

## Hill & Dale

### Garden club offers winter tips

The Hill and Dale Garden Club of Farmington offers these tips on winter landscaping.

Nature provides many trees, plants, and shrubs that can make for a beautiful winter scene. Winter and its snowy effects can enhance the beauty of every growing thing.

It is important to grow just the right plant, shrub or tree for winter appeal. Evergreens and deciduous trees are a good choice, as they form the framework of the garden. Evergreens add texture, color and mass.

Ornamental grasses can also add color and interest to the winter scene when it is combined with sedum "Autumn Joy" for an unusual effect.

It is also possible to feed our feathered friends with plants that not only add color but produce fruit to attract the birds. Holly is a good choice for a winter garden. A deciduous holly, such as winterberry, is tolerant of a severely cold winter and maintains its clusters of bright

berries well into winter.

Selecting and designing a spot for your winter garden is a good project for the month of February. Designing a spot will depend on where you will want to admire the beauty of your scene; either out of the windows in your house, show off your design to passersby, or simply enjoy your garden along the walkway to your house.

Plant size, growing requirements such as light and moisture, shape, texture, color and fruiting habits must be considered. It is also beneficial if the plants are attractive in other seasons as well.

The following are some suggestions to help guide you in making your decisions for planting winter beauty:

**Herbaceous plants:** ornamental onion, late blooming flowers, 1 foot height; allium thunbergii, holds well into winter, 1 foot height; blackberry lily, black seed pods, 3 feet height; blue oat grass, symmetri-

cal shape, 2 feet height; plume grass, non-shattering, 12 feet height.

**Deciduous shrubs:** Korean barberry, scarlet fruit, 6 feet height; pagoda dogwood, horizontal branches, 15 to 20 feet height; witch hazel, late blooming yellow flower, persistent nutlets, 10 feet height; winterberry, bright red fruit, 6 to 10 feet height.

**Deciduous trees:** Paperbark maple, copper brown curling bark, 10 feet height; flowering crabapple, fragrant spring, 15 to 30 feet height; ironwood or hop hornbeam, persistent leaves, 25-40 feet height.

**Evergreens:** Japanese yew, short, dark, green, height varies; Taxus cuspidata, needles, red fruit, height varies; juniper, blue, green, golden, height varies.

Looking out at your dormant landscape will enable you to have a visual appreciation of nature's winter beauty.

## FAAC opens nominations

Nominations are now being accepted for candidates for the Artist in Residence and Distinguished Service to the Arts awards for 2000.

Each year since 1976, the Farmington Area Arts Commission has recognized the achievements of individuals and groups in the arts by naming honorees from candidates in art, drama, dance, literature and music. This is the 25th year of recognizing excellence in the arts in the Farmington community.

### Artist in Residence

The Artist in Residence award recognizes the talent and accomplishments of an individual who resides in the city of Farmington or Farmington Hills with a cash award, plaque and reception in his or her honor. Traditionally, the artist in residence presents an artwork or gratis performance to benefit city residents.

### Distinguished Service

The Distinguished Service award recognizes out-

standing service to the community in the creative arts. Groups or individuals may receive this award for support, promotion, management or teaching of the arts and are honored with a cash award and plaque at the formal reception during the annual week long Festival of the Arts at the Costick Activities Center in late April.

### All artists eligible

Nominees of deserving Farmington or Farmington Hills musicians, writers, art/music teachers, dancers, photographers, conductors, artists and actors are being sought for the award. All applications must be accompanied by a complete package including samples, publicity clippings, resume and other information. Previously nominated candidates are encouraged to re-apply.

All applications must be received by Monday, March 21. Selection will be made by March 28. Send or deliver materials to Artist in Residence Committee, William Costick Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334.

## HomeTown Heroes™

OF OAKLAND COUNTY

Your Observer & Eccentric, Mirror, and HomeTown Newspapers, in conjunction with The Volunteer Place, have established the HomeTown Heroes™ awards to recognize, encourage and reward outstanding volunteers who have given selflessly of themselves to support, nonprofit organizations in Oakland County.

The Volunteer Place will be North Oakland County's new one-stop shop for volunteer recruitment and placement, coming Fall 2000.

HomeTown Heroes™ will honor volunteers in six categories: Seniors (65 and over), Youth (18 or younger), Board/Committee, Direct Service, Faith-based and Business. The business award is sponsored by *Crain's Detroit Business*.

Nominees and awardees will be recognized at a luncheon sponsored by Northern Trust Bank on March 29 at the Townsend Hotel in Birmingham.

### NOMINATION FORM

NAME OF NOMINATOR: \_\_\_\_\_

IF GROUP, CONTACT PERSON: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

CATEGORY FOR WHICH YOU ARE NOMINATING THE VOLUNTEER:

☐ Senior (65 and over) ☐ Board/Committee ☐ Direct Service ☐ Faith-based ☐ Business ☐ Youth (18 or younger)

NOMINEE: \_\_\_\_\_

(Must volunteer for an Oakland County non-profit)

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ (If senior, just note over 65)

DAYTIME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE(S) OF VOLUNTEER SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_

YEARS OF SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_ AVERAGE NUMBER OF HOURS PER MONTH: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF WORK PERFORMED: \_\_\_\_\_

On a separate sheet, please describe, in 100 words or less, why you have nominated this individual for a HomeTown Hero™ Award. Entries must be typewritten. CAUTION: The 100-word limit will be strictly applied. Anything beyond the hundredth word will not be presented to the nominating committee. ("a", "and", "an", and "the" will not be counted as words).

Entries must be received by Friday, February 25, 2000.

Mail forms to: HomeTown Heroes™ Awards—THE VOLUNTEER PLACE  
c/o 114 Orchard Lake Rd, Pontiac, MI 48341 or Fax to (248) 858-7112

HOME TOWN

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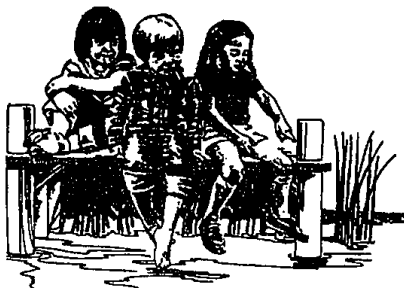
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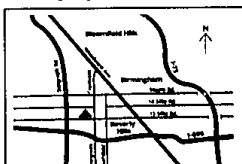
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Burton Manor Livonia Wednesday March 29 11 a.m. - 6 p.m.

We continue to receive many positive comments about our first three Job Fairs and want you to experience personally how effective they are. If you've participated in the past, you've already discovered their value to your recruitment program. We're pleased to offer you this opportunity to be part of our fourth Job Fair and save at the same time!

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We must receive your payment no later than March 1, 2000.

Learn more on our website [observer.eccentric.com](http://observer.eccentric.com)



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