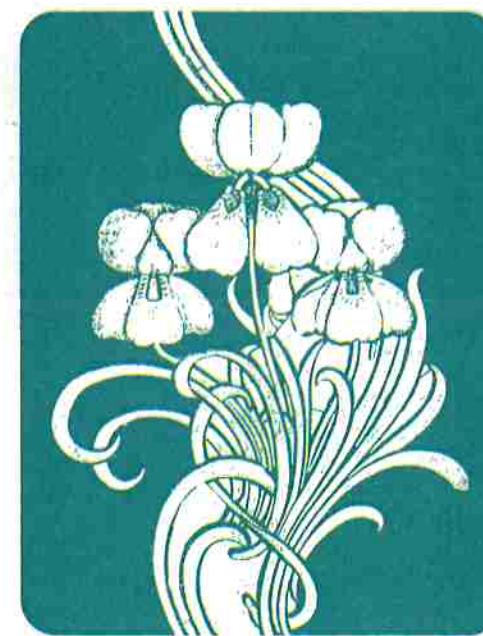


21st Annual

Mt. Lebanon Public Library

GARDEN TOUR



SUNDAY, JULY 10, 2011

12-5 pm

Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 on tour day

FOR INFORMATION,
CALL 412-531-1912

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Mt. Lebanon Public Library

July 10, 2011

Dear Library Friends and Tour Goers,

Welcome to the 21st 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 new ideas 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. Please feel free to ask questions; the gardeners are always happy to share their hard-earned knowledge.

Be sure to visit the lower level of the library today, where tour activities will include the annual plant sale, free consultations with Penn State Master Gardeners and Pittsburgh Rose Society Consulting Rosarians, and special promotion offers at The Book Cellar, the library's used bookstore.

We thank the dedicated volunteers who have devoted their time and many talents, especially the Garden Tour committee, the hosts and hostesses at each garden, the Master Gardeners and garden consultants. 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 twenty-one years this tour has been one of those efforts. Funds raised by past Garden Tours helped build the new library and the outdoor courtyard, and have provided books, audio-visual materials, puppets, and programs for patrons of all ages. We plan to use this year's proceeds for unabridged audiobooks, educational videos, subscriptions to databases, and programs for children, teens, and adults. 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 far into the future.

We thank you all.

Enjoy the Garden Tour!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia K. Richey".

Cynthia K. Richey
Kathleen A. Mays
Garden Tour Chairs.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David H. McKibben".

David H. McKibben
Garden Tour Coordinator

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harold M. Hall".

Harold M. Hall
President, Board of Trustees
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The Day's Activities

12:00 Noon – 5:00 P.M.

Gardens open for touring

Master Gardeners

Rosarians from the Pittsburgh Rose Society

Lower level of the library:

Tickets and programs available

Restrooms

The Book Cellar ~ used books, baubles,
refreshments for sale

Plant Sale ~ sale features the best plants from
Mt. Lebanon gardeners at \$1, \$3, and \$5

Call 412-531-1912

for more information.

Mt. Lebanon Public Library
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LIBRARY FACT:

- The library has a collection of 172,315 items.
- 12,671 hours were donated to the library by more than 247 volunteers in 2010.

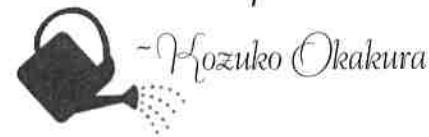
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constant friends.*



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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

Your Farm in the City: An Urban-Dweller's Guide to Growing Food and Raising Animals | Lisa Taylor | 630.91732 T39

Growing at the Speed of Life: A Year in the Life of My First Kitchen Garden | Graham Kerr | 635 K67

Back to Basics: Traditional Garden Wisdom: Time-tested Tips and Techniques for Creating a Natural, Sustainable Outdoor Space | Charlie Ryrie and Anne Halpin | 635 R96

The New American Landscape: Leading Voices on the Future of Sustainable Gardening | Thomas Christopher | 635.048 C56

The Conscientious Gardener: Cultivating a Garden Ethic | Sarah Hayden Reichard | 635.048 R43

The No-Dig Garden Specialist: The Essential Guide to Growing Vegetables, Salads and Soft Fruit in Raised No-Dig Beds | Alan Bridgewater | 635.0484 B73

