

## QUICK TAKES

### GARDENING

#### Focus on communities

Community gardens will be celebrated at the Monroe County Fair that takes place July 14-18.

The 2010 fair will have a special section devoted to community garden exhibits.

Community garden organizations in Monroe and surrounding counties are invited to exhibit flowers, vegetables and displays representing their gardens.

Individual gardeners can exhibit their plants in the general sections.

For more information about community gardens at the fair, contact Sal Madonna at (585) 764-9360.

### BLACK THUMB?

#### Master Gardener help

Are insect pests taking over your yard or is your green thumb failing you? If so, ask a Master Gardener through a Cornell Cooperative Extension office.

Wayne County has announced that Master Gardeners will be available Tuesdays and Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon to answer your calls with gardening problems or advice on garden and landscape topics.

Recommendations by the Master Gardeners are free of charge; soil tests and plant and insect ID carry a small fee. Emerald Ash Borer identification is free this year.

Master Gardeners of Cornell Cooperative Extension Wayne County provides gardeners with Cornell University research-based recommendations.

Call (315) 331-8415, ext. 107, for assistance.

The Master Gardeners of Monroe County also has a garden helpline that's open from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Call (585) 473-5335 with your questions.

### YOUR HOME

#### Lasting design

Interior design, like fashion, is an ever-changing industry.

Styles, materials, furnishings and décor similarly follow trends and seasons. Good interior design will provide flexibility and lasting aesthetic value.

Interiors expert Elaine Williamson of Elaine Williamson Designs in New York ([www.ElaineWilliamsonDesigns.com](http://www.ElaineWilliamsonDesigns.com)) offers this glimpse of current trends in home design and "décor-scape":

**"Bone-dacious" furnishings.** For the past few decades, designers have purchased furniture that served one particular style purpose for a specific room. This meant that, as soon as the property owner or manager decided to redecorate a space, all new base furnishings had to be purchased. Lately, however, it's become popular among designers to purchase a quality piece of furniture that is desirable — with good "bones" — with the



File photo 2004

**Advice for tending your garden is available through a helpline.**

intent to reupholster it as fashions change, rather than simply discarding it when it's time to update the look of a room.

**Dodge disposable décor.** Designers are no longer purchasing one-time use "disposable" décor items, be it furniture, rugs, window treatments and decorative items. Instead, they consider a piece's re-usability in another future



design when considering a purchase.

**Color craze.** The world of color has undergone a makeover of late, too, with yellow and gray paving the way.

Together, these colors add a level of calm to the feel of a room, while still adding eye-catching pops of color.

Gray, a rather neutral color, works well as a base color on upholstered furniture, especially when coupled with another hot trend right now — espresso-stained wood.

This stain color, which exudes an air of sleek sophistication, is an enduring classic that has realized a surge in popularity.

**See the light.** Lighting is currently making a huge push in the marketplace. As the design of table lamps has waned and the style of homes has begun to embrace cleaner lines, pendant and other types of overhead lighting are popular choices for making a major design statement.

**Bringing the indoors out.** Gone are the days of wrought iron outdoor furniture. If you can imagine outdoor furniture used at a posh Vegas resort pool, the same is available for your own outdoor living space at home. Outdoor fire elements are also a big trend. □

*Staff writer Mary Chao compiled the listings for this column. Send home and garden tips, events and story ideas to [mchao@DemocratandChronicle.com](mailto:mchao@DemocratandChronicle.com) or 55 Exchange Blvd., Rochester, NY 14614. Please include your daytime phone number.*