

Figley from page 1D

their shrub to keep those pesky rabbits away.

Witchhazels can be grown in sun or shade, adapt to most soil conditions although they like moist situations. Air pollutants aren't a problem. They can be grown as a specimen plant, or if allowed to spread will make a windbreak.

Several local nurseries carry witchhazels and their nursery staff can help with a selection. Visit Lucas Nursery in Canton, Weigand's Nursery & Garden Center in Macomb Township, Bordines Better Blooms in Rochester and Clarkston, and Goldner Walsh Nursery Inc. in Pontiac.

If witchhazel isn't in your garden design plans, perhaps one of the following small trees/shrubs that bloom in late winter to early spring may be for you. Several varieties of Barberry (Barberry) are early bloomers with yellow flowers; Alnus (Alder) (Serviceberry), white; Forsythia, yellow; Potentilla (Witch hazel), whitish; and Magnolia stellata (Star Magnolia), white. M. x loebneri "Merrill" blooms earlier. Magnolias have single, semidouble or double blooms, from white to pink to reddish purple.

When choosing a new plant for your garden, be aware of the type of soil it prefers, and sun, shade and water requirements. Exposure — north, south, east or west — should also be a consideration. If you choose a plant that is suitable for your conditions, rather than making the plant conform to a condition, success will surely follow and the plant will grow and prosper for many years. Always follow label directions when planting.

Selecting a new plant is a good project for the whole family. Part of the fun is the decision making. Make this Arbor Day a memorable one.

A new product, the Tree Saver Tree Stake Kit, will safely stake a new tree from three to eight feet tall. The supports are made of soft rubber and unhook for mowing ease. They are reusable and can be found at Ace Hardware, True Value and Meijer stores. For more information, call (800) 833-5323.

TIMELY GARDEN TIPS

■ Place Easter lilies in a sunny spot and keep them watered. Plant outdoors after May 15 in a well-drained, protected location.

■ Remove remainder of mulch on roses; prune established ones.

■ Prune spring-flowering shrubs after blooming.

■ Crabgrass preventer can be applied until May 10.

■ Apply (5-10-5) fertilizer to flowering shrubs NOW and again after they have bloomed.

■ Cranbrook Gardens are open; call (810) 646-8149.

Marty Figley is an advanced master gardener based in Birmingham. You can leave her a message by dialing (313) 983-2047 on a touch-tone phone, then her mailbox number, 1859. Her fax number is (810) 644-1314.

Antiques show, talks slated

Thirty-five dealers, and a free lecture series, are part of the sixth annual St. James Antiques Show, starting next week at St. James Episcopal Church, 355 W. Maple at Chester in Birmingham.

Door prizes and St. James Cafe will also be featured. Proceeds from the church's shows support its outreach programs. This year, much of the proceeds will benefit Mariners Inn in Detroit, a nationally acclaimed, non-profit organization that provides shelter, substance abuse treatment and transitional housing for 130 homeless men. For more information, call the church at (810) 644-0820.

An evening preview party will take place 6:30-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 11. Call (810) 646-3224 for reservations.

The show will be open 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday, May 12, and 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, May 13. Admission is \$5. Parking is in the Chester Street structure.

"St. James Presents," the lecture series, will feature four presentations. Speakers and subjects are Pamela and Timothy Hill of the Hill Gallery, "American Folk Art," 7:30 p.m. Monday, May 1;

Mia and Kurt Vopari of Watch Hill Antiques, "European Country Furniture," 1 p.m. Tuesday, May 2; noted quilt collector Merry Silber, "Bring Your Own Quilt," 1 p.m. Wednesday, May 3; and award-winning artist Jane Barton, "Theorem Painting," 1 p.m. Thursday, May 4.

Silber will evaluate quilts brought to the program. Theorem painting, popular in the early 1900s, is stencil painting with oil on white velvet that was taught to young women in schools and academies. Most of the 35 dealers have been with the show every year. Participating dealers include Dede and Jim Taylor Antiques, Jackie's Vintage Fashions and Joe Ramford of Troy; Pauline Work Antiques Jewelry of Farmington Hills; Shelley Barr Antiques, Joan Chodak, Antique Look Ltd., Old Things and Kitty Davenport Oriental Rugs of Bloomfield Hills; Drovers East Antiques of West Bloomfield; Edna Tillman and Leonard Berry, Dancing Cat Antiques of Birmingham; the McDonnell House in Southfield.

Schools from page 1D

cent in 1990.

"The arts do so much for all of us. It shows us who we are, where we're going, what we can be."

"I feel I'm reaching a group of students that might never get down to the museum, that might not be exposed to art," said West Bloomfield resident Beverly Wiatrak, a docent for 12 years.

The DIA has been bringing Art To The Schools for 28 years. Last year alone, volunteer docents sparked students' interest in 600 schools. Gretchen Karlovetz, a teacher at Beverly Elementary in the Birmingham school district, says the art presentation is needed. Without it, students would have to rely on 50 minutes of art instruction once a week.

"I feel it's important because that's our culture and they learn about history," she said.

The trick is relating the mes-

sage in modern terms. At a recent presentation for fourth grade classes at Taylor Elementary School in Livonia, Wojcik showed students a slide of a sculpture, then asked if they knew what a bronze casting was. No reply. Who knows how to make creepy crawlers? Success.

After the program, Wojcik, a docent for three years, spoke about why she volunteers.

"The museum opened the world to me. You know how when some people think of a museum they're intimidated; a museum shouldn't be intimidating. It should open up a world. I tell the kids you can think something is ugly and say it out loud."

Taylor principal Richard Steele applauds the ATS program.

"It rounds out their being, not just of art and sculpture but the world around them. There's a bit of art in everything."

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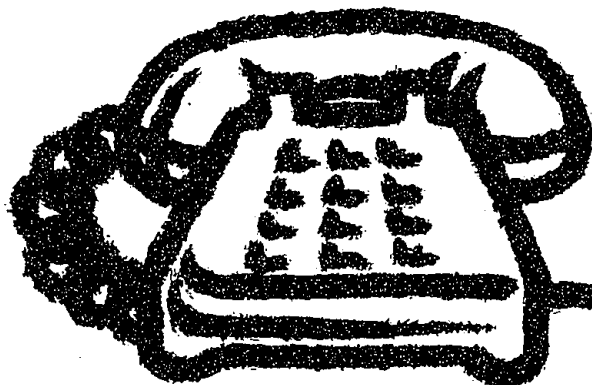
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