

It will pay you to be objective

This is the time of year to organize and be objective in your planning. Put on a comfortable working jacket, take a hose and stroll around your front and rear property as a surveyor would.

The purpose is to examine the plants, rake the soil and make a game plan for spring work in your garden. Flower beds which are too large and require too much garden time can easily be redesigned. Of course, you will want to add new plant material. At this date, I trust you have reported your houseplants, so you are free to be outdoors. Before you become entangled in regular garden routine, scour your dirty flower pots to avoid disease or bug reproduction. It is wise to put some oil or grease on your metal garden tools. Particular gardeners file their metal tools.

IF YOU have followed my suggestions, you have in your garage good soil, fertilizer, and peat (Canadian). A strong bucket for carrying supplies



down to earth
Alice Burlingame

saves many steps and, of course, a sturdy wheelbarrow.

Sawdust makes a good mulch, but do remember to add one cup of nitrate of soda to each bushel to make up for nitrogen shortage.

Practical gardeners know acid loving plants have shallow roots and appreciate a cover of peat moss at the base of the plant. Peat moss absorbs an enormous amount of moisture in proportion to other surfaces. Remember this when watering.

The growth of trees is affected by the condition of forest floor. For example, in the fall you should have re-

moved litter. Tests have shown the volume of growth is the greatest where the litter has been removed.

New publications relative to gardening come to my desk constantly. I am impressed with the book "Decorating with Plants" Sunset Books, Lane Publishing Co., Menlo Park, Calif., 79 pages, \$3.95.

It stresses the decorating value of

light walls with bold-leaf large plants. The same book shows the old gem of using a decorative stepladder to set plants on for decoration.

ANOTHER IDEA — if you have a pretty leopard with a broken lid — is to use it as a container for a small leaf plant. For those who are lucky to have a skylight, a great deal of emphasis is given decorative ways to hang potted plants.

Or you can make a display in front of your fireplace with spring flowers nestled in a basket with puffy tissue paper filling gaps.

This practical book has many, basic tips for displaying greenery indoors. P.S. It's wonderful to be back home.

Society offers 1 more way to fight cancer

When thousands of Oakland County Volunteers visit their neighbors to raise funds for the American Cancer Society's cancer-fighting programs this month, they will also offer them a new way to identify and reduce cancer risks.

It is a computerized Personal Health Quotient quiz the society calls the P.H.Q.

According to Ronna Romney, Metro Detroit's honorary residential crusade chairwoman, volunteers will leave a P.H.Q. coupon at each home they visit, and family members 21 years of age or older may redeem the coupon and take the P.H.Q. quiz at any of 17 Radio Shack computer centers in metro Detroit.

The P.H.Q. is very simple and can be completed in about 15 minutes.

"The computer asks each person specific questions about age, habits, and medical history," Romney says. "Then it delivers a personalized, confidential print-out that estimates risk levels and offers specific suggestions for prevention and early detection."

The P.H.Q. is the newest addition to the annual door-to-door crusade that has become the major fundraiser for the American Cancer Society's programs in research, public education, and patient services.

The Residential Crusade will continue through May.

Jewish hosts needed for Maccabi visitors

Jewish homes still are needed to house the 1,000 young athletes who are coming to this area to compete in the Maccabi Youth Games in mid-August. The first call put out for hosts asked for about 500 to take in the week-long visitors, and the committee is falling critically short of its goal.

"We've invited the athletes here in the name of the Detroit Jewish community and we need the entire Jewish community to back this thing," said Jay Robinson, a West Bloomfield resident and general chairman of the games who also is rounding up about 300 volunteers needed to run the games.

The Maccabi Youth Games officially is hosted by the Jewish Community Center on Maple Road, west of Orchard Lake Road, during the week of Aug. 19-26.

About 40 delegations are expected, from Canada, Columbia, Venezuela, West Germany, Israel, Australia, Mexico, Argentina and the U.S.

The athletes will be competing in swimming, track, tennis, racquetball, gymnastics, table tennis, soccer, basketball and volleyball events.

The games are confined to athletes ages 12-16 and are modeled after Olympic competition. The torch-light

ceremony is scheduled in West Bloomfield High School. Gold, silver and bronze medals are waiting to be picked up by the winners.

ROBINSON expects the family who does take in a couple of the visitors will do more than act as a chauffeur.

He expects that family members will consider the visitor a guest furnishing some meals and some transportation. In turn, they will be invited to all social events planned, and all the games.

The youth games take place on a continental basis every two years. The last time the games took place in North America, the turnout in Memphis, Tenn., was described by Robinson, as "small and very manageable."

The turnout here is expected to be three to four times that size. And because his base of operations is West Bloomfield and there are not that many families here that could comply with the stipulation that requires Jewish families as host, the appeal for hosts is throughout the entire metro area.

Families interested in housing athletes may call the Jewish Community Center, 651-0840, ext. 180, to request an application.

DAR to install officers

Irene Foster, a Farmington Hills resident will be installed as regent of Three Flags Chapter, Daughters of American Revolution (DAR) when the chapter meets at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 14 in the Royal Oak home of Barbara Nancarrow. The new regent has been a member of DAR for 36 years and was originally affiliated with the Louisa St. Clair Chapter.

Foster's vice regent will be Virginia Platter of Lathrup Village.

Among the incoming officers are two other Farmington Hills residents: Mary Shaw, who will serve as recording secretary and Sally Kirsten who will serve as one of several directors.

During the business portion of the meeting Foster will give her report on the DAR Centennial Congress, which took place late in April in Washington, D.C.



Irene Foster

Library is \$4,000 richer

The Angell Foundation has presented a gift of \$4,000 to the Farmington Community Library for computers, video-cassettes and computer software.

Library director Gordon Lewis said "The Angell gift will be used to purchase Texas Instrument computers and software that will circulate. In addition, the funds will be used to purchase additional videocassettes and

other computer software." The library has PET, Commodore and Apple microcomputers available for public use. The computers and videocassettes have been heavily used at the library and

the Angell Foundation gift will enhance the service. The Library Board of Trustees presented Wilber H. Davis, trustee of the Angell Foundation, a certificate in recognition of the foundation's gift.

Agency honors own

All Oakland County members, past and present, of the Area Agency on Aging Region Advisory Council and executive board will be honored at a ten-year celebration of the Agency on Friday, May 18.

The agency provides services for persons 60 and older in a region which includes the six counties of Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair and Washtenaw.

County residents presently members of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council are: Richard N. Cogger, James E. Lamm, Mattie Green, Leo Mahany, Barbara Worgess, and Doris Schachter. The agency is part of the federal ag-

ing network administered by the Administration on Aging, Department of Health and Human Resources.



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