

Garden clubs are getting ready for planting season

BY KRISTEN COUNTS
Special to the Record-Eagle

Area garden clubs will be offering a variety of opportunities in the coming season, from garden walks to daffodil sales, in addition to planting and maintaining their community flower beds.

Many clubs are focused on environmental and horticultural education, some work on planting projects with area children.

The following is a sampling of area garden clubs and their upcoming season:

■ The Edelweiss Garden Club in Gaylord formed 19 years ago. Carol Brown, club president, said that their Garden Walk is July 16 with six gardens featured on the tour, all in the city of Gaylord.

"You can see how city folks do their gardens," said Brown.

Refreshments will be provided at the MSU Extension Office, where visitors will be able to view the Experimental Garden.

Buses will be available to those who prefer convenient transportation between the gardens. The show will be from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door.

Club meetings, which are open to the public, are held on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:30 a.m. at the Michave Clubhouse in Gaylord. Dues are \$5 per year.

For more information, contact Carol Brown at 585-7148.

■ The Elk Rapids Garden Club formed in 1931. Karen Kane, club president, said that their mission statement is to beautify our homes and villages; cultivate a taste, knowledge and love of flowers, plants and trees and a

true friendship among ourselves.

The club will host their Annual Garden Walk on July 15 in Elk Rapids, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Kane said that for the first time they will provide a form of art at each of the six gardens, including a quilt display and a string quartet. The tour will end with beverages at the Blue Heron Art Museum. Tickets are \$7 and will be available as of June 1 at the Chamber of Commerce. Tickets may also be purchased by calling Karen Kane at 938-3283, Elaine Olson at 264-0349, or Myrta Keelan at 264-5816. Club meetings are open to the public, and are held on the last Tuesday of every month at 12:30 p.m. in the First Presbyterian Church in Elk Rapids.

"You're going to meet a bunch of wonderful people who work well together and strive for beauty in their community," said Kane.

■ The Friendly Garden Club of Traverse City celebrated their 80th anniversary in 2002. Their object is to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening among all ages; to aid in the



The above ponds can be seen at one of the homes on the Friendly Garden Club's annual walk on July 17. This year's theme is Gardening by the Lake, featuring gardens along south Lake Leelanauu.

See GARDEN, Page 3 ▶



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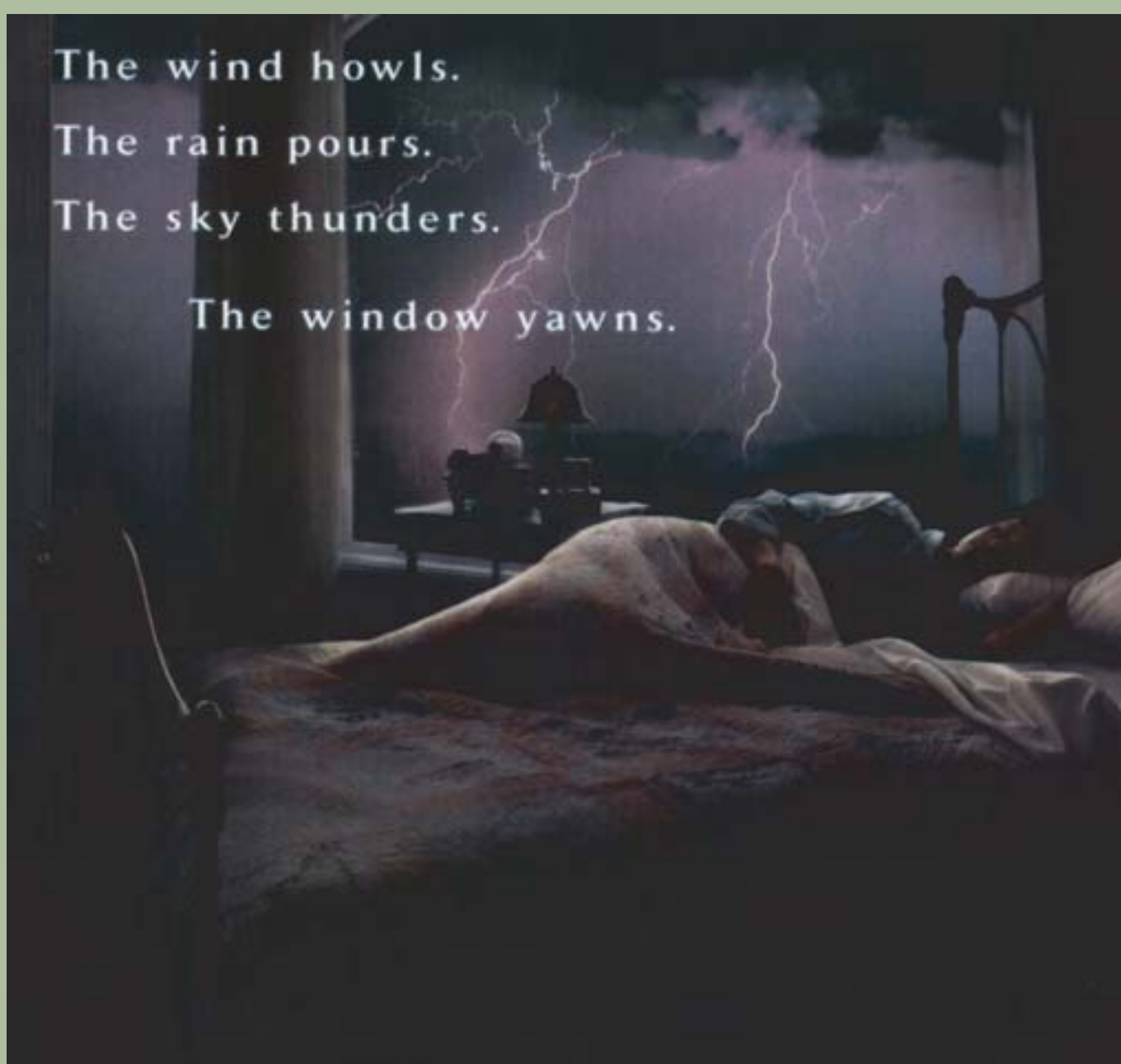
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