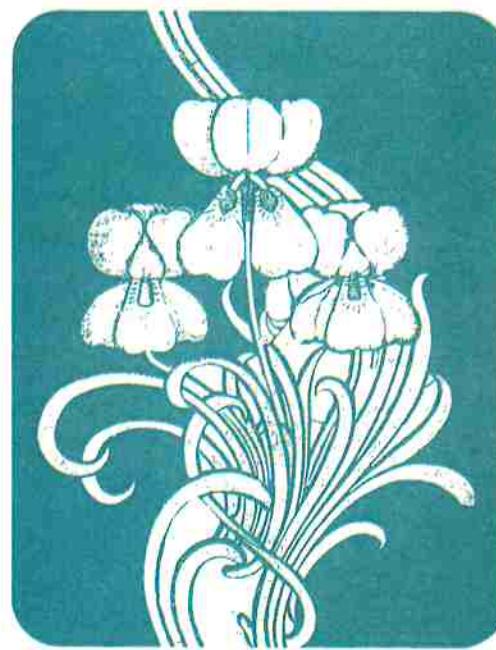


GARDEN TOUR



SUNDAY, JULY 12th, 2009

12 - 5 PM

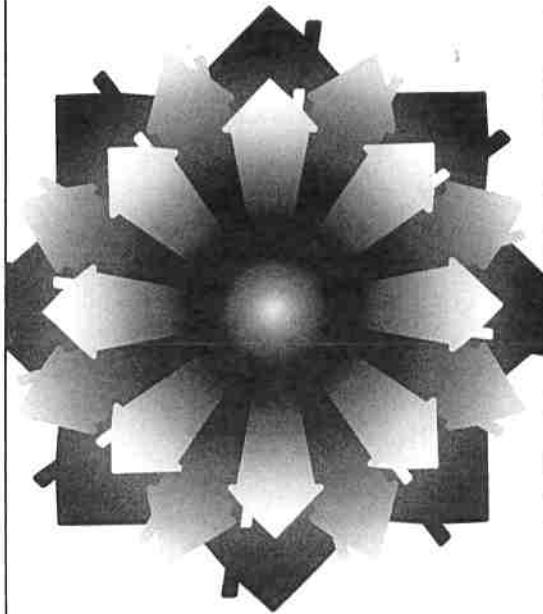
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Mt. Lebanon Public Library

July 12, 2009

Dear Library Friends and Tour Goers,

Welcome to the 19th Annual Mt. Lebanon Library Garden Tour. The Tour Committee has worked since last summer to make this day happen and we are most grateful for your participation. We are deeply indebted to the gardeners who so graciously offered their garden creations to you today. These gardens are truly works of art that the community, as well as the owners, can be proud of. We hope that your experience today provides you visual pleasure and incentive to incorporate into your own gardening efforts. Most of the gardeners will be somewhere in their gardens and will be happy to answer any of your questions. There will be expert gardeners at the library and at some of the gardens to assist you. Please feel free to ask questions; the gardeners are always happy to share their hard-earned knowledge.

We thank the dedicated volunteers who have devoted their time and many talents, especially the Garden Tour committee and the hosts and hostesses at each garden. Our souvenir tour book advertisers are vital to the success of the tour. Please let them know that you appreciate their involvement.

The residents of Mt. Lebanon have nurtured their library in many ways. For nineteen years this tour has been one of those efforts. Funds raised by past Garden Tours have been used to expand and renovate the library building; improve indoor lighting; create the outdoor courtyard; provide furniture for the children's library and main magazine area; purchase an intercom system; acquire wireless Internet access; provide books, audio-visual materials, puppets, and programs for patrons; and do so much more. The library has been able to improve and offer services above and beyond the traditional library because of the generous support of fundraising efforts like the Garden Tour. Our many donors, sponsors, patrons, and benefactors, as well as all who purchase tickets for the tour have made all this happen, and we are confident that your support will continue way into the future.

We thank you all.

Enjoy the Garden Tour!

