

## Gardening & Landscaping Tips

By: Max Phelps

### Large, Fast Growing Shade Trees That Bloom

Though waterfeatures and stone work are "hot" landscape projects currently, trees will remain an important fixture in most yards. Let us suppose you want a tree that grows fast, becomes a large shade tree and also blooms.

Each tree in this category has positive attributes (but also some negatives).

Let's begin with a beautiful large shade tree that is a good timber tree too and used to be the Kentucky State Tree. That would be the tulip poplar. Tulip trees grow fast, and in ideal conditions reach over 100 feet tall in 25 years. The yellowish tulip flowers in May are large as a saucer. The big leaves are attractive and turn a lemon yellow in the fall. Earlier in spring, the only real drawback is some limbs may be blown out in high winds (but not as much as Bradford Pears).

Large trees are nursery grown, but if you have a couple years patience, small ones can be attained from the wild in Kentucky in fall or winter.

Next, the catalpa tree. This tree grows fast into a very sturdy, somewhat 'gangly' looking specimen. When in bloom in May or June the catalpa's white bloom clusters exceed the impact and beauty of a

Bradford Pear any old day. The trunks are decay resistant and can make good posts and beams. Drybacks include mess from the large brown bean seed pods, no fall color, and worms eating the leaves dragged in some years.

The Paulownia or Empress Tree (named for royalty prior to Communist conquering Russia) is an extremely fast growing tree. I have witnessed grown from a 5-foot whip one year old and big around as my thumb turn into a tree with the size of a 1-pound coffee can in just three years! Japanese paper companies grow plantations of them for pulp wood. The leaves are dinner plate size and bigger. The candlebras of bluish purple flowers in late spring are awesome to behold. Limitations are no fall color, young trees often frostbite badly in spring, large seed pods will eventually clutter the lawn, and a 'rough' appearance as an older tree.

The ligi tree (Idesia polycarpa) is a zone 6 hardy, which includes our community. I am experimenting with growing this tree from seedlings in containers; it is not commercially available. (I have seen these trees near Myrtle Beach.) They look similar to catalpa. Large leaves. No fall color - but beautiful red berries hang on female trees. The biggest draw-

back I can think of is that no nurseries to my knowledge propagate this species. One would have to plant several, as both male and female would be required for the fruits to set. A large lot, to accommodate several of these large trees would be necessary to insure likelihood of the red fruit clusters. (Might get a couple neighbors to cooperate if you have room

for but one tree.) Unusual.

Some other trees that meet at least two of the three criteria of the title include fruit trees, magnolias, Bradford pears, minosa, linden, crab apples.

Additional articles will follow this fall on selecting trees for your needs as you continue turning your yard into paradise.



### The Family Room

By: Dr. Roy Don Whitehead

#### Love Can Be Blind

When Diane came to see me for counseling, she was depressed, discouraged and desperate. (All characters are fictitious.) "I can't take anymore from Sam," she almost shouted. "That man is driving me crazy!"

When Diane calmed down some, I asked, "What does Sam do that drives you crazy?"

"I know he is seeing another woman," she explained. "He won't admit it, but I found a phone number in his wallet, and someone calls the house and hangs up when I answer. They call at least twice a day. Also, he's drinking again. He tries to hide it, but I know he is. I can tell just by looking in his eyes." Diane became very quiet.

"What's wrong?" I inquired. "You're being very quiet. Are you thinking about Sam?"

"Yes," she answered slowly. "Sam has a bad temper, and it's worse when he drinks. Sometimes he will grab me hard to try to get me to bed. He's left bruises before."

"Is that all that he does?" I asked. "No, it's not," she replied. "Sometimes he pushes me and grabs my hair. He once pulled me down the hall by the hair of my head. The kids saw that. It scared them to death."

I suspected there was even more to the story. "And..." I continued. "And he's hit me before," she said through her tears. "He leaves bruises on my body where no one can see them. He's never hit me in the face, but always on my body somewhere. I can't understand why I got mixed up with somebody like Sam! He was

so good to me when we began dating. He was the perfect gentleman. The abuse began six months after we were married. What am I doing to cause him to be this way?"

"Diane, you are not responsible for his actions," I told her firmly. "You aren't doing anything to cause him to abuse you. He is responsible for his own actions."

"As you look back on the dating period," I asked, "were there some signs then that everything was not wonderful in the relationship?"

Diane was quiet for awhile. "I guess there were, now that I think about it," she responded softly. "He never hit me, but he would get very angry and pound on the dashboard of his car. I know that he drank some, but he never did it around me. Also, I suspected a couple of times that he had gone out on me, but he denied it strongly, and I believed him. Why didn't I see those things then rather than after we were already married?"