American Horticultural Society Great Plant Guide | 635.9 A3

Embroidered Ground: Revisiting the Garden | Page Dickey | 635.9 D51

The Complete Guide to Growing Vegetables, Flowers, Fruits, and Herbs from Containers: Everything You Need to Know Explained Simply | Lizz Shepherd | 635.986 S52

The Vegetable Gardener's Container Bible: How to Grow a Bounty of Food in Pots, Tubs, and Other Containers | Edward Smith | 635.986 S63

Landscaping for Your Home | Editor Catriona Erler | 712 E74

PERIODICALS

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DATABASES, WEBSITES, & ORGANIZATIONS

GreenFile Database www.mtlebanonlibrary.org

National Gardening Association www.garden.org

Garden Club of Allegheny County www.gcacpgh.org

Pennsylvania Native Plant Society www.pawildflower.org

Fine Gardening www.finegardening.com



Garden of
Hazel & Alan Cope
918 Osage Road

Sitting comfortably under a shady tree on a peaceful sunny day, with beautiful foliage, sky and birds all around, has always been one of my visions of happiness. Now I can hardly believe my good fortune in being able to enjoy just that in our own back yard, and my chaise under the old magnolia is my favourite place in the world. Of course I spend much more time crouched in the dirt with a trowel than lying on my chaise, but I mostly enjoy that too. I have less flowers in the back than in the front in hopes that I'll be less tempted to keep digging and get some reading done instead.

We've lived here for over thirty years. The "bones" of the garden - the walls and steps in the back - were here when we came, but the landscape was mostly foundation shrubs and clipped yews, and we planted all the trees except the magnolia and the hollies in back. We are most proud of the two fine birches near the street. I do most of the gardening and Alan looks after the grass and we both agree to live with ground ivy and clover in it rather than keep spraying. We also prefer some leaves in the beds to noisy leafblowers. I choose many plants for their value to birds and bees, but I'm an impulse buyer more than planner. The garden is mostly bulbs, shrubs and perennials and we get much joy from seeing them come back each spring. I find it difficult to cut down anything living so even though the flowerbeds get bigger they seem to get more crowded each year. We love sharing plants with friends. We are on regular deer and turkey dinner routes and have to consider that when planting. There's a small pond, and a lower garden down the steps with a prolific mulberry tree but we don't garden there much - we've got plenty to do elsewhere!



Garden of
Charlotte Sonne
746 North Meadowcroft

Thirty-one years ago, on our first day of looking for houses in our new town, we saw our North Meadowcroft house. It was a nice little stone Tudor, but when I looked out the window and saw the garden in back, all terraced and lovely, I was absolutely smitten! I ran up the stone steps and saw all the plants that I knew would be in an old fashioned cottage garden. I was in heaven. I didn't even look at the bedrooms!

Since that fateful day, the garden has had many transformations. At first I loved just wondering at what was there and pulling out a few weeds. I love a kind of wild, random look. My mother-in-law, my first gardening mentor, gave me a few wild daisies and feverfew. Oh my! I really do let them come up at will, but in early June they are a great show while everything else waits to bloom in the mid-summer.

We all know that lemons make lemonade and in the garden this is true in spades. The two gorgeous trees in the back that were the cornerstone of the garden were hit by storms and are no longer there. It used to be a total shade garden and now is full out sun! The banks behind the house are full of sun loving plants now: hibiscus, day lilies, basket of gold, phlox, sambucus niger "Black Lace," grasses, perennial sunflowers, geranium rozanne, etc.

Last year when the 200-foot spruce was snapped off in that April micro-burst it opened up another third of the back garden. We planted eight new trees! Then I decided to put in a little woodland path with many hostas, ferns, Acteas, astilbe. There were also more beds at the top with Joe Pye, mints, Virginia sweet spires, etc.

It is still wild, wooly, random, and full of variety and whimsy. I join other gardeners by saying that it is still very much a work in process, certainly not "done," but I can't wait to share it with the tour this year.



Garden of

Nancy & Scott Tashman
66 Roycroft Ave.



I started my garden in 2006 when we moved to Pittsburgh from the Detroit suburbs. I arrived with a box of my favorite hostas and offshoots from three colors of lilacs.

Since then, I've added or extended beds every year. The back slope has been the biggest challenge. After trying myrtle, lamium and lily of the valley, I finally found a combination of remnants of the former plus hostas, daylilies and liriope to stabilize the area.