Sincerely,

David & Cynthia McKibben
Cil and David McKibben, Garden Tour Chairs
Mt. Lebanon Public Library

Cynthia K. Richey, Director
Mt. Lebanon Public Library

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The Day's Activities

12:00 Noon – 5:00 P.M.
Gardens open for touring

Master Gardeners
Rosarian from the Pittsburgh Rose Society

Lower level of the library:

The Book Cellar
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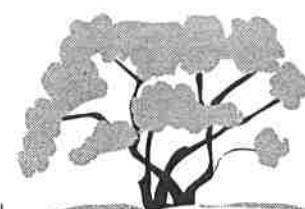
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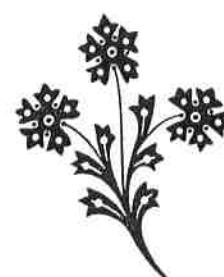
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Friends of the Mt. Lebanon Public Library Salute the Garden Tour!



The Friends is a non-profit, volunteer organization providing support services to the library. Any library patron may join the Friends. We need the enthusiastic response of the entire community to continue to give our library meaningful support. New people and new ideas keep organizations vital.

Your time and input can make a difference—please join today!

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Growing Guides for Green Thumbs and Budding Botanists

BOOKS

The Backyard Homestead / edited by Carleen Madigan / 630 B31

The Garden of Invention: Luther Burbank and the Business of Breeding Plants / Jane S. Smith / 630.92 S73

Grow Vegetables / Alan Buckingham / 635 B81

The Garden Primer / Barbara Damrosch / 635 D35

Time-Saving Gardener: Tips and Essential Tasks, Season by Season / Carolyn Hutchinson / 635 H87

Plant Seed, Pull Weed: Nurturing the Garden of Your Life / Geri Larkin / 635 L364

Fresh Food from Small Spaces: the Square Inch Gardener's Guide to Year-Round Growing, Fermenting, and Sprouting / R.J. Ruppenthal / 635 R86

Our Life in Gardens / Joe Eck and Wayne Winterrowd / 635.0922 E24

50 High-Impact, Low-Care Garden Plants / Tracy DiSabato-Aust / 635.9 D57

Bringing Nature Home: How You Can Sustain Wildlife with Native Plants / Douglas W. Tallamy / 639.92 T34

Plant-Driven Design: Creating Gardens that Honor Plants, Place, and Spirit / Scott Ogden & Lauren Springer Ogden / 712 O32

Designing and Planting Small Gardens: a Practical Guide to Successful Gardening in Smaller Spaces, with Step-by-Step Techniques and More than 700 Photographs / Peter McHoy / 712.6 M35

P. Allen Smith's Bringing the Garden Indoors: Containers, Crafts, and Bouquets for Every Room / P. Allen Smith / 747.98 S63

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Garden of

Cory & John Polena
853 Foxland Drive

Our foray into landscaping was shaped by where we were in our life – growing children, little money, and a steep hillside. Our choices were dictated by what we could afford and what could survive four children and a dog.

Later, Japanese maples provided beautiful bark, gorgeous foliage, shade from the baking summer sun. With more shade came varied hosta. We learned that green has many variations – from lively yellow that brightens the darkest corners to deep forest greens drawing you in with great leaf variety playing against each other. Height contrasts were found with miniature pines to towering maple. Winter is highlighted by varied barks and evergreen foliage. Spring is a riot of color from rhododendrons, azaleas, and the emerging leaves. In summer the wonderful shades of green take over punctuated with the blossoms of oak leaf hydrangeas and hostas.

As the children grew, they added to the landscape with water gardening. They helped create our first waterfall and pond stocked with fish. The yard was no longer large enough for games, so streams were their focus. Other features were designed with a stream flowing from the hillside, splitting in two and then cascading to the pond. The tree fort no longer has a ladder but a flight of stairs so that the aging Labrador can join us near our two Adirondack chairs. “Fort Ligonier” which began as a dirt pile for the kids is now a patio with a bench and a Japanese stone basin. We garden as many people decorate. Plants are frequently rearranged. They may not be thriving where they are, they may have outgrown their location or they may compliment another area better.

The yard has become a series of rooms with sweeps of grass that lead from one area to another, perfect for quiet contemplation.



The Holocaust Memorial Garden at Temple Emanuel of the South Hills 1250 Bower Hill Road

The Holocaust Memorial Garden at Temple Emanuel began with the inspiration of Holocaust survivor Marga Randall. Marga and her mother were able to escape Nazi Germany and come to the U.S. through the generosity of relatives living in Squirrel Hill. They were the only members of her family to escape. The others perished; victims of the Nazi atrocities.

