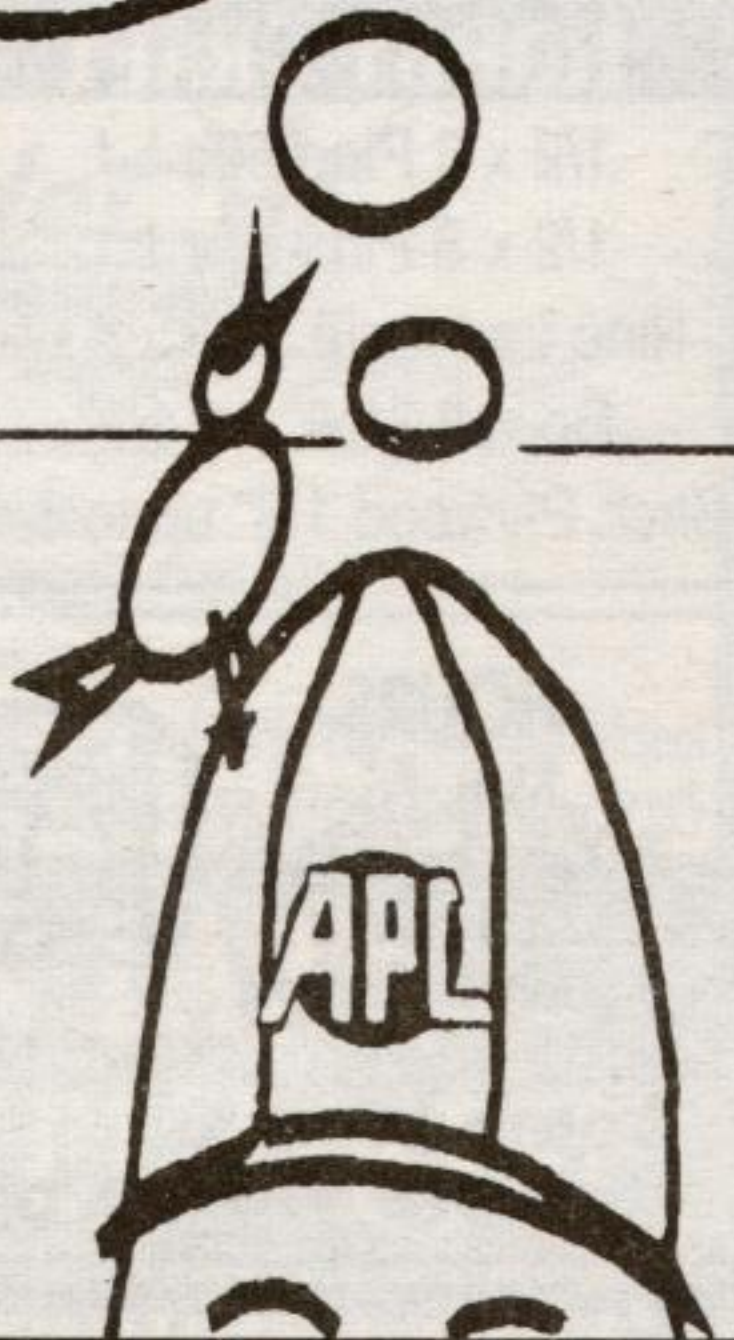
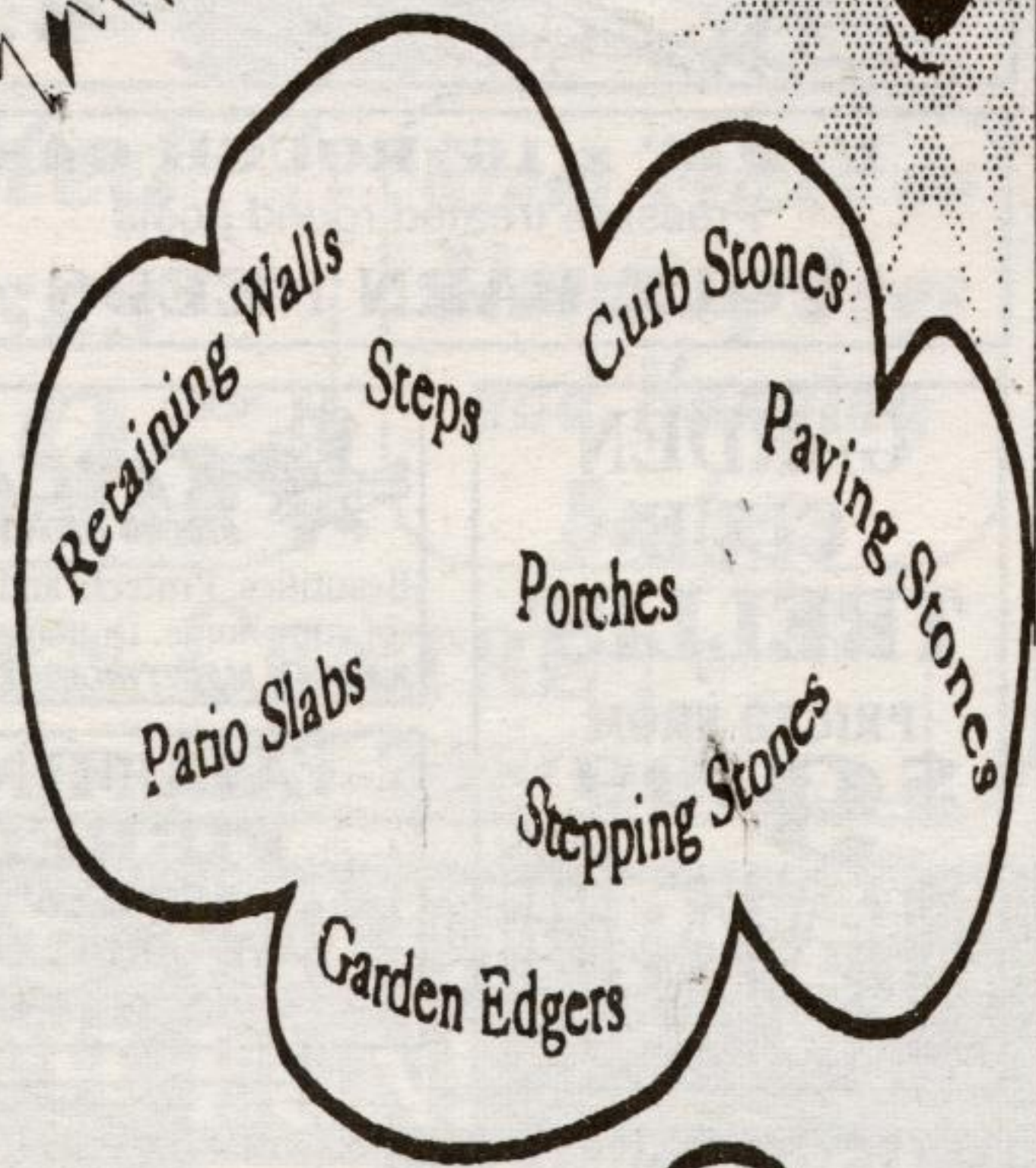