Last year, lightning hit a mature ash tree in the front yard, dropping a third of the tree on the house with the chimney taking the brunt of the blow. Falling brick smashed a newly planted weeping redbud tree, and one of my shade gardens was exposed to full sun. I moved the damaged redbud tree to the back yard, relocated the shade plants to the side and back and planted new trees in the front.

Working in the garden is my favorite activity spring through fall. I love the physical demands of the work as well as the instant gratification of seeing a new bed, the manicured look of freshly added mulch or a new tree ring. My favorite time in the garden is early morning when I go out to water the containers. I'm always on patrol to see what is new, deadheading on the way. My favorite flowers are peonies and lilacs, and my favorite surprise performer is fallopia, a shrub-like shade perennial. My biggest disappointment has been difficulty in establishing a stand of lilacs.

In the spring, it's exciting watching the bulbs planted last fall come up and seeing everything come to life again. There are always a few plants that don't come back and adjustments of existing plants that don't look as healthy as they should. That's just part of the joy of gardening as a constant work in progress.



Garden of

Claire Schuchman
308 Shadowlawn Ave.

Our garden is a compilation of three generations of gardeners beginning in 1937 when the original owner's vision produced natural stone walls and lovely brick paths connecting several outdoor spaces in a wooded setting. Their son took over in the early 1960's culminating with a lovely garden wedding in the 1980's. Twelve years ago when we arrived the beauty had faded, the paths were worn and crooked, the woods had overtaken the plantings; and the cement pond that had once captured water from a natural spring cried out to be restored.

We started by removing multi-flora roses and overgrown shrubs in the rear. We brought in shade-loving bloomers like azaleas, rhododendrons, hydrangea quercifolia and hydrangea "Annabelle." A beautiful vine called Hydrangea schizophagma "Moolight" graces a venerable oak. It would take 10 years before we were able to re-hab the old cement pond and stone fountain, this we were able to accomplish for my dad's 90th birthday family reunion weekend.

The front is a classic shade garden filled with hollies, hydrangeas, rhododendrons, hostas, astilbe, ferns, ligularia, brunnera, cimicifuga and black mondo grass under planted with golden creeping jenny. Over the years we have lost trees, adding sun. We were able to put in roses under planted with geranium Rozanne and even a small vegetable and herb garden.

Many changes have taken place in our garden over the years, including the loss of 7 mature trees in the microburst of April 2010. They lay in the garden like a giant of "Pick-up Sticks." The upper path above the pond was obliterated along with the railing and the former waterfall. We re-built the waterfall and created a new railing using the natural wood branches from the downed oaks. When repairing the path we added a recycled brick mosaic of two gold fish swimming toward each other. The vision lives on.



Garden of

Christine Edelmann
&
Edward (Ned) Teeple
40 St. Clair Drive

Although we love to entertain family and friends on the porch overlooking our backyard garden, the garden normally provides a place for us to relax following a hectic day at work. The pie-shaped lot provides a large backyard. Large mature trees in the neighborhood provided a framework to begin. This is a twenty year project with help from Paul Fitzgerald (Landscaper) and Alan London (neighbor).

The garden was intended to be a four season design. The idea for this occurred after accidentally wandering into the Phipps Conservatory Japanese Garden during a snowy day. Multiple muted colors of evergreens contrasted against the hard structures of bark, masonry, stone and grass created beauty even on that cold and snowy day. From the porch and the lower yard, look behind the summer flowers to see the other garden that emerges in December. Walkways, a series of waterfalls, support walls and a large patio were added to bring activities and visitors down into the lower yard.

In the spring serial rotation blooms of forsythia, daffodils, tulips give way to colorful blooms of pear, weeping apple, plum, Japanese cherry and crabapple trees. Dogwoods also add colors to the yard.

As late spring turns to summer daylilies and different hosta create borders. Smaller red and green Japanese maples fill in. Large areas bloom with 'heart of fire' mountain laurels, azaleas, and varied rhododendrons. The multi-leveled waterscape provides pleasant sounds and views of fish swimming under the yellow and pink water lilies.

During early to mid summer ground cover roses and dianthus provide color to the hill separating the two yard levels. In the evening the smells of Asian lilies drift in the night air. Perennial flowers are planted in shaded areas along with brighter border flowers to create summer blooms. Rose of Sharon bloom from July to October.

In September cushion mums flower, along with the changing colors of all the trees. Then, the muted beauty of the Japanese Garden returns.



