

# Tree shapes show clearly now

Thanksgiving could be a good time to discuss the possibility of a new tree or two to add to your landscape. After the feast, a walk through the neighborhood or a drive to a more distant spot to study these magnificent plants might be enjoyable. The tree forms and branch structures show more clearly without leaves.

Some trees such as the birch, cherry and elm (there are a few still around) have a delicate look, while others such as the ash, buckeye and oak are heavier in appearance. Some have natural decoration at this time of year, notably the catalpa and sweet gum, with hanging fruits and the hickory with its witch's brooms.

There are several ways to identify trees without the leaves. Look at the branch structures — dogwood, ash and maples have opposite branching;



down to earth  
**Marty Figley**

almost all other trees have alternate branching.

There are numerous bark patterns and colors. Bleches with white trunks and slightly curly bark beautify the winter landscape. Sycamores have yellowish to brown coarse-grained bark. Maple trees have a wide range of bark colors from gray to dark brown, and textures from smooth to scaly (often on the older trees). The gray bark of the white ash is ridged.

**TREES ARE fascinating to study**

and watch during the changing seasons. A place to enjoy a great variety of trees and shrubs is the Ford Motor Company's Arjay Miller Michigan Arboretum, west and north of the company's central office building, at Michigan and Southfield in Dearborn.

Pamphlets to use for a self-guided tour are available free of charge by writing to the News Dept., Room 904, The American Road, Dearborn, 48121. You may call 332-9600 to request copies.

In my recent travels I have noticed that a form of pruning trees called "topping" has been used, often along the freeways. Besides being unsightly, it is a poor practice to follow because it upsets the balance of the tree's food function and exposes large branch stubs that are vulnerable to insect invasion and fungus decay.

Many suckers often grow just below the pruning cut, which is weaker than naturally occurring branches, therefore the trees are more vulnerable to wind and ice damage.

For those of you who need help in the pruning department, to get started in the right direction, an illustrated, easy-to-follow guide "How to Prune Young Shade Trees" is available free of charge. Write to How to Prune, National Arbor Day Foundation, 100 Arbor Ave., Nebraska City, Neb. 68410.

# Holiday Tables — a real spread

Jewels, angels, miniatures and family holiday treasures will be part of the table settings done by well-known area hostesses for the annual Holiday Tables celebration Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Cranbrook House, 350 Lone Pine, Bloomfield Hills. Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday and Saturday and noon to 4 p.m. Sunday.

From traditional to haute decor, each table will reflect the personality of its designer through choice of silver, china, glass, linen, flowers and accessories.

O'Henry's poignant tale of the man who sold his watch to buy a comb for his loved one's hair only to find she had sold her hair to buy him a job for his watch, will be the theme of one table set in the paneled Oak Room.

In the library, living and sun rooms will be variety of table settings — a festive family Christmas dinner set on a Scottish tartan and centered with reindeer and a toasty tree; a sophisticated setting for a Viennese cutwork cloth, mercury glass and holly centerpiece; a heavenly table created with a flurry of angels collected over many years; a fireside supper centered with a seed pearl and ivory toposary; and a miniature country colonial Christmas scene.

There will be a teddy bear tea party, a traditional Swedish celebration, a Christmas Eve supper accented with bejeweled camels and an ornament collection, a contemporary table with silver and crystal on moire intertwined with silver branches and a dazzling and gold and red setting.

Barbara Smith is honorary chairwoman for the event. Those doing the tables are Kathryn Antonini of Bloomfield Hills; Polly Bidwell of Bloomfield Hills; Michael Farrell, Detroit; Sis Fisher, Bloomfield Hills; Eleanor Breitmeyer Gebert of Farmington; Clarissa Goad, Birmingham; Pat Hartmann, Birmingham; Sue Nino, Bloomfield Hills; Kathy O'Connell, Bloomfield Hills; Valerie Straith, Bloomfield Hills; Nicole Stroh, Grosse Pointe; Tuttl VanderKloot, Bloomfield Hills; and Cranbrook House and Cranbrook Garden auxiliaries.

There will be a holiday gift boutique, Booth family Christmas memorabilia, and old fashioned Christmas tree and refreshments.

Pre-sale tickets are \$5 and \$6 at the door. For information, call 645-3149.

## preview

## Holiday concert slated

The Lyric Chamber Ensemble will give a holiday concert at 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 4, at Orchestra Hall, 3711 Woodward, Detroit. The performers will be Emmanuelle Boisvert and Geoffrey Applegate, violins; Earrestine Nimmons, soprano; Ramon Parcels, trumpet; and the LCE Camerata Orchestra.

Boisvert, new concertmaster for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, is making her local debut as a soloist at this concert. She is a graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, has performed at the Marlboro Music Festival and as a soloist in Quebec City, Toronto, Philadelphia and Colorado.

Applegate, principal second violinist with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, is a graduate of Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. He was a soloist with the Detroit Symphony in 1984 with Christopher Hogwood conducting and last summer during the Orchestra's Upper Peninsula tour.

Nimmons has a masters from Wayne State University and performs as soloist with the Brazeal-Dennard Chorale and had the lead role in Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess."

Parcels teaches trumpet at University of Michigan and is a member of the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

## Brandeis group to hear about DSO activities

Willis Roudner, artistic administrator for the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, will be the guest speaker for a luncheon program at noon Wednesday, Dec. 7 at Bloomfield Township Library. The program is sponsored by the Greater Detroit Chapter of Brandeis University National Women's Committee.

