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COMMUNITY LIFE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1994



Hot tips for fire awareness

fyou had a fire tonight, do you think you'd survive? Surprisingly, most people think they would. Yet in the United States during 1993, 4280 civilians died in their homes because of a fire. Were they less prepared than you? Or did they just think that a fire was something that happens to other people? Fire Prevention Week was inspired by one of the worst fires in our nation's history. The Great Chicago Fire of 1871, which took 250 lives, left 100,000 homeless and destroyed 17,430 buildings. In 1922, President Warren G. Harding proclaimed National Fire Prevention Week. Since then, the fire service across America has used this annual observation to highlight fire safety awareness tips.

Test your detector
During 1993, 55,622 fires were reported in
Michigan, accounting for 233 civilian death.
Monetary losses were estimated at \$230 million.
The thems for this year's Fire Prevention Week, observed Oct. 9-15, is "Test free Prevention of Islands and Islands of Prevention of Prevention Oct. 9-15, is "Test free Prevention Oct. 9-15, is Test free Prevention Oct. 9-15

This old estate home has charm, history



Biddestone has the look, inside and out, of an English estate

complete with gardens and surrounding wooded areas.

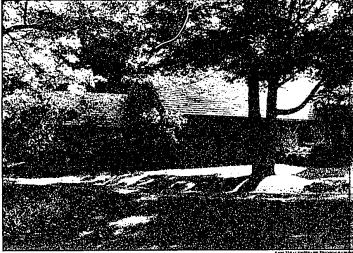
By DIANE GALE

BY DIANE GALE
STATY WATEA

Sometimes a house is more than brick and mortar.
There was a time, for instance, that stately houses were given names, just like children and the architecture and grounds were shown the ame care sa an offspring.
Take the Biddestone home on what was called Mansion Row just east of Farmington Hills.
In 1937, the Cotswold Manor home was built with Indiana Bedford limestone for Edward Moseman Hills ancestors came to the United States from Biddestone, England, and he was recreating his own bit of English style here.
The original 40 acress has been built over the years, but the Biddestone estate still includes two acres of land, many of which are lush with English gardens and untouched wooded areas bursting with wild flowers and beech maple
For the first time since 1969, the house, just under 3,000 square feet, is on the market. Owner Jean Fox, former Farmington Hills council-woman and mayor, is selling.
"I came in the front door and I knew this house is what I wanted," Fox said. "As much as I love it, the years are going on. People say, "It's so beautiful, how can you bear to part with it?

"And I have to say, There comes a time." I've loved it and I've had it for 25 years, and maybe someone

"And I have to say, "There comes a time." I've loved it and I've had it for 25 years, and maybe someone else will love it for 25 years."



Stately estate: The grounds around the house, which some know simply as Biddestone, are alive with colorful wildflowers during spring and summer. During fall, the lush green English gardens take the stage.

English gardens take the stage.
It won't be the first time Biddestone will be viewed by the public.
Replate with a slate roof, copper gutters, white oak floors and doors, this stately home is a mainstay on garden walks and home tours.
The architect, Marcus Burrowes, who was known for his creations of English Revival-style buildings. He was widely known in southeast Michigan during the second and

third decades of the 20th century.
Some of the mansions he designed
can still be found in Detroit,
Birmingham, Albion, Dearborn and
Grosse Pointe.

In Parmington, five homes, including the Luman Goodenough estate which is now the Longacre
House, were designed by Burrowes.
Four of these Burrowes houses were

Burrowes designed Biddeston to capture the beauty of the surrounding trees and gardens seen outside the casement louvered windows.

"It's like being in a ballet," Fox said, looking out a sitting room window overlooking an English garden with a wooded backdrop. "There's elways movement with the trees."

The price? Fox and her Realtor declined to comment for publication.

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