As Marga grew up, married, and raised a family, a nagging guilt began to work at her conscience. Why had she been spared? Her message was “Remember! Never forget the horrors that one group of humans perpetrated on others!”

Marga recruited Penn State Master Gardener Lynn Rubin to help her develop a Holocaust Memorial Garden in an area made available through the expansion of Temple Emanuel. The garden was financed entirely by donations, which Marga personally raised. The garden began small and seemed to expand and develop a personality of its own. Features include two black granite benches inscribed with “Remember” in English and Hebrew; a granite boulder, much like a head stone, with the names of six of the major concentration camps; and a small granite marker, with soil from the ash pits at Auschwitz- Birkenau concentration camp buried beneath. The garden’s plantings are symbolic, to stir the memory of the Holocaust, those who suffered and perished. Plants include remembrances such as bleeding heart representing pain, sorrow and death; sky-blue forget-me-nots; burning bushes; straight red salvia symbolizing prison bars; and many more.

The garden is a work in progress. It is designed and planted to reach its glory in autumn at the Jewish holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. It is a young garden in July. We hope that visitors will understand and will revisit the garden in August and September, when it will mature for the season.



Garden of

Petra & Claus Fey
5 Woodland Drive

When we bought the house, the front and back yard had lots of grass, tall trees, and one large hedge. As many yards in Mt. Lebanon, we had only a steep hill and retaining wall to look at. Our small porch was tucked between the wings of the house and quite bare. We liked the contemporary house and thought the yard had potential, so we began to plan a “redo.” As we have two very large dogs, we needed to have a fence and more private space. When we first looked at fences, we felt the back yard was not so much about plants as structures and started to think about ways to change the whole appearance.

Once we decided to dig into this project, we started to look for a landscaper who would be able to realize our vision. Doug Andresky of Three Rivers Landscaping was our man. He created a plan that absolutely captured all our ideas, along with some of his own creativity. He was able to incorporate our unique topography and existing living structure to create a continuum, giving us an extension of our home into the outdoors.

As this project was just finished recently and the plants will need more time to be truly established, we expect the creation to evolve; but while we wait, we enjoy our own falling water feature, relaxing at the end of the day next to the fountain, feeling the warm evening sun, and having the privacy we wanted by elevating and landscaping the yard.

Astonishingly, the fence pulled it all together. Instead of just limiting the perimeters, it makes the yard look bigger. The dogs are happy, too, playing “king and queen of the hill!”



Garden of

Betsy & Michael Burns
158 Vernon Drive

When we moved in 14 years ago, the existing landscape was well-established, but not in keeping with our overall vision of the house and corner lot. The wall along Parkridge was decaying railroad ties and cinder block, covered with huge groupings of juniper. We knew we wanted to add a front porch, and our main focus was to make a more welcoming entrance and landscape.

Since Betsy had grown up in a family where helping in the garden was a daily chore – a chore that in turn became an appreciation of gardens – it seemed only natural to enlist the help of her sister, Sarah, a professional landscape designer, and brother, Mark, a manufacturer of organic “mulch” called Sweet Peat.

With their help, and inspiration from our late mother Jolie, a master gardener and prominent figure in the Cleveland gardening scene, we felt that a traditional English cutting garden would compliment our new wrap-around front porch.

Facing south, the front of the house receives full sun, which perennials love and need to thrive. The sloping hillside along Parkridge provides the needed drainage as well. From April to September, we enjoy the next bloom, from lilacs and peonies to lavender and lilies. As a bonus treat, it attracts a plethora of butterflies and songbirds throughout the summer. Along the porch, the structured boxwood provides four-season appeal, and the roses and annuals give it color and interest throughout the summer months.

Our backyard is our newest project. Started this Spring, it is anchored by select specimen evergreens to compliment our existing Japanese pine. More shaded, we have chosen a variety of hydrangeas and shade-loving perennials. Our new patio faces the sunset directly west, where we look forward to relaxing together after our teenagers have gone and left us to a much slower pace! We hope you enjoy our garden!



Garden of

Arlene & Fred Crissman
901 N. Meadowcroft Avenue

As a child, my family's property adjoined my grandparents' small farm in Banksville. Not only was my grandfather the town's blacksmith, maintaining mules for the coal mines peppering this valley, but he also tended an acre of corn and equal area of vegetables. That was where I learned to co-exist with nature (and the marauding cows which occasionally escaped from Earl Johnson's farm).