Garden of

Jean & Harry Ross
(Harry's Garden)
489 Parkview Drive

When we first moved here, in 1987, we were young and busy with our careers. Our yards all ran into each other, with no fences or boundaries. Soon, we got a beloved pet, and added a fence to keep an active dog in place. Babies were next, and summers of plastic pools, a backyard playground, and hours spent under the shade of the large silver maple. All along, we would experiment with a wide variety of annuals and perennials. Then came a vegetable garden. This later became a large sand playground. A rock garden was built from recycled wall material. When the children outgrew the playground the real gardening began.

A row of hedges was removed to open up the whole yard. The pond was added and has been rebuilt many times. Harry says it is finally perfect. The backyard was dug out, and the soil repositioned and lined with bricks to build up the gardens and lay the flat stones. A pergola on deck was added then another, replacing the old storage area and is now called the "Tunnel of Love." It has a swing where countless hours are spent reading and relaxing on warm evenings.

The front yard has similarly evolved. It has been leveled and seeded numerous times. The annuals have gradually given way to more perennials. A few accent annuals are still used for extra color. The whole yard is filled with prizes and presents from past Father's Days and annual Arts Festivals.

What has evolved are summers of re-digging ponds, rethinking the backyard, re-positioning shrubs, plants and furniture. It is a culmination of constant experimentation with plants and design. The main goal was always working towards an outdoor space that was functional as well as beautiful. It is our own little oasis in the heart of Mt. Lebanon.



Garden of
Cecelia & David McKibben
483 Longridge Drive

The last time tour-goers visited this property, the back garden was canopied by a 70' silver maple producing complete shade. Seven years ago this tree was lost and the garden suddenly had light. We quickly used the change in environment to begin planting various roses and sun-loving perennials. Now the garden has approximately 130 rose bushes, mostly miniature and shrubs, integrated with other landscape plantings.

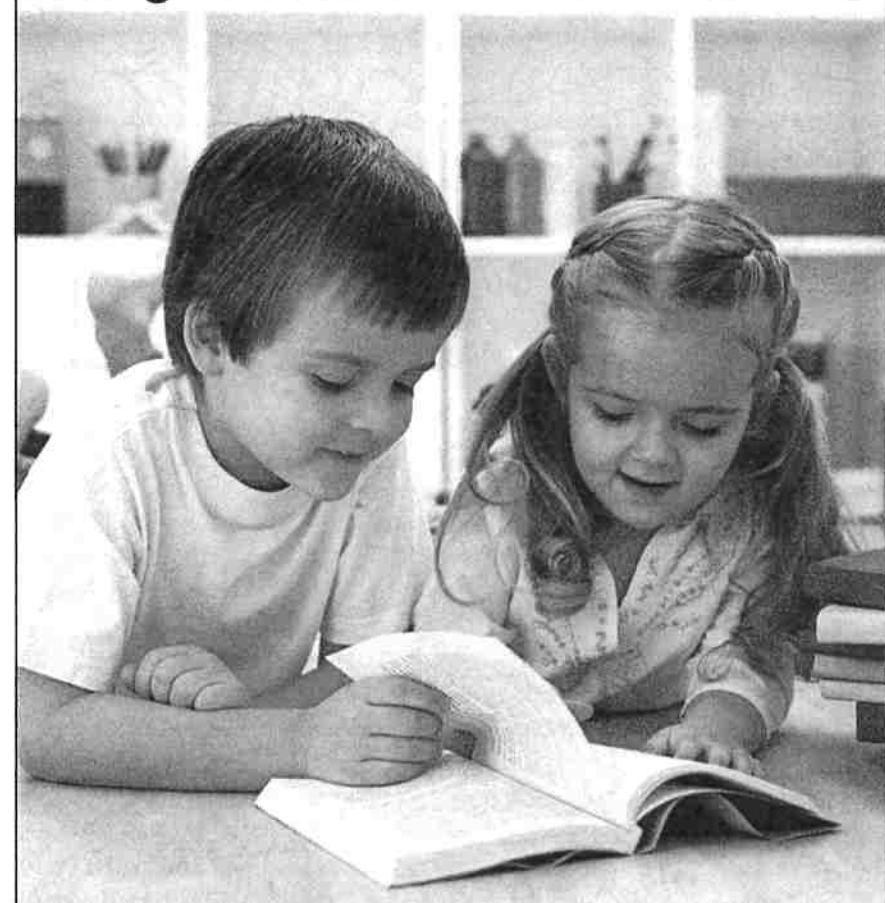
The front space remains a shade garden, planted under a mature northern red oak. Tree roots are a major hindrance to planting, but we have become adept at container gardening and now can grow almost anything in a pot. From early spring to fall, serial plantings of lettuces, other vegetables, and herbs grow in their own container away from the invading thirsty tree roots.

