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## A preview of this year's gardens

**Michele McMillan.** This garden is a perennial memory cottage garden started by McMillan's sister, Nanette, who was professionally educated in floral design. The many varieties of perennials include electric blue, pink, purple, lace cap, mop flowering Anna Belle hydrangeas, old-fashioned pink dianthus, clusters of purple phlox. A variety of hostas can be seen everywhere. Fuchsia and yellow chrysanthemums blossom in late summer. The fragrance of lavender brings a peaceful aroma as you walk toward the purple butterfly bush. A patio fountain adds to the garden's tranquility.

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**Ruth Heidebreicht.** See main story.

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**Elizabeth and David Miller.** Elizabeth has a passion for planting edibles throughout the yard. The couple also use greenscaping and reuse of materials (they used concrete from the original driveway for a retaining wall). Innovative use of small space include a fairy garden, a Japanese garden feature and a tree house for the children. All to complement their Craftsman house with its period fence and arbor.

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**Sue Kane.** Professionally landscaped by landscape architect Jason Arnott of Earth Environments as a personal summer retreat. The garden features a tree-canopied stone circle patio, easy to care for flowers in unique planters and evergreens. Comfortable chairs are surrounded by Kane's collection of outdoor antiques. Arnott will be at the garden to answer questions. Music will be provided by Austin Scott.

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**Sean McManus.** There is a small greenhouse in the backyard where McManus grows most of the abundance of the flowers and gazebo. The flower-packed front yard cutting garden has more than 50 dinner plate dahlias, zinnias, oriental lilies, day lilies and sunflowers of different varieties. The border is geraniums and Gerbera daisies.

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**Joyce Kerr.** Charmed by the English cottage style in a small lot overflowing with blooms, dense plantings are used to maximize space. In the front yard, day lilies, sedum, mums and many annuals. A trumpet vine-covered arbor invites you in from the west of the house. A 200-year-old chestnut tree on the property line shades the backyard and deck. Coleus, hydrangeas and impatiens add color.

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**Jan and Dean Bryant.** As you enter the garden, you will notice the rock garden. The rocks were all gathered from the yard. The arbor is covered by a porcelain berry vine. Some of the perennials in this area include coral bell, ajuga, primrose, bleeding heart and a collection of brunneria. Following the path around the garden, notice the circular tree bench, hostas enjoying the shade, and cushions on the bench inviting you to sit and enjoy the garden. The fern garden is next, continuing along the path, vinca, corydalis astilbe, poppies and yucca plants. On the patio is a geranium print table cloth that matches the patio geranium plants. A sun garden features a fountain surrounded by sun-loving flowers.

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**Richard and Carole Tapper.** Back by popular demand the Tapper gardens covers 3-1/2 acres with both a Japanese and European atmosphere. The gardens began in 2000 as a hobby and quickly became a labor of love. You will see three beautiful Japanese-style ponds, an 180-foot reflecting pool and three waterfalls. The gardens include sculptures by nationally renowned bronze artist Jason Napier. The gardens contain more than 4,000 bushes, trees and plants. There are also additional smaller garden, art and pond areas throughout the 10-acre estate, including a raised vegetable garden. The Tapper gardens are a unique and beautiful experience for nature lovers of all ages. The peacefulness of the gardens is immediately obvious to all.

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**Bob and Kim Wing.** This is an English garden developed as a courtyard setting, complete with a fountain and pond. You will notice the element of coziness in the garden through both the tall cedars enclosing the garden and the accompanying natural sunken effect. The privacy encourages people walking by to peek through to get a glimpse as they hear the charm of the fountain water falling through the various levels. A pitching golf area makes up the east side along with a historic English park bench recently imported from their uncle in England.

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**Garden Walk Artist Market** by Patty and Bob Kelly's barn. Garden Artists Market group includes 12 artists, as well as an antique dealer specializing in garden accents, garden twig and log furniture, photography, antiques, glass assemblages and Patty Kelly's new Star Clay concept with functional and sculptural garden art, live music. The Romeo Garden Club will be selling plants and garden books. A portion of the proceeds benefit the Friends of the Library. A silent auction has donated items from local merchants with all proceeds benefiting the Kezar and Graubner library branches.