

Show roses need special qualities

If you are dissatisfied with the street-side appearance of your home, this is an excellent time to jump in your car and wheel around the community.

Keep your home architecture in mind for good results and keep the hours of upkeep in mind when making a decision on how to redo your landscaping.

At this time of year, there's a real love affair going on between home gardeners and their tomato plants. Fresh tomatoes are so good in a bacon, lettuce and tomato sandwich or just plain skinned, cut into small pieces and slowly cooked with butter salt and pepper. If you're an herb cook, use your culinary expertise with stewed fresh tomatoes.

They have an interesting history. Many years ago tomatoes were grown in the Andes Mountains of South America. About 1550, the Italians gave them recognition. In the 1700s, they were considered poisonous by Americans, but that adventurer in horticulture, Thomas Jefferson, noted in 1781 that he grew them, but it took more than a



down to earth
Alice Burlingame

hundred years from that time for them to be accepted.

THE FIRST hybrid tomato was shown commercially in 1945 by Burpees. The new plants plants are grown to be healthy and resistant to Fusarium and Verticillium.

If you are growing cabbages and see white butterflies around the plants, it means that the butterflies are laying eggs for worms which will eat the leaves. A good way to control is to spray with Sevin. If your lettuce suddenly starts to wilt, it is due to white grubs eating the roots. Work Dismalin into the soil to get rid of the grubs.

The rose garden is another busy spot in the garden. If you plan to show your

roses in competition or just to get praise from friends, harkens.

If you are entering competition, you must be aware of the quality of the rose and you must know the official name of the rose. Form and color are worth 25 points in judging. Substance, meaning it is fresh and crisp, is worth 20 points. The petals should have good texture and not be thin and weak.

THE STEM and foliage will give 20 points and size, 10 points. The optimum appearance is a rose one half to three quarters open. If it is less than half open, it is a bud. The outer petals should form a circle. The stem should be long enough to carry several five leaflet leaves. A thin

or short stem with a large flower isn't good. Never remove the thorns. Stems shouldn't be longer than 18 inches. The foliage shouldn't show signs of being sprayed.

When you cut roses in advance, have the stem longer than you need. When cutting roses with a knife, always have a bucket of water right with you for immediate dunking of the stem. You can cut roses a week in advance and store in the refrigerator if done with care.

You can help a rose to open by blowing on it. Keep an old silk cloth for wiping off the leaves to give it a clean glow. If you can see the center heart of the rose, it's beyond the stage to be shown in competition. These facts about rose competition were organized by Lester Satterlee, a well known judge of the American Rose Society.

Your columnist uses gardening as a vacation from routine, then you have the feeling that gardening was made for you. It's the "weed patch" a couple of times a day and return refreshed and ready to take up any other tasks. Try it.

4-H calls leaders

The Michigan 4-H Challenge Program is seeking volunteers, 21 and older, who are interested in becoming 4-H Challenge leaders, and who are committed to working with young people.

In order to become a certified leader, a volunteer must attend a minimum of eight weekends of training and testing one weekend every month until May; pass a comprehensive written examination at the 70 percent level or above, and complete a Red Cross First Aid course.

Young people, 16-20, can become associate leaders by completing identical training.

The first training session will be Aug. 27-29, at the Ligon Retreat in Clio, in Genesee County.

Oakland County 4-H program assistant Nancy Hammerschmidt explained the primary thrust of the Challenge program.

"4-H Challenge is designed to extend the participants' reach by intentionally providing physically and mentally stressful outdoor experiences," Hamerschmidt said. "These experiences help youth and adults gain confidence in their abilities to cope with stress that they face in day-to-day living."

Challenge leaders will organize and lead a caving expedition; design a confidence course; learn survival techniques; participate in mountaineering, cross-country skiing, and other outdoor activities.

For more information on how to become a Michigan 4-H Challenge leader, contact Hamerschmidt at the Oakland County Cooperative Extension Service office in Pontiac at 859-1069. All 4-H programs are open to anyone regardless of race, color, sex, or national origin.

