

Riverbridge: aglow with seasonal flair

THERE'S NO place like Homearama for the holidays. From Dec. 6-22, the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan (BASM) will spotlight 13 individually designed new homes — all decorated for the holidays — in Riverbridge subdivision in Novi.

The fully furnished and landscaped homes are priced at approximately \$200,000 to \$250,000.

Top southeast Michigan architects, builders, designers and landscapers have incorporated the latest features in style, convenience, construction and energy efficiency in these homes — new ideas that visitors can include in their own home construction and remodeling plans.

The subdivision — east of Novi Road, south of Nine Mile — is being developed by Herbert Lawson of West Bloomfield.

BASM is sponsoring Homearama Holiday 1991 in cooperation with co-sponsors Detroit Edison, Standard Federal Bank and Consumers Power.

THIS NINTH annual showcase of new homes allows "the public to see the latest concepts in architectural design and interior decoration, all in one place," said James Bonadeo, president of BASM and Bonadeo Builders in Plymouth. "We think having it during the holiday season provides another delightful incentive to attend."

"In addition to installing holiday decorations, each builder has worked with an architect, an interior designer and a landscaper to beautifully accent every home," said Dennis Dickstein.

Homearama Holiday 1991 chairman and president of Ralph Manuel Realtors, Birmingham and Farmington Hills.

"Each home is distinctive and each contains exclusive features that provide great ideas in lifestyle, design, construction materials and techniques, and energy conservation," he added.

Adding to the festivities, Homearama will feature holiday transportation from parking areas to the homes.

Two 30-foot-long red buses, decorated inside and out, will shuttle visitors in heated comfort. Dubbed Holly Trolley and Jolly Trolley, the buses will travel up and down the subdivision streets, picking up people near their cars and taking them to the box office. After touring the homes, visitors can ride back to their cars.

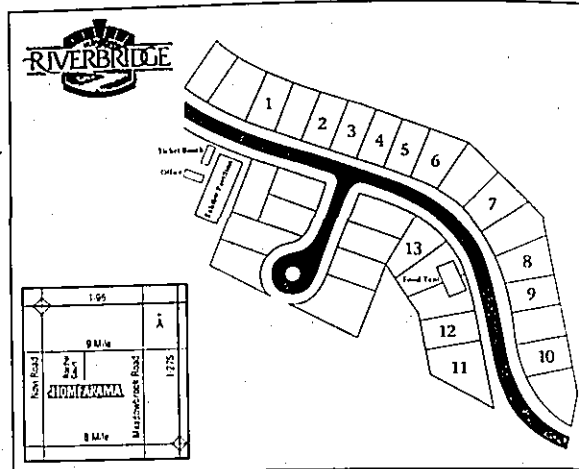
Weekday parking will be on nearby streets to avoid concern about muddy areas. On weekends, parking also will be available in the paved lots of businesses near the subdivision.

TO ADD more color to the setting, 1,300 strings of holiday lights will glow throughout the area. The lights were donated by the Detroit Zoological Society, which will have a booth exhibit on display at Homearama.

Standard Federal Bank provided construction funds for the 13 model homes.

"With home mortgage interest rates at a 13-year low, this is a great time for families to shop for a new home," said

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Model Home and Builder Location

1. "The Baybrook" Pulte Homes of Michigan
2. "The Carrington" Cornerstone Building, Inc.
3. "Morgan II" Michigan Custom Homebuilders Group, Inc.
4. "The Belletta" Fairway Custom Homes
5. "The Riviera" Daimler Corporation
6. "The Willington" Cornerstone Building, Inc.
7. "The Northshore" Blondo Designers and Builders
8. "The Village" Leo Soave Building Co., Inc.
9. "The Premier" BBC Group
10. "The London" Fairway Custom Homes
11. "Aspen II" Cohen Associates, Inc.
12. "Collingwood II" Cohen Associates
13. "Victorian Rose" D and J Property Development and Management Co.

Ice sculpture helps add wintertime spirit to tour

By Susan Buck
staff writer

READY FOR a break in the Homearama tour? Walk over to the holiday ice sculpture display across from the concession stand, midway along the Homearama tour route.

That's where Doug Cecil and Mark Garmo made their wintertime visions into Homearama reality.

Cecil, who owns Classic Outdoor Development, Madison Heights, and his associate, Garmo, owner of Artistic Land Sculptors, Southfield, have designed the ice sculpture display with landscaping. This is a first-of-a-kind project for Homearama.

"This year's Homearama is centered around a holiday theme," Cecil said. "Our intentions are to get people into the holiday spirit and show them that the winter months can be just as beautiful as spring."

Homearama Holiday 1991 is the first Homearama held around the holiday season. "This left the door open to new

ideas and a refreshing change," Cecil said. "Our display took hard work, patience and the dedication of our combined companies."

THE MEN have more than 15 years' experience working together in the trade. Cecil used to run trade shows and has worked at five other Homearamas.

Rosalie Lamb, senior staff vice-president of the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, Farmington Hills, invited Cecil to provide this year's ice display. "We're not a fly-by-night company," Cecil said.

Added Garmo: "It's difficult to find a good reputable company."

From the onset, Cecil and Garmo set out to keep some of the details of the display a surprise. "We want to keep part a mystery," Cecil said.

"We'll have evergreens and deciduous (plants)," Garmo said. "I'll help with installation of the interlocking paving stones."

Midwest Ice Corp., Detroit, is

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H O L I D A Y

HOMEARAMA 1991

What: Homearama Holiday 1991, ninth annual public showing of new homes, built especially for public display by members of the nonprofit Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan.

When: Dec. 6-22, 4-10 p.m. weekdays, noon to 10 p.m. weekends.

Where: Riverbridge subdivision, south of Nine Mile, east of Novi Road, Novi.

Price of homes: approximately \$200,000-\$250,000.

Admission: \$5 per person. Discount coupons, good weekdays only, are available at Detroit Edison, Consumer Powers, Standard Federal Bank offices.

Parking: Ample free parking.

Event Features: Open house at 13 homes individually designed, built, furnished, landscaped and decorated for the holiday season. Each home produced by its own team of southeastern Michigan architects, builders, designers and landscapers. Each home incorporates latest features in style, living convenience, construction and energy conservation.

Show Sponsor: Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, James Bonadeo, president; Irvin Yackness, executive director.

Show Co-sponsors: Detroit Edison, Consumers Power, Standard Federal Bank.

Subdivision Developer: Herbert Lawson, West Bloomfield.

Show Committee Chairman: Dennis Dickstein, president, Ralph Manuel Realtors.

Special Section Credits: This special section appears today, Monday, Dec. 2, in the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and the HomeTown Newspapers. Both newspaper groups are part of Suburban Communications Corp., Livonia. Bob Sklar, O&E assistant managing editor for special projects, coordinated the section, with assistance from staff writer Susan Buck. O&E representatives Roy Meadows and Marsha Stamps coordinated advertising. **About the cover:** O&E staff photographer Bill Bresler took the cover picture of Aspen II, built by Cohen Associates Inc. of West Bloomfield. The home is on Lot 11 at Riverbridge. O&E graphics editor Randy Borst designed the cover.