When our own child was born, I wanted her to have the same type of experiences. We hoped that she and the neighborhood children would swipe a handful of grapes, strawberries, a pear or two, some plums, or pull a carrot from the soil to eat while out playing. She tells us they did just that. Today we are trying to provide the same experience for our grandchildren.

Urban gardeners must use the space available to them as creatively as possible. We have several small raised beds of vegetables where we do three successive plantings during the summer. We grow our favorite varieties from seed; we purchase the rest as seedlings from local farms. We are also big on fruit trees and have three pear, two apple, and one nectarine; also, blueberry bushes and two large strawberry beds. A pergola with grape tomatoes and cucumbers hanging down through the roof lattice covers our side deck. Pole beans and larger tomato varieties grow in pots on the deck.

Years ago, cows raided my grandparents' garden with the same frequency as deer raid Mt. Lebanon gardens today. Solutions now are more high tech. Motion activated sprinklers keep (so far) the deer out of the flowerbeds. When summers became hotter, we purchased sunshade netting (reducing the heat underneath by 30%) for over the vegetable beds. Rolling down the sides of our "vegetable garage" at night keeps deer from enjoying a salad at our expense.

We hope you enjoy the gardens as much as we do.



Garden of

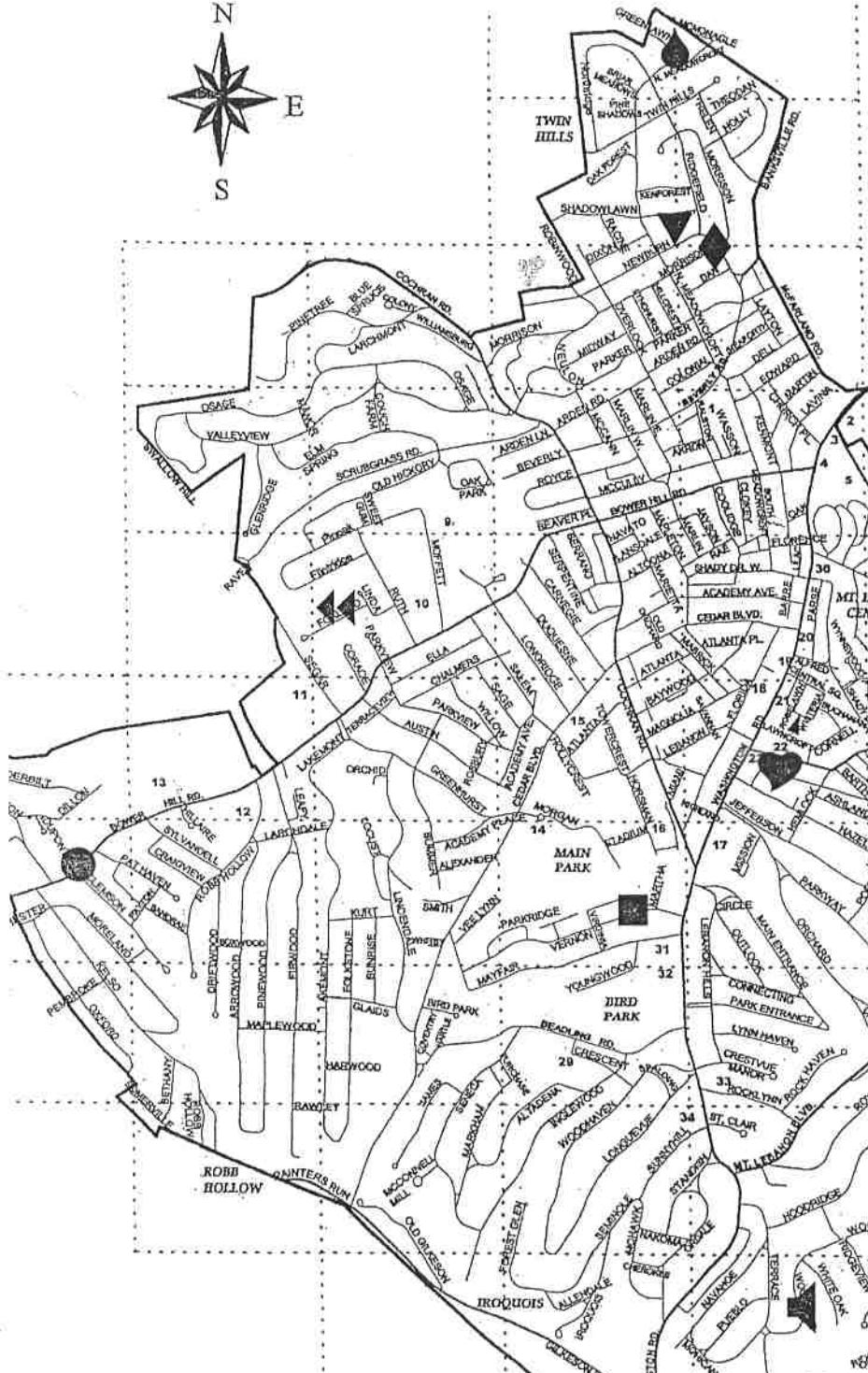
Joan & Mike Mastrean
232 Newburn Drive

Our eclectic garden is a brilliant work of art created by my wife Joan. Motivated by her passion for toiling in "mother nature" and determined by her playful spirit, this garden is an ever-changing profusion of color that brings us much joy. Joan holds the green thumb and vision doing most of work. My function is laborer, with our two Golden Retriever puppies serving as foremen, even though sometimes they fall asleep on the job.

The front walkway is lined with begonias and silver queen bordered with Belgian block. A Canadian maple and crabapple tree stand tall in the center of the front bed. Surrounding and outlining the trees are climbing roses, Alberta spruce, tardiva hydrangea and butterfly bushes, along with Diablo ninebarks, burning bushes and other hydrangeas. A wide assortment of perennials can be found such as variegated hosta, day lilies, Queen Anne's lace, and delphiniums. Many other annuals are overflowing in the window boxes and decorative pots along the front porch. Walking along the pebble-stone side paths lead to the back gardens, which offered the perfect landscape backdrop for our wedding reception.

