

# County agent shares advice

We all have our funny habits. When I come across seed packets that strike my fancy, regardless of the time of year I pack them away immediately in a plastic bag, in the refrigerator for cold storage and future germination.

Sometimes I tell to myself, here is an envelope full of wild flower seeds with over three thousand seeds. I think I'll stop at my farm near Ann Arbor and plant a colorful plot as a new experiment.

Among the "goodies" are gold cosmos, annual painted daisy, red salvia, tri-color marigold, sunflowers (which I can plant next to the fence), portulaca, summer poinsettia and gloriosa daisy.

Let this be a lesson to you — if friends give you seeds during the summer and it is too late to begin annuals, store your bounty for the next year as I do.

One way to check the viability of your seeds is to sprinkle a dozen or so seeds on a piece of moist paper towel. Roll up the towel and place it in a plastic bag.

Set the bag in a warm (70-75 degrees F) spot and wait 10 days before checking for the sprouting rate. If you are not sure of the viability of the seeds, sow them at a heavier rate just in case the germination rate is lower.

Our local county agent provided us with the seed advice. Another tip from him regarding the enriching of your garden soil, is that if your soil has a high clay content and forms large sticky clods that dry out and become as hard as a brick, add what gardeners call soil amendments to disperse the small clay particles.

Clay particles are very small and they have an electrical charge that causes them to stick together and become compacted.

In addition the open spaces between the clay particles are quite small so root growth may be reduced. The most effective soil amendment is organic matter in the form of peat moss, compost or rotted manure. Sharp or coarse sand can also be used.

For small areas, mineral products such as perlite or vermiculite, may also be used. When you prepare the soil in the spring, work a layer that is

several inches thick, of one or more of these materials into the soil.

Don't be disappointed if one treatment doesn't totally cure your problem. Another tip that should solve part of the problem is to avoid working the soil until it has dried somewhat. If the soil will form a patty like ball in your hand, it is too wet to work. A little patience in the spring may largely solve your problem.

An enjoyment of gardening provides both men and women with a tonic to be relaxed, creative, with a goal toward achievement, with visual results. The bonus is a change of pace from his work-a-day world for all.



**down to earth**  
**Alice Burlingame**

My apologies to our male readers, but it is a temptation to share a quotation from Ann Lindberg: "Eternally, woman spills herself away in dribbles to the thirsty, seldom being allowed the time, the quiet, the peace, to let the pitcher fill up to the brim."

## Giving concert

Kerstin Allvin of Bloomfield Hills will give a harp recital at 8 p.m. Friday, May 30, at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 5631 N. Adams, Bloomfield Hills. She completed her bachelor's degree in harp performance at Indiana University in 1983. She gave a solo recital in Carnegie Recital Hall and has performed with Detroit, Pontiac-Oakland, Warren, Flint, and Saginaw symphony orchestras. Her program will feature works by Bach, Fauré, Prokofiev, Tournier, Hovhann and Persechetti, and will include works for flute and harp.

**GIVE THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE.**

Be a volunteer.



**American Red Cross**

There's a lot going on. Classified ads.

## Bloomfield's Best Kept Secret Is Out . . .

With its unique style and panache that lights up the eyes of local condominium buyers, Foxcroft is fast becoming the talk of the town. It's little wonder. Since this exclusive hideaway is surrounded by all the worldly luxuries that makes Bloomfield such a sought after address.

Foxcroft is worth looking into today . . . especially since the secret is out! Priced from \$98,000.

## FOXCROFT OF BLOOMFIELD

A Foxcroft Development Company

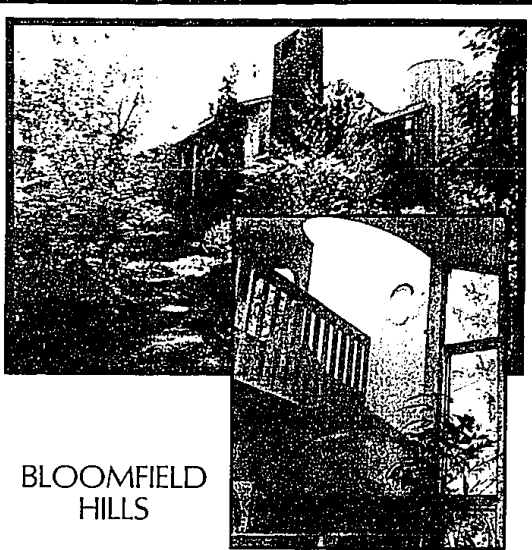
Foxcroft is tucked away behind the tall trees on the north side of Maple Road just west of Telegraph.

