

Rainbow of colors to burst into springtime

By ELAINE GORDON

Winter weary spirits are banished as our senses delight in Mother Nature's elixir...awakening gardens with their bouquets of bursting blossoms. This enticing preview hints of rainbow colors she has yet to share with her vast audience.

However, as with all grand productions, the producer can't manage it alone and some assistance is required prior to curtain time. Perhaps some of the following

may need including on your garden program to ensure a hand-clapping, foot stomping finale.

The slow-release feedings from fertilizer spikes satisfy appetites and help maintain health to ward off infestations when correctly applied to large evergreens, fruit and shade trees. Don't forget to remove any damaged branches and apply a pruning paste (to prevent disease) on cuts over an inch in diameter.

Turn over the soil in annual

flower and vegetable beds and mix in composted manure, peat moss and fertilizer. If starting a new rose bed or vegetable garden make sure the site receives at least five to six hours daily of full sun. Why not save a small area where the children could learn the fun of gardening by watching the growth of their very own halloween pumpkin.

Hedges, flowering shrubs, roses, and the backbone of gardens, perennials, needs a ba-

lanced fertilizer to maintain continued health so they can regale your eyes with flowers. Perhaps it's time to relocate sun-loving perennials if they're now shaded by taller evergreens. Improve the soil in their planting holes beforehand and they'll reward you for the effort.

Ferns, azaleas and rhododendrons adore a mulch of peat moss for moisture retention and consider adding bone meal to the soil around ferns — they love it.

Lawns need debris removed by fan raking (so the grass won't get torn), aerating to benefit roots (if the inclination is there, a garden fork is dandy in a small area but a power aerator is less strenuous in a larger area) and fertilizing with a crabgrass control, if required. Replace a bad patch of lawn (dog damaged, etc.) with sod — it's easier than reseeding.

Sharpen dull tools, write identification on new ones and paint the handles.



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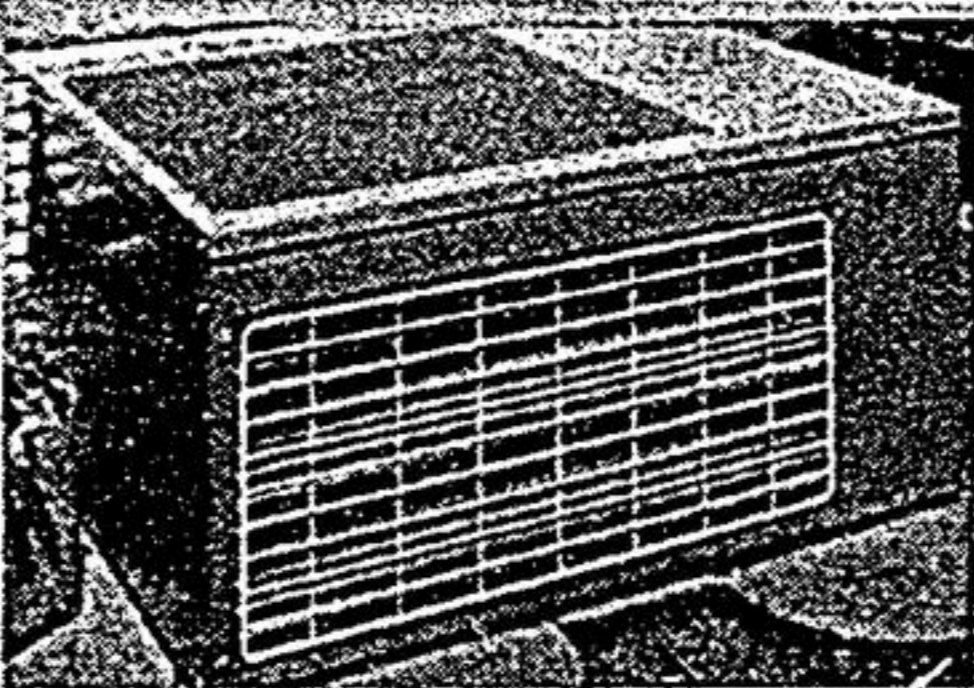
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A new twist

Students at William Berczy Public School presented the play *Oliver* last week in the school auditorium. Here, Greg Pipher (right) who played Mr. Bumble, puts Julie Herman (*Oliver*) up for sale.

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Lions asking: Are your boots made for walking?

In an effort to top last year's \$4,000 raised in the Journey for Sight, the Unionville Lions Club is urging residents to get on their walking shoes and join the fun in 1986.

Bill Brown, committee chairman of the fourth annual Journey for Sight, said the six km. event is expected to draw more participants this year thanks to more student participation.

Of a total of seven participating schools, three new entries are confirmed — Unionville High School, Milliken Public School and Highgate Public School.

Prizes will be awarded in a draw after the event for all participants. The contestant who gar-

ners the most pledges will receive a new 10-speed bicycle.

Agencies that benefit from the annual Journey for Sight are the York-Durham CNIB, the Canadian Diabetic Association and the Lions Foundation of Canada Guide Dog Program. Participating schools will also receive a portion of the money raised for school activities.

Trophies will be presented to the top participants and the top school.

The Journey for Sight takes place at Toogood Pond, Unionville, Saturday, May 3, 10 a.m. until noon.

For more information on the event and how to obtain pledge forms call Bill Brown at 294-5752.

Area landscapers receive awards

The reconstruction of Unionville Main St. was commended with an award to a heritage committee and the landscape architect who designed the streetscape.

Environmental Design Awards were presented Wednesday night to individuals and businesses involved in the beautification of buildings and areas in Markham.

Paul Ferris and Associates, Inc. and the Unionville Heritage Conservation District Steering Committee were the recipients of awards for the Main St. renovation.

Other award winners were, Monarch Construction Co. and Fliess, Gates, McGowan, Easton/Architects Inc. for the Bridge Trail development in Unionville; Nicol & Johnston, Architects and the building committee for the Markham Fire Hall; and Elson and Joyce Miles for their home, Miles' Hectares.

Mr. Miles is also Councillor for Ward 6, the rural area of Markham.

The ceremony was held at Heintzman House in Thornhill.