"You've probably heard the expression that 'love is blind.' I said to Diane, 'Well, let me tell you that love can also be deaf, dumb and stupid! When we are in love, our five senses fall us, and we miss the most obvious signs of trouble. That 'in love' feeling blinds us to reality."

"Well, it sure blinded me," Diane agreed. "I thought he was wonderful."

Diane had a lot to learn about love, but she was willing to learn. Marrying Sam had convinced her that she needed some help.

## Rotary comes to Mt. Vernon

Plans are underway for the organization of a Rotary Club in Mt. Vernon, to represent the Rockcastle County area. Rotary is an organization of business and professional people united worldwide, who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world.

Persons interested in joining the Rotary Club in Mt. Vernon are invited to attend an informative meeting on September 12, 2001, at the Telecommunications room on the third floor of the courthouse. The next Rotary meeting will be on September 19, 2001. Both meetings will begin at 5:30 p.m. and last approximately one hour.

Anyone with questions regarding the Rotary may contact the London Rotary President, Mike Cloyd at (606)864-8110.

The new Rotary Club will reflect the spirit of friendship and concern for others which characterizes Rotary everywhere. Rotary's motto is "Service Above Self." Rotary means that we have something meaningful to offer and want to share with others. It gives us as individuals an opportunity to act with our hearts and our minds to help advance our community, as well as other parts of the world. Rotary allows us to have fellowship with like-minded men and women to bring together projects that can help those that need help.

Rotary offers us the chance to share our talents and our dreams. It is a chance to use our hands and minds to build on these premises so that we may realize these dreams with finished projects. It is an opportunity to find satisfaction in a job well done.

The Mt. Vernon Rotary Club will be sponsored by the London and Berea Rotary clubs.

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Sept. 30 - Richmond Mall 1 pm

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### FALL COURSE OFFERINGS

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Language Arts/Communications  
Social Studies/Humanities

#### WHEN

Mondays & Tuesdays  
3:00-5:00  
Sept. 10 - Dec. 18

#### F.Y.I.

Extended learning experiences in a fun, interactive environment. Field Trips. Bus transportation at \$5.00 p.m.  
PARENT PERMISSION REQUIRED

#### Computer Classes

##### Internet for Beginners

#### F.Y.I.

Learn to develop skills to use the Internet for  
• Communication • Information • Acquiring  
graphics • Shopping • & Much More

#### Introduction to Windows

#### F.Y.I.

This is a beginning computer class.

#### WHEN

Tuesdays beginning Sept. 11 - Oct. 16  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

#### •• FOR MORE INFORMATION ••

About any class offering or to register contact  
Jason Coguer or Terry Parkey at (606) 256-5118

#### Aerobics / Physical Fitness

#### F.Y.I.

Low impact step-aerobics  
Tai-Chi on alternate weeks • Ab & Leg work

#### WHEN

Thursdays beginning Sept. 13 - Dec. 13  
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#### Gymnastics

#### F.Y.I.

4 - 1 hour classes • Registration on Sept. 6  
from 5 - 7 pm  
Classes for ages 5 - 18 • All skill levels

#### WHEN

Thursdays beginning Sept. 13 - Dec. 13  
3:00 - 4:00 / 4:00-5:00 / 5:00-6:00 / 6:00-7:00

#### French Class

#### F.Y.I.

Focus on conversational French & French culture

#### WHEN

Wednesdays beginning Oct. 10 - Dec. 12  
3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

#### Quilt Making

#### F.Y.I.

Create a crazy quilt • sewing machines available

#### WHEN

Mondays beginning Oct. 22 - Dec. 17  
4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

## Don't Miss!

### Hunter Education Course

Sept. 6th - 8th • 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday - Friday - Saturday

Saturday is range work from 9 - 1

Classes conducted at RCMS

### Bicycle Safety

Saturday, Sept. 15th • 9 - 11 a.m.

Bicycle inspection • Riders tested on their riding skills • Every rider will receive a certification of participation, reflector, and bicycle safety booklet

### Adult/Infant CPR • First Aid Certification

CPR • Sept. 19 & 26 / First Aid • Sept. 20 & 27

6:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Recertification • Sept. 12 & 13 / 6 - 9 p.m.

Learn life saving CPR and First Aid procedures

### Baby Sitting Certification

Saturday, Nov. 10 • 9 am - 5 pm

Age limit is 11-15 yrs. old • Max. 10

students in class • register early

Lunch provided

••• F.Y.I. •••

All classes will be held at RCMS unless otherwise noted

### REGISTRATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Homeroom \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Class or classes registering for: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail this form to: RCMS c/o J. Coguer  
P.O. Box 1738 • Berea, KY 40456  
or call 256-5118 to register