Marriner gives less than best in concert

By Avigdor Zarom
special writer

English born conductor Neville Marriner is widely acclaimed, one of his major credentials being that of founder of the Academy of St. Martin in the Fields.

Presently, he is on a five-year contract as artistic director of the Meadow Brook Music Festival. Of the conductors appearing here this season, his background ranks with the most impressive. His actual conducting last Thursday, however, wasn't always up to par.

The first part of the program was Scandinavian in character — the Masquerade Overture by Nielsen and the Symphony No. 5 by Sibelius — both seldom performed. The Nielsen Overture is a brisk, bright selection, which is an

opening to an even more obscure opera. If it rather pleasant, if not profound, and is as suitable an opening selection as any other short piece of his kind.

The Sibelius Symphony was delayed for a moment or two. Having realized that the wrong score had been placed before him, Marriner requested the correct one. When the right one finally arrived (after two tries) there was a ripple of applause and amusement. The subsequent performance, however, was less auspicious.

AMONG SIBELIUS' seven symphonies, his second is the only one performed with any degree of regularity. The fifth, played on this occasion, elicits less than universal acclaim. The reactions to it vary from highly positive to very negative — my own im-

review

pression tends to be not overwhelmingly positive. This, however, is no excuse to turn the composition into a long scoring session.

Once a composition has been selected for the program, both conductor and orchestra should coordinate their efforts to give it their best shot and present it in its best possible light.

This performance was a manifestation of mediocrity, highlighted by lack of continuity and imbalance of sound. The twirling straws in the slow, opening movement, were reduced to aimless buzzing.

The second movement, with its accelerating conclusion, seemed to have left most of the string sounds behind in the hurried confusion.

Following an uninspiring third, the final movement, which features fragments of themes combining into one powerful and overwhelming combina-

tion, amounted to meaningless bits and pieces scattered around.

THE STAR of the evening was undoubtedly the young, English born cellist, Robert Cohen. During the second half of the program he gave a superb performance of Dvorak's Concerto for Cello and Orchestra in B minor.

Because it is one of the substantial compositions for the instrument, it was certainly the most acclaimed piece of the program. For those used to listening in the many recorded versions, the cello found in a live, outdoor performance may create some disillusionment.

The low, dark colored register of the cello doesn't project very far under these conditions without the aid of sound engineering techniques available in a recording studio.

The more attentive listener, however, was amply rewarded with the rare combination of expressiveness, supplemented with secure technical skill.

Still in his early 20s, Cohen is indeed a promising, rising talent. It is hoped here that he will prove to be one of the permanent names associated with that wonderful instrument.

9 local women enter fair competitions

Nine Farmington Hills women are registered as contestants in the 1982 Michigan State Fair competitions. The fair dates this year are Aug. 27 to Sept. 6.

Seven entries in the baking competitions will come from J.R. Short; six come from June D. Paulic; five from Michael Robins; and one from Angela Santarossa. Santarossa's entry is in the senior citizens' contest.

Elizabeth Ann Ulinder has submitted one quilt and one Afghan into competition, and Lola Anchor has submitted one piece of needlework and one Afghan.

Four entries of needlework and sewing have come from Jean Comport. Shirley Cundy has submitted seven pieces of needlework.

One entry in needlework, a group project, was submitted by Sally Dorenbusch.



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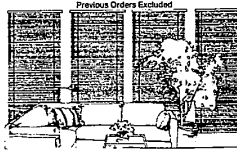
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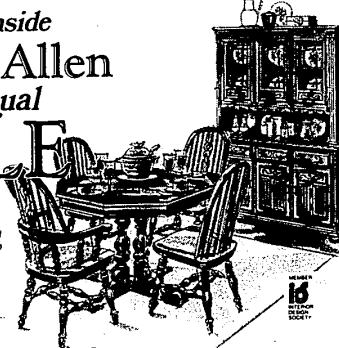
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