Dozens of trees have been planted here within the past 5 years with outdoor lighting bringing the gardens alive at night. Plantings in the rear include magnolias, flowering pears, and maples bordered with Belgian block with two-ton of stone that we set into the landscape. Mixed in with the dogwood and plum trees are wide varieties of roses and hydrangeas. Lavender, chamomile, sage, lemon balm, hollyhocks, weigelas, black-eyed Susan and peppermint produce many fragrances to tickle your nose. The deck contains planters of various tropical flowers.

The garden sometimes overwhelms us, but it never disappoints. We hope you enjoy the space as much as we do.



DIRECTIONS TO THE GARDENS 2009

The following directions start from the Library ♥ at 16 Castle Shannon Blvd. (just off Washington Road) and guide you to the first garden you choose. There is no particular order that is recommended. The Garden Hosts/Hostesses will have a map at each garden if you need assistance or more details to help you find your next destination.

853 Foxland Drive

From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Bower Hill Road. After proceeding through three stoplights, turn right onto Ruth Street. At stop sign, turn left onto Linda Lane. Turn left onto Foxland Drive. (*This street ends in a cul-de-sac.*)

● 1250 Bower Hill Road

From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Bower Hill Road. Continue past Asbury Heights and St. Clair Hospital. At the sixth stoplight from Washington Road, turn right into the Temple Emanuel.

5 Woodland Drive

From the Library, turn left onto Washington Road. Go approximately 1.1 miles and turn left onto Terrace. Go approximately 0.3 miles and turn left to stay on Terrace. Turn left onto Woodland Drive. (*An alternative would be directly on Washington, past the Galleria and left at Connor, left on Terrace and left on Woodlawn directly to the garden's corner lot.*)

■ 158 Vernon Drive

From the Library, turn left onto Washington Road. After third stoplight, turn right onto Vernon Drive.

◆ 901 North Meadowcroft Avenue

From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Bower Hill Road. Turn right onto N. Meadowcroft. At stop sign, turn left and stay to right of island to stay on N. Meadowcroft. Proceed through stoplight (crossing Beverly Road) and continue on N. Meadowcroft. The garden is on the corner of N. Meadowcroft and Greenlawn Road. (*Greenlawn is a dead-end street.*)

▼ 232 Newburn Drive

From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Bower Hill Road. Turn right onto N. Meadowcroft. At stop sign, turn left to stay on N. Meadowcroft. Proceed through stoplight and cross over Beverly Road. Turn right onto Newburn Drive.

