



Winterize yard ponds – beware of deer now

We purchased a black preformed plastic pond that you see sold in many garden centers. We've put it in the ground and wonder if there is anything we would do to prepare it for the winter. Should we drain the water out of it?

check your local bookstores for one of the many books written on the topic.

I have read a recent article on car-deer related accidents in Oakland County. Is there a time of year that drivers need to be extra careful?

Pre-formed ponds have become very popular in recent years. The nice thing about them is that they can be placed virtually anywhere. I've had a two hundred gallon pond in our yard for the last four years. If yours is in the ground you would not want to drain it.

The weight of the water in the pond is necessary to prevent the pond from heaving during the freezes and thaws of the winter. A full pond year-round should always remain level.

An empty pond, subject to winter heaving, would probably have to be leveled each spring. Most ponds like yours are usually about eighteen inches deep so any fish would have to be brought inside for the winter.

As far as plants go the general recommendation is to also over winter them, especially water lilies, in a basement if you have one.

I don't care to bring my pond plants indoors for the cold months so I leave them in the pond and hope they make it.

We have had three mild winters in a row so my plants have come back each year. There is not enough room in a newspaper column like this to go into great detail on backyard ponds so I'd suggest you

The fall of each year is when the rut (breeding season) begins for the white tail deer. It is at this time when the bucks (male deer) throw all caution to the wind and travel up to five miles a night looking for does (female deer).

This occurs in some subdivisions. I'd advise all drivers to slow down in rural areas during the next two to three months, especially at night, while these deer activities occur.

Do you have any information concerning a new book published recently on Kensington Metro Park?

Your timing is perfect. Ted Nelson, who recently authored "The Nature of Kensington" will be the guest speaker at the next meeting of the Farmington Area Naturalists held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 20 in the Spicer House at Heritage Park.

Ted will have a slide presentation as well as his new book for sale. The public is invited. For more information you can call me at the office: 473-9574.

Joe Derek is city naturalist for Farmington Hills. You can leave him a question by calling 248-473-9574.



BYRNE-COLLINS
Dr. and Mrs. Donald Byrne of Livonia announce the engagement of their daughter, Kathleen Elizabeth, to Michael Collins Jr., the son of Michael Collins Sr. of Georgia and Sharon Pachota of Farmington Hills.

The bride-to-be is a 1995 graduate of Ladywood High School and a graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering.

Her fiancé is a 1995 graduate of Garden City High School and a graduate of the University of Detroit Mercy with a bachelor's degree in philosophy.

A November wedding is planned at St. Michael Catholic Church in Livonia.



CAMERON-GALINE
John Colin and Carol Cameron announce the marriage of their daughter, Kelly Ann, to Chris Alan Galine of Plymouth. He is the son of Terry Saline of Plymouth and Alan Saline of Florida. The wedding took place on

July 17, 1999 at St. John Neumann Church in Canton. The reception was held at Bay Pointe Golf Club. The maid of honor was the bride's sister, Aimee Cameron, and the best man was the groom's brother, Craig Saline.

Kelly is a graduate of Farmington High School and received her bachelor of science in Child Development and Elementary Education from Michigan State University. She is a first grade teacher at Johnson Elementary in the Huron Valley School District.

Chris is a graduate of Plymouth-Salem High School and received his bachelor of science in Food Distribution from Michigan State University and is currently employed by the Kroger Corporation. The couple make their home in South Lyon.

Classes offered

The Longacre House is offering a variety of classes beginning this month. Here's a rundown.

Joan Ballantyne, a certified myomassologist, is offering "Reflexology: Oh, My Aching Feet!" Histories relate the entire body to certain spots on your hands and feet. The first class is Thursday, Oct. 21, the second will be Wednesday, Oct. 27. Both classes are from 7-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$15.

Cheryl Wrono is offering "Psychic Readings" – palmistry, tarot cards, and numerology on Thursdays in October. The series begins Oct. 14, and will run the next two consecutive Thursdays. Each fifteen minute block is \$20.

"Feng Shui and Aromatherapy" is presented by certified instructor Debra Christy-Merriman on Wednesday, Oct. 27 from 7:30-9:30 p.m. Requiring an intro class or a background in Feng Shui, this class is \$18.

"Hiring Smart," taught by John Sican, Jr., will present the entire employment process and new systems used by companies from small to large. The class is Wednesday, Oct. 27 from 9:30 a.m. to noon. The fee is \$25.

Crafty types are offered opportunities to get creative with Andrea Ferris "Creative Memories" step by step workshop on preserving photos. Simple and fun techniques help you create a keepsake album. Held Oct. 19,

the workshop runs from 7-9 p.m. and costs \$15 plus a \$3 material fee.

Lynn Van Nest offers "Quilting: The Basics of Finishing a Quilt." Monday Oct. 25. Fee is \$12. Call 477-8404 for more.

NEW VOICES

MILLER BABY

Eric and Kristy Miller of Livonia announce the birth of Brooklyn Rose Aug. 18 at Garden City Hospital. She has one sibling,

Ashlyn, 2. Grandparents are Dennis and Mary Koss and Richard and Kaye Miller, all of Farmington Hills.

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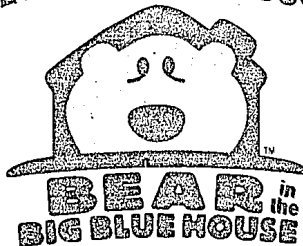
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Parking in rear and front

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Southfield Civic Center
26000 Evergreen Road
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