The Beauty Spot for June has been awarded to Ed and Diane Preston, of 10128 Spring Lake Terrace (at the intersection of Newbury).

When heading down the hill on Newbury to where it tees out at Spring Lake Terrace, be sure to look directly across the street to the charming house at 10128 Spring Lake Terrace.

The gardens are a wonderful example of using hardscapes and perennials to create a beautiful foundation: The bed fronting the house is outlined in weathered wood and planted in layers of dwarf boxwood, yew shrubs, otto luken laurel, and variegated ivy, creating texture and depth, all in shades of green. A low brick wall, a brick walkway and the brick stairs leading to the front door all outline a bed of perfectly manicured dwarf boxwood. Ivy climbing the iron handrail of the stairs adds an unexpected bit of Old World charm. A pot of impatiens nestled in the pachysandra at the base of the star magnolia adds a welcome pop of color!

The left side of the driveway is flanked with a bed of ivy around the foot of the Japanese maple tree. The bed is rounded out by daylilies.

The real secret of this property is the backyard oasis. When you stand at the foot of the driveway, peak into the back yard and you'll see a row of colorful prayers flags gently waving in the breeze over the creek at the back edge of the property. A sculptured pyramid of colorful bowling balls adds a bit of whimsy. There are several more sculptures, bird baths and bird houses situated along the walking path. Lush aucuba, varieties of hostas, potted palm trees and potted flowers enchant the eye. Several benches and seating areas add a sense of welcome and comfort, suggesting leisurely hours of relaxed enjoyment with family and friends!

The only way to appreciate the creativity and beauty of this property is to visit 10128 Spring Lake Terrace and see it for yourself!

Congratulations, Ed and Diane! You have created a truly wonderful spot.

Jennifer Judelsohn for Country Hills Garden Club