◆ 214 Morrison Drive

From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Bower Hill Road. Turn right onto North Meadowcroft. At stop sign, turn left and stay to right of island to stay on North Meadowcroft. Proceed through stoplight (crossing Beverly Road) to continue on North Meadowcroft. Turn right onto Morrison Drive.





Garden of Christopher Nagel 214 Morrison Drive

In terms of “garden” years, our landscape is very young, starting in 2007 using ten years’ worth of collected conifers, perennials, and rock moved with us. We first replaced the tenacious English Ivy on the front hillside, the most visible space from the road. Because of its steep slope, we think the front space will lend itself and evolve into an interesting rock garden, one that people passing by will enjoy.

In the back we removed the existing, overgrown shrubs and created raised perimeter beds. We took advantage of the uneven, sloping backyard and created a three-tiered water feature, one of our favorite spots. We can relax here hearing running water and observe our children, dogs, birds, and fish. Lastly, we also extended the back patio and created a sitting area around a fire pit.

The only way into the yard is up our front 14 steps, which makes every rock, plant, and bucket full of dirt, truly, a labor of love. It’s not an easy yard to garden or configure, but the lot is larger than most and being higher up creates a sense of being away from it all.

Having two Bernese Mountain dogs adds to the challenge. They don’t seem to have discriminating tastes when it comes to digging up, pulling out, and eating greenery. It’s not uncommon to be greeted with the sight of my latest planting strewn across the yard. But we are as much dog lovers as we are plant lovers and through it all I’m learning to create a garden that is not only beautiful, but is also functional for our family of 3 kids and 4 dogs.

As a young boy, my love for landscaping and plants came from observing my dad, Walt Nagel, who was years ahead of his time in terms of his vision and interpretation of the landscape aesthetic. My landscaping philosophy has been influenced by my father’s in that the garden is an opportunity to design and create, touch, feel, smell, and even taste something that ultimately appears seamless like nature itself.

**Grow your mind, grow your garden...
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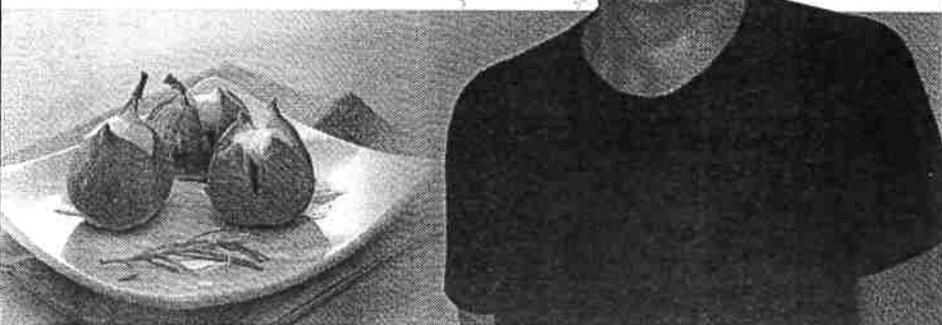
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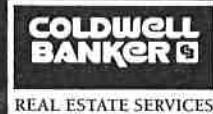


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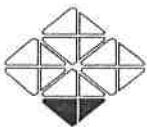
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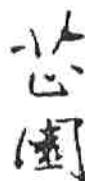
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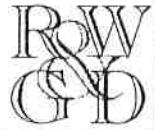
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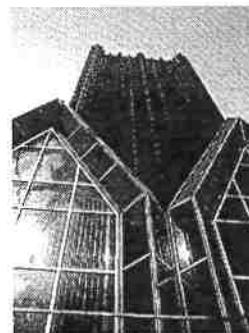


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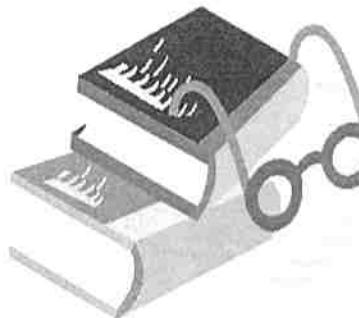
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