Like most of Mt. Lebanon, our space is sloped and terraced, which when we first started gardening, some 30 years ago, seemed like a great deterrence to growing, but now simply gives us reason to eliminate more lawn grass and try different ground covers.

The most unbelievable change since we started to garden is the new wildlife mix in our area. Roaming deer herds, groundhogs, and rabbits all practically stand in line waiting a chance to feast on our garden plants. When we first moved to Mt. Lebanon, a deer was something you might see if you were really lucky in a State Forest, not in your own backyard. Now we use deer netting, privacy fencing and gallons of liquid spray repellent to keep a herd of 10 that approach the garden daily at bay.

If you have any questions about growing roses in Mt. Lebanon, please seek out the Consulting Rosarian from the Pittsburgh Rose Society who will be at the garden during the tour.

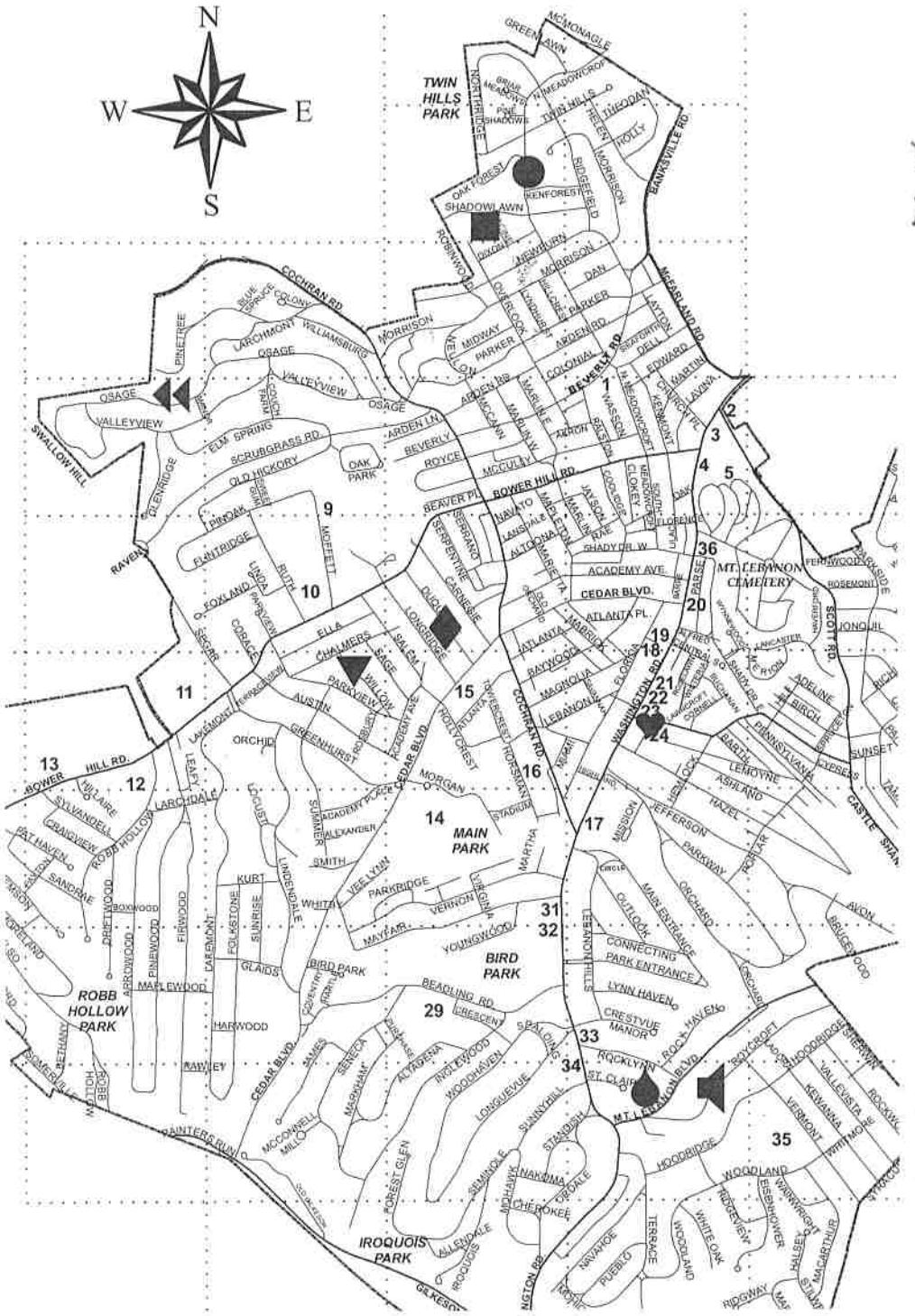
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DIRECTIONS TO THE GARDENS 2011

The following directions starts 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.

