

Stockwell enjoys the everyday changes in their garden

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Becky Stockwell said she and her husband, Joe, enjoy sitting on a particular bench in the garden that provides a great view of the landscape.

“From this bench, the trees are like looking through a bower into the front yard,” Stockwell said.

The Stockwells enjoy the day-to-day changes that take place in their garden, as well as seasonal color changes.

“You can’t see the whole garden at once so there’s something new to see at every curve,” Stockwell said.

Area residents will have the opportunity to see the twists and turns of the Stockwell garden as part of the 2011 Art in the Garden tour, set for May 21. Five private gardens throughout Starkville will be open for touring at various homes. As part of the tour, sponsored by the Starkville Area Arts Council, local artists will share their artistic talents, either through painting or other avenues of expression, based on inspiration from local gardens. Art in the Garden guests will not only have the opportunity to tour five outstanding local gardens, they will be able to interact with the artists as they work on an outdoor artistic creation during the tour.

Wanda Thorne, one of the organizers for this year’s Art in the Garden Tour, said in University Estates, the Stockwells’ garden is an informal one set on a grand property.

“A round rosebed and other flower beds are a welcoming sight on the front lawn,” Thorne said. “Three trellises with well-established clematis vines greet visitors at the carport.”

The largest part of the garden is to the left of the brick patio, behind the house, and that is where the tour will begin.

“The patio is a haven for relaxation, Thorne said. “Three arbors, with their climbing roses, mark the meandering crushed-rock pathways. You’ll delight in deciding which paths to follow as you wander the garden. Benches punctuate the paths, offering places to rest along the way.”

Another Art In the Garden organizer, Suzy Turner, agrees the Stockwell’s garden is a peaceful respite.

“Joe and Becky’s garden is one to wonder in and enjoy wonderful views on all sides,” Turner said. “Very peaceful and soothing.”

For tickets to the Art in the Garden tour set for May 21, contact SAAC at 324-3080.