

4-16-87 trees ✓

# Arbor Day celebration kicks off

## Local activities include naming of special heritage trees at breakfast

SANTA CRUZ — The 1987 Santa Cruz Arbor Day celebration will kick-off with a breakfast April 23 to honor this year's newly-named heritage trees.

Seven special trees will be honored by the Santa Cruz Arbor Day Committee. The trees will be selected for their age, size, rarity, beauty and historical significance.

Also scheduled at the breakfast will be a presentation of the Tree City USA plaque and flag to Santa Cruz Mayor Jane Weed. The city will

receive the award from the state Department of Forestry for adopting a tree ordinance and a comprehensive urban forestry program.

The breakfast will be held at 8 a.m. April 23 at the Calvary Church Parish Hall, Lincoln and Cedar streets. The breakfast is open to the public for a \$2.50 donation. Call 429-8433 for reservations.

The local Arbor Day celebration will shift into high gear April 24 and 25 with the giveaway of 4,000 tree seedlings by downtown Santa Cruz merchants. A table will be set up on

the mall, which will serve as Arbor Day headquarters. Balloons will be given away, and t-shirts and this year's poster by Renee Flower will be on sale.

Ken Hockenberry, head gardener on the Pacific Garden Mall, will again hold a walking tour of the mall trees at noon April 25. Participants should meet at Plaza Bakery at the head of the mall.

The mall's trees often are overlooked. But there are 40 different varieties of more than 230 trees lining the central district's main artery. Hockenberry will include his personal favorites in the tour, including the Japanese flowering crabapple in front of Bowman-Forgery, the

pink trumpet in front of Schipper Dillon and the floss silk tree near County Bank.

Tree art presented by local school children will be displayed in the windows of downtown businesses, starting Monday.

As always, this year's local celebration commemorates the federal — and not state-designation of Arbor Day. The idea for Arbor Day originated in the Nebraska territory in the 1850s. As pioneers established their homes, communities and farms, they planted trees.

Among those early pioneers was journalist J. Sterling Morton, who proposed the first Arbor Day on April 10, 1872.

## Garden activities