

# Builders to fete leaders

The annual gala tribute to outstanding professionals involved in the building industry will be Tuesday, Dec. 7.

The Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan and the Apartment Association of Michigan will host their 1993 Leadership Recognition and Awards Night.

Builders, business executives and civic leaders will be on hand for the award festivities in the Marriott Hotel, Troy. The evening begins with a reception at 6:30 p.m. followed by a banquet, awards program and entertainment.

This year's program will include honors for Builder of the Year, Young Builder of the Year and Associate Member of the Year.

There also will be an inductee to the BASM "Hall of Fame." Distinguished Service Awards to several area professionals and special recognition to BASM's president, Fred I. Capaldi.

Other awards will feature Developer of the Year, Sales Person of the Year and several other distinguished citations.

Reservations are \$70 per person for the reception, dinner and program. For reservations and information, call 737-4477.

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## A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE AND LEARN...



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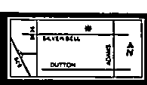
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- 1/3 Acre Homesites Minimum
- "Executive Series" Homes
- From the \$220's

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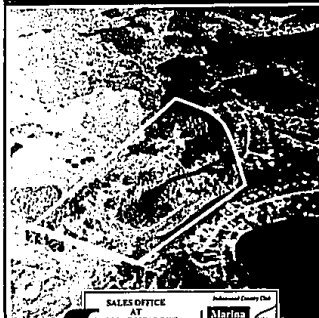
**MODELS OPEN DAILY**  
11:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.  
Brokers Always Welcome

*"Serving the needs of Relocating Families with Immediate Occupancy Homes."*

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## A GREAT PLACE TO ENJOY LIFE...



### Marina Pointe in Orion Township

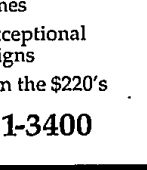
- Direct Waterfront and Golf View Homesites
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**MODELS OPEN DAILY**  
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### In the limelight



**Top executive:** Flanking the Executive of the Year Award winner Joe Muer (center) are Detroit Executives Association officers Tom Brown (left), president, and Bob VanderKloot, presentation event chairman. All are Birmingham-Bloomfield residents. Muer is president and owner of Joe Muer Sea Food restaurant, one of Detroit's oldest businesses. Honored for his outstanding contributions to the community, Muer is a trustee for Cornerstone Schools and the Alliance for a Safer Detroit. He also is on the board of directors for Hospice of Southeastern Michigan.

## Home fixup

### Tips help in hiring contractors

The share of home remodeling handled by professionals will grow by nearly 12 percent this year, according to a recent estimate by the Home Improvement Research Institute.

"Contractors, especially, are enjoying the homeowner trend to increase spaces and change styles in existing homes," said Paul Martin, territory sales manager, Pella Window and Door Co., Livonia.

"Popular larger projects like sunrooms or window configurations require the skills and equipment contractors have and homeowners need."

Homeowners are sometimes hesitant to involve contractors because of perceived cost. But the professional's ability to offset renovation headaches in advance can make the partnership a "smart investment," Martin said.

"Contractor selection is critical," he said. "A few basic questions up front could save dollars and frustration down the road."

Tips for homeowners include:

- Ask for written proof of property insurance, liability insurance and worker's compensation.
- Clearly identify everyone's expectations, such as projected cost, starting and finishing dates, specific brands to use and provisions for releasing liens as payments are made. If a lender is involved, they will help with proper lien waivers.
- Pella corporation, and other home products manufacturers, have developed programs to certify quality contractors to install their products. Martin suggested looking into this option for brand specific projects.
- "Always ask for references and check them out," Martin said. "And don't hesitate to check with the Better Business Bureau or the contractor's banker prior to signing any agreement."

For free information about selecting a windows contractor, call 1-800-847-3552.

Charles,  
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