Model Open Daily and Weekends: 1 to 6 pm. Closed Thursday 855-1086 (Model) or 626-2590 (Office)



Offered by Marie Reilly and Michigan Capital Corp.

## BLOOMFIELD HILLS



Outstanding 4500 sq. ft. custom contemporary home on high wooded lot with magnificent landscaped pool and grounds. Bloomfield Hills schools & mailing, builder's own home. Finest quality with all the amenities. 4 bedrooms, 5 baths. Full walk out lower level with doorwalks to pool area. Neutral colors thru out, skylights, full doorwalks on all 3 levels. Beautiful sunsets. Designed for entertaining inside & out, priced to sell at \$449,000. 626-3118

Announcing...

## the HEATHERWOOD

SENIOR SUITES WITH SERVICES

**Southfield, Michigan's newest adult rental community.**  
**You spoke... and we listened!**

Through focus groups composed of area senior citizens, and in-depth research, The Heatherwood development and management teams have created not only the housing, but also the lifestyle that you asked for and deserve: an elegant living environment that respects your independence while providing the ultimate in services and value.

The Heatherwood offers one and two bedroom suites complete with fully-equipped kitchens, along with many of the services of a first class hotel — delivered to you in style by our trained and dedicated staff. Currently under construction, The Heatherwood is scheduled for August occupancy.

At The Heatherwood your private one or two bedroom suite includes:

- Wall-to-wall carpeting
- Draperies
- Fully-equipped kitchen
- Individually controlled heating and air conditioning
- Heat included
- Abundant closet space
- Emergency alert system monitored around the clock

Services included in your monthly rental fee are:

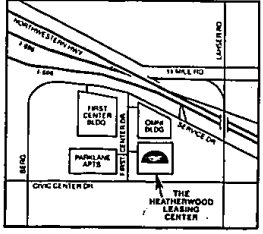
- Weekly maid and linen service
- Daily meals
- Full activity program
- 24-hour monitored entry
- Scheduled transportation in the Heatherwood van.

The Heatherwood features these options:

- Covered balconies and patios
- Cable T.V.
- A second daily meal

The Heatherwood also features:

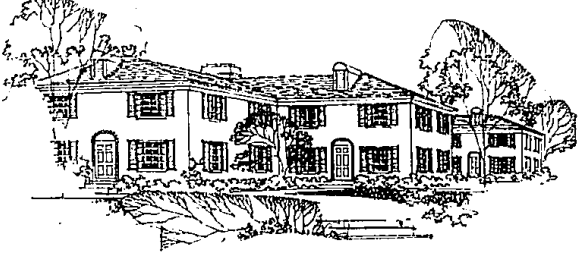
- Library
- Lounge areas
- Arts and Crafts Center
- Beauty salon/barber shop
- Landscaped courtyard
- Three-hole putting green
- Gardening area



**(313) 350-1777**  
22800 Civic Center Drive

For more information please call Sherrie Dossin, Marketing Director, or stop in at our temporary Leasing and Display Center.  
Weekdays 9-5 • Saturdays 10-4 • Sundays 12-4

## Never Before Has A \$61,990 Townhome In Birmingham Been Worth So Much!



Birmingham's best buy of the decade is more than just smart ... it's irresistible! First, there's the incredibly convenient location in the heart of one of Birmingham's finest residential neighborhoods.

Then, there's the fabulous 2 bedroom floor plans with the quality appointments that today's sophisticated singles, couples and small families are looking for.

Come to the smartest opening today, before the curtain falls on Birmingham's best real estate buy of the season.

## Williamsburg of Birmingham

Take Maple Road to Elm. Turn north to Greenfield. Turn left to information center. Open Daily and Sunday 1 - 6 pm. Saturday 1 - 6 pm. Closed Thursday. Model Phone: 643-6060.