Roudner will speak on "The Jubilee Year of the DSO: A Backstage View." The luncheon also celebrates the 40th anniversary of Brandeis University and the National Women's Committee. Roudner, who started with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra last August, was previously manager of the

Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and assistant to the artistic director, Carnegie Hall. She has a bachelor's in music from New York University.

Past presidents of the local chapter will be honored at the luncheon. Minimum contribution for the luncheon and program is \$15. For reservations, call the Book Depot, 399-3845 or 341-2461 9 a.m. to noon Monday and Tuesday or send reservations and checks to BUNWOC, Greater Detroit Book Depot, 25599 Coollidge, Oak Park 48237. Deadline Dec. 2. Guests welcome. Elaine Krohn Medwed is program chairman and Regine Shulman is chairman of the day.

## Trains displayed in Detroit

Millender Center and Lionel Trains, Inc. of Mount Clemens will stage the Lionel holiday train display 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily, Nov. 23 to Jan. 2 on the Skywalk level of the Atrium.

Featured will be a huge Denver and Rio Grande locomotive balloon, 28 feet long, 12 feet high and 7 feet wide. It will be suspended from the full height of the seven-story glass atrium. The balloon will be surrounded with railroad art and nine trains on static display.

## RANCHWOOD VILLAS

12 Mile Road  
(Bet. Evergreen & Lashar)



**Luxury Condominiums**  
Prices From \$108,900  
**Spacious Ranches & Townhouses**

- Large great room w/replaceable
- Central air
- Ceramic Foyer
- Full basement
- Insulated wood windows
- 2 Car attached garage
- Master bath w/jacuzzi
- First floor laundry

Developed By: **BOJI DEVELOPMENT INC.** Sales By: **HEPPARD & ASSOCIATES REALTORS 855-6570**

Model Ph.: 357-1444 Open Daily & Wkds. 1-5 Cisd. Thurs.

**Tradition doesn't just happen...it builds!**

**L**uxurious two and three bedroom townhouse and ranch units available from \$125,000. Vaulted ceilings, natural fireplace, basement, patio or deck, Euro-styled kitchen complete with oven/range, dishwasher and microwave. Luxury and quality...attainable at affordable prices by The Irvine Group, Inc.

Come and see why we've built a reputation as the finest community in Farmington Hills!


Models open daily, 12-6 p.m. 661-1400



**Signmonte**

Built and Developed by **THE IRVINE GROUP, INC.**

**THE POINT IS...**



Phase III Now Open

## THE UNCOMMON CONDOMINIUM LIFESTYLE

The word "condominium" takes on a new meaning with our thoughtfully designed two and three bedroom ranch and townhouse style condominiums featuring 1500 to 2250 square feet. Seclude yourself in the natural beauty of our nearly 700 acres with parks, two superb golf courses and the pleasures of West Crooked Lake. Your new Oak Pointe luxury home is conveniently near several urban centers—and within a state-honored school system as well. Oak Pointe—a choice that can make a difference in the way you live your life. Condominium prices from \$153,000 - \$240,000.

Model Hours: Weekdays 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. Saturday & Sunday Noon to 6:00 P.M. Closed Thursday.


On Brighton Road, 4 miles west of I-96/US-23 interchange. Take I-96 west to exit 147, turn right onto Spencer (becomes Main Street, then Brighton Road). Call 227-2608. Sales by ERA Griffith Realty.

# Oak Pointe

Luxury condominiums and family homesites nestled among golf courses, lakes and parks in Brighton country.

*We Proudly Present!*


## Laird Haven



**For the Discriminating Homeowner**  
Nine elegant country homes located in Northville Township minutes from I-275 and M-14.  
Priced from \$268,000 including all amenities.


- A limited number of cluster homes offering the best of both worlds.
- A single family home without time-consuming upkeep.
- Spacious floor plans; from 2,200 to 2,400 sq. ft.
- Enjoy the lavish greatroom, luxurious master suite, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen, and multiple decks.
- These elegant homes have genuine fieldstone, brick and cedar exteriors and are nestled in a natural park-like setting.
- Golf course views are also available.

Open Weekends  
Shown by Appointment  
Call 994-2510 or 348-4549



The Laird Haven Development Co., Inc.

## Grand Opening



Unveiling Southridge — the finest value in condominium living at prices you have to see to believe.

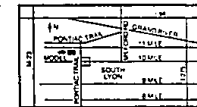
Southridge offers two bedroom/two bath condominiums for \$64,900.

Features include:

- Whirlpool appliances — refrigerator, range, dishwasher
- Spacious private walled patio or balcony
- Central air
- Carport
- Pre-wired for cable

MODEL HOURS: 1-6 p.m. daily (closed Thursdays). Model phone number, 437-6020 or 344-9398


On Pontiac Trail, just South of 11 Mile Rd



## SOUTHRIDGE

FIRST PRESENTATION

**NOSAN/COHEN ASSOCIATES & SELECTIVE HOMES PROUDLY PRESENT THEIR ENCORE TO MAPLEWOODS II**



The continuing success of Maplewoods II makes it a tough act to follow. But less than one mile west on Maple Road, the same fine developers are bringing up the curtain on Stonebridge... a prestigious community of captivating new homes in a naturally beautiful setting with sidewalks, West Bloomfield schools and leisure opportunities galore!

Preview Stonebridge at the Maplewoods II Sales Center located off Maple Road between Farmington and Orchard Lake Roads in West Bloomfield. Open daily and weekends 12 to 5, closed Thursday.

**Call 851-9898**