Home Lawn and Garden

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Local garden centre operators suggest cleaning up that yard

After moving to Georgetown three years ago, the Litz family has definitely put down roots. And they'd be happy to help you get yours started, too.

Rudy and Gabriele Litz opened their garden centre three years ago, on the site of the Dominion Seed House at Maple Avenue and Guelph Street, after "a lifetime in the gardening business," according to Gabriele. Rudy's background in landscape construction makes him a knowledgeable source for those wanting to beautify their property. From stonework to waterfalls to garden plans, the Litz Garden Centre can help get you started, or do the work for you.

Even though it's too early to plant annuals, there's lots the eager gardener can do while waiting for the threat of frost to pass.

"Before anything else, people should clean up their yards, rake away leaves and dead grass," says Gabriele. "It's a good time to apply fertilizer, over-seed the lawn, and treat crabgrass if you had a problem last year. Then begin enriching

the soil so it will be ready for planting."

It's also a good time to plant trees, shrubs or hedges, though Rudy cautions against planting trees too deep.

"People forget the tree will settle in time, leaving your tree in a hollow."

Most trees and shrubs can be pruned now, though spring flowering shrubs, maples and evergreens should wait till later in the season.

The garden centre carries a wide variety of shrubs and large caliper trees. They also carry top soil, gravel, limestone, garden rocks, grass seed, nursery plants.