◀ **918 Osage Road** - From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road to Bower Hill Road (St. Bernard Church on the right). Go left on Bower Hill to Cochran Road at next light. Go right on Cochran and continue to second light at Osage Road on the left (Parker goes off to the right). Go left on Osage; this road quickly splits. Stay right to the garden at 918 Osage on the right. (2.7 miles total)

● **746 North Meadowcroft** - From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road. Turn left onto Bower Hill Road (St. Bernard Church is on the right). Turn right onto North Meadowcroft, continue to 746 North Meadowcroft on the right. This is a busy street; please use caution when parking. (2.5 miles total)

◀ **66 Roycroft Avenue** - From the Library, turn left onto Washington Road. Continue to Mt. Lebanon Blvd and go left on Mt. Lebanon Blvd (1.3 miles) to Roycroft on the right (450 ft.). Go right onto Roycroft to 66 Roycroft on the right. (2.1 miles total)

■ **308 Shadowlawn Avenue** - From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road to Bower Hill (St. Bernard Church on the right) (0.7 mile). Go left on Bower Hill to North Meadowcroft (1.8 miles). Turn right onto North Meadowcroft to 308 Shadowlawn on the right. (2.4 miles total) This is a dead-end street. Please turn up Racine Avenue to exit.

● **40 St. Clair Drive** - From the Library, turn left onto Washington Road to St. Clair Drive (0.9 miles). Go left onto St. Clair to 40 St. Clair on the right. This street is a cul de sac. Please park with the flow of traffic. (1 mile total)

▼ **489 Parkview Drive** - From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road to Bower Hill Road (St. Bernard Church on the right). Left on Bower Hill (continue past Asbury Heights) to Parkview at the 4th light. Turn Left on Parkview to 489 Parkview Drive on the left. (2.1 miles)

◆ **483 Longridge Drive** - From the Library, turn right onto Washington Road to Cedar Blvd (goes off from the left, 1.1 miles). Go left onto Cedar and continue across Cochran Road to Longridge Drive (the third street). Go right up Longridge to 483 Longridge on the right.

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HDR wishes the Mount Lebanon Public Library great success at this year's 21st Annual Garden Tour! Thank you for all the hard work you do to provide a great library for our community.



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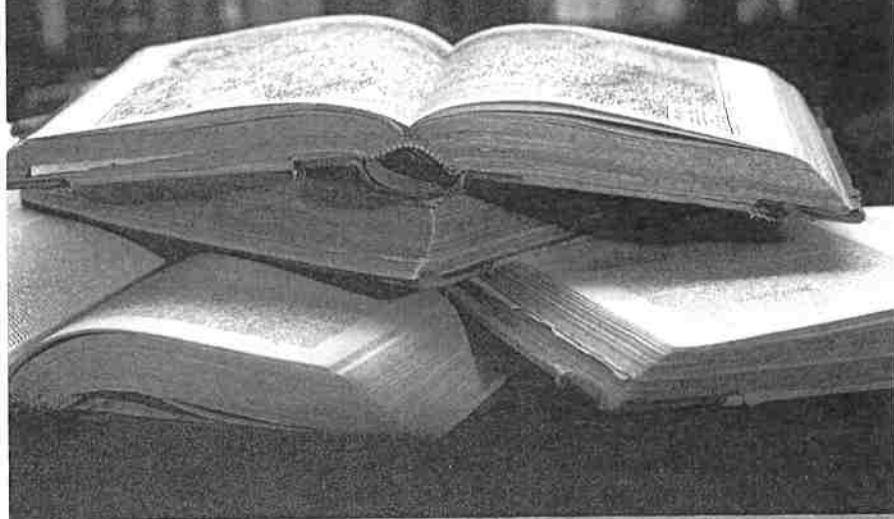
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