

How to encourage dwarf fruit trees

At this time a lot of you are inclined to do some work around the vegetable garden. You might like to plant green onion sets, radishes and lettuce. These can be harvested before school is out, so they would make an excellent project for a sunny spot in the school courtyard. The early vegetable plot could be raked over after school is out and planted back to grass.

It's not too early to plan on container planting for your garden or apartment balcony. The weight of a container including soil has to be considered. For those in wheel chairs the use of tile along the edge of a drive or sidewalk is ideal. In it there could be herbs, rose bushes, vegetables — the variety of selections is endless. The most important thing is to plan ahead.

In the country and in inner cities I have seen automobile tires used for containers. After the container is teeming with green leaves you soon forget a tire was used to contain the soil and roots.

In our urban locations gardeners are

encouraged to have dwarf fruit trees. As they are accustomed to their location, encourage a good, upright growth. Along with setting the dwarf fruit tree in a generous hole, water generously and firm the soil around it.

A CENTRAL LEADER should be encouraged and the side branches should be pruned so they are at least 4 inches apart. These dwarf fruit trees should give you a crop the second year. It would be wise to thin out the fruit the first year it produces, so it won't become stunted.

Here is a technique which will bring many of the larger fruit trees into production. The weight of a standard fruit tree, especially, seem to take forever to produce. About 12 to 16 days after being in full flower, take a sharp knife and score through the bark in a complete circle just below the lowest branch. The fruit crop will be increased the same year as well as the next year.

If you have some apple trees which



down to earth
**Alice Wessels
Burlingame**

seem tardy bearing fruit, try this tip. These directions aren't from Burlingame's fruit file, they come from Michigan State University.

We know that most fruit trees need pollination in order to set fruit. Apples, pears, plums and sweet cherries benefit from being pollinated by another tree, the partner being bees. Peaches can cross pollinate themselves. Large standard fruit trees can pollinate dwarf trees.

BEES ONLY POLLINATE one type of a flower at a time. A "good day's work" might see a bee visiting 5,000

flowers if the weather is good. They are lightheaded and not to be active if it is rainy or below 55 degrees. So, please don't spray insecticide when fruit trees are in flower.

If you aren't aware of another fruit tree in the area, negotiate with a person who has a fruit tree for a branch in flower. You can stick a branch in a bucket of water and place near your lone tree for cross pollination. Don't worry, the bees will find the visiting branch. This same idea carries through for a holly tree which will not set red berries. There are male and female holly trees.

development will be applied to humor, fantasy, illustration or graphics as taught by Paul Sterna.

Edythe Newbourn, who studied with Liu-Sang Wong in San Francisco and teaches Chinese Brush Painting, is offering Chinese Landscape Brush Painting as a new spring term class.

OTHER CLASSES INCLUDE calligraphy, drawing, painting, sculpture, weaving, photography, paper and felt making and photo silk-screen. Photography for Teens is designed

for the young amateur. Basic darkroom skills and composition will be stressed in this class taught by Labe Waddell.

Carol Back will give a film-making class for young people age eight and above. They will complete one animated film.

Other classes for young people and teens include painting and drawing, cartooning, dramatics, dance, sculpture and photo silk-screen printing.

Pontiac Art Center is at 47 Williams between M-59 and Orchard Lake Road. For further information or to register by phone, call 333-7849.

Southfield Pavilion will debut tomorrow

By TIM RICHARD

Some reflections on the new Southfield Pavilion, at which the initial concert will be played at 8 p.m. Friday by the Detroit Concert Band.

This could be the biggest (2,000 seats) and best auditorium outside Ford and Orchestra Hall in Detroit and Hill in Ann Arbor. Schoolcraft College lost its change for suburban leadership when voters repeatedly rejected a fine arts center with a 2,500-seat auditorium.

Consider: The bigger high school auditoriums are in the category of 900 to 1,000 seats, with Our Lady of Mercy at 1,200. The big-time auditoriums are in the 3,000 to 4,000 seat class.

ACOUSTICALLY, Southfield's may be imperfect at first. But as Oakway Symphony Conductor Francesco DiBlasi put it, "It's a helluva facility."

The key ingredient, DiBlasi said, is the high ceiling in the pavilion at 56,000 Evergreen. You can't have a great auditorium without one.

"It was still boomy when we rehearsed," DiBlasi said. "But they didn't have all the acoustical carpeting in yet, and it will be different when you get people in there."

There are other variables, he added. Whether a performing group uses risers will make a difference. He doesn't care for high risers.

The acoustical shell behind and around the group will make a difference. And there are doors that can be closed off.

Marlowe Belanger, who is promoting

the place for the city of Southfield, says it will be used for different kinds of concerts, lectures, performances and so on.

DiBlasi said there may be a difference in how a chamber group, a concert band, 52-piece concert band and a full symphony orchestra sound.

In any event, he's eager to play it. HELEN ROWE, publicist for the Detroit Concert Band, snorts at Detroit critics who accuse Dr. Leonard B. Smith's outfit of playing in "military" uniforms.

"Doctors (in a hospital) have uniforms, and those aren't military. Nurses have uniforms, and they aren't military. Waitresses have uniforms. Policemen have uniforms. A symphony orchestra has uniforms — tuxedos — and that isn't military," she said.

So the smarties who say the DCB plays in military uniforms literally don't know what they're talking about, Miss Rowe said.

"John Philip Sousa insisted his men wear uniforms, not only on stage but on the street, so that every member would be identifiable," she went on.

"Leonard designed these uniforms (DCBs) to approximate the Sousa band's," she said.

If anyone should know what Sousa did and why, it's Leonard Smith and his wife, Helen Rowe. There's a musical chain linking Sousa to Edwin Franko Goldman and Smith just like the chain that linked Haydn to Mozart and Beethoven, or that linked Wagner to Rimsky-Korsakov and Richard Strauss. Tickets at \$8.50, \$7.50 and \$6 are available by calling 354-9603.

Sheldon Iden to teach at Pontiac Art Center

Sheldon Iden, whose new show, "Ten Years of Selected Drawings" is at the Pontiac Art Center until Saturday, will teach a new class for the center's spring term which begins March 31.

Iden, an associate professor at Eastern University, will be teaching "Paint-

ing and Sketching at the Zoo," "Basic and Advanced Drawing," and "Basic Color Theory." Registration is underway for the 16-week term, March 31 to June 7.

Another new class is "Cartooning for Adults." Character creation and style

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Map showing locations: WARREN, TRENTON, NOVI, and a map of the area around Farmington Hills.