Perennials are arriving daily, and soon the Litzs will boast one of the biggest selections in town. Rudy says they expect a shipment of annuals in two to three weeks. But for those who can't wait for color in the garden, there is a wide selection of frost-hardy pansies available right now.

Litz Garden Centre is open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday to Saturday, and 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Sundays. The phone number is 877-1144. A qualified horticulturist is on-site on weekends to offer advice and expertise.

Beautify your yard with a pond

Continued from pg. 3

does not freeze to the lowest depths, these fish can survive the cruellest winters.

If you live in a warmer climate, you can select from the most prized pond fish: beautiful and exotic Koi, from Japan. What should you do in the winter? Nothing! After the first frost, remove your filter and leave your pond alone until the onset of spring (as soon as the water temperature

reaches 50F).

Never feed your fish during the winter, as their metabolism directly relates to the water temperature, and when it drops below 50F, the fish will not eat. In the spring, reinstall your filter and begin feeding your fish.

Your yard pond will provide years of enjoyment and truly make you the envy of your neighborhood.

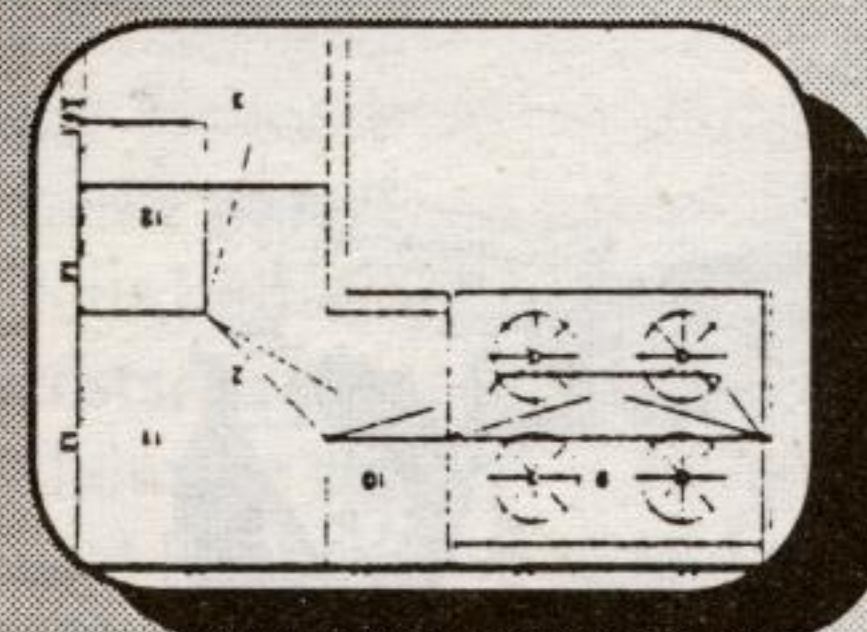
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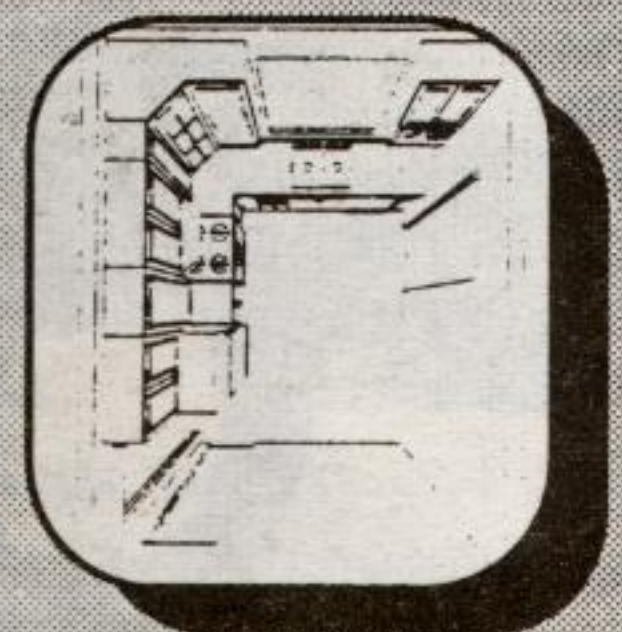
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