



down to earth

Marty Figley

## Right menu brings birds to your yard

It's a good time to begin feeding the birds for the winter season to be sure they will make your yard the gathering place in the neighborhood. Winter birds in our area eat berries, leftover grain, fruit, weed and grass seed and whatever insects they can find. A small shelf, a cleared space on the ground or a feeder may be used as a table for their meals.

Suet and seed (sunflower, squash, muskmelon), short lengths of cooked spaghetti, millet, cracked wheat, peanuts and peanut butter, raisins, corn (ear, shelled or cracked) and oats are some food to entice birds to your feeder.

The small black, oil-type sunflower seeds are preferred by most birds over the larger black or gray striped ones. Cardinals really like squash seeds. If you don't want to encourage house sparrows and starlings, offer sunflower seeds exclusively.

Suet can be hung from a tree in a cloth mesh bag or a suet feeder can be made by boring holes in a small log, filling the holes and suspending the log.

BACON DRIPPINGS and peanut butter (try spreading it on pine cones) will be welcomed by woodpeckers, chickadees and cardinals. Thistle feeders attract finches and native songbirds.

Birds need sand or grit to aid their digestion, so it should either be mixed into the food or provided at another location. A heated bird bath would be most welcome. If this is not possible, you may want to try an old metal garbage can lid filled with water. When the water freezes it is easy to pick the lid up by the handle and knock out the ice before replacing it with fresh water.

Recently I read that squirrels don't like mothballs so some placed in a bird feeder may keep them away. Birds can't smell, but squirrels can and they don't like the odor.

Once you begin to feed the birds, they rely on you for their sustenance, so the feeding program should continue until mid-April.



ARE YOU aware that fall is a good time to have a soil test run for your property? The labs are not so busy at this time of year as in the spring. Soil pH and nutrient content change fairly slowly so the results would be accurate for the following year.

Generally, soil testing needs to be done only once every few years, unless there are some special problems. Your local County Extension Office will assist you in this important test.

Speaking of County Extension Offices, now is the time to write or call for an application to enroll in the Master Gardener Programs to be held beginning early next year. For Oakland County, call 858-0887 or 858-0900 for an application.

These classes are scheduled from 6-10 p.m. Mondays beginning Jan. 25. Wayne County (721-6550) will also hold evening classes beginning Feb. 3. The sessions run for 10 weeks.

Forty hours of volunteer work in the horticultural field is required before you attain your Master Gardener certificate. I highly recommend this worthwhile program.

# Windemere is more...

much more than a convalescent home or home for seniors.



Windemere is truly a very special place.



because it provides the services needed by the elderly while preserving the environmental characteristics of a Herman Frankel Organization Residential Community. There is complete separation between the Full Service Convalescent Home on the upper floor and the Supportive Care Manor on the lower floor. The building is on a hillside and both levels have direct access to the extensively landscaped grounds.

Rex Lanyi and Herman Frankel, the developers, are particularly proud that Windemere both functionally and aesthetically provides a residential environment that preserves dignity, beauty, and maximum independence at a time in life that its residents require some medical and social support.

Words cannot describe the feelings that created Windemere. You must see it to appreciate what it offers. Please drop in or call 661-1700 for an appointment.



A Supportive and Skilled Care Residence

Windemere is located at 6950 Farmington Road South of Maple Road (Farmington Road is open to Windemere during its parking.)

News that's closer to home • News that's closer to home • News that's closer to home •

Local news you can use • Local news you can use • Local news you can use •

Local news you can use • Local news you can use • Local news you can use •

## KINGSWAY

642-4300

KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC.  
555 S. Woodward  
BIRMINGHAM



## DURBIN

THE DURBIN COMPANY  
REALTORS®/ERA®  
7001 Orchard Lake Rd.  
WEST BLOOMFIELD

851-6000



### BIRMINGHAM'S QUARTON LAKE

A premier location and a newer 4 bedroom New England Colonial. Features both family room and library, recreation room and lovely patio overlooking private yard. Move-in condition. \$259,000  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300



### KIRKWOOD AT ITS BEST

Beautifully located on a mature corner is this updated family Colonial. Brand new kitchen, new furnace, and central air, new roof. Lovely family room overlooking patio, yard. 1st floor laundry. \$195,000  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300



### EXECUTIVE LUXURY

Found in this charming 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home in the Farmington Hills Hunt Club. Custom wood windows. Excellent floor plan for entertaining. Private office in finished basement. \$209,000 RWA  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000



### WOODLAND CAMELOT

Fantastic dream estate. Brick French Provincial. In secluded serenity. Formal dining room, bookcase library, walk-in closets, maid's room, gourmet kitchen, 5 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths. \$525,000 AWR  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000



### MAJESTIC WEST BLOOMFIELD SETTING

High on a hill overlooking lovely properties is this handsome center entrance Colonial. Well appointed with 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths and large family room. A fine home beautifully located. \$205,000  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300



### THIS ONE HAS IT ALL

Nicely decorated 4 bedroom ranch with 2 full baths. Professionally finished rec room with wet bar and natural fireplace. Lovely large womanized deck enhances outdoor living. Maintenance free exterior. \$123,900 CWO  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000

**PARK AREA CHARM**  
Attractive 2 story brick contemporary featuring expert landscaping. Newly decorated. Custom blinds, partially finished basement. Rec room. Possession immediate. \$122,900 SWT  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000

**THE CITY OF BLOOMFIELD, CONTEMPORARY**  
Beautifully nestled on a mature acre is this 7 year old five bedroom custom home. Features 4+ bedrooms, great room plus library. Four fireplaces and walk-out lower level. Three car garage and multiple decks. \$450,000  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300

**CROSSWINDS TOWNHOUSE CONDOMINIUM**  
Bright 1 1/2 year old super neat 2 bedroom townhouse condo. Private courtyard, all kitchen appliances, central air, fireplace, skylights, upgraded carpet, low association dues. \$94,500 CWO  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000

**BIRMINGHAM'S GRAEFELD**  
A condominium Townhouse with a lovely view of the park. Two bedrooms, recreation room, updated kitchen and move-in condition. A well located unit convenient to town and shopping. \$73,500  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300

**PEBBLE CREEK**  
Gracious living and spacious entertaining. Newly carpeted, freshly painted 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath condo featuring large private courtyard, finished lower level, first floor utility room and beautiful common setting. Yours for the loving. \$139,900 PWE  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000

**STATELY, BLOOMFIELD VILLAGE**  
Almost complete and ready for final color selections. Four bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, great room and library. Beautifully designed and built to perfection and set among premium homes. \$425,000  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300

**SOUTHFIELD COLONIAL**  
Move right into this 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home and walk to shopping! Vertical and horizontal window treatments. Fenced backyard, wood deck, burglar alarm, central air. High simple assumption mortgage. \$73,900 GWO  
THE DURBIN COMPANY, REALTORS/ERA 851-6000

**FOR A SPECIAL FAMILY**  
Interested in Birmingham's Quarton Lake area? Beautifully decorated and up to date in every way. Three bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, lovely library and recreation room. Excellent grounds with a brick patio and gardens. \$285,000  
KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC./ERA 642-4300

If we don't sell your home, we'll buy it.

## KINGSWAY

642-4300

KINGSWAY ASSOCIATES, INC.  
555 S. Woodward  
BIRMINGHAM



## DURBIN

THE DURBIN COMPANY  
REALTORS®/ERA®  
7001 Orchard Lake Rd.  
WEST BLOOMFIELD

851-6000