

Town & Country

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SPRING FASHION 2001

IN THE PINK!

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STYLES



MARCH 2001
U.S. \$4.00 CANADA \$5.00
FOREIGN \$5.00



Nathalia Cost
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Kidding Around in the Garden

I love to garden. My son, Edward, now grown and otherwise without fault, didn't, doesn't and likely never will. Where did I go wrong? I decided to ask the experts. Cathy Ann Freeman, director of children's education at the New York Botanical Garden, admits many youngsters are bored by gardening. But "boy, do they love worms, bugs and playing with soil. Encourage them to make compost and plant fast-growing outdoor seeds, such as beans and okra, or impatiens and pansies for indoors." Felder Rushing, who codesigned the children's garden at Disney's Epcot Center, recommends combining a planting activity with something more immediately gratifying. When Rushing's daughter planted a rosebush, he had her place a rock beside it on which she had painted a picture of a rose. This gave her a yardstick for comparison as her bush began to bloom. He also suggests taking frequent photos of your kids in the garden, so they can see how they fit into the process of growth and change. Molly Dannenmaier, author of *A Child's Garden* (Simon & Schuster; \$35), advocates tree houses, rope swings, tall grasses (for hiding in), water (for fishing and play) and child-size garden furniture (for relaxing in after the weeding and the watering and the wonderment has taken root). **JANE GARMEY**

HOMES ON THE RANGE The **YELLOWSTONE CLUB** is one of Montana's first gated communities and the biggest deal in Big Sky country. It offers 40 ski runs and 13,400 acres on the fringe of Yellowstone National Park. (It's also adjacent to the famed Big Sky ski area.) The club's land climbs up four mountainsides and spans a sunny pine-and-fir-flecked river valley: paradise for sporting families. A Tom Weiskopf golf course is under construction. Greg LeMond is the self-appointed director of biking (he's building a house). Would-be residents must pony up a \$250,000 membership fee and buy land or a condominium within the club boundaries (prices for each start at \$600,000). But with a cap of just 864 members, there'll always be plenty of room to roam. For more information, call 888-700-7748; or check www.theyellowstoneclub.com. **JENNIFER KRAMER**



The Yellowstone Club's gatehouse

POTTER'S PIECES

SCOTT POTTER has reinvented the craft of *découpage* with his designs for brilliantly colored, luminescent serving ware. Working with copies of old prints that he finds in musty European bookshop bins, Potter cuts out images of, say, flowers, fruit and birds and glues them to the back of a dish or the inside of a bowl. Then he applies layers of textured, nearly transparent hand-made Japanese paper, gilding or hand-dyed silver foil and, finally, a protective coating. No two pieces are quite alike, but they all dance with light—which is fitting, since Potter, now thirty-eight, was a principal dancer with the New Orleans Ballet before returning to Maine, his home state, in 1992 to work as a dancer, choreographer and ballet master with the Portland Ballet Company. Four years later, burned out, he turned to *découpage* as a way "to keep something artistic in my life." His serving ware can certainly be used, but such collectors as Oprah Winfrey and Mary Soames usually just display them along with Potter's bell jars, vases and glass screens. *Scott Potter's work, priced from \$45 to \$14,000, is sold at Bergdorf Goodman in New York and at his own shop at 142 High Street, Portland, Maine; 207-775-3630.* **PHIL SIEKMAN**

