric stove; Briggs automatic washing machine; G.E. dryer; nice maple swing mirror dresser with matching high-boy dresser; good clean 54" continental bed with padded headboard; 39" continental bed; wooden kitchen table and chairs; coffee table; almost new gold shag rug with underlay 12 x 23 and 8 x 10; oak round pedestal extension table with 3 leaves; 5 oak chairs; 12 ft. swimming pool with filter; kitchen bake cupboard; corner cupboard (not antique); gossip bench; odd chairs; table and floor lamps; odd rugs; folding tables; new spice rack; hibachi; several sets dishes and glassware; garden tools; lawnmower; 100 ft. garden hose; fishing rods and equipment; small electric appliances; kettle; frypan etc.; saucers; canister set; canning pot; linen; toys; games; excellent model kit of Cutty Sark by Pevell, 36" long; boxes of books; binders and some excellent job lots.
FULL set of bathroom fixtures in pink, used but in excellent condition consisting of bath, toilet, vanity sink, taps and fittings.
NAVAHO SSB TRC 57 CB base station with half wave antenna, 60' co-ax, and pre amp base microphone.
THERE will also be a few refurbished antiques consigned.
TERMS—Cash or cheque with I.D. Refreshments available.
Owners and auctioneer not responsible for accidents, damage to or loss of property on day of sale.
For information call:
Mel Smith 877-4488
074amg34

AUCTION SALE

Every Tuesday evening at 7.30 p.m. at Stanley Park Pavilion, Erin, Ontario. Featuring furniture, glass, china, lamps, copper, crockery, primitives, clocks, Canadian, imports, etc. Lunch booth available.
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THE FORMER barn at Kiln Farm makes an ideal place to dry and store flowers and weeds Rachel McLeod uses for arrangements. She also teaches courses in use of flowers for decorating.

Paving rip-offs can be avoided

Every summer hundreds of Ontarians are ripped off by driveway pavers who are better at paving their pockets than paving driveways. But by following the guidelines in a new information sheet, produced by the ministry of consumer and commercial relations, consumers can avoid most paving pitfalls.
The information sheet explains how to choose the best company, what to look for in the contract and the kind of work and materials required for the job. It also outlines consumer rights and responsibilities.
"At this time of year our consumer services offices hear from many irate consumers whose driveways have cracked after the paver has laid down," said consumer minister, Larry Grossman. "Although members of our enforcement staff take action against unethical contractors, they can't keep up with every home improvement problem."
Consumer education is so important. Common sense and information are the best defence against fly-by-night operators.
Also available from the ministry are information sheets on home repairs and siding. For free copies write: Consumer Information Centre, Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations, 555 Yonge St., Toronto, Ont., M7A 2H6.

Who does it

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